

THE SOCIALIST PARTY

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

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Volume II

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Number 1

CORRESPONDENCE ON WISCONSIN CHARTER

National Executive Committee Motion By William Mally

The Wisconsin State Executive Committee Accepts the Charter

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 26, 1905.

E. H. Thomas, State Secretary of Wisconsin and the State Executive Board, 344 Sixth Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

COMRADES:
In keeping with the result of Referendum "A," 1905, I have warranted in offering you a charter, the same being forwarded under separate cover.

I take it, the purpose of the resolutions and the expression of the membership, was not to separate Wisconsin from the National movement, but to have them continue their affiliation, and the tender of this charter I consider a means to that end.

In order that the relation between Wisconsin and the National Committee be not interrupted, may I suggest: That the State Executive Committee, pending final action by state referendum, accept this charter?

Fraternally yours,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 29, 1905.

TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST PARTY.

DEAR COMRADES:
I sent you and the National Committee a copy of my letter, dated September 26th, addressed to E. H. Thomas, State Secretary of Wisconsin and the State Executive Board, relating to a charter for Wisconsin.

I herewith submit the motion by William Mally, member of the National Executive Committee:

MOTION BY MAILLY.
"I move that the National Secretary be instructed to notify the State Executive Committee of Wisconsin of the result of the referendum vote on Referendum "A," 1905, and to request that the State Executive Committee apply for a charter to the National Committee, in accordance with the said vote, at its earliest convenience, and to secure, if the said State Executive Committee deem necessary, a vote of the membership of the Social Democratic Party of Wisconsin upon said application. The National Secretary to report this motion to the National Committee in regular order and the result of the notification and reply of the State Executive Committee of Wisconsin."

COMMENT BY COMRADE MAILLY.
"I may say that I make this motion because I believe the National Secretary had, and has, no power to act upon his own initiative in an important matter of this kind, as his letter to the State Executive Board of Wisconsin under date of September 26th, shows him to have done, and I consider his action a decided departure from his sphere of official action. I would have made this motion before, only I was waiting for the National Secretary to ask for instructions in the matter, and I was hoping it would not be necessary for me to do so. I believe that the motion observes the letter and spirit of the referendum vote, and gives ample opportunity for the Wisconsin Comrades to act in accordance with the same. The National Committee will be able then to act upon the application as it would upon the application received from any other state organization."

COMMENT BY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY.
"Comrade Mailly's motion is almost a reproduction of my letter in wording. I do not say it is the purpose, but its effect would be to obstruct and delay under the guise of observing the formalities.

The National Secretary has notified the State Executive Committee of Wisconsin of the result of the referendum vote, has requested that they "accept" a charter and has suggested this be done pending a state referendum.

If Comrade Mailly had taken the position that the National Executive Committee, the National Committee and the National Secretary should, with folded hands, await an application in due form from Wisconsin, therein would appear a point of divergence, but his motion intends to instruct the National Secretary "to request them to apply."

The difference then is, Comrade Mailly by a motion would have the National Secretary request them to apply. The National Secretary has requested them to accept.

Comrade Mailly says: "I believe the National Secretary had, and has, no power to act upon his own initiative" and considers his action a decided departure from his sphere of official action. I believe that the (Mailly's) motion observes the spirit of the referendum vote."

The National Secretary also "believes he observes the spirit of the referendum vote," as shown in his letter to the Wisconsin State Executive Board as follows:

"I take it the purpose of the resolutions and the expression of the membership, was not to separate Wisconsin from the National movement, but to have them continue their affiliation, and the tender of this charter I consider a means to an end.

In order that the relation between Wisconsin and the National Committee be not interrupted, may I suggest that the State Executive Committee, pending final action by State Referendum, accept this charter."

Without quibbling on their applying for a charter, which Comrade Mailly wants the National Secretary to "request" them to do, the National Secretary takes the position that the membership by a referendum vote wants Wisconsin to have a charter, wants Wisconsin affiliated with the National Party, wants them to reestablish relations as soon as possible, they having been barred since September 15th.

The National Secretary has no desire to transcend the authority vested in him, or encroach upon the prerogatives of the National Executive or National Committee, and

he "believes" he has not done so in this instance.

Firm in the conviction that the membership, when they speak desire results, without regard to the ham-strings of red-tape, the division of a hair to the disappearing point or all the involved niceties of parliamentarism, the National Secretary has taken this course."

Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

SPECIAL CIRCULAR.
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 30, 1905.

TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

COMRADES:
I herewith submit for your information, a letter received from E. H. Thomas, State Secretary of Wisconsin:

"Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 28, 1905.
MR. J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary of the Socialist Party of America.
DEAR COMRADE:

Your letter, accompanied by a charter and suggesting that the State Organization of Wisconsin accept it as a result of the National referendum so that the relation between Wisconsin and the National Committee be not interrupted, has been duly received. I beg to state that the State Executive Board of Wisconsin has decided by a vote of 4 to 2 to accept the charter forwarded to us, pending a referendum of the party members of Wisconsin.

We take this action in the interests of party harmony and in order to prevent a division of the party.

But we earnestly protest against the unconstitutionality and injustice of the proceedings against us. We should have no objections to a charter in itself, if the constitution required the states to hold charters. However, we strongly object to special legislation, forcing us to accept one against the spirit of the National Constitution. From beginning to end the National Constitution never once mentions state charters. Yet the Crestline referendum was so craftily worded as to deceive the members of the Socialist Party. We feel sure that not one-tenth of those who voted upon the misleading Crestline referendum knew that the National Constitution does not require the party to accept a charter in itself, if the constitution required the states to hold charters.

It was the understanding at the Unity Convention of 1901, that state charters were to be abolished in order to avoid divisions and splits, and to secure, if the National Constitution was framed.

We also protest against the unconstitutional and unfair conduct of the National Executive Committee, who while the vote on the referendum was being taken, issued a statement for the evident purpose of prejudicing the voting members against us.

For the preceding reasons, the Wisconsin Comrades would be fully justified in considering the Crestline referendum null and void, and in refusing to abide by its result. Yet we will abide by it. We will abide by the decision of the membership of the party, as expressed through the referendum by a vote of 4,518 to 4,496, although the referendum was unconstitutionally submitted. We will abide by it, although the party membership was misled and misinformed by self-seekers and schemers who happened to be at the helm, while we had no means of laying the facts in the case before the entire membership.

We cherish the interest of party harmony and the cause of socialism above any natural feeling of righteous indignation and resentment against the unjust and illegal methods by which we have been persecuted. But we consider it our duty to the party to warn those intriguers and would-be bosses not to repeat this experiment upon us or upon any other state.

We will therefore retain the charter forwarded to us by the National Secretary, subject to the referendum as stated before, and in the future as in the past we will do our best to advance the interests of the American proletariat and of the Socialist Party.

Fraternally yours,
E. H. THOMAS,
State Secretary.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES.
Voting for accepting the charter: Comrades Berger, Hunger, Brockhausen and Thompson.

Voting against accepting the charter: Comrades Seidel and Heath.

Voting to accept the protest as above stated: Comrades Seidel, Berger, Heath, Hunger, Brockhausen, Thompson.

Attested by:
(Signed) JACOB HUNGER,
Chairman of the Session.
(Signed) E. H. THOMAS,
Secretary of the Session.
Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

ELECTION OF AN "EDITORIAL SELECTIVE COMMITTEE."
National Headquarters Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 5, 1905.

COMRADES:
I hereby report the result of the election for an "Editorial Selective Committee," vote being as follows:

VOTE BY STATES.
Arizona—Barnette: McDevitt, Titus.
Arkansas—Lowry: Heath, Titus.
California—Edmiston: McDevitt, Titus.
California—Lewis: McDevitt, Titus.
California—Lewis: L. M. McDevitt, Titus.
Florida—Healey: Heath, Titus.

Idaho—Rigg: Heath, McDevitt.
Illinois—Berlyn: McDevitt, Titus.
Indiana—Reynolds: Titus, McDevitt.
Iowa—Work: Heath, Titus.
Kansas—McAllister: Heath, McDevitt.
Kansas—Brewer: Titus, Heath.
Kentucky—Towner: Titus, McDevitt.
Maine—Fox: Titus, Heath.
Massachusetts—Gibbs: Heath, McDevitt.
Massachusetts—Wentworth: Heath, Titus.
Michigan—Lamb: Heath, Titus.
Minnesota—Holman: Heath, McDevitt.
Minnesota—Peach: Heath, Titus.
Missouri—Hoehn: Heath.
Missouri—Behrens: Heath, Titus.
Montana—McHugh: Titus, McDevitt.
New Jersey—Headley: Heath, Titus.
New Jersey—Kearns: McDevitt, Titus.
New York—Spargo: Heath, Titus.
Ohio—Bandlow: Titus.
Oklahoma—Maschke: Heath, Titus.
Pennsylvania—Wanhope: Titus, McDevitt.
Rhode Island—Floyd: Heath, Titus.
Vermont—Sullivan: Heath, Titus.
Wisconsin—Thompson: Heath, McDevitt.
Wyoming—Hastings: Heath, Titus.

NOT VOTING.
Alabama—LaRue.
Colorado—Floaten.
Colorado—Woodside.
Connecticut—White.
Indiana—Kelley.
Iowa—Jacobs.
Louisiana—Putnam.
Nebraska—Ray.
New Hampshire—Little.
New York—Hanford.
New York—Hillquit.
North Dakota—Lampman.
Oregon—Ramp.
Pennsylvania—Ringle.
South Dakota—Lovett.
Texas—Farmer.
Utah—Gilbert.
West Virginia—Zimmerman.
Wisconsin—Berger.

Total number of White of Connecticut and Woodside of Colorado were received too late to be counted. Comrade Bandlow cast also a vote for Comrade Berlyn.

VOTES CAST FOR EACH CANDIDATE.
Heath—Lowry, Healy, Rigg, Work, McAllister, Brewer, Fox, Gibbs, Wentworth, Lamb, Holman, Peach, Hoehn, Behrens, Headley, Spargo, Maschke, Floyd, Sullivan, Thompson, Hastings; total, 21.
McDevitt—Barnette, Edmiston, Lewis, Lewis, L. M.; Rigg, Berlyn, Reynolds, McAllister, Towner, Gibbs, Holman, McHugh, Kearns, Wanhope, Thompson; total, 15.

Minnesota—Peach, 1.
Minnesota—Maschke, 1.
Idaho—Rigg, 1.
Iowa—Work, 1.
Kansas—Brewer, 1.
Kansas—McAllister, 1.
Massachusetts—Gibbs, 1.
Minnesota—Holman, 1.
Minnesota—Peach, 1.
Missouri—Hoehn, 1.
Missouri—Behrens, 1.
Montana—McHugh, 1.
New Jersey—Headley, 1.
New York—Spargo, 1.
Ohio—Bandlow, 1.
Oklahoma—Maschke, 1.
Rhode Island—Floyd, 1.
Vermont—Sullivan, 1.
Wisconsin—Thompson, 1.
Wyoming—Hastings, 1.

Totals 13 11 15 8

NOT VOTING.
Alabama—LaRue.
Arizona—Barnette.
California—Lewis, L. M.
Colorado—Woodside.
Illinois—Berlyn.
Indiana—Reynolds.
Indiana—Kelley.
Iowa—Jacobs.
Kansas—Brewer (No. 28 only).
Kentucky—Towner.
Louisiana—Putnam.
Maine—Fox.
Massachusetts—Wentworth.
Michigan—Lamb.
Nebraska—Ray.
New Hampshire—Little.
New Jersey—Kearns.
New York—Hanford.
New York—Hillquit.
North Dakota—Lampman.
Oregon—Ramp.
Pennsylvania—Ringle.
Pennsylvania—Wanhope.
South Dakota—Lovett.
Texas—Farmer.
Utah—Gilbert.
West Virginia—Zimmerman.
Wisconsin—Berger.

Total on No. 27, 27.
Total on No. 28, 28.
The above motions are therefore adopted.

COMMENTS ON MOTION NO. 27.
Lowry (Arkansas)—"I cannot vote for this motion as made, but I cannot see how rule No. 3 can be made to work. If the National Secretary declares a motion out of order, how will the members of the National Committee be made aware of such action, or have an opportunity to second the motion?"

Hastings (Wyoming)—"I am opposed to striking out this clause. It is true that if a motion is out of order it will not become less so if seconded by one-sixth of the members of the Committee. But, the National Secretary may believe a motion to be out of order when it is not. The purpose of this clause is, not to have a motion put when it is out of order, but to give one-sixth of the members of the Committee the power to overrule the National Secretary on that point. They will certainly not do so unless they believe the motion to be in order. If motion No. 27 passes, it will give the National Secretary the absolute and unqualified power to declare any motion out of order. That is a very dangerous power to put into the hands of any one man. If done, it will be a grave error which will have to be undone later."

Peach (Minnesota)—"Vote 'No' on this motion because its passage would take from the National Committee, whom I consider the proper court, the right of construing the National Constitution."

Hastings (New Jersey)—"I am willing to trust to the honesty and intelligence of our National Secretary. If a motion is in conflict with the Constitution, one-sixth or even the whole of the National Committee cannot make it otherwise."

Hastings (New Jersey)—"I vote 'No' for the reason I do not wish to experiment or delay the business of the National office. The adoption of such an abstractness measure would in my estimation do great harm. What we want is legislation that will result in good."

COMMENTS ON MOTION NO. 28.
L. W. Lowry (Arkansas)—"I would favor this motion did it only refer to amendments. I do not believe that motions to delay or

Report of the Action of the National Committee on Referendums

MOTIONS 27, 28, 29 AND 30

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 6th, 1905.

COMRADES:
Herewith is submitted a report of the action of your Committee on referendum No. 26, motions No. 27 and 28, by National Committeeman Maschke of Oklahoma:

MOTION NO. 27.
I move to strike out the latter portion of Section No. 3, which reads: "Provided, however, that if it is seconded by one-sixth of the members of the Committee, it shall be submitted."

MOTION NO. 28.
I move that Section No. 5 shall read as follows: "Motions to amend, defer, postpone or declare a motion out of order, shall be, with the exception of the comments by the originators of such motions, not commentable, must reach the National office before ballots of original motion are sent out, and ballots for such motion with comments shall be sent out with the ballots of original motion. Should more than one amendment be submitted, which if adopted would change the one receiving the most votes shall be declared adopted."

MOTION NO. 29.
I move that the state and municipal program, which was referred by the National Convention of May, 1904, to the National Committee for revision and adoption, be open for motions to amend, insert, strike out, add to, etc., until January 1st, 1906; that each of such motions be published in the weekly bulletin and then held for ten days for comments; that all comments received during that time and not exceeding one hundred words in length be sent out with the ballots; that when all such motions have been disposed of the program be considered adopted as altered, without voting upon it as a whole; and that, when all of such motions as may be pending on the first day of January, 1906, are disposed of, the program as altered be submitted serially to a referendum vote of the party membership."

VOTING "YES."
Arizona—Barnette.
Arkansas—Lowry.
California—Lewis, L. M.
Colorado—Floaten.
Florida—Healey.
Idaho—Rigg.
Indiana—Kelley.
Indiana—Reynolds.
Iowa—Work.
Kansas—Brewer.
Kentucky—Towner.
Maine—Fox.
Massachusetts—Gibbs.
Massachusetts—Holman.
Minnesota—Peach.
Missouri—Hoehn.
Missouri—Behrens.
New Hampshire—Little.
New Jersey—Kearns.
New Jersey—Headley.
New York—Spargo.
Ohio—Bandlow.
Oklahoma—Maschke.
Pennsylvania—Wanhope.
Rhode Island—Floyd.
Utah—Gilbert.
Vermont—Sullivan.
Wyoming—Hastings.
Total—28.

VOTING "NO."
California—Lewis, Austin.
Connecticut—White.
Wisconsin—Berger.
Total—3.

NOT VOTING.
Alabama—LaRue.
California—Edmiston.
Colorado—Woodside.
Illinois—Berlyn.
Iowa—Jacobs.
Kansas—McAllister.
Louisiana—Putnam.
Massachusetts—Wentworth.
Michigan—Lamb.
Montana—McHugh.
Nebraska—Ray.
New York—Hillquit.
New York—Hanford.
North Dakota—Lampman.
Oregon—Ramp.
Pennsylvania—Ringle.
South Dakota—Lovett.
Texas—Farmer.
Utah—Gilbert.
West Virginia—Zimmerman.
Wisconsin—Thompson.
Total—20.
Motion is therefore adopted.

COMMENT.
Berger (Wisconsin)—"No municipal program can be constructed which will apply to all cities. For instance, it would be impossible to frame a detailed program which would be applicable to both New York and Oshkosh. We can only unite on general principles."

The state and municipal program appeared as a supplement to the Weekly Bulletin of August 19th, and is printed in the August issue of the Official Monthly Bulletin.

CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 13, 1905.
To the National Committee, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill.

COMRADES:
Herewith is submitted report of the action of your committee on referendum No. 28, motion No. 30, by National Committeeman Maschke of Oklahoma.

MOTION NO. 30.
Resolved, That the National Committee condemn the action of the National Executive Committee in publishing the "Special circular on Wisconsin Charter and Dues Account."

VOTING "YES."
Colorado—Woodside.
Iowa—Work.
Kansas—McAllister.
Massachusetts—Gibbs.
Michigan—Lamb.
Minnesota—Holman.
New Jersey—Kearns.
New Jersey—Headley.
Oklahoma—Maschke.
Wisconsin—Thompson.
Wisconsin—Berger.
Total—11.

VOTING "NO."
Arizona—Barnette.
California—Lewis, A.
California—Lewis, L. M.
California—Edmiston.
Colorado—Floaten.

(Continued on Fourth Page)

SPECIAL CIRCULAR

Correspondence with the National Executive Committee

SOCIALIST HEADQUARTERS.
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 20, 1905.
To the National Committee, Socialist Party.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 23, 1905.
To the National Executive Committee, Socialist Party.

Dear Comrades:—I herewith transmit to you certain correspondence between the National Executive Committee and the National Secretary, relating to the Minneapolis controversy:

“Minneapolis, Aug. 1, 1905.
“Mr. J. M. Barnes, National Secretary P. O. (Socialist) Party, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago.

“Dear Comrade:—This will inform you that the second ward branch of Local Minneapolis was, on July 31st, suspended in accordance with Article 4, Section IV, of the Constitution of Local Minneapolis, which reads as follows: “The Central Committee shall have the power to suspend a branch when it is deemed to be for the best interest of the party. Such a branch shall have the right to call for a referendum which must be submitted to the entire membership in good standing in the territory which the Central Committee represents. A referendum must be called for within ten days after the branch has been suspended. If no referendum vote is called for within the time mentioned, the Central Committee shall revoke the charter of such Local Branch.”

