

Socialistic Labor Party.



PLATFORM, CONSTITUTION,

—AND—

RESOLUTIONS,

—Adopted at the—

National Congress of the Workingmen's Party of the United States,

—Held at—

NEWARK, N. J.,

DECEMBER 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 1877.

Together with a condensed report of the

CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS.

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PLATFORM,
of the
Socialistic Labor Party.

Labor being the source of all wealth and civilization, and useful labor being possible only by and through the associated efforts of the people, the means of labor should therefore in all justice belong to Society.

The system under which Society is now organized is imperfect, and hostile to the general welfare, since through it the directors of labor, necessarily a small minority, are enabled in the competitive struggle, to practically monopolize all the means of labor—all opportunities to produce for and supply the wants of the people, and the masses are therefore maintained in poverty and dependence.

Since the ruling political parties have always sought only the direct interests of the dominant or wealthy classes, endeavoured to uphold their industrial supremacy, and to perpetuate the present condition of Society, it is now the duty of the working people to organize themselves into one great Labor Party using political power to achieve industrial independence.

The industrial emancipation of Labor, which must be achieved by the working classes themselves, independent of all political parties but their own, is consequently the great end, to which every political movement should be subordinate as a means.

The material condition of the working people, in all civilized countries being identical, and resulting from the same cause, the struggle for industrial emancipation is International, and must naturally be co-operative and mutual: therefore the organization of National and International Trade and Labor Unions upon a Socialistic basis is an absolute necessity.

For these reasons the Socialistic Labor Party has been founded.

We demand that the resources of life—the means of production, public transportation and communication, land, machinery, railroads, telegraph lines, canals, etc., become, as fast as practicable, the common property of the whole people through the Government, to abolish the wages system and substitute in its stead co-operative production with a just distribution of its rewards.

The Socialistic Labor Party presents the following demands as

measures to ameliorate the condition of the working people under our present competitive system and to gradually *accomplish the entire removal* of the same.

1st. Eight hours for the present as a legal working day and prompt punishment of all violators.

2d. Sanitary inspection of all conditions of labor, means of subsistence and dwellings included.

3d. Bureaux of Labor Statistics in all States as well as in the National Government. The officers of the same to be elected by the people.

4th. Prohibition of the use of prison labor by private employers or corporations.

5th. Prohibition of the employment of children under fourteen years of age in industrial establishments.

6th. Compulsory education of all children under fourteen years of age. All materials, books etc., necessary in the public schools, to be furnished free of charge.

7th. Prohibition of the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality, and equalization of women's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

8th. Strict laws making employers liable for all accidents resulting through their negligence to the injury of their employees.

9th. All wages to be paid in the lawful money of the Nation and at intervals of time not exceeding one week. Violations of this rule to be legally punished.

10th. All conspiracy laws operating against the right of workmen to strike or induce others to strike shall be repealed.

11th. Gratuitous administration of justice in all courts of law.

12th. All indirect taxation to be abolished and a graded income tax collected in its stead.

13th. All banking and insurance to be conducted by the Government.

14th. The right of suffrage shall in no wise be abridged.

15th. Direct popular legislation enabling the people to propose or reject any law at their will, and introduction of Minority representation in all legislative elections.

16th. Every public officer shall be at all times subject to prompt recall by the election of a successor.

CONSTITUTION

of the

Socialistic Labor Party.

I. MANAGEMENT.

The affairs of the Party will be conducted by the Conventions, Executive Committees, and the Board of Supervision.

II. CONVENTIONS.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

1st. The National Convention will assemble at least once every two years. Every Section belonging to the Party for three months prior to the National Convention, and which has fulfilled all its obligations, is entitled to representation therein by one delegate for each 100 members or fraction thereof. Each delegate shall have only one vote, and credentials shall not be transferable.

2d. Sections suspended by the officers of the National Party will be entitled to representation only after their cases have been investigated and acted upon by the National Convention; but, such cases must be investigated and acted upon immediately after the examination of credentials and election of officers.

3d. The National Convention frames the National Platform, decides the form of organization, nominates the national candidates and directs the national agitation, selects the place where the next National Convention will be held, and where the National Executive Committee and Board of Supervision will be located, fixes the salary of the Party officers, elects the Corresponding and the Financial Secretaries, and investigates and decides all difficulties within the Party.

4th. A special National Convention may be called by ten sections. (See III., Sec. 4.)

5th. The expenses of the delegates will be borne by the sections sending them. The business expenses of the National Convention will be paid by the Party.

6th. All propositions for the consideration of the National Convention must be communicated to the sections at least six weeks before the Convention assembles. Propositions involving alteration

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or amendment to the Platform or Constitution, and which may have been found necessary at too late a date for publication to the Party, will require for their adoption a two-third{s} vote of the delegates present.

STATE CONVENTIONS.

1st. The State Convention will assemble at a proper time before the State elections are held. Each Section is entitled to representation in the State Convention, by one delegate for every fifty members or fraction thereof. No delegate shall have more than one vote, and credentials shall not be transferable.

2d. Sections suspended by the State officers of the Party shall be subject to the same regulations as those governing the National Convention. (See II, Sec. 2.)

3d. The State Convention frames the State Platform, nominates the State candidates, and decides where the State Executive Committee shall be located. All state and local platforms must be based upon the National Platform and shall not conflict with the principles therein declared.

LOCAL CONVENTIONS.

1st. The local conventions assemble at a proper time before the city or county elections. The manner of constituting the same shall be determined by the sections in the districts concerned.

2d. All matters of local importance will be acted upon by the local conventions.

III. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1st. The National Executive Committee consists of seven members, including the Corresponding and Financial Secretaries, with the exception of which, all will be elected by the Sections in the locality chosen by the National Convention. It shall elect from its members a Recording Secretary and a Treasurer.

2d. Vacancies in the Executive Committee will be filled with members elected by the local Sections as above stated.

3d. The National Executive has for its duty:

a. To carry out the resolutions of the National Convention, and enforce their observance by all officers and members of the Party.

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- b. To organize and centralize the movement.
- c. To conduct and manage the agitation in those States or Territories where no State or Territorial organization exists.
- d. To represent the Party internally and publicly.
- e. To establish proper relations and communication with the Socialist Parties of other countries.
- f. To make all necessary preparations for the National Convention and make a full report to the same on all Party matters.
- g. To issue semi-annually a report to the Party, stating definitely the condition of every Section and of the Party's finances. This report shall be revised by a committee of three, appointed by the local Section.

4th. The National Executive Committee has the right:

a. In cases of urgent necessity to make suitable propositions which shall become binding if endorsed by a general vote of the Party within two months after issue of the call.

b. To representation in the National Convention by the Corresponding Secretary, who shall have no vote, but a mere advisory voice in the proceedings, and shall bear no other credentials.

c. The *Corresponding Secretary* shall issue all correspondence ordered by the National Executive Committee, preserve copy of the same, file all communications received, and keep a record of the same. He shall receive a proper salary.

d. The *Financial Secretary* shall preserve all lists of membership and keep an accurate account of all monies received. He shall promptly deliver to the Treasurer all funds received by him and take his receipt therefor. Upon request of any Section he shall furnish an accurate statement of its financial condition. He shall also receive a proper salary.

e. The *Treasurer* shall receive all funds from the Financial Secretary, pay all orders of the National Executive Committee when signed by the Corr. Secretary and another member thereof. He shall present, at every meeting of the Nat. Ex. Com. a true statement showing the condition of the Party Treasury, and publish a financial report to the Party every three months. He shall keep an accurate account of all moneys paid out and give bonds in the amount fixed by the National Executive Committee.

