
4,000 Listen to Socialists on Russian Affairs: War on Soviet Government Would Mean War on People, Says Speaker [event of Sept. 13, 1918]

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Three thousand persons were turned away from Hunts Point Palace last night [Sept. 13 1918], while 4,000 pressed their way inside the auditorium to hear John Reed and others discuss the Russian situation and express their disapproval of American Intervention.

When Assemblyman Benjamin Gitlow, chairman of the meeting, mentioned the name of Eugene V. Debs in his opening remarks the crowd leaped to his feet with shouts and cheers.

“Debs must not go to jail,” it shouted.

Santeri Nuorteva, representative in America of the Finnish Republic, said that so far as he knew there had been no declaration of war between Russia and the United States. He declared that war now against the Soviet government would be war against the Russian people. He said that he did not believe the reports appearing in capitalist papers as to conditions in Russia were true.

Louis Fraina, editor of *The New Internationalist*, said that the great mass of the Russian people were determined that no capitalist form of government should be forced upon them.

Gregory Weinstein, editor of *Novyi Mir*, said he did not believe the reports of serious disorders in Moscow and Petrograd, and that, if they were true, they were due to German agents and not to acts of the Bolsheviki.

A collection of \$500 was taken.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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