
Minutes of the State Executive Committee, Socialist Party of New York, Meeting of March 26, 1919.

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A meeting of the State Executive Committee was held at the state headquarters on March 26. The following members were present: Gerber, Karlin, Fraser, Sheahan, Trachtenberg, and State Secretary Solomon. Absent, with excuse: Mrs. Malkiel, Hillquit, and Silverman.

The Secretary reported the organization of the following locals and language branches upstate and those requiring an independent charter from the state were so chartered, as follows: Fulton, Oswego county; Russian branches in Yonkers and Buffalo; Ukrainian branches in Cohoes, North Tonawanda, and Lackawanna; Scandinavian branch in Buffalo. One application for member at large was favorably acted upon.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a number of communications from locals, etc., but the only ones requiring action were the following: From Buffalo, regarding the last actions of the State Executive Committee that the local hold a regular referendum for the election of its two members on the State Committee, as required by the state constitution. It was decided to notify the local that, pending such an election, or the submission to a local referendum of the choice for state committeeman made by the local party meeting, the two originally elected should be temporarily seated on the committee. From Local Philadelphia, submitting resolutions regarding a general strike. On motion, same was ordered filed.

From the National Office, submitting a plan for the holding of a large number of protest meetings on May 1, using the International Labor Day both for the usual demonstrations and celebrations, as well as for special protest meetings demanding the release of political prisoners and the repeal of the Espionage

Laws. On motion, the Secretary was instructed to cooperate with the national headquarters in this matter and to issue and appeal to all locals for the holding of such protest meetings on May 1.

From Syracuse, objecting to the amnesty convention planned by the National Executive Committee; also a protest against the delay of the State Executive Committee in formulating a constitutional amendment for the election of the State Secretary by referendum. The latter was referred to the State Committee for consideration at its approaching annual meeting.

The Secretary was instructed to call a meeting of the subcommittee elected by the last State Committee to report on the advisability of publishing a state bulletin.

The question of a permanent state organizer was considered. The Secretary stated that Coldwell, suggested at the last meeting, is not available and that so far he has not been able to secure anyone else.

The Secretary reported the printing of 150,000 copies of a leaflet entitled "Repeal the Gag Law," and that the locals have been circularized urging a wide distribution of same. As an inducement, the committee is offering the leaflets at a reduced rate of \$1 per 1,000, which is considerably less than their actual cost.

The necessary arrangements will be made for the annual meeting of the State Committee to be held in Albany, Sunday, April 13. The State Committee has unanimously endorsed the Executive Committee's recommendation that it be held in Albany. The meeting will convene at 10 am and will be held in the hall of the Sons of Italy, 120 Madison Avenue, Albany.

The following nominations were made fore the nine members to constitute the State Executive Committee: N. Aleinikoff, F.L. Arland, A.M. Atlen, Charles

Bengloff, A.G. Breckenridge, Joseph Brodsky, L.B. Boudin, F. Biedenkapp, J.C. Bellingham, S. Berlin, W.J. Bolton, A. Claessens, E.F. Cassidy, Thomas Crimmins, J.C. Campbell, A. Creo, P.J. Dills, Esther Friedman, J.J. Finn, B. Gitlow, J. Gerber, O.A. Gage, M.B. Heisler, M. Hillquit, J. Hillquit, John Harvey, Alton Howser, William Hillsdorf, William Karlin, A. Lee, L. Lore, E. Lindgren, Mrs. Maily, John R. Meyers, H.M. Merrill, Mrs. Malkiel, L.A. Malkiel, Marie MacDonald, Joel Moses, Scott Nearing, C.W. Noonan, Samuel Orr, Charles M. O'Brien, W.W. Passage, C.H. Pierce, A. Pauly, Elmer Rosenberg, F. Sander, E.F. Smith, Charles Solomon, U. Solomon, J.C. Sheahan, A.I. Shiplacoff, G.A. Strebel, Robert Spector, G.A. Till, Alexander Trachtenberg, M.L. Turtleot, L. Tischler, B.C. Vladeck, Eugene Wood, Louise Waldman, W.S. Williams, Mrs. T. Wiley, H.D. Wilcox, Miss Lucy Werner. Qualifications for membership on the Executive Committee are two years' consecutive membership in the party. All the nominees will be communicated with, asking for acceptances or declinations, and a list of acceptances will be sent to the members of the State Committee in advance of the meeting, as required by the constitution.

The financial report of the committee for the month of February is as follows:

Total receipts: \$1,586.69, divided as follows:

from dues, \$767.60; language federations, \$365.36; donations, \$68.53; initiation fees, 80 cents; balance from January, \$384.39.

The expenses for the month amounted to \$1,346.25, as follows: Dues, \$400; locals for language dues, \$269.87; cooperative press, \$100; speakers and organizers, \$123.89; Assembly group, \$80; salaries, \$220; postage, \$32; rent, \$43; office expenses, \$27.74; sundry expenses, \$59.75. The balance on hand on March 1 was \$240.43. The receipts for March have not come up to expectations, and at present the committee has not on hand sufficient funds to refund the sum of \$340 due to the New York City Committee and to meet the expenses of the annual meeting. The secretary was authorized to negotiate a loan, if necessary.

It was decided to recommend to the State Committee the formulation of an amendment to the state constitution defining organized counties, such counties in the state having either three independent locals or one or more locals with a combined membership with not less than 50, and that only such counties be entitled to one member on the State Committee.

Alex Fraser

Recording Secretary

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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