
Tribune Story Exploded by Facts

by Carl Haessler

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CHICAGO.—Lurid tales in the *Chicago Tribune* of the pursuit of William Z. Foster, described as the “master of the Reds in America,” through the Michigan woods by state troops and federal Department of Justice spies exploded again when it was discovered that Foster had not been in Michigan.

At the moment that the raiders were stated by the *Tribune* to have been closing in on an alleged Communist convention in Berrien County, Mich., Foster was in the Cook County courthouse in conference with Assistant State’s Attorney Jonas. He was attempting to obtain the return of the records taken from the office of the Trade Union Educational League in a raid the night of Aug. 20 [1922].

No wonder that the *Tribune* fairy tale about the Michigan raid relates that “Foster, prize of the party, escaped, as did most of the others.”

Further details of the state’s attorney’s raid in Chicago indicate the special privileges the *Tribune* enjoys in the campaign against labor men in Chicago. The *Tribune* scooped the *Herald* and *Examiner* on the story the next day. The *Tribune*’s staff photographer had been exclusively invited to attend the affair.

The 12 policemen aiding the private detectives were not needed because no one was at the office. The glass panel in the door was smashed and the office floor littered. No trucks were necessary since only two small record files were taken.

It is believed that the real purpose of the raid was to embarrass the national conference of the league scheduled for Saturday.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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