

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING No. 31, July 24, 1979

Present: Barnes, Britton, Clark, Dixon, Hawkins, Horowitz, Jaquith,
Jenness, Kramer, Lyons, Morell, Ring, Seigle, Stone, Waters

Guests: Brundy, Budka, Lund, Mailhot, Manuel, Prince, Rodríguez, Rose

Chair: Waters

- AGENDA: 1. Report on Political Resolution
2. Organization and Education Report
3. Socialist League Letter
4. Convention Rules and Schedule
5. Correction to PC Minutes

1. REPORT ON POLITICAL RESOLUTION

Barnes reported.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the general line of the report for
presentation to the convention.

Carried.

2. ORGANIZATION AND EDUCATION REPORT

(Finkel and P. Montauk invited for this point.)

Dixon reported.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the general line of the report for
presentation to the convention.

Carried.

3. SOCIALIST LEAGUE LETTER

Jenness reported on proposed reply to letter from Socialist
League. (See attached.)

Discussion

Motion: To approve the proposed reply.

Carried.

(over)

4. CONVENTION RULES AND SCHEDULE

Prince reported on proposals to the National Committee for the organization and schedule of convention. (See attached.) Propose Jaquith be reporter for Organization of Convention.

Discussion

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

5. CORRECTION TO PC MINUTES

Political Committee minutes Nos. 27-29 had Paul Mailhot listed among the PC members present. He was a guest at these meetings. Sedwick is the YSA National Executive Committee's representative on the PC.

Meeting adjourned.

SOCIALIST LEAGUE (DC)

P.O. Box 40458
San Francisco, California
94140

JUL 16 1979

Socialist Workers Party
14 Charles Lane
New York, New York
10014

Dear Comrades,

7/12/79

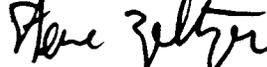
We understand from your members that your convention will be taking place in the month of August. The Socialist League (DC) which is in sympathy with the Workers Socialist League in England would be interested in attending your conference as observers.

As an international tendency we have submitted the Poisoned Well document for discussion within the United Secretariat and we hope that the Comrades of the SWP have had an ample opportunity to review our international contribution.

The Socialist League is also interested in discussing with you the possibility of joint work in the campaign for the labor party in the US. We are preparing a campaign to call on Winpisinger to break from Kennedy and the Democrats and run as a labor candidate backed by the organized labor movement and other sections of the working classes and middle classes. It is time for those who call themselves Trotskyist to seriously implement political steps that could help lead to the formation of an American labor party.

Since your convention will be here in short order we hope that we can have a quick response.

For The Socialist League,



Steve Zeltzer

(Typed on SWP letterhead)

July 24, 1979

Steve Zeltzer
c/o Socialist League
P.O. Box 40458
San Francisco, Ca. 94140

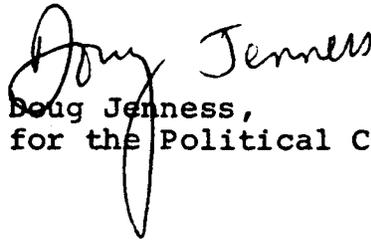
Dear Steve Zeltzer:

We received your letter of July 12 asking to attend the Socialist Workers Party national convention.

It is our opinion that the political differences between the Socialist League and the SWP are too wide for there to be any basis to inviting members of your group to our convention.

We also do not think there is any basis to discuss your proposal about "joint work in the campaign for the labor party in the US." Our labor party propaganda activity will be carried out as part of our presidential election campaign that we are launching at our convention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Jenness". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Doug Jenness,
for the Political Committee

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF THE CONVENTION, August 5-11, 1979

