

## ARTICLE XXVII

## AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

Sec. 1. This Constitution and the rules herein can be amended in three ways:

(a) By referendum, on petition of fifteen (15) L.U.'s of which no two (2) L.U.'s may be from the same state or province. Petitions may be submitted at any time, however, in Convention years, all petitions for referendum must be received prior to March 1st. All petitions must be submitted to the I.S.T. Proposed amendments, before being submitted by the I.S.T. for vote, must have the approval of the I.E.C. A vote on any proposal taken by referendum shall be returned to the I.S.T. by each L.U. voting, within sixty (60) days from the date submitted. A majority of those voting shall be necessary to sustain any proposal. (L.U.'s may cast the vote of their members, if they so decide.) After receiving from the L.U.'s a record of votes cast for or against any proposal, the I.S.T. shall prepare for publication in the next issue of the I.B.E.W. official JOURNAL a report of the exact votes for and against the proposed amendment. Amendments adopted by referendum shall become effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

(b) If the I.E.C. deems an amendment is necessary, it may have the I.S.T. submit the same to the L.U.'s for vote.

(c) By the majority vote represented at a regular session of the I.C., amendments adopted by the I.C. shall become effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

Sec. 2. The I.P. shall appoint a Law Committee consisting of eleven (11) delegates elected to the I.C., at least one from each I.V.P. District. These shall meet in the I.O. fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the I.C. This committee shall consider all proposed amendments to be submitted to the I.C., and the committee shall have a printed report ready for the first day's session of the I.C.

Only proposed amendments and resolutions approved by L.U.'s and recommendations of International Officers shall be considered. All these must be submitted to the I.S.T. forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the I.C.

The compensation of members of the Law Committee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) a day and reimbursement for actual expenses. This shall cease the day the I.C. opens.

Sec. 3. If any section of this Constitution or part thereof should be held inoperative or invalid by a tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Constitution, or the application of said section or part thereof to persons and circumstances, other than those to which it has been held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

The I.E.C. shall have the authority to suspend the operation of such invalid section or part thereof in the event it is declared inoperative or invalid by a tribunal of competent jurisdiction. It is further authorized in those circumstances to substitute an appropriate and legal section for the invalid or inoperative section. The said revised section shall be reported to the next succeeding Convention for its approval or disapproval.

The I.E.C. is also empowered to direct the I.S.T. in his compilation and editing of the new Constitution to make such changes as are necessary to correlate the subject matter.

Sec. 4. This Constitution was adopted at St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 1891. It was amended: Chicago, Ill., Nov. 1892; Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 1893; Washington, D.C., Nov. 1895; Detroit, Mich., Nov. 1897; Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 1899; St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 1901; Salt Lake City, Utah, Sept. 1903; Louisville, Ky., Sept. 1905; Chicago, Ill., Sept. and Oct. 1909; Rochester, N.Y., Sept. 1911; Boston, Mass., Sept. 1913; St. Paul, Minn., Sept. and Oct. 1915; by referendum in Feb. 1916; Atlantic City, N.J., Sept. 1917 and by referendum in April 1918 and in March 1919. It was again amended at New Orleans, La., Sept. 1919; St. Louis, Mo., Sept. and Oct. 1921; Montreal, Quebec, Aug. 1923; Seattle, Wash., Aug. 1925; Detroit, Mich., Aug. 1927; Miami, Fla., Sept. 1929; and by referendum in March, 1930. It was altered, amended and revised at Washington, D.C., in July 1930; amended by referendum, April 1931; March 1933; March 1935; May 1935; July 1935; March 1937; Dec. 1940. It was amended at St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 1941; by referendum Sept. 1943 and Dec. 1943. It was amended at San Francisco, Calif., Sept. 1946, and by referendum April 1947 and July 1947. It was again amended at Atlantic City, N.J., Sept. 1948, and at Miami, Fla., Oct. 1950, and by referendum June 1951, Jan. 1952, and Oct. 1952. It was further amended at Chicago, Ill., Aug. and Sept. 1954, and by referendum July 1955, November 1955, and August 1957. It was amended at Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. and Oct. 1958. Amended March 1959 by the Executive Council as authorized by the 1958 Convention. It was amended at Montreal, Quebec, Sept. 1962; at St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 1966; and at Seattle, Wash., Sept. 1970. Amended June 1972 by the Executive Council as authorized at Seattle, Wash., Sept. 1970. Amended Sept. 1974 at

Kansas City, Mo. Amended Oct. 1978 at Atlantic City, N.J.; amended April 1981 by the Executive Council; amended Sept. 1982 at Los Angeles, Calif.; amended June 1985 by the Executive Council. Amended Sept. 1986 at Toronto, Ontario; amended June 1988 by the Executive Council. Amended Oct. 1991 at St. Louis, Mo. Amended Sept. 1996 at Philadelphia, Pa. Select Committee recommendations adopted by referendum March 1998. Amended Sept. 2001 at San Francisco, Calif.