

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDEMENT

Submitted by Milton Chee and
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Article V, section 3, states as follows: "The National Convention shall be called by the National Committee which shall provide for a pre-convention discussion period of at least 90 days." (emphasis added)

The convention call issued for this, the seventh annual convention of the YSA, was dated, November 27, 1967. The first discussion bulletin issued by the NEC, the political resolution, was dated December 12, 1967. From the date of the call to February 9, 1968, the beginning date of the convention, totals 84 days.

If the pre-convention discussion period is considered to be the period between the issuance of the convention call and the beginning of the convention, then the NEC provided for a period of six days short of the constitution minimum; a technical violation, but not a gross one. If, however, the pre-convention discussion period is more realistically defined as the period between the issuance of the first document by the NEC, then we have been provided with a period of fewer than 59 days.

The NEC has committed a dangerous violation of the constitution. Our protest is not a mere formality. We object to a deeply dangerous and potentially disastrous violation of democratic procedure. The shortened pre-convention discussion period we have had has made impossible a full discussion in all locals of the documents submitted thus far.

The purpose of the pre-convention discussion is to clarify and cristalize thinking, questions, alternative proposals, and/or objections to the line proposed by the NEC. This purpose has been negated by the inadequate and unconstitutional pre-convention period allotted by the NEC.

New comrades should and must have the opportunity to participate in a full and complete pre-convention discussion in each local, and indispensable part of their education and the education of all of us. Only through such full discussion -- an essential part of democratic centralism -- can they clarify such questions as they may have, gain a fuller appreciation of our politics, and contribute to the discussion.

Therefore, we call upon the seventh annual convention of the YSA to repudiate and renounce this inexcusable violation of the minimum 90-day pre-convention discussion required by our constitution.

We further call upon the convention to amend the YSA Constitution, Article V, section 3, to read as follows: "The National Convention shall be called by the National Committee which shall provide for a pre-convention discussion period of at least 90 days, which shall be defined to be the period between the issuance of the first pre-convention discussion document and the first day of the convention."

YS BUDGET*

Cost per month

Postage	\$260.00
Printing	800.00
Delivery	15.00
Other printing**	15.00
Photos	20.00
Total	<u>\$1,115.00</u>

Income per month

Subscriptions	40.00
Bundles	<u>320.00</u>
Total	\$360.00

Expenditures per year	\$12,265.00
Income per year	<u>3,305.00</u>
Net Loss per year***	\$ 8,960.00

*These figures are calculated on an approximate run of 5,000 per issue for a total of 11 issues. Figures will increase as distribution increases.

**Includes stationary, mimeograph supplies, etc.

***Approximate yearly subsidy

TOTAL YS DISTRIBUTION

	Feb. 1968	May 1967
YSA local bundle orders	2560	1700
Other domestic bundles*	375	150
Total domestic subs	924**	941
Total foreign distribution	481	385
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Total distribution***	4340	3176

Total increase in circulation 1164

*Includes bookstores, at-large areas, etc.

**Excludes expirations from Jan. 1967 sub drive

***Does not include trailblazes, special sales, etc.

LOCAL YS BUNDLE ORDERS

Locals	February 1968	May 1967
Antioch	20	25
Atlanta*	20	--
Berkeley	250	50
Boston	300	200
Champaign-Urbana*	50	--
Chicago	325	200
Cleveland	150	150
Detroit	200	200
Los Angeles	150	50
Madison	110	75
New York City	300	300
Philadelphia	200	150
San Francisco	175	75
Twin Cities	150	125
Washington D.C.	75	25
Kent*	35	--
Total	<u>2560</u>	<u>1700</u>

Total increase in regular
 bundle orders since
 May 1967 (1st Monthly YS)

860

*New locals