
Election of Standing Committee Members at the Emergency National Convention of the Socialist Party of America, Chicago — Sept. 1, 1919.

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[Third Day.]

Monday, September 1, 1919.
8 o'clock pm.

The convention was called to order by Chairman [Daniel] Hoan [WI].

Comrade [Seymour] Stedman [IL]: I think, by the expedition of business, we could proceed this evening to nominate and elect the members of the various committees, and it will be less fatiguing and less exhausting than taking up, perhaps, one or two of the reports. For that reason, I wish to make the motion that we proceed to nominate and elect a committee on platform and constitution and finance, as far as we can go in a reasonable length of time.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Chairman Hoan: The first order is the election of a Committee on Constitution.

The following comrades were nominated to serve on the Committee on Constitution:

Comrades [Birch] Wilson, of Pennsylvania; [Milo] Jones, of New Jersey; [Harry] Edlin, of Connecticut; [William] Karlin, of New York; [Julius] Gerber, of New York; [Charles] Noonan, of New York; [William] Brandt, of Missouri; [Louis] Marcus, of Massachusetts; [Ida] Beloof, of Kansas; [John] Doerfler, of Wisconsin; [William] Kruse, of Illinois; [W.K.] Tennyson, of Arkansas; [Frederick] Haller, of Maryland; [M.] Shadid, of Oklahoma; [Oliver] Wilson, of Illinois; [Adolph] Germer, of Illinois; [Mrs. E.S.] Cohen, of Washington, DC; [A.]

Rubenstein, of Michigan; [Jacob] Salutsky, of New York; [Victor] Annalla, of Massachusetts.

On motion made, the nominations were closed.

The following comrades declined the nominations: Comrades Karlin, Kruse, Tennyson, Haller, Salutsky, Germer, and Annalla.

Comrade Salutsky: I want to know by what authority and in whose behalf the typewritten sheet with a slate of the membership for every committee to be elected is being distributed right here? This was handed to me by a delegate. I wish to know it for the reason that, in the course of the proceedings this forenoon and this afternoon, in speaking on the foreign federations, one of the most important things discussed was the question of just such a slate of delegates.

Chairman Hoan: Who handed it to you?

Comrade Salutsky: Comrade Germer.

Chairman Hoan: Did you ask him?

Comrade Salutsky: I am asking the Chairman, is this part of business?

Chairman Hoan: No, it is not.

Comrade Salutsky: I would like the Chair to announce that no part of the convention or any constituted part of this convention has anything to do with this slate business. We condemned the slate business very definitely in the course of our discussion this afternoon.

A comrade: A point of order. There is nothing before the house.

Comrade Kruse: I want to ask one question: whether it is a fact that the National Office stenographers were used in the typewriting of that slate that

was handed out.

Comrade [Alexander] Braunstein [NY]: A point of order.

Comrade [John] Block [NY]: I want to know whether the Jewish Federation ever heard of slates in the Jewish Federation.

A comrade: I move that this slate be read to the delegates.

Comrade Stedman: I object. Hand it to the delegates, and let them read it themselves.

Comrade [James] Oneal [NY]: I protest, because I am included in the slate. May I withdraw from that?

A comrade: I would like the delegates to repudiate every name on this slate.

Comrade [Victor] Berger [WI]: Point of order. Let's vote.

Chairman Hoan: There are 13 names, and you will vote for 11. I will appoint Comrades [William] Coleman, of Wisconsin; [Charles] Solomon, of New York; and [Edward] Haydon, of Pennsylvania, as tellers.

Comrade [Abraham] Shiplacoff [NY]: Does the rule passed yesterday that we sign our name on the outside of the ballots count tonight?

Chairman Hoan: Sign your ballot anywhere, but sign them.

Comrade Berger: Sign them on the back.

Comrade Block: We have several committees to elect. I think we ought to make provision on these ballots so that we may right down the names of all the committees, and vote for those one after the other, and then let the tellers go out and count them. Otherwise, you will be here until I don't know when on this question of electing members of committees.

Comrade Berger: That can be done tonight. When the Chairman said you can sign them wherever you pleased, you will mix all the signatures with the names of the candidates. I suggest that the names be signed on the back of the ballots.

Chairman Hoan: All in favor of signing them on the back of these ballots, will so manifest by saying "aye."

Motion carried.

Chairman Hoan: See that you do it, or your ballot will be thrown out.

Comrade [Rose] Weiss [NJ]: I move that the

slate as proposed by the committee be unanimously elected, because they will be elected anyway.

Chairman Hoan: Is there any objection to the reading of a telegram which the delegate desires to send?

