

# **Labor Relations – Authorized by the Secretary of War:**

## **The Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen and its Unique Contribution to the Great War Effort 1916-1918**

**Mike Dicianna**



## ***Spruce for the Air Fir for the Sea***

- Spruce – Strong, light and does not splinter when hit with bullets
- Spruce production from Pacific Northwest – Strategic resource
- United States enters WWI – April 1917





# ***Industrial Workers of the World***

## ***"Wobblies"***

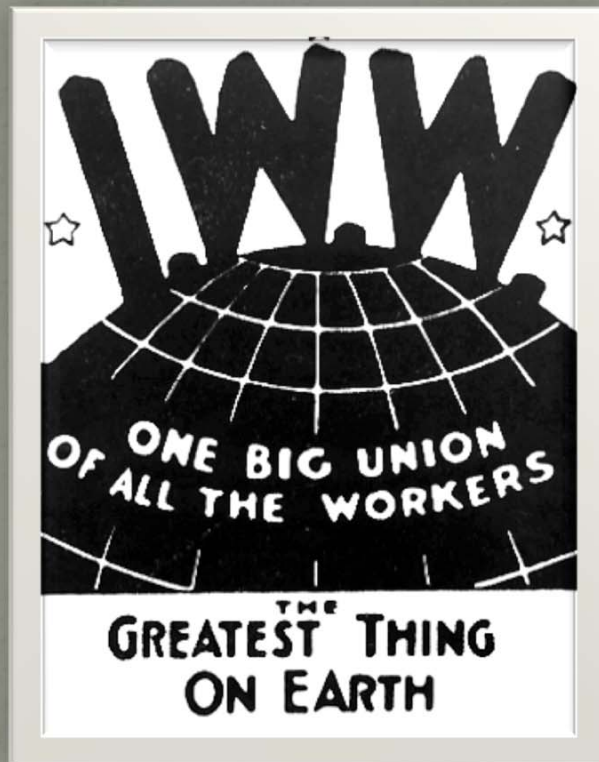
Founded Chicago -June 1905

**"an injury to one is the  
concern of all."**

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Preamble to the  
IWW Constitution

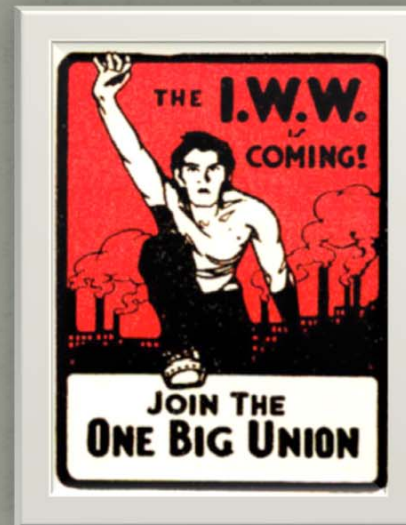
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- **The working class and the employing class have nothing in common.**
- **There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people**
- **we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."**

## *Wobblies attempt to organize Timber Workers in Northwest*

- **Call for general strike 1917**
- **8 Hour workday**
- **Pay increases**
- **Better food & living conditions in camps**





# Formation of Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen to break the Wobblies

**“Legion” terminology chosen to set the 4L apart from IWW**

Lt. Colonel Brice P. Disque

CLASS OF SERVICE		SYMBOL	
Day Message		Blue	
Day Letter		Blue	
Night Message		None	
Night Letter		N L	

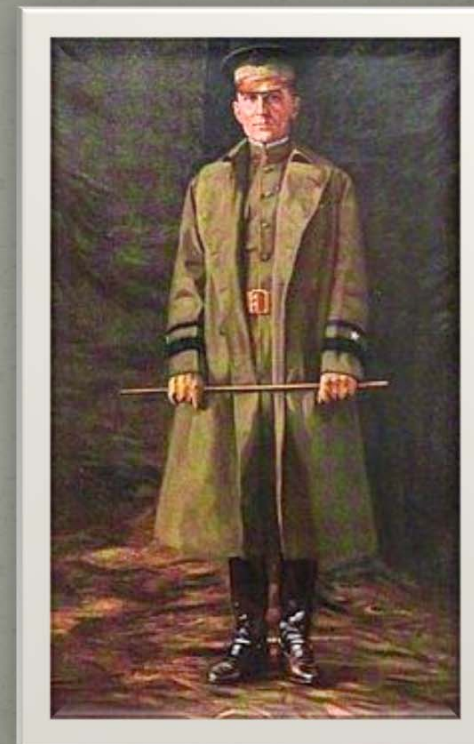
WESTERN UNION  
TELEGRAM

RECEIVED AT 76 THIRD ST., COR. OAK, PORTLAND, ORE. ALWAYS OPEN.

