

Washington, D. C.
April 30, 1949

Mr. Joseph E. Moody, President
Southern Coal Producers' Association
735 Southern Building
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moody:

With due authorization I herewith reply to your letter dated April 21.

We note and accept your proper notice of termination of existing agreement by Southern Coal Producers' Association as of June 30, 1949.

We accept further your request to participate in conferences to formulate a successor agreement.

We accept further your wish, publicized in the press, that the conferences be open to the press and to the public.

We consider that the date, place of meeting and number of conference attendants representative of each party are negotiable matters, not covered by the provisions of the Taft and Hartley injunction which you sued out last year. To hasten an understanding upon these subordinate problems, which we hope you will believe to be constructive, we respectfully advance the following suggestions:

- A. The Joint Conference to assemble at 10:00 o'clock A. M., Monday, June 6, at Bluefield, West Virginia.
- B. The Conference to be composed of 36 representatives of the United Mine Workers of America, and equal representation of signatory coal operators by the Southern Coal Producers' Association.

Suggestion "A" is made by reason of the accessibility of Bluefield to all conference attendants and its nominal hotel and transportation costs, which are an item of prime consideration to the Mineworkers who will attend. The date of June 6 will allow 4 weeks for conferences, which should be ample.

Suggestion "B" is a reasonable limitation. Six Mineworkers' Districts will require representation; and the number suggested will permit only 6 from each District to be in attendance.

We will await your further views and hope for your acceptance.

Yours truly

/s/

JOHN L. LEWIS

INSTITUTE OF
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS