

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

April 22, 1965

TO ALL LOCALS, BRANCHES, AND MEMBERS
OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Dear Comrades,

Pursuant to the provisions of the party constitution, the National Committee hereby calls the Twenty-first National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party to convene in New York City at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, September 3 and continue through four days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, September 3,4,5, and 6, 1965).

AGENDA

The National Committee proposes the following agenda for the convention:

- 1 World Movement
- 2 Political Resolution
- 3 Negro Struggle
- 4 Youth Report
- 5 Resolution on the Organizational
Character of the Party
Organization Report
Election of National Committee

(Panels on Trade Union Work;
Press and Literature)

PRECONVENTION DISCUSSION

The party preconvention discussion will be formally opened on June 1, 1965. 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 August 13, 1965, 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 ASSESSMENTS

As authorized by the party constitution, a convention assessment of \$5.00 per member is hereby levied, the payment of which is obligatory for every employed member.

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 22, 1965, and who have paid their convention assessment, as certified by the branch executive committee on the day of voting.

4. Branches organized after April 22, 1965, are entitled to send fraternal delegates as provided by the party constitution.

5. Members admitted to the party after April 22, 1965, 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 22, 1965, 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 proportional representation. Delegates shall be elected 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% gets one.

3. If three delegates, a minority with 33% gets one, the majority getting the others.

4. If four delegates, a minority with 25% gets one delegate, but a minority with 40% gets half the delegates.

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

6. If six delegates, a minority with 16-2/3% gets one delegate but a minority with 40% gets half the delegates, etc.

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE

The National 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
Farrell Dobbs,
National Secretary

FD:cf