“This suspension carries with it S. M. Holman, National Committeeman from Minnesota, and others who have participated in the organization of a rival local to the regular Local Minneapolis.

“This action means the expulsion of that branch and the members who have committed acts of treason as above stated.

“The officials of the Second Ward Branch are S. M. Holman, Geo. W. Osterlander, and others who have participated in the action above mentioned. It was therefore impossible to get a communication to the Second Ward requesting them to proceed against those who have proven themselves traitors. Suspension was the only course.

“This action was also requested by a number of Second Ward comrades.

“The Branch will be reorganized at the end of ten days if no referendum vote on this suspension is called for.

“Herewith enclosed find statement issued by Local Minneapolis which thoroughly explains the supposed trouble existing here; also a statement published in the Toledo Socialist and written by Comrade Hicks, which explains the matter more thoroughly. Fraternally yours, (Signed.)

“HARRIET BIRNBAUM-HANSON,
Recording Secretary, Local Minneapolis.
“(103 East 15th St.)”

To the Comrades of Minnesota and the members of Local Minneapolis of the Public Ownership (Socialist) Party:

We are informed by Comrade Thos. H. Lucas, our member of the State Committee that at a special called meeting of the State Executive Committee at St. Paul, July 13, 1905, that body of six men composed of Comrades J. E. Nash, State Secretary; S. M. Holman, National Committeeman; M. S. Rogers, the deposed member of the State Committee who is unlawfully holding his seat in that body against the wishes and will of Local Minneapolis; and Comrade Thomas H. Lucas, all members of Local Minneapolis; and Fred Miller and B. F. Morledge of St. Paul, went through the “farce” of revoking the charter of Local Minneapolis, Comrade Lucas protesting and voting against this illegal action.

In order to show the illegality of this action it is necessary to go back a few weeks and recite the action of this local and that of the State Executive Committee.

1. Local Minneapolis passed resolutions on the Berger case, Comrade Holman, National Committeeman sent a statement to the National Headquarters stating that the resolutions were “railroaded” through. He used his official position to cause that statement to be circulated through the weekly party bulletin. The statement was wholly untrue and this body sent a true statement to the National office.

2. Then came the Boen case of Fergus Falls. Local Minneapolis instructed its members on the State Committee to vote to have the National Constitution upheld and that Fergus Falls be instructed to take action to expel Boen from the party, he having been elected alderman on an independent ticket after having influenced the members of that local to refrain from placing a ticket in the field. It was at this point that Local Minneapolis recalled M. N. Rogers from the State Committee.

3. During the meantime the State Executive Committee sent out a false statement about the action of Local

Minneapolis. All of the members being guilty except M. N. Rogers, who was not present and Comrade Lucas who voted “no.” Comrades Nash and Holman being the only members of the state at large who could be removed by a referendum of the state. Local Minneapolis at its last regular meeting called for a referendum vote to recall them. The last regular meeting was held on July 10th. Three days later a special meeting of the State Executive Committee was called and the “farce” of revoking Local Minneapolis’ charter was carried out.

4. Before this was done, however, the other members unlawfully refused to seat Comrade Thomas Van Lear, the regularly elected member of the State Committee, giving as an excuse, that a referendum vote had not been taken. No referendum vote had been called for by Comrade Rogers. The local constitution requiring that three branches make such a call. State Secretary Nash presenting a petition purporting to have the signatures of fifteen delegates of the Central Committee protesting against the removal of Rogers. As a matter of fact many of the signatures were secured by misrepresentation. Nash told those signing it was simply a request for a referendum vote.

Article III, Section 4, of the State Constitution says: “that no charter be revoked without notice being given ALL of the state locals.” The locals throughout the state were not notified. Therefore their act is illegal. At any rate this local was not notified, even if the others were, it is illegal for the reason that the word “ALL” means all.

Since such action has been taken we have not been notified. Not having been notified before this “farce” and having received no notice since, we hereby declare that we have not been expelled. If we were we would be entitled to a referendum vote of the state membership before such action would become operative.

The very next day after the meeting of Local Minneapolis and three days before the State Executive Committee “farce,” State Secretary J. E. Nash commenced work organizing a rival local in Minneapolis, which in our judgment is treason.

Therefore we ask you to refuse to recognize the action of the State Executive Committee until such time as proper and legal methods have been complied with.

During the meantime we desire to call your attention to this attempt to expel Local Minneapolis is a bit of spite work prompted by M. N. Rogers, who was removed from the State Executive Committee by this local, S. M. Holman, National Committeeman and J. E. Nash, State Secretary, against whom resolutions were passed requesting for a referendum of the state membership for their removal.

With this explanation, we believe in your fair and honest consideration. Passed this day in special session, July 16, 1905.

THEO. RICHTER,
Chairman of Session.
MRS. MARTIN HANSON,
Secretary of Local Minneapolis.
Roll call vote—19 for and 1 against.

“Chicago, Aug. 7, 1905.
“Harriet B. Hanson, 103 E. 15th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

“Dear Comrade:—I have your favor of Aug. 1st, reference the suspension of the Second Ward Branch of Local Minneapolis on July 31st, and other matters connected with the existing controversy within the organization of your city.

“The whole situation so far as it had developed between the state committee and Local Minneapolis was reviewed by the National Executive Committee at its recent meeting.

“While in your report there are recited some new facts and information, yet I cannot see that it affects the main issues which were considered as before mentioned by the National Executive Committee.

I enclose you a copy of the minutes and am sincerely hoping that the disagreements may shortly terminate. With best wishes, I am,
Yours very truly,

J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.”

Telegram Received Aug. 8th.
“Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 7, 1905.
“J. Mahlon Barnes, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago.

“State Secretary Nash expelled from party for treason, letter coming.
“H. BIRNBAUM-HANSON,
“Secretary Local Minneapolis.”

“Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 4, 1905.

“To the Officers and members of the National Committee, Socialist Party.
“Mr. J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary.

“Dear Comrade:—Local Minneapolis, in its fight for Socialist principles, and desiring to uphold the National Constitution, find it necessary to prefer

charges against National Committeeman Carl D. Thompson of Wisconsin, for violating ‘Article II, Section 4,’ of the National Constitution which reads as follows:

“No member of the Party, in any state or territory, shall under any PRETEXT, interfere with the regular organized movement in any other state.”

“CHARGE.”

“Carl D. Thompson, National Committeeman and State Organizer of Wisconsin, did violate ‘Article II, Section 4,’ of the National Constitution.”

“SPECIFICATIONS.

“Said Carl D. Thompson is a member of Local Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He came into the State of Minnesota and issued an open letter to Geo. W. Downing of Fergus Falls (letter enclosed and submitted as evidence), personally abusing and vilifying Comrade Thomas Lucas, and other members in good standing in Local Minneapolis.

“You will note in circular issued by the State Committee that he recommended that the charter of Local Minneapolis be revoked. On or about July 18th, 1905, Carl D. Thompson and others assembled at Alexander’s hall and there did attempt to organize a rival organization, Thompson speaking in support of said new organization, denouncing Local Minneapolis and its members. Again on July 30, Thompson addressed a meeting at the Finnish Hall No. 814 6th Ave., North, denouncing Local Minneapolis and urged all present to join the new organization.

“Said Carl D. Thompson is not a member of this state. He did deposit his card in Local Minneapolis April 30, 1904, but has paid no dues since Aug. 1904, and has according to our by-laws been dropped from the role of membership.

“I have been holding the office of Financial Secretary since February 13th, 1905, and have received no dues from the above mentioned, Carl D. Thompson.

“FRANK HICKS,
Financial Secretary, Local Minneapolis.

“Charges preferred by Local Minneapolis, through organizer Thomas Van Lear.
(Signed.)

THOS. VAN LEAR, Organizer.
FRANK HICKS,
Financial Secretary.
WILLIAM H. BROWN,
Literary Agent.
W. L. BEEMAN, Treasurer.
HARRIET BIRNBAUM-HANSON,
Executive Committee, Local Minneapolis.”

Statement.

“To the State Committee of the Public Ownership (Socialist) Party of Minnesota.

“Dear Comrades:—On July 13, 1905, the State Executive Committee, UNLAWFULLY and without cause or just reason declared Local Minneapolis expelled, therefore be it,

“Resolved, By Local Minneapolis, that we hereby demand a thorough investigation to be held in Minneapolis of the controversy said to exist in Local Minneapolis by the State Executive Committee. We request that three members be chosen by the State Committee and three by Local Minneapolis and they to select the seventh.

“In making this demand we offer the following reasons:

“First. The State Executive Committee over-stepped its authority. They did not notify all locals as provided for in the State Constitution. The State Committee and not the State Executive Committee has the authority to revoke charters.

“Second. No charges have been made or proven against Local Minneapolis. Only personal abuse has been advanced against individual members of Local Minneapolis by the State Executive Committee.

“Third. Holman, Nash and Rogers were not competent to act against Local Minneapolis, for they were personally interested in having this local expelled.

