

AMERICANISM VERSUS BOLSHEVISM 37

The climax at the Chicago convention was reached when a motion picture was shown of the Mooney case, one film showing American soldiers carrying an American flag in the San Francisco preparedness parade, and there were hisses from many of the radicals when this was flashed on the screen.

A telegram was then read from Eugene V. Debs, addressed to E. B. Ault, who was in attendance at the meeting, which said in part:

The hour has struck for action. Long-winded resolutions and humble petitions to corporation tools in public office . . . are worse than useless. The convention can do no less than demand his (Mooney's) unconditional release and issue an ultimatum to that effect, giving due notice if that fails, a general strike will follow at a specified time and industry be paralyzed throughout the land.

One delegate shouted: "We'll make this country a desert like Arizona."

A message was also read from five members of the executive board of the I. W. W., pledging that organization to support a general strike.

Of course, Gompers and the American Federation of Labour were bitterly attacked. A telegram of greeting was also received from the Seattle "Soldiers, Sailors, and Workmen's Council," although it had had as yet no open meeting in Seattle, and its members consisted of the five ringleaders only!

On the same night, January sixteenth, a meeting of 5,000 I. W. W.'s was held at their favourite spot, Fourth Avenue and Virginia Street. A resolution was adopted, condemning all law-enforcing officials.

The *Post-Intelligencer* of the seventeenth had the following to say of this meeting: