



A Last Minute Message To Enrolled Voters of the American Labor Party

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(Continued on Last Page)

Dear Enrolled Laborite:

Too many people today are being fed a straight diet of propoganda and ballyhoo! That's why we're sure you want just *facts* and will do your own thinking!

So, here are the *facts* of the American Labor Party Primary contest on Tuesday, August 11th. There will be two slates of American Labor Party candidates. One will represent the Communist-controlled "Left Wing"—which, in 1940, opposed the nomination of President Roosevelt, and fought the election of James M. Mead to the U. S. Senate—fought every defense and preparedness measure, calling this an "imperialist" war, until Russia entered the war in June, 1941. The Left-Wing spokesman, Vito Marcantonio—voted in Congress with all the other isolationists (see his voting record and other important details on the inside pages of this letter.) The Left-Wing slate will also carry the names of Congressmen Andrew J. Somers and James A. O'Leary— isolationists of the America-First variety. Don't be confused by Left-Wing pleas for unity! There can be no unity with notorious isolationists!

The other ALP slate—popularly called the "Right Wing," but actually and officially representing the vast majority of the 500,000 ALP voters—will give enrolled voters a chance to elect candidates representing the policies of the present Party leadership, which has consistently supported President Roosevelt's foreign and domestic policies and which, in recent conference with President Roosevelt, urged the candidacy of James M. Mead, whom it helped elect to the U. S. Senate in 1940, despite the Left-Wing opposition.

Those are the facts! Now here's what you can do about them! *Be sure to vote on Primary Day, for "Right Wing" candidates to the State convention which will nominate the gubernatorial ticket; and "right wing" members of the State committee which will control your Party for the next two years. A sample ballot indicating the right wing candidates in your district is enclosed with this letter. Take it with you to the polls on Primary Day—TUESDAY—AUGUST 11th (from 3 to 10 P. M.) and VOTE RIGHT.*

Sincerely yours,

LIBERAL & LABOR COMMITTEE
TO SAFEGUARD THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY

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Chairman

SAMUEL SHORE
Treasurer

ALEX ROSE
Secretary

LUIGI ANTONINI
Vice-Chairman

ANDREW R. ARMSTRONG
Vice-Chairman

JACOB S. POTOFKY
Vice-Chairman

(TURN PLEASE)

Here is the record . . .

What is the "Right Wing?"

The present leadership of the American Labor Party: Luigi Antonini, State Chairman; Alex Rose, State Secretary; and Andrew R. Armstrong, State Treasurer; were elected and re-elected to office, with Vice-Chairmen and a State Executive Committee of prominent labor leaders and liberals, by State Committeemen duly elected in the Primaries. It was under this same leadership that the Party came into being in 1936—since which time, it has played an important part in the elections of Mayor La Guardia, Governor Lehman, and President Roosevelt. The Labor Party's vote, over these six years, has grown to between four and five hundred thousand—and is now generally considered the balance of power in New York State. The newspapers recently told you how the present party leaders conferred with President Roosevelt and all New Deal elements of our State, in their strenuous efforts to bring about the nomination of a progressive labor candidate for Governor—such as James M. Mead!

The "Right Wing" Record:

Toward the end of 1939, when war broke out in Europe, the American Labor Party, consistent with its ideals, supported President Roosevelt's foreign policy, urged Congress to give aid to the Allies, and supported the Lend-Lease, Selective Service, and all Defense Appropriations Bills. It was then that a small group within the American Labor Party, headed by Vito Marcantonio, Eugene Connolly and Morris Watson, organized an opposition group, called "The Progressive Committee," to oppose the President's foreign policy. They opened a bitter attack on both the Labor Party leadership and President Roosevelt. Since then, the newspapers have referred to this opposition group as the "Left Wing," and the present leadership as the "Right Wing."

What is the "Left Wing?"

The policy of the "Left Wing" during 1940 and 1941 was identical with the policy of the Communist Party in the United States—whether by design or chance. The "Left Wing" consistently and viciously attacked President Roosevelt's foreign policy. While the very security of our lives and country was at stake, the Marcantonio-Connolly combination joined the isolationist chorus, and accused the President of trying to drag us into war.

The "Left Wing" Record:

The record of Congressman Vito Marcantonio, spokesman of the "Left Wing," is proof of their anti-Roosevelt, isolationist policy:

- on AID TO THE ALLIES—Marcantonio voted NO!
- on the LEND-LEASE BILL—Marcantonio voted NO!
- on all DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS—Marcantonio voted NO!
- on the SELECTIVE SERVICE BILL—Marcantonio voted NO!

Mr. Marcantonio was denounced by the American Labor Party on account of his record—a record worse than that of Mr. Hamilton Fish or Mr. Barry! THEY voted for some defense measures—Marcantonio voted for none!

