

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 23, 1969

No. 17

NEC Present: Larry, Kipp, Peer, Tony, David, Joanna, Derrick

NEC Excused: Susan, Nelson, Robin, Carol

NC Alt. Present: Carl

Guests: Cindy, Lee

Convened: 10:00 a.m.

Chairman: Larry

Agenda: 1. Venceremos Brigade  
2. Binghamton Report  
3. Young Socialist Report  
4. National Office Report  
5. Convention Report  
6. Antiwar Resolution

1. Venceremos Brigade - David

Report on meeting of New York Regional Brigade Committee.

Motion: To accept the report.

Discussion: Peer, Larry

Motion Carried

2. Binghamton Report - Lee

Report on trip to Binghamton local.

Motion: To accept the report.

Discussion: Peer, Carl, Peer, Derrick, Kipp

Motion Carried

3. Young Socialist Report - David

Report on contents of November issue.

Motion: That the editorial board be composed of the following comrades: Derrick, Susan, Tony, Joanna, David, Larry, Peer, Carl and Lee and Nelson.

Motion Carried

Motion: To accept the report.

Discussion: Kipp, Larry

Motion Carried

4. National Office Report - Larry

a. Staff

Cindy J. from New York will be working in the National Office until the Convention.

Motion: That Cindy and Lee attend NEC meetings while they are working in the National Office.

Motion Carried

b. Membership

Motion: To transfer George S. from Washington, D.C. to at-large status in Carlisle, Pa.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer Patricia J. from Cleveland to at-large status in Norfolk, Virginia.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer Barbara B. from Boston to at-large status in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer John R. from Chicago to at-large status in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer Gordon D. from Philadelphia to at-large status in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer Brian B. from Madison to at-large status in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer Stephanie F. from Boston to at-large status in Marlboro, Vermont.

Motion Carried

Motion: To transfer NC member Mike H. from Champaign to Ann Arbor.

Motion Carried

Motion: To readmit Marjorie S. in San Francisco.

Motion Carried

Motion: To readmit Tom G. in DeKalb.

Motion Carried

Motion: To readmit Jerry W. in Chicago.

Motion Carried

Motion: To accept the following applications for membership-at-large:

1. Bill E. in Colorado Springs, Colo.
2. Sue W. in Cheney, Washington
3. Wayne L. in Duluth, Minn.
4. Tom O. in Sacramento, California
5. Greg M. in Rapid City, South Dakota
6. Terry M. in Santa Rosa, California
7. Robin M. at Bard College
8. Kurt H. at Bard College
9. Dean E. at Miami U. in Oxford, Ohio
10. Dennis K. at Miami U. in Oxford, Ohio
11. Shelley F. in Peoria, Ill.
12. Jerry M. in Peoria, Ill.
13. Mike M. in Macomb, Ill.
14. Bill P. in Macomb, Ill.
15. Michael F. in Topeka, Kansas
16. Lanette F. in Topeka, Kansas
17. Don V. in Plainfield, Vermont
18. Ellen C. in Plainfield, Vermont.
19. Greg C. in San Antonio, Texas
20. Marcie C. in Columbus, Ohio
21. Julie B. in Columbus, Ohio
22. Nancy S. in Columbus, Ohio
23. Richard C. in Worcester, Mass.

Motion Carried

Motion: To charter a local of the YSA in Columbus, Ohio.

Motion Carried

Motion: To charter a local of the YSA in Athens, Ohio.

Motion Carried

Motion: To dissolve the YSA local in Peoria, Ill.

Motion Carried

Motion: To approve the report.

Discussion: Tony, Lee

Motion Carried

5. Convention Report - Larry

Report on preparations for the convention. Report enclosed.

Motion: That the YSA conduct a 2 month recruitment drive with a goal of 300 new members, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15.

Discussion: Carl, Derrick, Peer, Derrick

Motion Carried

Motion: To accept the report.

Discussion: Peer, Kipp, Tony

Motion Carried

6. Antiwar Resolution - Larry

Motion: To accept the general line of the antiwar resolution.

Discussion: Peer, Kipp, Tony, Peer, Joanna, Carl, Derrick, Larry, Tony

Motion Carried

Adjourned: 1:30 p.m.

## Plans for the YSA CONVENTION, Oct. 23, 1969.

By Larry Seigle

The Ninth National Convention of the YSA promises to be the largest, most successful, and most exciting in our history. The convention will be the culmination of the mass work, the recruitment, and the political development of the YSA in the 13 months since the last convention. At the same time it will be faced with the crucial task of charting our course for 1970.

