

EXCERPTS FROM DECLARATIONS OF POLICY
ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS
RESPECTING THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM

September 26, 1935, at Chicago, Illinois, the Western Division of the American Mining Congress adopted a Declaration of Policy containing the following:

"Constitutional Government

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"We resent the attitude of many in authority in our Government who seek by specious use of words, phrases and interpretations, to nullify the plain intent and spirit of our Constitution. We look forward with confidence and faith to the time when the Supreme Court again will declare in language unmistakable that its provisions, made for the preservation of individual liberty and freedom of action, are yet valid and binding. (Underscoring supplied.)

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"Bureaucracy

"Bureaucracy has grown to such an alarming extent that industry is now faced with a government, not by a system of checks and balances through legislative, judicial and executive branches, but a government by politically appointed commissions and administrators. Three-quarters of a million persons are employed by the Government, not counting the legislative and judicial branches, the Army and Navy, and special agents of the Department of Agriculture. Regimentation is reaching out to every phase of our American life. (Underscoring supplied.)

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"Balancing the Budget

"Our Federal public debt is now in excess of thirty billions of dollars, and the appropriations made by the Seventy-fourth Congress were in excess of ten billion dollars. No government can go on year after year spending more than it receives, and piling deficit upon deficit. Such a course inevitably destroys the currency, and leads to inflation and repudiation. Our Government should, therefore, take immediate steps to balance the Federal Budget by strict limitation of

"governmental expenditures. Taxes should be levied only to provide necessary revenue, and not to effect social reforms, or to carry out schemes of redistribution of wealth. (Underscoring supplied.)

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"Money

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"We oppose what is commonly known as 'managed currency.'
(Underscoring supplied.)

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"Government in Business

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"Government, by its very nature, cannot conduct business efficiently; its invasion of business destroys individual enterprise, injures all citizens by unfair competition, and dries up the source from which its revenue is derived. We condemn and oppose such invasion.

"Labor

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"We condemn the attempt on the part of Congress to set up an outside political body to intervene between employers and employees in their industrial relations.

"Relief

"We favor direct relief at subsistence rates rather than work relief administered by Federal agencies."

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January 15, 1936, at its 38th Annual Meeting, the American Mining Congress adopted a Statement of Principles containing the following:

"Bureaucracy

"Check bureaucracy, abandon government by men and return to government by law."

October 1, 1936, at Denver, Colorado, the Western Division of the American Mining Congress adopted a Declaration of Policy containing the following:

"Taxation and Finance

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"Amend the Federal tax laws to reestablish the flat rate of corporation tax, to restore the right to make consolidated returns, to remove the tax on dividends received by corporations, to permit business losses of one year to be deducted from future income, to provide full allowance of capital losses, and to permit annual declaration of value for capital stock taxes, particularly in case of mining properties in the development stage."

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"Extension of Federal Government

"We deplore the tendency to center supervision of business in the Federal Government.

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"We oppose the growth of bureaucracy, and urge a return to government by law instead of by executive order or administrative decree.

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"Reciprocal Trade Agreements

"Changes in tariff rates should not be made through trade agreements with foreign countries without specific approval of such changes by Congress after public hearing."

September 10, 1937, at Salt Lake City, Utah, the Western Division of the American Mining Congress adopted a Declaration of Policy containing the following:

"Taxation

"The mining industry views with concern the continuation of excessive and unnecessary expenditures by the Federal Government.

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"We recommend the reestablishment of the flat rate of corporation tax, the restoration of the right to make consolidated returns, the removal of the tax on dividends received by corporations, the carrying forward of business losses of one year to be deducted from future income, and the unlimited deduction of capital losses.

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"Extension of Federal Government

"We deplore the growing tendency to regulate business by the Federal Government.

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"We oppose the growth of bureaucracy, and urge a return to government by law instead of by men through executive order or administrative decree.

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"Labor

"The essential interest of employe and employer is to obtain efficient production through the cooperative efforts of labor, management and capital. Government interference with such cooperation should be avoided."

October 27, 1938, at Los Angeles, California, the Western Division of the American Mining Congress adopted a Declaration of Policy containing the following:

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"Taxation

"Consistent with our belief of many years, we view with ever-increasing apprehension the continued unbalanced national budgets with mounting expenditures and progressive deficit financing made necessary thereby. Sound and proven theories of Government finance demand that the control of these expenditures MUST be returned to Congress. There alone, as the Constitution provides, responsibility for Government revenues can be united with responsibility for Government expenditures. Having properly resumed its

"constitutional powers in this respect, Congress, if it would preserve the Nation from the financial cataclysms which have enveloped so many countries, should and must limit Federal expenditures to an amount which can be covered by taxation yield."

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