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.

1st. The State Executive Committees shall be elected and orga-

nized in the same manner as the National Executive Committee.

2d. The duties and powers of the State Executive Committees shall be substantially the same in the State organizations as those of the National Executive Committee in the National Party.

3d. Each State Executive Committee shall transmit the proportional dues of its Sections to the National Executive Committee each month.

4th. They shall send to the National Executive Committee, every three months a full report showing the condition of their Sections.

BOARD OF SUPERVISION.

1st. The Board of Supervision shall be composed of seven members.

2d. The duties of this Board shall be:

a. To watch over the actions of the National Executive Committee and of the whole Party.

b. To settle all difficulties in the Party within four weeks after receiving the necessary evidence—the decisions to be at once communicated to the National Executive Committee.

c. The Board of Supervision can when necessary suspend any Boards, Executive Committees, Party officers, Sections or members. Such suspension to be, if called for, laid before the Party for a general vote, the result of which shall be made known within four weeks after close of the vote.

d. The Board of Supervision may send its Corresponding Secretary as a delegate to the National Convention, under the same conditions as the delegate of the National Executive Committee. (See II, 4, *b.*)

IV. SECTIONS.

1st. *a.* Ten persons may form a Section providing they acknowledge the Platform and Constitution and resolutions of the National and State Conventions and belong to no other political party.

b. They shall demand admission to the Party by sending a list of members to the National Executive Committee, and both list of membership and dues for the current month to the State Executive Committee.

c. Each Section shall send each month a report of its numerical and financial condition, also its progress and prospects, to the National and also its State Executive Committee. It shall establish

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proper connections with the Trades Unions, and endeavour to organize new ones upon a socialistic basis.

2d. Only one main Section shall be established in each city or town. When necessary however additional Sections may be formed for those unable to take part in business meetings conducted in the English language, but in matters of local importance, especially in political campaigns, all the Sections shall act as one.

3d. The Section shall be the judge of its own members and responsible for their actions.

4th. Five Sections of different localities may propose the calling of a Special State Convention. Ten Sections are necessary to form a State Organization.

5th. All ward and district organizations, including all branches in suburbs shall belong to the main Section.

6th. No ward or district organization shall conduct business of an important local character, independently of the main Section.

7th. Should a protest be entered against the admission to a ward or district organization or to a Section, of any person making application, a two thirds vote of all present in the regular business meeting will be necessary to admit him.

8th. A majority vote in the business meeting shall be sufficient to expel any member.

9th. Each Section shall hold an agitation meeting at least once every two weeks, and a regular business meeting at least once a month.

10th. Three fourths of the members of a Section must be wages workers.

11th. Sections in States having State organization shall draw their cards and constitutions from the Secretary of the State Executive Committee upon payment of the fixed price of the same. Those in States not yet organized shall receive them under the same conditions from the Secretary of the National Executive Committee.

12th. The names of all persons applying for admission to the Party must be voted upon in a regular business meeting of the main local Section.

DUES.

1st. Where State organization exists, the Sections will pay 5 cents per month for each member to the State Executive Commit-

tee, from which funds the State Executive Committee will pay to the National Executive Committee the sum of 3 cents per month.

2d. In case of need the National Executive Committee may with concurrence of the Board of Supervision, call for the collection of voluntary contributions to the National fund.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1st. Amendments to, or alterations of this Constitution must be decreed by the National Convention. Such action of the Convention must however be submitted to the Party for ratification by a general vote, the result of which must be communicated to the National Executive Committee within four weeks from close of the vote. When necessary however, a general election may be called by the National Executive Committee, and any proposition in the interest of the Party voted upon.

2d. No person shall be eligible as a candidate of this Party, for any public office who has not been at least one year a member in good standing.

3d. All officers and committees shall be elected by a majority vote.

4th. No member shall hold more than one office at the same time.

5th. All officers, boards or committees in the Party shall be subject to dismissal or expulsion by a general vote of their constituents, which vote shall take place within six weeks from date of the call, which must be made by at least one third of the constituents.

6th. Expulsion from a Section shall be extended to expulsion from the whole Party when approved by the National Executive Committee and the Board of Supervision.

7th. All members in acknowledging the Platform and Constitution take upon themselves the obligation to assist each other to the extent of their ability in case of need.

SECTION REGULATIONS.

1st. Each Section elects from its midst an Organizer, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Auditing Committee of two.

2d. All Section officers will be elected for the term of six months.

3d. The Organizer conducts the local agitation. Where no State organization exists, the Organizers of the various localities shall

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establish proper connections for united action.

4th. The Secretary shall carry on the correspondence of the Section and keep the records of the business meetings.

5th. The Financial Secretary shall keep a correct list of the members, issue all cards of membership, collect the dues and deliver them to the Treasurer, and keep a systematic account of his financial transactions.

6th. The Treasurer receives and records all monies, pays all orders, and keeps a proper system of accounts.

7th. The Auditing Committee shall overlook all financial business of the Section, and audit all bills.

8th. Every officer of the Section shall present a written report at each monthly business meeting.

9th. At every meeting a new chairman shall be elected who shall observe the rules of order hereto attached. (See Page —)¹

10th. Every member shall pay as monthly dues at least ten (10) cents per month, of which sum five cents shall be sent to the State Executive Committee, and where none such exists, to the National Executive Committee.

11th. Members who have withheld payment of their dues for more than three months shall be suspended from all rights until restored to good standing.

12th. Sick or unemployed members will be excused from payment of dues.

13th. The result of every election within the Section must be communicated at once to the State and National Executive Committee{s}.

PRESS REGULATIONS.

1st. The Party will maintain only one official Party organ in each language.

2d. The Party organs shall represent the interests of the working people and spread among them a knowledge of Social Economy.

3d. The official Organs of the Party are: *Arbeiter-Stimme* (German) of New York; *Delnicke Listy* (Bohemian) of New York, ———— (English) to be established in Cincinnati, O.²

4th. The editorial management of the Party organs will be cho-

¹ [See page 34, below.]

² [Presumably the *National Socialist*, launched at Cincinnati on May 4, 1878, and discontinued after 20 weekly issues on September 14, 1878.]

sen by the National Convention and in cases of vacancy by the National Executive Committee and Board of Supervision. When necessary, assistant editors will be appointed to either paper by the National Executive Committee with the consent of the chief editor.

5th. The chief editors are responsible for the contents of the papers, and shall be guided in matters of principle by the Platform and Resolutions of the National Convention—in formal matters by the instructions of the National Executive Committee.

6th. Whenever correspondence from a Party member is refused publication, the editor shall notify him thereof, either by letter or in the paper, when if the member desires, he may appeal to the National Executive Committee.

7th. The Party editors will observe strict neutrality in all difficulties occurring within the Party, until the National Executive Committee, the Board of Supervision or the National Convention has decided in the case.

8th. The salary of any chief editor shall not exceed \$20 per week.

9th. For each Party organ a Council of Administration, consisting of five persons, will be chosen from among the members of the section in the locality where the paper is published, which body, in connection with the National Executive Committee, shall appoint the Business Manager, fix the amount of his bond, and when necessary remove him.

10th. The Council of Administration establishes rules for the business management, controls the same, investigates all complaints and adjusts all difficulties concerning the minor affairs of the paper.

