
Ohio State Organization Expelled from Party. †

Unsigned article in the *New York Call*, v. 12, no. 237 (Aug. 25, 1919), pg. 7.
Likely author was NEC member and *New York Call* editorial writer James Oneal.

The Ohio state organization of the Socialist Party has been expelled from the national party organization for repeated and flagrant violations of the state and national platforms and constitutions of the party. Under the guidance of a small, compact, and well-oiled political machine, headed by two individuals named Ruthenberg and Wagenknecht, the party has been repeatedly sabotaged and its work crippled. The violations have become so intolerable that, upon request of a large number of loyal Socialists of the Buckeye state, the charter of the state organization has been revoked and the Socialists who are loyal to the organization are reorganizing upon the basis of the Socialist platform and constitution.

The leaders of the Cleveland political machine have instigated a nationwide plot to withhold all funds from the National Office, and to sabotage the national convention by misappropriating funds destined for the convention. It has joined an outside and separate political organization, and it has given aid to certain elements in the organization of a rival political party.

It was for those reasons that it was felt by self-respective Socialists in Ohio and elsewhere that the charter had to be withdrawn as a matter of elementary discipline.

It is expected that the great bulk of the membership will join the party on the basis of a decent regard for the party's regulations.

†- The motion for the expulsion of the Ohio state organization of the SPA was made by a note from NEC member Fred Krafft of Ridgefield, NJ, to Executive Secretary Adolph Gerner, dated July 29, 1919. The expulsion action was thus initiated well after the constitutionally defined July 1, 1919, date of the outgoing NEC's termination of office. A downloadable pdf of the Krafft note to Gerner is available from www.marxisthistory.org

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.
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