Party Extends Referendum Time Two Weeks: Socialist Locals Have Until Feb. 23 toNominate Committeemen and Delegates

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CHICAGO, Feb. 1 [1919].— An extension of two weeks in the time for filing nominations in “Referendum A, 1919” has been given by the National Office of the Socialist Party to Socialist locals.

This means that Socialists will have until February 23 [1919], instead of February 9, to make their nominations for National Executive Committeemen, delegates to the International Socialist Congress, and an International Socialist Secretary.

This is the start of the second referendum for the election of National Executive Committeemen under the plan of selecting 3 committeemen from each of 5 districts, making 15 members in all.

These five districts are as follows:
No. 2— New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana.
No. 3— Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri.
No. 4— Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas.
No. 5—Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Alaska.

The delegates are for the international congress which will no doubt be held later in the present year. The three delegates, James Oneal, Algernon Lee, and John M. Work, who are now seeking passports, still stand as delegates to the international congress that is now called for Berne, Switzerland, on February 3 [1919].

At least some of the party members are mystified as to the duties of the International Secretary of the Socialist Party. He is chosen to sit as the American representative in the International Socialist Bureau, which attends to the affairs of the international Socialist movement between the meetings of the international congresses.

Locals have already nominated for International Secretary both Arthur Henderson, Secretary of the British Labour Party, and Hjalmar Branting, spokesman of the majority Socialists of Sweden in the Swedish Riksdag. Henderson and Branting can represent the Socialists of Great Britain and Sweden in the International Bureau, but not the workers of the United States.