

*WE offer you  
the Scourge of Cords*

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William Dudley Pelley  
Asheville, N. C.**

***A Tocsin to the  
Militant Christians  
of America!***

## Private Manual, Number One

of

### THE SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA

THE POSSESSION of this brochure is an expression of the Supreme Commander's profound confidence in the *Christian* integrity of:

This manual is for the discriminative *private* use of the above party, and is to be returned if this person should cease to remain identified with the movement.

## WARNING!

**T**HE AGENTS of Disruption who now batten on the public distress and debauchery have specific weapons for gelding effective attempts to mass the *Christian* manhood and womanhood of America against their pernicious activities.

The instant that a man or a movement promises to grow to too great power against them, they immediately maneuver to become influential members of it themselves, either by money gifts, financial embarrassments, or tenders of practical assistings, socially or politically, that they may influence its policies.

If these fail, their next step is a subtle pressure of duress, either by ugly blackmail or ambiguous conveyance of death threats, usually advanced without witnesses present in order to leave their innuendoes criminally unprosecutable.

If these be disregarded, a campaign of public slander is begun: malevolent portraits or press stories are "accidentally" published in controlled newspapers and resultant libel suits expensively protracted; or whisperings are satanically promoted that the persons at the head of such movements are in sex complications, betrayers of financial trusts, secretly on the payrolls of the very interests they affect to combat, or they are holding out to receive fabulous sums for surrender of their roles in the public esteem.

If a real leader contrive to survive such attacks, lethal expedients are next in order: motor cars in which they are being transported are forced at high speed off the public highways, "accidental" gun-fights of gangsters break out where they are exposed to the fusillade of bullets, they are invited to banquets where slow-working poisons are introduced into their foods, or they are "snatched" by insolent extortionists and "taken for a ride."

Men and women of America! Do not lend yourselves to such diableries. The instant they are evinced in any form, look for the Hidden Hand and Cloven Hoof of the public debauchers of *Christian* rectitude. Protect your leaders of integrity by being wise in such chicaneries. If you will not, you are doomed!

## A CHALLENGE TO THIS CRISIS

**T**HE SILVER SHIRTS OF THE LIBERATORS are a great Christian Militia, swinging into disciplined ranks to challenge and annihilate the alien debaucheries of a Distressful Hour and in obedience to Divine Prophecy bring into practical action an Age of New Chivalry.

**THEY ARE NOT RELIGIOUS**, yet they purpose to defend the Christian church from every assault of atheism and effrontery to The Christ, guaranteeing to each wholesome-minded citizen the right to worship God as he chooses, but ruthlessly crushing every maneuver to make Christian institutions the Agencies of Expediencies for plotters of disorders.

**THEY ARE NOT POLITICAL**, yet they purpose to use political measures to purge democratic institutions of consummate rascals in high places, to emasculate unlawful jurisdiction by arrogant money-bunds over representative office-holders, and to hurl petty hucksterers of public confidence, or bureaucratic despotisms for factional or personal advantages, into the limbo of things archaic.

**THEY ARE NOT ECONOMIC**, yet they propose to enforce remedial and corrective measures for the permanent relief of this nation economically, by the wholesale arousing of the public courage to make further extensions of the democratic ideal into a colossus protective corporation, in which citizens by their nativity and franchise order the affairs of their nation as Common Stockholders and transact the country's business as in a well-managed, astutely ordered, dividend-paying corporation.

**THE TIME HAS COME FOR STERLING LEADERSHIP** in this nation, but it must be a leadership by men who know what agencies are debauching modern society, where the vulnerable points are hidden in their armor, and how to pierce them with weapons of practicable yet merciless recommendation for more effective forms of sociological regulation.

### II

#### *The Rally*

**F**IVE MALE persons, all of whom shall be not less than 18 years of age and not more than fifty years of age, who group themselves together in support of Silver Shirt principles, take the oath of allegiance to The Christ and officers of the Gen-

eral Staff, designate officers who shall receive certified Accolade of recognition after investigation, make the stipulated underwriting locally for the National War Chest, and provide themselves with Bivouac, Insignia, and uniforms for all members after official specifications, may constitute a Post.

During the period of organization, and until such Certified Accolade has been received from the General Staff, the assemblage of such persons shall be considered not a Post but a Rally. The official forms and schedules for filling out and submission to the General Staff in order that a Post shall be recognized and function with the enjoyment of all benefits conferrable by the General Staff, may be procured by applying to National Headquarters.

