theorganizer 11-25-70

BUILD NATIONAL ANTIWAR MOVEMENT CONVENTION



the organizer

October 31 Actions Successful... Build December Antiwar Conference!

When the October 31 antiwar demonstrations were called, we had two basic objectives. First, we wanted to maintain the example of independent mass action in contrast to support for capitalist candidates in the elections. Second, we wanted to rebuild local antiwar coalitions and the national antiwar coalition, paying particular attention to the increased opportunities for involving sections of the organized labor movement. In both of these objectives, the October 31 demonstrations were generally successful.

ACTIONS WIDESPREAD

Demonstrations took place in some 40 cities in the United States and Canada, representing a wider geographical spread than in previous pre-election periods. As we expected, the demonstrations were generally smaller than those last April 15, but they were sizable in a number of areas, and in total were the largest actions that have taken place in a pre-election period—a time when large sections of the antiwar movement tend to abandon mass action in the streets. In addition, it appears that a militant spirit and sensible tactics prevailed almost everywhere.

NPAC GAINS DESPITE OPPOSITION

The demonstrations were successful in face of the open opposition of those sectors of the old New Mobe grouped around the Communist Party, pacifists and ultralefts. Moreover, some sectors of the trade union bureaucracy and some other groups oriented to capitalist candidates in the elections attempted to have the demonstrations called off. Nevertheless, the forces around NPAC pushed forward with the demonstrations and the base of support for the coalition has been greatly enlarged since it was founded last June. Many important groups and prominent individual antiwar leaders have joined NPAC. The coalition has made real gains

in involving forces from the organized labor movement. In the course of building October 31, ongoing Peace Action Coalitions formed in the major cities. These PAC formations have the potential for broadening themselves further and organizing more antiwar actions in the future. All in all, NPAC and the forces allied with it have emerged as the definitive voice of the antiwar movement.

SPRING ACTION THE NEXT OBJECTIVE

Our next objective in the antiwar movement is to call and build the next mass antiwar demonstration. The success of October 31 indicates that the antiwar movement is in good organizational shape to project a major action in the spring. With the elections over and the continuing deepening of antiwar sentiment, the potential exists for involving massive numbers in action this spring. There is by the same token great potential for increasing the participation of organized labor, GIs, women and the oppressed national minorities, as well as students, in a spring demonstration.

DECEMBER ANTIWAR CONFERENCE

The National Peace Action Coalition is sponsoring a national convention of the antiwar movement December 4-6 in Chicago. This conference will be a broad national planning meeting at which all those interested in building mass actions against the war are welcome. Everyone who attends will have voice and vote.

This national antiwar convention will be the meeting at which the next major national antiwar demonstration will be called. It is reasonable to expect that it will call for the kind of mass action in the spring which we want to see projected.

We should go on a campaign footing from now until the December 4-6 convention to mobilize antiwar activists to attend this gathering. Our aim should be to involve all groups and individuals associated with local antiwar coalitions and those forces which will again be interested in mass antiwar action now that the elections are over. The campaign to build participation in this conference should be a central campaign of our organization for the month of November.

CONFERENCE DATES AND INFORMA-TION

The convention will be held at the Packinghouse Labor Center, 4959 South Wabash, Chicago. It begins 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 4 with a rally and keynote speakers. Plenary sessions will start Saturday morning, December 5. The conference will probably end in the late afternoon on Sunday, December 6. As many people as possible should be there in time for the Friday evening keynote session, but all publicity should make it clear that those who cannot arrive before Saturday will be able to attend the plenary sessions. Mass housing and private housing will be available for a slight charge. Convention information numbers are (216) 621-6518 in Cleveland and (312) 922-1068 in Chicago.

THE ROLE OF SMC

The Student Mobilization Committee can play a major role in building the conference. Comrades should attempt to gear the SMC chapters to which they belong into getting out leaflets, placing ads in the campus press and organizing transportation. The aim should be to charter buses, set up regular tables to sell tickets and wage an all-out campaign in the student movement to build the conference.

We should be mobilizing our own forces and all of the antiwar forces in all of the areas to build this very important antiwar conference.

