
Minutes of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of America, Jan. 1922 [summary]

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International Situation.

Secretary [William Weinstone] read statement from the Executive Committee of the CI reporting that it holds the tactics of the majority of the CEC [on the establishment of a Legal Political Party] to be absolutely correct.

Motion, to take all necessary measures for the transmission of this statement to the groups, and that as many of the groups as can be reached should receive this immediately. *Carried.*

Letter from Com. Carr [Ludwig Katterfeld] reporting on the situation read.

Motion, to inform the CI of the arrangements and proposed plans of #2 [WPA] and of the Carter [Louis Fraina] situation. *Carried.*

Motion, to wire Carter [Fraina], through A [Argentine] and M [Mexican] Parties, re decisions abolishing the [American] Agency and the provisions for the disposal of its funds. *Carried.*

Motion: That Braun [Max Bedacht] be instructed to remain [in Moscow] for the Feb. conference [1st Enlarged Plenum of ECCI] and return immediately thereafter.

Amendment: to defer action until next meeting. *Amendment carried.*

Comrade Ballister [Robert Minor] reported on his negotiations with the opposition [Central Caucus-

CPA].

1. Read document to their "national conference" [New York: Jan. 7-12, 1922] and reported to them as messenger from the CI.

2. He then read the document again to Henry [George Ashkenuzi], Curtis [Charles Dirba], and Johnson [=???]. They answered that they will not obey the decision of the Comintern and will fight the #2 [WPA]. They also informed Com. B. [Minor] that they hold themselves to be the #1 [CPA] and that they sent a delegate to R. [Russia].

Motion, that a full report of the #2 [WPA] be drawn up, advising the CI of the situation and of our plans. *Carried.*

Raphael [Alexander Bittelman], Cook [James Cannon], and B. [Robert Minor] nominated as committee.

Organization Matters.

The general Party situation discussed.

Motion, that statement be issued to the membership dealing with the Party situation and problems. *Carried.*

Motion: That Griffith [Joseph Zack Kornfeder] and Nelson [Jay Lovestone] be the sub-committee. *Carried.*

Motion: That an appeal be issued to the membership of the opposition informing them that the CEC will gladly recommend them back to the Party

at any time they are ready to accept the decision of the CI. *Carried.*

Motion, that the Party have first call on the Theses and Statutes of the 3rd Congress [of the CI] and that all DOs be instructed to organize classes in the same, immediately; to report their educational plans to the CEC as soon as formulated, and to line up the whole organization in this drive. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com Wheat [Lovestone] help Com. Lewis [Weinstone] in the NO [National Office]. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com. Ganly [Tom O'Flaherty] be engaged as an assistant on the editorial staff of the OO [*The Communist*]. *Carried.*

Motion, that CEC representatives tour the country and report on the conditions prevailing in the Party. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com. Griffith [Zack] cover Districts 4 [Cleveland] and 6 [Detroit]; Raphael [Bittelman] Districts 5 [Chicago], 12 [Minneapolis], 7 [St. Louis]; and Com. Lewis [Weinstone] Districts 11 [Pittsburgh] and 3 [Philadelphia]. *Carried.*

Motion, that the Secretary shall have approval first of the Organization Committee for expenditures of money over \$50. *Carried.*

District Matters

D1 [Boston]:

The DO reported resolution of protest from Secretary against the appointments of delegates to the No. 2 [WPA] conference.

Motion, that D1 [Boston] be informed that the CEC left the choosing of delegates to the No. 2 [WPA] conference in the hands of the DEC's. The CEC did not appoint the delegates. *Carried.*

D2 [New York]:

Letter received from Com. Funk [Hyman Costrell] submitting his resignation as DO because of the need of his active participation in the work among the Jewish comrades.

Motion, that the resignation be accepted and a letter of regret be forwarded to Com. F. [Costrell] *Carried.*

Motion, that the appointment of Com. Funk's [Costrell's] successor be deferred until next meeting. *Carried.*

D4 [Cleveland]:

Letter received from DO ["J. Milner" = ???] informing us of the general Party situation. DO ["Milner"] reported that the German comrades who had gone with the opposition [Central Caucus-CPA] are beginning to return to the Party and accepting the decision of the CI.

