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# Rules of Order of the 3rd National Convention of the Workers Party of America.

Held in Chicago, Dec. 30, 1923 - Jan. 2, 1924.

A Document in the Comintern Archive, f. 515, op. 1, d. 188, l. 16-18.

1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the convention when not in conflict with these rules.

2. The Convention shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman at the beginning of each day's session. A secretary and assistant secretary to serve during the Convention shall be elected.

3. The Convention shall elect the following committees, each to consist of five members:

1. Committee on Constitution.
2. Committee on Resolutions.

4. The order of business of the Convention shall be as follows:

**[Sunday, December 30.]**

1. Election of chairman and vice-chairman.
2. Election of Secretary and Assistant Secretary.
3. Election of Committees
  - (a) Committee on Constitution.
  - (b) Committee on Resolutions.
4. Report of the Central Executive Committee
  - (a) The Party Work During the Year.
  - (b) The Economic and Political Conditions in the United States and the Policies of the Party. Report by C.E. Ruthenberg, Executive Secretary. Report to begin at 11 A.M. and to be finished at 2:15.

Adjournment at 2:15 to 3 P.M.

Debate on report under two headings

- (a) The Party Work.
- (b) Policies of Party.

Adjournment at 5 P.M.

**Monday, December 31.**

5. The Industrial Work and Policies of the Party.

A- Report from 10 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

by Wm. Z. Foster.

B- Debate 11:30 to 1 P.M.

C- Adjournment until 2 P.M.

D- Debate 2 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.

E- Fifteen minutes summary by reporter.

F- Vote on Resolution 3:30 P.M.

6. The Communist International and the World Revolution.

A- Report by J. Louis Engdahl 3:30 to 4 P.M.

B- Debate until 4:30 P.M.

C- Vote on Resolution.

7. American Imperialism.

A- Report from 4:40 to 5:30 P.M.

by Jay Lovestone.

B- Debate until 6:30 P.M.

C- Summary by reporter and vote on resolution.

D- Adjournment until 7:30 P.M.

8. Recognition of Soviet Russia.

A- Report from 7:30 to 8 P.M.

by Robert Minor.

B- Debate from 8 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

C- Summary and vote on resolution.

9. Protection of the Foreign Born Workers.

A- Report from 8:30 to 9 P.M.

by Ludwig Lore.

B- Debate on resolution until 9:30.

C- Summary and vote on resolution.

10. The Daily Worker.  
 A- Report from 9:30 to 10 P.M.  
     by John J. Ballam.  
 B- Debate until 10:30 P.M.  
 C- Summary and vote on resolution.
11. The Party Press.  
 A- Report by A. Jakira until 11 P.M.  
 B- Debate until 11:30 P.M.  
 C- Summary and vote on resolution.
- Tuesday, January 1.**
12. Shop Nuclei Organization.  
 A- Report from 10 to 10:45 by Max Bedacht.  
 B- Debate until 12:45.  
 C- Summary and vote on resolution 1 P.M.
- Adjournment 1 P.M. to 2 P.M.
13. The Agricultural Situation and Work of Party.  
 A- Report from 2 P.M. to 2:30  
     by Joseph Manley.  
 B- Debate until 3 P.M.  
 C- Summary and vote on resolution.
14. The Young Workers League.  
 A- Report from 3 P.M. to 3:30  
     by Martin Abern for YWL.  
 B- Report from 3:30 to 3:45  
     by C.E. Ruthenberg for Party.  
 C- Debate until 4:30 P.M.  
 D- Summary and vote on resolution.
15. Report of Committee on Constitution.  
 Report and debate until 5:30 P.M.
16. Election of the Central Executive  
 Committee. 5:30 to 6:30 P.M.
- Adjournment until 7:30 P.M.
17. Educational Work of the Party.  
 A- Report from 7:30 to 8 P.M.  
     by James P. Cannon.  
 B- Debate until 8:30 P.M.  
 C- Summary and vote on resolution.
18. Report of Committee on Resolutions.
19. Adjournment.
5. Debate shall be limited to ten minutes for each speaker on the report of the CEC, the Party Policies, and the Industrial Work of the Party, and to five minutes for each speaker on all other points of the agenda. No speaker shall speak a second time while others who have not had the floor desire to speak.
6. Debate shall close at the hour allotted to each point on the agenda without the previous question being moved and the convention proceed to a vote.
7. A roll call vote may be demanded by five delegates representing two or more districts.

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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