

young socialist
the organizer

8-19-70

Preparing for the Fall Offensive!



Special Conference Issue

10 Cents

YSA Pre-Conference Discussion

Finances of a YSA Local

The treasury of a local is of tremendous importance. The financial books, if properly kept, should reflect the entire political perspective of the local. Any comrade should be able to look at the books and judge from them in which areas of work the local is strong and in which it is weak. The books should indicate in black and white (or red) how successful the local's sales have been, with what degree of seriousness the fund drive has been approached, to what extent the local intervenes on an educational level in the antiwar, women's and Third World liberation movements with leaflets, and the relationship of the total spent in any given area to any other.

As well as giving an overview of the local situation, the financial picture includes a perspective on the commitment of individual comrades. Referring to "commitment" does not imply that the person who gives the most is the most ardent revolutionary. However, a comrade who pays a large sustainer in relation to his or her income (and considering other financial obligations) is certainly seen as more responsible than one whose weekly pledge is at a minimum and whose income is relatively high. Along with the recorded amount of how much each comrade has pledged should be a schedule of how regularly he or she pays. The level of self-discipline and seriousness is more often than not reflected in a YSAer's handling of his or her financial commitment to the organization.

The Executive Committee should be apprised of the general financial situation of the local and of individual comrades through weekly reports by the treasurer. It is not necessary to write up and present a detailed analysis to every EC meeting, but a general evaluation can be

Most locals actually operate on a weekly budget. That is, *Militant* sales are reported according to weekly income from sales, sustainer debts are reported weekly, etc. Because emergencies such as loans or increased political activities (like the May events) may arise at any time, it is necessary to know at any given moment exactly what the financial situation is. If a large fund drive payment is held over to the end of the month, it is often overlooked in determining the finances and may be difficult to meet. In Atlanta we found that, by asking comrades to pay the national fund drive on a weekly basis, we were able to take in more money earmarked for the National Office. During the last fund drive we pledged a total of \$550. During the three-month fund drive period, the local voted to pay on a weekly sustainer schedule. As a direct consequence, we were able to take in more money and send in \$100 over our quota. We would not have been able to do so otherwise.

Individual comrades find that paying the fund drive on a weekly basis aids them in their own budgeting. Many comrades have commented that this technique has made them much more aware and responsible in planning their personal finances.

BUDGETING: A POLITICAL TASK

Because the finances do give a perspective of the work of a local they should reflect the political projections of the local. If there has been a decision to put emphasis on running a campaign on a certain campus, then an increase in funds should be budgeted for the month or so that the activity will take place, so that the tasks projected can be carried out. At the same time, care should be taken not to spend out of pro-

a point that Atlanta overlooked in some cases, with effects that were damaging to a degree. When helping a new local get on its feet, or when working with a group of at-largers, it is important to discuss their financial situation at length. To be in debt is a handicap for any local, and especially for one that is just striving to become established. Sustainers to the local, to the national fund drive, orders from *The Militant*, *ISR* and Pathfinder Press, and in some cases the regional center, should be explained in as much detail as possible to avoid the situation that many new areas find themselves in—up to the neck in debts. This is a very discouraging situation for anyone to begin operating with. And unless the new local is cautioned against such a situation debts can, and often do, go unnoticed until they are staggering.

SUSTAINERS

Financial contributions to our movement are evaluated on a par with any other political contribution. That is, regular payment of sustainers is an important political donation to the revolutionary socialist movement, just as are theoretical treatises, typing stencils, organizing a local, etc. There have been many occasions in both our past and present on which our most outstanding leaders have had the assignment of earning wages that would allow them to make large financial contributions. Because the YSA is largely student-based, locals may often find themselves in the position of making such assignments. And because many students are subsidized by their parents or scholarships, it is crucial that the importance of monetary donations always be in our consciousness. If it is not emphasized, the resulting lack of financial stability can be disastrous.

Because finances give a perspective of the local's work, the budget should reflect the political priorities decided on by the members.

easily given, along with any newly pertinent facts or problems that have arisen. It should also be pointed out that the members of the Executive Committee, as the elected leadership of the local, must play a decisive role in setting the pace for the local in their attitudes toward their own as well as the local's finances. In this area as in all others, EC members should be exemplary.

FUND DRIVES

The National Office of the YSA serves a vital function by coordinating all the locals so that we can function as a truly national organization. From the N.O. all locals periodically receive reports on the national perspectives in antiwar, women's liberation and other areas of work with related suggestions for local actions and perspectives. In order for the N.O. to perform this and other services it must be sustained by the money sent in by the local areas during fund drives. In the past we have met the fund drive by having each individual in the local pledge a certain amount, with the total individual pledges equaling the local's quota. During the last fund drive the Atlanta local discovered that the local—and each comrade—could better meet the quota if the individual weekly sustainer pledges were increased to include the fund drive. In this way a certain amount was collected for the N.O. on a weekly basis.

portion with other areas of work. For instance, although the local treasury may have enough money to cover the cost of a printed platform for a campus campaign, the treasurer, the campus fraction and the Executive Committee should weigh such an expense against the other work being done and projected. They may decide that an electro-stenciled platform will serve just as well.

At the last Tasks and Perspective report in the Atlanta local, a substantial increase in regional work was outlined and passed. The budget had to be planned with this political decision in mind. The regional committee outlined a rise in costs for postage, phone bill, paper used for newsletters, and traveling expenses, so the monthly regional work budget went from \$25 to \$75.

Of course, the committee said, the Southeast is so wide open to the YSA that we could easily spend five times the amount finally decided upon. Part of the gap between opportunity and resources has been bridged by carefully and consciously planning ahead—writing early to a regional contact rather than calling later; including as much information as possible in a mailing to avoid sending another one on its heels; planning two trips to nearby regions for the same weekend, etc.

Every local that is involved in regional work should be very conscious of helping new locals and at-largers organize their finances. This is

One way of motivating and evaluating sustainer pledges is to figure out a minimum sustainer norm against which comrades can judge their own pledges. The basic minimum is the local's fund drive quota, divided by the number of weeks over which the quota is to be paid (26 weeks if the local is on the sustainer system for paying its national quota). Any comrade who does not pay this minimum weekly amount not only is not helping the local any financially, but in fact is costing the local money—because the local will in effect have to subsidize that comrade's share of the quota.

Meeting this minimum amount does not, however, add anything to the local's operating budget. The average weekly expenses of the local (based on the budget approved by the local), divided by the number of comrades, must be added in. This provides a specific minimum dollar amount which, if collected weekly from each member, will cover the local's operations and national commitment. From this amount comrades should be encouraged to raise their sustainers as much as possible, given the individual situations. This increase in sustainer, above the norm, will provide for increased expenses in different areas of work and for a comfortable balance from which to operate. Those who are below the norm are, in essence, being subsidized by the local without the local voting to do so.

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LITERATURE

All finances concerning literature should be figured entirely separate from sustainers. Literature costs and sales should be a completely separate account. The goal of every local must be to have its income from sales cover its payments to Pathfinder and allow, above that, for regular expansion of the stock of literature. This is realistically possible if the local organizes its sales conscientiously and keeps close track of the income and expenses from literature.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

We are convinced that *weekly* financial reports to the local are a must. These reports give finances the correct emphasis of being as important as antiwar work, women's liberation work, *Militant* sales or other areas reported on almost every week. It also gives a weekly account of how well the local is meeting the projections it set out in the Tasks and Perspectives, an evaluation in dollars and cents of the success or failure in carrying out the decisions of the local.

