

CALL FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE  
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

April 19, 1971

TO ALL LOCALS, BRANCHES AND MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Pursuant to the provisions of the party constitution, the National Committee hereby calls the Twenty-Fourth National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party to convene in Ohio at 10:00 AM on Sunday, August 8 and continue through five days (August 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1971).

AGENDA

The Political Committee proposes the following agenda for the convention:

World Movement  
Israel and the Arab Revolution Resolution  
Political Resolution  
Women's Liberation Movement Resolution  
Chicano Liberation Movement Resolution  
Black Liberation Struggle Report  
Youth Report  
Organization Report  
Presidential Ticket  
Election of National Committee

PRECONVENTION DISCUSSION

The party preconvention discussion is formally opened May 1, 1971. The Discussion Bulletin is open for all party members on the subjects listed in the agenda or others which they may wish to present for the consideration of the party. As authorized by the party constitution, the Political Committee has set a deadline of July 31, 1971 for acceptance of preconvention discussion articles for the bulletin.

Branch membership meetings shall be arranged for discussion of the various subjects on the agenda. Our traditional provisions and safeguards for the adequate and free presentation of all points of view shall govern all discussion.

CONVENTION ASSESSMENT

As authorized by the party constitution, a convention assessment of \$ 8.00 per member is hereby levied, the payment of which is obligatory for every member not totally unemployed.

## BASIS OF REPRESENTATION

1. Representation from the branches shall be as follows: One delegate for the first 7 members or less, and one additional delegate for each 7 additional members or major fraction thereof (4 or more constituting a major fraction).

2. Each branch having 4 or more members is entitled to a voting delegate.

3. Delegates are to be elected by branches in accordance with the actual number of members in good standing who have been admitted to the party prior to April 19, 1971, and who have paid their convention assessment, as certified by the branch executive committee on the day of voting.

4. Branches organized after April 19, 1971 are entitled to send fraternal delegates as provided by the party constitution.

5. Members admitted to the party after April 19, 1971 are entitled to voice in the party discussion but no vote on resolutions or in the selection of delegates.

6. Absentee votes on political resolutions and in the election of delegates shall not be permitted except in clearly established cases of occupational necessity (for example, regular night workers, etc.). In all such cases the votes must be submitted in writing and recognized by motion at the branch meeting at the time of the branch voting.

7. Members transferring from one branch to another within the same locality subsequent to April 19, 1971, must vote in the branch from which they transferred.

## PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

In case of political differences defined by conflicting resolutions, the election of delegates in the branches is to be on the basis of the vote on resolution or resolutions voted on at the meeting at which the delegates are elected. Members voting for a given resolution are entitled to designate the delegate or delegates to which they are entitled on the basis of proportional representation laid down in this call, the designations to be ratified by the branch. Abstentions in no case count as votes.

1. If a branch is entitled to one delegate, the delegate goes to the majority of those present and voting at the time of the election.

2. If two delegates, a minority with 40 percent gets one.

3. If three delegates, a minority with  $33\frac{1}{3}$  percent gets one.

4. If four delegates, a minority with 25 percent gets one delegate, but a minority with 40 percent is entitled to two delegates.

5. If five delegates, a minority with 20 percent gets one.

6. If six delegates, a minority with  $16\frac{2}{3}$  percent gets one delegate, a minority with  $33\frac{1}{3}$  percent, two delegates, but a minority with 40 percent gets one half the delegates.

In general, if a branch is entitled to  $n$  delegates, then a minority is entitled to  $x$  delegates if it receives at least  $x/n$  of the votes, with the one exception that if  $n$  is even, a minority receiving at least 40 percent of the vote is entitled to half of the delegates.

#### CONVENTION ATTENDANCE

The Political Committee proposes that all party members in good standing may attend the convention as visitors, and that friends may be admitted to the sessions provided they have been invited by a branch.

Fraternally yours,

NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY



Farrell Dobbs  
National Secretary