Comrade [Alexander] Trachtenberg [NY]: I have the following telegram to be sent to L.A. Martens, representative of the Russian Soviet Government:

The Socialist Party of America in National Emergency Convention assembled sends you fraternal greetings and wishes you success in your endeavors to establish friendly relations between the peoples of the United States and Soviet Russia, of which you are an accredited representative. We may assure you that the Socialist Party will do all in its power to rally the support of the American workers to the aid of the proletarian republic which is an inspiration to the Socialist movement of the world.

Socialist Party of America.

Comrade Trachtenberg: I move that we send the telegram.

Seconded. Carried.

Comrade [William] Van Essen [PA]: I move that any ballot that does not contain the vote for 11 be cast out. (*Cries of "No!"*)

Chairman Hoan: Every delegate has a right to vote for less than 11, if he so desires.

Comrade [Theresa] Malkiel [NY]: In regard to this slate, I happened to be at the meeting when the matter was discussed, and I think I can clear the whole matter up. I would like to be heard on this matter of the slate.

Chairman Hoan: I will declare the ballots closed. One of the comrades wants the floor with reference to the slate. What is the pleasure of this convention?

Comrade [Louis] Waldman [NY]: I move that she be granted the floor.

Seconded. Carried.

Comrade [Algernon] Lee [NY]: When the comrade over here [Salutsky] first raised the question, I tried to get the floor. The question was asked, who was responsible for sending lists of names yesterday for nomination and election to the committees to be made. I want to say that I was about [*sic.*] one person responsible. I estimate that there was about a hundred persons who attended an open meeting at which various questions of the convention were openly discussed. I don't know of anyone who wasn't there, or who [hasn't] been present in some of the meetings.

Chairman Hoan: Persons or delegates?

Comrade Lee: Delegates. I suppose every delegate in this convention, if he ever attended any convention — state, national, or any other convention in the party — but what he has participated in such a thing. I would say it [would be] the height of folly if, whenever we have a convention, we should think we will not go into it as an organized body, that we should not think and think together, and think in such groups as we can, and exchange ideas and come as far as we can to a plan of action. You will understand that no delegate surrenders his right of independent judgment. If I thought, as an individual member of the convention, when the time came that such a decision was one that would be injurious to the interests of the party, I would by no means consider myself bound. I suppose that is the attitude of every sincere and genuine socialist. On the other hand, I by no means think that we can come into our seats and act absolutely and individually upon the spur of the moment, when the occasion arises. For my own part, and I think I can speak for several of you who were there, I haven't any apology to make at all.

Chairman Hoan: The convention permitted us to let one delegate here speak.

Comrade Stedman: A point of order. There is no motion. I think we ought to proceed with the election.

Comrade Weiss: I move that the entire slate suggested by the committee be elected, because they will be elected anyway.

Comrade Stedman: I second the motion, and I think it might save time.

Comrade [William] Kruse [IL]: I want to speak on that motion.

Comrade [Jacob] Panken [NY]: I rise to a point of order. The motion reads that this convention proceed to the election of a list of delegates appearing on some slip presented by the committee. There is no such committee nominated or designated or authorized by this convention. Hence, this motion is out of order. I want a ruling on that.

A comrade: It was intended as a joke, wasn't it?

Comrade Weiss: My motion isn't a joke. I make this motion in all seriousness.

Comrade Panken: I make my point of order in all seriousness.

Chairman Hoan: I will rule the motion out of order.

Comrade Kruse: I appeal from the decision of the Chair.

Chairman Hoan: The next order of business before this convention is the election of a Committee on Resolutions and Party Principles. There are 15 members to be elected, and nominations are now in order.

Comrade Kruse: I appeal from the decision of the Chair.

Comrade Waldman: Had there not been anything on the paper distributed [to] some 70 delegates, I might not have said anything in making the nomination I am going to make.

Comrade [George] Goebel [NEC]: Will New York sit down and allow us to nominate our committees?

Comrade Waldman: I want to make a nomination and, in view of the statement, I feel that if that nomination is to meet with any success, I must say a few words on him before placing his name. I am not going to enter into a controversy about the slate. Suffice it to say, the slate is not official. It does not come from any official committee, but that a private group of comrades got together and decided upon it. Whether it is right or wrong, it is up to all of you to decide. There was a certain [moment] in this convention when a slate was absolutely necessary, if the convention was to be saved for the Socialist Party; just as at this time I feel that a slate is absolutely unnecessary and inimical to the interests of the Socialist Party of America. Let's make individual protests as individual delegates. I place in nomination the name of a comrade who is competent to prepare resolutions on international relations, and who knows international and national problems of Socialism. I nominate Comrade Salutsky, of New York.