The officials of a Rally are three, by election:—

**CHAPLAIN**, or prospective local commander

**SCRIBE**, or prospective clerk-secretary

**ALMONER**, or prospective treasurer-quarter-master

These officers shall serve pro-tem for the preliminary work of the Rally. When full investigation of all applicants has been made and officers have received Certified Accolade, the Rally shall become a Post with appropriate ceremony of dedicating and sanctifying the Colors as in manual provided for that purpose. This shall be the only Post officially recognized in its particular city, town, or hamlet.

All officers shall serve until September 16, 1936, or until removed for cause before that date by the General Staff, which causes and the Round Table at which they may be advanced and challenges defended, are herein set forth.

The wives of all married **Silver Shirts**, or the unmarried women sponsored by uniformed **Silver Shirts**, and each sharing a National Number with such male member, shall be accorded full rights and privileges with their husbands in all **Silver Shirt** activities, excepting Field Service under executive officers. They may attend all rallies, bivouacs, elections, and festivities, provided they are properly uniformed, and have one Voice independent of their male sponsors in each case. But they shall be required to take the Oath of Allegiance in order to acquire such Voice.

Only **Silver Shirts**, masculine or feminine, may be considered as lawful members of such Posts and entitled to all privileges and Voicings, who have taken such Oath of Allegiance and sealed it with Communion in the Accolade service to be held on the first Sunday evening following receipt of such Certified Accolade of Officers from Headquarters.



Unmarried men who have taken the Oath of Allegiance may sponsor unmarried women as members of the said Post by so declaring their responsibilities on the records of the Scribe, and any such sponsor may terminate such responsibility at his option by similar avowals to the Scribe, whereafter, unless the said unmarried woman be sponsored by another male member, she shall cease to be a member in the said Post.

Whereas all persons, 18 years of age or over, who may have taken the **Silver Shirt** Oath of Allegiance may be entitled to participate in all of the organization's civic, social, and moral benefits, the wearing of the Silver-Blue uniform either by Spartans or Nurses may only be lawful to persons between the ages of 18 and 50 years, of reasonably sound physique, and generally acceptable as physical risks by life insurance companies.

Individuals court-martialed from the organization by any Round Table, persons who are non-members who affect the Silver-Blue uniform in order to deceive or mislead the public in any activity, and those who are shown to have violated their Oath of Allegiance, shall be designated as **Outlaws** and shall be classed for all **Silver Shirt** purposes with the Public Enemies.

Each male **Silver Shirt** shall be allotted an official number within his Post, a wife being allowed the use of her husband's number, and a sponsored woman being allowed the number of her sponsor. These numbers shall be designated by National Headquarters, and in the case of death, resignation, or dismissal, such vacancy in numbering shall at once be reported to Headquarters by the Scribe.

Except in the case of man and wife, or sponsor and sponsee, there shall be no duplicate numbers throughout any Posts of North America.

This identifying number shall become a sacred symbolism and may be worn secretly when its bearer is not in uniform.

### III

#### *Where Knowledge is Power!*

**THE SILVER SHIRTS** are unalterably organized in the manner hereinafter described, to defend their ranks and their purposes against every form of assailment from without, and every form of depredation making for emasculation or impotency from within.

At their head is their supreme ranking officer known as **THE CHIEF**, holding his position until the purposes of The Silver Shirts are declared accomplished, because of his projection of the organization, his intimacy with the national and international political and economic situation, and his knowledge of the ramifications of the public enemies. His office is not elective excepting in the case of his death, when the General Staff shall have the power of selecting his successor.

About him function his supreme cabinet known as the **GENERAL STAFF**. They are men selected for their Christian probity, their professional qualifications, their moral stamina, their physical courage, and their inexorable determination that no sacrifice or embroilment shall be deemed too expensive to clean the Augean Stables of the present national and international political and economic miasma.

This General Staff shall comprise the following executives:—

**THE CHANCELLOR**, who shall keep the Great Seal of the organization, be the official custodian of its archives, and act as Solicitor-General in all matters concerning the probity of its personnel.

**THE CHAMBERLAIN**, who shall keep the War Chest of the organization, be the custodian of its funds and accounts, its treasurer and its chief disbursing officer and act for the organization in all matters involving real property, titles, etc.

**THE QUARTERMASTER**, who shall be the national storekeeper of the organization, having actual possession of its goods and chattels, dispense and apportion the same among State Encampments, and generally buy and sell for the organization.

**THE MARSHAL**, who shall act as directing head of the Intelligence Forces of the organization, or of the police forces if, as, and when, employed, or as chief of the active defense forces protecting lives or properties of those composing the General Staff.

**THE CENSOR**, who shall act as directing head of all propaganda, oral or written, that concerns the organization, serve as managing editorial director of all publicity material and act generally as public relations counsel for the Staff.

