
Statement to the Communist International Issued to John J. Ballam [“John Moore”] by the CEC of the Central Caucus Faction’s Communist Party of America, January 22, 1922.

Document in the Comintern Archive, RGASPI f. 515, op. 1, d. 128, l. 3.

To the Executive Committee of the Comintern.

Comrades:

Comrade John Moore will present to the EC of the CI the claim for recognition of the Communist Party of America, as constituted by its First [Sept. 1919], Second [July 1920], and Third [Feb. 1921] Conventions and the Joint Unity Convention (uniting the UCP and the CPA) [May 1921] and the Emergency Convention held January 7th to 12th, 1922. (The records of the Emergency Convention will be delivered by bearer to EC.) This claim is based upon the following grounds:

1) In claiming to carry out specific instructions alleged to have been received from the EC of CI to organize LPP [Legal Political Party] the majority of the former CEC of the CPA entered into secret negotiations with certain groups who had recently left the Socialist Party.† None of these negotiations were reported to the then existing CEC nor were any of the results presented to or approved by the former CEC of the CP of A. The Joint Call for the convention of the Workers Party (which was held December 23, 1921) was not presented to, or adopted by the former CEC of the CP of A and consequently could not bind all or any of the members of the CP of A.

2) The majority of the former CEC refused to

call a convention of the CP of A prior to the launching of the LPP.

3) The majority of the former CEC suspended and disconnected from the CP of A more than 3,000 members without a hearing and in violation of the constitution of the CP of A and the Theses and Resolutions of the 3rd World Congress of the Comintern.

4) The majority of the former CEC suspended from the CEC and from the party the 3 minority members of the CEC in violation of the constitution of the party.‡

5) The Workers Party is not the legal political machinery of the CP of A under the control and discipline of the illegal party; it is an independent political organization of pronounced centrist tendencies. The Workers Party is not a revolutionary proletarian mass party; it is a centrist sect.

6) The members of the CP of A who have joined the Workers Party will be absorbed within it, or they may continue to function as such within the framework of the Workers Party. The contention that the CP of A continues to exist within the Workers Party is a centrist subterfuge to retain the recognition of the EC of the CI.

7) Not more than 3,000 former members of the CP of A have joined the Workers Party; 2,000 have remained “neutral”; and 5,000 members have remained in the CP of A and are represented by the undersigned

†- Reference is to the Workers’ Council group and to the Finnish Socialist Federation, both of which were represented in the Workers Party of America at the time of its creation.

‡- Reference is to Charles Dirba (“Dobin”), John Ballam (“Moore”), and George Ashkenuzi (“Kelly”) who began to organize a formal faction against the CEC majority in October of 1921.

CEC elected at the Emergency Convention [Jan. 1922].

8) All members of the CP of A who have joined the Workers Party have left the Communist Party, which according to its constitution adopted at the Joint Unity Convention, held May 1921, prohibits the members of the CP of A from joining or being members of any other political party or organization; consequently the CPA contests the seat of J. Carr [Ludwig Katterfeld] as its representative on the EC of the CI.

9) The majority of the membership of the CP of A have been grossly misrepresented before the EC of the CI and the bearer, Comrade John Moore [John J. Ballam], was elected at the Emergency Convention as a special delegate to present these claims for recognition before the EC of the CI.

Fraternally yours,

**Central Executive Committee
of the Communist Party of America.**

J. Davis [=???],
Executive Secretary of CEC.

J. Davis [=???],
A. Frick [=???],
John Harris [=???],
G. Flory [=???],
Taylor [=???],
Austin [=???],
Jim Smith [=???],

Members of the CEC of
the Communist Party of America.

January 20, 1922.

Edited with footnotes by Tim Davenport.

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