

STATEMENT BY REED AND GITLOW

We believe that the time has come to put an end to the ceaseless bickering which has lasted for six months between the Right Wing and the Left Wing in the Party, and which bids fair to be continued between the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party. It is now time to go to work.

Our Platform and Program are our best appeal to the membership. Upon them we stand. According to their provisions we intend now to go to work.

To the Communist Party we have but one thing to say:

Four times at Chicago we invited your Convention to unite with us on an equal basis. At present a standing invitation has been issued to the Communist Party to unite with us on a basis of equality at any time, and our National officers have been instructed to cooperate with the Communist Party to this end whenever the Communist Party manifests a desire for unity. In the meanwhile, we submit our Party declarations to the membership for careful examination. We challenge any member of the Communist Party to find therein any deviation from the principles of Communism. We challenge the Communist Party to produce a platform and program that shall be more faithful to the principles laid down in the Manifesto of the Third International, and in particular, one more adapted to the conditions of this country.

The vast bulk of the Party membership, we are sure, from whatever part of the country it may come, is with us. Our Convention, in which there were regularly elected delegates from 22 states—including the solid West—proves that the revolutionary rank and life of the old Socialist movement in this country has lined up with the Communist Labor Party.

Obedying the instructions of the National Left Wing Conference, obeying the evident will of the great majority of the rank-and-file, convinced that the greater part of the Socialist membership would be represented at the Emergency National Convention, we went there. And events proved that we were right.

In our Party, according to the clear mandate of the rank-and-file, Federation autonomy has been abolished. In the Communist Party it still exists, in spite of the pretense that it has been abolished. No foreign language Branch can belong to the Communist Party unless it is a member of its Federation. In our Party there is no compromise with any inconsistent group. In the Communist Party there are innumerable political deals between the incongruous elements which make it up.

(Signed) JOHN REED,
BENJAMIN GITLOW.