
The Party Situation:

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You have read the letter of National Secretary [Isaac E.] Ferguson of the “Left Wing.” Think of a faction having a National Secretary and a National Executive Committee!

The Ferguson letter — which was not intended to reach the columns of *The Leader* — shows clearly that the “Left Wing” intends to split the party if possible. Also that it intends to pack the convention if possible.

He is corroborated by *The Revolutionary Age* — which is the official organ of the “Left Wing.”

It says editorially that a split is not only inevitable, but necessary. “There is no compromise conceivable,” it adds.

Concerning the coming national convention of the party, it says that if the regular Socialists control the convention “the Left Wing will constitute its own convention and organize a new Communist Party.” In other words, if the regular Socialists control the convention, the “Left Wing” will bolt and split the party.

On the other hand, if the “Left Wing” controls the convention, the regular Socialist, according to the “Left Wing” official organ, will secede. Why? Because, so it proclaims, “we shall hasten their secession by the implacability of our policy.”

In short, the “Left Wing” says that if the regular Socialists win, the “Left Wing” will bolt — and, if the “Left Wing” wins, it will compel the regular Socialists to bolt. It has decided to split the party whether or no.

It has had this intention all along, but, no doubt, it came to this definite decision officially in the “Left Wing” national con-

vention [National Left Wing Conference, New York City, June 21-24, 1919]. The convention was held largely in secret, we are informed. Like the Paris Peace Conference, it gives out only what it chooses to give out.

The above facts are given in order that the comrades may know the truth. It is better to face the situation as it is than to try to fool ourselves with something that is not so. The situation might conceivably change between now and the date of the convention. But this is the situation as it exists now.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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