CARL FRANK National Antiwar Director

On to New York City!

The Tenth National Convention of the YSA, called for December 27-31 in New York City, will be the largest and most successful in our history. We can recruit scores of young radical activists to the YSA by bringing them to the convention. For these activists, the experience of attending the YSA convention will be both a concentrated education in socialist politics and a living example of how a revolutionary combat organization democratically decides its political line and maps out action campaigns.

Convincing the greatest possible number of radicalizing young people to come to our convention is one of our main tasks in the coming weeks. This campaign to build the convention should be integrated into all our other work—we want especially to reach out to the activists we work with in the antiwar, women's liberation and Third World liberation movements and bring them to our convention.

BUILDING THE CONVENTION IN THE REGIONS

This year the work of building the convention, making sure that all members of the YSA and as many contacts as possible attend, should be organized on a regional basis—as we have begun to organize other important campaigns such as the fund drive and sub drive.

Regional centers are responsible for contacting all the newer and smaller locals in the region and going over with them the importance of every YSAer attending, as well as explaining how to organize pre-convention discussion, how to publicize the convention, how to elect delegates and the way in which the convention elects the NC.

Many regions will want to organize centralized transportation to New York—by chartering buses or, at a minimum, coordinating the cars that will be going to New York. We must ensure that no one is prevented from coming to the convention only because of transportation difficulties. Organization of transportation should begin immediately, and locals should begin collecting money for bus tickets from comrades and others.

The convention is the focus of all our regional traveling from now until the end of the year—regional travelers should be well-equipped with plenty of convention posters, convention leaflets, discussion bulletins, and transportation information. They should make "Come to the YSA Convention!" the main theme in all of their activities

Regional centers should contact every at-large member and find out her or his plans for attending the convention. A special convention mailing to the entire regional contact list should be sent out soon.

The Socialist Educational Conferences being held around the country this month provide another good opportunity for building convention attendance. At least one of the speakers at each conference should talk about the convention's importance and urge people to come to New York. Information about transportation should be available at the conferences, and comrades should be prepared to sign up people and sell them bus tickets.

BUILDING THE CONVENTION IN THE LOCAL AREAS

In each local, the organizer and the EC should talk to each member to make certain he or she is planning to attend. Every comrade should be encouraged to try to pay her or his own way if at all possible. Locals may want to make exceptions for high school comrades or comrades working full-time for the movement. Those locals which must travel the farthest may want to consider outside fundraising to help subsidize the entire local's transportation costs. The more comrades who are able to pay their own way, the more of the extra money raised can go to help contacts who would not otherwise be able to attend. However, the first priority should be to get every member to the convention.

A convention-building committee should be selected in every local to make sure the work of publicizing the convention is carried out in the most efficient way and that no opportunities are overlooked. Below are some suggestions of the activity such a committee can carry out:

• Organize in a systematic way the approaching of all YSA contacts.

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- Organize paste-ups of the convention poster and distributions of the convention leaflet.
- Get out a local convention leaflet with information about transportation to New York.

• Get articles and put ads in local underground and campus newspapers.

● Extend invitations to local Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican, women's liberation and foreign student organizations to send representatives to the convention. (The N.O. should be informed about all such groups planning to attend so that we can consider involving some of them in different panels, etc. at the convention.) Defense of the Arab revolution will be an important theme of the convention, and a special effort should be made to invite Arab student groups to attend.

The National Office will be inviting national organizations to send consultative delegates or observers.

CONVENTION POSTER AND LEAFLET

The national convention poster and leaflet are now available and all locals and at-large members should have received sample copies. The cost for these materials is extremely low so that comrades can order plenty for thoroughly covering the campuses with posters and for large-scale distribution of the leaflets. The posters are \$.07 each in any quantity over 20; the leaflets cost \$3.00 per 1000 (the minimum order is 1000, and orders should only be in quantities of even 500s). Because of the high cost of mailing out the leaflets from the N.O., we encourage locals to have the leaflet reproduced photo-offset locally. For locals unable to do this, the N.O. will be able to provide the number of leaflets desired.

The order blank below can be used to order the convention posters and leaflets.

