
Circular Letter to All Russian Branches of the Communist Party of America from Alexander Stoklitsky in Chicago, Sept. 8, 1919

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Translated by Marie J.C. Dealavare for the Department of Justice, Feb. 12, 1920.

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN.

Chicago, Sept. 8, 1919.

To All Branches of the Russian Communist Federation.

The Organizing Meeting of the Communist Party of America has finished. During the meeting 128 delegates, representing about 60,000 organized Communists in America, were present. The work of the Communist meeting has been entirely successful: the Communist Party of America was organized and has taken a due form. The headquarters of the Communist Party of America is located in Chicago. There will be published in the same place the central weekly organ of the Communist Party, *The Communist*, and the central monthly journal, *The Communist International*.

A Central Committee of 15 persons has been elected. The committee is composed of Comrades Ruthenberg, Fraina, Ferguson, Lovestone, Cohen, Ballam, Wicks, Dirba, Petras, Hourwich, Schwartz, Tyverovsky, Karosas, Elbaum, and Bittelman. Ruthenberg has been

elected as Secretary of the Communist Party. Fraina has been elected as responsible editor of the Communist Party and also International Secretary. The following comrades have been elected as delegates to the International Congress of the 3rd Communist International: Ruthenberg, Stoklitsky, Ferguson, and Hourwich. The Manifesto, Program, and Constitution of the Communist Party of America were worked out and accepted, which is presently being put into order by the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party.

As soon as the materials and accounts of the Communist meeting are put in order, they will be translated into Russian, printed, and sent to the branches. Partial accounts will be published in the *Novyi Mir* during the next few weeks.

Thus, comrades, the work of the construction of the Communist Party of America has been crowned with success. The old, rotten Socialist Party has cracked at all its seams. All thinking elements have joined the fighting Communist Party of America. A difficult task lies before our party. Surrounded on all sides by enemies, it will be obliged to fight on many fronts simultaneously. As with the German



traitors, the social-patriots, their brothers in America — the Germers and the Bergers — are ready to do all in their power in order to crush the real Revolutionary movement. These traitors to the interests of the working class even went so far as to call the police and throw the Centrists from their meeting.

Each of you, comrades, must understand and be conscious of the necessity of taking an active part in the work... Our Federation is the strongest in the party. The development of the Communist movement and the development of our party depends on the activity, as well as the direct support, of our branches. Immediately join with the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party through your Translator-Secretary. Subscribe and propagate *The Communist* newspaper (in the English language). Membership stamps should be ordered from the Secretary of the Federation [Oscar Tyverovsky].

Address any questions...concerning the Communist Party of America to your Translator-Secretary [Stoklitsky]. Immediately send the address of the Secretary and organizer of your branch. Also try to locate and send to the Central Committee of the Party, through the Translator-Secretary, the addresses of the Secretaries of all branches and organizations of the Socialist Party, as well as of the Socialist Women's Party, who did not yet join our Communist Party and among whom an agitation in favor of our ideas shall be effected.

Send all letters to the following address:

A. STOKLITSKY
1221 Blue Island Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Yours for Communism,

Alexander Stoklitsky.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

English phrasing smoothed from the original translation.

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