“(a) Holman and Nash were interested because Local Minneapolis had three days previous called for a referendum vote of the state membership for their removal from their offices as National Committeeman and State Secretary. It was for the purpose of preventing the members of Local Minneapolis from voting on their removal that Nash and Holman made an attempt to expel Local Minneapolis. Nash admitted to Comrade Beeman that the reason they made an attempt to expel Local Minneapolis was because Local Minneapolis had taken such action against Nash and Holman.

“(b) Local Minneapolis removed M. N. Rogers from the State Committee and elected Thomas Van Lear in his place. The State Executive Committee refused to seat Comrade Van Lear. They claimed that no referendum vote had been taken. Comrade Rogers did not demand a referendum vote. Three branches are required to make such a call according to the constitution of Local Minneapolis. However, Local Minneapolis did order a referendum vote—voluntarily did so. This action was taken on July 10. The vote closed July 24, resulting in a vote of 120 votes for Comrade Van Lear and one for Rogers.

“Fourth. If Local Minneapolis is to be expelled we demand that specific charges be made and proven and that legal methods be used. We will recognize no other method. It is un-Socialistic to expel a member of a local whenever a local does not happen to agree with them. This despotic action strikes at the very foundation of the Socialist movement. Do you believe that a local should be expelled without charges, without a hearing and without a trial? Are we in Russia?

“We demand a searching investigation—not a whitewash—and believe that

your findings will not be sufficient to justify the autocratic action of the State Executive Committee. Passed this regular meeting July 24, 1905. The votes were in favor of this resolution as follows: First ward, Beeman, Loy, Vorce; Second, Holman’s ward not represented; Third, not represented; Fourth, Hicks, Brown, Latchem; Fifth, Van Lear, Mrs. Hanson, Wefald; Sixth, Lucas, Hazzelquist; Seventh, not organized; Eighth, Raymer; Ninth, Richter, Holmquist, Peterson; Tenth, A. Hanson, Richmond, Legerquist; Eleventh and Twelfth wards, B. Brown, Geo. Rymers, B. Floyd; Finnish Branch, Lehto, Niemi and Hoak. Total, Ayes—24; Nays—0. The second and third wards have a small membership. The wards represented have large membership.

MRS. MARTIN HANSON,
Secretary.”

“45 South Fourth Street,
“Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 11, 1905.

“Mr. J. Mahlon Barnes, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

“Dear Comrade:—A few days ago H. Birnbaum-Hanson wired you that J. E. Nash, a member of Local Minneapolis, was expelled from membership. This letter will serve you as the official notice that such action was taken by the Tenth Ward Branch which adopted the report of the Grievance Committee of that ward which recommended that he be expelled from membership for his acts of attempting to form a rival local in Minneapolis. Charges were presented to this committee in due form, all members notified and the action taken as stated.

“I presume that the State Executive Committee—that is the remaining members—will select his successor in a few days as that is the provision made for such selections, during the meantime I trust that you will not sell Nash any due stamps.

“Will you please send me the name and address of all members of the National and National Executive Committeemen. I notice that no notice has been made of the expulsion of S. M. Holman, though you were notified, the secretary having a registered letter receipt.

“Trusting you will give this your prompt attention, I am, Yours for the revolution.

THOS. VAN LEAR,
Organizer and Corresponding Secretary of Local Minneapolis.”

“Aug. 15, 1905.

“Thos. Van Lear, 45 South Fourth St., Minneapolis, Minn.

“Dear Comrade:—I have your favor of the 11th inst. conveying the information that J. E. Nash was suspended from membership by the Tenth Ward Branch of Local Minneapolis. You must know that the National Executive Committee considered the reported suspension by the state committee, of Local Minneapolis. I sent you a marked copy of the minutes which I hope you have received. In view of said action, I cannot comply with your request, ‘to not sell due stamps to Comrade Nash.’

“I sent you yesterday a list of the National Committee and the National Executive Committee, with their addresses, as requested. Yours truly,
“J. MAHLON BARNES,
“National Secretary.”

“Home Address, 1901 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 16, 1905.

“Mr. J. Mahlon Barnes, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago Ill.

“Dear Comrade:—Your letter of Aug. 15, received. Your letter under date of Aug. 7, addressed to Mrs. H. Birnbaum-Hanson has been turned over to me for reply.

“The minutes of the National Executive Committee were read at the last meeting of the Central Committee of Local Minneapolis. We fail to find any reference to the suspension of S. M. Holman and J. E. Nash. As a matter of fact at the time of the National Executive Committee these parties had not been expelled. You have evidently overlooked that point. So far as we were able to glean from the minutes the matter was considered and passed over for the reason that they had no jurisdiction. At that time the National Party did not. They were thoroughly correct in acting as they did.

“Now they have. The question up to the National Committee now is as follows: Can the National Committee permit S. M. Holman to hold his position as National Committeeman, after he has been expelled from membership in Local Minneapolis? You will perhaps say that Local Minneapolis has been expelled by the State Executive Committee. How do you know? Local Minneapolis says it has not been expelled for the reason that the necessary legal action has not been complied with. Certainly an investigation by the National Party is necessary to determine this. Now, if Local Minneapolis was legally expelled, Holman and Nash were also expelled, for they were members at the time of the expulsion. Then also the seat of S. M. Holman is vacant as National Committeeman. The same illustration is applicable to the situation regarding Nash as State Secretary, and it seems that the proper thing to do is to report the new developments to the members of the National Executive Committee.

“I cannot understand how you can say that ‘in view of said action, I cannot comply with your request,’ etc. The latest development has nothing whatever with what the National Executive Committee decision. They made no decision. They only said they had no jurisdiction, which was correct at that time.

“Trusting you will bring this new development before the National Execu-

tive Committee members by mail, I am, Fraternally,

THOMAS VAN LEAR,
Organizer, Local Minneapolis.”

A PROTEST.

“Local Minneapolis through its Executive Committee hereby enter a protest against the recognition of S. M. Holman as National Committeeman from Minnesota, and J. E. Nash as State Secretary, for the following reasons:

1. S. M. Holman was expelled from membership in Local Minneapolis on July 31st. J. E. Nash was expelled from membership on August 4th. Both were expelled for treason, they having participated in the organization of a so-called rival local in Minneapolis. The National Secretary was immediately notified.

2. The State Executive Committee of which both Holman and Nash were members held a special meeting in St. Paul and went through the form of revoking the charter of Local Minneapolis. This action was illegal for they did not notify all of the locals in the state as is required by the state constitution. The exact words of that clause reads as follows: “that no charter be revoked without notice being given all the state locals.” Local Minneapolis was not notified. At least three other locals we know were not notified. We believe that none were notified. This action was taken on July 13, three days after Local Minneapolis had made a call for a state referendum vote to remove these officials from office. The reasons for taking this action was because both had used their official positions to circulate falsehoods about Local Minneapolis. The false statements being a circular issued by the State Executive Committee. On July 25, J. E. Nash and S. M. Holman both participated in the organization of a rival local. For this Local Minneapolis, believing that she was not legally expelled, proceeded legally against these members for what we considered to be treason to the party. We believe the matter is now up to the National Committee for the reason that the National Committee must determine who shall act as members of that committee. We further believe that the National Committee must decide if due stamps shall be sold to a man who is not a member of the party.

3. Both Holman and Nash were members of Local Minneapolis at the time of the so-called expulsion. If Local Minneapolis was legally expelled—which is not the case—then Nash and Holman were also expelled. Being expelled they could not act in their respective positions. For this reason, we also believe the National Committee should make an investigation. We fail to see why Holman and Nash are recognized by the National Secretary pending a settlement of this trouble. All of the acts of Local Minneapolis are a matter of record and we request you to name a committee to make an investigation. Do you really think 400 members should be ignored in this manner? Back of it all is the matter of a violation of the National Constitution which Local Minneapolis has insisted should be enforced. The State Executive Committee has failed to enforce Article II, Section 2, of the National Constitution. See letter of Frank Hicks in Toledo Socialist of July 29th, also his second letter in the same paper of Aug. 12th. Both articles were endorsed as the official statement of the Local.

This trouble we believe has jumped over the state autonomy traces clause in the National Constitution and therefore the National Committee must act. We only want a fair deal.

We request that this protest be sent to all of the members of the National Committee.
(Signed.) THOS. VAN LEAR,
Organizer of Local Minneapolis.
Aug. 16, 1905. 1901 Nicollet Ave.
(Signed.) HARRIET BIRNBAUM-HANSON,
Recording Secretary
Executive Committee, Local Minneapolis.”

“Aug. 21, 1905.

Thos. Van Lear, 1901 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Comrade:—I have your favor of the 16th in which was enclosed a protest signed by you and Comrade Hanson, organizer and secretary respectively. It together with other correspondence will be laid before the members of the National Executive Committee. The motion by the National Executive Committee reads as follows: “I move to notify Comrade Hicks that under the National Constitution, the National Executive Committee has no power to interfere in the matter.”

Each member of the National Executive Committee reduced his reasons for his vote to writing, and in addition to that I wish to say in the general discussion that took place, the point was considered that by the suspension of Local Minneapolis, Comrade Holman, being a member thereof must also have been suspended. Again, I say, in view of the action taken by the National Executive Committee, I must decline to comply with your request, to not sell stamps to State Secretary Nash, until I am further advised by the National Executive Committee or National Committee.

I can report further that Comrade B. Feigenbaum, National Organizer, who lately spent several days in Minneapolis and carefully sought information from both sides, gives it as his opinion that each side would be satisfied with a decision following and based upon an impartial investigation.

Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 16, 1905.
To the National Executive Committee, Socialist Party.

Comrades:—I have to report that in

response to the matter, submitted for your consideration on August 23d, relating to the Minneapolis, Minn., controversy, I have received replies from only two members.

Comrade Maily submitted a rather lengthy review of the situation, drawing therefrom the following conclusions:

First. "The National Constitution is being violated by individuals being allowed to hold membership in the party and political office through other than the Socialist party at the same time."

Second. "The expulsion of Local Minneapolis was not in accordance with the State Constitution."

Third. "If Local Minneapolis were legally expelled, then Holman and Nash were also expelled. All their acts since July 13, have, therefore, been illegal, and they are not members now because they could not, as members of the State Executive Committee, legally vote a charter to a new local (in which they claim to have membership), when they were not qualified by membership."

Fourth. "If Local Minneapolis was not legally expelled, it is still a part of the party and the expulsion of Holman and Nash from membership are legal and must be recognized."

Fifth. "If the present State Executive Committee is the bona fide representative of the Minnesota party, then Carl D. Thompson's work under the Executive Committee's direction is legal, although it is ethically wrong."

Comrade Work expressed the opinion that we should not interfere or take cognizance of the matter. No action has therefore been taken.

Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Protest of Comrade Maily of the National Executive Committee.

Toledo, O., Sept. 18, 1905.
J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:—I have your circular letter of the 16th inst., to the National Committee and same is noted.

I am compelled to protest against the manner in which you submit my action on the Minneapolis correspondence previously submitted to the National Executive Committee. You have no authority to emasculate my review and especially to leave out my recommendation as to how the National Secretary should act in the matter. I do not agree with Comrade Bandlow's motion to send a comrade into Minnesota. I consider this action, if taken, would be unconstitutional. For this reason I consider it the more important that a complete report of my action be made to the National Committee. I purposely framed my recommendation so that the National Constitution should be observed. It is quite within the province of the National Committee to refuse to recognize as party officials in any state those, who, like Nash and Holman, are admittedly not legally or morally party members. And by calling upon the state committee to choose a state secretary, at least temporarily, the National Headquarters would be recognizing the state committee as representing the Minnesota organization and therefore would be acting within the state autonomy clause of the national constitution.

In view of the numerous protests being made against Comrade Bandlow's motion, I demand that my previous report and this letter be reported in full to the National Committee at once. The members of the National Executive Committee have a right to have the National Committee know their action on matters submitted to them and in the case of the report just received, the most essential part of my review is omitted. I cannot understand why my action was not reported to the National Committee at the same time Comrade Bandlow's was. This would have undoubtedly prevented some misunderstanding.

Trusting you will act upon this immediately, I am,
Fraternally yours,
WILLIAM MAILLY."

Letter of Comrade Maily in Full.

Toledo, O., Aug. 24, 1905.
J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:—Acting upon your circular letter of August 23, to the National Executive Committee, I would say:

The Minnesota situation, as shown by the voluminous correspondence already had on the subject, now presents some features which, I believe, warrant some action on the part of the National Executive Committee, or the National Committee. These features are as follows:

First. Certain individuals are holding membership in the locals of Minnesota who are also holding political office elected through other than the Socialist party. Article II, Section 1, National Constitution, specifies, "Any person occupying a position, honorary or remunerative, by the gift of any other political party, civil service positions excepted, shall not be eligible to membership in the Socialist party."

Second. Local Minneapolis protested to the State Executive Committee against these individuals being permitted to hold membership under such conditions.

Third. The State Executive Committee held that as these individuals were elected on "Non-partisan" tickets they did not come within the jurisdiction of the above quoted clause.

Fourth. Local Minneapolis withdraws one of its members (Rogers) from the State Executive Committee for not obeying the instructions of the local

and elects another comrade (Van Lear) to fill the vacancy.

Fifth. The State Executive Committee refuses to accept Van Lear and to recognize Rogers as unseated, on the ground that a referendum vote of the local on Rogers was not taken.

Sixth. Local Minneapolis initiates a referendum of the state to have two members (Holman and Nash), who are members of the State Executive Committee, through being State Secretary and National Committeeman, removed from office for issuing false statements about Local Minneapolis.

Seventh. Three days later the State Executive Committee (of which Holman and Nash are members) hold a special meeting and by a vote of five to one revoke the charter of Local Minneapolis without notice being given to the local, which was thus, with its 400 members expelled from the party without a hearing. Article III, Section 4, of the State Constitution says, "that no charter be revoked without notice being given all of the state locals." The State Executive Committee claims that notice was given to all the state locals within five days AFTER Local Minneapolis was expelled.

Eighth. Holman and Nash were members of the expelled local when they were acting as members of the State Executive Committee and voted to expel it. They voted to expel themselves when they voted to expel the local. Nevertheless they continue to act as party officials in the interval between the expulsion of the local and the formation of a new local, which they help to organize and to which they vote to grant a charter as members of the State Executive Committee, when they were actually not party members at all and therefore not entitled to act as party officials in any capacity. Now they claim that they are still entitled to act as party officials, notwithstanding their non-membership.

Ninth. Carl D. Thompson was elected State Organizer of Minnesota over a year ago by referendum of the state membership. Since then he has become a member in Wisconsin and is now holding the positions of State Organizer and National Committeeman in the latter state. Comrade Thompson takes an active part in the movement to expel Local Minneapolis and supports the action of the State Executive Committee. The question arises: Does the fact that Comrade Thompson being elected State Organizer of Minnesota a year ago and his use of that commission to take part in the internal affairs of that state at this time affect his position as National Committeeman from his home state? While Article II, Section 4, National Constitution, does specify that "no member of the party, in any state or territory, shall under any pretext, interfere with the regular organized movement in any other state," yet Article XII, Section 4, also specifies that "their (state organization) activity shall be confined to their respective organizations, and the National Committee and sub-committees or officers thereof shall have no right to interfere in such matters without the consent of the respective state or territorial organizations."

Tenth. The old local claims it has not been legally expelled. This would have retained Holman and Nash in membership; but the matter have been expelled from the local and the local now protests against their being recognized as National Committeeman and State Secretary respectively on the ground of non-membership.

These are the essential facts as I have been able to summarize them, and in view of them I would hold that,

First. The National Constitution is being violated by individuals being allowed to hold membership in the party and political office through other than the Socialist party at the same time.

Second. The expulsion of Local Minneapolis was not in accordance with the State Constitution.

Third. If Local Minneapolis were legally expelled then Holman and Nash were also expelled. All their acts since July 13 have, therefore, been illegal, and they are not members now because they could not, as members of the State Executive Committee, legally vote a charter to a new local (in which they claim to have membership), when they were not qualified by membership.

Fourth. If Local Minneapolis was not legally expelled, it is still a part of the party and the expulsions of Holman and Nash from membership are legal and must be recognized.

Fifth. If the present State Executive Committee is the bona fide representative of the Minnesota party, then Carl D. Thompson's work under the Executive Committee's direction is legal, although it is ethically wrong.

It appears, therefore, that whether Local Minneapolis was legally expelled or not, neither Holman nor Nash are party members and are therefore unqualified to act as party officials and to be recognized as such. I would suggest that the National Secretary be empowered to communicate direct with the members of the State Committee of Minnesota with the view to secure the election of another State Secretary and National Committeeman, at least temporarily, and that the State Committee be requested to call a state convention of the party in Minnesota for the purpose of determining the status of affairs in Minneapolis and to secure observance of the National Constitution.

I may also state that I have received from Comrade Van Lear what purports to be a copy of a circular letter sent out to the state membership by Nash, as State Secretary, in which the following words are used: "To endorse the Crest-

line resolutions means a vote to expel the best organized Socialist movement in the United States. Can we afford to do that? It is an effort of a Socialist Labor Party defender to graft the tactics of the Socialist Labor Party into our national movement. Trautman, the originator of the movement should be the one expelled if expulsion be resorted to at all."

This is clearly in violation of the constitutional provision that referendums shall be submitted "without comment" and is in direct contradiction to the purpose of securing a fair vote upon the pending national referendum. Such conduct is reprehensible and should disqualify the vote of Minnesota from being included in the results of the referendum, although I do not favor this step being taken.

I am of the opinion that, pending action by the State Committee, neither Nash nor Holman should be recognized as officials by the National Secretary and that no dues be received from or dues stamps sent to Minnesota until the State Committee has elected a temporary or permanent State Secretary duly authorized to represent the State organization.

I consider the length of this communication necessitated by the circumstances and I am willing to have the

[Continued on Fourth page]

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1905.

National Headquarters,
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 30, 1905.

RECEIPTS.

National Dues from State Committees.	
Arizona	10.00
Arkansas	10.00
California	80.00
Colorado	10.00
Connecticut	32.00
Florida	5.00
Idaho	20.00
Illinois	101.00
Indiana	30.00
Iowa	25.00
Kansas	18.00
Kentucky	10.00
Louisiana	6.50
Maine	10.00
Massachusetts	90.00
Michigan	20.00
Minnesota	25.00
Missouri	20.00
New Jersey	100.00
New York	150.00
Ohio	105.00
Oklahoma	35.00
Oregon	20.00
Pennsylvania	75.00
Rhode Island	7.00
South Dakota	5.80
Texas	6.10
Utah	30.00
Washington	44.15
West Virginia	4.00
Wisconsin	375.75
Wyoming	5.00
	\$1,485.30

UNORGANIZED STATES.

