

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS NATIONAL REPORT

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FOR MEMBERS ONLY

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National Secretary's Report

April 21, 1975

1. E.C.: The energies of the EC over the past 2 weeks has gone to organizing our intervention in the April 26m rally. CW was put in charge and he, together with the EC subcommittee have been working practically full time on our intervention. At this point that the Rank & File Coalition contingent is growing and we estimate a minimum of 300 members and friends to march in the contingent. Most of the rank and file groups we are involved in have endorsed the contingent and are sending people. A full report and assessment will follow the rally.

1.5

1.5 IMPORTANT: Two issues of Network, the auto journal have been out and EE(Detroit) who is in charge of distribution has yet to hear from branches as to whether they are using it or not. PLEASE RESPOND _ CONTACT EE c/o the NO

1.75 Other major time has been spent on the NC and convention documents. JG's document on Democratic Centralism and the EC's document on the Turn to Agitation both major convention documents will be out in 2 weeks.

2. NYC: EE(Detroit) spoke at a forum at which several new contacts were made

3. Pittsburg: KM(Detroit) held a one day school on Lenin and the Trade Unions and the previous weekend, EE and ML(Detroit) & FM(louisville) participated in an educational weekend to which contacts were invited. It was very successful.

4. New Pauls: BW(Cleveland) and JoanMc(NYC) spoke at a Midhudson Unemployment Conference and were vdry successful in moving the conference

5. Portland: Two very talented experienced friends have joined the branch

APPOINTMENT OF ALL MEMBERS

E.C. Statement on the Appointment of the National Organizer

We are at present engaged in turning the IS into a truly national organization that has not only a unified political line but also a unified political practice. We have appointed a national organizer to assist speeding up this development. It is our view that in the present situation the pace of development of the organization must be increased considerably in order to seize the opportunities presented by the crisis. In practice this means a swift implementation of the turn outlined in the last National Secretary's Report and discussed at the last NC. It means that the national leadership has to play a much more active role in helping the branches to make the turn and that the branches have the right to expect concrete leadership that fits their particular situation. Without a well-qualified national organizer such assistance would not be possible. The responsibilities of the EC members in particular fields makes it impossible for any of them to spend long periods in particular branches; it will be part of the role of the national organizer to fill that gap. In this way it will be possible for the line of the organization to be more uniformly applied and for the branches to feel that they are not just getting an abstract and imprecise lead from the EC and NC but, also specific help in applying concrete details of such a lead. In this sense the national organizer will act as a supplement to the intervention of the EC and because he is not a ~~member~~ member of the EC with consequent responsibilities he will be able to give all his time to these tasks, deal with the problems in greater depth, and thus go some way to ensuring that the positive experience that the organization is acquiring at an increasing rate will be spread evenly throughout the group. We also believe that the national organizer will have to play a key role in helping train and develop our local organizers into highly professional political cadre, capable of giving a lead to what will become a combat group of revolutionary workers.

It should be clear that it is not sufficient to define a job, it is also necessary to have available someone who is qualified to do it. In this sense we are fortunate. The comrade we have appointed was for many years a successful organizer. He has tremendous experience in the task of turning what was essentially a non-worker propaganda group into a working class agitational group which is capable of building the revolutionary party. As the author of the Detroit Commission Report he demonstrated that he was capable of applying the experience gained to the concrete problems we face in making the turn here. In a very real sense that report was part of the foundations of the organization's present strategy, a strategy that the new national organizer has already demonstrated he can help us realize in practice.

The National Organizer will be known by all members, in all communications as Glenn Wolfe. He will be based in Detroit and can be contacted thru the national office, though he will seldom be in Detroit and it will be up to the national office to relay any communications. The National Organizer will act under the direct discipline of the EC and should be regarded as their representative. The EC will decide his general timetable after consultation with the branches involved as his visits to branches will more often be for periods of weeks rather than days it is important that any branch wishing to make a call on the national organizer should approach the EC at the earliest possible date. It should also be noted that branch execs, organizers, etc. who want specific advice on limited areas of work, or immediate help for a relatively short time are encouraged to contact the national organizer who, subject to the approval of the national officers, will be free to take up such work, within the general framework of his other work and at his own initiative.

M.D. for E.C.