The weekly report is an excellent way of updating the entire membership on any unusual circumstances that come up. For instance, if

there has been a ghetto uprising in a nearby city and someone should be sent in to make a report, extra funds will be needed, and the local is given a chance to decide on that expenditure. It is of crucial importance that the weekly report include a current appraisal of the sustainer debt, a figure which, if not closely watched, can soar to the point of financial disaster within a very short time. This aspect of the report is instrumental in motivating the payment of sustainers at each meeting.

A chart of sustainer debts is an excellent way of showing at a glance just what the character of the debt is—whether a few comrades have accumulated large debts, whether many comrades are a week or two behind, or both. The chart serves as a progress report on how well or how poorly the sustainer debt is being reduced. Individual comrades who have debts are motivated to pay them off without having their names specifically called out.

Along with weekly financial reports, there should be a rather detailed monthly report mimeographed and handed out to each comrade. This report should show exactly how much money was taken in and from what sources, exactly how much was spent and for what, what

unexpected expenses occurred, the sustainer debt itemized by comrade, and the total assets of the local and debts owed by the local. These reports should be presented in the same form from month to month so that comrades can compare reports. None of the mimeographed copies should go out of the meeting room, as its financial situation is the business of the local alone and should not be allowed to fall into other hands.

The treasurer should keep a running balance which allows for spot checks, which are often necessary under many different circumstances—such as in a crisis situation when someone other than the treasurer may need to decide on short notice whether this or that expenditure can be made. The other reason for keeping a running balance is that this amount, along with the sustainer debt, is the single most accurate indicator of the overall financial progress of the local on a day to day basis.

CAROLINE FOWLKES
Treasurer
Atlanta YSA

Phoenix Strike Report

Editor's Note: The following report gives a day-by-day account of strike activities at Arizona State University and the role of the Phoenix YSA during the first week of the May upsurge.

MONDAY, MAY 4

We set up a literature table, sold *Militants* and publicized the facts of the killings at Kent State. That evening YSA members attended a meeting of independents and called for a meeting on campus the following evening. When we found out that another group was also meeting to plan activities we combined the two meetings.

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Over 700 people attended a mass meeting on the ASU campus. Morris Starsky, advisor to the YSA, gave a speech and called for a general student strike. Pam Starsky, YSA organizer, also called for a strike and emphasized making decisions democratically by taking votes at mass meetings. The crowd voted overwhelmingly to call a student strike to protest the Kent murders and to demand "U.S. Out of Cambodia." We sold 100 *Militants*. After the meeting there was a brief march around campus.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

We set up a strike headquarters at 7:30 am at the Social Sciences Building and organized leafletting teams to go into the high schools. An SMC table was set up which distributed leaflets, sold literature, distributed armbands and collected donations.

Later in the morning RYM and other ultra-lefts occupied the ROTC building. YSA proposed that we not just take one building and occupy it, but rather that we open up the university and its facilities as an antiwar center. We argued that occupying the building, or trashing it, would just set people up to be victimized. About 6 pm the people inside decided that we were correct and voted to attend the mass memorial meeting going on in Goodwin stadium.

At the memorial meeting, which was organized

by Resistance, no YSAer or SMCer was allowed to speak. There was one RYM speaker and a number of hand-wringing liberals, whose long-range strategy proposal was that everyone work to impeach Nixon. We managed to get an announcement made, in the name of the SMC, that after the march through town there would be a mass planning meeting in front of the college chapel.

After the memorial meeting broke up the crowd marched through town, swelling as it went to 10,000 people. The ultra-lefts planned to lead people back to the ROTC building, give a few agitational speeches and then call for trashing the building. However, as the marchers came by the chapel a YSAer used a bullhorn to announce again that there would be a strike planning meeting right there in front of the outdoor podium. Only a few people continued marching to the ROTC building.

The meeting was held under the auspices of SMC, and was chaired by this writer as chairman of SMC. We proposed that the strike continue, that classes be closed so that the university could be used as an antiwar university, and that there be a mass march through downtown Phoenix ending at the state capitol building. RYM proposed that we trash a few buildings so that the National Guard would be called on campus, whereupon RYM would leaflet the Guard, which would magically turn into a "people's militia." RYM and other ultra-lefts were booed off the stage. Our proposals were approved by votes taken at the mass meeting.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Strike headquarters was set up at the chapel at about 8:30 am. We immediately initiated Committees—publicity, march, fund, and high school. YSA set up a literature table and sold *Militants*. By mid-morning we learned that the architecture and social science departments were totally on strike (including faculty) and that much of English and education were out. There was also a limited response in the sciences. About 15,000 out of a total of 26,000 students

were boycotting most or all of their classes. The President of ASU issued a statement that all students and faculty could feel free not to attend classes the rest of the week. This announcement was made throughout the day from the podium at strike headquarters.

A mass meeting was called for noon to plan further strike activity. The ultra-lefts were already demoralized. They proposed that the crowd mob the police guarding the flagpole so that the flag could be lowered to half staff. (It had been the previous day, but the Governor then ordered that all flags fly at full staff and be guarded by police with orders to shoot if necessary to keep the flag flying full staff.) Pam Starsky proposed that instead of people getting victimized by attacking the cops we should go to any classes that were still being held and call for votes in the rooms on whether the students wanted to join the strike. RYM led 50-100 people to the flagpole, while YSA led the overwhelming majority to the classes.

Another mass meeting was held that evening to make last-minute preparations for the march to the state capitol. All of the planning at the meeting went well until RYM decided to oppose the organizing of monitors for the demonstration. RYM accused the YSA of wanting students to "play a pig role," but the meeting of 6,000-8,000 voted to have monitors.

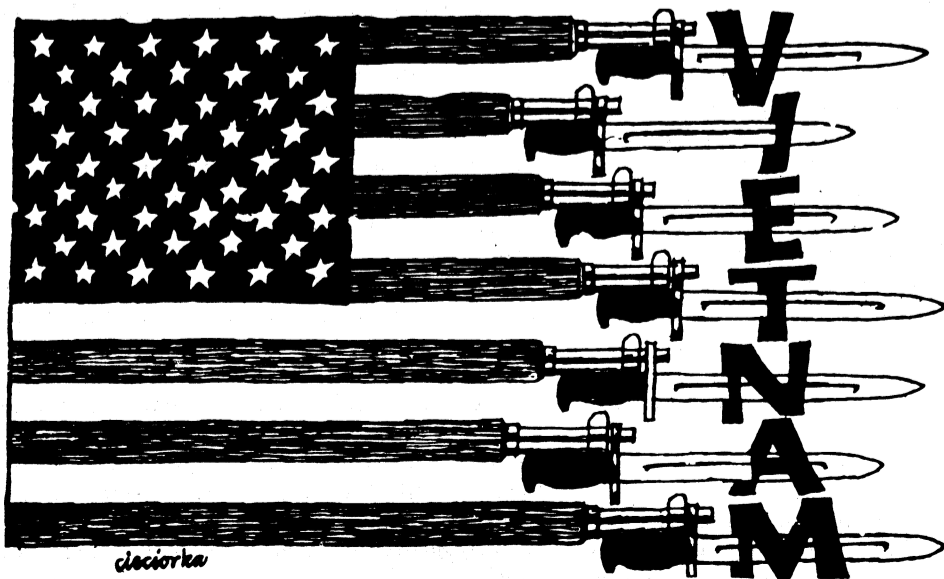
FRIDAY, MAY 8

The march was well organized all around. Speakers were Harry Vincent (a Kent State Massacre eyewitness), two members of the Mexican American Student Organization, a RYM-er, someone from Resistance, a priest, this writer for SMC and Pam Starsky for YSA. There were about 6,000 people at the march and rally, plus several hundred state police guarding the flagpole and the capitol. The YSA's literature table did brisk business, and on the march one comrade alone sold over 150 *Militants*.

