

Social Democrats Hold Convention

Report of Proceedings of the Manitoba Provincial Convention of the Social-Democratic Party.

(By the Secretary.)

The Social-Democratic Party in Manitoba held a very successful convention on Sunday, March 3rd. The convention took place in the Liberty Temple, the headquarters of the party in Winnipeg. The volume of business transacted, as well as the number of locals represented at this gathering, marks a record in the history of the party in this province.

D. Metlin occupied the chair during the whole time the convention was in session, which lasted from 2.30 in the afternoon till 8.30 in the evening. Great unanimity prevailed during the discussions on the various resolutions that were submitted and a remarkable determination was evidenced by every speaker to carry the gospel of Socialism among the masses in spite of the adverse and difficult times for educational work.

One of the most important resolutions adopted by the convention by an unanimous vote had regard to the Zimmerwalde Conference, and read as follows:

"That this convention, regarding the Zimmerwalde Conference as the nucleus of the Third International and as expressing the views of the Social Democratic Party of Canada ask the Dominion executive of the party to take the necessary steps to affiliate this party with the Zimmerwalde Conference."

The New Labor Party.

The attitude of the party to the newly formed Labor party of Canada was defined in the following resolution, which was passed by an overwhelming majority:

"The Manitoba Provincial convention of the Social Democratic Party of Canada in session assembled on the 3rd day of March, 1918, after having given careful consideration to the invitation of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada to affiliate with the Labor Party of Canada, which is now in formation, declares its stand on this question as follows:

"Whereas the Labor Party of Canada cannot at present be considered as a Dominion organization and has not yet declared its principles and constitution, which would enable the Social Democratic Party to form an opinion about the Labor Party;

"Be it resolved that the Social Democratic Party in the Province of Manitoba leaves in abeyance its decision in regard to the above said invitation to affiliate with the Labor Party until such time when the latter will have adopted a platform and constitution.

"Be it further resolved that no member of the Social Democratic Party in Manitoba shall join the Labor Party or accept the nomination of this party for any public office or organize for this party.

"Be it further resolved that the Social Democratic Party in Manitoba does not consider it contrary to its constitution or the spirit of this resolution for its members to lecture under the auspices of the Labor party, provided they speak in harmony with the principles of the Social Democratic Party."

Endorse Bolsheviki.

In regard to the struggle of the Russian revolutionary proletariat with its capitalist class and the capitalist class of other countries, the following resolution was introduced and carried unanimously:

"The Manitoba Provincial Convention of the Social Democratic Party of Canada, in session assembled on the 3rd day of March, 1918, rejoicing over the overthrow of the capitalist class in Russia by the Russian proletariat under the leadership of the revolutionary wing of the Social Democratic Party of Russia—the Bolsheviki—resolves as follows:

"That this convention send greetings to the Peoples' Commissioners of Russia and the Russian revolutionary proletariat.

"And further we declare:

"Whereas the Government of Germany is now waging a relentless war against the Social Democracy of Russia, a war which is unsurpassed in its brutality and which has as its object the crushing of the Russian revolution;

"And whereas the Social Democratic Party of Germany has so far not made the slightest attempt to create a revolt against this dastardly action of the German Government;

"Be it resolved that this convention unreservedly condemns the majority faction of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, and regards them the Judas of the international working class.

"And further we declare:

"That we feel grave apprehensions lest other capitalist nations will lend Germany a helping hand in its action to destroy the Russian revolution."

Another motion of importance which the convention accepted was the following: "That this convention express its willingness to unite with the Socialist Party of Canada on the basis of the Bolsheviki programme."

To Boost "Canadian Forward."

In regard to the "Canadian Forward," the official organ of the party, the provincial executive and the central committee were instructed to undertake energetic action to enlarge the circulation of this paper in Manitoba, and further the locals were recommended to regularly secure bundles of the "Canadian Forward" for distribution.

A motion was made that the provincial executive be instructed to elaborate a course of studies for the members of the party and all efforts be made to induce them to take up such a course. The motion was accepted.

The question of carrying the message of Socialism into the rural districts of the province was then taken up. It was pointed out by the provincial secretary that the finances at the disposal of the executive would not permit the engagement of an organizer at this time, and finally it was decided that the executive carry on propaganda work in rural districts by means of literature.

The convention was informed that the central committee of Winnipeg intended to issue a manifesto on the first of May and the convention decided to recommend to the out of town locals to get in touch with the central committee and secure bun-

Gleanings by the way

SAM. GOMPERS THE GREATEST BUGBEAR OF THE AGE.

So Says B.C. Federationist.

