
Resolution on Party Controversy

Adopted by the State Convention of the Socialist Party of Ohio, Cincinnati, June 28, 1919

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Morning Session, June 28.

L.A. Zitt elected chairman for the day.

The Credentials Committee reported H.M. Hohr, Uhrichsville, entitled to a seat. Delegate seated by motion.

Motion carried that the reading of the minutes of June 27th be dispensed with.

Continued report of Committee on Program and Municipal Platform.

Resolution on Party Controversy.

The National Executive Committee of the party has expelled from the party the Socialist Party of Michigan and suspended the Russian, Lithuanian, Hungarian, South Slavic, and Polish Federations and is threatening with expulsion the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, and the Socialist Party of New York has expelled or "reorganized" many of the branches of the locals of greater New York as well as Locals Buffalo, Rochester, and other locals. All these expulsions or suspensions have taken place because the party units in question have endorsed the Revolutionary Socialism of the Left Wing. They represent a desperate effort on the part of the repudiated national officers of the party and their satellites in similar positions in state and local organizations, to maintain their control of the party in spite of the will of the rank and file, expressed in party referendum.

In order to excuse their expulsion of nearly half the membership of the party and their effort to sabotage the membership by

refusing to tabulate the vote in the national party referendums, which expressed the will of the rank and file, these discredited and repudiated leaders are carrying on a campaign of vilification against the Left Wing, even stooping so low as to act as agent provocateurs for the capitalist class by making insinuations that the Left Wing Socialists might be guilty of individual acts of terrorism, and have trumped up charges, which have no basis in fact, about irregularities in the conduct of the national referendums.

We look upon these acts of the national officers of the party as a clear violation of the trust placed in them by the party membership and upon the expulsions and suspensions as acts born of desperation on the part of officials and "leaders" who are unable or unwilling to see that in the present world crisis the party must adapt itself to revolutionary conditions of the struggle of the proletariat, and whose leadership the rank and file of the party will no longer follow.

Be it resolved, that, in view of these events, the Socialist Party of Ohio instructs its delegates to the Emergency National Convention that should the Emergency National Convention refuse to seat the delegates from the expelled and suspended sections of the party and the Right Wing party officials, with the possible help of the agents of the police power of the capitalist state, control the Emergency National Convention, that the delegates from Ohio shall withdraw from the convention and affiliate with the convention called for September 1 to organize a new party, and should the Emergency National Convention be delayed then the Ohio delegates shall participate in the convention called September 1, for the organization of a new party, and be it further

Resolved, that in the event of the organization of a new party under the circumstances stated above, then the State Office shall function in harmony with the new organization and affiliate with it. Should the Socialist Party of Ohio be expelled from the Socialist Party of the United States, then the State Office shall immediately begin purchasing dues stamps from the National Council of the Left Wing.

Delegate [George] Bundy [of Warren, OH] of the committee requested to be reported as not voting upon the resolution.

Motion that the resolution as submitted by the committee be adopted. *Carried.*

Edited by Tim Davenport

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