That the Lithuanian comrades of the opposition are protesting against the plans of their leaders to lead them out of the Comintern.

Motion, that the DO ["Milner"] be instructed to supply the CEC with full information about those conditions and that he make all efforts to win back as many of the opposition as possible. *Carried.*

D5 [Chicago]:

Resolution received from D5 [Chicago] that the CEC proceed with charges against Com. L. [Lore?].

Motion, that the Organization Committee request D2 [New York] for a copy of its charges against Com. L. [Lore?] and that the same be referred to the next meeting of the CEC for action. *Carried.*

Resolution received from the Executive Committee of D5 [Chicago] recommending that the convention of No. 1 [CPA] be held after 6 months from No. 2 conference [WPA] and that if the CEC should not accept this resolution it should be forwarded to the DEC's for action.

Motion, that the resolution be printed in the forthcoming issue of the OO [*The Communist*] and that it be forwarded to the DEC's for action. *Carried.*

Motion, that the case of Com. V. [Verblin] be reopened and that the DO5 [Chicago = Charles Krumbin] be instructed to get full memorandum on the

case with the object in view of enabling the press to print its full findings. *Carried.*

D8 [San Francisco]:

Motion, that the Secretary [Weinstone] take up with Com. Shays [Bert Wolfe] the question of giving his full time to national Party work. *Carried.*

D10 [Buffalo]:

Motion, that DO10 [Morris Kushinsky?] be asked to submit at once a full report as to the activities of his district and the general membership strength. *Carried.*

D11 [Pittsburgh]:

Motion, that Com. Curley [=???] be asked to resign DO and hold himself available for R [Russian] paper. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com. Dubner [Abram Jakira] be appointed DO11 [Pittsburgh]. *Carried.*

Report of Organization Committee.

Motion, that the Secretary [Weinstone] shall have approval first of the Org. Comm. for expenditures of money over \$50. *Carried.*

Motion, that the \$1,000 received by Com. Cook [Cannon] from Smith [Edward Lindgren or Marion Sproule] be applied to the \$3,500 loan to his dept. and that the remaining \$2,500 be given in installments. *Carried.*

Motion, that the universal wage scale be abolished and that wages be paid according to locality and character of work on the following basis:

- \$25 - \$35 for single;
- \$30 - \$40 for one dependent;
- \$40 - \$45 for more than one dependent.

Carried.

Motion, that the DEC's and Federation Bureaus are to fix the wages of DO's and others on this basis. *Carried.*

Motion, that the above basis shall also serve as a guide to fix salaries of employees in party-controlled institutions. *Carried.*

Motion, that the application of Com. Dow [Dirba]

for \$1,500 to be returned by Com. Jones [Edgar Owens] be left in the hands of Com. Jones [Owens] until further notice. *Carried.*

Industrial.

Industrial Organizer [Zack?] reported plan to re-construct the No. 1 [CPA] nuclei machinery so as to adjust it with No. 2 [WPA] activities.

Motion, to consider this plan as the first order of business next meeting. *Carried.*

Industrial Organizer [Zack?] reported that in trade union X [TUEL] our nuclei were sufficiently strong and organized to elect the National Organizer and Secretary.

Motion, the said nuclei be advised to elect Com. Em [=???] and Com. Jay [Johnstone?] as Organizer and Secretary of labor union X [TUEL]. *Carried.*

YCL Recommendations.

Motion, that all members under 21 years of age should join the YCL and devote most of their time to YCL activities. *Carried.*

Motion, that we recommend all members under 23 to join the YCL. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com. A. [=???] be representative of the CEC on the YCL. *Carried.*

Motion, that Com. Carr [Katterfeld] be empowered to act as YCL delegate at the Feb session of the Bureau. *Carried.*

Resolution of District 5 [Chicago].

The following resolution has been carried by District 5 [Chicago]. The DEC recommends to the CEC to call the next convention of No. 1 [CPA] not earlier than ___ months from now. *Carried 7 to 2.*

In case the above is not granted, we request the speedy transmission of our motion with the following reason for same to all DEC's so that they may express

their opinions.

(1) It is imperative to wait with the convention until the present controversy within the Party is settled definitely by the CI (that is, until the minority's appeal is answered), allowing the rank and file of the suspended members ample time to take action on the decision of the CI.

[There was no second point published.]

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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