These five shall meet at summons of The Chief for consultation purposes and have their authority delegated to them by him. In group assembled they

shall be considered as counsellors only, but in practical functioning the majority of opinion expressed or voted among them, shall determine the policies of the organization, although their decisions may be subject to veto by the chief executive, if gravity of issue warrants. All edicts from them, to become official to Encampment Commanders, must contain the Chief's signature, however.

**The Silver Shirts** are thereafter organized by State Encampments and Posts within the State Encampments. These State Encampments are officered by personal appointments of the General Staff and remunerated by them from the National War Chest. They are subject to dismissals for weakenings to violence or intimidations from the public enemies, traffickings with those who would subvert or debauch Liberation principles, failure to carry out all reasonable orders of the General Staff or its qualified appointees, or laxity in the conduct of the responsibilities of their subscriptions to the general project.

Each State Encampment in turn is officered by Five Executives so appointed from the Chief and General Staff. These officers are as follows:—

**STATE COMMANDER**, who shall be the supreme officer of all councils within the State not designated as Posts, be responsible for discipline among all Posts and Post officials within his State, and generally represent The Chief of Staff in all State matters, edicts, or maneuvers.

**ADJUTANT**, recognized as second in command in the absence, disqualification, or inability of the Commander, who keeps the Encampment papers, records, and archives, and has general charge of edicts for Posts as secretary to Encampment or Commander.

**THE PURSER**, who is chief fiscal officer for the State Encampment and State Posts, is responsible for collections of all moneys due from Posts and the accounting of same as may be designated by the Chamberlain of the General Staff.

**THE SHERIFF**, who is Minister of Police within the State organization, State Deputy of the National Marshal, head of any espionage forces within the State, and the police arm of the Commander within his jurisdiction.

**THE SOLICITOR**, who is state minister of law and ritual, public prosecutor at any State Round-Tables or Courts Marshal, and general legal rep-

resentative for the State Encampment. In practice he is the State arm of the Chancellor.

State Encampments of **The Silver Shirts** are divided into Posts, allocated according to counties, towns, cities, or hamlets as practicable, officered by the Elective Franchise but such elections subject to recognition and endorsement by the General Staff. Until such officers are so recognized and endorsed by the written form of the Certified Accolade these Posts are unofficial Rallies as herein-after described.

Local Posts are officered by Five officials of the following designations:—

**THE CHAPLAIN**, who is the acting head of the local unit of this organization, accountable to the State Commander and Chief of the General Staff. He shall be officer of the day at all ritual ceremonies including Round Tables or Post Courts Martial, and commanding executive over all activities and functions of the Post and its working committees.

**THE SCRIBE**, who is acting clerk, secretary, and keeper of the Post papers, documents, and local archives, right-hand assistant to the Chaplain in all Post ceremonials, and second in command when the Chaplain is unable to fill the duties of his position.

**THE ALMONER**, who is acting steward and treasurer of the Post's funds and properties, local quartermaster in all business transactions, keeper of its books and financial accounts and general fiscal agent.

**THE BAILIFF**, who is local police officer for the Post and within the area of its jurisdiction, head of its local espionage or intelligence division, custodian of its banners and other accoutrements of ceremony, and director of the latter according to manuals provided for the purpose.

**THE ADVOCATE**, who is local attorney for the Post and its members in all local controversies either within or without the Post and public prosecutor at all Round Tables or Courts Martial, defender of the Post at any State Encampments, conclaves, Round Tables or Courts Martial.

The Five foregoing shall be considered **Major Officers** but each Post shall likewise have seven **Junior officers**. If the Post membership shall be less than the totality of both Major and Junior officers,

one person may hold more than one office. Junior officers shall not require Certified Accolade from the General Staff. Such offices are elective and subject only to revision by officers of the State Encampment. The Junior officers of each Post shall be:—

**FLAG MARSHAL**, who shall be assistant of the Bailiff at all such duties as the Bailiff may command.

**NURSE JUNIOR**, executive head of all Red Cross work conducted by the Post, likewise Post Stewardess.

**BANDMASTER**, Post musical director, whether these be in the form of band, orchestra, or Chorus.

**CAPTAIN OF DIVISION OF PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT**, as per manual of Post activities.

**CAPTAIN OF DIVISION OF PATRIOTIC PROBITY**, as per manual of Post activities.

**CAPTAIN OF DIVISION OF CRIME ERASEMENT**, as per manual of Post activities.

**CAPTAIN OF DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION**, as per manual of Post activities.

**CAPTAIN OF DIVISION OF PUBLIC MORALS AND MERCY**, as per manual of Post activities.

Officers of the Rally shall function pro-tem, awaiting Certified Accolade from General Staff after research into character, records, and affiliations. In the event that such confirmations are not forthcoming, then the following procedure shall be obligatory:—

In the event that the General Staff, or State Officers, have reason to believe that it is not to the enhancement of the organization to have specified persons in official positions in Posts, by reason of information possessed in the archives concerning those persons or by reason of nationality, religious faith, or commercial affiliations of such persons, then Chaplains of such Posts shall be so notified. Unless new elective sessions are held and satisfactory persons appointed to those positions, then the Five State Officers shall proceed to that Post and hold a Round-Table Court Martial of the challenged electees.