11th. The Council of Administration shall issue every three months a correct report showing the financial standing of the paper, and distribute copies of the same among all Sections and managing boards of the Party.

12th. The business affairs of the paper will be conducted by the Business Manager, whose duty it shall be to properly address and punctually mail the papers to subscribers and agents. He shall collect and receive all monies for the paper. He shall keep an accurate and comprehensive set of books, that an examination may easily be made whenever desired, by the Council of Administration. He shall keep perfect order in all departments of the business management. His salary and the amount of his bond, will be fixed by the National Convention or the National Executive Committee.

13th. All monies received by him will be acknowledged through

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the columns of the Party organ in a weekly list.

14th. All sums received by him in excess of one-half his bond, will be immediately forwarded to the National Executive Committee.

15th. Each section shall be responsible for the financial liabilities of newspaper agents appointed by it.

16th. Each Agent shall settle his accounts monthly. The Business Manager will give credit for no more than five numbers.

17th. These Press Regulations can only be altered by the National Convention or a general Party vote.

RESOLUTIONS

adopted at the Congress of the Socialistic Labor Party held at Newark, N.J., December 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 1877.

1st. The emancipation of Labor is a Social problem, a problem concerning the whole human race and embracing both sexes. The emancipation of women will be accomplished with the emancipation of *men*, and the so-called women's rights question will be solved with the Labor question.

All evils and wrongs of the present Society can be abolished only when economical freedom is gained for men as well as for women. It is the duty therefore of the wives and daughters of the workingmen to organize themselves and take their places within the ranks of struggling Labor. To aid and support them in this work is the duty of *men*. By uniting their efforts they will succeed in breaking the economical fetters, and a new and free race of men and women will rise recognizing each other as peers.

We acknowledge the perfect equality of rights of both sexes and in the Socialistic Labor Party this equality of rights is a principle and is strictly observed.

2d. All laws threatening with imprisonment and fine those unemployed workingmen whom necessity compels to wander as "tramps" in search of work, are unconstitutional and inhuman—as poverty is thereby made a crime—and as this injustice is committed in the interest of the capitalistic class—we demand the immediate repeal of these disgraceful laws.

3d. The importation of Coolies under contract must be immediately prohibited, and the Coolies already in America released from all similar obligations.

4th. The National Executive Committee shall aid and when possible undertake the publication and distribution of Socialistic circulars and pamphlets.

5th. Every member is expected to subscribe for at least one of the Party organs.

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

NATIONAL CONGRESS

—OF THE—

WORKINGMEN'S PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Held at Pythian Temple Hall, Newark, N.J., Dec. 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, 1877. At 10 o'clock A.M., Dec. 26th, the Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Committee, Philip Van Patten, called the meeting to order and read the list of sections entitled, according to the books of the Executive Committee, to representation in the Congress.

Comrade G. Luebker, of Cincinnati, was elected Chairman, *pro tem*. After a short address appropriate to the occasion, the chairman took his seat. Comrades C.E. Collenburg and W. Reinhard were chosen Secretaries, *pro tem*.

A Committee on Credentials was then chosen. It consisted of seven delegates, namely: Gabriel, McGuire, Burger, Winter, Trautwein, Kaufman and Parsons. The Congress then adjourned until 1½ o'clock P.M. to give the Committee on Credentials time to complete its work.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1½ o'clock P.M. the Chairman called the meeting to order. The Committee on Credentials reported that the credentials of the following delegates were contested by the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

ALLEGHANY {ALLEGHENY} CITY, BOHEMIAN.—As this Section asked representation through the delegate of the German speaking section of that city, and as no delegate can under any circumstances have more than one vote, the credentials were rejected.

BROOKLYN, GERMAN.—*Resolved*, That the sum of \$10.00 paid by that section two weeks since, be credited to account of extra tax of that section, instead of for Congress reports as originally sent, and upon their promise to have the account promptly settled, the delegates from Brooklyn Section were admitted.

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CINCINNATI, GERMAN.—The credentials were accepted upon condition of the immediate payment of \$13.25 back taxes, which condition was complied with.

NEWARK, BOHEMIAN.—This Section had been over four months in the Party, but was delinquent; since, however, the Secretary of the Section produced a money order for dues which he had neglected to send, but which had been really paid by the Section. The credentials were accepted.

PATERSON, GERMAN.—The delegate was admitted upon payment of the amount of dues for which the section was delinquent.

NEW YORK, ENGLISH.—Credentials for two delegates were presented; Leander Thompson, one of the delegates, read the list of members of this New York Section, showing that over one hundred members were enrolled. The books of the Executive Committee showed that dues had not been paid for over forty members. Thompson admitted that the balance were new members who had not been the necessary two months in the party, but he offered to pay dues for them. It was resolved to accept only the credentials of L. Thompson as he had received the highest number of votes in his Section.

The Congress constituted itself with the following delegates:

G. Reinhold, representing Albany, N.Y.

W.C. Pollner,	do	Allegheny City, Penn.
A. Gabriel,	do	Baltimore, Md.
W. Wagner,	do	Boston, Mass.
G. Winter,	do	Brooklyn, N.Y.
W. Reinhard,	do	"
Val Burger,	do	Buffalo, N.Y.
J.C. Pfeiffer,	do	Chicago, Ill.
A.R. Parsons,	do	" "
J. Jones,	do	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
F. Bartosek,	do	" "
G. Luebker,	do	Cincinnati, Ohio.
P.C. Christiansen,	do	Cleveland, Ohio.
Nic. Schmidt,	do	Jersey City Hs., N.J.
E. Dumuid,	do	" "
A. Kaeding,	do	Lawrence, Mass.
J. Holler,	do	Manchester, N.H.
C. Vogel,	do	Newark, N.J.
F. Meiselbach,	do	" "
Caleb Tilley,	do	" "

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F. Schultz,	do	“ “
P.J. McGuire	do	New Haven, Conn.
Leander Thompson,	do	New York City.
F. Filley,	do	“
C. Collenburg,	do	“
J. Schaefer,	do	“
B. Kaufman,	do	“
A. Frey,	do	“
F. Coufal,	do	“
S. Hoffman,	do	Paterson, N.J.
H. Eisman,	do	Philadelphia, Pa.
B. Trautwein,	do	“
E. Doeppel,	do	(Women's Section), Philadelphia,
Pa.		
J. Schwab, representing,		San Francisco, Cal.
A. Currin,	do	St. Louis, Mo.
H.G. Rowley,	do	Utica, N.Y.
J. Kellet,	do	The National Board of Supervi-
sion.		

Philip Van Patten, do The National Executive Committee.

The Congress then organized itself with the following officers:

Chairman, C. Collenburg; Vice Chairman, P.J. McGuire; Secretary in German language, W. Reinhard; Secretary in English language, Ph. Van Patten.

It was resolved that a new Chairman and Vice Chairman should be elected each day, but that the Secretaries serve throughout the entire Congress. The Hall Committee was requested to appoint doorkeepers.

Resolved, All matters concerning the internal affairs of the party shall be acted upon in Executive Session with closed doors, and all deliberations upon matters of principle, organization, etc., shall be conducted publicly.

The Congress then passed into Executive Session.

The following correspondences were read. The Section of Newport, Ky., expressed sympathy, and hope that the present name of the party would be preserved. A workingmen's organization in Eminence, Henry Co., Ky., asked that a financial plank be inserted {inserted} in the platform. A communication from Conzett, editor of the *Vorbote*, was referred to the Committee on Press.