We learned from one error made in planning the action that monitors should be organized by a comrade, not a pacifist. At one point a right-winger was able to rush the microphone, and the pacifist-leaning monitors and monitor captain were unable to protect it. We decided to let him speak, as the only alternative was to beat him bloody to get his hands off the microphone. He was booed throughout his speech. For the May 30 demonstration we put a comrade in charge of the monitors and it made all the difference.

The march and rally were the largest ever held in Phoenix. The YSA periphery grew considerably, and the SMC was projected as the leading antiwar group. The YSA almost doubled in size as people were attracted to us because of the role we played. We sold a large amount of literature, and over 1,000 *Militants*.

JIM ROWLAND
Phoenix YSA



Educational Program for a Campus Local

Educating our comrades in the theory of Marxism is an important part of our work as revolutionary socialists. The national orientation of the YSA toward this education is shown by the way the socialist summer schools have been built, and it is important for small locals to continue this process of education throughout the school year.

In DeKalb our educational program was directed at our own comrades and at close contacts. We also wanted to structure it so that new comrades joining in the middle of the year would not be lost in the discussions. We found that a good way to do this is to present classes in a series—one series on women's liberation, one on Black liberation, etc.

We prepared a schedule of educationals for an entire semester. Most of the classes were around such fundamental works as *Left-Wing Communism, Reform or Revolution, The Death Agony of Capitalism (Transitional Program), Problems of Women's Liberation, and The Transitional Program for Black Liberation*. It is important for educationals to be given around basic readings like these because new comrades should become acquainted with these works, and it benefits all comrades to read them several times. We initially tried to cover a different book in every class but learned that this is not always possible—the most important books should be covered in two or three lectures. In order to benefit fully from the program, comrades must read all the material, and this should be con-

sidered when constructing the educational schedule.

Another series of educationals that would be valuable is one on the organizational principles and structure of the YSA. In this stage of mass radicalization, when more and more people are joining the YSA, all members must fully understand the internal operation of the YSA. The pamphlet, *Organizing the YSA*, along with selected articles from *The Young Socialist Organizer*, could be used for such classes.

The educational schedule should be made in consultation with the regional center if possible, so that the resources of the center (tapes, etc.) can be utilized to the fullest extent. The center should send out comrades as often as possible to teach classes. The local should not, of course, depend entirely on the comrades from the center but should also utilize its own members because preparing and teaching a class is valuable training.

Tapes should be made of the classes and a file kept of notes on them. These can be valuable for further reference and for term papers.

It is very important that the program be flexible. If a scheduled class cannot be given, this should not throw the whole program off. With a flexible schedule classes can be given on special topical events. For instance, after the right-wing attack in DeKalb, we were able to have several classes on the defense policies of our movement without overburdening the program.

The goal is to have several programs going

on at one time, e.g., one set of fundamentals classes and another set for more advanced comrades. The fundamentals program should be firmly established before more ambitious series are projected.

Some of the classes on certain topics can be built as public forums. We had a special class on women's liberation which was attended by 20 independent women.

Sympathetic faculty members should be approached to see if they will allow a YSAer to teach some of their classes. We convinced a philosophy professor that he should let a YSAer teach a class on *Existentialism vs. Marxism*. Professors and campus organizations should be coaxed into debating us.

Comrades should make a concerted effort to travel to the regional center for classes and forums as often as possible. Utilizing the resources of the center cannot be overemphasized. The center can play a key role in educating comrades and must be used as extensively as possible.

We were aided by the fact that we are only 70 miles from Chicago and were able to get comrades from there to speak in DeKalb fairly often. Most colleges and universities have speakers' bureaus which can be approached for honoraria which make it easier to bring in comrades from other areas to speak.

DON SORSA
DeKalb YSA

Notes on ISR Sales

Three issues of the new *International Socialist Review* have appeared, and it is clear that the *ISR* has the potential for becoming the major theoretical journal of the left, read by all radicals and radicalizing people. This fall the *ISR* can play a key role in getting our ideas to people, recruiting to the YSA and building the revolutionary socialist movement. Here are some notes on the two basic areas of *ISR* sales, bookstore sales and sales by individual comrades.

BOOKSTORE SALES

● The basic method we have employed in New York for placing the *ISR* on newsstands and in bookstores was presented in detail in *The Young Socialist Organizer* dated June 24. Having a prepared sales talk and being prepared to fill an order on the spot are especially important.

● The best prospects are in business districts and around campuses. In New York City we have an abundance of newsstands and colleges. In such a situation it is important to know where you are going before setting out—either to a specific bookstore or to a college or business district with a lot of newsstands.

● We found it best not to open isolated stands in outlying areas unless a comrade was available who could service the account.

● Pickup and delivery should be carefully organized. Routes can be set up that one or two people can handle in a day. It might also be possible to have each campus fraction service the area around its school each month.

● Keep accurate records of how well the stands do and be prepared to suggest an increased bundle.

● Paste-ups in areas where the magazine is on sale, using either a special leaflet or covers of the current issue, can increase the sales considerably. (Extra covers for paste-ups can be ordered from the *ISR* Business Office, and a poster will be available this fall.)

● Keep the prospects for newsstand sales in mind when ordering the local's bundle. In New York about two-thirds of the copies we have placed in bookstores and on newsstands have been sold. We plan to have 700 copies on stands by September.

INDIVIDUAL SALES

● The fact that we have been so successful with bookstore sales does not mean that we should slack up at all on individual sales by comrades. These sales will continue to be the backbone of the *ISR*'s circulation. The *ISR* should be hawked just as vigorously as the *Young Socialist* was, or more so.

● The higher cost of the *ISR* does not cut

down the potential for hawking at all. The price is more than counterbalanced by the professionalism of the magazine and the attractiveness of its contents to wide layers of people.

● Keep charts showing *ISR* sales for each comrade and for the local as a whole. The latter chart should show the bundle size, number that must be sold to break even and the number actually sold for each issue.

● When organizing sales for demonstrations or other special events, be sure to assign an adequate number of comrades to concentrate on *ISR* sales. And of course the *ISR* should be prominently featured on every literature table that is set up.

● Comrades who are going out on *Militant* sales should always take along five or six *ISRs*. Concentrate on hawking *The Militant*, but whenever someone buys a copy, show him or her the *ISR*. Open it up to the contents page and point out the major articles, and a good percentage of *Militant* buyers will make the additional purchase. If, every time a *Militant* salesman goes out, he or she takes along the *ISR*, the local's sales can be dramatically increased with very little effort.

BOB ROWAND
ISR Sales Director
New York YSA

Young Socialist Campaigners

In view of the coming November elections and the heightened political consciousness that accompanies them, a primary perspective for campus locals should be the initiation of a youth support group for the Socialist Workers Party campaigns. Not only is this a good way of getting speaking engagements for the candidates and a way of getting out our program, it is also an excellent avenue for recruitment. This was shown by our recent experience in DeKalb—we recruited seven of the ten members of our Young Socialist Campaigners.

