

CPA Financial Report to the May 1921 Joint Unity Convention.

Prepared by Charles Dirba ["C. Dobin"]

A handwritten document in the Comintern Archive, f. 515, op. 1, d. 50, ll. 71-72.

Itemized Cash Statement, Feb. 1 to May 13, 1921.

Cash Received.

Dues	\$ 9,718.40
Initiation Fees	702.00
"Day's Pay" Contribution	391.13
Organization Fund #1	673.65
General Organization Fund	1,772.38
Special Organization Fund	19,500.00 †
Chicago Defense Lists	350.49
General Defense Fund	280.43
<i>Communist</i> Returns [sales revenue]	763.20
P#2 Returns [<i>Workers' Challenge</i> sales]	1,410.17
Leaflet Returns [leaflet income]	94.75
Literature Returns [pamphlet sales]	2,573.77
Convention Assessments	11.25
Convention Exp. Return	153.68
Old Accounts Received	3.05
Miscellaneous	17.10
District Decr. [December?] Balance	661.97
Total Cash Received	\$ 39,077.42
District Entries Cancel.	1,282.64
TOTALS OF MONTHLY FIG.	\$ 40,360.06
Balance from January [1921]	3,726.26
[Total Cash and Receipts]	\$ 44,086.32 ‡

Cash Paid.

Sec. and Tech. Salaries	\$ 2,220.00
Sec. and Tech. Expenses	685.06
Editorial Salaries	1,058.00
Editorial Expenses	361.45
CEC Expenses	275.73
Org. Expenses	2,079.48
International Expenses	2,160.00
Convention Expenses	2,755.91
Defense Expenses	1,152.18
Equipment	284.50
"Enterprise #1"	325.00
Contribution to Federations	4,110.00
District Salaries	5,670.27
District Travel	1,608.42
District Miscellaneous	836.24
<i>Communist</i> Cost	1,200.22
Bulletin Cost	356.39
P#2 [<i>Workers' Challenge</i>] Cost	2,756.00
Leaflet Cost	3,126.63
Literature [pamphlet] Cost	3,144.25
Loans and Accounts Receivable	1,050.00
Loans and Accounts Payable	1,449.10
Continuing Fund	750.00
Pitts. & Chi. Bail Loans used by UCP	860.00
Ret. Adv. for Equip. not installed	1,250.00
Investig.[ative?] Expense	90.00
Bank Disct. [fees?]	62.35
Total Cash Paid	\$41,674.24
District Entries Canc.	1,282.64
TOTALS OF MONTHLY FIG.	\$ 42,956.88
Balance on hand, May 13, 1921.	\$ 1,129.44

†- This seems fairly clearly to be a Comintern subsidy.

‡- Document includes the notation in Dirba's handwriting: "May 13, 1921: The undersigned have audited all the cash vouchers and entries for the period of Feb. 1 to May 13, 1921, and have found them correct and in good order. Original in Cash Book signed by Auditing Committee: F. Chesky [???], G. Singer [???]."

**Statement of Assets & Liabilities,
May 13, 1921.**

**Condensed Cash Statement,
July 1, 1920 to May 13, 1921.**

<i>Assets.</i>		<i>Cash Received.</i>	
Cash Balance on Hand	\$ 1,129.44	Dues	\$ 23,698.45
Contingency Fund (Tech.)	850.00	Initiation Fees	1,157.50
Equipment (Furniture and Fixtures)	1,296.50	Contributions	28,668.88
Loans Receivable	1,750.00	Special Organization Fund	19,500.00 Δ
Accounts Receivable	891.50	Literature (inc. papers & leaflets)	9,042.25
Suspense and Doubtful Accounts (1919)	2,770.23 †	Loans and Accounts	1,084.09
D.Damon [Ruthenberg]		Total Received in Period	\$ 83,152.07
(extracted in the split, 1920)	7,095.16 †	Balance from June 1920	707.53
B. Bachrach (Bail Collaterals)	4,100.00	[Total Cash and Receipts]	\$ 83,859.60
C. Recht (Bail Collaterals)	5,350.00		
District Cash Balance	340.12		
Joint Convention Advance and Preliminary Expenses	217.98		
Total Assets	\$25,790.93		
		<i>Cash Paid.</i>	
There is a balance of \$5,500 in Special Org. Fund. §		National Office Salary & Expenses (Tech., Sec., Edit., CEC, etc.)	\$ 12,654.31
		District Salary and Expenses	21,368.89
		Special Org. Expenses (Including about \$4500 to Fed.)	7,186.32
		International Expenses (Del. & Rep. Salary & Expenses)	3,815.85
		Defense Expense	4,424.07
		Equipment (Furniture & Fixtures)	611.00
		Literature (Printing and Distribution, including pamphlets & leaflets)	25,838.91
		Loans and Accounts	4,204.68
		Total Cash Paid During Period	\$ 81,540.04
		Balance May 13, 1921	\$ 2,319.56
		(Of which, Cash = \$1,129.44; Contingency Fund = \$850.00; District Balance = \$340.12).	
<i>Liabilities.</i>			
Loans Payable	\$3,127.63		
Liberty Bonds Borrowed for Bail Collateral	9,450.00		
Total Liabilities	\$ 12,577.63		
CP of A Proprietorship Account	\$ 13,213.93 ‡		

The Liberty Bonds are charged up to Bachrach and Recht, held by them as bail collaterals. The Suspense and Doubtful Accounts are from 1919, practically all dead, should be written off altogether; literature stock on hand at National Office, Districts, and Branches, according to cost and returns figures is about \$5,000....

†- This is bad debt held on the books as an asset. True total of assets excluding this should be \$15,925.54.

‡- This line is the difference between value of assets and amount of liabilities. Due to the holding of bad debt as an "asset," the actual amount of this difference should be \$2,711.61, plus the value of literature on hand by the National Office, Districts, and Branches, which is roughly figured at "about \$5,000." This yields a true total "Proprietorship Account" of approximately \$7,700.

§- If this is a cash balance rather than a theoretical account balance (with the physical funds actually committed to other budgetary uses) it should be listed on the books as an asset. It should also be listed on the previous page as a balance forward. My reading of the statement indicates this "Special Org. Fund" is akin to the US Federal Government's Social Security Trust Fund — targeted Comintern money that has been moved to other uses, replaced with an I.O.U.

Δ - Fairly clearly a subsidy from the Comintern.

* * * †

C. Dobin [Charles Dirba],
Executive Secretary, CPA.

†- A very extensive “Condensed Cash Statement, Feb. to May 1921, Including Federations but Not Including Payments from N.O. to Fed. and from Fed to N.O.” was included as a final section of Dirba’s financial report. Due to the document’s complexity and dissimilarity to the rest of the document — and due to the fact that its importance will be lost upon the reader if buried here — this portion will be produced as a separate publication. In brief summary, this section shows that the Polish, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian Federations spent far more on publishing than did the National Office, and that the assets of each of 5 of the CPA’s 6 Language Federations greatly surpassed those of the central organization. The exception to this was the Jewish Federation, which showed liabilities in excess of assets to the tune of about \$500. The other 5 CPA Federations showed total assets of approximately \$160,000, including a cash balance of over \$20,000. It is little wonder that these federations fought so strenuously to retain their semiautonomous status under the unified organization. Please locate and read this document on EAM if the issue is of interest to you and your research.

Edited with footnotes by Tim Davenport.

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