

---

# **Soviet Consul Again Greeted by Big Crowds: Martens Asserts that Soviet Russia is Now Supported by All Parties [event of March 31, 1919]**

Published in *New York Call*, vol. 12, no. 91 (April 1, 1919), pg. 2

An immense audience extended the hand of fellowship to the Hungarian Soviet government and greeted L.C.A.K. Martens as the official Soviet Consul from Russia at an enthusiastic meeting held at the Manhattan Lyceum, 66 East 4th Street [New York City], last night [March 31, 1919].

The upper and lower halls were choked with a seething mass of spectators, who came to greet the man who appeared in the name of Soviet Russia. Police had difficulty in keeping an overflow of people from swamping the meeting halls.

Martens, who spoke in Russian, said, in part:

Soviet Russia now has been in existence for almost a year and a half. It has left behind itself the preliminary stages of the revolution. It has become deeply rooted in the consciousness of the workers and peasantry of Russia. Its power within Russia cannot be challenged by any group of opponents on their own accord. The forces of the enemies of the people are badly disrupted. Only with the help of foreign bayonets is it possible for small groups of former exploiters of Russia to make a stand against the united forces of the working people.

## **Soviets Hailed by All.**

This is one of the reasons why Soviet Russia not only has gained the unqualified and determined support of all the laboring masses of Russia, who are willing to give their lives in the defense of the achievements of the workers' revolution, but it also lately has convinced former opponents of the government, such

as Right Wing Social Revolutionaries and Mensheviks, not only of the futility of opposition to the Soviets and of the armed intervention, but of the great dangers it involves to all liberty in Russia.

### **How to Help Hungary.**

Louis Basky, an Hungarian Socialist, made a fervid address, both in English and Hungarian:

“There is only one way to help the Hungarian and Russian Soviet governments. That is to revolutionize America. You must wage an uncompromising class war against capitalism.”

John Reed, Jim Larkin, Benjamin Gitlow, Sen Katayama, and others joined in the greeting of Martens and hailing the Hungarian revolution.

Nicholas Hourwich, who was chairman of the meeting, which was held under the auspices of *The Communist*, a publication, was vigorously applauded when he declared the “Left Wing proposes to bring Bolshevism to America.”

*Edited by Tim Davenport*

1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR · May 2012 · Non-commercial reproduction permitted.