Washington, D. C.	5.00
Georgia	1.00
Maryland	14.70
Mississippi	8.70
Nevada	2.00
Tennessee	3.80
Virginia	7.00

Total for dues	\$1,527.50
Supplies	90.33
Literature	32.49
Buttons	29.50
Perpetual Campaign Coupons	36.00
Agitation Fund	11.45
Express	.50
Total receipts	\$1,727.77

EXPENDITURES.

Exchange	1.55
General expense	49.32
Express and freight	38.05
Postage	115.00
Telegrams and telephones	18.32
Stationery	17.85
Wages—	
J. Mahlon Barnes, balance July	76.85
J. Mahlon Barnes, September, 5 weeks	144.23
Robert Saitiel	18.00
W. W. Rihl, 5 weeks	90.00
Charles Drees, 5 weeks	90.00
M. Flaherty, 5 weeks	50.00
E. L. Baldwin	48.00
I. L. Callmann	22.00
F. H. Slick	66.00
	\$ 605.08
Printing	275.00
Printing Bulletin acct.	178.25
Literature	15.50
Office equipment	22.35
Organizers—	
W. C. Benton	30.00
John Collins	35.00
B. Feigenbaum	22.83
George H. Goebel	50.00
John W. Slayton	45.00
John M. Work	52.04
M. W. Wilkins	50.00
	\$ 284.87
Rent, September	90.00
Gold-plated buttons	40.00
Total expenditures	\$1,751.34

SUMMARY.

Balance on hand September 1	\$ 55.55
Receipts for month	1,727.77
Total	\$1,783.32
Expenditures for month	1,751.34
Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1905	\$ 31.98

Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Report of Vote on Referendum "A"

National Headquarters Socialist Party,
CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 16, 1905.

CRESTLINE RESOLUTIONS.

1. "Resolved, That Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee, Wis., be removed as member of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party for advocating the election of a Republican candidate for public office. The act having been admitted and well proven."

Alabama	Yes	No
Arizona	38	19
Arkansas	52	16
California	344	215
Colorado	92	24
Connecticut	35	35
Florida	87	93
Idaho	415	686
Illinois	93	100
Iowa	126	70
Kansas	41	73
Kentucky	64	20
Louisiana	66	33
Maine	21	21
Michigan	181	179
Minnesota	118	104
Missouri	36	315
Montana	148	250
Nebraska	82	48
North Dakota	38	30
Ohio	6	8
New Hampshire	128	163
New Jersey	395	454
New York	490	198
Ohio	77	75
Oklahoma	21	19
Oregon	461	139
Pennsylvania	32	21
Rhode Island	7	44
South Dakota	26	63
Texas	35	28
Vermont	11	26
Washington	243	70
West Virginia	5	10
Wisconsin	36	975
Wyoming	25	21
Locals in unorganized states—		
Wilmington, Del.	12	14
Washington, D. C.	13	15
Baltimore, Md.	22	15
Sharpsburg, Md.	5	1
Bloom, Miss.	12	1
Jackson, Tenn.	10	10
Memphis, Tenn.	1	10
Nashville, Tenn.	7	4
Newport News, Va.	12	4
Richmond, Va.	3	4
Members at large	3	4
Totals	4,215	4,718
	4,215	4,215

Total vote on first resolution, 8,933; defeated by 503 votes.

2. "Resolved, That the Social Democratic Party of the state of Wisconsin be debarred from all participation in National affairs of the Socialist Party until such time as they apply for and accept a charter such as all the States have accepted, and that they comply with the same conditions as all other states."

Alabama	Yes	No
Arizona	4	49
Arkansas	40	17
California	52	15
Colorado	392	161
Connecticut	106	16
Florida	53	19
Idaho	92	88
Illinois	531	572
Indiana	124	65
Iowa	133	65
Kansas	52	63
Kentucky	65	20
Louisiana	65	25
Maine	46	42
Michigan	177	189
Minnesota	134	87
Mississippi	33	320
Missouri	175	224
Montana	99	28
Nebraska	41	27
North Dakota	4	8
New Hampshire	109	179
New Jersey	393	561
New York	536	147
Ohio	94	61
Oklahoma	35	15
Oregon	464	121
Rhode Island	27	28
South Dakota	11	31
Texas	39	52
Utah	43	22
Vermont	7	30
Washington	251	68
West Virginia	6	9
Wisconsin	61	963
Wyoming	21	45
Locals in unorganized states—		
Wilmington, Del.	12	14
Washington, D. C.	14	13
Baltimore, Md.	27	13
Sharpsburg, Md.	5	5
Bloom, Miss.	12	1
Jackson, Tenn.	10	10
Memphis, Tenn.	1	11
Nashville, Tenn.	7	4
Newport News, Va.	11	4
Richmond, Va.	6	4
Members at large	2	4
Totals	4,518	4,496
	4,496	4,496

Total vote on second resolution, 9,014; adopted by 22 votes.

PROTEST OF WISCONSIN STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

We, the State Executive Board of the Socialist Party of Wisconsin, in sending in the vote of our state membership upon the National referendum, commonly known as the Crestline referendum, do hereby protest against the unconstitutionality, illegality and injustice of this referendum.

Our reasons for this protest are as follows:

1st. It is unconstitutional, since it violates Sec. 3 of Article XI of the National Constitution of the Socialist party. This section reads: "All propositions or other matters submitted for the referendum of the party shall be presented without preamble or comment." The so-called Crestline referendum contains such a comment, which is a flagrant violation of this clause of our National Constitution. It is therefore unconstitutional and illegal.

2nd. This referendum is unconstitutional because it provides for the expulsion of an entire state organization for that which is no offense under the provisions of the National Constitution. This referendum provides that the vote of our state membership in the National affairs of the Socialist party until they apply for and accept a charter. The National Constitution nowhere requires the state organizations to accept or hold charters. In fact, from being a member of the National Constitution never once mentions state charters.

To debar Wisconsin for not holding a charter is clearly worse than a violation of the National Constitution. The referendum is therefore unconstitutional and illegal and is not binding upon the Socialist party.

3rd. The Crestline referendum is also unconstitutional because it violates the principle of state autonomy as established in our National Constitution. The Crestline referendum provides that the Wisconsin comrades shall be shut out from the party until they comply with the same conditions as other states. The National Constitution provides that "the state and territorial

organizations shall have the sole jurisdiction of the members residing within their respective territories, and the sole control of all matters pertaining to the propaganda, organization and financial affairs within such state or territory; their activity shall be confined to their respective organizations and the National Committee and sub-committees or officers thereof shall have no right to interfere in such matters without the consent of the respective state or territorial organizations." This leaves to each state the right to adopt its own methods, just as the local conditions of the movement may require. It would be folly to insist that all states and territories must have identical rules in all petty details. So long as we conform to our common National Constitution and our common National Platform, this is all the uniformity that should be required. Wisconsin has always obeyed all the provisions of the National Constitution. To require conformity to all petty rules or regulations which the National Executive Committee in its wisdom may see fit to impose upon us, on pain of expulsion, would be an act of the grossest political tyranny. A referendum should be held to do so is unconstitutional and illegal.

4th. The Crestline referendum is grossly unjust, because it not only contains a comment, but a comment which is an actual and shameful perversion of the truth. Comrade Victor L. Berger did not "advocate" the election of a Republican candidate for public office. This "act" was not "admitted and well proven," because no such act was committed. Neither the Republicans or Democrats nor any other party or party organization of any kind had a ticket in the field during the Milwaukee judicial election. We should be very grateful to Comrade Victor L. Berger that he endorsed any candidate of the Republican or any other capitalist party. The referendum is therefore founded upon a lie. And the state committee of Wisconsin was given no chance to correct this lying statement before the membership at large. We could send our statement to comparatively few locals only.

In making this protest we are not actuated by state pride or egotistic desires. All we want is to keep intact the integrity of our party and avoid complications in the future which may arise from a precedent of this kind. We should be very grateful to a charter if one were required by the National Constitution or even if the Constitution was so amended as to require every state to hold a charter. But we protest against special and spiteful legislation in the case of Wisconsin or in any case whatsoever. If such action is permitted to go on contrary to the Constitution and in direct opposition to it, then no state at any time is secure. No state will have a guarantee that somebody will not spring upon it some special referendum based upon malicious falsehoods, as in this case, and speculating upon the lack of information of the membership. In this case most of the members who voted for the Crestline referendum did so in the belief that the Constitution requires the states to take out charters. The Crestline resolutions were so craftily written as to give the members this idea.

Even DeLeon in his palmy days was never known to perpetrate such a mean and designing trick. And while protesting, we wish to warn the membership against the clique which is trying to fasten itself upon the Socialist party and use it to further their own private interests.

To aim at crippling a strong and successful Socialist movement, such as we have in Wisconsin, is nothing short of a crime against Socialism. The excellent work done by the Wisconsin comrades should be a matter of rejoicing, not of envy, to every member of the Socialist party. Such methods as those employed by the instigators and backers of the Crestline referendum will but split up the Socialist party into half a dozen narrow and warring sects.

We again protest against the Crestline referendum as unconstitutional, un-Socialistic, and without any binding force upon the Socialist party.

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) EMIL SEIDL,
VICTOR L. BERGER,
FRED BROCKHAUSEN,
FREDERIC HEATH,
JACOB HUNGER,
State Executive Board of Wisconsin.
E. H. THOMAS, Secretary.