1. Proposal: That the Presiding Committee consist of Barnes, Britton, Clark, Dixon, Hawkins, Horowitz, Jaquith, Jenness, Kramer, Lyons, Morell, Ring, Rodriguez, Sedwick, Seigle, Sheppard, Stone, Waters
2. Proposal: That the following rules govern convention procedure:
 1. In cases of procedural disputes, discussion shall be limited to two speakers, one for and one against, and that each speaker be limited to two minutes.
 2. A speaker may have the floor only once in a given discussion until all those who wish the floor have had the opportunity to speak.
 3. Discussion from the floor shall be limited to six minutes per speaker.
 4. All voting on procedural questions will be done by voice vote, unless a division of the house is called for; then the vote will be taken by a show of delegates' cards. Election of the National Committee and Control Commission shall take place by secret ballot.
 5. Only delegates shall have voice and vote. Fraternal delegates shall have voice and consultative vote.
 6. Alternate delegates have voice and vote only when acting to replace a regularly elected delegate.
 7. In all other cases, Roberts Rules of Order shall apply.
3. Proposal: To adopt the following agenda:
 1. Organization of Convention
 2. Indochina Resolutions
 3. Cuba Debate
 4. Report on International Women's Liberation Resolution
 5. Political Resolution
 6. Perspectives for Black and Chicano Liberation
 7. Perspectives for Women's Liberation
 8. YSA Report
 9. Organization and Education Report
 10. Election of National Committee
 11. Constitution Committee Report
4. Proposal: That the following time allotments be given to reporters:
 1. Indochina Resolutions: Political Committee Reporter--1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary; United Secretariat Majority Reporter--1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary
 2. Cuba Debate: Political Committee Reporter--1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary; Minority Reporter(s)--1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary
 3. Report on International Women's Liberation Resolution: 1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary
 4. Political Resolution: 1 1/4 hours plus 1/2 hour summary
 5. Perspectives for Black and Chicano Liberation: 1 hour plus 1/4 hour summary
 6. Perspectives for Women's Liberation: 1 hour plus 1/4 hour summary
 7. YSA Report: 1 hour plus 1/4 hour summary
 8. Organization and Education Report: 1 1/4 hours plus 1/4 hour summary
5. Proposal: To approve the convention schedule.

(over)

6. Proposal: That Joanne Murphy, Mary Roche, and (two others to be selected) serve as convention secretaries.
7. Proposal: That a committee of Rich Finkel, Osborne Hart, Andrea Lubrano, and L. Paltrineri be designated to head convention security.
8. Proposal: To end all private parties by 1:00 a.m.
9. Proposal: To elect a Constitution Committee consisting of three delegates.
10. Proposal: To elect a Credentials Committee consisting of five delegates.
11. Proposal: To elect a Nominating Commission consisting of 30 members composed as follows:
 - 4--New York-Northern New Jersey
 - 3--Northern California Bay Area
 - 2--Chicago-Gary Area
 - 1--Baltimore-Washington, D.C.
 - 1--Twin Cities
 - 1--Pittsburgh-Morgantown
 - 1--Puget Sound
 - 2--Los Angeles
 - 1--Albuquerque, Salt Lake City, Denver
 - 1--Atlanta, Birmingham
 - 1--Boston
 - 1--Capital District (Albany)
 - 1--Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville
 - 1--Cleveland, Toledo
 - 1--Dallas, Houston, San Antonio
 - 1--Detroit
 - 1--Iron Range, Milwaukee
 - 1--Kansas City, St. Louis
 - 1--Miami, New Orleans
 - 1--Philadelphia
 - 1--Phoenix, San Diego
 - 1--Portland
 - 1--Tidewater, Piedmont
12. Proposal: To seat as fraternal delegates the following: (1) National Committee members, (2) Control Commission members, (3) Organization Committee members and editors of the periodicals, (4) members of the YSA National Executive Committee, (5) delegates selected by branches organized in new cities after May 7.
13. Proposal: That the convention be open to party members, provisional members, Young Socialist Alliance members, and invited guests.
14. Proposal: That the official convention tape recording be directed by Rob Cahalane.
15. Proposal: That the official convention photographers be Susan Ellis, Lou Howort, Charlie Ostrofsky, Eric Simpson, Anne Teesdale, Arnie Weissberg.