

Convention Resolution  
Changes

Political Committee

Changes in the next year will be a key vehicle through which we seek to advance the conception of broad revolutionary socialist regroupment. The Convention endorses one proposal already adopted by the PC toward this goal--that is, the motion by Mel B. and Mike P. that we explore with other groups the idea of specific issues of Changes devoted to discussion of specific topics.

Besides this specific proposal, we will in general try to take every advantage of opportunities to discuss topics of interest in Changes by opening up its pages both to groups and individuals. We will actively pursue such opportunities for dialogue with the full spectrum of political groupings in the general purview of the regroupment strategy: that is, ranging from Solidarity: Socialist Feminist Network to offshoots from the Marxist-Leninist milieu to individuals in the left wing of DSA, etc.

The discussion articles on Nicaragua in the May issue, while in no sense a model (either in terms of the topic or the level of the articles), represent a first attempt. We need to aggressively work on generating discussions on more immediately actionable issues relating to trade union activity, the struggle against Reaganism, independent politics, and building the movements of the oppressed.

However, building dialogue on the left does not substitute for the complementary task of developing sharp and clear responses from the I.S. to political issues. In the past year, neither the Political Committee nor the editorial board have held many in-depth discussions of political questions such as disarmament, Central America, the economic crisis, or the labor movement. Where positions have been developed this has been the effort of individuals or subgroups in the organization or Changes staff who took the initiative to formulate ideas. In the context of struggling toward regroupment of revolutionary socialist forces, more attention must be paid to the application of our own politics. The Political Committee needs to play a better-defined role in this. There is also a need to begin developing inside the I.S. comrades with expertise on a variety of issues so that the group's ability to educate itself and intervene in the movements is enhanced.

The single greatest deficiency in Changes remains the thinness of its coverage of labor and trade union strategy. Apart from a handful of articles, the level of our writing on the state of labor and the labor left remains largely stagnant. Both trade union comrades and the editorial board must work to overcome this.