
Statement to the Members of the Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia.

[circa Feb. 1923]

by C.E. Ruthenberg

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To All Party Editors:—

Please print this article in your next issue.

(Signed) C.E. Ruthenberg
Executive Sec'y.

Language papers, please translate.

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Statement to the Members of the Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia.

Comrades:—

The Technical Aid has not during recent months fulfilled its mission of giving aid to the workers and peasants of Soviet Russia. Its membership has gone down and its communes have not been successful in Russia. This has been due to bad policies pursued by the Central Bureau and to the fact that the direction of the work of the Technical Aid was in the hands of an inefficient Bureau.

The bad policy was in the advocacy of mass emigration to Soviet Russia, which was in opposition to the desires of the Soviet Government itself. The Technical Aid organized large communes which could not possibly succeed in Soviet Russia because too many men were sent with the machinery brought to Russia by these communes.

Because of this there has been widespread dissatisfaction among the members of these communes and they have failed to give the help to Soviet Russia which properly organized units could give.

The Central Bureau was inefficient because it did not see it. It sent to Soviet Russia many persons who had no other desire than to aid themselves and who were not interested in aiding Soviet Russia. The Central Bureau was also not strong enough to keep personal self-seeking and personal business out of the work of the Technical Aid.

To meet this situation the Central Bureau has reorganized itself. There have been excluded from the Central Bureau Wilga, Rubin, Finkelberg, Solubkov, and Gorelik, who were responsible for the wrong policies and inefficiency in the conduct of the work. The Central Bureau now in charge of the work of the Technical Aid now consists of the following comrades: A. Jakira [WPA Secretary for Confidential Work], B. Rosenblatt (editor of *Novyi Mir*), Radjivanovich, Antoniuk, A. Nastasievsky (editor of *Ukrainian Daily News*), Rose Karsner, Osadchey, John Pepper [WPA Political Committee Secretary], and C.E. Ruthenberg [WPA Executive Secretary]. To these will be added two members of the New York Branch of the Technical Aid.

The reorganized Bureau will immediately put into effect new policies which will make the Technical Aid Society an effective instrument for the aid of Soviet Russia. These policies will in-

clude the following measures:

1) There will be no liquidation of the Technical Aid. It will not be combined with the Friends of Soviet Russia. It will exist as an autonomous organization carrying out the policies laid down by Soviet Russia and the Communist International.

2) The school in New York, which the old Central Bureau has permitted to break up, will be maintained. It will be reorganized so as to train real experts to go to Soviet Russia. It will also be made a training school for those workers who remain in the United States, so that they can become more efficient in the labor movement here.

3) The Technical Aid will not in the future agitate for mass emigration or the sending of large communes to Soviet Russia. It will train and send small agricultural groups and specially organized

industrial units which can give real help to the workers and peasants of Soviet Russia.

4) It will lay the emphasis on the sending of machinery and capital to Soviet Russia and only such experts [as] are needed.

Through these new policies the Technical Aid will become a great help to Soviet Russia, which it could not be in the past due to the wrong policies and inefficiency of the old Central Bureau. The reorganized Bureau calls upon all the members of the Technical Aid to give their loyal support to the Central Bureau in its efforts to make of the Technical Aid what it was organized to be and to eliminate all self-seeking and personal interests from the organization.

Central Bureau,
Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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