EC MINUTES 4/9

Present: All except JT

1. EEOC AND THE COURTS. ML (Detroit) present for discussion. Presentation by KM based on recent series of articles in WP. A proposal for implementing our demand for compensatory treatment for women and oppressed minority workers is to be submitted by ML, WW and JW. A counter-proposal ~~xxxx~~ is to be submitted by KM, based on the political line toward court strategy presented in his report.

2. AFL-CIO rally. Detailed report on preparations for intervention April 26. (CW present for this point). A subcommittee of the EC consisting of JG, JT, CW and BG (as coordinators) has been established to make decisions between EC meetings. As everyone will know by now branches and fractions are being fully mobilized everywhere from St. Louis east. KM and JW will be members of the subcommittee when they are in town.

3. BLACK LIBERATION DOCUMENT. Report by MD and discussion on outline for document to be prepared by black commission.

4. WEST COAST. Report by JT on Attica/West Coast tour.

5. CANADA REPORT. Report by JG and KM on growth and activity of Independent Socialists.

6. NATSEC REPORT.

Turn to agitation document. Amendments submitted by KM as additions, outlining the implications of the period for rank and file work and role of ISers as leaders, accepted.

Second fund drive (strictly internal) to raise \$5000 is now underway. Quotas have been sent to the branches. KS will be in charge of running it from the NO. Get payments in promptly so that we will not ~~be~~ bogged down for weeks in collecting them!

EC MINUTES 4/15

Present: ALL (plus GW for points 1 and 2)

1. ~~XXXXX~~ TURN TO AGITATION. Discussion on GW document as basis for second draft, which will be completed this week.

2. NATIONAL ORGANIZER'S REPORT (GW). Reports on Chicago, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

A statement in reply to the letter received from Cleveland branch to be written by JW. Will spell out political issues and refute characterizations of initial EC ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ statement. ALL FOR.

JW and MD to be assigned to prepare proposal on re-location of comrades to various branches that need strengthening.

Organizers school. MOTION: Within the next five days

a) Speakers to be arranged on those sessions already decided upon.

b) JG to prepare list of readings.

c) List of people to attend to be drawn up by JG and MD.

d) Mailing with all this information is to be sent out. ALL FOR.

3. BOSTON RALLY MAY 17.

Discussion of attitude toward this march. MOTION: We do not call for support of this march. The article to appear in WP will report on what is happening and will briefly outline our views on ~~xxxx~~ why this demonstration is a step backward, both in terms of the forces involved and its politics: "Defend quality education and the Constitution". While the previous march held in Boston represented with all its shortcomings a serious mobilization against a racist offensive, this one does not -- rather, it symbolizes the defeat produced by the strategy followed by NAACP and its supporters, including the SWP.

The IS has been offered space by Radical America along with other groups to comment on the recent RA editorial on the busing crisis. JT will attempt to prepare the article if he has time.

4. APRIL 26. Lengthy report and discussion of preparations.

MOTIONS: (1) The steering committee is empowered to work out a political attitude toward certain sects which may wish to attach themselves to the R&F coalition (such as the IWP) who do not in fact support its program and goals. We intend to keep such types out on a political basis, i.e. participation in the coalition will be based on agreement with what it stands for. ALL FOR.

(2) A budget of \$750 is allocated to this intervention. The subcommittee will work out how much of this actually has to be spent. PASSED (a minority voting for somewhat lower budget).

5. JG DOCUMENT ON DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM. First part is complete; second part is not. Discussion of the whole to be held on Monday next.

6. NATSEC REPORT.

MAL applications from two comrades in Amherst ACCEPTED ALL FOR. Amherst is now constituted as an O.C.

MAL application from Indianapolis ACCEPTED ALL FOR.

Report by JW on Indianapolis trip.

Report by GS on the NY Workers Power conference and the branch.

Report by JG summing up developments in the Maoist left. A sharp trend toward sectarian fragmentation has emerged. The OL has split with the Guardian, around the OL's demand for total sycophancy toward Chinese foreign policy including all the right-wing conclusions, such as support for the Shah of Iran. If this trend continues, as it will, the posturing of the "new Communist forces" toward unity and a revolutionary party will receive another sharp setback and it will be a significant step toward removing them as an obstacle in the way of building a party.
