
Wholesale Arrests of Communists in Buffalo:

**Headquarters of Communist Party Raided — Many Men and
Two Women Arrested — Other Arrests to Be Expected —
Lusk Committee to Give Public Hearing Here —
Criminal Anarchy Charged.**

[Events of Dec. 28, 1919]

Unsigned article in *The New Age* [Buffalo], v. 8, whole no. 396 (Jan. 1, 1920), pg. 1.

The Lusk Legislative Investigating Committee has struck this town and directed a raid upon the headquarters of the Communist Party, 760 Main Street, last Monday night [Dec. 28, 1919]. Twenty men and two women were placed under arrest there and large quantities of literature and correspondence seized.

A letter, claimed to be in the possession of the Lusk Committee from L.C.A.K. Martens, so-called Ambassador of the Soviet government, is said to compliment the local Communists on their work for the cause.

The arrests, we are told, were based on Section 160 of the penal code, and the charge is Criminal Anarchy.

According to the interpretation of that law, every Communist in subscribing to the constitution and manifesto of the party is guilty of criminal anarchy, but of course no person is to be considered guilty of any crime until found guilty by a jury after a fair trial.

Names of Those Arrested.

The name of the 22 persons arrested in the raid are:

Emma Kelemen, 654 Riley Street.
Benjamin Kelemen, 654 Riley Street.
Peter Ganeff, 119 E Eagle Street.
Joseph Fedoronich, 157 Hickory Street.
Andrew Schner, 66 Hickory Street.
Paul Miska, 264 Sycamore Street.
Michael Lorrie, 146 Sycamore Street.
John Katzyshon, 423 Jefferson Street.
Peter Telon, 238 Spring Street.
Paul Streamer, 65 Bradley Street.
Thomas Coval, 146 Sycamore Street.
Oscar Peterson, 46 Whitney Place.
William J. Schwanekamp, Eggertsville.
Frank Rosenblatt, 266 Spring Street.
Harry Ewachow, 87 Hamilton Street.
Sam Goz, 86 William Street.
Thomas Dudka, 54 Guilford Street.
Frank Cassidy, 11 Bird Avenue.
Peter Zayac, Lancaster.
Alex Tymoshuk, 120 Amherst Street.
F.H. Schuman, 632 Ellicott Street.
Mrs. D'Arcy Milliken, 797 Main Street.

Mr. D'Arcy Milliken was brought to the District Attorney's office and after being questioned was released upon his own recognizance.

Mrs. Milliken and Emma Kelemen were also allowed to go home. George A. Till, Fred Schuman, and Michael Kostoff of 140 Oak Street were also brought in.

The membership list of the organization is in the hands of the police and more arrests are to be expected.

Tuesday noon [Dec. 29, 1919] the daily papers informed us that Franklin P. Brill was also "caught in the roundup." The fact seems to be that he was arrested in his home in Williamsville about 3 o'clock in the morning. Do you call this catching a man when you have to drag him out of his bed? By the way, was such a brutality really necessary? Brill has advocated his ideas openly and never dreamed that by doing so he committed a crime. He, therefore, did certainly not think of running away.

Later we were informed that 52 persons had been arrested here. Brill, Till, Keleman, Paterson, and Schwanekamp were released on \$2500 bail each.

As Senator Lusk says, a local organization, the name of which is not made public, has materially assisted the Lusk Committee in its work here.

While society was thus saved in Buffalo, a similar stunt was performed in Rochester, NY, where 4 halls were raided, including the Labor Lyceum., quantities of alleged seditious literature seized, and a number of people arrested, among them Charles M. O'Brien and John Komorowski, the 19-year old leaders of the recent strike in the plant of the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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