
The Martens Controversy in the Russian Federation of the CPA: Undercover Report of a Meeting in Chicago [events of Nov. 26-27, 1919]

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Report Made by: J. Spolansky
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*Title of Case and Offense Charged
or Nature of Matter Under Investigation:*

In re: Activities of Confidential Informant #3

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

At Chicago.

Confidential Employee #3 reports that a meeting of all the Russian Communist Branches of the Communist Party was held on Nov. 26th [1919] at the Smolnyi Institute [1221 Blue Island Ave., Chicago]. The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing a resolution which was introduced by the Executive Committee of the Russian Communist Federation, and which demands from L.K. Martens that the so-called Soviet Bureau of New York City should be turned over to the Federation for their control.

Alexander Stoklitsky, and the chairman of the meeting, *Dr. Kopnagel*, spoke in favor of the resolution. *Jake Feldmark*, an active member of the 1st Russian Branch, spoke against it and in his speech introduced a letter from the Russian Bolshevik secretary of Foreign Affairs, [*Georgii*] *Chicherin*, and another from *L.K. Martens*, in which they protest against the action taken by the various locals and branches of the Russian Communist Federation, and who are trying to control the affairs and finances of the Russian Soviet Bureau of New York City. *Alexander Stoklitsky* also introduced a resolution demanding from *Feldmark* that those documents should be turned over to the Executive Committee of the Federation, which *Feldmark* refused to do, and upon the refusal of the said *Feldmark*, this meeting expelled the entire 1st Branch of the Communist Party from the Federation.

On Nov. 27th [1919] a special meeting was held at the Smolnyi Institute for the purpose of electing delegates to the Cook country Executive Committee of the Communist Party. The following Russian aliens were elected: *Dudko, Kaplan, Bush, Kozlowsky, Omilianovich, Garfinkel*, and *Gubarevich. M. Babichy*, who resides at 2326 West 24th St., and who just recently came from Gary, Ind., is very active in the Russian Communist Branch #2.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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