
More Raids and Arrests and Papers Suppressed

[Events of Sept. 5, 1917]

Published in *Seattle Daily Call*, vol. 1, no. 35 (Sept. 6, 1917), pg. 1.

CHICAGO, Sept. 6 [1917].— Tons of IWW and Socialist literature were in the hands of federal authorities today, several alleged agitators were in custody, numbers of newspapers were suppressed, and records and funds were being held, following the nationwide raid by government agents yesterday.

Officials of the Justice Department acted simultaneously in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Lincoln [Nebraska], Salt Lake City, Minneapolis, Seattle, Duluth, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Omaha, Fresno, Tulsa, Superior [Wisconsin], Miami [Arizona], and Portland, Ore.

The raids are believed to have been engineered by Oliver E. Pagan, federal indictment expert, who has been in Chicago several weeks working secretly with Hinton G. Clabaugh, chief of the local Justice Department operatives, and Charles F. Clyne, US State Attorney.

Eight distinct raids were conducted in Chicago alone. They included IWW headquarters; the home of W.D. Haywood, International Secretary of the IWW; the home of Harrison George, chief editorial writer for the IWW; Ralph H. Chaplin, editor of *Solidarity*, weekly IWW organ; the home of Vincent St. John, IWW worker; the home of John Farley, said to be interest in *Solidarity*; the [office] of *The American Socialist*; and the Rogers & Hall printing plant, where *The American Socialist* was printed.

Adolph Germer, editor and Secretary of the Socialist Party, and Seymour Stedman, socialist, were in the *American Socialist* office when the raid was made.

Germer asked the privilege of sending a telegram. It read:

Hon. Robert LaFollette,
US Senator, Washington.

US Marshals are in office now with warrants to seize property.

Adolph Germer.

Germer sent duplicates to Meyer London, Socialist Congressman from New York, and Morris Hillquit, Socialist leader in this city.

Shortly after the raids the federal grand jury gathered in Judge Landis's courtroom. Armed guards were stationed at all doors. Presently mysterious bundles were carried in.

Clyne, however, insisted the grand jury's deliberations had nothing to do with the raids.

Edited by Tim Davenport

1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR · October 2013 · Non-commercial reproduction permitted.