Other nominations on the Committee on Resolutions, Party Principles, and Pan-American and International Affairs were as follows:

Comrades Berger, of Wisconsin; Panken, of New York; [Louis] Engdahl, of Illinois; Lee, of New York; [David] Berenberg, of New York; Cohen, of Pennsylvania; [Gus] Hoehn, of Missouri; [Samuel] Neistadt, of Maryland; [Martin] Plunkett, of Connecticut; Block, of New York; [George] Roewer, of Massachusetts; [William]

Henry, of Indiana; Hoan, of Wisconsin; [E.L.] Moore, of Oklahoma; Oneal, of New York; Stedman, of Illinois; Kruse, of Illinois; [Benjamin] Glassberg, of New York; Weiss, of New Jersey; Trachtenberg, of New York.

On motion, the nominations were closed.

Comrade [Charles] Sehl [PA]: A point of information. I understand no delegate is allowed to serve on more than one committee.

Chairman Hoan: One standing committee, and the Committee on Contests has been ruled not to be a standing committee.

Comrade Sehl: These are standing committees. We have just nominated 13 on that first committee. If you proceed with the nomination and election of all these committees, there are 3 on the first that will not have a chance, in case they are defeated, of being nominated or elected on any other committee.

Chairman Hoan: The rule says that if he is elected on two, he must decide which to go on. I will appoint as tellers in this case—

Comrade [Benjamin] Orr [NY]: Appoint the same tellers for all of these committees.; If you appoint 3 tellers for each committee, eventually the entire body will be out as tellers.

Chairman Hoan: The comrade is out of order. I appoint as tellers for this ballot [Walter] Cook, of New York; [Ross] Brown, of Indiana; and [Oliver] Wilson, of Illinois.

The following comrades declined the nomination: Comrades Salutsky and Weiss.

Comrade [James] Sheahan [NY]: There are 20 names on the list. There is likely to be 4 subdivisions of the committee. I move that we place in nomination and elect the 20 members, and allow 4 or 5 for each subdivision.

Seconded.

Chairman Hoan: The rules provide for 15 members. You can't set it aside.

Comrade Panken: I then move to suspend the rules.

Seconded.

Chairman Hoan: It is in order to amend the rules.

Comrade Gerber: He said to suspend the rules.

Comrade Stedman: You can change the order by suspension, but you can never change the context.

Chairman Hoan: It was ruled by the Chair yes-

terday that the rules of this convention adopted could always be amended. It may take two-thirds vote.

Comrade Stedman: Any rules of procedure, you may; but this is not a rule of procedure. This is a rule which designates the number of a committee. You will have to reconsider it or table it.

Comrade [Joseph] Bearak [MA]: I move that we reconsider it.

Comrade Karlin: You can't reconsider while on actual business.

Chairman Hoan: The point is well taken. Proceed to ballot.

Comrade Wilson: I think you should announce again that they should sign their names on the back of the ballots.

Chairman Hoan: Sign your names on the back, or they will not be counted.

Comrade Weiss: I am not a candidate.

A comrade: It's too late.

Comrade Weiss: I protest. I announced at the time that I declined.

The convention proceeded to ballot.

Comrade [James] Battistoni [NY]: I have a telegram that I ask to be sent to the Socialist Party in Italy:

The Socialist Party of the United States in National Convention assembled sends you greetings and wishes to manifest its earnest appreciation of your noble stand against the world war and against the junkerdom in Italy.

Comrade Karlin: I move that it be referred to the Resolutions Committee for revision.

It was moved and carried that the Secretary send the telegram.

Chairman Hoan: The next committee is the one on Finance, consisting of 11 members.

The following comrades were nominated:

[John] McCarthy, of Connecticut; [Victor] Annalla, of Massachusetts; [K.L.] DeSombre, of Wisconsin; [Fred] Sanders, of New York; [Wilhelmus] Robinson, of New York; [Fred] Chase, of New Hampshire; [Elmer] Young, of Pennsylvania; [Robert] Howe, of Illinois; [Harry] Victerson, of Massachusetts; [Henry] Schlegel, of Pennsylvania; [Oliver] Wilson, of Illinois; [Valentine] Bausch, of New Jersey; [Olive] Stauber, of Oklahoma.

On motion, the nominations were closed.

The following comrades declined the nomination:

Comrades Victerson and Bausch.

Comrade Weiss: Howe is on the slate. He is all right.

Comrade Bearak: Is Howe here?

Comrade Stedman: How is out having charge of the Labor Day picnic. That's why he is not here.

Chairman Hoan: Will the lady from Pennsylvania please stop talking? If you want to make a speech, come on up here, but stop making a nuisance.

A comrade: She is not from Pennsylvania. †

Chairman Hoan: As tellers, I will appoint 3 comrades from Minnesota: [Charles] Wells, [Samuel] Friedman, and [George] Hoffman.

Comrade Braunstein: There only being 11, I move that they stand as the committee.

Seconded.

Chairman Hoan: The motion is made that the Secretary be instructed to cast the ballot of the convention for the 11.

Carried.

A comrade: Is the Minnesota delegation allowed to take part in the nominations?

Chairman Hoan: No; but if there is no objection, all right, go ahead. The next is the Committee on Economic Organization, 11 members.

