

MAJORITY REPORT SCORES SOCIALISTS

Urges N. Y. Assembly to Unseat Five Members of Alleged Disloyal Party

FINAL VOTE ON THURSDAY

By the Associated Press
Albany, March 30.—Refraining the Socialist party as "an organization composed exclusively of perpetual traitors," a majority of the judiciary committee of the New York State Assembly, in a report transmitted to the lower house of the Legislature today, recommended the expulsion of the five Socialist assemblymen—August Claessens, Charles Solomon, Louis Waldman, Samuel One and Samuel De Witt.

(Minority reports were submitted by members of the committee who disagreed with the majority. Action on the reports will be made a special order of business in the Assembly tomorrow, and it is expected that the final vote will be taken Thursday.)

While no concerted action has been taken by those opposed to the expulsion of the Socialists, Majority Leader Simon L. Adler, of Monroe, and Assemblyman Theodore Roosevelt, of Nassau, will speak and vote against the program.

Enactment of a law to prevent any organization which admits aliens to its membership from occupying the position of a political party on the official ballot of the state is advocated in the majority report.

The Socialist assemblymen, the findings state, "are not obedient to the constitution and laws of the United States and the state of New York, nor desirous of the welfare of the country, nor in hearty accord and sympathy with its government and institutions."

Cites Evidence Against Party
The report reviews portions of the evidence heard during the recent four-day trial, purporting to show that the Socialist party opposed prosecution of the war, opposed legislation for industrial and military conscription, pledged its members to work for the repeal of the conscription law, advised resistance to conscription of life and labor and urged repudiation of war debts.

Referring to the statement that some 2000 Socialists had been arrested for their activities the report says: "It was impossible to give expression to or set upon the true doctrine of the Socialist party during the war without running afoul of the criminal law."

"There is but one inference from the position of the Socialists in relation to military and naval appropriations and for war," the report continues. "They would render the country and government helpless against all enemies, so that it may be held against them, the enemies of established order."

Two Republicans Dissent
Two Republicans of the committee, William W. Pellet, of New York, and Theodore Stitt, of Brooklyn, signed a report expressing the belief that the Socialists were entitled to retain their seats. They maintain that no evidence was produced to show that the attitude of the Socialists during the war was not other than negative, withholding aid and comfort to their government, rather than a positive one of giving aid and comfort to the nation's enemies.

"To exclude a duly elected member because of his membership in a political party is a violation of his political or economic views," they say, "not only would be contrary to the spirit of the constitution, but would be a most dangerous attack upon the right of representative government and free political action."

None Guilty of Anarchy
None of the assemblymen, they say, was charged with breach of the criminal anarchy statute of the state or the es-

plionage act, and it may be safely assumed that their speeches were not considered by the authorities charged with enforcing these laws as a violation thereof.

Two Democratic members of the committee, Maurice Bloch and William S. Evans, of New York, hold that members of the Assembly cannot unseat their own members without violating their own oaths of office.

Evans contended that under the constitution of the state, the Assembly "is forbidden from imposing upon any member any test of loyalty and cannot exclude any of these five Socialist assemblymen because they are disloyal or believe that force and violence are necessary in establishing a social state."

"Radical minorities," says Evans's report, "must not be driven from the Legislature. It is better to have them in the Legislature than in secret meetings in cellars."

"Liberty involves the right to think wrong," says Assemblyman Bloch in his report. "As experienced and practical men of affairs political, the members of this Assembly know that they cannot be held personally responsible for every declaration made in any party platform."

MAY DODGE BEER ISSUE
Maine Democratic Convention Urged to Ban National Questions
Bangor, Me., March 30.—(By A. P.)—Delegates to the Democratic state convention, which opened here today, were urged to adopt a platform of state issues and to leave prohibition and the League of Nations covenant to the national convention. Opposition to injecting national issues into the state campaign was led by William K. Pattangill, chairman of the state committee.

Prior to a conference of delegates late last night many had announced that they intended to advocate the repeal of the federal amendment and to declare in favor of light wines and beer. While discussion was general at the conference no definite action was taken.

