



R. Abramovič Papers (1904-) 1922-1939

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R. Abramovič Papers

Period (1904-) 1922-1939

Total size 1.4 m.

Consultation Not restricted

Biography

Abramovič Rafail A. Pseudonym of Rafail Abramovic Rein; born in Dvinsk, Russia 1880, died in New York 1963; had to leave Russia in 1902 because of his activities for the 'Bund'; returned in 1904; one of the leaders of the Menshevik faction of the Rossijskaja Social-Demokratičeskaja Rabočaja Partija (RSDRP); arrested in 1911 and exiled, later escaped abroad; returned to Russia in 1917; arrested in 1918 and narrowly escaped the death sentence through the intervention of Friedrich Adler and others; left Russia for Berlin in 1920; member of the Menshevik Delegation Abroad; edited Socialističeskij Vestnik with Julij Martov; delegate of the Menshevik party to the Labour and Socialist International (LSI/SAI) until 1940; emigrated to the USA; one of the organizers of the Union for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in 1949.

Content

Correspondence by Abramovič, partly in Yiddish, with Friedrich Adler 1929-1931, 1933-1936, Alexander Berkman 1933-1934, Fedor Dan 1933-1936, Karl Kautsky 1934-1935, Otto Leichter 1934, Emile Vandervelde 1934 and others; conference papers of and notes on meetings of the Bureau and of the Executive of the LSI 1929-1939; documents of the LSI/SAI Colonial Commission 1926-1928 and Minorities Commission 1928-1929; file relating to the attitude of the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party and of the LSI/SAI towards the pogroms in the Ukraine from 1918 to 1920, 1926-1928; file relating to the Section Française de l'Internationale Ouvrière 1933-1939; file relating to Unser Gedank c. 1931; manuscripts of articles; notes; personal documents; press clippings from the Jewish Daily Forward 1926-1932; miscellanea.

Papers of Abramovič' son Mark Rein (1909-1937): correspondence 1931-1936, Der rote Winkel. Gruppenzeitung der SAJ Berlin Westen II 1927-1929, and personal documents.

Papers of Wulf Drabkin: correspondence and personal documents 1904-1916.

Administrative information

Processing information

List made by Hermien van Veen in 1995, 1998

Alternate Form of Material

14 security microfilms.

INTRODUCTION

The true name of Rafail A. Abramovič was Rafail Abramovič Rein. He was born in Dvinsk, Latvia, Russia, in 1880.

In 1902 he had to leave Russia because of his activities for the 'Bund', but returned in 1904. In 1906 he became a member of the Central Committee (CC) of the Rossijskaja Social-Demokratičeskaja Rabočaja Partija (RSDRP), at first as a representative of the 'Bund'. In 1911 he was arrested but escaped and fled abroad. He returned to Russia in 1917. In July 1918 he was arrested and narrowly escaped the death sentence through the intervention of prominent Bolsheviks and Friedrich Adler. He left Russia for Berlin in 1920 and was a member of the RSDRP Delegation Abroad. With Julij Martov he founded and edited the Socialističeskij Vestnik. Until 1940 he was delegate of the RSDRP to the Labour and Socialist International (LSI/SAI), serving for many years on its executive committee. In 1940 he emigrated to the USA. He died in New York in 1963.

Abramovič's son Mark Rein was born in Vilna, Lithuania, in 1909. He was active in the RSDRP Youth League and the Sozialistische Arbeiter Jugend (SAJ). He became a member of the group

Neu Beginnen. In 1937 he was kidnapped and murdered in Barcelona, apparently by Spanish agents of the Soviet secret police.

The archive

In 1933 Abramovič had to leave library and archive in Berlin, fleeing from Hitler. 11 March 1935 Mark Rein wrote to the IISH on behalf of his father to thank Professor Posthumus for his efforts to rescue his father's papers. In 1936 the IISH sent to Abramovič a list of books and periodicals received (IISH archive).

It seems to be quite haphazardly which papers of Abramovič have been preserved. Folder 1 of his correspondence, e.g., contains letters from the first quarter of 1930 only, and just a few letters from the end of 1929. And virtually no correspondence of 1932 has been preserved. Part of the papers are in Yiddish, which made it too complicated to arrange all correspondence alphabetically. Correspondents include Friedrich Adler, J.W. Albarda, Alexander Berkman, G.O. Binštok, F.I. Dan, A.A. Jugov , Karl Kautsky, O. Leichter, Emile Vandervelde, and many others.

Apart from papers from Mark Rein the collection also contains some documents from the Bundist Wulf Drabkin.

In 1998 a security microfilm of the archive was completed. A list of these films has been added in an annex to this list.

The archive measures 1.4 metres.

LIST

PAPERS OF R.A. ABRAMOVIČ

Correspondence

- 1 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič. 1929-1930. 1 folder
- 2-3 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič. Alphabetically. 1931, 1933-1934. 2 folders
 - 2 A-J.
 - 3 K-Z.
- 4-5 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič. Alphabetically. 1933-1934. 2 folders
 - 4 A-J.
 - 5 K-Z.
- 6 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič. 1935. 1 folder
- 7 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič, relating to his tour in the USA in 1935. 1935. 1 folder
- 8-9 Correspondence of R.A. Abramovič. Alphabetically. (1934-)1935-1936 (-1938). 2 folders
 - 8 A-J.
 - 9 K-Z.

