National Legion Head Quotes Epworth Herald as Advocating Sabotage in War.

HIS PAPER READ IN CHICAGO

Edward A. Hayes Cites Student Action at Columbia as Anarchistic Move.

SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, June 30.—Pacifism, radicalism and communism are spreading “like a disease in American schools, colleges, churches and social organizations,” Edward A. Hayes, national commander of the American Legion, reported today to a mass meeting of Legionnaires at a Century of Progress Exposition.

Commander Hayes left New York on a brief visit and his speech was read by Charles Kaspuch.

His address culminated a day of military splendor, colorful parades and festivity which saw more than 50,000 veterans and their families within the fair grounds.

Citing instances where the Legion had actually come into contact with radical and pacifist activity in schools and churches, Commander Hayes warned his audience that the time had come for the American people to take a “decisive stand” against these tenets.

Specifically, Commander Hayes cited as an article in The Epworth Herald, written by Miss Winifred Chappell of New York City, secretary of the Methodist Federation for Social Service, as a striking example of how the “subversive movement” is creeping into the churches.

“This article advocates that the young Christian join the army in the event of war and destroy munitions,” Commander Hayes declared; “and the American people should know about it.

“We of the American Legion have no desire to disrupt any religious body or religion. There wasn’t any question of whether we were Catholic, Methodist or Jew when ordered to go over the top. So when The Epworth Herald article was brought to my attention recently, I would not believe it until I had seen the printed copy.

“They brought it to me. It was the issue of March 3. The first printed word going out to the young people of that denomination was the recommendation that in the event of war these young people would have one of four choices: to become cannon fodder, to be a conscientious objector, to join the service, commit sabotage and not carry out orders, or, lastly, to commit sabotage with a specific intent to get rid of the present economic system of which she says is a part. It says that this means knowing what selfish capitalism is like and also means starting a new social order.

“Now, does not that have the ring of communism? Well, we looked up the author and found her listed in connection with Marxist activities.”

As an example of the growing pacifist feeling in universities, the Legion’s chief related that in Columbia University several hundred students had adopted a resolution in which they said that under no circumstances would they join the War Department in another war. He asserted that this was an “anarchy,” since a declaration of war is the rule of the majority in the United States.