

funds principally for propaganda and organization work in unorganized territory...

Question of an organizer in South Dakota was taken up.

MOTION.—To lay the matter over to await the decision of the State Committee referendum. Adopted.

Applications of J. B. Osborne and S. W. Motley for appointment as National organizers.

The National Secretary was instructed to make reply in accord with motion adopted on this subject of additional speakers in previous session.

Question of speakers afield taken up. MOTION.—That Comrade Goebel be continued until about June 10th in territory to be assigned by the National Secretary, provided dates can be secured. Adopted.

MOTION.—That the committee meet on the 14th of May. Adopted.

MOTION.—That the Congress be held for four days. Adopted.

MOTION.—That a stenographer be employed to take the proceedings of the Party Congress. Adopted.

Communication from members of the Woman's National Committee.

MOTION.—That we reply that the National Executive Committee has no power to select special delegates. Adopted.

Suggested that the National Secretary make arrangements with the State Secretaries who are delegates to the Party Congress for a meeting during the Congress.

Communication from William Stephen Sanders of London, reference a conference of English speaking delegates in London previous to the International Congress.

MOTION.—That the subject be referred for favorable consideration to the delegates. Adopted.

The question of the articles appearing in Watson's Magazine taken up and the National Secretary made suggestions as to manner of answering.

MOTION.—That the plans suggested by the National Secretary be adopted. Adopted.

Comrade Barnes made verbal report on the Philadelphia General strike in accordance with facts gathered on a trip of March 22d.

MOTION.—That the report be received and expenses allowed. Adopted.

Discussion upon the subject of placing congressional candidates and communications to locals relating thereto.

Adjourned at 8:15. Attest: MABEL H. HUDSON, Secretary.

Correspondence of the National Executive Committee During Month of April

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., April 2, 1910.

To the National Executive Committee.

Dear Comrades—I have to report on the motion by Comrade Hillquit, sent out March 23d, for a meeting of the committee on April 9th, and the amendment by Comrade Carey, sent out March 26th, for a meeting on April 16th.

A meeting of the National Executive Committee is, therefore, called for 1 p. m., Saturday, April 9th, at National Headquarters.

All dates for Comrades Goebel and Lewis had to be canceled, owing to the extended period of uncertainty as to the time of the meeting.

Owing to the limited time for notice, the members farthest removed from headquarters are being advised of this decision by wire.

STATEMENT BY COMRADE SPARGO March 25, 1910.

I have no desire to take up the time of the National Office force, and of the party membership, with a personal controversy between Comrade Goebel and myself.

I have more important work to do than discuss the issue of veracity raised. My protest was against Comrade Goebel's insinuation in his letter to you (as well as in his letter to the New York Call) that those who voted against the proposed date for holding the National Executive Committee meeting were actuated by sinister motives.

I believe in organization and wish in my work to emphasize it and do, as comrades all...

differ from them. It was against the "holier than thou" tone of his letter I protested.

I must add that Comrade Goebel, in his latest letter, is very disingenuous. He tells only half-truths. He quotes my words (interpolating "him" in place of "them") and then indignantly characterizes the statement he quotes as a lie.

I knew when I wrote that the "Wishlre's" content was not closed. Comrade Goebel told me so. But he also told me that it was his prize. His words were: "I am not absolutely sure—nothing but death is absolutely sure."

Comrade Goebel entirely misrepresents what I said about Comrade Carey. I said nothing about "sending for one State Secretary," nor about trying to "induce him to forego his support of Comrade Carey."

What I said about Comrade Carey was that I had only one reason for not supporting him. That reason, at the first opportunity, I recently discussed with Comrade Carey himself.

My reference to "one State Secretary" was to a comrade who was present during the conversation with Goebel, and who assented to my statement. It was obvious to everybody else but Comrade Goebel, who was referred to.

I repeat the conversation as I gave it—and Spargo did say he sent for the State Secretary and seek to injure Comrade Carey's chances of election.

I believe in organization and wish in my work to emphasize it and do, as comrades all over the country know. I could not well emphasize organization and be "A free lance," so I have chosen gladly to work as a party organizer.

Chicago, Ill., April 9, 1910. To the National Executive Committee.

Dear Comrades:—Upon the request of Comrade Goebel, I transmit the following letter.

Fraternally submitted, J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., April 2, 1910.