Telegram from the *Ohio Staats Zeitung*, advised the Congress to

adopt the entire "Greenback Platform," as the only means to save society. [Considerable merriment.]

Section of Detroit requests that the Congress should recognize the *Detroit Socialist* as the official party organ in the English language. Referred to Committee on Press.

Resolved, To place the correspondence on file.

An invitation of the Socialistic Women's Society in Newark, to a festival in honor of the delegates, was accepted with thanks.

Resolved, To adopt the Order of Business suggested by the Executive Committee.

Resolved, No delegate shall speak more than three minutes at a time, nor more than twice upon the same subject, except with the permission of the House.

The following is a summary of the various points in the report of the Executive Committee:

The difficulties attending the work of uniting the elements previously discordant and at strife with one another, were explained. When these had become fairly organized, the party press fell into difficulty. The *Labor Standard* was on the point of suspension in the early part of September, 1876, and continued in the same uncertain condition in spite of many large cash remittances, until May of the succeeding year, when the editor and a faction which he had built up, stopped the paper as a party organ, and reissued it as a paper of their own. They having been assisted in this transaction by the Board of Supervision, the Executive Committee appealed to the Party, and demanded the removal of the Board of Supervision by general vote of the party. This was done by a majority of over three-fourths of the votes cast, and a new Board of Supervision was elected in Newark, New Jersey. In regard to political action, the Constitution was very imperfect, since no provisions were made for the management of campaigns, and the Resolutions of the Unity Congress were discouraging to all political efforts on the part of the laboring people. Therefore much strife had occurred within the party, sections were lost and others continually dissatisfied. The Executive Committee finally decided to permit all political efforts of the sections, which seemed to have good prospects and honorable management, but insisted that all political efforts should be directed toward improvement of the economical condition of the laboring people. The agitation for a National Bureau of Labor See

tions* had resulted in good effects upon the membership and the trades unions. The agitation trips of comrades McGuire, Savary, Parsons, Thorsmark and others, were successful in organizing many new sections and instructing the membership in general. The *Vorbote*, which was one of the German party organs, was still subject to purchase by the party. A large debt was owing to the editor. The *Arbeiter Stimme*, the party organ in the German language had been scarcely supporting itself since the Unity Congress, and was now seriously in debt. The Executive Committee had proposed the junction of this paper with the *Vorbote* by which arrangement a profit instead of a deficit would result. The proposition was, however, rejected. In the Fall of '77, the editor of *Arbeiter Stimme* gave notice of his intention to leave the city. Temporary arrangements were made whereby the paper should still be issued until another editor could be provided. After some trouble, Comrade A. Jonas consented to assume the editorial management which he had since conducted in an able and satisfactory manner. The events of July and August were productive of much valuable agitation, and the Party had since gained ground very rapidly. The new membership had everywhere taken active part in the political campaigns of last Fall, often with much success, but sometimes only to their ruin. The Constitution was found inadequate to the necessities {necessities} of the hour, and the Executive Committee now hoped that its defects would be corrected. It was further stated that while the Executive Committee was made the centre of authority and obliged to guide the organization, it had no, power to enforce the constitution. In regard to foreign relations, thore {there} was little to report. Instead of delegates, the Executive Committee had sent an address to the International Congress at Ghent, Belgium, explaining the condition of the Party in America, and reviewing the history of the Labor Movement since 1860. The last Congress having recommended that the Executive Committee should issue pamphlets explaining the Labor Movement, an able brochure from the pen of Dr. Douai, entitled *Better Times*, had been published, and was now being circulated. Since the Union Congress of 1876, the following Socialistic newspapers had been started in the interest of our Party:

Workingmen's Ballot, (Weekly) Boston, Mass.

The Social Democrat, (Daily) Milwaukee, Wis.

Emancipator, (Weekly) Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

*STATISTICS [Rubber stamped annotation inserted.]

Star, (Daily) St. Louis.

The Socialist, (Weekly) Detroit.

The Echo, (Weekly) Boston, Mass.

The Times, (Weekly) Indianapolis.

The Labor Standard, (Weekly) New York.

Also the following newspapers in the German language:

Arbeiter Stimme—"Voice of Labor{"—(Weekly) New York City.

Arbeiter von Ohio—"Ohio Workingman"—(Weekly) Cincinnati.

Vorwärts—"Forward"—(Weekly) Milwaukee.

Chicago Socialist, (Daily) Chicago {Chicago}, Ill.

Chicago-Volks Zeitung, (Daily) Chicago, Ill.

Die Neue Zeit—"The New Era"—(Weekly) Chicago, Ill.

Arbeiter Zeitung—"Labor Journal"—(Tri-weekly) Chicago, Ill.

Volks Stimme des Westens—"Voice of the Western People"—(Daily) St. Louis.

Die Neue Zeit—"The New Era"—(Daily) Louisville, Ky.

Philadelphia Tageblatt, (Daily) Philadelphia, Pa.

Vorwaerts, (Daily) Newark, N.J.

Ohio Volkszeitung, (Daily) Cincinnati, O.

Freiheitsbanner, (Weekly) Cincinnati, O.

The following papers were in existence previous to the Unity Congress, and are still published in the interest of the movement.

Vorbote—"The Warning"—(Weekly), Chicago.

Milwaukee Socialist; (Daily) Milwaukee, Wis.

Delnicke Listy—"Voice of Labor"—(Weekly), Bohemian, Cleveland.

Social Democrat, now "*Arbeiter Stimme*," (Weekly) New York.

The Socialist, now "*The Labor Standard*," (Weekly) New York.

The Executive Committee suggested improvements in minor details of organization, more especially that instead of a Corresponding Secretary acting as a member of the Executive Committee he should merely be a clerk, who could be hired or discharged at will.

Resolved, To accept the report of the Executive Committee and refer it to the committee to be elected for examination.

The same with the report of the Board of Supervision. Its essential points are as follows:

"The Board of Supervision wrote to the *Labor Standard* Publishing Association for the purpose of reclaiming the *Labor Standard* for the Party. We did not, however, receive any answer. Therefore, the Board of Supervision proposes the founding of a new official party organ for the purpose of disseminating our principles among

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the English speaking workers. There should also be a more lively agitation kept up by sending out traveling orators. In regard to political campaigns the Board of Supervision would recommend a strict adherence to our principles, and to reject all compromises with other political parties. The suspension of McCready by the Boston Section, on account of using fraudulent election ballots, was sustained by the Board of Supervision. We further recommend the organization of trade-unions on socialistic principles and unity with them in forming a solid phalanx against all our enemies.”

Resolved, To proceed to the election of the necessary committees.

Resolved, The Committee on Platform shall consist of nine members; all others only five.

The committees elected were:

Committee on Report of the Executive Committee.—Bartosek, Schaefer, Frey, Christiansen, Rowley.

Committee on Report of Board of Supervision.—The same delegates.

Committee on Platform.—Currin, Eisman, Kaufman, Gabriel, Wagner, Parsons, Dumuid, Coufal and Schwab.

Committee on Organization.—Luebker, Schmidt, McGuire, Filley and Trautwein.

Committee on Party Press.—Winter, Burger, Holler, Doeppel and Pfeiffer.

Committee on Complaints and Grievances.—Pollner, Reinhold, Collenburg, Kaeding and Filley.

Committee on Finance.—Meiselbach, Jonas {Jones},¹ Vogel, Hoffmann² and Reinhard.