NATIONAL NOTES

Comrade Clinton Simonton as state organizer is touring the state of Arkansas.

Charters have been granted to Tulsa, ten members, and Enville, Ind. Ter., nine members.

A. O. Grigsby, "B" National Military Home,

National Committee Referendums Submitted

Motions 31, 32 and 33—New Rule Governing Submissions

Rule 2—"When a National Committee member makes a motion by correspondence it shall be published in the next weekly bulletin. A period of ten days shall then be permitted to elapse before the ballots for said motion are sent out. During these ten days, any National Committee member may send in his comment on said motion. If the comment exceeds one hundred words, it shall be filed for reference, but not published. Otherwise, it shall be sent out along with the ballots. When sending in the ballots, the National Committee member may file comments for reference if they so desire, but such comments shall not be published."

exists between the state of Wisconsin and the National Committee.

COMMENT BY FLOYD.

"In making the above motion I am instructed by the Providence (German) Local to do so. In casting my vote in the Wisconsin affair I express the views of the Rhode Island members. However, on general principles we are opposed to punitive measures, and we believe that unless some action is taken tending to restoring harmonious relation with Wisconsin, that the breach now existing will lead to the termination of the Wisconsin organization as it now exists, to the detriment of all concerned. In offering this motion we do so in the spirit of 'Let us reason together.' Vote will close October 10th.

COMMENTS BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE-MEN.

Work (Iowa)—"While the spirit which prompted this motion is good, the motion itself is unnecessary. The referendum will settle the Wisconsin affair. If the propositions are carried, I am confident that the Wisconsin comrades will accept the will of the majority like men, and apply for a charter. If the propositions are lost, I am also confident that those who have opposed Wisconsin will be equally manly in accepting the decision. The referendum will close the incident. Let it die in peace."

Gibbs (Massachusetts)—"Comrade Floyd's motion, though well meant, is rather out of date since the Executive Committee of Wisconsin has already stated their side on the Berger case, and so far as the charter affair is concerned, we have the official constitution to go by, and if need be the official records to refer to."

Any further investigation or attempt of reconciliation is superfluous since the membership of the party has already decided upon Wisconsin's fate."

CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 26, 1905.

To the National Committee, Socialist Party, Comrades:

Herewith is submitted referendum No. 31, motion No. 33, by National Committeeman Work of Iowa:

MOTION NO. 31.

"I move that Comrade S. M. Reynolds, of the National Executive Committee, or in case of his inability, Comrade J. M. Work, be requested to proceed to Minneapolis, St. Paul, and such other places in Minnesota as may be deemed necessary, to investigate the trouble between the State Executive Committee of Minnesota and Local Minneapolis, with a view of getting at the facts in this deplorable controversy, and report to the National Committee what action may be advisable to bring order out of the chaotic state that seems to exist in the party organization of Minnesota."

COMMENTS BY BANDLOW.

"I am well aware that the plea will be raised that State autonomy prevents the National Committee from interfering with the affairs of Minnesota, but I submit that the National organization is affected by the wholesale expulsion of comrades, whose only apparent offense has been to oppose opportunism. When State party organizations can expel organizations of which they themselves are members, and still continue to officiate, it is time that the membership at large in the United States know what is going on, so that they may proceed in a manner that will place the stamp of disapproval upon proceedings of such character. I think the time has come for the National Committee to act and to act quickly."

Vote will close October 4.

COMMENTS BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE-MEN.

Work (Iowa)—"This motion is not only a direct violation of the constitution, but it is also very unwise. Let us not forget the sad bungle we made by interfering in Utah. And let us not forget that Nebraska, Washington, California, Ohio and Kansas have settled serious internal difficulties without our assistance. This is a case for the application of the principle of local self-government. The National office should confine itself to the activities that legitimately belong to it. The merits of the Minnesota question are not involved. Prejudice for or against either side should not influence the vote."

Gibbs (Massachusetts)—"This motion is a flagrant and willful violation of our National Constitution, which is supposed to guarantee to the states the right to manage their own affairs. It should have been ruled out of order by the Secretary. It emphasizes the need of some provision by which the states may protect themselves from these unconstitutional attacks. Under these persistent and insidious violations state autonomy is fast becoming a farce and the management of party affairs an autocracy rivaling the S. L. P. in its palmy days."

Lamb (Michigan)—"Our National Party Constitution (Sec. 4, Art. 2, and Sec. 4, Art. 12) specifically provides that our National Committee shall not interfere in such cases without the consent of the state organization. In the absence of such consent Comrade Bandlow's motion proposes a plainly unconstitutional course, and should be declared out of order. These constitutional provisions seem to me to be wisely made. Interference by the National Committee can only result in spreading and intensifying controversy which I have full confidence the Minnesota comrades can best settle among themselves."

Holman (Minnesota)—"While no objection is made to an investigation in a fraternal way, I am compelled to vote 'No' because motion is unconstitutional. The premise is to put the stamp of disapproval on a nearly unanimous state referendum. Investigation is unnecessary, as all information has been published in circular form. Local Minneapolis is not in a chaotic condition, but has now nearly 100 members, and any interference would tend to create chaos. The Local was not expelled for opposing opportunism, but for violating state and national constitution, slandering old and active members, and rank treason to the party."

Headley (New Jersey)—"Motion No. 31 is in direct opposition to Section 4 of Article 12 of our National Constitution. The maker of the motion says that conditions in Minnesota are deplorable. Does the comrade believe that the condition of the party in Minnesota will be less deplorable, providing we send an investigator into that state, when in order to do so we must violate the constitution of our party?"

"Comrades, let us end this foolish quarrel between opportunists and impossibilists, by striving to accomplish some good for the children of the 20th century. We can rest assured that the children of the 20th will be able to take care of themselves."

Maschke (Oklahoma)—"The state officials of Minnesota have no doubt committed a great blunder in the Minneapolis Local affair, but said action seemed to have met with approval by Minnesota members, and as no official request has been made by any of the disputing factions for national interference, it will be up to the National Committee to remain within their sphere of action as prescribed by the National Constitution."

"I am surprised that a protest against wholesale expulsion of members should come from quarters that were so active in a propaganda that may result in an expulsion of a whole state."

National Headquarters Socialist Party.

CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 19, 1905.

To the National Committee, Socialist Party, Comrades:

Herewith is submitted referendum No. 30, motion No. 32, by National Committeeman Floyd of Rhode Island.

MOTION NO. 32.

"I move that a committee of three be elected from those of the National Committee who have voted against Comrade Wm. Mally (who are not personally offensive)—they be to a committee to visit Wisconsin and confer with the Executive Committee, or committees selected by Wisconsin with a view of adjusting the difference that

exists between the state of Wisconsin and the National Committee."

COMMENTS BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE-MEN.

Work (Iowa)—"While the spirit which prompted this motion is good, the motion itself is unnecessary. The referendum will settle the Wisconsin affair. If the propositions are carried, I am confident that the Wisconsin comrades will accept the will of the majority like men, and apply for a charter. If the propositions are lost, I am also confident that those who have opposed Wisconsin will be equally manly in accepting the decision. The referendum will close the incident. Let it die in peace."

Gibbs (Massachusetts)—"Comrade Floyd's motion, though well meant, is rather out of date since the Executive Committee of Wisconsin has already stated their side on the Berger case, and so far as the charter affair is concerned, we have the official constitution to go by, and if need be the official records to refer to."

Any further investigation or attempt of reconciliation is superfluous since the membership of the party has already decided upon Wisconsin's fate."

CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 26, 1905.

To the National Committee, Socialist Party, Comrades:

Herewith is submitted referendum No. 31, motion No. 33, by National Committeeman Work of Iowa:

TABULATION OF REPORTS SENT IN FOR LOCALS AND BRANCHES BY STATE SECRETARIES FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1905.

Table with columns: STATE, MEMBERSHIP (Paid up in arrears, Total), STAMPS (New, to date, rears, on roll, B'ght, Sold, B'ght, Sold, Free), LITERATURE (Sold, Free), MEETINGS (Bus., Others, Rec'd, Paid out, On hand, rep't'g), FINANCES (Bus., Others, Rec'd, Paid out, On hand, rep't'g), No. Locals. Rows include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

TABULATION OF REPORTS SENT IN BY LOCALS AND BRANCHES IN UNORGANIZED STATES AND TERRITORIES FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1905.

Table with columns: STATE, MEMBERSHIP (Paid up in arrears, Total), STAMPS (New, to date, rears, on roll, B'ght, Sold, B'ght, Sold, Free), LITERATURE (Sold, Free), MEETINGS (Bus., Others, Rec'd, Paid out, On hand, rep't'g), FINANCES (Bus., Others, Rec'd, Paid out, On hand, rep't'g), No. Locals. Rows include District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee.

National Secretary, J. MAHLON BARNES.

[Continued from First Page]

- Connecticut—White. Florida—Healey. Idaho—Rigg. Illinois—Berlyn. Kansas—Brewster. Kentucky—Towne. Maine—Fox. Massachusetts—Wentworth. Minnesota—Peach. Missouri—Roehn. Montana—McHugh. New Hampshire—Little. New York—Spargo. Pennsylvania—Wanhope. Rhode Island—Floyd. Utah—Gilbert. Vermont—Sullivan. Wyoming—Hastings. Total—24.

