
Resolution of Local Essex Co., NJ, Voting Confidence in Harwood's Integrity: Meeting of Sept. 6, 1919.

Published in the *New York Call*, v. 12, no. 260 (Sept. 17, 1919), pg. 7.

At a special local meeting of Essex County, Socialist Party, held on Saturday evening, September 6 [1919], Fred Harwood, the local's secretary, gave a report of the convention and submitted his resignation.

Harwood expressed his feelings regarding the treatment which he received from certain individuals influential in the councils of the convention, and stated that as a result of this treatment he was thoroughly disillusioned, and could no longer work in the same organization with them.

He stated that he was publicly called a thief and a crook by a man that is recognized as one of the foremost Socialists of America, a man who does not know him personally, and therefore was in no position to make such unwarranted charges, and still less able to prove them.

Harwood further stated that he was not given the privilege of the floor to refute the slanderous statements when they were made; and he felt, therefore, that he could not with self-respect accept a seat in the convention when he was formally seated.

After a thorough discussion by the members of the local, it was voted by an overwhelming majority to decline to accept Harwood's resignation, notwithstanding his insistence upon resigning. It was further unanimously resolved that the members of Local Essex County, in regular meeting assembled, go on record as having confidence in the honest, integrity, and good intentions of Harwood; and that they most emphatically disapprove and vigorously protest against the actions of those individuals who so shamelessly slandered him.

A committee was elected to draft a statement embodying these views of the local, and instructions were given that a copy of the same be sent to the local Socialist press, the *New York Call*, and to the National [Executive] Committee.

William J. Fielding,

Jessie W. Jones,

Frederick Gicher,

for Local Essex County.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

Published by 1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR, 2007. • Non-commercial reproduction permitted.