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EXTRACT FROM THE ANTI-SOVIET RUSSIAN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER "THE SINO-RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER"
(NITAISSKO-RUSKAYA GAZETA), DATED 1 APRIL 1948.

NEWS FROM TSINGTAO

A year passed since the old administration was elected, and it was decided to elect new members to the Executive Committee and the Revision Commission. The meeting (a year ago) had been dull and there had been very few emigrés present. N.N. Merkulov took charge of the elections. The administration elected at that time did not take any direct political action and took no measures against the spreading of Soviet propaganda. The deep roots of twenty years of emigrant life could not be eradicated right away from the Russian colony, which had become divided into two camps: white and red.

The Soviet propaganda - "We are not White, we are not Red, we are Russians." - was believed by those who wanted to justify their actions.

At the same time the Soviets fenced themselves off from the emigrés. This was quite natural, for the agents of the NKVD had a job to do. The so-called "feeling of conciliation" engulfed some of the emigrés.

The administration did not consider it its duty to watch over the political life of the emigrés. Misunderstandings occurred and an initiatory group of 30 Russian emigrés demanded that a meeting be held according to the statute of the Association.

On 25 January, with the permission of the authorities, a general meeting was held. There were very many emigrés present. During this meeting N.N. Merkulov, chairman of the Executive Committee and all the members of the Executive Committee and the Revision Commission gave up their positions. N.N. Merkulov tactfully managed to avoid any further quarrels and discussions.

Viktor Petrovich Kamkin was elected chairman of the new executive committee, G.A. Koshut, vice-chairman, and B.P. Yakovlev, I.S. Markelov, N.P. Ribalko, F.F. Gubin and N.V. Kuznetsov were elected members.

L.P. Ratsevich was elected chairman of the Revision Commission and P.N. Kuznetsov and Dr. Khokhlachkin, members.

V.P. Kamkin, 45 years old, was born in St. Petersburg and finished high school there, completing his education in Harbin. In 1928 he was graduated from law school. He participated in the White Movement in the Maritime Province. From Harbin he moved to Shanghai and had his own printing and newspaper office. Later he went to Tientsin and became the director of the bookstore "Znanie". In 1947 he came to Tsingtao and was made director of the printing establishment which published the American Army newspaper. The new members of the administration are mostly long-standing citizens of Tsingtao. One can be sure that now the emigrés of Tsingtao are free of the temporary conciliatory path. We are White Russians. Those that left us are Red Russians. Our paths are different. It is useless to deny this fact. We White Russians feel sorry for all those Russians who are oppressed by Stalin's regime. And we understand why those Russians who are in foreign countries have refused to serve Stalin's shameful regime.

By Nick Novoselov.

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