
The Situation in Local New York

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Unsigned article attributed to editor David Berenberg.

The atmosphere in Local New York has cleared. We have charged that the self-styled "Left Wing" "were organized to break up the party." This was proved at the meeting of the Central Committee of Local New York on Tuesday, April 22nd.

Before the meeting was opened, the hall was crowded with visitors — mostly young boys and girls whose membership in the party is from a month to about a year. The visitors overflowed the hall, crowding the delegates out, and acted as the clique for the steering committee of the Left Wing.

When the election for Chairman took place, Comrade U. Solomon and Dr. Max Cohen were nominated, the vote resulting in 39 votes for Comrade U. Solomon and 19 votes for Dr. Max Cohen.

Somehow, the "Left Wing" steering apparatus of the steering committee was out of order, and the ship floundered. The same majority was maintained all through the evening, through the total vote increased as the evening went on and more delegates arrived.

That there would be trouble at this meeting of the Central Committee was well-known to us, as the "Left Wing" at its meeting on Sunday, April 20th had appointed seven to come to the Central Committee.

The fun started as soon as the chairman was elected, Dr. Cohen objecting to some of the delegates of the 17th AD voting, while he had no objections to the Left Wing delegates from the same branch voting. And even had the delegates of the 17th not voted, the result would have been seven less for Comrade Solomon, giving Solomon 32 votes, and 3 less for Cohen, giving 16 votes.

As soon as the minutes were read, and the credentials were read, Dr. Cohen established a new pre-

cedent when he objected to the seating of a delegate who was regularly elected by his branch and against whom there was no contest as far as the members of his own branch were concerned, and who is eligible and qualified. But what matters little things like that to the Chief of the "Left Wing," if it conflicts with the Dictatorship of the "Left Wing."

When the credentials from the 17th AD were read (there being two credentials of the two contesting delegations), a motion was made to seat the delegates from the branch recognized by the Executive Committee, Dr. Cohen in speaking against the motion had nothing else to say but that the Executive Committee wants to break up the "Left Wing." He had no fact or reason to give, why the 17th AD should not be reorganized, except that the Executive Committee wants to break up the "Left Wing."

When the motion for the previous question was made, after an hour's debate, Dr. Cohen raised the point of order that the comrade rose to speak and not to make a motion for the previous question. By what method the learned doctor knew what the delegate rose for is a mystery. When the point of order was decided against by a vote of 76 to 42, another doctor, Nicholas Hourwich, moved to vote by roll call. When that motion was put to the house, attorney Joseph Brodsky raised a point of order practically on the same grounds that Doctor Cohen had raised his point of order. Again the point of order was ruled out and appealed and the chair sustained by a vote of 64 to 46. Then another point of order was raised, the visitors joining in the disturbance, creating a commotion, and interrupting the speakers. The Chairman finally put the motion for a roll call on the motion for the previous question, and lo and behold, the "Left Wingers"

voted against it, the motion being carried by a vote of 56 to 39. When the Secretary started to call the roll, a new pandemonium broke loose, a dozen or more of the Left Wingers talking, raising points of order and appeals, all at the same time.

Then it was evident that the crowd came there to rule, and failing in a majority were ready to ruin, and were keeping up these dilatory tactics to prevent the meeting from doing any work.

A motion was made and seconded and carried that the Central Committee adjourn subject to the call of the Executive Committee, and that the Executive Committee of Local New York be instructed to reorganize Local New York, and put it on a working basis before it calls the next meeting of the Central Committee. This motion was carried by a vote of 71 to 36, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

At this point, the police who were in the building on account of the Debs protest meeting in the large hall of the same building, attracted by the noise of the "Left Wingers" at the Central Committee, appeared and cleared the hall.

To all fair-minded persons who were at the meeting, it was evident that the "Left Wingers" did not want nor care to do anything when they found that the majority was against them.

"Rule or Ruin" is their policy and the "Dictatorship of the Left Wing" their motto.

Tuesday night's meeting of the Central Com-

mittee has sealed the fate of these self-appointed saviours of the party, and now Local New York will be able to rid itself of the barnacles that grew on it during the last year, and being rid of them, the organization will be able to proceed with its work, build up the party organization, not for a clique or a faction, but for the purpose it is organized for, the emancipation of the working class.

To all comrades, Socialists of New York, this ought to be a warning. This is not the time to stay away from party meetings and party activity. This is the time when every Socialist should attend the meetings, help in the work, and assist in rebuilding the organization.

You left the party to the mercy of inexperienced boys and girls and they found new gods that some created for them to worship. They have almost run the organization into the ground. Now is the time for the devoted Socialists to come back and resume their task. Hard times are ahead of us. The enemy from without is ready to devour us and the enemy from within is rendering him valuable service.

Let the locals everywhere be on their guard. Beware of the would-be revolutionists. They are the destruction of the party, and could do no better service for the capitalist class if they were paid to do it.

To arms, comrades! Your party is in danger. Let every true Socialist be on guard!

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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