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# Communist Labor Party Convention: Day 2 — Sept. 1, 1919.

by L. Loebel

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*Report Made by:* L. Loebel  
*Place Where Made:* Chicago, Ill.  
*Date When Made:* Sept. 2, 1919.  
*Period for Which Made:* Sept. 1, 1919.

*Title of Case and Offense Charged  
or Nature of Matter Under Investigation:*

**In re: Communist Socialist Party of America  
Convention.**

*Statement of Operations, Evidence Collected, Names and  
Addresses of Persons Interviewed, Places Visited, Etc.:*

## ***At Chicago:***

The committee appointed yesterday to confer with the Communist Party and to report back this morning had not returned until 12:30 pm, and the convention, with CHARLES BAKER of Ohio in the chair, spent its time with singing and entertaining each other and with taking up a collection to defray expenses. Some of the poetical talents got their heads together and composed a new "Bolsheviki War Cry," as they call it, which was followed a few minutes later by another composition termed "Official Convention Yell." Their two "songs" were quickly memorized by the audience and continuously sung until some of the delegates had gotten tired of it, and suggested the singing of "The Red Flag."

In the meantime, I joined some of the delegate into the Executive Committee's room and secured an original copy of the minutes of yesterday's session and also a copy of the roster of delegates in order to have the same on record for future reference in this form. The roster is as follows:

## ***Roster of Delegates. (as reported by committee.)***

### **Ohio**

Charles Baker  
Charles Bonsall  
Alexander Bilan  
J.F. Denison  
Margaret Prevey  
Clifford King  
J.A. Johnson  
T.H. Davies  
C.E. Ruthenberg  
Lawrence A. Zitt  
Lotta Burke  
W. McClory  
Scot Wilkins  
A. Wagenknecht  
M. Jenire  
T. Clifford

### **New York**

Benjamin Gitlow  
E.I. Lindgren  
John Reed  
I.E. Klein  
Mrs. [Sarah] Lindgren  
F. Jacobs  
T. Crimmins  
M. Zucker  
L.B. Boudin  
L. Lore

**Illinois**

K. Sandberg  
 W.B. Lloyd  
 W. Lugge  
 Edgar Owens  
 J. Christensen  
 H.E. Greenwood  
 A. Olsen  
 O.J. Brown  
 Charles Krumbein  
 L.K. England  
 P.H. Shipman

**Washington**

J. McSarrow  
 Aaron Fishelman  
 Kate Greenhalgh  
 A. Swabeck  
 Knute Evertz

**Missouri**

E.D. Wilcox

**Rhode Island**

James P. Reed  
 J.M. Coldwell

**California**

James H. Dolsen  
 Jasper Bauer  
 Edric B. Smith  
 Irene Smith  
 Max Bedacht  
 J.C. Taylor

**Colorado**

Harry Interman  
 F. Underhill

**Oregon**

H.S. Warren  
 Harlin Talbert  
 Victor Saulit

**Kansas**

Gertrude Harmon  
 L.E. Katterfeld

**Florida**

John Sprunk

**Nebraska**

William Chase  
 E. Rutledge

**Utah**

E.T. Hyde  
 R.E. Richardson

**Indiana**

J. Zimmerman  
 George A. Cameron  
 [W.F.] Jackson

**Virginia**

E.M. Dutton

**Delaware**

B. Sedgwick

**West Virginia**

J.H. Snyder  
 Edwin Firth

**Kentucky**

E.B. Austin, Jr.  
 E. Von Allman

**Minnesota**

Charles Dirba  
 Jack Carney  
 [Clara Strong] Broms  
 Carl Haglund  
 H. Holms  
 Joseph Ungar

**New Jersey**

L.F. Wolf  
 Henry Petzold  
 Fred Harwood

**Michigan**

Marlin Kirin

Upon the return of the committee, its report was heard. Delegate Bauer, from California, reported for the committee that the organized committee of the Communist Party was met, consisting of STILSON, STOKLITSKY, BATT, KOPNAGEL, FERGUSON, RUTHENBERG, and [FORSINGER]. That their answer was that they were not in a position to give

immediate reply as the convention has not yet convened, and that they, constituting a joint preliminary committee of the Communist Party and of the National Left Wing Council, were not authorized to decide in a matter of such importance. That the question will be brought up during the convention, and there considered and the decision conveyed to the com-

mittee of the Communist Socialist Party in due time.

Then came the individual reports of each member of the committee, and every one of them were of the belief that the members of the Communist Party were absolutely hostile to them and that the Russian delegates are controlling the situation, who are against any kind of a unity of those two parties. The balance of the day was taken up with discussions on this report, and it was finally decided to organize definitely and to go on with the order of business regardless of the Communist Convention.

I observed that REED and GITLOW were bitterly attacked within the party and it was predicted that no amalgamation will be possible until these two men retire from the leadership.

After adjourning of the session of today, it was rumored that the convention of the Communist Party elected a Committee of 5 to meet with the committee of the Communist Socialist Party, with a view to come to an understanding.

Discontinued for the day at 10:30 pm.

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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