
FLP in Move to Unite Forces: Fitzpatrick Proposes July Convention in Chicago; Invite Other Parties.

by Robert M. Buck

Unsigned article in *The New Majority* [Chicago], v. 9, no. 11 (March 17, 1923), pg. 1.
Attributed to editor Robert Buck.

John Fitzpatrick, member of the National Committee of the Farmer-Labor Party, representing Illinois, has initiated a motion that a national convention of the party be held in Chicago, beginning July 3 [1923], and authorizing the National Secretary “to invite all labor, farm, and political groups” to come with authority to participate in forming a program for unity of political effort by the workers.

National Secretary Jay G. Brown has sent the motion out to the members of the National Committee of the party to vote by referendum. Toscan Bennet, National Committeeman from Connecticut, seconded the motion, which reads as follows:

Text of Fitzpatrick’s Motion.

That the National Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party recently voted by the National Committee be held in Chicago, Illinois, beginning July 3, 1923, and remain in session till the business of the convention shall have been completed. Also, that the National Secretary be authorized to invite all labor, farm, and political groups to send representatives to the said

National Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party with the authority to take such steps as may be necessary to bring about complete unity of the political forces of the entire working class.

Secretary Brown’s letter transmitting the motion says, in part:

Efforts have been made ever since the vote was tabulated authorizing the holding of a national convention this year, to secure the cooperation of the Farmer-Labor Party organization in Minnesota. While these efforts are still pending, it has not been possible to get the definite results hoped for. Meanwhile, the need for fixing the time and place of holding our national convention became every week more apparent. If the national convention is going to be held in July, it is very important that every day be made the most of. Therefore, it is vitally necessary that you sent in your vote at the earliest possible minute.

We feel that ample time will be given to every member of the National Committee to have his vote in the office by March 25th [1923], and for that reason we have decided to close the vote on that date.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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