The National Convention is the highest body of the YSA and its decisions are binding on the entire membership. (YSA CONSTITUTION, Article V, Section 2.)

It is during the period of pre-convention discussion and the convention itself that the democratic aspect of our basic organizational method—democratic centralism—comes most to the fore. During the convention the membership as a whole, through the elected delegates, can make any decision whatsoever about the character and policies of the YSA. We decide our political line democratically at conventions not because we think democracy is an abstract ideal to which we must adhere, but because we realize that this process of collectively thinking out and deciding our political perspective is the only way to maintain a correct revolutionary position.

Having the most complete and democratic possible pre-convention discussion is an essential part of this process of utilizing the experience and insights of the entire YSA in setting our political direction.

As soon as a local receives its bundle of each convention resolution, the documents should be distributed to all the members. A comrade is assigned by the local to present a report on the resolution to a local meeting with adequate time set aside for discussion. Locals should keep in mind that this year the National Executive Committee will be submitting five line resolutions to the membership (the political, antiwar, Black struggle, Chicano struggle, and women's liberation resolutions) and it may be necessary to schedule special local meetings in order to hear reports and discuss them all.

DISCUSSION BULLETIN

Any member of the YSA may submit discussion material, including resolutions, to the internal discussion bulletin. The National Office has the responsibility to make all material submitted available to the entire membership. Locals may arrange meetings for discussion of any of the material appearing in the discussion bulletin.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES

After all the resolutions have been discussed, the members of the local vote on whether to approve the general line of each resolution. Delegates are then elected by the local on the basis of how they voted on the resolutions. To determine the number of delegates to which the local is entitled, see the chart in the convention call, which was printed in *The YS Organizer*, October 28.

If there is a division in the local, the local divides into two (or more) caucuses, each of which elects the number of delegates to which it is entitled. As stated in the convention call, in case of such a division, election of delegates is on the basis of a vote on a resolution or statement made in writing and submitted to the local for a vote.

In order to be eligible to vote on the resolutions and delegates, or to be a delegate, one must be a member of the YSA who 1) was admitted prior to December 14, 2) is a member in good standing (i.e., is not more than one month in arrears in dues), and 3) has paid the convention assessment of \$3.00. The size of the local delegation is based on the number of members in good standing admitted prior to December 14 who have paid the convention assessment. Locals should begin collecting the assessment right away and forward it to the N.O.

(Articles in the coming issues will explain the election of the National Committee, and give some concrete information on housing and other arrangements, such as day-care, as well as more details about how the convention will be organized. — Ed.)

SUSAN LAMONT YSA National Chairwoman

Canadian Trotskyists Tour U.S.

From early November through late December, three members of the League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvriere (LSA/LSO), the Canadian section of the Fourth International, will be touring the United States. Since it is impossible for our Canadian co-thinkers to free up one comrade for a long tour of the entire U.S., the tour has been divided into three separate parts.

Beginning November 4 and extending through late December, Philip Courneyeur, 27, a member of the Central Committee of the LSA/LSO and a writer for La Lutte Ouvriere, the Frenchlanguage Trotskyist newspaper in Canada, will be in the United States. He was arrested under the War Measures Act for distributing socialist election literature to troops in Montreal during the occupation. His tour will cover the major locals, as well as some at-large areas, in the South and the West. The necessarily short notice makes it imperative that comrades begin right away to arrange public meetings, interviews with the press and news media, etc. He will also be prepared to deliver an internal talk on the Trotskyist movement in Canada and its campaign around the repression in Quebec. Local meetings should be set up to hear this report if time and other considerations permit.

Sometime in late November, Penny Simpson will make a tour of the Midwest locals. She was arrested along with Art Young in a midnight police raid immediately after the imposition of the War Measures Act. She is a leading women's liberation activist in Monteal, and she acted as campaign financial director for the LSO mayoralty election campaign there.

In early December, Manon Leger, who was the LSO's candidate for mayor in Montreal, will make a tour of the East Coast locals, stopping in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, D. C. Manon Leger is a leader in the Quebecois struggle for self-determination.

