
Communist Labor Party Mail Referendum for NEC Motions 3 and 4. [October 11, 1919]

A document in the DoJ/BoI Investigative Files, NARA M-1085, reel 940, doc. 443.

National Office

COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY
3207 Clark Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio.

October 11, 1919.

To the National Executive Committee.

Comrades:—

Herewith are submitted for your vote NEC motion numbers 3 and 4, together with an amendment to motion 4. Please vote by return mail.

Fraternally,

A. Wagenknecht,
Executive Secretary.

NEC Motion 3 — By Max Bedacht.

That the Executive Secretary be instructed to send the following invitation to the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party:

To the Central Executive Committee
of the Communist Party.

Dear Comrades:—

The National Executive Committee of the Communist Labor Party invites the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party to meet with it on November 1, 1919, or as near to that date as possible, in Chicago or some other place agreed upon.

First. — For an informal discussion of a basis for a formal Unity Conference and a mode of procedure for such a conference.

Second. — If a basis is agreed upon, to then and there hold a Unity Conference.

In all sincerity we await your immediate and favorable answer, and remain

For a United Communist Movement,

National Executive Committee,
Communist Labor Party.

VOTE HERE: YES _____ NO _____

(The motion passed by the Communist Labor Party convention, instructing its national officials to accept every invitation for unity, will be included in the above communication to the Communist Party.)

NEC Motion 4 — By [Edward] Lindgren.

That a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Communist Labor Party be held on Saturday, October 18th, 1919, or as near as possible to this date as the committee can meet, in the city of New York, for the purpose of taking up the question of issuing a national weekly paper, and other matters that may properly come before the committee.

COMMENT: I think that a weekly paper is absolutely necessary at this time if we are to be successful in our organization work. The *Ohio Socialist* will not do. WE must have a paper of national character to enable us to combat the national organ of the Communist Party in its vicious attack upon the Communist Labor Party. We must have an editor who understands the International Communist movement and

tactics in order to line up the various Communist Labor papers throughout the country, which do not seem clear as yet about the Communist position. I have spoken to several comrades here and they assure me that they can meet the financial obligations we may incur both in holding the meeting of the NEC and in getting the paper started.

signed — Edward Lindgren.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION 4 BY BEDACHT,
BILAN, AND KATTERFELD.

That a National Executive Committee meeting be held in New York upon October 25th, 1919, providing the New York comrades referred to in the above comment will advance the \$200.00 extra it would cost to hold the meeting in New York City.

COMMENT: The meeting could be held in Cleveland at a saving of \$200.00. The condition of the national treasury is not such as to allow this extra expense. If this \$200.00 can be advanced so that the fare to New York can be paid, then we favor a meeting in New York upon October 25th. Otherwise, we vote to hold the meeting upon October 25th in Cleveland.

signed — Max Bedacht, A. Bilan, L.E. Katterfeld.

VOTE HERE:

For the Motion

YES _____ NO _____

For the Amendment

YES _____ NO _____

Your signature

Footnote: In addition to Bedacht, Bilan, Katterfeld, and Lindgren, the CLP's NEC had a 5th member, Jack Carney of Duluth.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

Published by 1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR, 2006. • Non-commercial reproduction permitted.