

## EC PROPOSAL ON 1976/77 NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The outgoing national committee decided at its last meeting that the new national committee, to be elected at the July 4th Convention, should function on new guidelines. Stated briefly, these are as follows.

The NC's main discussions will take place around documents prepared well in advance by the EC and should be re-drafted by the EC in the light of NC discussion. The meetings will be closed, except to invited observers, in order to maximalize the range and depth of discussion. And, given the development of our industrial work over the past year, the NC will include a larger proportion of leaders of our industrial work.

The EC has prepared a recommended slate for the next NC which we believe can best function within those guidelines. For the first time we are recommending that there be no alternates, and that every member of the committee have full speaking and voting rights as long as they are in attendance. We are putting forward a slate of 28 comrades in the belief that at this point in our development it is very important to expand the national leadership and ensure that a wide cross-section of our varied leadership experience at national, local, and fraction level is represented on the body.

### NC SLATE

Jack (Detroit)	Steve(Cleveland)	Bill(Detroit)	David(Chicago)
Mike P (Detroit)	Fred(Louisville)	Jack(Pittsburgh)	John W(Detroit)
Cal (Detroit)	Joe(West Virginia)	Enid(Detroit)	Bobbi(Chicago)
Eric (L.A.)	Mike(New York)	Glenn(Detroit)	Kim(detroit)
Ken (Cleveland)	Larry(New York)	Joel(Detroit)	Lindsey(Seattle)
Barbara (Detroit)	Joe(Detroit)	Sharon(LA)	Mark(detroit)
Anne (Cleveland)	Marilyn(Detroit)	Gay(Detroit)	Mel(Pittsburgh)

This slate means that the proportion on the NC of  
women is 8/28  
blacks is 4/28  
full-timers is 11/28  
industrial members is 14/28  
Detroiters is 14/28  
new NCers is 11/28  
teamsters is 6/28  
telephone workers is 3/28  
auto workers is 4/28

These figures represent a decrease in the proportion of full-timers and Detroit-based comrades on the NC. A large increase in the proportion of blacks and industrial members (especially teamsters which has been so much at the center of our industrial work in the last period). And a small increase in the proportion of women. It should also be noted that our increasing number of branches has created a situation in which a larger proportion of them have no NC member.

The Red Tide will nominate one additional NC member.

## MOTIVATION.

This must start with an explanation as to why three comrades have been removed from the last NC. Wendy, who is a UAW committee person in a Detroit auto plant, has been doing excellent work in her plant, but has been unable to play much of a role in the I.S. even at the branch level. The EC feels that this relative disconnection also interferes with her ability to play a national role and after some years on the NC we felt she should now stand down. Dave, the international editor of WP, and Ken from Chicago are to a certain extent the victims of the need to bring industrial members onto the national committee. For neither of them have direct industrial experience, but they remain leaders within the organization. Dave is a member of the EC International Sub-Committee and Ken is a member of the Chicago District Committee. Leadership roles which do not require that these comrades be on the NC in order to be effective. Given the large number of possible candidates for the NC and the fact that for both financial reasons and reasons of functionality the NC cannot be very much larger than the figure we suggest, the EC felt it was best to replace these two comrades at this time.

On the positive side there is much that can be said but, in truth, the majority of the NC pick themselves by virtue of their role and performance over the last year. It may seem excessive to have six teamsters on the NC, but once you list the names (Ken, Anne, Steve, Joe, Sharon, Mel) it becomes clear that they are all capable, given their experiences, of playing a very useful role on the NC. The four black comrades, Fred, Bobbi, Larry, and John W., have either industrial or political experience of some depth. Over the past few months, particularly with the building of the black conference and the Gary Tyler work, they have been welded into the respected leadership of the black caucus. We believe their leadership responsibilities are broader than that and they should therefore all be members of the NC. Mark, Enid, and Bill are all members of the Auto Fraction Steering Ctte, a ctte which after some problems is an increasingly functional body providing political leadership to the auto work. Their presence on the NC as fraction leaders, coupled with the shop-floor experience that they all, but particularly Bill and Enid, have, will be extremely valuable to the NC.

Two of our most successful branch organizers, Eric from LA and David from Chicago, are also named for the slate, to ensure that the vital dimension provided by the full-time leaders from branch level is not missing. Jack from Pittsburgh is part of that too, but as an ex-EC member he has also proved himself capable over the last year of maintaining a direct interest in the overall direction of the organization even after he has left the center. Besides the present EC, the other full-timers we wish to see on the slate are Cal, the national organizer, whose role in the establishment of new branches has been crucial, and Barbara, the women's organizer, who has also done fine work over the last year on the Portuguese Solidarity Fund. Joe, who works in industry in West Virginia, Mike from the NY CWA branch who is a main leader on the East Coast, and Lindsey, a branch and telephone caucus leader from Seattle, add depth and balance to the overall slate.

The EC stands for re-election to the NC as a collective group on its record of the last year. We do not claim every initiative we led was successful, but we are of the opinion that under our day-to-day leadership the organization has taken large strides in the last year or so.

#### NEW EC SLATE

This will be voted on by the new NC and not the convention, but for the sake of the discussion we felt that comrades should be aware of what slate the outgoing EC will be recommending. It will be Glenn, Joel, Gay, Kim, Jack, and Mike. This means that we are recommending that Marilyn step down after several years in the central leadership and that no new members are brought onto the body at this time. This should not be taken as a sign that the EC is stagnating, for half of the new slate have less than eighteen months on the EC. Marilyn's role over that same period has changed considerably, to the extent that it is now best for her to withdraw from the day-to-day leadership body, the EC, while remaining a member of the NC. Marilyn, more than any other member of the EC, during her time as national secretary, succeeded in transforming the EC from a somewhat indisciplined group of individuals into a disciplined collaborative body. An achievement of no small dimensions when you consider that the "turn" could not have been made without this transformation of the central leadership. Since resigning as national secretary last year Marilyn has had difficulty finding a new role within the organization, and it is only in the last month that she has begun to redefine her leadership role, not now as an EC member specifically, but rather as head of the new education department. It is a job of great and growing importance to the organization.

Executive Committee  
June 25, 1976