
**Political summary of unpublished letters from the “Reading Office” of the newspaper
Izvestiia TsIK SSSR i VTsIK (News of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR
and of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee, Moscow) for February–March 1932**

In *Tragediia sovetskoï derevni* (2001). Excerpt, p. 312. Translated by Bohdan Klid.

[Not before 31 March 1932]

Not for publication...

Novyi Oskol raion, Central Black Earth Region, village of Lobovka, Nikolaev village council, Ivan Litvinov:

Every day whole caravans of hungry Ukrainian peasants—collective and individual farmers—ride the length and breadth of our raion. For any piece of bread they give up all their belongings, such as shoes, clothing, and anything else they might have with them. When asked why they are hungry, they reply: “Our harvest was good, but Soviet power ‘procured’ our grain, carrying through to us its plans and tasks to the point where we were left without a pound of grain.” When they are asked who is responsible for this, they reply: “Soviet power, which took away our grain to the last kernel, condemning us to hunger and poverty—worse than under serfdom.”

I am a worker, a member of the Komsomol since 1928, and I am astonished: can it be that Ukraine would hunger during a good harvest? We also have collective farms, and there is enough bread, so why is there such a situation precisely in the Central Black Earth Region? I am bringing this phenomenon to the attention of *Izvestiia* because the “hungry caravans,” wherever they go, bring panic and spread hostile talk against Soviet power.