

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003

December 6, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

The following is a brief letter on the procedure to be followed in electing delegates to the YSA convention and determining nominations for the incoming National Committee.

The election of local delegates is based on the convention call adopted by the July 1974 National Committee plenum. The call states that "Representation from the locals shall be as follows: one delegate for the first nine members and one additional delegate for each additional nine members or major fraction thereof (five or more constituting a major fraction)." It also stipulates that a local of only five members is allowed one voting delegate. Delegate representation is based on the number of members in each local as of December 15 who are in good standing and who have paid the \$8 convention assessment. Any member more than one month in arrears in dues ceases to be a member in good standing and cannot vote or be elected as a delegate.

At this year's convention the only resolution being presented for adoption by the outgoing National Executive Committee is the draft political resolution. Comrades who vote for the general line of this resolution should form a caucus to select delegates to the convention. In case of political disagreements where a counter platform to the NEC's is presented, the delegate selection is based on proportional representation as outlined in the convention call. (The convention call section on proportional representation is attached.)

Following the election of delegates, local delegations should meet to consider nominations for the incoming NC. After these meetings, a regional delegation meeting should be scheduled to discuss all the nominations from the region. The aim of the regional delegation meeting, after a thorough discussion of each comrade nominated by his or her local, is to arrive at a consensus on which comrades should be nominated to the NC by the regional delegation.

Once the nominations for the NC have been decided on, the delegates to serve on the Nominating Commission from each region should be selected. (Attached is the NEC proposal on the composition of the Nominating Commission.) The comrades selected to serve on the Commission should be able to communicate to the Nominating Commission the thinking of the regional delegation.

Both the local and regional delegation meetings should occur prior to the convention, so that ample time can be set aside for these meetings. If necessary, additional local or regional meetings can be held at the convention to discuss further nominations.

At local and regional delegation meetings the comrades proposed for full NC should be discussed first. Then comrades nominated for alternate NC should be discussed and ranked high, middle or low.

Comradely,



Malik Miah
YSA National Office

NEC PROPOSAL FOR COMPOSITION OF NOMINATING COMMISSION

Region and Locals	# Delegates	Region and Locals	# Delegates
<u>EASTERN PA.</u>		<u>N. CALIFORNIA</u>	
Philadelphia State College	1	Berkeley San Francisco San Jose	
<u>WESTERN PA.</u>		Sacramento	2
Pittsburgh Edinboro	1	<u>S. CALIFORNIA</u>	
<u>MID-ATLANTIC</u>		Central-East L.A. Westside L.A. San Diego Santa Barbara Tucson	3
Washington, D.C. Chapel Hill Greenville	1	<u>ILLINOIS-WISCONSIN</u>	
<u>MICHIGAN-INDIANA</u>		Chicago Milwaukee Madison Champaign	2
Detroit Ann Arbor East Lansing Bloomington Indianapolis	2	<u>MISSOURI-KANSAS</u>	
<u>OHIO-KENTUCKY</u>		St. Louis	1
Cleveland Columbus Cincinnati Louisville	1	<u>OREGON</u>	
<u>NEW YORK-N.J.-CONN.</u>		Portland	1
Brooklyn Lower Manhattan Upper West Side Albany	3	<u>NEW ENGLAND</u>	
<u>TEXAS-OK.-LA.-AR.</u>		Boston Worcester	1
Houston Austin San Antonio	1	<u>UPPER MIDWEST</u>	
<u>ROCKY MOUNTAIN</u>		Twin Cities	1
Denver Logan Greeley	1	<u>SOUTHEAST</u>	
		Atlanta Tallahassee Nashville	1
		<u>WASHINGTON</u>	
		Seattle Pullman	1
		TOTAL:	24

(The following information on proportional representation is taken from the "Call for the fourteenth national convention of the Young Socialist Alliance" approved by the National Committee plenum on July 7, 1974.)

Proportional Representation

Where there is a division on national policy within a local unit, election of delegates in the local is to be on the basis of proportional representation. Delegates shall be elected on the basis of a vote on a resolution or statement made in writing and submitted to the local unit for a vote. Abstentions in no case count as votes.

The following table shows the modified proportional system to be followed if a division occurs:

Number of qualified members in unit	Total number of delegates the unit is entitled to	Minimum number of those voting* for a minority to get:		
		1 del.	2 del.	3 del.
5-13	1	-**	-	-
14-22	2	1/3	-	-
23-31	3	1/4	-**	-
32-40	4	1/5	2/5	-
41-49	5	1/6	1/3	-**
50-58	6	1/7	2/7	3/7
(9n-4) to (9n+)	n	1/n+1	2/n+1	3/n+1

* The following distinction should be noted: The total number of delegates to which a unit is entitled is based on the total number of qualified (but not necessarily voting) members. The fractions in the table refer to the minimum number of those voting, since only those who vote are entitled to decide the divisions of the total number of delegates. For example, a unit of 20 qualified members is entitled to 2 delegates. If only 15 members vote, 1/3 of 15 equals 5; a minority must receive 5 votes to get a delegate. If 19 members vote, 1/3 of 19 equals 6 1/3; a minority must receive 7 votes to get a delegate. Also note that 6 1/3 is the minimum number of those voting for a minority to get a delegate; therefore 7 (and not 6) is required.

** In the special case of a unit entitled to an odd number of delegates and where the division in unit voting is exactly equal, 2 delegates with 1/2 vote each will be elected.

*** In the event that a unit undergoes a more than two-way division, that unit will elect delegates on a directly proportional basis,

i.e. in a unit entitled to n delegates, at least $1/n$ fraction of votes must be cast for a position in order for that position to get a delegate.

After a division has been established, those voting each way will select in caucus their own delegations and report them to the unit as a whole for acknowledgement. Where no division has taken place, the election of delegates will proceed normally by the unit as a whole.