
Call for a Unity Convention Between the Communist Labor Party and the Communist Party, circa May 7, 1920.

A mimeographed document in the Hoover Institution Archives, Jay Lovestone Papers, box 200, folder 19.

In harmony with the position of the Third International that all parties which agree on the following fundamental principles shall unite:

1. Class war of the workers without compromise with the bourgeoisie and social patriotic parties.
2. Mass action of the working class as the means to conquer power.
3. Dictatorship of the proletariat.
4. Soviet constitution as the proper basis of proletarian democracy.

the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party agree to meet in Unity Conference called for the purpose of uniting the two parties. The basis of this conference shall be:

1. The principles of communism as stated in the Manifesto and Program of the Communist Party are accepted as the basis principles upon which the two parties are in agreement.

2. Each party shall call a national convention which shall resolve themselves into a Unity Conference for the purpose of discussing unity between the two parties. Until unity is agreed upon, the delegates of each party shall vote as separate units and decisions must be reached by agree-

ment.

3. If, in such preliminary discussion, an agreement for uniting the two groups of delegates is reached, then the delegates from the two parties shall unite and proceed with the work of adopting a Manifesto, Program, and Constitution and the election of officers for the united party.

4. In order to facilitate the work of the Unity Conference, a Joint Committee consisting of three members of each party shall meet one week before the convention to draft a Manifesto, Program, and Constitution, to be submitted to the Unity Conference.

5. It is understood that each party assumes the obligation to meet the expenses of its delegates. Should the two parties unite into one convention this obligation will be assumed by the united party.

6. Arrangements for the Unity Conference shall be made jointly by the Executive Secretary of the Communist Party [C.E. Ruthenberg] and the Executive Secretary of the Communist Labor Party [Alfred Wagenknecht].

7. It is understood by both parties that the method of electing delegates is to be by membership action and is to be conducted secretly.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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