The following comrades were nominated:

Shiplacoff, of New York; Coleman, of Wisconsin; Sehl, of Pennsylvania; [Stephen] Bircher, of New Jersey; Beckerman, of New York; Malkiel, of New York; Cohen, of Washington, DC; Haller, of New Jersey; [Henry] Stumpf, of Pennsylvania; Glassberg, of New York; [J. W.] Dennis, of New York; Kruse, of Illinois; [Lazarus] Davidow, of Michigan; [Jacob] Goldberg, of Massachusetts; [Patrick] Quinlan, of New Jersey; [John] Jensen, of Wisconsin; Waldman, of New York; [J.E.] Bartos, of Oklahoma; Bausch, of New Jersey; Friedman, of Minnesota; Victerson, of Massachusetts; [Charles] Selleman, of Pennsylvania; [Andrew] Lafin, of Illinois.

Comrade Kruse: How can the man from Minnesota act upon the committee, when he hasn't a vote in the house?

Comrade Germer: He has got a voice.

Chairman Hoan: I rule that this convention has a right to place any delegate from Minnesota on that committee, if it so desires. He has a voice but no vote.

If you elect the comrade from Minnesota, he will serve on that committee.

Comrade Kruse: Has he a vote in the committee?

Comrade Friedman: Minnesota is confronted with a very serious proposition on economic organization, and that is the reason that [we] wish to be placed on there, so that I can go before the committee. It is very serious over in that section of the country.

The following comrades declined the nominations:

Comrades Bircher (who left for home), Cohen of DC, Glassberg, Waldman, and Bausch.

Chairman Hoan: I will appoint as tellers Comrades Wells, Hoffman, and [Andrew] Hanson, of Minnesota.

The convention proceeded to ballot.

Chairman Hoan: The next is the Committee on Press and Publicity.

The following comrades were placed in nomination:

Salutsky, of New York; [Eugene] Wood, of New York; [Oscar] Ameringer, of Wisconsin; Solomon, of New York; [August] Claessens, of New York.

On motion, the nominations were closed.

[The following comrades declined the nominations:]

Comrades Salutsky and Claessens.

On motion, the remaining 3 were to remain as the committee.

Chairman Hoan: The last committee is the Committee on Propaganda and Organization, 11 members.

The following comrades were placed in nomination:

Bearak, of Massachusetts; Smith, of Oklahoma; [Edmund] Melms, of Wisconsin; Claessens, of New York; Braunstein, of New York; Sheahan, of New York; Battistoni, of New York; Lulow, of New York; Haydon, of Pennsylvania; Jones, of New Jersey; Cook, of New York; Weiss, of New Jersey; Bausch, of New Jersey; Hanson, of Minnesota; Brown, of Indiana; Noonan, of New York; [Lilith] Martin, of Indiana; [Oliver] Crawford, of Pennsylvania; [George] Peck, of Iowa.

The following comrades declined the nominations:

Battistoni, Claessens, Bausch, Weiss, Noonan, and Crawford.

† - This remark was clearly directed at Rose Weiss of New Jersey.

Chairman Hoan: I will appoint as tellers Beckerman, Claessens, and Goldberg.

The convention proceeded to ballot.

Comrade Stedman: I move that we adjourn until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Comrade Block: I want to move that we send the following telegram to one who was our candidate for Vice President in 1892, and our candidate for President in 1896, Charles H. Matchett,† now living in Boston, and now very, very ill:

The Socialist Party in National Convention assembled at Chicago sends to you, once our standard bearer in a Presidential election and always a loyal Socialist, our fraternal greetings and our earnest wish that you will soon recover good health.

On motion, the same was ordered sent.

Chairman Hoan: I trust that the comrades will leave those slips handed to them today at the door, and those who haven't secured them will get a copy.

Comrade Stedman: I want to move that we adjourn until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, at which time the tellers will be able to report.

Comrade Brandt: I want to ask the delegate who made that motion to hold it for just a minute. I desire to offer a motion now that 30 minutes after the convention convenes tomorrow morning the roll call be taken and all of those delegates who have participated or are participating in the other convention [of the Left Wing] be dropped from our roll.

Seconded. Carried.

Chairman Hoan: One committee is ready to report.

Comrade Solomon: This is the report of the tellers on the Committee on Constitution. The vote was as follows:

Wilson [of Pennsylvania], 93; Jones, 89; Rubenstein, 47; Edlin, 78; Gerber, 81; Noonan, 77; Shadid, 84; Wilson of Illinois, 65; Brandt, 89; Marcus, 79; Beloof, 88; Doerfler, 66; Cohen of DC, 69.

The committee is as follows, and in the order: Wilson, of Pennsylvania; Jones, of New Jersey; Brandt, of Missouri; Beloof, of Kansas; Shadid, of Oklahoma; Gerber, of New York; Marcus, of Massachusetts; Edlin, of Connecticut; Noonan, of New York; Cohen, of DC; Doerfler, of Wisconsin.