Further information on the Simpson and Leger tours will be mailed to comrades in the near future. Because the tours are for a limited amount of time, they will not be able to visit every local of the YSA. The locals which were chosen for tour stops have been selected on the basis of where the largest public meetings could be arranged and the biggest honoraria obtained.

It is extremely important that all locals where tour stops are scheduled make the necessary effort to obtain honoraria to help defray the cost of the tours and tour quotas. All money obtained for the tours above the tour quotas should be sent along with the quotas to the

There are three important aspects to these tours. First, they will inform the student movement in the United States about the circumstances surrounding the repression in Quebec. Second, they will help to further identify the YSA as an internationalist organization which works in solidarity with an international movement. Third, they will help educate the student movement about the national struggle of the Quebecois people for self-determination.

LAURA MILLER
YSA National Office

If there are any locals listed in the schedule below which cannot accept the date listed, the N.O. should be informed immediately so that the schedule can be adjusted.

TOUR SCHEDULE

AREA		DATE	QUOTA
Atlanta	Nov.	5-7	35
Travel		8	
Nashville		9	15
Knoxville		10	15
Tampa		11,12	20
Houston		13,16	30
Travel		17	
Ft. Worth-Dallas		18	15
Austin		19-21	30
Travel		22	
El Paso		23	15
Colorado Springs		24	15
Boulder		25	15
Denver		26,27	25
Travel		28	
Logan		29	15
Travel		30	
Phoenix	Dec.	1	20
San Diego		2	25
Los Angeles		3(NPAC 4-	7) 40
Riverside		8	15
San Joaquin		9	15
Bay Area		10-15	100
(Berkeley, S. F.			
Hayward)			
Travel		16	
Portland		17	20
Seattle	•	18-21	40

Fund Drive Report

With only five weeks to go in the fall fund drive, an extremely serious situation has developed which threatens our financial ability to carry out the perspectives for expanding our national organization that were discussed and approved at the August Plenum.

As of November 10 we have collected about \$7000 less than we should have to be on schedule in meeting the national quota. Only six locals are on time or ahead of schedule. Twenty locals have yet to send in a single payment on the fund drive: twenty-eight locals have made at least one payment but are behind schedule!

We have five weeks in which to collect \$20,000. So far less than half of the locals have responded to the National Office's request for an exact projection of their plans for making their fund drive quotas. Sending in these reports is a top priority.

Locals which are seriously behind and have not yet made concrete plans for meeting their quotas should immediately take special fund drive pledges from the members, based on the highest possible amount that each individual member can contribute. The organizer or financial director should explain and politically motivate our attitude toward finances. Along with his or her pledge, each comrade can figure out a payment schedule - weekly payments are usu-

At this late point in the fund drive it would be dangerous to rely on outside fund raising to obtain a significant part of the local's quota unless the project has been well planned out and is viewed as a supplement to the money raised from within the YSA. It is possible with experienced, imaginative comrades working on carefully thought-out projects—to raise a certain amount of money in this way. Unfortunately, many such projects involving filmshowings, rummage sales, sales of locally produced buttons, badges, flags, banners, T-shirts, etc., can end up showing very little return for the amount of time and comrade-power invested.

The backbone of our finances must always be the contributions from members of our organization, because in the long run that is the only source we can depend on. We are the first revolutionary socialist youth organization in history to pay our own way, and we are proud

We do not hestitate to ask our members for large financial contributions to the YSA any more than we would hesitate to ask them to spend long hours carrying out other political work. We recognize that in order to accomplish our political tasks we must financially sustain a revolutionary press and full-time national staff, rent offices, pay money for postage and publications.

Fundamentally, the only way we can meet the projections made at the last plenum—the only way to ensure the financial resources needed to carry out our work nationally—is for every comrade in the YSA to see it as his or her responsibility to make the greatest possible financial contribution to the movement.

So far in the fall fund drive these responsibilities have not been carried out as efficiently as we had hoped they would be, and we have fallen quite far behind. It is still possible to reverse this situation and successfully complete the fund drive if all the locals approach the rest of the drive with a campaign spirit and if the individual comrades understand the political importance of financially sustaining the YSA.