In February we decided to start a Young Socialist Campaigners group to facilitate our campaign work. The YS Campaigners was seen as a group of independents who agreed with the SWP platform and wanted to work in support of our candidates. Although only five independents showed up for the first meeting, within two weeks that number had doubled.

The Campaigners immediately went into action by having Willy Petty, candidate for Sheriff of Cook County, Debbie Notkin, candidate for University of Illinois Board of Trustees, and Peter Camejo, candidate for U. S. Senator from

Massachusetts, speak on campus. The Campaigners led a struggle in conjunction with the YSA to get Camejo's honorarium when the administration (of the University of Northern Illinois) dug deep into the books of Illinois law and came up with one saying it could not under any circumstances "subsidize" a candidate for public office. The YSA and YSC didn't let this stop them, however, and after several mass delegations visited the administration and one of its attorneys, Camejo got his honorarium.

Besides bringing in speakers, the YSC also had literature tables up about twice a week to distribute campaign literature.

In addition to its on-campus work the YSC joined the YSA in regional campaign work. In April the two groups set up a regional trip to five Illinois campuses to arrange speaking engagements for the SWP candidate for U. S. Senator from Illinois. Besides setting up the speaking engagements, we distributed vast quantities of campaign materials and generally acquainted the students in the area with our campaign. Forty to fifty students signed up on our campaign mailing list.

We did make one mistake by organizing the YS Campaigners in such a way that it appeared to be a miniature YSA—it had fractions (anti-war, Third World, women's liberation, etc.) just like the YSA. This was an error because, unlike the YSA, the YSC is basically a campaign support group, whose major function should be to work for the campaign.

One of the most successful aspects of the campaign work was the recruitment of seven new YSAers from the YSC. They were introduced to our program through the YSC, and, after about two weeks of working closely with us and reading our basic literature, they decided to join.

As our experiences demonstrate, the Young Socialist Campaigners are useful not only for extension of campaign work but also for recruitment. It is imperative that, during this period of greater political awareness resulting from May, we use every available means to reach the new layers of radicalizing youth with our program. The Young Socialist Campaigners can be a prime vehicle for this purpose.

BRUCE KAUFMAN
DeKalb YSA

Small Local Regional Work I

Serious regional work first began out of the Yellow Springs local in the fall of 1969. Rich Finkel, then regional traveler for the Ohio region, passed through Antioch and we were able to get a speaking engagement for him in early October at the University of Dayton, a school with approximately 10,000 students, 20 miles from Yellow Springs. A literature table was set up in the student union before the talk. Two at-largers were recruited and a number of contacts established.

During the rest of the quarter literature tables were set up fairly regularly on a weekly basis, and I gave another talk on "The Coming American Revolution" in early December. A fair amount of literature was sold, including several subscriptions to *The Militant*. In addition to the recruitment, a concrete political gain was a functioning SMC on the campus.

We encountered several problems in our work on this campus, including difficulties in maintaining contact with the at-largers and restrictive university regulations on sales, and both of the at-large members have since left the YSA. The political arena in Dayton is currently dominated by a group of ultralefts around an underground paper called *The Minority Report*, and regional work there will be crucial this fall.

The other two areas of regional work have been schools closer to Antioch. The first is Wittenberg University in Springfield, a school of about 2,000-2,500. We made several contacts through the SMC conference and were able to set up literature tables there in March and April. The tables were very successful. The first one sold over \$18.00 in literature and three *Militant* subscriptions. We were invited by the campus political forum to have Ohio SWP candidates speak there.

The second campus was Wilmington College in Wilmington (approximately 1,000 students). We made quite a few contacts through the SMC conference and were able to help them establish an SMC at Wilmington. However, the red-baiting and general pandemonium at the conference took its toll. One of the leading radicals joined the John Brown Caucus at the conference, mainly under the pressure of the red-baiters. There was a great deal of apprehension toward us from even the healthiest activists. During May the situation changed. We were invited by the strike committee to speak and Nelson Blackstock, then

on tour, was able to give a talk to a number of new activists. Three comrades from Antioch went down a week or so later to talk to these new contacts about the summer school and have a general discussion of what the YSA is. Discussion became immersed in debate about the PL-SDS attack on the SMC expanded steering committee meeting the previous weekend, and it was fairly unproductive.

Our work at both Wittenberg and Wilmington was cut off by the end of the school term. The Wittenberg SMC decided not to build May 30, which strained relationships there. At Wilmington two serious contacts were made and will probably be recruited this fall. At Wittenberg no one is terribly serious about the YSA as yet, but there are good possibilities.

There have been two key aspects of our regional work: 1) There has been a political void at all three campuses, as well as at others in the area. This is not to say that there is any less radicalization taking place than on other campuses throughout the country. Independent women's liberation groups, for example, have come into being at all these campuses. Aside from the usual amount of ultraleftism, however, there is no organized expression of this radicalization as a whole, i.e., no defined political tendencies. There is a hunger for radical ideas and literature. These campuses are open to speakers of all persuasions, which means tremendous opportunities for our campaign.

2) The YSA is the only organized tendency with which most of these radicals have come in contact; *The Militant* is the only radical paper they have consistently seen or ever subscribed to. This point is important in itself. We are ready and willing to confront the ideas of all other political tendencies and, while many contacts have not been recruited immediately, they have been drawn into our periphery with a certain commitment to our ideas. Added to this is the fact that Antioch has a reputation as a center of radicalism in southwestern Ohio and the YSA plays a major role on the Antioch campus.

The most exciting development in our regional work has been our contact with GIs at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the largest Air Force base in the U.S. The initial contacts came out of the GI-Civilian Conference in Fairborn in March 1969. The GIs on the base began an antiwar newspaper, *United Servicemen's Action*

for *Freedom (USAF)*, which later folded as the editors ended their hitches. One GI waged a tremendously successful civil liberties fight in conjunction with the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee for the right to hand out leaflets on the base (see *The Militant*, July 11, 1969). Another GI joined the YSA last fall but was discharged before Christmas (see *The Militant*, December 26, 1969) and transferred to another local.

This winter, the GI who had been involved in the leafletting case began intensive propaganda and organizing. He sold 11 subs to *The Militant*, got 45 signatures for the SMC's *New York Times* ad, and formed a GIs United on the base in May. On short notice, the GI group collected 27 signatures on base for a letter to Governor Rhodes denouncing the Kent State massacre. GIs United now has its own headquarters off the base and is planning to put out a newspaper, *The Star-Spangled Bummer*. The involvement of a number of officers on the base has been quite successful. One officer read greetings at the National Emergency Conference and his wife intends to join the YSA this fall.

The YSA has been tremendously active in this development all along. We are the only radical tendency seriously interested in relating to GIs and they know it. We have always made ourselves available for literature, facilities and political advice. The main organizational work has been done by the GIs themselves. One has a small literature selection in his bureau drawer, the best sellers being *GIs Speak Out Against the War*, *GIs and the Fight Against War* and *Socialism on Trial*. In June, a contact educational was held in the barracks. Several GIs are extremely interested in the YSA and have made arrangements to contact other locals when their time is up.

Regional work from a small local is always limited by having less personnel and facilities than a large local. However, with persistent work in conjunction with the regional center in Cleveland, there is no doubt that our work with the GIs will continue to improve and that new recruits can be made and new locals formed at other campuses within the next year.

