
Letter to State, Territorial, and Local Organizations of the Socialist Party of America, August 10, 1901.

by Leon Greenbaum

Published in the *Social Democratic Herald* [Milwaukee], v. 4, no. 8, whole no. 160 (Aug. 24, 1901), pg. 4. †

Office, National Secretary,
Room 427, Emilie Building,
St. Louis, Mo.
August 10, 1901.

Party, with headquarter at Chicago; the Socialist Party of the state of Texas; the Socialist Parties of the states of Kentucky, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska, hereby surrender their separate and independent existence and merge and amalgamate into one organization.

To the State, Territorial, and Local Organizations concerned in the National Socialist Unity Convention held at Indianapolis, Ind., July 29, 1901.

Dear Comrades:—

The National Unity Convention of the Socialist Party, which convened at Indianapolis, Ind., on July 29, 1901, elected the undersigned as National Secretary, with headquarters at St. Louis, Mo. The convention adopted a constitution for the party which provides, among other things, for a National Committee, consisting of one member from each organized state or territory, and it elected a quorum of 5 National Committeemen, residing in St. Louis [Local Quorum], to supervise and direct the work of the Secretary. The National Committee has the power to remove the National Secretary, the Quorum of 5, or the party headquarters, and whatever the management of the party's affairs at headquarters, the same must be satisfactory to the National Committee which represents the party throughout the country.

The convention also adopted the following:

Resolved, that the Social Democratic Party, with headquarters at Springfield, Mass.; the Social Democratic

The great object of the convention having been accomplished I am directed by the Quorum to address you, advising you that the National Secretary and National Quorum of 5 have assumed office and are now ready to transact such party affairs as may properly come within their jurisdiction. The National Committee now has under consideration designs of charters suitable to the new party, which will be issued soon, and furnished free of charge, in exchange of charters of former Socialist organizations, one form of charter being for state or territorial organizations and another for locals where such state or territorial organizations do not now exist.

According to the constitution adopted, the revenue of the National Committee is to be computed on a basis of 5 cents per month for each member in good standing, to be paid by the state or territorial organization where same exist, or by the locals where such state or territorial organizations have not yet been perfected. The amount and character of the work performed by your National Committee depends in a great measure on the promptness with which said committee is supplied with funds. It is, therefore, important that this feature of the new party organization be kept constantly in mind; and at the present juncture of affairs, it should receive immediate attention.

†- The first number of Social Democratic Herald after the Joint Unity Convention, dated Aug. 17, 1901, accidentally listed itself as whole no. "159" instead of "161." The current article appeared in the subsequent issue, so-called "160."

In conclusion, the National Quorum expresses itself desirous of cooperating, insofar as it properly can, with state and local organizations, in building up the solid impregnable Socialist Party, whose mission it is to sweep the capitalist system into oblivion, and usher in the Cooperative Commonwealth. To this end, comrades, you are now called upon to arise as one in the great Socialist revolution and complete the work so auspiciously begun by the Unity Convention at Indianapolis.

With greetings to each and every comrade in the united parties, I remain, on behalf of the national quorum,

Fraternally Yours,

Leon Greenbaum,
National Secretary, Socialist Party. †

†- The provisional Committee of 5 (St. Louis Local Quorum) elected by the Convention to serve until ratified or changed by the first meeting of the National Committee, consisted of: W.H. Baird, M. Ballard Dunn, Hildebrand, G.A. Hoehn, and E. Val Putnam.

Edited with footnotes by Tim Davenport.

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