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**Circular Letter to CPA Members from  
Charles Dirba, Acting Executive Secretary  
over the Signature of C.E. Ruthenberg,  
Dec. 31, 1919**

Document in C.E. Ruthenberg Papers, Ohio Historical Society, microfilm reel 1.

**Communist Party of America  
1219 Blue Island Avenue  
Chicago, Ill.**

December 31st, 1919.

Dear Comrade:—

Secret Service Agents have seized our mailing list, and we hasten to inform you of this so that you can take any precautions that may be necessary.

Under ordinary circumstances and in law — this means nothing; they can do nothing, just because they have found your name on a mailing list, no matter what list.

At the present time, however, there are localities and there are circumstances for some comrades in which immediate precaution should be taken to preclude further trouble. You will know yourself what to do.

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If you deem it necessary please give us *at once* a new address for your *Communist* bundle. In that case give us both the old name and address and the new, so that we can make the proper change.

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In any case, please be sure to inform us promptly if you do not get your bundle as usual. This is very important.

If they should use the list to hold up all or most of our bundle shipments, we must know it. We must be informed of it promptly, so that we should not waste our efforts so that we might work out and use other ways and means of getting our paper to the readers.

Do not fail to attend to this promptly.

Fraternally yours,

*C.E. Ruthenberg*,<sup>1</sup>  
Executive Secretary.

CD-IG

*Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport*  
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<sup>1</sup> Ruthenberg signature is rubberstamped, actual authorship by Assistant Executive Secretary Charles Dirba indicated by typed signature and typist initials below.