DUNCAN WILLIAMS
Yellow Springs YSA

Small Local Regional Work II

Regional work is an important aspect of the YSA. It is one of the best ways to spread and build the YSA. The DeKalb local was able to lay the basis last spring for extensive regional work next fall semester. We made all of our tours in conjunction with the regional office in Chicago.

The first regional trip last spring was an Illinois Socialist Workers Campaign trip. The tour was to cover five campuses in Illinois,

raise money for the campaign, set up speaking engagements for the candidates, sell literature, and meet contacts. Four comrades went on this tour and each was given various assignments for each campus. On each campus the comrades went to they found few or no opponent political tendencies. (In December, 1969, a regional trip had come across a thriving RYM chapter at Illinois State University. When the four comrades arrived at ISU in the spring,

RYM had disappeared.) On ISU and the other campuses, the comrades found radicalizing students open to revolutionary socialist ideas. The comrades sold all their literature and set up speaking engagements at three universities.

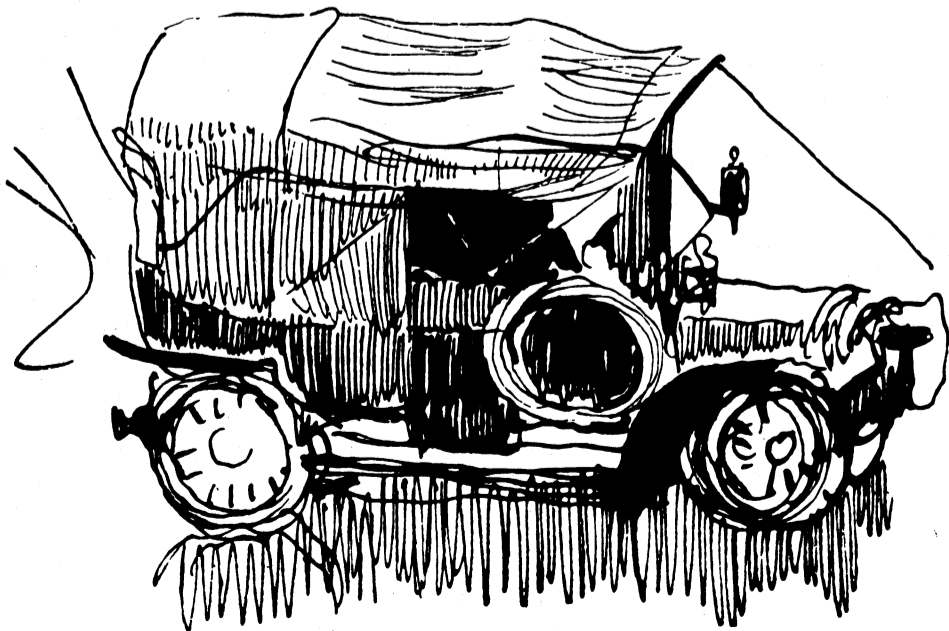
After the tour, the regional fraction met and decided to concentrate on one of the campuses they had just been to in order to recruit activists to the YSA. ISU was picked and four comrades went to spend a week there. The first day at ISU, the comrades set up a literature table. Some contacts helped to get a room for us so we could explain the YSA to interested students. During this week, the Kent students were killed. Two comrades went back to DeKalb and the two comrades who stayed helped give leadership to the budding mass movement at ISU. The advantages the upsurge provided for the comrades were:

1) An opportunity to demonstrate the YSA's politics *in action* to ISU activists and contacts.

2) An opportunity to recruit very quickly into the YSA two ISU activists.

In light of the May events and their effect on campuses across the nation, the YSA should reach out to as many of these campuses as possible and educate and recruit the newly radicalizing students, and thus build the YSA.

RICH GREEN
DeKalb YSA



Organizing the Ohio Region

This year eight comrades from the Ohio region have come to Cleveland to attend the socialist summer school. Two will be staying on in the fall, but the others will be going back to their areas with more knowledge of revolutionary theory and with the experience of working in a large city local. In addition to the summer school in Cleveland, the comrades in Cincinnati and Columbus are holding classes based on tapes from Cleveland.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

On May 2 we held a regional YSA conference in Columbus with attendance from all over the state. The conference was mainly educational, with workshops to discuss some of the important political questions. There were also organizational workshops where comrades compared and discussed ways of building YSA activities.

At this conference we made plans for a truly statewide socialist campaign in the fall. Our candidates will have speaking engagements on all campuses, to be followed by the formation of socialist campaign committees. Comrades throughout Ohio will be checking the news me-

school. It is also important to help *all* the members develop politically, rather than letting one well-known campus leader be the only active YSAer. Since we are one of the few organizations that opposes a "star" system of leadership, this may be a new concept to them.

FINANCING REGIONAL WORK

The Cleveland Socialist Workers Party branch took on the financial responsibility for the expenses of regional travelling. Originally we planned to make enough from honoraria for speaking engagements to cover the costs. However, it is necessary to begin early to arrange these. Collections at meetings yield very little. Literature sales are a potential source of income, but a large stock is necessary and it will take several months before sales surpass costs. Buttons and posters sell quite well. It is important to have a wide selection of books and pamphlets since this is the only source of our literature for people in these campuses.

Since honoraria and literature sales did not cover costs, we asked locals to make monthly contributions to the regional office. However,

semester that we needed another person in Cleveland to function as regional secretary.

The May upsurge was a good test of the success of our regional organizing. At nearly every school in the area where there were YSAers they played major roles in the strike and at some schools the YSA was recognized as a major part of the strike leadership. However, this was done mainly on an independent basis with minimum coordination from the regional center. In many cases we had little or no idea what was going on. A major reason was that both regional travelers had emergency assignments during the strike. In addition we had made no provision for continuing regional work during the summer.

What is called for this fall is expanded regional work and improved coordination. This means a full-time traveler plus someone in the center with the major assignment of regional coordination. This should be augmented by one-day trips to nearby campuses with literature tables, arranged by each local in the region, including the center. The SWP campaign will be an important part of the fall regional perspective.

A solidly-organized regional team comprising all the branches, locals, and at-largers can coordinate work in the mass movements and build the YSA on a qualitatively higher level...

dia for opportunities for the candidates to reply to editorials and demand equal time.

At the conference, women comrades got together to begin plans for building a statewide women's liberation movement, culminating in a statewide demonstration or conference.

The success of the regional conference and the summer school are the result of three semesters of regional organizing: Dave and Marta Prince, on tour during spring of 69, made the initial contacts; Rich Finkel, in fall 69, set up four locals; this last spring the writers were able to consolidate these locals and initiate several more. During the first two months of our tour we visited existing locals for three to four days each. We met with the organizer, the Executive Committee, and the local and discussed what they were doing and what problems they had. Since most of the people had never seen the YSA in operation anywhere it was often necessary to explain basic organizational concepts and ways of functioning: the role of the EC, *Militant* sales, educationals and classes, literature tables, etc. While there we helped build the locals by speaking at public meetings and talking to potential recruits individually.

The locals at Kent, Columbus, Oxford, and Yellow Springs have been effective in building the antiwar movement, especially the SMC, in their areas. Some locals have even organized to the point where they are carrying out their own regional travelling.

