

# New York State Committee, Socialist Party

## Holds Annual Meeting:

### Walter Cook Elected State Secretary — Locals Affiliating with Left Wing Have Charters Revoked — Asks National Convention.

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The New York State Committee of the Socialist Party met in Albany April 13. State Secretary U. Solomon called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. Simon Berlin, of New York, was elected chairman; Sanders, of Syracuse, was elected vice chairman; and Alexander Trachtenberg, of New York, secretary.

The following Committee on Resolutions was elected:

William Karlin, of New York; David P. Berenberg, of Kings; Bertha H. Mailly, of New York; F.G. Biedenkapp, of Queens; and Louis Waldman, of New York.

Forty-three members of the State Committee answered the roll call.

#### Walter Cook Elected State Secretary.

Alexander Trachtenberg reported for the Committee on State Secretary. Walter Cook, of the Bronx, and J.J. Finn, of Schenectady, were the only candidates for the position of State Secretary. U. Solomon was nominated, and urged to accept the nomination, but he refused, not being able to go to Albany. The vote on the two candidates was as follows:

Walter Cook .....	23
J.J. Finn .....	4

Cook was declared elected as Secretary for the next year. He made a statement, asking for the committee's cooperation.

Theresa Malkiel, of New York, made an appeal for The Call Printing Company, and asked the committee's cooperation in raising the fund for a printing press and building for *The Call*.

The following nine member were elected to the State Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

Theresa Malkiel of New York; Simon Berlin, New York; Herbert Merrill, Schenectady; Nicholas Aleinikoff, New York; Esther Friedman, Bronx; James Sheehan, Albany; F.A. Ariand, Albany; Jacob Hillquit, New York; and Julius Gerber, New York.

#### The Left Wing.

David P. Berenberg of Kings moved the following resolution:

"Whereas, the constitution of the Socialist Party of the state of New York provides (article 1, section 3) that members and locals of the Socialist Party must adhere and conform to the national and state platforms and constitutions; and

"Whereas, the spirit and machinery of the Socialist Party provides adequate channels for the fullest and freest discussion of ideas through branch and party meetings, the party press, conventions, referendums, representative bodies, and other mediums for the full interchange of opinions and sentiments; and

"Whereas, in violation of the spirit of the constitution, an organization calling itself the Left Wing Section of the Socialist Party has been formed, endeavoring to force the party to take certain positions without making use of the existing channels, thereby diverting its energies and funds and paralyzing its activities, therefore, be it

"Resolved, that the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party is definitely opposed to the organization calling itself the Left Wing Section of the Socialist Party and to any group within the party organized for the same or similar purpose; and be it further

"Resolved, that the State Committee instruct its Executive Committee to revoke the charter of any local that affiliates with any such organization or that permits its subdivisions or members to be affiliated."

Discussion upon the resolution continued until 4:30 o'clock. Upon roll call vote, the motion was car-

ried by a vote of 24 for and 17 against, with two members of the committee abstaining. On motion, it was voted to send the resolution to a referendum of the membership in the state.

### **Mexico's Claims Presented.**

Phillippo Carrillo, president of the League of Resistance (Socialist Party) and former Governor of Yucatan, addressed the committee on the threatened intervention in Mexico and asked the American Socialists to cooperate with the Socialists of Mexico in preventing hostilities between the two countries.

The recommendation of the State Executive to amend the constitution defining a county organization having either three locals or 50 members in one local, was lost.

### **YPSL.**

Deutsch, fraternal delegate from the YPSL, asked to amend the state constitution to include the following three provisions dealing with the YPSL:

Section 1. The work of the Young People's Socialist league in the state of New York shall be under the direction of the Executive and State Committee.

Sec. 2. Branches of the Young People's Socialist League shall be under the direction of the city and county organizations, and must in all cases work in harmony with the constitution of the city, county, and state organizations of the Socialist Party.

Sec. 3. The Young People's Socialist League shall be entitled to elect one fraternal delegate, having a voice but not vote, to the Executive State Committee and annual conventions of the party. He shall receive railroad fare and per diem from the party, the same as regular delegates.

On motion the recommendations of the YPSL were adopted.

On motion it was voted to reconsider the decision of the last annual meeting of the State Committee providing for a referendum on the question of electing a State Secretary by referendum.

On motion, the following nominations for a state organizer were made and referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and action: Jesse Kirby, Ella R. Bloor, J.J. Finn, F.G. Biedenkapp, James Sheehan, Fred Sanders, Louis Waldman.

### **National Convention.**

The following resolutions were adopted by the committee:

Whereas, the end of the world war, with its consequent world social revolution, gave rise to new problems which must be met by the Socialist Party of the United States, and,

Whereas, this can best be dealt with by a national convention, be it therefore

Resolved, that the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party endorse the referendum of a special national convention now in progress, and urges the members to vote in favor of it.

### **May Day.**

Whereas, May 1 is recognized as the international proletarian holiday, and

Whereas, May 1 has particular and added significance this year because of the acuteness of the class struggle and the persecution and imprisonment of labor's bravest fighters, be it therefore

Resolved, that we, the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party call upon the working class to abstain from working on May 1 and take part in demonstrations celebrating the triumph of social revolution in certain European countries, and protest against the tyranny imposed upon the working class of this country.

### **Political Amnesty.**

Whereas, socialism is the expression of the oppressed, persecuted, and exploited workers, and the Socialist Party is the standard bearer of this worldwide hope of the proletariat, and

Whereas, hundreds of men and women in every part of the country have been subjected to long terms of imprisonment and brutal treatment because they have consistently fought the battles of the working class and because they upheld the dictates of their conscience, and

Whereas, liberty-loving workers of alien birth, residents of the United States, are being deported indiscriminately because of their political and economic views and activities, be it therefore

Resolved, that we, the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party, demand an immediate general amnesty for all political and industrial prisoners and conscientious objectors, and the immediate repeal of the Espionage Act and all other repressive measures, and be it further

Resolved, that we demand the immediate release of persons held for deportation because of their political and economic views or their affiliation with any political or industrial organizations, and the immediate cessation of the deportation policy.

### **Hungary.**

Whereas, the working class of Hungary have seized political power and are using the same for the purposes of socializing industry and as an instrument for the complete emancipation of labor, therefore be it

Resolved, that we, the State Committee of the Socialist Party of the State of New York, in meeting assembled, congratulate the socialist movement and the working class of Hungary on the success of the revolution and on the position that the Hungarian Socialist Republic has taken in defiance of the capitalist imperialists of all lands."

### ***New York Call.***

We, the members of the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party, endorse the *New York Call* in its effort to secure its own printing plant and its own home, and urge the members and the locals to do the same.

### **Mexico.**

Whereas, a consistent campaign is being waged by the sinister forces of capitalism in the United States against the people of Mexico, tending to bring the two nations into armed conflict, be it therefore

Resolved, that the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party declares its unalterable opposition to any form of intervention by the United States government in the internal affairs of Mexico, and be it further

Resolved, that we greet the Mexican working class and pledge our loyalty to our common cause.

### **Recall of Troops.**

We, the New York State Committee of the Socialist Party, call upon the government of the United States immediately to withdraw all American troops from Russia, Hungary, Germany, and other countries.

### **Liebknecht and Luxemburg Murder.**

Whereas, our beloved comrades, Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, have been brutally murdered by the reactionary forces now in control in Germany, supported by reactionary socialists, while working for thoroughgoing proletarian control, be it therefore

"Resolved, that we condemn these reactionary forces which are obstructing the path of revolutionary socialism and share responsibility for the death of our beloved comrades.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to U. Solomon, who has served as State Secretary for 16 years.

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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