NOT VOTING.

- Alabama—LaRue. Arkansas—Lowry. Indiana—Reynolds. Iowa—Kelley. Louisiana—Putnam. Nebraska—Ray. New York—Hillquit. North Dakota—Lampman. Ohio—Bandlow. Oregon—Ramp. Pennsylvania—Ringler. South Dakota—Lovett. Texas—Farmer. West Virginia—Zimmerman. Total—16. The motion is therefore defeated.

COMMENTS.

Berlyn (Illinois)—"I vote 'No' on motion 30, and I think that I need no further justification for my vote than to ask the membership to read the statement issued from Milwaukee, which was timed so as to reach the locals and branches at the same time as the referendum was taken, and then read the official document made public by the action of the Executive Committee."

"It is strange that the state of Wisconsin was able to use the party directory of Locals and branches which are in the National Headquarters, except those of the state of Wisconsin."

"The misrepresentation published in the Socialist Press, is enough to make one lose patience, letters and appeals to vote down the Crestline resolutions and not expel Wisconsin. The resolution does not contemplate anything of the kind. It simply demands that Wisconsin shall accept a charter, the same as every other state in the party."

"The strange statement by the Rev. Carl Thompson comes in good, in view of the fact that less than two years ago he demanded that the National office pay the expense that he desired to incur so that he might break up the Nebraska state organization. He did not think much of state autonomy then."

"As regards Seymour Stedman's statement, I will simply say that I am a pre-historic. When I entered the Socialist movement I did it honestly. I have never had and I know that I never will have a preference as between capitalist parties. If there is no real socialist ticket in the field, I will go to the polls and write socialism on the ballot, that might not elect an office seeker, but if enough men had the courage and conviction to do that we would gain perhaps more for the cause even if we won't lose some wise politicians. A Socialist, I repeat, has no choice as between capitalist parties. We are opposed to all capitalist parties, that's why we call each other Comrade. The argument made by Stedman would lower our movement to the level of a political party. I am in favor of organizing the working class for the conquest of the public powers and in doing this we must not ape the manners of capitalists. One thing is sure, to be a socialist we must be other than others."

Work (Iowa)—"The action was clearly unconstitutional. It was roundabout comment, but it was comment none the less. It is the duty of executive officers to administer the constitution without any bias, or prejudice, and without permitting their personal views regarding the merits of the question involved to have the slightest influence upon their interpretation of the constitution. This is a high standard. As yet, most of us are too human to reach it. But it is our imperative duty to try."

Fox (Maine)—"The submission of the correspondence between the National Secretary and the state of Wisconsin giving both sides of the question cannot be construed as 'comment' and does not conflict with the letter or spirit of the Constitution."

The National Committee and members at large need all the evidence obtainable on both sides of the question and the time for the evidence is now while the subject is under discussion."

Gibbs (Massachusetts)—"This action of the Executive Committee was a direct and premeditated violation of our constitution and for the express purpose of influencing

the vote now being taken. Those who were guilty of promoting it should be suspended rather than 'condemned.' Such acts of usurpation in violation of the constitution reveals the shallowness and hypocrisy of their pretensions when they pose as defenders of the constitution."

"Such acts directed against the rights of this state are ample justification for the state refusing a charter till such time as its rights can be safeguarded."

"The very ones who have been loudest in insisting that the state should abide by the constitution do not hesitate to violate it when it will serve their purpose."

Lamb (Michigan)—"The published letter of ex-Secretary Greenbaum, resurrected as evidence on the Wisconsin case sets up that the builders of the old S. P. constitution had omitted something, whereas the Executive Committee of National Committee, proceeded to do a little constitution building on their own account. They 'amended' the constitution to fit the case then in hand. I vote 'Yes' on Comrade Maschke's motion No. 30. It was unnecessary for our Executive Committee to thus expose the presumption of an old National Committee in assuming the right to amend the National Constitution. The admitted facts that the committee did so decree an amendment to which it required the assent of the party in Wisconsin, which Wisconsin steadily refused, is a credit to the Socialist movement in that state."

Peach (Minnesota)—"Vote No, because I think all facts bearing on a motion should be furnished the National Committee."

Holman (Minnesota)—"I maintain that no member of the N. E. C. has a right to use the National office to influence the party membership while a referendum is pending, or to violate Article 11, Section 3, which provides: 'All propositions and other matters submitted for the referendum of the party shall be presented without preamble or comment.' The violation of this provision is not the publication of the correspondence and statement of contents paid by Wisconsin, but the comment contained in the letters of Comrades Bandlow, Berlyn and Mally, all members of the N. E. C."

Comrade Bandlow states his reasons for voting to keep Comrade Berger from the N. E. C., and infers that all who vote against the Crestline resolutions are sentimentals, etc. This member of the N. E. C. voted to have the N. E. C. investigate the Minnesota situation, a direct violation of Article 12, Section 4. He has also moved in the National Committee to send a member of the N. E. C. to Minnesota to investigate the matter after it has been decided by referendum of the state by ten to one, and in his comment states that the only clause in the National Constitution that Wisconsin favors is the one referring to state autonomy, and states that it is time to refute the lie that Wisconsin is acting under a charter. The first statement is an unworthy exaggeration, and the second could easily be construed by the average member who is not fully informed on the Wisconsin situation, to mean that Wisconsin was circulating the report that they were acting under a charter, which is untrue."

Comrade Mally words his comment more adroitly, but it is nevertheless prejudicial. He has stated in his paper that he refused to be a member of the N. E. C. in his official capacity, but Wm. Mally, the editor, and Wm. Mally, the National Executive Committeeman, seem to have many points of agreement, or at least are on very good terms with each other."

I see no objection to the National office stating any facts in its possession, but when members of the N. E. C. show a disposition to use their official position to get certain measures passed, and have no scruples about violating the constitution to gain their point, I think it is about time for the National Committee, and the party membership, to give such action the stamp of disapproval. It is simply the method of the tricky politician to claim that the comment did not accompany the call for the referendum; the purpose and effect remains the same, and the constitution is violated to the same extent."

Behrens (Missouri)—"Let us pause a brief moment in our investigations, condemnations and halucinations and expend our energies in organization, agitation and education."

Kearns (New Jersey)—"While exasperated beyond expression by Wisconsin's insolent demeanor toward the National organization and Berger's questionable treatment of individual members of the party who differ with him in the matter of tactics, I cannot feel that anything he has done or that the party of that state has done, can justify the action of the Executive Committee. The circular cannot but influence the vote now pending and therein the con-

stitution is violated. Furthermore, the advantage taken is beneath the dignity of the committee."

Headley (New Jersey)—"I vote Yes, on motion No. 30, for the reason that I feel firmly convinced our N. E. Committee had no moral, nor constitutional, right to instruct our National Secretary to publish the 'Special Circular on Wisconsin Charter and Dues Account.' The language of our constitution is very plain when treating of such actions as those complained of in the above motion. Section 4, Article 6, says 'The Executive Committee shall transmit copies of the minutes of its meetings to all members of the National Committee, and all its acts and resolutions shall be subject to the revision of the National Committee.'"

"Now in my opinion it makes no difference whether the action of the N. E. C. is the result of a regular meeting held in Chicago, or whether it is the result of a decision arrived at by correspondence; all its reports and actions must, according to Section 1, of Article 5, of the National Constitution—be received and passed upon by the National Committee."

"In the case complained of no opportunity whatever was given the National Committee to act, before the whole matter was launched into the press. Thus was the constitution violated, the National Committee ignored and a direct insult was offered to the intelligence of the members of the party who have selected their representatives on the National Committee."

Bandlow (Ohio)—"I would commend to all who may share the views on motion No. 30, presented by the National Committeeman of Oklahoma, to seriously contemplate the inscription on the order of the Garter, to-wit: 'Honni soit qui mal y pense.'"

Berger (Wisconsin)—"The personal animosity on the part of Mr. Mally has been plainly manifest in the Wisconsin case from the beginning."

Hastings (Wyoming)—"I very much doubt that the motive of the National Executive Committee in issuing the Special Wisconsin Circular was anything but extreme good and am therefore opposed to a vote of censure or condemnation. The National Executive Committee may have erred in so doing. I cannot discover that they did. I view it as timely and instructive."

Fraternally submitted, J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

SPECIAL CIRCULAR.

[Continued from Third Page]

whole matter submitted to the National Committee, if necessary. Fraternally yours, WILLIAM MAILLY, Member National Executive Committee.

Comrade Mally ends his letter of Aug. 24 with the sentence: 'I am willing to have the whole matter submitted to the National Committee, if necessary.'

Keeping this in mind, and the fact that only two members of the National Executive Committee expressed an opinion on the matter submitted, no action having been taken, and the further fact that it would occupy twelve pages of the weekly Bulletin or mimeographed 'special circular.' I deemed the summarized report dated Sept. 16 to the National Executive Committee all that was essential.

No action of Comrade Bandlow as a member of the National Executive Committee was reported to the National Committee, for the reason that he took no action on the matter submitted. Comrade Mally is probably confounded by the submission of National Committeeman Bandlow's motion No. 31, and his comment which accompanied it. Fraternally submitted, J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

At a Socialist meeting at 12th and Olive Sts., St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 25th, about 100 men, women and children were brutally clubbed by the police and the meeting broken up. Comrades G. A. Hoehn, Wm. Brandt and W. C. Benton were to be the speakers.