Chairman Hoan: You heard the report of the committee. Shall the report of the committee be accepted?

Report adopted.

On motion, duly seconded, the convention adjourned until tomorrow morning [Sept. 2, 1919] at 10 o'clock, it now being 10 o'clock pm.

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Fourth Day.

Tuesday, September 2, 1919.
10 o'clock am.

The convention was called to order by Chairman Hoan.

Chairman Hoan: The first thing in order is the reading of the minutes, according to your rules. If you care to dispense with the reading of the minutes, a motion is in order.

Comrade Panken: I move that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with.

Seconded. Carried.

The following telegrams were received and read:

New York City, Sept. 1, 1919.

Delegation of Local NY,
Socialist Convention,
Chicago, Ill.

Greetings from Circle 7 Yipsels to the Local New York delegation. Hope that you will act to put the Yipsel movement on a more solid foundation.

Yours for the Yipsel Movement,
M. Novik, Org.

† - **Charles Horatio Matchett** (1843-1919) was born in Needham, Massachusetts (now part of Wellesley), a descendant of New Englanders dating their roots in America back to 1630s. Matchett went to sea at age 16 and circumnavigated the Horn in a windjammer, later working at various times as a US Navy sailor, clerk, carpenter, inventor, beer bottler, and electrician. Matchett moved to Brooklyn in middle 1880s and became active in the Nationalist Party, before becoming engaged in the Henry George movement. Matchett was the Socialist Labor Party candidate for VP in its first national ticket, 1892. He was organizer of American Branch No. 1, SLP (NYC), 1892 and candidate for Governor of New York in 1894. Matchett was the SLP candidate for President in 1896 and ran a number of times thereafter as a Socialist Party candidate for assembly and alderman. Matchett died in Allston, MA on October 23, 1919.

New York City, NY.
Socialist Party Convention.

Hearty congratulations. We hope that a strong and fighting Socialist Party will emerge from your deliberations.

Jewish Branch, SP 8th A.D.,
S. Leibowitz, Org.

New York City.
Socialist Party Convention.

Circle 7 Yipsel of Manhattan sends you its fraternal greetings. We sincerely hope that the convention will once again unite the party into a firm, faithful, and revolutionary organization. May your deliberations be of the highest.

Yours for the Yipsel Movement,
M. Novik, Org.

Saranac Lake, NY,
Sept. 1, 1919
Convention of the Socialist Party.

My comrades, I am touched and cheered beyond expression by your inspiring message of comradeship and wish I could be with you. In this dawning era of proletarian world revolution a Socialist convention is of deeper historic value than all ephemeral peace conferences of the capitalist government. The Emergency Convention of 1919 will give a powerful impulse to the Socialist movement of America, and leave behind it a reinvigorated party solid in the self-denying devotion of its members, strong in its uncompromising adherence to the principles of international Socialism, and invincible in the firm conviction in the early triumph of our great cause. Good cheer and loving greetings, comrades.

Morris Hillquit.

Chairman Hoan: Our worthy Secretary [Julius Gerber] has lost his voice, and desires to have you select someone to take his place. He has been elected and accepted a position on the Constitution Committee also, and desires to take part in their deliberations.

The following comrades were nominated to act as Secretary:

Glassberg, of New York; Orr, of New York; Hoehn, of Missouri (but is on a committee, and name withdrawn); Bausch, of New Jersey; Engdahl, of Illinois (but is on a committee, and name withdrawn); Wilson, of Illinois.

The following declined:

Comrades Glassberg, Orr, Bausch, and Wilson.

Comrade Braunstein: Suppose some of the names are placed on committees? Wouldn't it be wise

to wait until the tellers' reports on the election of the various committees is in, so that we may eliminate those who are on a committee?

Chairman Hoan: There is no motion before the house.

Comrade Braunstein: I move so.

Seconded. Carried.

Comrade Wells: I should like to report on the Committee on Economic Organization.

Chairman Hoan: I shall call them in their order. We will first hear from the tellers on the Committee on Resolutions and Party Principles.

Comrade Cook: We met and counted. There were 96 ballots cast. I will call the names — the names receiving the highest vote — and give the vote as we go down:

Henry, 83; Lee, 81; Stedman, 80; Cohen, of Pennsylvania, 79; Engdahl, 77; Roewer, 72; Plunkett, 71; Hoehn, 69; Neistadt, 69; Berger, 69; Moore, 67; Block, 65; Berenberg, 62; Panken, 59; Hoan, 45; Kruse, 44; Oneal, 40; Weiss, 39; Trachtenberg, 29; Glassberg, 22; Rubenstein, 17.

There was a scattering vote: Salutsky, 2; Brown, 1; Quinlan, 1; Wilson, 1.

