

LOREITES FIGHT AGAINST LABOR PARTY DEMAND

Yellow Gang Joins Food Workers Reaction

By BERT MILLER.

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NEW YORK CITY, Dec. 16—A resolution calling for the "Formation of a labor party based upon the trade unions and including as affiliated sections all other political organizations of a working class nature, upon a local, state and national basis" was defeated by a combination of the followers of Ludwig Lore and the most reactionary forces in the Amalgamated Food Workers' national convention, held at the Labor Temple on Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13.

Three points of view manifested themselves on this question. First there were those who demanded that the union have nothing to do with political questions. Second, there were those who thought that the worker should be free to choose from among existing political parties of labor. Third came the view of the left wing which fought for a labor party to carry on the struggle of the workers on the political field. Delegate Hegener, of Bakers' Local 3, who throughout the convention had been actively allied with the Lore forces, led by Burkhardt and supported him on practically every proposal, supported the recommendation of the majority of the resolutions committee which called for the rejection of the labor party resolution. Hegener declared that the workers' political parties had already made trouble enough and that there were plenty of them.

Left Wing for Labor Party.

Delegate Gerber, of Bakers' Local No. 1 was of the same opinion. He thought that workers should be free to support any political party, but that the convention had been called for organization purposes only. Gerber is known in political circles as one of the leading supporters of Ludwig Lore.

Against this the left wing delegates conducted a valiant struggle for independent political action, through the formation of a labor party. The fight was begun by Delegate Kalfedis, representing the Hotel Workers' Union who pointed out the necessity of a political party of labor to "fight the battles of labor." He further declared that every economic struggle is a political struggle. He showed that while the bosses discouraged the workers from forming their own political party they organized themselves into powerful trusts and at the

Early Trial Demanded for Cook County Jail Heads Caught Grafting

An early trial for Sheriff Peter M. Hoffman, Wesley Westbrook, former warden of the Cook county jail, and five others indicted with them in proceedings growing out of unusual privileges accorded Terry Druggan and Frankie Lake, millionaire bottleggers, while they were serving terms for prohibition law violations will be asked by the district attorney.

The indictments, returned by a federal grand jury yesterday, charge the seven with bribery, with acceptance of bribes, and with conspiracy to obstruct justice.

same time they did not fail to use the forces of the government to their own advantage, through their control of political parties. In this way they use the courts, the police, injunctions, against the workers as in the great Broadway strike of the Rector company.

Kalfedis also pointed out the dangers of recent legislation, finger printing and the repressive legislation against foreign-born workers as another reason for the immediate formation of a labor party. Delegates Christian and Obermeier of the Hotel Workers' Union, Foders and Rosenberger of Bakers' Local No. 164 ably supported the resolution for a labor party. General-Secretary Burkhardt, who is a recognized leader of the Lore forces at the convention took no part in the discussion, even though he was pressed to state his views.

For World Unity.

The convention also went on record for world trade union unity, but referred the matter of sending a trade union delegation to Soviet Russia to the various locals to pass upon. The resolution for world trade union unity was not accepted without a struggle, for the majority of the resolutions committee consisting of Lore sympathizers had voted it down by a majority vote of four to one. But upon the minority report of Delegate Kalfedis, demanding that the resolution be accepted, the ranks of the Lore delegates were broken by General Secretary Burkhardt, who spoke for the adoption of the resolution sensing the serious blot that would be placed upon the organization if the resolution were not accepted. The majority of the resolutions committee then withdrew their recommendation, and the proposal made by Delegate Kalfedis was carried.

Had Kalfedis not taken up this fight, there is no question but that the resolution would have been snowed under. A considerable part of the convention was devoted to a discussion of the Free Voice, official organ of the union. The paper was severely criticized for its failure to carry organization material and suggestions for building up the Amalgamated Food Workers and for developing a spirit of solidarity and activity in the organization. It was pointed out of the left wing delegates that the paper simply reprinted clippings from the capitalist press and from other workers' papers.

Throughout the convention the left wing forces were led by Delegate Obermeier, who stressed particularly the inefficiency and the lack of activity on the part of the present administration in all phases of its work. Resolutions were carried for recognition of Soviet Russia, the release of Sacco and Vanzetti, and for the organization of the cafeteria and lunch room workers. Resolutions were also carried against the policy of class collaboration, and for the amalgamation of all the food workers' unions into one powerful union in the food industry.

Recommendations for carrying the amalgamation resolutions into effect were deferred until a later session next Sunday.

Another struggle during the convention was around the question of the composition of the incoming executive board. Delegate Obermeier proposed that each section of the industry be represented by three delegates on a central executive committee of nine selected from the general board of 26. Under the former procedure of the Amalgamated Food Workers concerned itself little with the broad problems of the entire industry. In the discussion, it was brought out that the new form of committee would be of great advantage in organizing the unorganized, and handling the problems of all sections of the food industry. A resolution was passed taxing each member \$1 a year, which money should be spent as follows: Sixty per cent for the purpose of organizing the unorganized, 40 per cent for educational purposes. The next session of the convention will be held on Sunday, Dec. 20.

Have a Good Time

SATURDAY

at These DAILY WORKER Parties.



NEW YORK

Saturday, December 19

Harlem Casino, 116th St. and Lenox Ave.

BOSTON

Saturday, December 19

Dudley Street Opera House—Lettish folk dances; choral singing; dancing; and "Kartoffel Salat." Given by the Lettish Branch.

SAN FRANCISCO

Saturday, December 19

Russian Night—given by the Rus-