Few contests were expected in the election of the four delegates-at-large and eight district delegates to the national convention and it was believed that the convention would follow precedent by sending its delegates unopposed.

Effort to Force Vote on Suffrage Failed
Continued from Page One
is overwhelmingly Republican in its Legislature.
Must Gain New Adherents
The feeling of optimism that has prevailed among the friends of suffrage over the ratification of the national amend-

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ment is still high. It is on the surface, however, and I think that down deep in the heart of each one is the conviction that ratification must gain new adherents, if it is to prevail, before a vote is called tomorrow in the House.

It was the earnest belief of such leaders as Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles and Mrs. Henry Hildige, Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, of Pennsylvania, and particularly Miss Alice Paul, that in the interim of the week-end adjournment there would be a change of sentiment among certain of the members opposed to ratification.

There is, it must be frankly confessed, no very great change to report. The air is filled with optimistic claims, but there is little that is concrete upon which to base this feeling.

Suffragists Play for Time
With the issue depending upon one or two votes either way the equal suffrage strategists are playing for time. Miss Alice Paul, the most practical and most indefatigable of the suffrage leaders, says they have made material progress, and if given an additional week can secure ratification. If they cannot accomplish the results in that time they are willing to abandon the fight in Delaware.

In previous dispatches I have outlined the close connection that lies, in the minds of the legislators, between the school code and the fate of the suffrage amendment. Efforts have been made during the last twenty-four hours to frame a new and satisfactory joint resolution for a commission composed of the speaker pro tem of the Senate, the speaker of the House and three members of each body, with Pierre du Pont as chairman of the commission, to revise the school code.

Opponents of the present school law are given the majority of this commission under present plans. Oddly enough, the principal opposition is to the appointment of Mr. duPont as chairman of the board. The establishment of a better feeling among the members on this subject is regarded as a step toward a better understanding of the amendment. So far as the votes on the amendment are concerned, nothing can be definitely counted on until the vote is cast. For the sake of members who may quietly change their views, their names will be kept secret until the last moment.

Red Roses in Majority
Today and yesterday there is no question that the number of those wearing the red rose of anti-suffrage outnumbered those who wore the yellow badge of equal suffrage. The "antis" seemed to have concentrated all their strength in the struggle of the last few days. While H. B. Thompson and H. P. Scott, whose wives are the conspicuous leaders of the "antis," spent a great deal of their time around the State House, there have been no visible results of their presence. They are dignified, wealthy and affable, but they are lacking in the ways of practical politics as played in the Diamond state.

The appearance of former Judge George Gray, Democrat, with the assistance of Edwin Mitchell, Republican, of Wilmington, is likely to exert a

greater leverage in holding the anti-solid. The most conspicuous figure in all this turmoil is Republican State Chairman Daniel J. Layton, son of Congressman Caleb R. Layton, who is holding senators and members from Sussex county in a grip of steel. It is Layton who will our ratification if it is barred. Every influence possible in Washington and at home has been brought upon him, but he refuses to yield.

Daniel J. Layton and his father, the congressman, are the men who will be pilloried before the country as the Republicans who blocked ratification of the suffrage amendment in the thirty-sixth state and thus prevented the women of the United States from voting at the next presidential election.

It is an unbelievable position. State Chairman Daniel J. Layton is publicly quoted as saying that all the talk about his likelihood of "bowing to the will of

the people" is "bunk." That he himself carries around in his pocket, "enough votes to put suffrage over if I wanted it to win."

State Chairman Layton, as I pointed out in previous dispatches, is openly and defiantly in a combination with the Democratic floor leader and whip of the House, Representative John E. McNabb, to defeat the amendment. Layton has turned over the Republican representative of Sussex county, horse, foot and dragons, to McNabb. Nothing else can be deduced from his attitude.

Knows His Responsibility
Layton is a cunning and exceedingly clever politician who is aware from the repeated appeals that have been made to him by the Republican national committee that the Republican party will be held responsible for the defeat of suffrage in Delaware.

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