Members of the Post shall be informed of this visitation at least seven days in advance of such occurrence, by information transmitted to and through the Scribe of the Post. Convocation of the Post shall thereby be official, and the Court Martial shall be set up on the date designated in the following manner:—

The State Commander shall function as President of the Court Martial.

The State Solicitor, acting under orders from the National Chancellor, shall function as Prosecutor.

The State Adjutant shall function as clerk of the said Court Martial and transmit true copies of all proceedings to the Chancellor.

The Post Advocate shall function in the capacity of defense counsel.

On the completion of arguments for and against the culpability of the defendant, the latter shall withdraw from the premises. Whereupon the officers of the State Encampment, and the Major Officers of the Post, minus the exempted vote of the Solicitor and the Advocate, shall act as a petty jury and ballot upon the guilt or innocence of the defendant. A majority vote of five shall be deemed sufficient to exonerate or condemn the defendant, but in the event of a unanimous ballot of guilt, then the defendant shall be dismissed from the organization, his National Number cancelled, and he shall thenceforth be considered an Outlaw as hereinafter described.

The above procedure shall also be decreed when charges of malfeasance of any description against the good of the organization or in defeat of its purposes, are brought to the attention of Post, Encampment, or General Staff officials by any two Silver Shirts so reporting to the Scribe or State Adjutant, or when Round-Table Trials in Effigy of the Public Enemies shall be ordered held for the general enlightenment of all members.

#### IV

#### *The Bivouac*

**T**HE FIRST duty of a Chaplain, or the organizers of a Local Post of Silver Shirts shall be to provide a known place of assembly sufficient to accommodate the numbers who are members of that Post. It may be a public hall, it may be a store or empty building, it may be a private home.

Such a Local Headquarters shall be known as a **Bivouac**.

This Bivouac shall be at all times known to national headquarters, as the designated repository of **The Silver Shirt Banner of Liberation**, hereinafter prescribed.

This Bivouac shall be the working or meeting headquarters for the Five Major Ranking Officers



for each Post who must comply personally with the following stipulations:—

They shall each be men not less than 21 years of age and not more than 50, in sound physical health, born in America, of Protestant Christian parentage and recognized voters at elections in their communities.

On occasion they may be required to show copies of letters from recognized clergymen that they have either been baptized in a Christian church, or have been attendants at such church at some time during their lives.

The Chaplain shall be the titular head of each Post, so recognized at Headquarters.

The Almoner shall have charge of all fiscal affairs of each Post and be held accountable for the financial records and cash distributions, money transfers to headquarters, and any goods or literature that may be consigned from Headquarters. He shall be required to furnish bond to Headquarters for the faithful discharge of such duties and payments.

The Scribe shall keep all rosters of membership, and have charge of all correspondence dealing with the Post, excepting personal correspondence between the General Staff and Chaplains in the line of military orderings.

## V

### *The Christ Banner*

**T**HE BANNER of the Silver Shirts shall be a flag of pure white silk, muslin, or bunting, at least 108 inches in length and 72 inches in width, with or without fringe as expediency may dictate. Twenty inches from top and left-side there shall be sewn thereon, upon both sides and backing up each other, the letter "L" in bright scarlet.

This letter "L" standing for Love, Loyalty, and Liberation, shall measure at least 24 inches tall and 18 inches wide, and must be cut from a cloth of fast-dye that will not stain the folds of the white in the event of a wetting.

There should be one of these Banners for each 11 Silver Shirts attached to each Post.

An American flag should also be provided in the same ratio, and they should always be displayed together.

These flags and banners in each Bivouac should be kept under the jurisdiction of a Junior Officer, The

Flag Marshal, and it shall be his duties not only to distribute or otherwise dispense these flags on appropriate occasions when the Silver Shirts are marching, but to keep them at all times in immaculate condition.

**No Banner of the Christ can exhibit the slightest smear or mar of anything befouling!**

This is not fanaticism but a stipulation of morale for the principles we are expounding and the tenets for which we stand in the eyes of the nation.

