

LA FOLLETTE IS REPUDIATED BY READING F.-L.

Backs Candidates of Workers Party

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READING, Pa., Aug. 4.—The Farmer-Labor Party of Berks County adopted a resolution condemning the petty bourgeois LaFollette movement and endorsing the candidates of the Workers Party as the only working class candidates now in the field. The statement issued by the Reading Farmer-Labor Party among other things states:

"To make the issue clear, we do not favor LaFollette and Wheeler because they are supporters of the capitalist system. We cannot conceive that with the interests back of them, they will do very much to eradicate the evils that exist.

"As for the labor leaders who have swallowed this concoction it is evident to us that there is very little difference between them and the average politician. They were careful to retain their standing in their own localities with the political parties they assume they are fighting against, and they endorse LaFollette as an independent candidate, which left them free in their states to support the friends of labor in the old parties.

"It is beyond our understanding how they can reconcile themselves to this condition. Excepting that they see a fighting chance to find a place to hang their hats on.

Still a Republican.

"LaFollette declared himself still a Republican, and only rebelling against the present machine. Wheeler likewise announced himself still a democrat for the same reasons. They are only opposed to the worst forms of the existing system of things.

"As members of working class political parties and labor unions for many years, we can not see any real value in supporting such elements.

"In the struggle for a better and freer life we know the impossibility of trying to keep one foot in capitalist parties and the other in a working class party and make progress at the same time.

"Neither can we see how, after years of agitation among the working class, these men who pointed out the absolute necessity of a working class party that should be owned and controlled by the workers at all times, can now say: 'It's something just as good,' or 'a step in the right direction,' and suddenly shift and say 'Vote for LaFollette and Wheeler.'

Confuses the Workers.

"We, the members of the Farmer-Labor Party, consider the LaFollette-Wheeler movement as one that tends to confuse the workers and those dissatisfied with existing wrongs. The idea of a labor party growing out of it looks deceptive, because to circulate petitions in every state for LaFollette and Wheeler entails just as much work and effort as it would for a real labor party. To organize campaign committees and clubs for the collection of money and other political work, such as meetings, etc., means the same effort for LaFollette and Wheeler as it would for a real labor party.

"We know that the Workers Party was the first to try to form a real labor party that stands for a farmers' and workers' government. It has not changed its attitude to meet the desires of a few men. Foster and Gitlow have always been outspoken against the reactionary elements, both in the labor movement and out of it, and have been active in such important movements like the amalgamation of craft unions into industrial unions."