Resolved, The committees shall commence their work at 8 o'clock. A.M., Dec. 27th. The Committees on Platform and Organization to meet in Turner Hall, and the other committees in Pythias Hall.

Resolved, The next Session shall be held with closed doors.

Adjourned until Thursday, 2¹/₂ P.M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, DEC. 27th.

At 2¹/₂ P.M. the Secretary called the meeting to order, C. Collen-

¹ [Undoubtedly J. Jones, delegate from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and not Alexander Jonas of New York, who was not a delegate. This mistake is repeated several times in the proceedings. See list of delegates, above.]

² [Spelling differs from list of delegates, above.]

burg was elected Chairman, A. Frey Vice Chairman.

The records of the previous meeting were read and after the necessary corrections, accepted.

The reading of the Roll Call showed the absence of L. Thompson and J. Jonas {Jones}.

A communication from L. Thompson announcing his withdrawal was read and laid on the table.

An invitation from the N.Y. GERMAN SPEAKING SECTION to a festival and ball to be held Dec. 29th in that city was read and thankfully accepted.

Telegram from Louisville, Ky. expressed hope for Unity.

Telegram from Philadelphia urging the Congress to stand by the principles of Socialism. Both received with applause.

Madox requested a copy of the protest read in the meeting Dec. 26th and signed by members of the ENGLISH SPEAKING SECTION of N.Y. The request was refused by formal Resolution.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee on the report of the Executive Committee reported. After the reading of it by J. Schaefer, the Secretary of the Executive Committee objected to several points of the report.

Resolved.—That the Executive Committee be and is hereby censured for the manner in which G. Winter was removed from the Editorial Chair of the *Arbeiter Stimme*.

The claim of Conzett, editor of the *Vorbote* was contested but the entire matter was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Resolved, to accept the report of the Committee on Executive Committee's Report as corrected.

The Committee on Complaints and Grievances asked in the matter of C. Savary, that two other delegates be elected to their committee in place of Kaeding and Tilley as these were personally acquainted with Savary. Rowley and Schmidt were elected to fill their places.

Resolved, To adjourn until Friday, Dec. 28th at 8 A.M.

FRIDAY, DEC. 28th.

The meeting was called to order at 8 A.M. The Roll Call showed the absence of J. Schwab, W. Wagner, H. Eismann,¹ E. Doeppel,

¹ [Spelling differs from list of delegates, above.]

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A.R. Parsons, G. Luebker, A. Frey, J. Schaefer, F. R. Coufal, E. Dumuid, A. Currin, J. Jonas {Jones} and Bartosek. C. Collenburg was elected Chairman, P.J. McGuire was elected Vice Chairman.

Records of the previous meeting were read and after the necessary corrections accepted.

Resolved.—To excuse the absence of Committee on Platform as they worked on their report up to 3 o'clock in the morning—They made their appearance shortly after. Telegram from the Weaver's Central Committee in Paterson, New Jersey, expressing sympathy, was received with applause.

A communication was read from a Newark ward organization; owing to the nature of its contents it was referred to the Committee on organization.

The Congress proceeded to the hearing of Committee Reports. Committee on report of the Board of Supervision asked and was granted more time. Reports of the Committees on Platform and Organization were postponed to open session.

Report of the Committee on Party Press. Its essential points were as follows:

The Board of Supervision should enter into negotiation with the *Labor Standard Publ. Assoc.* for the purpose of regaining the LABOR STANDARD for the Party. If not successful, the committee recommends the publication of a new Party Organ in Boston and, if possible to make the necessary arrangements with the "Workingman's Ballot" published in that city.

The committee recommend(ed) recognition of the "*Delnicke Listy*" as the official Party Organ in the Bohemian language.

The "Arbeiter Stimme" in New York should be maintained as the Party Organ in the German language.

The regulations for the official Party Press proposed by the committee to be incorporated into the constitution." The report was debated and placed on file. The delegate of the Board of Supervision stated that he had written to the *Labor Standard Publ. Assoc.* in regard to that paper but had received no answer.

Luebker insisted upon breaking off all negotiations with that association and demanded the establishment of a new Party Organ in the English language. Great applause.

A motion "that so long as no other official organ exists, the Detroit Socialist shall be recognized as such," was tabled till the Committee on Organization shall have reported.

Resolved, To adopt the Bohemian paper "Delnicke Listy" as the

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official Party Organ in that language.

Resolved, The *Arbeiter Stimme* shall be the only official organ in the German language. Adopted unanimously.

Resolved, New York shall be the place of publication. In the negative voted Currilin, Pollner, Trautwein, Kaeding.

Currilin protested against cutting off debate before all the members had a chance to speak. Adjourned until 1½ P.M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, DEC. 28.

The meeting was called to order at 1½ P.M. Roll Call. Absent Kellet, Kaeding, Dumuid and Bartosek.

Resolved, All correspondences shall be deferred until the following morning, when they shall be read and acted upon.

A communication from C. Savary was laid on the table until the Committee on Complaints and Grievances should have reported.

Resolved, The open sessions of this Congress shall commence on Saturday morning, Dec. 29th, at 8 A.M.

The Committee on report of the Board of Supervision submitted their work.

Resolved, To expel J.C. McCready of Cambridge, Mass., from the Party. The GERMAN SPEAKING SECTION of Milwaukee shall on account of non-payment of dues for over four months, be considered as having expired—this resolution was ordered to be published in the Party Organs.

Committee Report on the report of Board of Supervision was after some corrections adopted.

A delegate from the Soc. Dem. Printing Assoc. of N.Y. with bills and accounts notified the Congress of his presence and the Committee on Finance was instructed to retire and confer with him.

The Committee on Complaints and Grievances reported upon the case of C. Savary.

A communication from Savary was read and laid on the table. The Secretary of the Committee then read an article which was published by C. Savary in the "*Freie Zeitung*" of Newark in which he stated, that he identified himself with the Republican Party; whereupon the Congress unanimously sustained the action of the GERMAN SECTION of Newark, and resolved to consider said C. Savary as expelled from the party.

The question was asked: What has become of the charges against J.P. McDonnell?

Secretary Van Patten stated that the then existing English speaking Section of New York, had been declared defunct for non-payment of dues, at the time when the charges against McDonnell were handed in.

A. Currin, delegate from St. Louis, stated that his section had instructed him to ask that Congress officially censure C. Conzett for having used the columns of the party organ, *Vorbote*, for personal attacks upon sections and members, thereby injuring the interests of our party.

A. Currin withdrew his motion as the said Conzett was no longer editor of a party organ.

The question was brought up: "What are the relations of our Party to labor or trade-unions on strikes?"

Resolved, To postpone the question until the Committee on Organization had reported.

The manner in which A. Strasser, President of the Cigarmakers Union ignored a dispatch sent him by the Secretary of the Executive Committee, notifying the Cigarmakers International Union that our Executive Committee had called on all Sections of the Workingmen's Party to aid the striking cigarmakers, was debated, and it was

Resolved, To sustain the action of the Executive, and to denounce A. Strasser's action as inexcusable, and as calculated to injure the best interests of working men.

The editor of the *Arbeiter Stimme*, of New York, having notified the Congress that the New York *Staats Zeitung* of Dec. 28th, had stated that no one could recognize the members of this Congress as workingmen by their appearance, it was

Resolved, To publish a list of names and trades of delegates in the party organs.

J.C. Pfeiffer proposed that the Congress should adopt the resolutions passed by the recent International Workingmen's Congress at Ghent. Postponed till the Committee on Platform had reported.

