
The Communist Party

by Jack Carney

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The State Secretary [Charles Dirba] has taken exception to our statement of last week, "The majority of the English-speaking membership it had (the Communist Party) is drawing away from it." He is of the opinion that "common decency and honesty demands that you retract this misstatement."

Comrade Dirba writing to a local comrade, whose letter we have before us, stated, "*The Michigan manifesto and platform was entirely rejected by a vote of 73 to 37.*"

Now place both statements alongside of each other and allow calm judgment to be decided as to whether our statement needs to be retracted. Can you imagine for one moment a group of comrades who have carried on a certain line of propaganda remaining within a party that repudiates that line of propaganda? Especially the Michigan comrades!

Comrades do not let us fool ourselves. If you want to judge the membership of any party, just judge them by their actions, not their TALK. There has been more work done in the city of Duluth than in both of the Twin Cities. We have sold more literature than the State Office, which has the whole membership to serve. The Scandinavian Local has practically kept the State Office above water. This has been made possible because within the Socialist Party of Duluth there has been unity of purpose and unity of action. We have not engaged in talk so much as action. True it is that we have not used many revolutionary phrases, but we have gone to the place where the worker was reached and that was on the job. Against the most formidable opposition the Socialist Party of Duluth has made headway and will continue to do so. We shall work

with that party that can function in the field of propaganda and action. We shall not prate about our revolutionary fervor, but we shall act and convince the powers that be that we are in earnest in our endeavors to bring about the freedom of the working class. If you decide to go with the Communist Party we have nothing to say against you, better by far to be inside of the Communist Party than to be outside of them all. One thing we wish to say to you, that in this state there will be at least one thousand comrades who will go with the Communist Labor Party. There will be two Communist Parties. If you are in earnest, comrades, and if through the present clouds of oppression you can see the sun attempting to burst through, you will work for unity. There is no Communist Party that has a right to say that WE are the only party. The times call for more tolerance and they call for the exercising of our common sense in these matters. We must come together. If you are prepared to stay in your own little party, then you are lost to all sense of a conscious realization of the task that is set before you.

We have nothing to retract, "common decency and honesty demands" that we tell the comrades of Minnesota the facts. We have done this. Childish letters and hysterical ravings of "responsible" comrades will not be allowed to stampede us. We are prepared to allow all comrades who know us to judge us by what we have DONE and not by what we say we are GOING TO DO.

In the meantime read over the following statement of facts and then elect your delegate to the State Convention, fully instructed as to what you desire him or her to do.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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