
No Real Socialist Will Hold Back

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At the time of the beginning of the controversy in the Socialist ranks certain elements asserted that the party was against the holding of the emergency convention.

Indeed, they made as one of the great "issues" of the controversy the calling of a convention. They demanded a convention. They inaugurated a referendum to call a convention.

There was not much opposition to the holding of a convention, but they made loud noises, nevertheless, as if they were being bitterly opposed in their demand for a convention.

The party membership voted overwhelmingly for the convention (as was to have been expected), and the NEC set the date.

That disappointed those who were "demanding" a convention, because there wouldn't be much use in "demanding" what they had already.

The NEC decided to assess all members 50 cents for convention stamps, so that the great cost of paying for the convention might be evenly distributed.

The elements in the party that were "demanding" the convention thereupon began to circulate, through their private press service, the statement that the convention was not going to be held, and that members should not buy convention stamps. That statement was read by tens of thousands of members who subscribe for party papers "captured" by the dissentients.

The preparations for the convention went on. In spite of the unfair attitude of the "demanders," the convention was to be held.

Then they tried another trick. They began to make preparations for another convention, because, they said, they would be thrown out of the party convention. so they told the members through their private press service to buy stamps, but let the money repose in the cof-

fers of those who will see to it that it will not get into the hands of the comrades who were running the convention.

The convention was held [Chicago: Aug. 30-Sept. 5, 1919]. All who were entitled to seats, regardless of their views, were given seats. Those who had been saying that there would be no convention were nonplussed; those who said that dissentients would be unseated were made to look sheepish, and they walked out with a sickly look on their faces. They didn't want seats — but they wanted to be thrown out.

Every charge they made in an attempt to sabotage and starve out the National Office is shown to have been a lie and a fraud. Every charge they made in an attempt to keep the money in their own hands is disproved.

Those comrades who have not purchased stamps, buy them at once!

Those who have bought stamps, but whose State Secretaries have held up the funds, see to it that your State Secretary makes good at once.

The sabotaging of the party must stop. Take your part in making it stop.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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