The elections are as follows: You remember there was only to be not more than 3 on the committee from any one state. Therefore, Panken, having the least vote of the 4 candidates from New York, he is not on the committee, and the committee stands, so far as the committee is able to report, as follows:

Henry, Lee, Stedman, Cohen, Engdahl, Roewer, Plunkett, Hoehn, Neistadt, Berger, Moore, Block, Berenberg, Hoan, and Kruse.

Chairman Hoan: I have before me credential for the alternate, certifying that David Siegel, of 698 Read St., Pittsburgh, organizer Jewish Federation, has been duly elected as alternate delegate to the Socialist Convention, to be seated in place of Comrade Van Essen.

On motion, he was seated.

Comrade Wells: The tellers on the vote on the Committee on Economic Organization reports as follows:

There were 93 ballots cast. Shiplacoff, 84; Sehl, 72; Beckerman, 66; Coleman, 65; Stumpf, 65; Jensen, 59; Victerson, 57; Quinlan, 57; Malkiel, 55; Friedman, 52; Bartos, 48; Kruse, 35; Selleman, 27; Haller,

21; Lafin, 21; Dennis, 18; Cohen, 19; Davidow, 13; Goldberg, 12; Bircher, 5.

Those elected were: Shiplacoff, Sehl, Beckerman, Coleman, Stumpf, Jensen, Victerson, Quinlan, Malkiel, Friedman, and Bartos.

Chairman Hoan: Unless there is objection, the report of the committee is received, and those announced declared elected as the Committee on Economic Organization.

Comrade Claessens: The report on the Committee on Propaganda and Organization is as follows:

The following delegates were elected: Bearak, 59; Smith, 66; Melms, 61; Sheahan, 60; Haydon, 61; Cook, 69; Peck, 51; Brown, 58; Martin, 53; Braunstein, 39; Jones, 47.

Those are the 11 highest. Then: Lulow, 33; Hanson, 35; Owen, 9; Bausch, 8; Weiss, 1; Askeli, 1; Noonan, 2; Battistoni, 2, Claessens, 2; Marcus, 1.

Chairman Hoan: Unless there is objection, the report will be accepted. The rule provides that no man can serve on two standing committees. If anyone has been elected to two standing committees, they must announce on which committee they wish to serve.

Comrade Jones: I prefer to serve on the Organization Committee, and resign on the Constitution Committee.

Chairman Hoan: Unless there is objection, the man receiving the next highest vote will serve.

Comrade Wilson, of Illinois, received the next highest vote, and was therefore declared elected to serve on the Committee on Constitution.

Chairman Hoan: Comrade Oneal cannot serve on the Constitution Committee, if he is a New York delegate. There are already 3.

Comrade Bearak: Is there any rule regarding that?

Chairman Hoan: Yes. The next highest man is Braunstein. He will take his place on the Constitution Committee.

Comrade Bearak: I understand there is a comrade here from Tennessee. I understand they haven't 150 members in the state, but that the charter has never been withdrawn from the state organization. Comrade Brown has traveled 14 hours to come here, and would like to be seated. I move you that he be recognized as a delegate to this convention, representing the state of Tennessee.

Seconded.

Chairman Hoan: The Chair will understand this motion to mean that Comrade Brown, being the Secretary, will come here and fill out his credential before being seated. Those in favor of accepting him when that is filed, will so manifest.

Carried.

Comrade Block: Comrade Gerber hasn't much speech left. He has something to say. I suggest that he repeat it to the Chairman, and the Chairman repeat it to the convention.

Chairman Hoan: He simply wants to make sure that the credential is filled out according to procedure. I informed the Secretary [Gerber] that the motion we passed was the acceptance of this man as a delegate under condition that he filled out his credential. Nominations are now in order for Secretary.

Comrade [Cora] Bixler of Pennsylvania was nominated, but declined.

Comrade Glassberg was again placed in nomination; also, Comrade Davidow, of Michigan.

A vote being taken, Glassberg received 43 votes and Davidow received 28 votes.

Chairman Hoan: It is now 30 minutes after this convention has convened. A motion last night was passed that at this moment the roll call shall be had to account for the absentee delegates, and those who are not accounted for shall be dropped from the roll and excluded. I will ask Comrade [Adolph] Germer to call the roll. He has a good voice.

Comrade Bearak: You must have an Assistant Secretary. I was going to suggest Davidow.

Chairman Hoan: You are out of order.

Roll Call.

Arkansas	Mrs. Fannie Crowell W.M. Tennyson	Went home. Present.
Colorado	Fred Underhill H. Interman	
Connecticut	Harry L. Edlin John P. McCarthy Charles T. Peach Martin F. Plunkett	Present. Present. Gone home. Present.
Delaware	Beatrice M. Sedgwick	Downstairs. (Left Wing)

District of Columbia Mrs. E.S. Cohen Present.
 Illinois Robert H. Howe Present.
 N. Juel Christensen

Comrade Wilson: He has resigned and is not present.

