
Letter to Marion Sproule, State Secretary of the Socialist Party of Massachusetts from Adolph Germer, Executive Secretary of the Socialist Party of America, June 25, 1919

Mimeographed document in the Theodore Draper Papers, Hoover Institution Archives, Box 30.

Chicago, June 25, 1919.

Marion Sproule,
885 Washington St.,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Comrade:—

You are hereby advised that the National Executive Committee by a majority vote of its membership (the vote now stands 8 to 1), has revoked the charter of the state of Massachusetts for violation of the National Constitution — last paragraph, Section 5, Article 2; and Section 3(a), Article 10, which read as follows:

Section 5, Article 2 — In all my political actions while a member of the Socialist Party, I agree to be guided by the constitution and platform of that party.

Section 3(a), Article 10 — The platform of the Socialist Party shall be the supreme declaration of the party and all state and municipal platforms shall conform thereto. No state or local organization shall under any circumstances fuse, combine, or compromise with any other political party or organization, or refrain from making nominations, in order to favor the candidate of such other organizations, no shall any candidate of the Socialist Party accept any nomination or endorsement from any other party or political organization.

I am sure the revocation of the charter was not unexpected in view of the action taken by your recent State Convention, which constitutes a repudiation of the Socialist Party platform and a violation of the sections above cited.

I kindly ask that you send the charter and all other property of the state organization to the National Office to be held in trust until the state is reorganized.

The revocation of the charter cancels the election of delegates to the Special National Convention to be held in Chicago, August 30th, 1919, and you will please return to this office the Special Convention stamps that were sent a few days ago.

Assuring you that I very much regret, and I am sure that the members of the committee who voted for the revocation of the charter also regret the necessity for their action, and sincerely hoping that the turbulent and factionalist element that injected the present controversy in the party will soon be repudiated so that we might go on with a constructive propaganda and organization, I am

Fraternally yours,

Adolph Germer,
Executive Secretary.

AG:EL

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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