By the end of the spring we had functioning locals at Columbus, Kent, Yellow Springs, Oxford, Oberlin, and a group of four in Cincinnati. We helped the National Field Secretary in working with the newly-formed Pittsburgh, Pa., local. There were also many at-large members scattered throughout the region. Two of the original locals—Athens, Ohio, and Lexington, Ky.—had dropped out.

In areas where there are only a few contacts, we found that it is better to stay longer—a week or more. In that time we would set up literature tables as often as possible in the student union and talk individually to as many interested people as possible. We would arrange for one or both of us to speak on campus, using that meeting as a base for calling another meeting of those interested in joining the YSA. The speeches, on "Women's Liberation" and "The Crisis of U.S. Imperialism," were half educational and half recruiting speeches.

If five or more people wanted to join, we would work with them in electing an Executive Committee and holding the first local meeting. One of the most important things is to discuss with new members how the YSA can function most effectively in their particular

since many new locals are financially quite unstable, this was not successful in providing a regular income.

The following is a monthly average expense-income breakdown for fall and spring, lumping all sources of income together:

	fall	spring
Income	\$113.55	\$172.62
Expenses	184.61	249.40
Deficit	71.06	76.78

The major expenses were food, paid for out of a \$45 per week allotment, and gas and oil, paid for by credit card with the Cleveland SWP branch paying the bills. The \$45 per week for two people in the spring was not completely realistic—two cannot eat as cheaply as one in a restaurant.

By consistent fund-raising from individuals, continued attention to getting honoraria from schools, and regular small contributions from each local it is conceivable that the deficit could be eliminated. This would require major attention from more than just the regional traveler, who spends very little time in one place.

THE REGIONAL APPARATUS

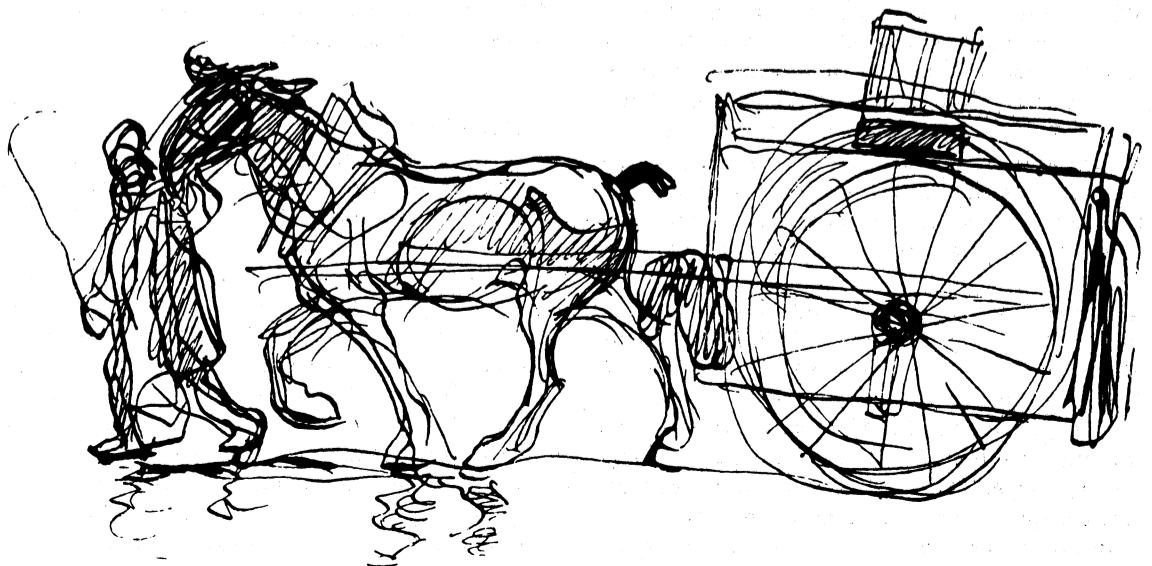
For us the perspective of socialist activities throughout the state is exciting. However, new locals need to be in touch with the center constantly or they become isolated. This means putting out a regional newsletter bi-weekly, reading minutes of the local meetings, and carrying on personal correspondence and making phone calls if necessary—especially if a crisis erupts on one of the campuses. It is best to have one or two people doing full-time travelling. We found our correspondence so heavy this last

Statewide campaigns can be utilized quite effectively as a regional activity if they are related to local issues throughout the state and organized aggressively, as in California. Insufficient personnel and finances prevented us from taking full advantage of the campaign last semester.

Improved communications and coordination means not only a regular newsletter and personal correspondence but also regular meetings—possibly monthly meetings of a steering committee composed of representatives of each local and area. The key to "regional work" lies in developing a regional team leadership that can collectively plan and carry out activities on a regional scale. A solidly-organized regional team comprising all the branches, locals, and at-largers in the region can coordinate work in the mass movements—antiwar and women's liberation demonstrations, strike actions—and specifically YSA work—sub drives, fund drives—on a qualitatively higher level than has ever been done before.

The October 31 demonstrations provide an ideal vehicle for moving in the direction of such activity and development—but only if each branch and local consciously devotes a substantial portion of its resources to regional organizing.

**SANDY PECK
BOB SCHWARZ
Cleveland YSA**



Defending the Arab Revolution

Prior to this spring, the work of the Philadelphia local in defense of the Arab revolution had been limited to occasional co-sponsorship and participation in teach-ins and debates with campus Zionists, and informal personal contacts between individual comrades and Arab students. A series of activities held at the University of Pennsylvania represents an attempt on our part to take the initiative in building support for the Arab revolution.

There were two immediate objectives of this program. One was to facilitate contact and discussion between our comrades and the various Arab groups in the area. There is a relatively large chapter of the Organization of Arab Students at Penn, as well as a large Arab-American community, primarily businessmen and professionals, loosely organized around the churches and the United Holy Land Fund, a refugee charity organization. A second objective was to establish an organization of activists, involving the widest possible range of sympathizers. The OAS has a periphery of friends and sympathizers and there is an increasing number of anti-Zionists among the radical groups in the area. These radicals had not yet been actively involved in support for the Arab struggle.

The first activity carried out with this perspective was Palestine Week, a four-day series of cultural displays and activities (art show, poetry reading, folk dancing, Arabic food) and political workshops. The character of this initial project—relatively low-keyed activity for a sustained period, with emphasis on the cultural component—served a number of purposes. In terms of the long-range goal of building support for the Arab struggle, it assured attendance by the maximum number and variety of interested students and served as an initial blow against the Zionist denial of Palestinians as a socio-cultural entity. In terms of our more immediate objectives, it allowed active participation by the Arab-American community and the majority of Arab students, as well as providing a context where an increased number of comrades and Arabs could become acquainted and engage in informal discussion. Finally, by balancing the political controversy with a strong cultural emphasis, a favorable initial impression was made by the activity on both those participating and the student body at large.

To coordinate the week's activities, a Palestine Week Committee was formed, consisting of representatives from the YSA, OAS, Ethiopian Student Union and the Arab-American Liberation Movement (a community-based organization), as well as individual students and members of the community. On the whole, Palestine Week was very successful, and it established the committee as a continuing organization. Subsequent activities, in keeping with the general perspective of a cultural-political approach, have included building a talk by Arie Bober of the Israeli Socialist Organization; a panel discussion on "Imperialism vs. Self-Determination," prompted by the invasion of Cambodia, which included speakers from the YSA, SMC and Arab and African stu-

dent organizations; an Arabian festival, consisting of speakers from the YSA, OAS, ESU, followed by Arabic dinner, movie, and dancing; periodic literature tables at the Student Union; and a literature table at a forum sponsored by the United Holy Land Fund.

