

**INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIALISTS**

# Newsletter

FOR MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS — June, 1983

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**BUILD THE SUMMER SCHOOL; BUILD THE I.S.**

The program for the "Marxism for the '80s" Summer School has turned out to be very exciting. The enthusiastic participation of non-ISers in the program has given the school a more universal appeal. In particular, we are pleased with having the New School-based URPE Crisis Theory Group, three of Anwar Shaikh's associates, speaking on Crisis Theories. Nelson Lichtenstein, from SSFN, whose new book "Labor's War At Home" embodies our political framework to a degree seldom seen in history books, will be the Saturday evening speaker. (There is a review of Lichtenstein's book in the upcoming issue of Changes. Copies will also be available for sale from the NO.) Jack Bloom, an old friend and expert on the civil rights movement, will speak on the transformation of Black consciousness. Pat Coleman-Burns, a Black feminist from the Detroit area, will speak on Women, Race and Class. Jerry Harris, author of a pamphlet reviewed in the June issue of Changes and a leading member of the Federation of Revolutionary Socialists, will speak on the changing structure of the American working class.

Yet, another important aspect of the Summer School may be even more important than its program. This will be the first national event with a socialist character that brings together a cross-section of the people we have met and worked with through the regroupment campaign. For all the well-known difficulties of this campaign, the fact is we have touched base with a broad spectrum and stirred up interest in our ideas--as well as the concept of left unity. The Summer School will be the climax of the first year of actively pursuing regroupment. There will be a good deal of "corridor" discussion about the possibility of working together on various projects, a proposal from individuals in the FRS for some sort of "alliance" of groups (as yet vague), and other aspects of the future of the revolutionary left.

Overlapping with the regroupment milieu, are people who have specifically become interested in our ideas and our organization. These include independents and people who have recently left other organizations. Most of them are already familiar with our work, or aspects of it, now they will get a chance to hear and discuss some of our theoretical underpinnings. In brief, we expect this event to build the I.S. to some degree, both in short-term recruitment and in helping to establish ourselves as an independent pole of Marxist thought.

One of our observations in the regroupment campaign is that many leftists have turned to examine the nature of the economic crisis. Study groups on this topic abound, the success of the Center for Popular Economics attests to it. For this reason, we have given the URPE Crisis Theory Group a prominent place in the School. They will be presenting a paper that we feel cuts through much of the eclecticism and confusion that reigns in the left's discussion of this topic. The Group is extremely enthusiastic about the School, and has been talking it up with their friends. We hope to build a long-term relationship with these economists and with Shaikh, who suggested that we invite them.

In terms of attendance, we are beginning to get responses from non-members. We have sent out a massive mailing and are calling scores of individuals. Ads for the School appeared recently in ITT and the Guardian. But attendance will not be good enough unless YOU help to keep up the momentum in your city or area. This is an important political opportunity not to be missed. We urge all members to attend (and to register soon, so we can get an idea of the space available), to talk it up with those you work with politically, organize cars to come, raise money through local fundraising events, ask for a scholarship for yourself or a friend if you're broke.

Daniel Singer, writing about France in the Nation recently, remarked that the revolutionary left lacks vision. It has been mired in the routine of day-to-day political work in the less opportune years that followed the late 1960s. Lacking, such a vision, the left is unable to provide a pole of attraction in this moment of reformist ascendancy. This moment will not last forever and we must "repair" our vision. This School is meant to begin that process. Take this opportunity to lift your eyes above the day-to-day horizon and share in a vision of revolutionary socialism with our new friends.

#### DETROIT DISTRICT FUNDRAISING PLANS

The Detroit District has planned several events to raise money for scholarships to the Summer School. We would like to raise \$1,000 to go to scholarships for unemployed members and contacts. On Friday June 24, we're holding a fundraising party. Besides the proceeds from the bar, Adela is donating an original art work to raffle off, and Foss is designing computer games, cheaper than the local video arcade at 5¢ a shot. Next month, we have a barbecue planned, and we expect to have a couple of card parties between now and the School. Besides fundraising events, we are encouraging those working members who cannot attend the full four days to pay full price, with the extra going to defray costs for unemployed members.

#### NEWS AND NOTES

Congratulations to Francis for winning two first prizes in a New Jersey journalism contest. Mike P. met with Pittsburgh steelworkers on their local's OWL program. Mel B. has just completed a tour of I.S. branches. The National Unemployed Network meeting June 10-12 attracted close to 300 people...see report in Labor Notes.

#### CISPES DEMONSTRATION PLANNED NOVEMBER 12

National CISPES is working with a coalition which includes the Mobilization for Survival. This coalition will be building a national demonstration in DC for Nov. 12. The demonstration will focus on Central America, not just El Salvador.

## Marxism for the '80s ★ August 4-7 ★ Agenda

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00—9:00	X	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast [8:30—9:30]
9:00—11:00	X	Rediscovering Marxism I' Independent Political Action <sup>1</sup>	Marxist Economic Crisis Theories I	Rediscovering Marxism II <sup>2</sup> Democratic Party <sup>2</sup>
11:00—1:00	X	Rediscovering Marxism II' Socialism and Feminism	Marxist Economic Crisis Theories II	Brunch [11:30-12:30]
1:00—2:00	X	Lunch	Lunch	Urban Politics [12:30—3:00]
2:00—4:00	Register	Free Time Basic Marxist Economics <sup>2</sup>	Free Time	X
4:00—6:00	Basic Marxist Economics <sup>1</sup>	Capitalism & Black America <sup>1</sup> Democratic Party <sup>1</sup>	Rediscovering Marxism I <sup>2</sup> Independent Political Action <sup>1</sup>	X
6:00—7:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	X
7:00—9:00	Changing Face of the American Working Class	Capitalism & Black America <sup>2</sup>	Labor's Turning Point The CIO and WWII	X
9:00—12:00	Party	Singer Todd Smith Joe Hill: Man & Music	Party	X

<sup>1</sup> Class is repeated later. <sup>2</sup> Second time class is run. This agenda is tentative.