

FOR THE

Thirtieth Consecutive Constitutional Convention

OF THE

United Mine Workers of America

OFFICE UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA,

Indianapolis, Ind., December 1, 1926.

TO THE LOCAL UNIONS OF THE UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA:

Greeting: You are hereby notified that the Thirtieth Consecutive Constitutional Convention of the United Mine Workers of America will be held in Tomlinson Hall, Market and Delaware streets, Indianapolis, Ind., commencing at 10:00 a. m., Tuesday, January 25, 1927.

Article 12 of the International Constitution provides the basis of representation and the manner of election of delegates as follows:

Section 2. Representatives to the International Convention shall be elected directly from local unions they represent, and shall have one vote for one hundred members or less, and one additional vote for each one hundred members or majority fraction thereof, but no delegate shall have more than five votes. No local union shall have more delegates in the Convention than can cast the vote of the local union on the basis of five votes for each delegate.

Section 3. Representation shall be based upon the average membership of the local for the last three months upon which payment has been made, previous to the month in which the Convention is held.

Section 4. Local unions organized one year prior to the date for holding the Convention and having one hundred members or more in good standing, must be represented in the Convention or pay to the International Secretary-Treasurer a fine of \$25.00 for each one hundred members in good standing in the local union, unless exonerated by the International Executive Board. This section shall not apply to local unions whose members have been idle for one month or more prior to the Convention on account of strikes, suspensions or closing of mines.

Section 5. Local unions of less than one hundred members may combine with similar local unions within a reasonable radius of one another in the same District, and elect delegates to represent them, but no delegates so elected shall be entitled to more than five votes in the Convention.

Section 6. No local union shall be entitled to representation that is in arrears for per capita tax or assessment for two months preceding the month in which the Convention is held and which has not in every particular complied with the constitutions of the International Union and of the District and Sub-District to which it is attached.

Section 7. Any local union becoming delinquent must comply with Section 18 of Article 14 and be in good standing for four months previous to the month in which the Convention is held, before it will be entitled to representation.

Section 8. All newly organized locals must be organized at least three months and have two months' per capita tax and all assessments paid prior to the month in which the Convention is held, before they will be entitled to representation, unless said new locals are composed of members from old locals in good standing at the time the new local was organized. The fact that a new local is composed of old members must be attested by the District Secretary.

Section 9. No person who is not a bona fide member of a local union employed in or around a coal mine, coal washer or coke oven, or by the Organization, or who is not a regular attendant of the meetings of his local union shall be eligible to act as delegate. This section shall not apply to International, District or Sub-District officers.

Note—The term regular attendant shall mean a member who attends at least one-half of the meetings of his local union for six months just previous to the election of delegates. If transferred members can show they attended the required number of meetings of the local union from which they transfer, Section 9 will not prevent their representing the local union to which they transfer.

Section 10. No appointed employe of the Organization shall be a delegate from any local union other than his own.

Section 11. Any member accepting a position other than that of a mine worker shall not be eligible to act as a delegate to any Sub-District, District or International Convention, or to represent the United Mine Workers in a central body or State Federation of Labor Convention while holding such position, but accepting a position with the United Mine Workers or any other affiliated Organization, shall not be construed as making a member ineligible to act as such.

Section 12. The International Secretary-Treasurer shall furnish the local unions with credential blanks in duplicate, which must be attested as required on the blanks. The duplicate shall be retained by the delegate and the original forwarded to the International Secretary-Treasurer, and no credentials shall be accepted later than fifteen days prior to the date for convening the Convention.

Section 13. The Credential Committee shall not transfer votes to any delegate unless authorized by the local union to do so.

Section 14. Delegates to International Conventions must be elected at official meetings of local unions after the call for the Convention is received and has been read to the local union. The local Recording Secretary shall post notices, signed by himself and the local President, at the mine at least three days prior to such meetings, stating that delegates are to be elected on a certain date. Delegates must receive a majority vote of the members present at such meeting, and no meeting other than the one first advertised and called in accordance herewith shall be recognized as an official meeting for the election of delegates.

Section 15. Local officers failing to read the call for a convention to their local unions, and to post notices in accordance with Section 14 of this article, shall, upon conviction, be removed from office and shall not thereafter be allowed to hold office in the organization for a period of two years.

Section 16. When any delegate's credential is to be contested notice of such contest shall be sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer not later than ten days prior to the date for convening the Convention; but any delegate whose credential is contested may be unseated at any time during the Convention.

SECTION 17. ALL RESOLUTIONS, GRIEVANCES AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CONVENTION SHALL BE SENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE SET FOR THE CONVENTION, WHO WILL SORT AND DISTRIBUTE THEM AMONG THE CHAIRMEN OF THE VARIOUS AND PROPER COMMITTEES.

SECTION 18. RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON DIFFERENT SUBJECTS SHOULD BE WRITTEN ON SEPARATE PAPERS.

Section 19. International Conventions shall not consider internal appeals or grievances unless they have been previously considered by the lower tribunals of the organization.

Section 20. The International Organization shall pay the transportation of delegates to and from International Conventions on the following basis: Local unions of from ten to five hundred members; shall be entitled to transportation for one delegate and one additional delegate for each additional five hundred members or fraction thereof, provided such fraction is not less than fifty-one members. Where local unions combine, as provided in Section 5, they shall be entitled to transportation for one delegate for each five hundred members or fraction thereof, provided such fraction is not less than fifty-one members. Where railroad certificates can not be secured by delegates, they shall furnish receipts for fare paid.

Fraternally yours,

President.

Vice-President.

Homas Kennedy

Secretary-Treasurer.

