
Katterfeld Meeting Broken Up by Patriots

[late December 1917]

Published in *The Co-operative News* [Everett, WA], whole no. 365 (Jan. 24, 1918), pg. 4.

Comrade L.E. Katterfeld, who is touring the state under the auspices of the State Office had an interesting experience in Davenport, Wash.¹

When the speaker said: (according to the report of the press) “Should I discuss the advisability of our entering the present war they would stick me in the coop before morning,” the leader of the “patriots” jumped up and dispersed the meeting, saying: “Every patriotic American citizen in the hall who is opposed to such speech will please leave the hall as a protest. Those in favor, will remain, and we will take their names and hand them to the proper authorities for investigation.” This threat and intimidation had the effect of driving out all except a handful.

The fact that they took exception of the statement cited (and this was given by their own “patriotic” sheet as the excuse) shows that they were afraid the speaker would conclude his lecture without saying anything that they could really take exception to, so [they] decided to jump in anyway.

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport

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¹ Davenport is a small town of fewer than 2,000 people located in Eastern Washington.