
In re: Socialist Activities in Boston

[Nov. 11, 1918]

by William E. Hill

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Report Made By: William E. Hill.

Place Where Made: Boston, Mass.

Date When Made: Nov. 16, 1918.

Period for Which Made: Nov. 11, '18.

Title of Case and Offense Charged or Matter Under Investigation:

In re: Socialist Activities in Boston. (War Matter)

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

At Boston, Mass.

Pursuant to instructions of Division Superintendent [John J.] Kelleher, based upon information received at Division Headquarters, Boston, that Socialists were parading the streets of Boston bearing red flags. Division Superintendent Kelleher instructed Agent to locate the parade and follow same to their place of disbandment and get names [and] all information possible as to their activities, but to molest them in no way.

Agent, accompanied by Special Agent [Albert] Lyon, learned that the parade had marched in the direction of the South End and disbanded at the Socialist headquarters, 885 Washington St., that they held a meeting at their headquarters in the afternoon, and had announced a public meeting for the evening at the Dudley Street Opera House.

Agent attended the meeting at the Dudley Street Opera House, which was called to order at 8 pm and

lasted until 10:30 pm. There were but two speakers and the meeting was well attended. The first speaker was comrade *Louis C. Fraina*, who spoke on the Soviet Republic. He criticized the Allies and the United State government for not taking into consideration the hopes and aspirations of the Socialists and had predicted that in time the entire world would be educated to Socialism, also that the Allies would probably put down the Russian Republic. He also criticized the terms of the armistice. Louis C. Fraina is the editor of *The New International* and *The Class Struggle*. He spoke at length on the new socialist paper, *The Revolutionary News* [*sic.*], to be published 3 times weekly in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and all large cities in the US and he pleaded for subscriptions to financially assist in this publication. He stated that the first publication would be issued on Saturday, Nov. 16 [1918], and they needed at least \$2,000. Members of the Socialist Party busied themselves during the evening soliciting subscriptions and taking up a collection for the publication of this new socialist paper. They also sold books and pamphlets among the audience and at a table on entering the hall. Printed announcements were distributed among the audience announcing a meeting for Sunday, Nov. 17 [1918] at 3 pm at the Grand Opera House, Washington St., Boston, the subject being "The Russian Revolution," the speakers to be *John Reed*, *Santeri Nuorteva*, *Louis C. Fraina*, and *Gregory Weinstein*, with revolutionary songs and music on the program. It was also reported that a public meeting was to be held at the Boston Common the following day, Nov. 12 [1918], at 2 pm.

Investigation to be continued.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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