
Report on CPA Sub-District 4C [Detroit] to Executive Secretary C.E. Ruthenberg from SDO "E.A. Carroll," March 25, 1920.

A document in the Hoover Institution Archive, Jay Lovestone Papers, box 195, folder 9.

Sub-District 4C [Detroit]
March 25, 1920.

Dear Comrade:—

Up to this writing nothing has arrived. The following are now represented: Lith., Russ., So. Slav., Armenian, Estonian, Lettish [Latvian], German, Ukrainian, Jewish.

Of these the Lett, German, and Ukrainian representatives are not sound and haven't taken the proper interest in the work so we are having those organizations select new representatives.

The Polish comrades have promised us a delegate for our next meeting.

The situation here with the old defense committee was a very difficult one, however, I believe we will have them crushed very soon. Upon investigation I found that this committee consisted of almost every element under the sun. The comrades here were afraid to go to this committee and explain that it must be a committee controlled absolutely by the Org. Their excuse being that that defense committee has spies in it and are probably waiting for a chance for some more of them to declare themselves Communist, so they could possibly be placed under arrest.

I then made an outline of an organization which I submitted to the committee and which was accepted. We have formed an organization known as the "Sons of Liberty." This organization is composed of Communist Party members who have not been active propagandists and who are not known to the police. Now that this organization is in working order it is our intention to have our delegates within the old commit-

tee see that the money which is still on hand (and there is only about \$150.) is spent rightly and then immediately the entire Communist support will be withdrawn from that committee and thrown into ours and in that way we will have built an organization which is under complete control of the Sub-District Committee, and which must mean the collapse of the other, for after all the bulk of the funds come from the Communist elements, and when this element withdraws its support it must fall.

In my estimation this was the best thing that could be done under the circumstances and it has the cooperation of all the Org. so it will have to be successful.

You are correct when you say Detroit is a difficult problem, and not only Detroit, but all English locals in Michigan are infested with the Proletarian Party stuff.

I must immediately have a copy of the controversy in detail which took place in the NEC in regard to the expulsion of the Michiganites.

I was up to Bay City yesterday. They have an English Local of six members to whom I talked and convinced that we must have the new form of organization but before they will decide to cast their lot with us they insist on wanting to know why [the Michigan Proletarian University people] were ousted by the CEC. I was unable to give them a proper answer because I am not familiar with what happened myself. *Please send a report of this in detail with argument at once.*

I cannot get along on the next trip without it.

I found one comrade who was formerly Secretary of the Lithuanian group in Saginaw, but he is the kind who believes that this country will *never* have a

revolution; however, I got him to promise to send me at least names of some of the former members. He says they burned all their records and decided to give up the work entirely.

It is imperative that you *at once* find someone to put into this territory to take up my work. I am in receipt of a letter which just got here from M. Goetz. You know he had been living with me. He says they are planning a lot with the Police force, as my oldest brother is a very good friend to Captain Lovelle "The Framrup." I have come to the conclusion that he was not trying to help me out of anything but that it was a part of a cleverly prepared program to sooner or later get both Max and myself and probably others.

As much as I dislike giving up the work at this time and realizing how important it is right now, I think a whole lot can be gained by me disappearing for a while.

Yours in Comradeship,

E.A. Carroll [=???

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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