Illinois Seymour Stedman Present.
 Oliver C. Wilson Present.
 John Louis Engdahl Present.
 Andrew Lafin

Comrade Wilson: He is absent, but will be back. Comrade Askeli is acting in his place.

Illinois Charles Krumbein

Comrade Wilson: He is downstairs.

Illinois Adolph Germer Present.
 Karl F.M. Sandberg Downstairs.
 William F. Kruse Present.
 F.W. Wenschoff Present.
 L.K. England Downstairs.
 W.G. Hammond Present.
 O.J. Brown, M.D. Downstairs.
 Perry H. Shipman
 O. Alfred Olson Downstairs.
 Edgar Owens Downstairs.
 William Lugas Downstairs.
 William Stoffels Never attended.
 Dan Slinger Never attended.
 Ross D. Brown Present.

Indiana George A. Cameron Downstairs.
 Morris K. Friedman Downstairs.
 William H. Henry Present.
 Lilith Martin Present.
 Joseph Zimmerman Downstairs.

Iowa C.A. Morrow Gone home.
 George J. Peck Present.

Kansas Ida A. Beloof Present.
 Gertrude Harmon Downstairs.

Kentucky Emil Von Allmen Downstairs.
 E.B. Austin, Jr. Downstairs.

Maine William W. Ayer Never in attendance.

Maryland Frederick Haller Present.
 Samuel M. Neistadt Present.

Massachusetts George Makela Present.
 Harry H. Victerson Present.

Jacob Goldberg Present.
 Lewis Victor Present.
 Peter Kastoff Present.
 Victor Annalla Present.
 Joseph Bearak Present.
 Abraham Boxer Present.
 Louis Marcus Present.
 George E. Roewer, Jr. Present.

Michigan Nestor Anderson Was not in attendance.
 C.C. Taylor Present.
 Lazarus Davidow Present.
 I. Finkelstein Present.
 T.H. Coxe Did not attend.
 A. Rubenstein Present.

Missouri E.J. Wilcox

Comrade Brandt: Wilcox took part in our convention the first two days, but yesterday went downstairs and came up again, and we told him that he could not take part in two conventions, so he left the city last evening. You have a credential in there for the next highest alternate, who is here and I suggest that he be seated, Caleb Lipscomb.

On motion, Comrade Lipscomb was seated.

Missouri Jacob Kasener Present.
 G.A. Hoehn Present.
 William Brandt Present.

Montana A.H. Floaten Present.

New Hampshire Francis T. Butler Present.
 Fred B. Chase Present.

New Jersey Frederick Krafft Present.
 Valentine Bausch Present.
 Patrick L. Quinlan Present.
 Milo C. Jones Present.
 Rose Weiss Present.
 Louis F. Wolff Downstairs.
 Henry Petzilt Downstairs.
 Stephen Bircher Gone home.

Chairman † Roewer: I suggest that Comrade [Fred] Harwood be seated instead of Comrade Bircher.

Comrade Oneal: I talked with Comrade Harwood, and I am trying to induce him to come into the convention this morning. He said he was dissatisfied with the convention, and he was going back to New Jersey and straighten out his books and get out of the Socialist movement.

Chairman Roewer: I suggest Comrade Goebel

†- Note that George Roewer of Massachusetts was apparently elected Chairman for the Day for Sept. 2, despite this fact not being incorporated in the stenographic record.

be seated as a delegate from New Jersey.

Comrade Bausch: I hope this convention will not seat Goebel as a delegate from that state. We would rather do without any delegate in the place of Harwood. If you want to unseat the membership of New Jersey, you seat Goebel as a delegate today. †

Comrade Shiplacoff: I am getting tired of listening to this business.

Chairman Roewer: Comrade Goebel retires. He does not care to have this position. (*Cries of "No!"*)

Comrade Shiplacoff: Mr. Chairman—

Chairman Roewer: You are out of order.

Comrade Shiplacoff: You gave me the floor.

Chairman Roewer: You are out of order.