A73CH 105 GOVT  
DI WASHINGTON DC 949A 23  
COL BRICE P DISQUE  
YEON BLDG PORTLAND ORG

YOUR WIRE ADVISING PROPOSED PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATION OF LOYAL  
LEGION OF LOGGERS AND LUMBERMEN ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION OF AIRCRAFT  
AND SHIP LUMBER IN THE CAMPS AND MILLS OF WASHINGTON AND OREGON  
RECEIVED HERE I HEARTILY APPROVE AND HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE PLAN AND  
AM CONVINCED THE ORGANIZATION WILL PROVE A GREAT ASSET TO THE  
GOVERNMENT IN THE SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION OF THE WAR PARTICULARLY  
IN INCREASING THE NEEDED PRODUCTION OF SPRUCE AND FIR LUMBER

Authentic





# ***LLLL pledge draws on patriotic fervor after U.S. enters the Great War***

**11,000 members take pledge to “stamp  
out sedition”**

**Membership pin worn**

## **Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen**

### **PLEDGE**

**Aviation Section, Signal Corps, U. S. Army**

**To The Secretary of War:**

I, the Undersigned, in consideration of my being made a Member of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, do hereby solemnly pledge my efforts during this war to the United States of America, and will support and defend this Country against enemies, both foreign and domestic.

I further agree, by these presents, to faithfully do my duty toward this Country by directing my best efforts in every way possible to the production of Logs or Lumber for the construction of Army Airplanes and Ships to be used against our common enemies. That I will stamp out any sedition or acts of hostility against the United States Government which may come within my knowledge, and I will do every act and thing which will in general aid in carrying this war to a successful conclusion.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1917.





# ***U.S. Army/LLLL publications***

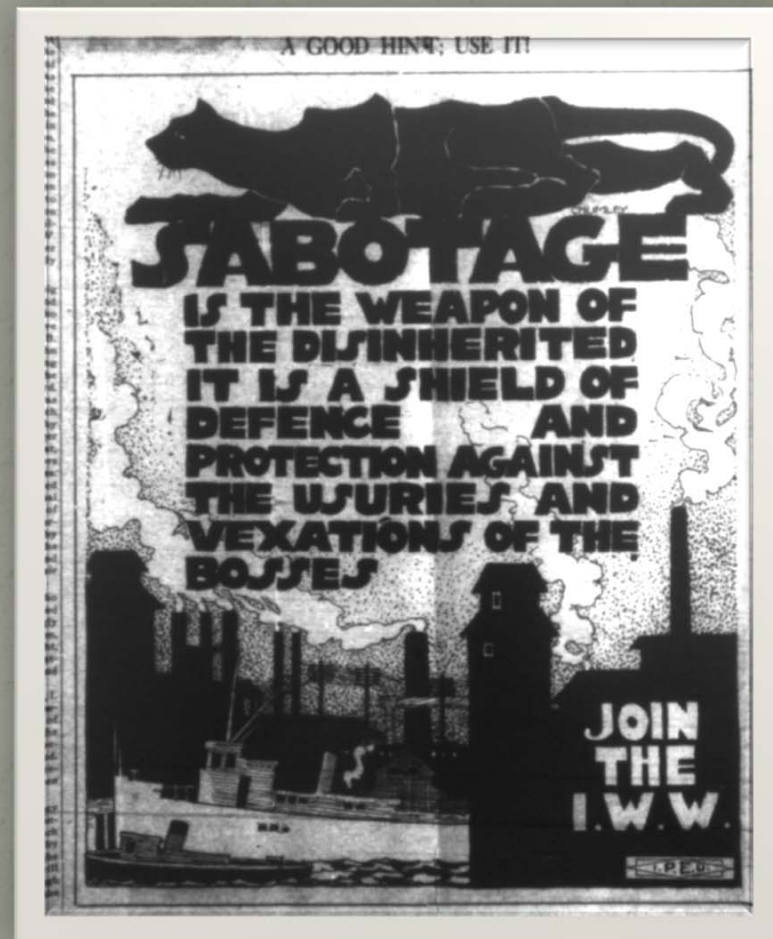
## ***Patriotic and anti-wobblie themes***

**Monthly Bulletin used to promote patriotism and anti-Wobblie articles**

**Publications were produced by US Army Signal Corps in Portland**



# *I.W.W. Propaganda of WWI era*





*“The Northwest woods had become a field of honor...They fought, these lumberjacks in khaki.”*



- THE LOYAL LEGION WOULD CONTINUE AFTER WWI , CLOSING DURING THE DEPRESSION.
- 143,008,961 BOARD FEET OF SPRUCE WAS SHIPPED FROM THE NORTHWEST FORESTS
- \$12 ,000,000 OF EQUIPMENT SOLD TO THE NW TIMBER INDUSTRY