Dear Comrade—I have before me the statement of John Spargo under date of March 25th. He says he has no desire to take up the time of the party membership with personal controversy.

I repeat the conversation as I gave it—and Spargo did say he sent for the State Secretary and seek to injure Comrade Carey's chances of election.

I have more important work to do than discuss the issue of veracity raised. My protest was against Comrade Goebel's insinuation in his letter to you (as well as in his letter to the New York Call) that those who voted against the proposed date for holding the National Executive Committee meeting were actuated by sinister motives.

I believe in organization and wish in my work to emphasize it and do, as comrades all over the country know. I could not well emphasize organization and be "A free lance," so I have chosen gladly to work as a party organizer.

As organizer I must be away from home and those dear to me many months at a time, with all kinds of food and accommodations, up all hours of the night in all kinds of weather.

What do we get? Glory? Well, hardly, for who ever saw anything of the work of the organizers in the party bulletins or press notices except the most perfunctory notices, no matter how effective the work done?

If I am a "paid organizer," what is Spargo and his kind? I do not know what he did in England for a living—but since he landed in America I have never known him to work for a capitalist master, which proves he must have lived in the service of some part of the working class movement.

And the dub of a "Jimmie Higgins," in the shape of a "paid organizer," or State Secretary, or producer of the soap box, gets it in the neck and is told to go away back and sit down.

And we wonder why the vim and vigor seems to have gone from the movement and the veterans everywhere standing in the shadow.

In the words of Spargo, "Let us do away with this silly demagoguery"—and let us recognize we are all "paid" one way or the other—and not forget the pay, whether it be the price of the book we wrote or the miles we traveled, is covered with the blood and sweat of toiling thousands whose names are hardly known, but who make this movement and whom this movement must represent.

I ask the same measure of publicity for this as Spargo's letter received. If he honestly desires the matter to end he has but to fail to reply to this.

Chicago, Ill., April 26, 1910. To the National Executive Committee.

Dear Comrades:—You will recall that in my report to your committee the following appears:

"Seventeen states now permanently maintain a state secretary and most of them one or more organizers, and by their disposition and as a matter of party policy, the time has arrived when they will need little or no assistance in the way of national organizers."

"It is becoming more and more difficult to make cross country tours for National organizers. The fact that we encounter a number of states in different sections of the country which do not allow the National Office to solicit dates from the locals direct, and because there are others who are more and more developing their own men, it is quite impossible to arrange consecutive dates across country economically."

"The feasible and most economical form of propaganda for the National Office to conduct in the future is a systematic distribution of literature. For the same amount of money which the National Office is obliged to spend to maintain National organizers in the field, millions of pieces of literature could be furnished locals at the mere cost of shipment."

These facts were brought forth again when the question of "speakers afield" was taken up and the subject was fully discussed, resulting in the following motion:

"That Comrade Goebel be continued until about June 10th in territory to be assigned by the National Secretary, provided dates can be secured."

Consequently, and in agreement with Comrade Goebel, dates were arranged for him April 12th and 13th, and consecutively thereafter from April 16th until May 7th, eight assignments being based upon applications with the usual terms.

Letters fixing the dates and advertising matter had been sent all down the line. On April 18th, two days after Comrade Goebel left the office, I received a letter from him saying he had cancelled all dates after the 20th, while in the interim I had received acceptances of seven more dates, some of the locals having secured halls.

I therefore wrote to the affected points as follows: "We received word from Comrade Goebel today that he had cancelled all dates after the 20th and had notified all secretaries to that effect."

I should also state that the dates April 14th and 15th were left open in order to enable Comrade Goebel to serve with Comrade Lewis on the auditing committee as per your appointment.

To strike out of the National Constitution Section 2 of Article X:

Table with 3 columns: States, Yes, No. Lists states like Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Members at Large.

Totals..... 3,740 5,020. The report from Louisiana was received too late to be counted. In accordance with the above recorded vote the proposition was defeated.

Attest: J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

Mt. Vernon, Wash., March 27, 1910. "Amend the National Constitution, by adding to Article 2 the following, to be known as Section 7:

"There shall be a joint-card issued to husband and wife, father and daughter, mother and son, mother and daughter, to be stamped at the same price paid by single members, the joint members to each have the same rights in Party affairs that single members have; provided, that both must subscribe to the Party pledge."

(Signed) B. B. ELBE, Local Secretary.