These activities have resulted in a number of concrete gains for both the Palestine Week Committee and the YSA. Our contact with Third World students, especially Arabs, Ethiopians and other Africans, has increased substantially. Among foreign students generally, the YSA is recognized as the best builder of support for Third World liberation struggles. In the Arab-American community, the PWC is recognized as the voice of student support for the Arab struggle. The participation of the YSA is recognized and some initial contacts have been established between individual comrades and community members. On campus, the PWC has established itself as a viable organization, although we cannot yet assess the impact we have had on student opinion.

We have also encountered certain problems, a brief discussion of which may be useful to comrades in other areas. One difficulty has been the organizational character of the PWC, which has publicly identified itself as a coalition of organizations and individuals. We later realized that this jeopardized the foreign students in the committee, as their visas and their national charter limits the nature of political activity they can undertake. The Palestine Week Committee is currently discussing a change in the name and character of the committee, eliminating formal participation by organizations. The change will serve both to protect foreign students and allow more flexibility in the type of actions undertaken by the committee.

Another difficulty is that while we have been successful in carrying out a number of well-attended activities, the composition of the committee has remained essentially constant, failing to involve any new forces in planning and building. The organizational change in the committee will partially overcome this difficulty, allowing members of various organizations to participate without the implication that the entire organization is committing itself. In addition, the general recognition of the importance of broader participation and of maintaining a united front character for the committee will enable it to devote more attention to this task. It is extremely important for our comrades involved in this work to explain the principles and importance of the united front tactic.

We have met surprisingly little direct opposition from pro-Zionist forces, despite a well-organized Zionist group and a large Jewish student population. Their response has been the establishment of a student-faculty front organization with a left-liberal line, which has sponsored a number of talks by "Socialist Zionists," Israeli "doves," etc., and has so far avoided a direct confrontation with the PWC.

Our projection for the fall is to meet them head-on in debates and panel discussions, taking advantage of their large not-totally-convinced pe-

riphery and their publicity apparatus. Simultaneously, we will continue to carry out our original cultural-political strategy to provide a positive pole of attraction.

Finally, we feel that wherever a consistent, active defense of the Arab revolution is projected, a discussion of an educational nature would be beneficial. Such education would assure that all comrades have a complete understanding of the situation in the Middle East, the revolutionary socialist position, the importance of our work in defense of the Arab revolution and its interrelation with our other areas of work.

DAVID ODEN
Philadelphia YSA



FROM THE ARAB WORLD

Berkeley Strike Report

In the Bay Area, the reaction to the invasion of Cambodia began with a demonstration of 3,000 in San Francisco on Monday, May 4. This action was organized in a few days by a broad antiwar coalition of about 20 groups, including SMC, Bay Area Peace Action Council and New Mobe, and was in fact the only Bay Area-wide antiwar demonstration that occurred during the entire crisis. Following the Kent murders almost all antiwar activity centered on turning the campuses into antiwar universities.

The upsurge at U.C. Berkeley followed almost a month of ultraleft anti-ROTC demonstrations, led and organized by PL-SDS, which had led to many gassings and arrests. Actions of this type isolated PL-SDS from the majority of the students both before and during the Cambodia upsurge. When students took over the entire campus with the aim of peacefully reconstituting it, the ultraleft groups were too small,

divided and disorganized to oppose the force of the majority. Many of these groups, with PL-SDS being the exception, attempted to work within the strike structure.

STRIKE BEGINS

Strike activities began on Tuesday, May 4, with an "illegal" noon rally, attended by about 5,000 people, that called for an end to all normal activities on the campus. There was still a small amount of ultraleft activity following the rally. At the same time many professors had begun to organize, and at a meeting of about 150 the previous Sunday night they decided to call for a mass convocation in the Greek Theater on Wednesday. They were able to get such a call passed at the Academic Senate meeting (the official faculty body, with around 1,200 members), along with a motion to cancel classes from Wednesday through Friday.

The convocation was organized by a body consisting of six faculty members, Dan Siegel (President of ASUC, Associated Students of the University of California), and this writer, representing SMC.

The convocation was attended by approximately 17,000 students, who overwhelmingly voted to go on strike until the end of the quarter and to reconstitute the University as a center for organizing against the war in Southeast Asia. (The proposal approved by the convocation was printed in *The Militant*, May 19).

Following the convocation, students broke down into department and work committee meetings organized by the ASUC, and they began to take over the university facilities in order to carry out the projects decided upon. Faculty, students and non-academic staff participated in these meetings, and this same general meeting

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form continued throughout the strike.

In general the Berkeley campus followed the pattern of activity established across the country: mass meetings and rallies, memorial meetings around Kent, Augusta and Jackson, isolation of the ultralefts, and greatly increased faculty participation, leading to voting ROTC off campus.

The more radical faculty members, organized into the Faculty-Student Ad Hoc Peace Committee, played an extremely important part in leading and expanding the strike. They played a vocal and active role in the coordinating and steering committees, and also worked on grade and job protection for students and faculty. Many of them spoke at "illegal" rallies in an attempt to protect the students, as well as applying faculty pressure on the administration to prevent any disciplinary suspensions or dismissals. We were able to play an important role inside their committee, and were elected to their steering committee.

Electoral campaigning was part of the activity in many individual departments, but all centralized activity was clearly directed away from electoral politics and toward independent mass organizing. Though electoral canvassing was organized in the departments, the central rallies and mass meetings never featured candidates as main speakers, and demands passed at these meetings dealt specifically with action around the war, Third World and women's liberation. Electoral activity was one of the many activities, but never the central focus.

STRIKE STRUCTURES

One particular problem that Berkeley faced was extreme decentralization because of the strong departmental structures that were established. These structures reflected an anti-leadership attitude, projecting much the same mode of organizing as the old SDS structure. These autonomous "do your own thing" structures made political education and mass organizing difficult, and encouraged liberal electoral activity. Many of these departments actively resisted the idea of a steering committee or coordinating committee, or any centralized activity.

Two central structures were set up during the strike: the coordinating committee, which was a body of about 250, consisting of 2 representatives from every department, living unit and political group on campus, as well as faculty and staff representatives; and the steering committee, consisting of about 32 people representing the various constituencies on the coordinating committee. We had four comrades on the coordinating committee, and I was an at-large member of the steering committee. These bodies met almost every day and were responsible for all mass rallies and meetings, press relations, negotiations with the administration and police, defense and general coordination.

These structures were somewhat challenged by ISCC, the Internal Strike Coordinating Committee, consisting of self-appointed ASUC officers who ran the operations end of the Strike Central building day and night. They ran the machines, put out press releases, sent people to conferences and controlled the money. They refused to participate in the coordinating committee, yet they pretended to speak for the strike by setting up a national communications network and sending out their own liberal spokesmen. They did not organize any of the activities on campus, but were able to dominate much of the off-campus and inter-campus communications.

Reconstitution activities on campus consisted mainly of taking over campus facilities for liberation schools, producing antiwar art, canvassing the community, setting up campus and community peace fairs, speaking to unions and distributing leaflets at factories, speaking at community meetings, organizing high schools, electoral campaigning and petitioning for McGovern-Hatfield. Tremendous letter-writing campaigns began all over the campus, and many groups set up lobbies in Washington and Sacramento.