In addition to the Post flags and banners, the home of each Silver Shirt should possess a similar Liberation ensigna, which can be easily manufactured out of a peice of new sheeting, and displayed on all occasions as an enhancement of morale for the entire movement.

These flags and banners should never be left at mast after sundown!

## VI

### *The Silvered Horde!*

**I**T IS the uniform of The Silver Shirt that gives the national gesture prestige in the eyes of North America. The effect on morale, public or personal, of a uniformed citizenry epitomizing Christian Soldiers of Peace, pledged to the actualization of the highest civic and social tenets by non-violent means, and emblazoning the massed strength of Christian patriots to the eye of the public enemies, accomplishes more than a thousand blustering speeches or libraries of volumes on theoretical ethics.

The uniform of the Silver Shirts comprises as its piece-de-resistance a shirt of silver gray with military collar, belted into the type of trousers known as "knickers" which cover the knee and button four inches down the calf of each leg.

These trousers are of the riding-pattern, never "plus-fours" or golfing trousers. They are fashioned of corduroy, of the color known as Navy Blue, and can be procured at most Army and Navy stores at a cost of \$2.75 per pair.

The dress for the calf of the leg in officers shall be polished leathern puttees; the dress for the calves of lay troopers shall be gray golf-socks of a hue to match the shirt as nearly as possible, held tightly over the buttoned part of the trouser-legs by a strong elastic garter. The shoes should be black. The costumes for misses are described further on.

Silver Shirt Troopers as hereinafter described

shall be divided into two classes: **Spartans** and **Copperheads**. The head-gear of both should be a campaign-hat of the Royal-Mounted police type, excepting that the hat-band of each division shall be different. See the page immediately following.

The necktie worn with the military shirt should be of blue silk, a fore-in-hand, of a color to match the trousers. On the widest part of this tie at the bottom should be worked in red silk the Trooper's national Number. On the left breast, between the top of the buttoned pocket and the ridge of the shoulder, there must be embroidered a 4-inch scarlet letter "L" of the same type-style as the "L" on the Liberation banner. A Norfolk coat of the trouser-material with four buttoned pockets shall be official for wearing in inclement weathers.

## VII

### *The Valiant!*

**T**HERE is absolute democracy in the ranks of **The Silver Shirts** with but one exception. Obedience to officers shall be military. Nevertheless, the ranks of **The Silver Horde** shall be distinguished by two classifications of troopers.

During the Rally stage of each Post, all pledgors shall be considered as Cadets. During this interval they shall provide themselves with their Bivouac, their Liberation Banner, and their uniforms. These uniforms may be purchased at nominal cost from Headquarters for an average quality of materials, and owned as personal apparel. They may be tailored as expensively as the purse of the individual **Silver Shirt** permits, however, if official colors are strictly observed.

When the Certified Accolade from Headquarters has been received, converting such Rallies into Posts, all eligible, uniformed Troopers shall thenceforth be known as **Spartans**.

They are the great rank and file of **The Silvery Horde**, pledged to combat the public enemies both without and within, to maintain the closest liaisons with the police and legitimate military authorities, to augment and uphold the hands of all honest peace officers, to do emergency service in the interests of law and order in time of riot, mob rule, and public tumult, and to act as a great reservoir of moral strength for honest public officials hindered or handicapped in the sworn discharge of their duties.

These men are designated by the band of navy-blue silk worn about the crown of their campaign hats, of the exact color of their trousers.

But there shall be a Special Order of Merit amid these laymen troopers, known as **The Copperheads**.

The **Copperheads** shall be an inviolate classification of **Silver Shirts** who in the discharge of their oaths or their brevets have been the subjects of either lethal attack, or threats against their lives for having turned **Silver Shirts**.

It is the sworn duty of every **Silver Shirt** who has had a threat made in any form against his life, to immediately report the same in all details to his Post, designating the maker of the threat and under what conditions it was made, whereupon the maker of the threat shall be tried before the **Post Round Table**, whether or not he is present in person, and full account of such proceedings transmitted to the General Staff for broadcasting throughout all Encampments and Posts of the entire nation.

If criminal proceeding can be taken against the maker of the threat, the subject shall have the entire resources of the National Organization placed at his back to make such prosecution effective. If criminal proceedings cannot be taken because of lack of witnesses or evidence, the subject shall so evidence. In that event the maker of the threat is doubly marked for such **Silver Shirt** attention, in that he has contrived to make his death threats outside the powers of the law to punish him.

Where such threat has duly been chronicled and recorded on the books of the Post, the subject of the threat shall receive at the hands of his brethren or his superiors the **Brown Leather Hat-Band of The Copperhead** and he shall be entitled to have the official "L" on his left shoulder and the number on his neck tie embroidered not in red worsted but in golden braid.

