
Report on CLP Mass Meeting

West Side Auditorium, Chicago — Sept. 2, 1919.

by P.P. Mindak

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Report Made by: P.P. Mindak

Place Where Made: Chicago, Ill.

Date When Made: Sept. 8, 1919.

Period for Which Made: Sept. 2, 1919.

*Title of Case and Offense Charged
or Nature of Matter Under Investigation:*

**In re: Communist Meeting,
West Side Auditorium,
Taylor and Racine Ave.,
Communist Matter.**

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

At Chicago.

Employee attended this meeting the evening of September 2nd [1919], at which JACK CARNEY, JOHN REED, and others were advertised to speak. Speeches, however, were delivered by MRS. [ELLA] REEVE [BLOOR], JACK CARNEY, and JOHN REED. Of the three the most effective speech and the one that enthused the gathering most was that delivered by Jack Carney. Carney is a very eloquent speaker and in a very poetic and dramatic style reviewed the evolution of the radical revolutionary element in this country. He spoke of the proposed formation of

the Communist Labor Party, which he stated was in wholehearted sympathy with the Russian Soviet, and urged agitation amongst the workers and the formation of shop committees throughout all the shops and factories. He urged the workers to prepare themselves for the opportunity when a proletarian dictatorship could be established in this country.

The topic of his talk was "Development and Future of the Revolutionary Movement."

Throughout his lecture he repeatedly mentioned the word "revolution" and proletarian dictatorship. At the conclusion of his talk he appealed to the gathering for donations to help defray the expenses of the convention and the new Communist [Labor] Party. He first appealed for \$5.00 donations and received about a dozen; he then appealed for \$1.00 donations and received quite a number of them, and finally requested several of the ladies present to pass the hat around. Before the collection was taken up the paper money donations were counted and amounted to \$73.00; how much more money was taken in silver and other smaller donations was not announced. Judging from the amount of small change which could be seen in the various hats it is safe to guess that there was another \$50.00 or \$75.00 collected in small change.

The last speaker of the evening was John Reed, who, however, spoke very shortly as the hour was getting late. He also urged agitation amongst

the working class for the purpose of forming a powerful revolutionary party and the preparation of the working class for the establishment of proletarian dictatorship.

He also strongly advocated the proposition of forming One Big Union.

There was admission charged to the hall in the amount of 25¢ and it seemed that there were present about 250 or 300 people of mixed nationalities.

There appeared to be a lack of enthusiasm which is usually seen at gatherings of this kind and it appeared to Employee that many of those present came for the purpose of hearing Jack Carney, who is a very eloquent orator.

There was displayed on the table in the rear of the hall, IWW literature and buttons of the Russian Soviet Republic, which the Chairman of the evening urged those present to purchase.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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