
Letter to Leonid Belsky in Chicago from C.E. Ruthenberg in New York, May 3, 1920 — morning.

A document in the Hoover Institution Archives, Jay Lovestone Papers, box 195, folder 11.

New York, May 3, 1920.

Dear Fisher [Belsky]:—

Regarding your suggestion that you leave Chicago for organization work among the Russian comrades, I have no objection to your doing this, but I had already sent Kasbeck [Alex Georgian] to Boston and from that place he was to go to Detroit and Pittsburgh. If he returns here from Boston in place of going direct to Detroit, I will stop him and have him stay in the East. Otherwise there is no need of your going to these places as that will only duplicate the work. I already suggested in my letter of Saturday [May 1, 1920] that the Polish and South Slavic Secretaries [Joseph Kowalski and Stankovich, respectively] should go to Detroit to line up their branches for us.

I will write you about the matter again as soon as I hear from Kasbeck [Georgian]. If you make this trip you might as well stop in Cleveland, for although I have not heard anything from there, I am not so sure that the Russians and Lithuanians will stand with us after Ries [John Ballam] gets busy there.

The Ukrainian Federation is lost to us. They

do not support the “majority” but neither are they with us. I think they intend to propose some sort of agreement — the suspension of [Nicholas] Hourwich and Ries [Ballam] from the committee and cooperation of the Executive Secretary [Ruthenberg] and the “majority” on some such basis, as was considered during the negotiations.

From what Bunte [Charles Dirba] said before the Ukrainian CEC yesterday I am under the impression that the “majority” will not negotiate for a joint convention between the two groups unless we first withdraw our call for the convention — which of course settles that as I would not agree to such a withdrawal as preliminary to negotiations.

I will get in touch with the CLP again and see whether I can arrive at something definite in regard to a “unity conference,” as that seems to be our best move at the present time.

Will write more fully this afternoon or tomorrow.

Fraternally yours,

[C.E. Ruthenberg]
Executive Secretary.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

Third Edition, May 2007 — adds the attribution of “Kasbeck” = Alex Georgian.

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