Even officers of Posts and Encampments may not wear such golden insignia unless they have personally been the objects of such unlawful depredations.

**Spartans** who have been under fire and exposed to any type of violence inflicting wounds upon their persons in collaboration with police authorities, or upholding the hands of harassed public servants, shall also be receivers of such citations and distinctions.

**The Copperheads** shall be considered as constituting the picked body of the Elect in **The Silvery Horde**, and their names shall not only be inscribed



publicly on the rosters of their Posts and State Encampments, but shall be posted on a perpetual Honor Roll at National Headquarters.

### VIII *The Scourge*

**T**HE SYMBOLIC arms of the Silver Shirts are represented by the Scourge of Cords, with which Christ drove forth the money-changers from the Temple. It symbolizes force without bloodshed, and epitomizes the great moral weapon of the Christ Men. It is the constant reminder that an occasion arose in Christ's life when action was requisite to clear a holy place from befoulment by a type of physical action. He did not stand on the opposite side of the street and bless the money-changers, nor pray for them. Neither did He wait for angels to flock around him and strike the miscreants dead. He grasped a knout of simple manufacture and dealt vigorous physical blows.

The Scourge of the Silver Shirts is made by securing a length of tough woven clothesline, not the rolled-cotton variety that will shrink or curl, and looping it into six lengths, each 24 inches from the rope-helve to the tip.

Crease the line at the point of the loop and bring the two single ends back to the helve. Then cut the line and wrap it with cotton-thread tightly to prevent unraveling.

Take another length of the same rope and wind around the loops at the end where the free ends terminate. Lay these windings carefully and tightly to a distance of six inches, sever the winding portion and sew to the balance of the handle.

Soak the handle in shellach thoroughly and put aside to harden. Give the handle as many wrappings as may be necessary to create a doughty weapon that will withstand rough usage. Let the three loops serve as the lashes.

A loop may be sewed upon the end of the handle, if desired, to hang upon a hook at the belt on parade, or wrap about the wrist to prevent loss in action.

These Scourges are ceremonially bestowed in the Rite of the Accolade or Consecration Service given in the Silver Shirt Manual.

### IX *The Nurses*

**A**LL feminine members of Silver Shirts Posts shall be known as Nurses. Nurses are the only women permitted in modern warfare on the firing line, hence such designation. It is their province to nurse, to nurture, and to hold their men to action. Nurses may be eligible to the positions of Almoner or Scribe but not to Chaplain. The Chaplain's lady is automatically designated as Nurse Superior, an honorary position, as the Chaplain's assistant among the feminine contingent. She shall have one assistant, elected by the Post, and known as Nurse Junior. All active Red Cross work done by the Post shall be under the supervision of Nurse Junior. Nurse Superior shall be liaison officer between the Red Cross Contingent headed by Nurse Junior and officials of the Post.

Both field and ceremonial uniforms for women shall consist of a plain frock of silver gray, of a skirt-length to the mode, gathered at the waist with a belt of blue. No jewelry or no millinery is official.

On the left shoulder above the heart should be embroidered the Scarlet "L" not more than 4 inches in height. If the woman shall have been demarked at any time by the Death Threat, or shall have suffered injury to her person, the "L" may be worked in Gold.

Over this frock of grey shall be worn a skirt-length cape of Navy Blue. It shall be fashioned with a strip of velvet at the throat in a manner to permit the casting of the folds back over both shoulders. It shall have a hood which falls back between the shoulders for lifting over the head in case of inclement weather in the open.

Over the exact spot on the left shoulder that the Liberation "L" is embroidered on the frock shall be worked in scarlet silk the National Number of the Lady, which shall be the same numeral as her husband or sponsor, as hereinbefore set forth.

The Navy Blue cape may be lined with scarlet silk or satin. This cape should be worn at all parade work, but may be laid aside at auditorium ceremonials.

## The War Chest

**S** INEWS OF WAR are provided for this gigantic conflict with Mammon in High and Low Places by the creation of a National War Chest supplied solely from the membership and deposited in banks officered only by financiers who are Silver Shirts, or of the Christian religion, or avowedly in sympathy with Silver Shirt principles.

Five candidates for The Silver Shirt, gathering in The Rally, choosing temporary officers and forwarding application papers to Headquarters, give proof of their serious intention by contributing \$10 each to this National War Chest, this contribution to be forwarded with the said application papers.

Such contribution entitles each candidate to LIBERATION WEEKLY, the National Organ of The Silver Shirts, edited under the supervision of the Supreme Commander, and sent to them weekly regardless of their standing in State Encampments.