A. Frey proposed the adoption of a resolution compelling every public officer elected by the Socialistic Labor Party, to pay into the treasury of the party all moneys paid him as salary over and above the sum of \$3,000. Consideration postponed.

Winter proposed immediate decision upon the location of the next Executive Committee. The following were proposed as localities from which one should be chosen as the future seat of the Executive Committee.

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Cincinnati, by G. Winter; Philadelphia, by Pfeiffer; Chicago, by A. Gabriel; St. Louis, by Hoffman.

Nominations were closed. Many delegates stated their instructions, although finally, the contest was limited to Cincinnati and Chicago. The vote resulted as follows:

Cincinnati.—Winter, Reinhard, Kaeding, Schwab, Reinhold, Holler, Pollner, McGuire, Christiansen, Wagner, Schulz, Eismann, Trautwein, Doeppel, Rowley, Frey, Collenburg, Schaefer, Coufal, Dumuid, Schmidt, Currlin, Jonas {Jones}.

Chicago.—Burger, Gabriel, Vogel, Meiselbach, Tilley, Filly and Parsons.

Philadelphia.—Pfeiffer.

St. Louis.—Luebker, Hoffmann.

SUMMARY.

Cincinnati, 24 votes; Chicago, 7; Philadelphia, 1; St. Louis 2. Total, 34.

Cincinnati was declared the seat of the Executive Committee for the ensuing term.

The location of the future Board of Supervision was then discussed. The following cities were proposed:

Newark, by Filly; Chicago, by Schwab; St. Louis, by Frey; Brooklyn, by Holler.

After close of the nominations the vote was proceeded with, resulting as follows:

Newark.—Burger, Schwab, McGuire, Rowley, Pfeiffer, Parsons, Filly, Collenburg, Schaefer, Currlin, Kaufman, Schmidt and Hoffmann.

Chicago.—Tilley.

New York.—Gabriel, Vogel, Meiselbach, Coufal, Jonas {Jones}, Reinhold.

St. Louis.—Dumuid, Frey.

Brooklyn.—Winter, Reinhard, Kaeding, Holler, Trautwein, Pollner, Christiansen, Schulz, Eismann, Doeppel, Luebker.

SUMMARY.

Newark, 13 votes; Chicago, 1; St. Louis, 2; Brooklyn, 11; New York, 6.

After withdrawing Chicago, St. Louis and New York from the list, the second vote results in electing Newark with 19 against

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Brooklyn with 14 votes as the future seat of the Board of Supervision. It was then proposed that five cities should be named, of which, one must be chosen by general vote of the party, as the place of convening of the next Congress. The general vote shall be held four months before the Congress.

The following cities were proposed:

Indianapolis, Ind., by Parsons. New York, Schwab; Allegheny City, Pa., Luebker; Lawrence, Mass., Rowley; Detroit, Mich., Doepfel; Cleveland, O., Schaefer.

As six localities were proposed, it was resolved to drop that one, which should receive the smallest number of votes. The vote resulted as follows:

Indianapolis, 22 votes; New York, 8; Detroit, 20; Lawrence, 23; Allegheny {Allegheny} City, 25; Cleveland, 22.

Showing the five chosen cities to be, Indianapolis, Detroit, Lawrence, Allegheny {Allegheny} City, Cleveland.

Currin proposed that the Congress endorse the lottery enterprise conducted in London for the benefit of the suffering French political convicts in New Caledonia. Adopted.

The Secretary of the Executive Committee asked that a resolution be adopted instructing all sections to appoint agents for the sale of "Better Times," and also to properly advertise the same by hand-bills. Adopted.

Adjourned until Saturday, December 29th, 8 A.M.

MORNING SESSION.

The Secretary called the meeting to order at 8¹/₂ A.M.

Collenburg was elected Chairman; Parsons Vice.

Roll call showed the absence of Coufal and Jonas {Jones}.

The minutes of the previous session were with the necessary corrections, adopted.

The Committee on Platform reported and debate was opened on the future name of the Party. The following names were proposed:

Socialistic Party of the United States, by Rowley.

Socialistic Workingmen's Party of the U.S., by Currin.

Workingmen's Party of the U.S., by Schwab,

Social Democratic Workingmen's Party of the U.S., by Filly.

Workingmen's Party, by Tilley

Resolved, To take an informal ballot.

The name of "Socialistic Workingmen's Party of the U.S.," was

supported by Burger, Christiansen, Wagner, Rowley, Reinhold, Pfeiffer, Luebker, Schmidt, Hoffmann and Currin.

Workingmen's Party of the U.S.—Kaeding, Schwab, McGuire, Gabriel, Vogel, Meiselbach, Tilley, Eismann, Trautwein, Doeppel, Parsons, Frey, Dumuid and Bartosek.

Social Democratic Workingmen's Party of the U.S.—Winter, Reinhard, Holler, Pollner, Schulz, Filly, Collenburg, Schaefer, Kaufmann.¹

Workingmen's Party. No vote.

SUMMARY.

Socialistic Workingmen's Party of the U.S., 10 votes; Workingmen's Party of the U.S., 14; Social Democratic Workingmen's Party of the U.S., 9.

Resolved, To vote finally on the two names which received the highest vote. The result was:

Socialistic Labor (or Workingmen's) Party of the U.S.—Burger, Winter, Reinhard, Reinhold, Holler, Pollner, Christiansen, Wagner, Schulz, Rowley, Pfeiffer, Luebker, Filly, Schaefer, Currin, Collenburg, Kaufmann, Hoffmann and Schmidt—19 votes.

Workingmen's Party of the U.S.—Kaeding, Schwab, McGuire, Gabriel, Vogel, Meiselbach, Tilley, Eisman, Trautwein, Doeppel, Parsons, Frey, Dumuid, Bartosek—14 votes.

Resolved, To drop the words "United States" and accept the name,

"SOCIALISTIC LABOR PARTY."

The Report of the Committee on Platform was taken up and debated. On account of a difference of opinion concerning parliamentary rules, the Chairman resigned and P.J. McGuire was elected in his place.

A lively discussion took place on Sec. 5 of the preamble to the platform. Gabriel speaking in favor of organization of trade-unions, insisted upon a more direct expression of the sentiment of the party, as the phrase "sympathy" was a very cheap one. The report was adopted as read, subject to corrections in phraseology, etc., by the Committee of Revision.

Adjourned until 1 o'clock P.M.

¹ [Spelling differs from list of delegates, above.]

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AFTERNOON SESSION, DEC. 29.

Roll call showed the absence of Jonas {Jones} and Confal {Coufal}.

Sec. 5 of the preamble to the platform was reconsidered by the following vote.

Affirmative—Burger, Winter, Reinhard, Kaeding, Schwab, Reinhold, Holler, Pollner, Christiansen, Gabriel, Vogel, Meiselbach, Tilley, Eisman, Trautwein, Doeppel, Rowley, Parsons, Pfeiffer, Schmidt, Hoffmann, Currlin and Bartosek—23.

Negative—McGuire, Wagner, Schulz, Luebker, Frey, Filly, Colenburg, Schaefer, Kaufmann, Dumuid—10.

After a lively debate on various points of the platform and introduction, the same was adopted. [See appendix page.]

The Report of the Committee on Organization was read and debated. The communication from the English Section in Newark, concerning organization for elections; after much debate was deferred until after the report on Committee on Organization should have reported.

Adjourned till 7¹/₂, o'clock {o'clock} P.M.

EVENING SESSION, DEC. 29, 7¹/₂ P.M.