THE LAW OF NATURALIZATION MADE EASY TO UNDERSTAND.

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National Committee Action

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., April 12, 1910.

To the National Committee. Comrades—Relating to the qualified nominees for delegates to the International Congress, I have the following to report:

ACCEPTED NOMINATION.

- Victor L. Berger, R. Berlyn, James H. Brower, E. Carr, Stanley J. Clark, Louis Duchez, A. H. Floaten, W. R. Gaylord, Geo. H. Goebel, W. D. Haywood, Morris Hillquit, Robert Hunter, Nicholas Klein, Leo Laukki, Algernon Lee, Lena Morrow Lewis, Caylord Wilshire, John M. Work, William McDevitt, Thomas J. Morgan, May Wood-Simons, J. E. Snyder, John Spargo, E. H. Thomas, Luella Twining, Ernest Untermann, Victor Watia, J. Stitt Wilson. Total—25.

DECLINED NOMINATION.

- J. Mahlon Barnes, J. O. Bentall, Joseph E. Cohen, John M. Collins, Eugene V. Debs, Frederick Heath, Charles H. Kerr, Antionette Konikow, Arthur M. Lewis, Anna A. Maley, Seth McCallen, Ed. Moore, Joseph M. Patterson, Sumner W. Rose, George H. Shoaf, John W. Slayton, J. G. Phelps Stokes, Rose Pastor Stokes, Carl D. Thompson, W. E. Walling, Joshua Wanhope, Fred D. Warren, F. H. Wentworth, Dan A. White. Total—24.

NOT HEARD FROM BY CLOSING DATE.

- O. F. Branstetter, George D. Brewer, James F. Carey, Max S. Hayes, Frank J. Hayes, Gertrude B. Hunt, Mother Jones, Morris Kaplan, George R. Kirkpatrick, Austin Lewis, Jack London, James H. Maurer, E. T. Melms, Walter Thomas Mills, N. A. Richardson, A. M. Simons, Gustave A. Strebek, Fred Strickland, J. A. Wayland. Total—19.

Fraternally submitted,

J. MAHLON BARNES National Secretary.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

By Local Berks County, S. P. of Pennsylvania.

"Amend National Constitution, Article XI, Section 1:

"Motions to amend any part of this constitution, as well as any other motions or resolutions to be voted upon by the entire membership of the party, shall be submitted by the National Secretary to a referendum of the party membership, upon the request of not less than twenty local organizations in five or more states or territories, said local organizations having a membership in good standing of at least three per cent of the national membership at the time motion is made and endorsed. All organizations offering motions or endorsing requests for referendum shall forward to National Secretary a statement of the number of members in good standing. Any motion failing to receive endorsement of three per cent of national membership within ninety days of submission shall lapse."

"Comment—The useless and costly referendums imposed upon the party by an infinitesimal minority, in many cases, calls for immediate action to end such activity. Any motion of real merit can secure endorsement of three per cent of the membership, and motions offered that do not possess merit should fail."

"The principle of the referendum has been invoked so frequently, and on matters so trivial or inconsequential, that the membership is becoming disgusted and neglecting to vote upon the propositions submitted. The waste of money and time and labor in the referendum activity is deplorable and would be much more wisely expended in other ways. Other reasons might be offered, but these seem sufficient to justify the change we advocate."

Yours in the cause,

(Signed) CHARLES L. HEPNER, Secretary.

National Headquarters, Socialist Party,

Chicago, Ill., April 7, 1910.

To the National Committee and State Secretaries.

Comrades—By concurrent action of the National Executive Committee and National Committee it has been decided that the apportionment of delegates for the Party Congress, to be held May 15, 1910, in Chicago, is to be based upon the average Party membership in the respective states for the year 1909.

By like action it has been decided that the respective State Secretaries shall file with the National Secretary a list of their accredited delegates on or before May 2d.

National Constitution, Article 10, Section 2, in part:

"The basis of representation shall be one delegate at large and one delegate for every five hundred members."

APPORTIONMENT OF DELEGATES.

Table with columns: States, Membership For 1909, Number of Delegates. Lists states from Alabama to Wyoming with corresponding membership and delegate counts.

The following unorganized states are entitled to one delegate each: Alaska, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, making 104 delegates from organized states and 3 from unorganized states; total, 112.

No delegate shall be considered eligible unless he is a resident of the state from which the credential is presented, and shall have been a member of the Party for at least two years.

