
Proceedings of the National Committee, SPA: St. Louis — Jan. 29-31, 1903.

by George E. Boomer

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ST. LOUIS, MO., Feb. 4, 1903.—The National Committee of the Socialist Party met in this city Jan. 29 [1903] in its second annual session. Twenty-two members were present: William Mahoney, of Indiana; B. Berlyn, of Illinois; S.F. Claflin, of New Hampshire; W.R. Healey, of Florida; S. Lovett, of South Dakota; N.A. Richardson, of California; George H. Goebel, of New Jersey; W.G. Critchlow, of Ohio; George E. Boomer, of Washington; George H. Turner, of Missouri; John M. Work, of Iowa; George A. Sweetland, of Connecticut; Victor L. Berger, of Wisconsin; C. Christensen, of Nebraska; James F. Carey, of Massachusetts; Charles Dobbs, of Kentucky; Clarence Smith, of Montana; W.T. Mills, of Kansas; J. Mahlon Barnes, of Pennsylvania; Morris Hillquit, of New York; R.C. Massey, of North Dakota; G.H. Lockwood, of Minnesota (proxy for C.C. Talbott); together with the old Quorum of St. Louis — [M. Ballard] Dunn, [E. Val] Putnam, [James S.] Roche, [Gus] Hoehn, and [William] Brandt.

William Mailly, of Massachusetts, was chosen National Secretary, his chief competitor being Critchlow, of Ohio. The vote stood 16 to 10.

Omaha was selected as National Headquarters by a vote of 14; against Indianapolis, 9; St. Louis, 2; Chicago, 1; Washington, 1. A motion to submit both Omaha and other cities to referendum of the party was rejected as unconstitutional. Immediate removal, after a hot debate, was ordered.

A new Local Quorum was selected, consisting

of J.M. Work, of Iowa; S. Lovett, of South Dakota; G.H. Turner, of Missouri; E. Untermann, of Kansas; and [J.P.] Roe, of Nebraska.

Resolutions were adopted against all “Radical” and “Reform” parties, including so-called “Labor Parties.” It was also resolved:

That no state or local organization or member of the party shall under any circumstances fuse, combine, or compromise with any political party or organization, or refrain from making nominations in order to further the interests of candidates of such parties or organizations.

The Trade Union Resolutions of the party adopted at Indianapolis two years ago were reaffirmed. It was further resolved: We are also mindful of the fact that each has its own special mission to perform; that it devolves upon the trade unions to conduct the economic struggles of the working class; that it devolves on the Socialist Party to fight the political battles; that the interests of labor as a whole will be best conserved by allowing each of the movements to manage the affairs within one sphere of activity without any interference of the other. We also declare we deem it unwise to advise trade unions as such to be represented in the political conventions of our party.

Headquarters already removed to Omaha.

Line is being drawn between Agrarians and Proletarians.

Boomer.

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