The YSA convention is the single most important yearly political event for the YSA. It is the highest body of the YSA, and as such has the responsibility to determine our political line for the next period, and to elect a national leadership to carry out that line. At the same time, because of the increased relative weight and authority of the YSA in the radical movement as a whole, the convention has the potential to be a major recruiting opportunity for the YSA as well as a chance to educate large numbers of revolutionary-minded young people in the politics and organizational procedures of the YSA.

These opportunities can be taken maximum advantage of if we hold an open, public convention, and if the building of the convention, and the organizing of people to attend it becomes the major focus of YSA activity on a national scale in the period prior to the convention. We learned from our experience with the previous convention that such a public convention, with wide public sale and distribution of pre-convention discussion bulletins and publicity on the convention, can help to recruit wide layers of young people to the YSA. This same general approach, improved on the basis of our experience last year, should be followed this year.

The primary opportunities for building the convention lie in the tens of thousands of antiwar activists in and around the SMC, and those who will be mobilized in the actions that will occur between now and Christmas. Our ability to interest these antiwar activists in the convention, and to organize them to attend, will be the decisive factor in building a large convention.

### The Documents

The major pieces of literature to be used in building the convention will be the documents themselves. Three NEC draft resolutions are being prepared: a political resolution, a black and third world struggle resolution, and an antiwar resolution. The antiwar resolution will be printed and mailed out prior to Nov. 1. The other two will be available early in November.

The NEC has decided not to draft an international resolution. However, there will be an International Report and discussion at the convention, and locals are urged to organize local discussions as part of the pre-convention discussion on the basis of the document "The Worldwide Youth Radicalization and the Tasks of the Fourth International" which was presented to the World Congress of the Fourth International in April, 1969. This document has been printed by the YSA as a pamphlet and is available from Merit

Publishers, 873 Broadway, N.Y., N.Y. 10003, for \$.40.

This pamphlet, and the NEC draft resolutions should be sold widely as part of the campaign to build the convention. Locals are encouraged to arrange public meetings on campuses (in addition to the organized pre-convention discussions in the locals) where presentations on documents and discussion can be held. In addition, locals may want to invite contacts to attend local pre-convention discussions although, of course, only members who meet the conditions specified in the Convention Call are entitled to a vote on the resolutions.

### Publicity

A poster on the convention is out, and has been mailed to the locals. A leaflet for mass distribution will be out shortly. Experience from last year indicates that we can expect a good response from such a printed call distributed on a large scale. Locals may want to print up leaflets in their own areas, and include convention advertising on other leaflets and literature distributed.

In addition to these printed materials, the N.O. is planning a major push on publicity for the convention.

1) A regular series of articles will appear in the Militant beginning in November. These articles will consist of reports on plans for the convention itself, as well as coverage of activities and progress in organizing for the convention in local areas. Comrades involved in this area of work, especially regional travellers and trailblazers, should plan to send in regular items to the N.O. for these articles.

2) The December Young Socialist will be a special convention issue, and will be especially useful in building the convention.

3) In addition, a series of news conferences will be planned on a national scale. The bourgeois press is eager for news about what the young radicals are going to do --- they will be anxious to cover the news of our convention. Locals should begin to think about holding local news conferences and contacting local news media with information and material on the convention.

4) Underground and campus papers also represent good opportunities for getting the word out. Articles and interviews can be presented to these papers on the basis that the YSA convention will be one of the most significant political events of the year. Locals should also plan to buy ads in campus and underground papers on the convention.

### Convention Arrangements

The convention will be held in the Student Union building at the University of Minnesota. Plenary sessions will be held in the main ballroom; other smaller halls in the same building will also be available for our use.

Meals will be available in the cafeteria in the Student Union. Meal tickets for \$ 3.00 a day will purchase a breakfast of rolls and coffee, and a complete hot lunch and dinner. This cafeteria is large enough to feed everyone at the convention.

Housing will be in hotels in downtown Minneapolis --- a short bus ride from the University. The Hotel Pick-Nicollet will have rooms at the following rates: Triples and quads at \$ 5.00 per person per night; doubles at \$ 6.50 per person per night; and singles at \$ 10.00 per night. Single rooms at \$ 7.00 will also be available at a second, smaller hotel. Free housing will be available on a very limited basis only. Housing forms will be sent out shortly.

A registration fee of \$ 2.00 will be charged to all non-YSers. (All YSers are required to pay a \$ 2.00 convention assessment.)

The time to begin the concrete tasks of organizing for the convention is now. Every local and at-large area should immediately look into various possibilities for transportation to the convention. Comrades and contacts should be given concrete information on things like transportation, housing, etc.

As soon as the first document arrives, it should become one of our main pieces of literature for prospective members. The convention posters should be pasted up on every campus in the region.

Finally, reports on plans for organizing for the convention and reports on experiences in local areas should be sent in to the YSA N.O.