

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS NATIONAL REPORT

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FOR I.S. AND RED TIDE MEMBERS ONLY*****FOR I.S. AND RED TIDE MEMBERS ONLY*****

EC Meeting May 22, 1975

Present: KM, MD, DF, JT, MP (GS, GW, JW, JG excused)

ITEM:

1. Economic & Political Perspectives--30 min. disc.
Vote on document as a whole: ALL FOR

2. Black Document--10 min. pres. by JT, discussion.
MOTION-Accept document with suggestions and additions
brought out in discussion to be incorporated. ALL FOR

3. Dennis Family Defense-- Defense has been getting
poorer. MOTION(KM)-1) Local 6 should be put on record as
favoring continuing defense of Dennis family; 2) Local 6
implement this through calling for an area-wide ctte.
of trade unionists, etc. to create a climate of support;
2a) There should be a Local 6 implementation ctte. (thru
which we can bring in people from all over the area to
build the area-wide cttee.); 3) This to be first
step toward an ongoing continued defense campaign;

4. P.O. Campaign Report- 1) Begun asking branches to
sell WP at PO, meet and talk with people there.
2) Demands to be in next issue of WP. 3) Promo
leaflet to be passed out before WP is sold at PO's.
4) We have PO contacts in Cleve., NY, LA, South Bend, St. ~~Louis~~
Louis and other cities.

meeting adjourned.

IMPLEMENTATION:

KM to make final changes in
document, CW to edit it.

JT to implement.

JT to call KB to discuss
proposal.

JT to put out fact sheet on
campaign to branches.

XXXX EC MINUTES 5/29

PRESENT: KM, JT, JW, ML
(Others excused; on tour)

0. IMPLEMENTATION. Report by JT on defense of black family's home in Chicago. JT to maintain ~~for~~ communication with respect to this defense and the speedup/ election campaigns in the union there.

1. INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE. Report by KM.

2. CONSTITUTION. Presentation by LF on changes that should be made in the Constitution to bring it into line with the Democratic Centralism document. The proposed ~~revisions~~ revisions will be included in the Bulletin (the Constitution is reprinted in Bulletin #49 for reference).

MOTION: (1) To accept the revisions as submitted by LF.

(2) These amendments are to be treated as an addition to the Democratic Centralism document for the purposes of Convention discussion.

(3) All amendments to the Constitution which bear on questions discussed in the Democratic Centralism document will be treated as amendments to that document for the Convention; that is, they will be discussed at that session of the Convention and not in a separate Constitutional session.

MOTION PASSED.

3. IBI/UPS. Discussion in preparation for fraction meeting to be held first weekend in June. Further discussion next week.

4. CONVENTION. Report by DF for the temporary arrangements committee (LF and MP). Information is included in the Bulletin and National Report.

5. POST OFFICE CAMPAIGN. Report by JT on progress of campaign and pamphlet.

Messages from the National Office:

Stencils-- Now that most comrades are sending in Gestetner stencils (which are the only kind our mimeo will use) there remains one problem. We've still been receiving stencils that are poorly cut and have insufficient margins to print properly. Comrades, please use the highest setting on an electric typewriter so the stencil will be properly cut. Also, the area in which the print comes out with no problem is between lines 5-58. Please observe these margins and your stencils will come out more legible. If the above are not done, we simply can't print your stencils, since the problems that result make it too much hassle and waste supplies.

National Report Deadline-- The deadline for stencils to be in for the NR is the Monday prior to the new issue of WP. The NR's have to be bundled up and ready to go out with the paper on Wednesday. It takes a long time to run off, collate, staple and bundle enough NR's for the whole organization--hence the Monday deadline. If we had more people doing this, the deadline could be more flexible, but we don't, so it can't be.

NEXT DEADLINES FOR STENCILS TO GO IN NR's.:

<u>Stencils in by:</u>	<u>To go out on:</u>
June 16	June 18
June 30	July 2
July 14	July 16

Branch Activities and "What's On": Comrades, you should send in info to WP when branch is having forums or other public activities, as soon as they are scheduled. The deadline for items to get into "What's On" is Monday prior to WP publication date, same as the above NR deadlines. This should be taken very seriously since it not only helps out the branches but it's also important to show we have all these different things going on all over the place.

Post Office Campaign Report

The Post Office Campaign has begun quite successfully. All reports are not in, but indications so far are that we are getting a phenomenal reaction from postal workers. They have generally been quite eager to take the leaflet, and in most places the leaflet played quite an important role in getting them to buy the paper. In some places it was reported that they came with their 15¢ ready to buy the paper, just as the leaflet indicated. Paper sales have generally been quite high. The following are only the figures we have in so far, and even they are not complete in all cases.

Bay Area: 90, Chicago: 30, St. Louis: 150, Detroit: 85; Pittsburgh: 60. These figures indicate a level of response unlike any we have gotten so far. Undoubtedly the leaflet played a role, as did the fact that the contract is coming up and postal workers are interested in it. They also indicate future possibilities. In order to fill out this picture, branches must send in complete reports on their post office sales of issue #122, as well as all subsequent issues.

Sales are only one indication of the response we are getting. In a number of places we have made important contacts. In Portland and Pittsburgh we have run into rank and file opposition groups of one stripe or another (we still have to find out more about them). In Pittsburgh the group took office and is interested in waging a fight on the contract. In a number of other places, especially St. Louis and Chicago we have run into a number of important contacts. In New York, which is the leader of the opposition (led by sell-out bureaucrats), we are on the trail of some potential developments. Once again, I need precise information and good reports frequently from the branches: once every two weeks is absolutely insufficient. I need to be informed at least once a week.

Branches must take care to see that the paper gets sold more promptly than this time. This time it is understandable because of our delay in getting the leaflet out, but it can't work that way anymore. We are planning a pamphlet distribution, to be preceded by a leaflet advertising it, as well as a leaflet distribution calling for organization. These are the minimum that are in the planning now. Given these plans it will be impossible to stretch out the paper selling for two weeks.

Check WP#122 for further information.

A couple of suggestions: for branches that are feeling strapped for resources, one solution is to use contacts: get them involved in selling the paper at the post office, talking to contacts and generally trying to build the campaign. This is important and useful not only to overcome shortages, but also as a way of integrating and recruiting the contacts. Activity is always an important way to recruit, and this is just as legitimate an activity as any other, and in fact often more exciting than others.

In one city what was successfully tried was to go behind the P.O. to the loading docks and to talk to the workers there. The person presented himself as a reporter for WP and said he was interested in discussing the contract with the workers. They were very friendly, took him upstairs, moved him around to avoid the guards, and good talks and contacts were made.

Please be on the lookout for events that can be reported in WP. Check out WP to see the kind of thing I am talking about. It is important to give an air of activity and motion. And report findings immediately so we can decide if we want a story. Thanks.

Jack Trautman