
Letter to George Bloxam in Spokane, WA, from John C. Kennedy in Seattle, WA, August 6, 1924. †

A document in the Comintern Archive, f. 515, op. 1, d. 349, l. 26.

Farmer-Labor Party of the State of Washington,
John C. Kennedy, Secretary-Treasurer,
5010 — 52nd Ave. So., Seattle, Wash.

Aug. 6, 1924.

George Bloxam,
E 1920 Third Ave., Spokane.

Dear brother Bloxam:

Because of having too much to do in a short time I have not been able to answer your letter of July 22nd before this. Our Party decided at its conference on July 23rd to support LaFollette and Wheeler for President and Vice-President, and to put a full Farmer-Labor state ticket in the field. The only delegates voting against this policy were those from the Workers Party.

The action of the Workers Party in putting its own candidates in the field and then having its members of the National Executive Committee [of the FLP] disregard the plain intent and desire of the St. Paul Convention [June 17, 1924] and withdraw McDonald and Bouck and in their place endorse the Workers

Party candidates, has made it impossible for the Farmer-Labor Party of this state to continue its cooperation with the national Workers Party.

The only question to be decided so far as national candidates were concerned was whether we should endorse the LaFollette ticket or have no candidates at all. In view of the fact that the great majority of farmers and wage-earners who are not tied to the old parties desire to demonstrate their political strength in support of the LaFollette ticket we have decided that we should cooperate in this effort — even if we desire a far more fundamental program than that advanced by LaFollette. Unquestionably the LaFollette movement is the most spontaneous movement of the producers along independent political lines for fifty years. We feel it is our duty to participate in this movement, rather than to stay outside hurling futile criticism at the masses who are beginning to move in the right direction, even though they don't see clearly their final goal.

Fraternally yours,

John C. Kennedy.

†- A handwritten note from Bloxam, who was apparently writing to Nicholas Dozenberg, head of the WPA's Literature Department, reads: "I asked if they intended to go back to the old parties in the [July] 23 meeting and this is the answer I got. It appears they are going back. If you can use this letter to any advantage do so. Geo. Bloxan. [P.S.] I enclose 3 registration cards in this letter. There are only 5 paid up members now. I don't want them in arrears. No C.C.C. [City Central Committee]. Geo Bloxan, Fin[ancial] Sec.

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.

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