By the concurrent action of the said committees a twenty-five cent delegate mileage assessment has been authorized and the stamps are being shipped to the respective State Secretaries in quantities according to their membership.

Fraternally submitted,

J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

National Headquarters, Socialist Party,

Chicago, Ill., April 8, 1910.

To Locals and Members at Large in Unorganized States.

Comrades—It has been decided by National Referendum "A," just closed, that a Party Congress shall be held in the City of Chicago May 15th. The apportionment just issued entitles your state to one delegate. The election will be by referendum vote conducted by this office. The call for nominations is hereby issued. A delegate must be a member of the Party for two years and reside in the state he represents. A blank is enclosed which must be returned to this office on or before April 20th.

Acceptances and declinations will close April 21st, and the names of the candidates not heard from by that time will not appear on the ballot. The ballots will be mailed from this office April 22d and the report of votes must be returned on or before May 2d.

The time is very limited. The late decision made it so. Quick action is required and the hearty co-operation of all comrades. Call a special meeting of the local, to be held not later than April 17th. At that time also arrange for a special meeting for the election within the period of April 24th and 29th. Due notice should be given to all members of the time and place of the election meeting. Only members in good standing may vote.

With your nomination kindly send in an order for the required number of twenty-five-cent membership mileage assessment stamps. The hope is entertained that a large and representative vote will determine the choice of your delegation.

The mileage assessment to pay the railroad fare of delegates assures equitable representation to all divisions of the party, regardless of their strength or weakness in numbers or finances. Every member should, therefore, gladly assume his share of the common expense and help to banish the fear

or thought of a large deficit at the very opening of the congressional campaign.

Fraternally yours,

J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUMS.

Galveston, Texas, March 25, 1910.

Whereas, The Party is put to an enormous expense in the matter of conducting referendum vote and so much matter being submitted to the general vote that is of doubtful merit, thereby increasing the expense of the referendum; and,

Whereas, The Party is in need of all available funds for propaganda work, we believe that it is time for the membership to take some step to stop the waste of Party funds in such useless practices and to safeguard the referendum in such way as to make it of actual service to the Party, and to be as the framers of the referendum intended it for; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Local Galveston use its energy and influence in having the law added to the constitution:

(a) Any local which believes a law should be amended or a new law created, shall prepare a draft in duplicate, the local secretary to keep one on file and the other to be forwarded to the National Executive Committee. Copies of the measure shall then be prepared and mailed out to locals asking for their endorsement, a copy of their endorsement to be mailed to the local sending out the measure and the other to be mailed to the National Executive Committee. When twenty-five locals have given their endorsement to the measure the National Executive Committee shall then call for a general vote on the measure. If two-thirds of the members vote in the affirmative the measure becomes a law. Should a measure submitted to a general vote become a law the National Executive Committee shall stand the expense of the referendum, but should the measure fail of becoming a law then the twenty-five locals giving their endorsement shall bear the expense of taking the vote.

(Signed) LOCAL GALVESTON 365.

Whereas, The Socialist Party stands pledged in its platform against the private ownership of property; and,

Whereas, Private ownership of property is diametrically opposed to the principles and teachings of the Socialist movement, we believe the Socialist Party in error in lending their aid and support to privately owned papers, wherein the membership can have no voice except it be the pleasure of the owner; and,

Whereas, Profits accruing from the publication of papers and other printed matter now going into the pockets of individuals could be used in the publication of propaganda matter that could be placed in the hands of the working class at a greatly reduced price; and,

Whereas, The Party is now without an official organ and party owned press; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Socialist Party pledge itself to the immediate purchase or establishment of a Party organ and the election of an editor by referendum vote.

Submitted by

LOCAL GALVESTON (365), TEXAS.

NOTICE TO DELEGATES

Owing to the fact that there is not now sufficient money on hand to pay mileage both ways, and the further fact that the names and addresses of delegates are coming in so slowly, as a general policy checks for mileage cannot be forwarded in advance, and delegates, wherever possible, will pay their own fare to the congress. By Monday evening, May 15th, they will be reimbursed by the National Office for the amount advanced upon filing a requisition on the blank form which will be distributed at the first session. However, any delegate who will need a remittance before leaving home will receive a check by return mail by stating the cost of trip one way and giving full name and home address.

