
Polish Communist Meeting Walsh's Hall, Chicago — Sept. 4, 1919.

by P.P. Mindak

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Report Made by: P.P. Mindak

Place Where Made: Chicago, Ill.

Date When Made: Sept. 11, 1919.

Period for Which Made: Sept. 4, 1919.

*Title of Case and Offense Charged
or Nature of Matter Under Investigation:*

**In Re: Polish Communist Meeting
at Walsh's Hall; Communist Matter.**

*Statement of Operations, Evidence Collected, Names
and Addresses of Persons Interviewed, Places Visited,
Etc.:*

At Chicago.

This meeting was advertized in the North-west side Polish district as being a meeting of workers. On the leaflets no information was given as to who was arranging the meeting. The leaflets urged all workers who desired to hear the truth of the labor movement to come to the meeting.

The hall was packed and there appeared to be 700 or 800 people present, mostly men.

The principal speaker was D. ELBAUM, co-editor of the Polish Communist daily, *Glos Robotniczy* of Detroit, who explained to the gathering the purpose and program of the Communist Party and that this party represented the revolutionary element of the Socialist Party.

His speech had a very powerful effect on the audience, as at the conclusion the applause lasted for several minutes.

After his speech there was a short address made by the chairman of the meeting, JOSEPH KOWALSKI, who is one of the leading spirits and organizers of the Communist Party.

Mr. Kowalski requested all those present in the audience who are now members of the Polish Federation of the Communist Party to raise their hands and all but 10 or 15 raised their hands. He then requested those who were not members to raise their hands and about 10 or 15 did so and some of them made answer, "we are members of other branches," indicating that all of those present were strong sympathizers of the Communist movement.

Mr. Kowalski also explained to the gathering that the Communist Party represented the revolutionary Socialists and ridiculed in strong terms the American Federation of Labor, saying that that organization had outlived its usefulness.

He also urged those present to work hard and organize and prepare for the time when opportunity will be ripe for the establishment of a proletarian dictatorship.

As the audience was leaving the hall many of them were singing the Polish revolutionary song "The Red Flag."

The meeting was one of the most enthusiastic Polish Communist gatherings which Employee

has so far attended and shows that the leaders of the Polish Communist movement have been and still are very active in spreading the Communist Party and organizing.

The chairman of the meeting, Mr. Kowalski, also urged those present to attend a similar public meeting which will be held on the evening of September 5th at Wicker Park Hall, under the auspices of the Polish and Jewish Communist Federations.

This meeting will also be covered and report made of same.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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