ANDY ROSE YSA Financial Director

REGION AND LOCAL	QUOTA	PAID	%	WISCONSIN	\$775	\$214.89	28
				MADISON	350	135.40	39
PENNSYLVANIA	\$1925	\$1200	62	LACROSSE	125	35	28
PHILADELPHIA	1800	1200	67	MILWAUKEE	300	44.49	15
MANSFIELD	125	0	0	(AT-LARGE)	_	(.50)	_
(AT-LARGE)		(0)	_	,			
		, ,		TEXAS-LOUISIANA	\$1150	\$315	27
MICHIGAN	\$2725	\$1550.50	57	AUSTIN	600	280	47
DETROIT	2200	1433	65	EL PASO	125	35	28
ANN ARBOR	200	100	50	HOUSTON	300	0	0
EAST LANSING	75	17.50	23	DALLAS-FT WORTH	125	0	0
FLINT	125	0	0	(AT-LARGE)	_	(4)	_
YPSILANTI	125	0	0				
(AT-LARGE)	_	(O)	-	MARYLAND-VIRGINIA	\$900	\$215	24
	7			WASHINGTON DC	900	215	24
SOUTHEAST	\$1300	\$713	55	(AT-LARGE)		(28.00)	_
ATLANTA	1000	713	<i>7</i> 1				
TAMPA	200	0	0	PACIFIC NORTHWEST	\$900	\$150	1 <i>7</i>
CHAPEL HILL	100	0	0	PORTLAND	200	150	75
(AT-LARGE)	_	(33.53)	_	SEATTLE	700	0	0
				(AT-LARGE)	_	(3)	_
UPPER MIDWEST	\$1000	\$525	52				
TWIN CITIES	1000	525	52	MIDWEST	\$3700	\$455	12
(AT-LARGE)	_ '	(O)	_	KANSAS CITY	200	55	27
				CHICAGO	3000	400	13
NEW ENGLAND	\$31 <i>7</i> 5.01	\$1519. <i>7</i> 9	48	DEKALB	200	0	0
CAMBRIDGE	866.67	496.67	57	BLOOMINGTON	150	0	0
NORTH BOSTON	866.67	466.67	54	ST LOUIS	150	0	0
SOUTH BOSTON	866.67	411.75	47	(AT-LARGE)	_	(38.50)	-
WORCESTER	225	89.70	40	·			
PROVIDENCE	250	55	22	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	\$350	\$35	10
AMHERST	100	0	0	DENVER	150	35	23
(AT-LARGE)		(5.50)	_	BOULDER	125	0	0
				COLORADO SPRINGS	75	0	. 0
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		\$1392.57	48	(AT-LARGE)	- .	(65)	_
SAN DIEGO	100	92.57	93		4	4004.50	
LOS ANGELES	2400	1200	50	TOTAL AT-LARGE	\$1000	\$234.53	23
PHOENIX	200	100	50				
RIVERSIDE	200	0	0	TOTAL	\$32,850.01		39
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NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY		\$2201	46				
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NEWARK	200	0	0
PATERSON	150	0	0
RED HOOK	150	0	0
LONG ISLAND	50	0	0
(AT-LARGE)	-	(O)	-
OHIO-KENTUCKY	\$2350	\$885	38
CINCINNATI	125	75	60
YELLOW SPRINGS	200	100	50
OXFORD	125	60	48
CLEVELAND	1900	650	34
(AT-LARGE)	_	(41)	_
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	\$3925	\$1148.30	29
BERKELEY	2000	850	41
HAYWARD	100	20	20
SAN FRANCISCO	1700	278.30	16
SAN JOAQUIN	125	0	0
(AT-LARGE)	_	(15.50)	-

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- MARX

SCOREBOARD COMPILED NOVEMBER 10, 1970

the organizer

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Come to the YSA Convention

Organize the socialist revolution



ATTEND THE YOUNG SOCIALIST NATIONAL CONVENTION NEW YORK CITY DECEMBER 27-31,1970

FOR INFORMATION, HOUSING, DAYCARE, REGISTRATION WRITE: YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE, P.O. BOX 471, COOPER STATION, N.Y.,N.Y. 10003. TELEPHONE (212) 989-7570.