Roll call showed the absence of Schwab, Pollner, Eismann, Doeppel, Frey, Filly, Schaefer, Kaufmann, Confal {Coufal}, Dumuid, Schmidt, Jonas {Jones} and Bartosek, all of whom had left to attend the festival in New York City.

A quorum being present the session was opened. The Secretary of the Committee on Organization read his report, and it was opened for debate. Concerning the duties of the National Convention it was proposed that the National Corresponding and Financial Secretaries should be elected by the National Executive Committee. The motion was amended to the effect that they should be elected by the National Convention. This was adopted by a vote of 14 against 8 votes.

On account of the lateness of the hour it was resolved to adjourn until Dec. 30, 1 P.M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, DEC. 30, 1 P.M.

McGuire was elected as Chairman; Pfeiffer, Vice.

Roll call showed the absence of Winter, Holler, Schwab, Eis-

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mann, Frey, Kaufmann, Confal {Coufal}, Schmidt, Jonas {Jones} and Bartosek.

The minutes of the previous session were adopted as corrected.

Pollner and Currilin were excused from attending the session, as they were engaged in a local mass meeting. Schwab was excused owing to sickness in the family.

It was proposed to reconsider the resolution of previous session providing for the election of the Corresponding and Financial Secretary of the Executive. The motion was lost.

Resolved, This question shall be especially submitted to the Party for a general vote. At 5¹/₂ o'clock, Luebker and Reinhold were excused, as they were obliged to return to their homes.

At 6¹/₂ o'clock adjourned until Dec. 30, 7¹/₂ P.M.

EVENING SESSION.

Roll call showed the absence of Jonas {Jones} and Bartosek. Winter, Hollner¹ and Kaufmann were then excused for being absent in the afternoon, because they had missed the only train running between New York and Newark on that day. After lengthy debate over the Report of Committee of Organization, Winter excused himself, as he had been requested to address an assembly in Brooklyn. Schwab was also excused on account of sickness in the family.

Further discussion over the various points of the Constitution proceeded. Nearly every delegate present speaking upon different questions brought up. The report of the Committee on Organization was then adopted as corrected.

Resolved, That the committee which shall have to arrange and publish the records of the Congress, shall attach to the Constitution a set of parliamentary rules to be used in all meetings and conventions of the party. The regulations for the Party Press were read and debated.

Adjourned {Adjourned} at 10 P.M. till Monday, Dec. 31, 8 A.M.

MORNING SESSION.

The Secretary called the meeting to order. Collenburg was elected as Chairman; Meiselbach, Vice.

¹ [No such delegate. Either Holler of Manchester, N.H., or Pollner of Allegheny City, Pa.]

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Roll call showed the absence of Rowley, Coufal, Jonas {Jones} and Bartosek.

The minutes of the previous session were read, and with the necessary corrections, adopted. Two communications were read and laid on the table. Debate on regulations of Party Press was opened, and it was resolved to designate the place of publication of the new English Party Organ.

The cities proposed were:

Cincinnati, by Winter; New York, by Schwab; Chicago, by Parsons; Detroit, by Schaefer; Boston, by Wagner.

After discussion upon the merits of the different cities, as places of publication for such a paper, they were voted upon with the following result:

Cincinnati, 10 votes; Detroit, 9; New York, 4; Chicago, 3; Boston, 2 votes.

Resolved, To have a formal ballot on the two cities having the highest number of votes. The following result was obtained:

Cincinnati, 16 votes; Detroit, 13 votes.

Therefore the new English party organ will be published at Cincinnati.

Resolved, That the title of the paper, when adopted, shall be copyrighted.

Resolved, The afternoon session shall be held with closed doors.

Adjourned until 1¹/₂ o'clock P.M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, DEC. 31, 1¹/₂ P.M.

Roll call showed the absence of Jonas {Jones}, Bartosek, Rowley, Luebker, Reinhard. The last three had returned home.

Committee on Finance reported inability to make a correct statement of the condition of the Party's finances, as the necessary papers were in the detained trunk. The report of the Finance Committee was placed on file. New business was then taken up. Parsons asked information of McGuire regarding his connection with the late greenback political movement in New Haven, and a definite statement as to whether certain articles in the New Haven papers were true reports. McGuire declared that they were false, and stated that he was ready to defend himself when a formal charge should be made. Trautwein reported that the Philadelphia German Section had repeatedly sent money for the support of the *Labor Standard* while it was still a party organ, and claiming part

of this to have been a loan, asked that it should be credited to that section. As Trautwein could not prove the acknowledgement of said payments as *loans*, the matter was laid on the table.

The delegate of the Social Dem. Print. Association was invited to make a statement of the indebtedness of the Party to said Association. He spoke of the difficulties under which the Association had labored, and how many sacrifices they had made to keep up the N.Y. Party Organs. He complained that the party had not fulfilled its obligations, and was still over \$600.00 indebted to the Association. He asked that at least the *Labor Standard* debt of \$297.60 be paid.

Resolved, The Executive Committee is instructed to pay off the various debts of the Party in proportional sums to each creditor as fast as possible.

Resolved, That the financial books of the Executive Committee be referred for revision to a committee to be elected by the Chicago Sections.

The following resolutions were introduced and adopted:

Resolved, Every party member is expected to subscribe for and assist at least one of the official party organs.

Resolved, The Executive Committee is instructed to assist in distributing tickets for the London lottery now being prepared for the benefit of the French political exiles in New Caledonia.

Resolved, The sections are recommended to send to future conventions of our party, delegates familiar with the English language.

Resolved, The salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the National Executive Committee, shall be not less than \$12 per week. The salary of the Financial Secretary of the Nat. Ex. Com., shall not be more, than \$6 per week. The following members were nominated for the office of National Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Committee

Luebker, by Winter; Van Patten, by Schwab; Parsons, by Wagner.

After Parsons withdrew his name the ballot had the following result:

Van Patten, 25 votes; Luebker, 3 votes,

The election of a National Financial Secretary of the Executive Committee was for the next term referred to the Cincinnati Sections.

Resolved, To elect an editor for the new {new} English Party Or-

gan. Dr. Douai declined on account of not liking to leave his present residence.

Messrs. J. McIntosh and J.F. Bray were nominated. A vote of 23 for McIntosh and 5 for J. Bray decided the question.

A Committee of five was elected and instructed to review the records of the Congress. Those serving on this committee to receive a salary of \$2 per day. Reinhard, Van Patten, Kaufmann, Meiselbach and Holler were elected Committee on Revision.

Resolved, 1000 copies of the Platform, Constitution and Resolutions shall be printed in the French language.

Resolved, The Congress Reports shall be sold at 10 cents per copy.

Resolved, The corrected records of Congress shall be sealed up and sent to the new Board of Supervision when elected.

Resolved, Secretary Reinhard shall be paid the sum of \$5 for his work during Congress.

Resolved; There shall be printed in pamphlet form 5000 copies of Congress Reports in the English language. 5000 copies of Congress Reports in the German language. A delegate of the Bohemian Section of New York, stated that the Bohemian sections would attend to the printing of the Congress Reports in their language.

Resolved, The Committee is instructed to push with all possible energy the publication and circulation of Socialistic pamphlets, circulars, books, etc.

Resolved, The thanks of this body are hereby tendered the publishers of the *Vorwaerts*, of Newark, to the Newark Sections and to the Committee of Arrangements, for their valuable assistance and courtesy throughout the Congress. After passing the resolutions, the work of Congress was done.