The great man, S. Gompers, Esq., president of the American Federation of Labor, is not altogether unknown in this western land. The distinguished and much self-touted notable is also president of a creation that proclaims itself the "American Alliance for Labor and Democracy." This precious "Alliance" has evidently been set up by the doughty Samuel, for the purpose of adding to his notoriety and ill-fame as the biggest humbug of the age, and the most impudent and unsufferable reactionary that the world has ever known. This "Alliance" expends good money, obtained, no one outside of Sam knows how, for the purpose of furnishing the reactionary and unstable press with a class of matter for its columns, that for low-down falsehood, vilification and vile abuse heaped upon those movements and individuals in human society that stand for anything in line with progress and social and economic decency and advancement, has the rotten and vicious prostitute press outclassed and outdistanced. Through the dissemination of this vile stuff, chiefly the product of the diseased brain and filthy imagination of a small staff of intellectual procurers and literary courtesans, herculean attempts are put forth to befoul every movement and besmirch the character of every person that is capable of rising above the dull and vulgar level of the compost heap of brutal reaction and the moral and ethical level of the intellectual maggots that revel in it and greedily devour its filth.

Vulgar Vilification.

And when the ubiquitous Gompers had the audacity to send to the Russian Congress of Soviets a grandiloquent message of sympathy and loquacious approval and commendation of the objects and aims of the revolution, he certainly pulled off the most notable exhibition of pure and unadulterated impudence ever staged since time began. His "Alliance" literature has reked and still reeks with vilest falsehoods in regard to the Russian revolutionists imaginable. The coarsest and most vulgar vilification and abuse is heaped upon the heads of the Lenines and Trozkys, and for still greater measure there is continually thrown in the most vicious and lying attacks upon the Bergers, the Hillquits, and many others among the well-known and

dles of this manifesto for distribution in their respective localities.

The principal executive was also instructed to do all that is possible to build up a strong Young Socialist movement as well as women's organizations.

After the close of the convention the delegates and a large gathering of local members of the party had an enjoyable evening in the Liberty Temple. The women's local served some refreshments. A good musical programme was provided and was keenly enjoyed by all present.

Favor Dominion Convention.

A motion favoring a party Dominion convention being held was also passed. Locals to take convention stamps proportionate to their numbers.

universally respected—outside of maggot circles—socialists and radicals of this continent. To the everlasting credit of the Russian revolutionists, they completely ignored the impudent message sent them by the impudent and egotistic Samuel G. They replied courteously to the message of President Wilson, the master. They ignored the mimic yap, yap, of the vassal. And also to the everlasting credit of the Labor press of the western continent, let it be said, that few, very few, of the Labor papers have as yet fallen so low as to run any of the scurrilous stuff so impudently provided by Mr. Samuel Gompers' "Alliance," and its staff of shameless denizens of the intellectual and moral redlight district.

The Hon. Geo. H. Roberts (ex-Lab.), interviewed by the Paris Journal, the organ that Bolo made notorious, says: "Every day we ask of them (the trade unions) new sacrifices and every day they consent." Analyze and parse the word "we." He (George from Norwich) has also declared his opinion that Alsace-Lorraine must be handed back to France "without a plebiscite."

The Illustrated Sunday Herald says the ex-Czar "is not allowed to have servants or teachers for the Czarevitch, and their furs have been taken away from them." Will Thorne should be told about this.

More news of the Great Struggle for Liberty. The following facts can be set to music—they can be whistled to the air of "Making the World Safe for Democracy."

You will get all the facts in Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's speech in the House of Commons (Hansard Report 27-2-18).

(1) M. Kameneff, the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Russian Government to Paris, arrives at Aberdeen. He is willing and anxious to give the British Government first hand information of what happened at Brest-Litovsk, where he was one of the Russian representatives facing the Germans.

(2) His passports are all in order. But

(3) His luggage is seized, his personal belongings are seized. His valise with his official documents are seized. His money is pinched. A cheque is taken. His matches are taken from him (lest he set light to his indignation). A Russian Bible is seized.

Kameneff was heavily defeated on the British front by stalwart British police, and having the good sense to know when he was beaten, he is going back to Russia troling songs of his own manufacture about British liberty.

The organ will now play the Dead Marx and there must be no ribald laughter in the penny seats. Look!—Forward, Glasgow.

TO PROPAGATE DEMOCRACY.

Three "noble lords" have been selected by the British Government to propagate democratic ideas, and to pillory the wickedness of the Prussian aristocratic and military system. The anxieties of war do not seem to have deprived Lloyd George and his colleagues of their sense of humor.

Under Capitalism the rich are rich because the poor are poor.