Mr. Eugene Connolly, "Left Wing" candidate for Congress in 1940, ran on an anti-Roosevelt platform, and at the 1940 American Labor Party State convention, held in Utica to nominate Roosevelt for a third term, introduced a "Left Wing" resolution opposing President Roosevelt's renomination—from which we quote:

"Franklin D. Roosevelt, false to those things which gave rise to genuine hope in the hearts of millions of Americans, is on the same path as his rival (Willkie). Abandoning the New Deal, likewise capitulating to Big Business and international finance capital, he is betraying the American people. He seeks to get us into war. Continuation of his policies will get us into war, will destroy our labor movement, will deprive us of a democracy worth fighting and dying for. He, too, is not for us."

The "Left Wing" carried its vicious opposition to Roosevelt to the point of rioting, and forced the Convention to move to two different halls. Then, only through the intervention of police was the Convention able to nominate Roosevelt. Notwithstanding the "Left Wing" opposition and its bitter anti-Roosevelt press campaign, the American Labor Party proceeded with its program of loyalty and active support of President Roosevelt. In the election of 1940, the Labor Party obtained 420,000 votes for Roosevelt and helped to carry the State for him.

The Real Issue:

Where would the American Labor Party be today if the "Left Wing" had had a majority of delegates at that 1940 Convention? Where would our nation—the democracies of the world—be today, if the "Left

Wing" had had its way, and Roosevelt were not our President now? Now, and since the German invasion of the Soviet Union, the "Left Wing" has made an about-face, and is shouting its devotion to Roosevelt from the rooftops. But—on their own records, can they be trusted? Would YOU want to rely on their integrity, on their judgment? Would you want to entrust them with the leadership of the American Labor Party for the next two years? THIS IS THE REAL ISSUE OF THE COMING PRIMARY CONTEST!

The Phony Unity Issue:

The "Left Wing" now talks about unity with us, on the theory that there are no present differences between us. Yet they have nominated a full slate of candidates in opposition to the official Party candidates! Our answer to their phony unity plea is that the Labor Party is united, as it was through all these critical years, and that the "Left Wing" at no time spoke for or represented the American Labor Party. For, not only did the Labor Party denounce Marcantonio's actions in Congress, but also repudiated Morris Watson and Eugene Connolly for their efforts and activities in connection with the American Peace Mobilization, and the picketing of the White House.

"Left Wing" Supports Isolationists:

Even now, on the eve of the filing of nominations for candidates for public office, the "Left Wing" has once again demonstrated its lack of honesty by nominating as "Left Wing" candidates for Congress two outstanding isolationists: James A. O'Leary (Staten Island) and Andrew L. Somers (Brooklyn). This, in spite of their public statements of devotion to the war and to Roosevelt's policies. Do YOU want to entrust our government now to people such as O'Leary, Somers, and Marcantonio—with their records as isolationists?

It's Up To You!

Our present Party leadership and membership—except for the "Left Wing" isolationist group—has consistently believed in giving all aid to the Allies not since Hitler's invasion of Russia, but since the first shot of the war in Europe was fired. We admire the courageous resistance of the heroic Red Army to Hitler's aggression. Our affiliated organizations have given and are giving unstinting aid to Russia.

The present Party leadership—who can point to this consistent record for the past six years, with no isolationist apologies—sincerely wants to continue the Party as an influential factor in the affairs of the State of New York, and a powerful instrument for the support of President Roosevelt's foreign and domestic policy.

It's up to YOU to make your choice for all public office and party position candidates on Primary Day, Tuesday, August 11th, and run YOUR party as YOU wish!

The "Low Down":

The real fight in the Primary on August 11th will be for Party positions, because the "Left Wing" is bent upon capturing a majority of the State Committee and the delegates to the State Convention. If the "Left Wing" succeeds in obtaining control of our State Convention, all our efforts as an important factor in the governorship, and as a vital part of the support of Roosevelt and his foreign and domestic policies—would fail!

What You Must Do!

There will be two slates of candidates in the coming Primary—one representing the present Party policy and leadership—the other representing the "Left Wing" with its record of isolationism. The majority of votes on Primary Day will decide the future of the Labor Party. We ask again: Would you like to entrust the Party to Watson, Connolly, Marcantonio, of the "Left Wing"—who carry the black mark of isolationism in their record—or do you want to give the present Party leadership a vote of confidence on their six-years' record of achievements for our Party, and in support of our President?

Don't Lose Your Party By Default!

Come out for a few minutes on August 11th, and vote in the Primaries! DON'T LOSE BY DEFAULT the privilege of having YOUR Party—a privilege denied today to millions of people throughout the world—a privilege for which we are all fighting this war!

Make up your mind now to vote for "Right Wing" candidates on Primary Day, Tuesday, August 11th—the genuine candidates of the American Labor Party.

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LIBERAL & LABOR COMMITTEE TO SAFEGUARD THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY

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