
Report of the Ukrainian Organizing Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of America to the 16th National Convention of the SLP, May 6, 1924

by Roman Zaremba

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Akron, Ohio,
May, 6, 1924

Arnold Petersen, National Secretary

Dear Comrade:

I herewith send you the following report of our work:

Press.

The *Labor Voice* (*Rabotnychy Holos*), official organ of the Ukrainian Organizing Committee of the Socialist Labor Party, appears monthly in 1,000 copies. Part of that is used for subscribers, part is sold by bundles, and part is sent to all Ukrainian institutions abroad. The cost of the publication is sustained by the subs, selling of single copies, and Press Fund. The largest material support is rendered by the Ukrainian Branch of the SLP in Akron, O., through entertainments and collections. In the last 12 months the total income was \$496.75. All that was used for expenses of publication. The paper is published on eight pages and when there is enough finances it appears on 12 pages.

Literature.

The Ukrainian Organizing Committee of the SLP has published the following pamphlets:

Woman and the Socialist Movement, by Olive M. Johnson; *What Means This Strike*, by Daniel DeLeon; *Socialism*, by T.J. Holmes; *Class Struggle*, by Karl Kautsky; *State Ownership versus Socialism*, by C. Hotson; and *Industrial Unionism*, by Daniel DeLeon.

This year [1924], in April, two pamphlets came off the press: *Karl Marx*, an editorial by Daniel DeLeon, and *Forty Years After Marx*, by Olive M. Johnson. This pamphlet is published in the same form as the English is published. *Socialism*, by Ch. Anastasoff, which appeared in the WEEKLY PEOPLE in January 1924, under the title, "Socialist and Labor Movement in United States," was published in order to give better information to Ukrainian workers about the Labor Movement in this country.

A year ago we were granted permission by the NEC to publish three pamphlets by Daniel DeLeon, to wit: *Socialist Reconstruction of Society, Reform or Revolution*, and *Burning Question of Trades Unionism*. All three are already translated and soon will be published.

Our literature can be found throughout the United States and Canada in all Ukrainian book stores.

Agitation.

Agitation among Ukrainian workers by the Socialist Labor Party started as far back as 1912. Real workers for that purpose were very few and among them there were more reformists a la Socialist Party than real Socialist Labor Party men of principle. But the struggle for the real SLP among Ukrainian workers did not cease. This lasted to the advent of the revolution in Russia and Ukraine. From the time of the revolution in Ukraine it became much more difficult to agitate among Ukrainian

workers; among them reigns a great chaos, a chaos not to be found among other nations. They are divided and subdivided into so many groups that one almost loses all hope of getting them together. The leadership of that all but hopeless mass of workers is in the hands of very dishonest leaders, who exploit them to the utmost; the quarrels among the leaders are personal, namely, who has stolen more of the funds given by the dupes. Some of them picture the revolution in Ukraine as a real hell, and let loose all kinds of lies and insinuations against it in order that the Ukrainian workers in this country should not understand the call for help and should not understand the real situation; these are so-called nationalists. On the other side, we have our “burlesque bolsheviki” — a la “Workers Party” — who claim that Russian methods should be used in the United States. In fact they do not understand why they call themselves “Internationalists;” their activity is more of a section of the Communist Party of Ukraine and not of the United States.

Generally speaking, on the one hand the Ukrainian workers are fooled by cheap “pay-triots,” and on the other hand by the “comesoonists” of the “Workers Party.” At present there is no independent, critical reasoning among Ukrainian workers. We are struggling with all sides and there are but few of us. We have had arranged many mass meetings in Detroit, Cleveland, Youngstown, Ambridge [???], Akron, and New York.

As was stated above, we are only a few, but we are struggling with all our energy; through our press, literature, and spoken word we are carrying among the Ukrainian workers the message of Revolutionary Socialism. We are strongly convinced that in the near future an Ukrainian Federation of the Socialist Labor Party will be a fact.

Fraternally submitted,

R. Zaremba

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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