
On Louis C. Fraina:
An Excerpt from Israel Amter's No. 17 from Moscow
to the Central Executive Committee, WPA, in New York.
July 5, 1923.

A document in the Comintern Archive, f. 515, op. 1, d. 176., l. 39.

No. 17

July 5, 1923.

To the CEC.

Dear Comrades:

Enclosed report of the CI conference. It is not quite finished, but as the mail leaves in a short time, I want to get it to you. I have written it in such form that it can be published. I would STRONGLY recommend that it be published....

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41/7 3/6 5/1 1/3 2/1 3/1 [F R A I N A]. Your cable that he is in New York received. I immediately took it up here. They are sending you a letter about him. They want an accounting — but Piat[nitsky] told me distinctly that THEY ARE THROUGH WITH HIM. THEY DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM. I hope that this will be a guide for us. I trust that there is no fool in the US who will attempt to put him into the ranks again. If you want our party to go to pieces, if you want the confidence of the membership to be completely destroyed, let him enter again. His conduct is unpardonable, to say the least. There is not the SLIGHTEST excuse for him. He has been in America, in Canada and Mexico, and yet has failed to report. He has a weakness for drink, women and, I understand, for cards. That is enough to keep him out, regardless of his ability. His connection with that 2/3 13/12 1/6 [S P Y], Dr. N. [Nosovitsky], is sufficient

to give him a dubious reputation. If he is so naive, then he is a danger, is he is the other [a spy himself], then, he must be kept out by all means.

I am writing in detail, because I want you to know the opinion of the people here, and because I feel that there may be friends of his in our CEC who may try to get him in again. We have grown beyond the stage of such creatures, and it is time to put an end to them just as they are not going to have anything to do with him here. I sincerely trust that no personal relations, no old friendships will be allowed to play any part in the decision that is made. And just at this time, when so many shady characters and worse are being found in our ranks, to add him would be to *undermine the party and hand it over to the D of J [Department of Justice]. Frankly, I do not trust him.*

* * *

Party Reports. I wish you would not fail to sent reports on happenings that do not appear in the Worker. I am being kept in such ignorance of what is being decided that it is impossible to report to the CI. If, as you say, you cannot send the minutes, then send excerpts.

* * *

No more today. Best regards to all from

Grove [Israel Amter].

Edited by Tim Davenport.
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