
Resolutions of National Executive Committee, Socialist Party of America: St. Louis, Missouri — January 29-31, 1903.

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Meeting of National Committee.

The meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, which was held on the 29th, 30th, and 31st of January, was in many ways of great importance and significance. Our space is too crowded to enable us to give full reports of the meeting, and, besides, we have commented upon the most important action at considerable length in the editorial department. The principal action was the removal of the Local Quorum because of its favorable attitude towards fusion, and the removal of the national headquarters to Omaha. A number of important resolutions defining the position of the party on various subjects and outlining tactics for further action were adopted. These resolutions are given herewith.

Trades Unions.

The National Committee of the Socialist Party in annual session assembled, hereby reaffirms the attitude of the party toward the trade union movement as expressed in the resolution on the subject adopted by the Indianapolis Convention of 1901.

We consider the trade union movement and the Socialist movement as inseparable parts of the general labor movement, produced by the same economic forces and tending towards the same goal, and we deem it the duty of each of the two movements to extend its hearty cooperation and support to the other in its special sphere of activity.

But we are also mindful of the fact that each of the two movements has its own special mission to perform in the struggle for the emancipation of labor,

that it devolves upon the trade unions to conduct the economic struggles of the working class, that it devolves on the Socialist Party to fight the political battles of the working class, and that the interests of labor as a whole will be best conserved by allowing each of the movements to manage the affairs within its own sphere of activity without active interference by the other.

The Socialist Party will continue to give its aid and assistance to the economic struggles of organized labor regardless of the affiliation of the trade unions engaged in the struggle, and will take no sides in any dissensions or strifes within the trade union movement. The party will also continue to solicit the sympathy and support of all trade organizations of labor without allowing itself to be made the ally of any one division of the trade union movement as against another.

We also declare that we deem it unwise to invite trade unions as such to be represented in the political conventions of our party.

Lecture Bureau.

That the National Secretary be instructed to proceed forthwith to the establishment of a lecture bureau. Such bureau shall consist of as many competent and efficient lecture members of the party in good standing as can be secured and utilized. The duty of such lectures shall be to expound the principles of Socialism but not to discuss party affairs, policy, or tactics.

The National Secretary shall arrange the lecture tours in conformity to the needs of the State and desires of the State organizations where such exist; the expense of the tour shall be divided between the States

and locals and organizations affected as equitably as possible. The arrangements of the National Secretary shall require the approval of the Local Quorum and shall be subject to revision by the National Committee in the same way as all other acts of the National Secretary and Local Quorum.

The list of speakers shall be furnished to all organized States, together with mention as to the peculiar qualifications, terms, etc., of each speaker.

German Elections.

Whereas, Our comrades in Germany are at the present time engaged in a grand fight not only for the material interests of the proletariat in Germany, but also for the elementary human rights to political freedom against the oppression of a tyrannical autocrat; therefore be it

Resolved, That the National Committee of the Socialist Party in America, in common with the proletariat of the civilized world, hereby expresses its admiration for the magnificent stand and steadfast courage of our German comrades, together with an expression of confidence in their ultimate triumphs.

Anti-Fusion.

Whereas, The history of the labor movement of the world has conclusively demonstrated that a Socialist Party is the only political organization able to adequately and consistently conduct the political struggles of the working class, and

Whereas, All "radical and reform" parties, including the so-called "Union Labor Parties" have, after a brief existence, uniformly succumbed to the influence of the old political parties and have proven disastrous to the ultimate end of the labor movement, and

Whereas, Any alliance, direct or indirect, with such parties is dangerous to the political integrity and

the very existence of the Socialist Party and the Socialist movement, and

Whereas, At the present stage of development of the Socialist movement of this country there is neither necessity nor excuse for such alliance; therefore, be it

Resolved, That no state or local organization, or member of the party shall under any circumstances fuse, combine, or compromise, with any political party or organization, or refrain from making nominations in order to further the interests of candidates of such parties or organization.

Any state or territorial organization taking any action in violating the anti-fusion resolutions adopted by this committee at St. Louis, January 31, 1903 — or adopting a constitution or platform in conflict with the national constitution or national platform, and on the neglect or refusal of any such state or territorial organization to conform or to enforce such conformity on the part of any local or locals or members thereof under its jurisdiction shall be proceeded against in the following manner:

1. Charges may be made to the National Secretary by any member of the National Committee.

2. When such charges are so made, the National Secretary shall notify the State Committee and the National Committeeman from the state, furnishing a copy of charges.

3. The National Secretary shall thereupon obtain statements of the facts in the case from both sides within thirty days and forthwith submit the same to members of the National Committee.

4. On the majority vote of the members of the National Committee sustaining such charges such state shall cease to be an integral part or sub-division of the Socialist Party of America; all such decisions, however, shall be submitted to a referendum of the party membership, including the state in question.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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