THIRD WORLD PARTICIPATION

The Third World and women's liberation groups and AFSCME played a very significant role in the strike—their approach was generally one of building the strike while educating around their particular demands. The BSU played an extremely good role, working through the established strike structures and attempting to unite

the different Third World groups. Unity was achieved despite the efforts of some ultraleft elements to denounce and take over the strike. The BSU demands were easily accepted by the strike, making it possible to educate a large number of people. This was quite different from the role played by some Third World groups at Laney and Merritt Junior Colleges, where the strikes were condemned as irrelevant to Third World people. At U.C., the Asian-Americans and Chicanos participated in various strike activities, but largely confined their organizing efforts to their own communities.

Our relations with the BSU were very good through the entire strike, and we co-sponsored an Augusta-Jackson memorial meeting with the BSU that drew a crowd of over 600. At this meeting, the four speakers were Herman Fagg, SWP candidate for governor; Andrew Pulley, SWP congressional candidate; and Jon Turner and Mike Torrence of the Black Panther Party. The meeting had a tremendous impact on both the Black and white students there, clearly posing the difference between independent Black political organizing and the hollow ultraleft "get out your .45" rhetoric of the Panthers.

ROLE OF ADMINISTRATION

During the strike, the administration's key word was "flexibility." Even after Reagan closed the campus for four days following the convocation, the administration did not attempt to get people out of the buildings. They allowed us to have the Kent memorial rally and helped us find "illegal" (non-University) sound equipment. When we demanded the use of the gym, they moved the classes and gave it to us. They also granted the demand to keep police away from all buildings and all mass events, and to disarm any nearby police. More important, they were not able to victimize anyone (except SDSers who had been cited prior to the upsurge) during the strike. Many of their rules were broken by campus leaders who would have been dismissed under normal circumstances, but were instead given warnings.

This was the result of pressure exerted by both the faculty and students. At one point there was an "illegal" rally organized by the liberal students where over 330 faculty and students insisted on committing the same offense as those ~~threatened with dismissal—speaking over non-University sound equipment during hours other than 12:00-1:00.~~ The administration followed our directives even after the strike had reached its ebb on Wednesday, May 27. They gave us the use of the Greek Theater for our last major convocation (even at this point over 7,000 people attended), allowed Kunstler to speak and arranged for us to receive a live telephone call from Eldridge Cleaver.

On the academic level, the chancellor urged all departments to be flexible about grading and class structure, and endorsed the decision of the Dean of Letters and Science to allow students to take all their classes pass/fail instead of for a grade. All deadlines were suspended. Many academic reforms were also instituted at the time, including the abolition of language requirements for all students. At the end of the strike, many departments held meetings to begin restructuring the entire curriculum. As the strike energy dissipated, many people redirected their efforts toward changing the structure of classes, the University, the grading system, and the relationship of the student to the professor. Such

efforts will undoubtedly continue in the fall.

The merchants in the community played an important supportive role in the strike by discounting prices on supplies, providing free food occasionally, and putting up advertisements for strike activities in their stores. They formed a group called the Telegraph Avenue Merchants for Peace and contributed a significant amount of money by holding an all-day and evening sale on Telegraph and giving 40 per cent of their profits to the strike.

Many different groups on campus directed their efforts toward reaching organized labor. Factories and offices were leafleted and union officials were contacted. Many unions set up special meetings—not official union meetings—to which they invited students and faculty to speak. Students were also able to speak at some regular union and labor council meetings.

There was relatively little organized high school and junior high activity during the upsurge. Rallies and assemblies were allowed at many schools and many college students spoke to individual classes, but no high school organizations really carried out independent activity. Many high schoolers stayed out of school and came to the University to participate in activities there. If we had had more mass actions off campus, we might have involved more high school students.

MAY 30

May 30 was projected early in the strike, but it was difficult to build because there were so many other activities going on—each projected as *the* most important action. We called a Bay Area-wide meeting to organize for May 30, with representatives from as many strike committees and antiwar groups as possible, and we made a major attempt to get some of the trade unionists there who had signed the immediate withdrawal ad (see *The Militant*, June 5). Although many officials and two unions endorsed the action, giving us opportunities to speak to union meetings, we were unsuccessful in drawing trade unionists into the actual organizing for the action.

The initial organizing meeting was attended by about 55 independents, including Carleton Goodlett, Cecil Williams and Terrence "Kayo" Hallinan. We agreed upon a plan for a march that would break into four or five constituency rallies—Third World, women, high school, GI, labor, student—which were projected as organizing rallies for each group. At the second organizing meeting we had about the same number of people, but a much narrower representation—mostly liberal, "do your own thing" students, with half of them voting that we shouldn't plan anything, that instead everyone should just have his own rally.

At that point we decided to make deeper probes into the possibility of centering all activity on the 30th around the Chicano Moratorium. This was agreeable to everyone concerned, and we helped to build that demonstration. Approximately 1,500 people attended the May 30th Chicano Moratorium rally.

JEAN SAVAGE
Berkeley YSA



young socialist the organizer

A BI-WEEKLY ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE, A MULTINATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION.

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Address all correspondence to YSA, Box 471, Cooper Station, New York, New York 10003. *The Young Socialist Organizer*, formerly the *Young Socialist*, is published bi-weekly. Second class postage is paid at New York, New York. Vol. 13, No. 11. Subscription rates to all non-YSA members: \$2.50 per year.

AUGUST 19, 1970

The Column

This special eight-page issue of *The Young Socialist Organizer* is devoted entirely to articles submitted for the YSA's organizational discussion preceding the Socialist Activists and Educational Conference in Oberlin.

The pre-conference discussion, along with our socialist summer schools, the conference, and the plenum of the National Committee of the YSA, has been an important part of our preparation for a major offensive this fall to build the revolutionary socialist youth organization. Seeing the unprecedented opportunities, as the radicalization continues to deepen in the aftermath of May, for mobilizing masses of young people in independent action against the war and around other issues, and for recruiting many of them to the YSA, we have been educating ourselves, exchanging experiences, and drawing the lessons of May, so that we can take maximum advantage of these opportunities.

The pre-conference discussion has served as a forum for this crucial exchange of experience, for reports on successes in different areas of work as well as lessons drawn from mistakes. Twenty-one articles have been printed as part of the discussion. Seven of these have dealt with antiwar work, including five May strike reports; there have been four articles on regional organization, two on youth support groups for SWP campaigns, two on sales of our press, and reports on a variety of other topics from finances to defense to education.

Although this issue concludes the pre-conference discussion per se, we want locals to continue submitting this type of material in the future. *The Young Socialist Organizer* should

and will provide a place for such valuable discussion as we move on into the fall and beyond.

* * *

All YSAers should—if they haven't already—order copies of the *Party Builder* published by the Socialist Workers Party. The *Party Builder* has carried many articles of great interest and importance to YSA locals. To cite just one example, the third issue includes an article on "How To Give Reports," which should be required reading for all YSAers. Locals and at-largers can order the *Party Builder* from the Socialist Workers Party, 873 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10003.

* * *

The Young Socialist Organizer will not come out again until September, in order to allow the staff to take a vacation in August. The next issue will be dated September 23. Locals whose bundles will be changing as comrades return to campus should inform the National Office of these changes right away.

— EDITOR

LOCAL OR AT-LARGE AREA	
	NUMBER OF COPIES
FOR YSA MEMBERS	_____
FOR NON-MEMBERS	_____
TOTAL BUNDLE	_____