Thereafter each Silver Shirt in Post shall pay to his Post Almoner his monthly membership dues of \$1, man and woman, payable on the first day of each calendar month. There shall be no other assessments upon his purse excepting the cost of his uniform.

Of this membership fee, to maintain him in good standing, the Post Almoner shall remit fifty cents from each dollar so received, to the State Almoner at State Encampment headquarters, utilizing the other fifty cents for the expenses of the Post. These expenses are definitely specified in dispatches to Encampment and Post Almoners.

Of such remittances to State Encampment Almoners, the latter shall retain one-half for expenses of State Organization and specifically defined salaries and expenses of said State officers. The remaining half, or twenty-five cents from each dollar, shall be remitted to the National War Chest for equally definite expenditures as prescribed for the conduct of the General Staff.

All gifts or donations from sponsors or supporters in larger amounts than the above, shall be remitted entoto to National Headquarters for deposit and inclusion in the National War Chest, and there shall be no departure from this ruling at any time. Almoners shall be required to give bond for the faithful discharge of their trusts in the above stipulations.

If any Post or Encampment incur a deficit by reason of the stipulated conduct of its official func-

tions, such deficit may be made up from this National War Chest on presentation of the properly attested petition for such assistance.

## The Program

**C** ITIZENS of America! We come to you marching, as a Great Christian Militia, offering you not the sword but The Scourge of Cords! We come to you epitomizing The Christ Merciful but Militant, putting the battle hymn: "Onward, Christian Soldiers" upon your lips, the Silver-Blue uniform upon your bodies, the Scourge of Cords into your hands.

We say, Let us clean the Augean Stables of modern society in fulfillment of Great Pyramid Prophecy. Let us take the Scourge of Cords and drive the Changers of Money from the Temples of Christian culture.

We do not gather about banquet tables and toast one another. Our only banqueting table is that of Holy Communion. We do not pass resolutions and wait for little men to aid us politically when they discern personal advantage in proffering such aid. We have a program of action to sustain and execute.

We divide our forces militantly into Five Major Divisions, organized and uniformed for aggressive action—

### I The Division of Public Enlightenment

If the American people could have the scales of ignorance struck from their eyes and know accurately what the diablerie is, from which they are suffering, and who is responsible for it, they would arise in their political might and clean the Halls of Statecraft and Commerce as of a Great Pestilence. We propose to so enlighten them.

### II The Division of Patriotic Probity

The integrity of our nation as a nation, the welfare of our people as a people, must come ahead of every sectional, group, caste, race, or personal advantage. We propose to expose and drive forth every debaucher of the public probity, to halt all further diatribes against Christian institutions, to see that a New Regime of public servants are elected to office who shall be secretly pledged to the ideals of The Christ

ahead of any political or commercial party, or clique.

### III The Division of Crime Eracement

The Gangster, the Racketeer, the Gunman, and the Extortionist must constitute a chapter in American history that is closed without further delay. If agencies of civil law are breaking down, we propose the immediate creation of a uniformed civic body that shall deal with the lawless element after the nature of an Interstate Police. It shall seek out and apprehend as it may all criminals of every nature, turn them over to the constituted authorities, see that effective lawful action is taken to prosecute them, and that police and judiciary fulfill their functions without any equivocation until the Christ Form of Democracy is set up. We are unalterably opposed to any bond being given for avowed public enemies who may thus be apprehended, and we shall hold up to all public odium within our national power those officials who legally or otherwise facilitate the escape of such public enemies from their just desserts.

### IV The Division of Industrial Rehabilitation

As the Division for Public Enlightenment functions under our direction and disseminates vital and effective information designating and describing the activities of the public enemies, many of the pernicious agencies making for continued industrial deflation and distress will automatically disappear. But we propose that there shall be no revival of their activities by creating a permanent body within each Post who shall direct and sponsor certain practical expedients for correcting present abuses, turning an unemployed and potentially lawless element into a body of constructive citizenry that shall work to stabilize our institutions, put legitimate capital into channels of trade, provide and finance such enterprises as may enhance the general commercial credit, and emasculate those predatory elements who are now using strangulation of industry as an aggressive method for the accomplishment of mischievous objectives. See the Silver Gray literature on the Christ Democracy for specific details.