Personal documents

- 10 Admission-, press-, and delegates' cards, and other documents. 1928-1938 and n.d. 1 folder
- 11 Exercise book of R.A. Abramovič, containing stereometric problems. 1912. 1 folder

RSDRP

- 12 Documents relating to the Party arbitration in the conflict I. Nachmanson-B.L. Gurevič. 1932, 1936, 1937 and n.d. 1 folder
- 13 Documents relating to the Party arbitration in the conflict E.L. Izrael'-D.G. Šejner. 1937 and n.d. 1 cover
- 14 Text of a programme of action of the CC of the RSDRP on the National Question. N.d. 1 cover

LSI

- 15 Documents of the LSI Minorities Commission. 1928-1929. 1 folder
- 16-17 File relating to the attitude of the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party and of the LSI towards the programs in the Ukraine from 1918 to 1920. 1919, 1920, 1926-1928 and n.d. 2 folders
- 18 Documents of the LSI Colonial Commission. 1926-1928. 1 folder
- 19-32 Documents relating to Executive and Bureau meetings of the LSI, IVth Congress and an International Conference. With notes by Abramovič. (1926), 1929-1939 and n.d. 9 folders and 5 covers
 - 19 1929. Executive.
 - 20 1931. Fourth Congress and Bureau.
 - 21-25 1933. Executives, Bureau's, International Conference.
 - 26-27 (1926), 1934. Bureau and Executive.
 - 28 1935. Bureau and Executive.
 - 29 1936. Bureau and Executive.
 - 30-31 1938. Executives.
 - 32 1939. Bureau and Executive.
- 33 Documents relating to the Section Française de l'Internationale Ouvrière (SFIO). 1933, 1936, 1939 and n.d. 1 folder
- 34 Correspondence (photocopies) of SOPADE and P. Hertz, and other documents. 1936-1938 and n.d. 1 folder

Manuscripts and publications

- 35-36 Manuscripts and printed articles by R.A. Abramovič for the Jewish Daily Forward, New York. (1922, 1923), 1926-1932 and n.d. 2 boxes
- 37 Documents relating to Unser Gedank. 1931-1932 and n.d. 1 folder
- 38 Documents relating to 'Encyclopédie Universelle en Yiddish'. 1935 and n.d. 1 folder
- 39 Manuscript on Zionism and socialism by Abramovič, notes and documentation. 1929 and n.d. 1 folder
- 40 Manuscript [by Abramovič] and other documents relating to the Moscow trials in 1937. 1937. 1 cover
- 41 Various manuscripts and printed articles by Abramovič. 1923-1924, 1926, 1929, 1932 and n.d. 1 folder
- 42 Notes and fragments of articles by Abramovič. [1922-1925] and n.d. 1 folder
- 43 Manuscripts by various authors and documentation on the situation in the Soviet Union. 1922-1926, 1932, 1933 and n.d. 1 folder
- 44 Manuscripts by various authors. N.d. 1 folder

Documentation

- 45 Three documents on Rumania. 1932, 1932 and n.d. 3 pieces
- 46 Clippings on R.A. Abramovič. 1923, 1925, 1930, 1932. 1 folder
- 47 Various documentation. 1924, 1931, 1933 and n.d. 1 cover
- 48 Various clippings. 1921-1925, 1930, 1932 and n.d. 1 folder
- 49 Photographs. N.d.
NB. Transferred to the IISH Audiovisual Department.

PAPERS OF MARK REIN

- 50 Letters to Mark Rein. 1931-1937 and n.d. 1 box
- 51 Personal documents of Mark Rein. 1927-1936 and n.d. 1 cover
- 52 Naš Žurnal nrs. 1-5, self-made journal of a [menshevik] club for Russian children, one of the aims being to collect money for starving children in the Soviet Union. 1921-1923. 1 cover
- 53 Membership and delegate cards of the RSDRP Youth League and the SPD, and admission tickets to meetings of the SAJ, the SPD and the International Socialist Youth. 1928-1933. 1 cover
- 54 Der Rote Winkel. Gruppenzeitung der SAJ Berlin Westen II. 1927-1929. 1 folder
- 55 Articles on the SAJ, KPD, Comintern, on Italy, Germany, the Soviet Union, and other documents. 1936-1937 and n.d. 1 folder
- 56 Notes on fascism and Spain. 1936 and n.d. 1 folder
- 57 Correspondence and other documents in connection with schooling and job. 1927-1936. 1 folder
- 58 Thesis written for the Technische Hochschule Berlin. 1932. 1 folder
- 59 Articles on electronics. N.d. 1 cover

PAPERS OF WULF DRABKIN

- 60 Letters to Wulf and Beila Drabkin. 1915-1916 and n.d. 1 folder
- 61 Letters from Wulf Drabkin to Beila Vitenberg. 1907-1909 and n.d. 1 folder
- 62 Personal documents of Wulf Drabkin en Beila Drabkin Vitenberg. 1904-1908, 1914, 1915 and n.d. 1 folder

ANNEX

List of the security microfilms of the papers of Rafail A. Abramovič (1880-1963)

Filmno. Listno.

- 1. 1 and a part of 2.
- 2. 2 (last part) and 3.
- 3. 4-5.
- 4. 6-7 and a part of 8.
- 5. 8 (last part), 9-10.
- 6. 11-17 and a part of 18.
- 7. 18 (last part), 19-30 and a part of 31.

8. 31 (last part), 32-35 and a part of 36.
9. 36 (last part), 37-38 and a part of 39.
10. 39 (last part), 40-43 and a part of 44.
11. 44 (last part), 45-48 and a part of 50.
12. 50 (last part; nos. II-V).
13. 51-57.
14. 58-62.