At the instance of the National Finnish Organization and by virtue of a resolution adopted at their convention held in Hancock, Mich., August of last year, a conference of the delegates to the National Congress from all foreign speaking organizations has been called to meet at 11 a. m., at National Headquarters, on May 13. To make the necessary arrangements for the conference, the Executive Committee of the National Finnish organization will meet at National Headquarters on May 8th. All correspondence relating to this conference should be addressed to Herman Louko, National Finnish Translator, 180 Washington street, top floor, Chicago, Ill.

Upon a call issued by Comrade Ernest Untermann, chairman of the permanent committee on immigration, that committee will meet at National Headquarters May 12th, 1910. The committee is composed as follows: Ernest Untermann, Victor L. Berger, Joshua Wanhope, John Spargo and Guy E. Miller.

Relating to the delegates to the Party Congress to be elected by the respective states, the Woman's National Committee, by motion, respectfully urge the election of at least one woman in each state delegation.

NATIONAL NOTES

The Executive Committee of the International Socialist Bureau has decided upon the date and secured the hall for the meeting of the International Congress. The session will

open in Copenhagen, Denmark, August 23 and close September 3, 1910. The place of meeting is the Concert Palace of the Odd Fellows Palace, No. 23 Bredgade Street. The address of the local committee on arrangements for hotels, etc., is, Stauning, 22; Romersgade, 22; Copenhagen, Denmark.

By a recent referendum in Idaho, Comrade T. J. Coonrod, Emmett, was re-elected State Secretary, and E. L. Rigg, Rupert, was re-elected a member of the National Committee.

By a recent referendum, Comrade J. N. Abbott, Sheffield, Ala., was elected a member of the National Committee.

By a recent referendum, Comrade C. P. Wight, Box 119, Old Orchard, Me., was elected a member of the National Committee, elected a member of the National Committee.

A State Convention of the Socialist Party of Maine will be held at Augusta, May 2d.

By recent referendums, Comrade N. W. Lermond, Thomanston, has been re-elected State Secretary of Maine, and Comrade Mrs. Hazel Putnam, Wilburton, has been elected State Secretary of Louisiana.

The Finnish comrades of Clifford, Wis., whose applications for citizenship were laid over from the November to the April term of court, have been granted their papers, Comrade Carl Strover of Chicago, acting as attorney by direction of the National Executive Committee.

Comrade Charles W. Greene, State Secretary of New Hampshire, reports: "Local Franklin has removed from its membership roll the names of Edward C. Morey, S. F. Alden and Isaac Crapo for conduct unworthy a Socialist during the paper mill strike."

By a recent referendum in California J. Still Wilson, Ridge Road, Berkeley, was elected a member of the National Committee, and N. A. Richardson, San Bernardino, was re-elected to the same position. F. B. Meriam of Chula Vista was elected State Secretary-Treasurer. Until further notice the State Office will be maintained at 591 23d street, Oakland, Cal.

Comrade Paul J. Paulsen, Rock Springs, Wyo., by the request of State Secretary Hackenberg, has assumed the office of State Secretary, pending an election to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Comrade Hackenberg.

State Secretary E. E. Adel of Ohio reports the expulsion of Frank Midney and Samuel Snyder from Local Dayton for conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Socialist movement.

State Secretary Coonrod of Idaho reports that Local Hansen has expelled one Henry C. Scranton, former secretary of the local, for violating Article III, Section 10, of the state constitution.

By a recent referendum vote in New York, Comrades Gustave A. Strebek, 716 McBride street, Syracuse, and Edward F. Cassidy, 161 West 108th street, New York City, were elected members of the National Committee, and Comrade John Spargo, 25 Willow place, Yonkers, was re-elected to the same position.

By a recent referendum in Florida, Comrade C. C. Allen, St. Petersburg, was elected a member of the National Committee.

By a recent referendum in Pennsylvania, Comrade Thomas F. Kennedy, 726 Frederick street, McKees Rocks, was elected a member of the National Committee, and Comrades James H. Maurer, 1516 North Tenth street, Reading, and John W. Slayton, McKeesport, were re-elected to the same position.

By a recent referendum in Massachusetts, Comrade James F. Carey, 699 Washington street Boston, was re-elected State Secretary, and Squire E. Putney, 4 Belmont terrace, Somerville, and Franklin H. Wentworth, 8 Carpenter street, Salem, were re-elected members of the National Committee.

The Law of Naturalization

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