### V The Division of Public Morals and Mercy

Millions of dollars are contributed for charitable purposes in this nation every year. Too great a quota of this money goes to remunerate charity workers in professional positions. Great agencies of practical assistance to the worthy

needy are often perniciously emasculated to secretly increase the public suffering and thus hasten the overthrow of our most cherished institutions. We propose to renovate professional charity projects of paid workers and to hold up to public odium all officials who privately profit from such alms distribution in any form. Three hundred thousand boys and girls are reported to be adrift as vagabonds in this nation at the present time, without homes, parental influences, or means of support to keep them from lawlessness. We propose to arrest and end this minor vagabondage under Silver Shirt auspices, putting this youthful army in concentration centers, and forthwith drilling it in the essence of good citizenry and stability of character until each minor shall have been placed under a sponsor of prestige. Great agencies of moral debauchery subtly utilize the stage, screen, radio, and pandering periodicals to keep the Christian element of this nation intimidated and without moral stamina to halt such depredations against probity. We propose Silver Shirt Boards of Probity and Morale in each locality who shall create an overwhelming public censure, or take such other lawful means as may lie within their jurisdiction and discretion, to halt this campaign of attrition against morale and morals. We are irrevocably against any form of exaggerated Crime Publicity in the public press, on the public stage or moving picture screen, or over the radio. We would make it a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment for the name of any criminal to be set in type and circulated after the consummation of any type of public depredation, or for the commission of any form of crime to be delineated on stage or screen, or for any death dealing scene or death in consummation to be exhibited on stage or screen, or any plot to be delineated in which violence against the person is the *piece-de resistance*. We favor local ordinances whereby proprietors or managers of such show places shall be held responsible for such acts against the public probity and such show-houses padlocked automatically by their sentences. A Division of Silver Shirts shall make it their business to elevate the aspirations of the community, by the above expedients, and to substitute courage and valor as themes for entertainment instead of intimidation and debauchery.

There is concrete work to be started in every



American community where a Post of **The Silver Shirts** is organized and proceeds to function.

The moment that a Post is properly ordained, its Bivouac procured, its officers elected, and its local force of **Spartan Silver Shirts** pledged to this work of rehabilitation by their oaths to officers, one another, national flag, and the Christ, information will begin coming from headquarters for **Silver Shirts** exclusively, naming the public enemies and their acts of depredation. Men who can attest to such depredations from their positions of authority, will be routed through the State Encampments and Posts, putting the individual member not only in possession of positive information on which he can act intelligently, but giving him a practical remedial program for individual effort in massed association with his fellows of similar wholesome-mindedness, so that remedies may be effected without banquetings, without talk, without red tape, without intimidations public or private.

There have been prepared 22 booklets of Principles called—

#### **"THE TWENTY-TWO ARTICLES OF THE CHRIST DEMOCRACY"**

These Silver-Gray booklets present the entire picture of every phase of the new Christ Democracy which is riding in on the heels of all this economic and social upset. They delineate an entirely new principle in statecraft, that is neither socialism or communism, but shows a better and more equitable social order based on the Corporation Principle with citizens the holders of the Nation's Common Stock and drawing minimum dividends that shall forever henceforth banish the menace of death from actual starvation. These booklets, amazing in their completeness of exposition, are the general educational literature of **The Silver Shirts** and describe the program toward which this Christian Militia is aggressively working.

A hundred abortive "movements" to aid in this national crisis have been started in the past three years, to fall by the wayside because their platforms were based on the assumption that this distress was but a passing episode in human life instead of the Great Armageddon designated in Divine Prophecy. Or their leaders have not known the true nature of the influences they were challenging blindly.

In the archives and minds of the leaders of **The Silver-Shirts** is irrefutable information that if im-

properly or prematurely released would bring the swift murdering of its custodians, if its extent were recognized in the camps of public enemies. The men at the head of **The Silver Shirts** are taking their lives in their hands to arouse and organize the Christ Forces of this nation. They have already been threatened with death for their activities, proving incontestably that they are not dealing in bugaboos, nor embarked upon an enterprise for their own social, political, or financial aggrandizement.

This is no **Children's Crusade** that is now swinging into reality. It is the open challenge of an organization of New Vigilantes that purpose to accomplish works under leaders who have proven that they cannot be bought or debauched, and who are fully acquainted with the character and identity of the enemy whom they accost not only in the underworld but in the world of respectability and abstruse finance.

Men of the highest Christian probity and affluence are uniting behind its objectives, creating an organized force for righteousness that will not, or does not expect to, disband or relent in its effective aggressiveness before March 4, 1945.

None but communicants of an avowed Christian faith are solicited or permitted within its ranks, and if subterfuge of any sort is employed to gain admittance thereto, for the disparagement or injury of its objectives, this organization reserves the right to take such reprisals of its own against such traffickers in moral honesty as may not violate the laws of the State or Nation.

This is a public gesture that has its caissons deep down in the bedrock of the individual Christian conscience. As such, it makes its bid for allegiance.