
Thomasite Group Denied Affiliation with Labor Party: ALP State Executive Committee Votes 10 to 7 Against Accepting Offer of Socialist Party [events of March 7-10, 1938]

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The New York City local of the Socialist Party, identified with the leadership of Norman Thomas, was denied admission to the American Labor Party as a group this week by a vote of 10 against admission and 7 in favor. It is reported the Thomas group will take a referendum to decide whether to give up its identity here as many of its members have already joined the ALP.

Alexander Rose, State Secretary of the ALP, issued a statement on Thursday [March 10, 1938] regarding the action. He declared:

“The *New York Post* version of the action of the State Executive Committee on the application for affiliation of the Socialist Party is erroneous. The *Post* stated that the application had been rejected. The State Executive Committee at its meeting in the Hotel New York Monday night, March 7, has merely deferred action on the application.”

Councilman Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union; former Congressman Vito Marcantonio, and Louis Weinstock, secretary of District Council 9, of the Brotherhood of Painters, led the fight against accepting the bid of the New York Socialist Party.

Louis Waldman and Louis Hendin, Social Democrats, voted to approve the application. The other 5 members voting with them are not known.

In the meantime furious attacks are being made upon the American Labor Party and ALP appointees by Tammany's last ditch fighters

who, with an eye to future elections, are beginning their campaign to besmirch the Laborites. The newest drive is directed against Morris Novick, former director of WEVD and secretary of the New York County local American Labor Party, who was recently appointed director of the municipal radio station WNYC. This attack came in the form of a resolution demanding an investigation of the station to discover the source of alleged "Communist propaganda" delivered over the station last month. The cry for the quiz came from a Tammany man and was supported by all Tiger stooges and a Fusionite.

The talk, a travelogue of Soviet Russia, is what the council's reactionary bloc intends to make political capital. The simple truth is that the program was arranged by a holdover appointee of the halcyon Jimmy Walker days long before Mr. Novick received his appointment.

The State Executive Committee of the American Labor Party at its meeting held in the Hotel New Yorker, called upon the American people to join the boycott of Japanese-manufactured products, it was announced by Alex Rose, State Executive Secretary of the party.

The committee calls attention to Japan's defiance of every principle of international law in embarking upon a campaign of destruction against the people of China. This campaign, says the resolution, has endangered the efforts of generations to bring about a more humane and enlightened relationship in international affairs. For these reasons, the Labor Party calls for the boycott as the only effective method, short of war, to curb the ruthless aggressions of a national dominated by militarists against the peace-loving Chinese people.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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