Comrade Parsons, of Chicago, made a short and stirring address full of hope for the future, and gratification at the successful and harmonious completion of the arduous labors of the Congress.

Comrade Gabriel, of Newark, closed the proceedings with a similar expression of sympathy and confidence, thanking the Congress in the name of the working people and the Newark Sections, for the sincere desire for their emancipation and elevation, shown by the delegates there assembled under such adverse circumstances. With intense emotion and enthusiasm the Congress was adjourned, all present singing the passionate, throbbing notes of the Workingmen's Marseillaise Hymn, the grand music of the new Revolution.

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The above is hereby declared a correct record.

JOSEPH HOLLER,
W. REINHARD,
PHILIP VAN PATTEN,
FRED. MEISELBACH.

BY-LAWS AND RULES OF ORDER

BUSINESS MEETINGS OF SECTIONS.

The regular monthly business meeting shall be opened by the Organizer, or in his absence, the Recording Secretary. The following order of business shall then be proceeded with:

1. Election of a Chairman.
2. Appointment by the Chair of doorkeepers or sergeants-at-arms when necessary.
3. Payment of dues and applications for membership.
4. Reading of minutes of previous monthly business meeting.
5. Reports of Committees.
6. Reports of officers (in writing).
7. Communications and bills,
8. Unfinished business of last monthly meeting.
9. New business.
10. Instructions to the Secretary regarding his monthly report to the National or State Executive Committee.
11. Announcements of future meetings.
12. Adjournment.

NOMINATING CONVENTIONS.

Every convention shall be called to order by the Secretary of the National, the State or the local Executive Committee, according to the nature of such convention. He shall read the list of accredited delegates, who alone shall be allowed to elect the temporary chairman and Committee on Credentials. The following order of business will then be carried out.

1. Election of temporary chairman and secretaries.
2. Election of a Committee on Credentials.
3. Adjournment or recess until the Committee on Credentials is ready to report. The temporary chairman will then re-open the meeting, and the report of the Committee on Credentials will be read and acted upon. The house will then proceed to constitute itself by the appointment of a chairman for the day and permanent secretaries, which latter shall serve throughout the convention.

The following order of business will then be observed:

1. Communications.

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2. Report of the Executive Committee, (and in a National Convention that of the Board of Supervision).

3. Election of the following committees:

First, Committee on Complaints and Grievances. Second, Committee on report of Executive Committee. Third, Committee on Press. Fourth, Committee on Platform. Fifth, Committee on Organization. Sixth, Committee on Finance. Seventh, Committee on Resolutions.

Further committees may be appointed at the discretion of the House.

4. The reports of the above committees will be taken up and acted upon in such order as the House may decide.

5. The National, State or Local, (according to the nature of the Convention,) Party officers for the ensuing term will be elected.

6. Nomination of candidates.

7. Special resolutions should circumstances require.

8. Adjournment.

WARD OR DISTRICT CLUBS.

1. When necessary for the better management of a political campaign, the members of the section and branch sections will form ward and district clubs.

2. Every member of the section must join the club of his ward or district, and should none such exist, he shall endeavor to form one.

3. A club may admit as transient members persons who have no card of membership and pay no dues to the section; but only members in good standing will be allowed to participate in the business of the section or act as delegates in any convention of the party.

4. All members in good standing, living in the same city or town, shall act together as one main section, irrespective of language, in all matters of general and local importance, but for practical agitation will separate into clubs or branches for the various languages. The ward clubs may be subdivided in the same way when necessary.

5. Each club will elect club officers, namely: One Recording and Corresponding Secretary; one Financial Secretary and a Chairman, the latter officer, however, to have no definite term of office, but to be subject to removal at any time by a majority vote of all members present in a regular business meeting.

6. The Secretary will transact the usual duties of such an officer.

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7. The Financial Secretary will keep a correct list of the members' names, also their accounts with the section. He shall collect all dues of the section members in the club and pay over the same to the section treasurer at each monthly business meeting of the main section; also furnish the section with the names of those making application to become full members, whose admission shall be subject to the approval of the section.

8. Both Secretaries of ward and district clubs must be members of the section in good standing.

9. Expulsion of a section member from a club, does not signify expulsion from the section or the party.

10. Ward and district clubs are at all times subject to suspension or dissolution (as clubs) by the main section.

11. Each club shall be the sole judge of its transient members.

RULES OF ORDER.

No motion will be entertained unless supported—ordinary motions by one member seconding the same; special motions by the number hereinafter specified.

2. No motion will be entertained unless the person making it rises from his seat and is recognized by the Chairman.

3. Every member while speaking shall adhere to the question under debate, avoid all personality and indecorous language as well as any reflection on the assembly or any member thereof.

4. Any member while speaking, being called to order by another, at the request of the Chair, shall cease speaking, and be seated until the question of order is determined.

5. No member shall speak more than once on the same question until all those asking to speak shall have had an opportunity so to do, nor more than twice without the permission of the house, nor more than five minutes at one time without the same permission.

6. The Chairman shall state every question distinctly before suffering debate thereon, and immediately before putting it to vote shall ask: "are you ready for the question?" Should no member rise to speak, and the house indicate readiness, he shall rise and put the question.

7. When the decision of the Chair is appealed from, he shall state his decision and the reason therefor, from the Chair. The member appealing shall then briefly state the reasons for the appeal; after which, without further debate, the question shall be put

by the Vice Chairman or Secretary thus, "shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?"

8. Any member may call for division of a question when the sense may admit of it.

9. While a member is speaking, others may secure the floor after him by sending their names in writing to the Secretary who will number the applications as received. When the assembly is small in number, recognition may be obtained by quietly raising a finger; this sign to be answered by a nod from the chairman.

10. A call for the previous question or close of the debate, may be made if seconded by two members, and, if adopted, the effect shall be to at once proceed to vote upon the amendments in regular order, (should any have been made,) or in their absence, upon the main question, to exclusion of all debate except by those who may have already secured the floor. [See Art. 9].

11. When a question is before the house, the following motions alone shall interrupt the same and take precedence in the order herein arranged, the first four being decided without debate or amendment, namely:

First, To adjourn, (without naming day or time). Second, To take the previous question or close debate. Third, To lay on the table or postpone indefinitely. Fourth, To reconsider. Fifth, To postpone to a definite time. Sixth, To refer. Seventh, To amend.

12. All votes other than on amendments to the Platform, Constitution, By-Laws or Rules of Order, may be reconsidered at the same or next succeeding regular meeting, upon a motion made and seconded by members who voted in the majority, provided the assembly agree thereto, but after a motion to reconsider has been lost, it shall not be renewed.

13. Every member present shall vote on all questions before the assembly, unless personally interested. Those not voting shall be considered to have voted in the negative. A motion to excuse a member from voting shall be put without debate.

14. When a motion has been declared carried or lost by acclamation, any member, before the house proceeds to other business, may call for a count, but the ayes and noes can not be called unless demanded before the Chairman rises to put the question.

15. All reports of committees shall be in writing, and when read to the assembly shall be considered as accepted without taking a vote, unless objection be made thereto. Committees will be considered discharged upon adoption of their reports, unless otherwise

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ordered.

16. The ayes and noes upon any vote may be called at any time by a member, when a list of names is in the possession of the Secretary.

17. A motion to adjourn may be amended only when no other business is before the house.

18. All rules of proceeding in debate not herein provided for, shall be in accordance with Cushing's Manual.

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