

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES No. 12, May 5, 1966

Present: J. Barnes, DeBerry, Dobbs, Halstead, Hansen, Kerry,
Shaw, Sheppard, Warde, Jones.

Chairman: J. Barnes.

AGENDA:

1. International.
2. Antiwar Movement.
3. New York State Elections.

1. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported.

Two new publications: (a) French edition of press service; paper named Irish Militant -- not yet clear who is putting this out.

Request from Peru for literature advertised in paper. Agreed that catalog be sent asking them to select what they need on an exchange basis for books they can send us.

Letter from India that Marxist Outlook No. 4 is coming off the press but that they are still faced with a financial crisis even though situation has improved somewhat since formation of the open party. Agreed that request for speeding up delivery of our press be granted.

Information concerning Nottingham and RSL, perspective and course to follow.

Campaign for arrested Polish radicals: Berkeley committee does not send material. Deutscher has now intervened with an open letter to Gomulka in which the axis is question of civil rights for the prisoners; also asking why Gomulka attacks the left. Letter will be printed in press service.

Informational report on arrests of Posadistas in Mexico.

Discussion: Dobbs, Halstead, Jones, Warde.

Canadian Fair Play: Chairman has resigned from post because of fundamental differences on analysis of Cuban situation today.

Pierre has written a pamphlet on Pablo (now being translated) which goes into his position on the International and on all key questions; where he stood at one time and how he has changed completely. Material presents a thorough analysis of the final fight with Pablo and documents it with good arguments.

Proposal to run pamphlet in three sections in press service, save stencils and then later mimeograph copies with printed cover for public sale.

Discussion.

General agreement to run pamphlet in press service. After everybody has had a chance to read it, matter will be taken up again for a decision on how further to use material.

Castro's May Day speech: Interesting from point of view of trying to estimate his course and his policy at present time. Question is how to handle this.

Text of Armando Hart's speech in Soviet Union to be run in press service.

Discussion: Dobbs, Kerry, J. Barnes, Shaw, Warde, Halstead.

Agreed that sections with editorial comment be run in paper.

2. ANTIWAR MOVEMENT

Barnes reported general situation concerning Women's March, also plans and activity of New York Parade Committee.

Supplementary report by Halstead.

Discussion: Warde.

3. NEW YORK STATE ELECTIONS

Barnes reported recommendation of New York Local Executive Committee to enter gubernatorial elections this fall and outlined advantages, pointing out that campaign can be geared into the fight against the war.

Discussion.

Motion by Kerry: That PC endorses proposal of New York Local Executive Committee to run a campaign and will endeavor to organize general party support to enable New York Local to conduct a successful electoral action.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.