

---

# Spies and Traitors!

Unsigned article in *The Communist* (NY: UCP), no. 16 (circa May 1, 1921), pg. 12.

Occasionally, a man turns traitor to the workers. Occasionally, a turncoat appears among the Revolutionists. According to reports in the capitalist press, there is such a one in the person of a man who once was a member of a revolutionary organization in America. Morris Zucker, one time a member of the Communist Labor Party, was convicted during the war of seditious utterances.† *Very mysteriously*, after receiving a sentence of 15 years, he was pardoned. Shortly afterwards, he went to Russia. Detained on the way, he managed at last to get into the country. Immediately, however, he got into trouble, and was imprisoned. His companions in prison were archdukes, merchants, and counterrevolutionists of every description. *From them*, he gained his knowledge of conditions in Russia. He comes back a “disillusioned” man! It is his intention to agitate against the Russian Government!

Is Zucker a traitor and spy? If he is, let him take care!

†- Morris Zucker was sentenced to 15 years in prison on January 20, 1919, in a trial in Brooklyn, for alleged use of seditious material in a speech. He was out of jail in time to join the Editorial Board of the organ of the Left Wing Section of the Socialist Party, Local Greater New York, *The New York Communist*, his name first appearing on the masthead of that publication's second issue, dated April 26, 1919. He was not included on the Editorial Board of *The Revolutionary Age* when *The New York Communist* was merged into that publication at the end of June. Zucker was a delegate to National Left Wing Conference in June of 1919 and a delegate to Founding Convention of CLP from New York later that summer. Initially a delegate to the founding convention of the Communist Party of America in Chicago which began Sept. 1, 1919, Zucker bolted that gathering in favor of the CLP convention due to a professed distaste for the machinations of the Russian Federation. Zucker is said to have been briefly jailed for his political activities in 1920, although no details are known. Zucker went to Soviet Russia in November of 1920, but claimed to have lost his passport and money and was arrested after 3 weeks in the country by the Cheka. Zucker was held in prison in Moscow until about April 1, 1921, when he was released and ordered to leave country immediately.

*Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.*

*Published by 1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR, 2006. • Non-commercial reproduction permitted.*