			Louis Waldman	Present.
			H.D. Wilcox	Present.
	Oklahoma		J.E. Bartos	Present.
			M. Shadid	Present.
			E.L. Moore	Present.
			P.S. Nagle	Present.
			Clara Smith	Present.
			Olive Stauber	Present.
	Pennsylvania		J. Auerbach	Present.
			Cora M. Bixler	Present.
			Joseph E. Cohen	Present.
			Oliver G. Crawford	Present.
			James Downs	Present.
			William Euler	Present.
			Edward W. Haydon	Present.
			John G. Means	Present.
			Henry W. Schlegal	Present.
			Charles Sehl	Present.
			Charles Selleman	Present.
			J. Henry Stumpf	Present.
			David Siegel	Present.
			(Seated in place of Comrade William J. Van Essen, who went home.)	
			Birch Wilson	Present.
			William J. Wright	Present.
			Elmer H. Young	Present.
	Rhode Island		Joseph Coldwell	Downstairs.
			James P. Reid	Downstairs.
	Texas		D.H. Lauderdale	Present.
	West Virginia		J.H. Snider	Present.
	Wisconsin		Oscar Ameringer	Present.
			Victor L. Berger	Present.
			William Coleman	Went home, but will be back.
			John Doerfler, Jr.	Present.
			Martin Georgensen	Not Present.
			Daniel W. Hoan	Present.
			John P. Jensen	Present.
			Herman P. Marth	Present.
			Edmund T. Melms	Present.
			John H. Sims	Absent, but will be back.
			K.L. DeSombre	Present.
	Wyoming		D.A. Hastings	Did not attend.
	Oregon		H. Tolbert	Downstairs
New York	Abraham Beckerman	Present.		
	David P. Berenberg	Present.		
	S. John Block	Present.		
	August Claessens	Present.		
	Walter M. Cook	Present.		
	J.W. Dennis	Present.		
	Max Lulow	Present.		
	Julius Gerber	Present.		
	Benjamin Glassberg	Present.		
	Alex Braunstein	Present.		
	Wilho Hedman	Present.		
	William Karlin	Present.		
	A. Trachtenberg	Present.		
	(occupying Matilda Lee's seat)			
	Algernon Lee	Present.		
	Anita C. Block	Present.		
	(An alternate, and occupied a seat for one or two days, but yielded to Comrade Lulow, who arrived.)			
	Bertha H. Maily	Present.		
	Theresa Malkiel	Present.		
	Charles W. Noonan	Present.		
	James Oneal	Present.		
	Samuel Orr	Present.		
	Jacob Panken	Present.		
	Dr. Wilhelmus B. Robinson	Present.		
	A.G. Breckenridge	Present.		
	Charles H. Roth	Present.		
	J.B. Salutsky	Present.		
	Fred Sander	Present.		
	James C. Sheahan	Present.		
	A.I. Shiplacoff	Present.		
	Charles Solomon	Present.		
	James Battestoni	Present.		
	(In place of Joseph Collumb)			

†- NEC member George Goebel was long a stalwart of the Socialist Party's Right Wing and an active participant in the 1919 purge of the SPA Left and thus was an anathmatic figure to the Leftist New Jersey delegation. Fred Harwood was the New Jersey State Secretary at the time and his departure from the convention and decision to leave the organization foreshadowed the deep and irreconcilable nature of the fissure between the ruling Center-Right coalition headed by Germer and Oneal and those remaining Left Wing elements, represented at the convention by the New Jersey delegation and a radical segment of the Illinois caucus that did not bolt (Engdahl, Kruse, etc.).

Comrade Germer: I was told by one of the Oregon delegation that three of the delegates were downstairs.

Oregon	V. Saulit H.S. Warren L. Moilanen	Downstairs. Downstairs. Downstairs.
Nebraska	J.E. Rutledge C.C. Mickey	Downstairs. Present.
Utah	R.E. Richardson E.F. Hyde	Downstairs. Downstairs.
Minnesota	Charles S. Wells Andrew Hansen T.E. Latimer George Hoffman S. Friedman H.L. Kramerman	Present. Present. Had to go home. Present. Present. Present.
German Federation	Ludwig Lore	

Comrade Panken: I saw Comrade Lore this morning. He said he would not take his seat, that he was leaving the German Federation unrepresented.

Comrade Bearak: I move that the German Federation be notified of the action of Lore in this convention.

Seconded. Carried.

Italian Federation	John LaDuca	Present.
Finnish Federation	Y.H. Halonen	Present.
Bohemian Federation	Charles Kolarik	Present.
Scandinavian Federation	N.F. Holm	Present.

Comrade: I am convinced that there is a mistake about the Scandinavian Federation. Christensen, who is Translator-Secretary of the federation, happened to be one of the delegates from Illinois, and he went down as a delegate from Illinois, and not as a representative of his federation. I would like to get that clear. I don't know whether Holm went downstairs also, but I would like for the convention to be clear on that question.

Chairman Roewer: If there is any doubt, the Secretary won't strike off the name, but, where it is announced definitely he will strike them off.

Comrade Shiplacoff: I move the same procedure be done with the German case that is being done with the Scandinavian case.

Comrade: The Scandinavian representative went downstairs.

Comrade Goebel: He went as an Illinois delegate.

Jewish Federation	J. Mill	Present.
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Slovak Federation	Charles Korenich	Present.
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Chairman Roewer: The Secretary will now read the names of those who were reported downstairs, so that corrections can be made.

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Edited with footnotes by Tim Davenport.

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