

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES, No. 33, December 15, 1966

Present: Barnes, Dobbs, Halstead, Hansen, Kerry, Novack, Sheppard, Jones.

Chairman: Hansen.

AGENDA:

1. Berkeley Elections.
2. Antiwar Report.
3. International.
4. West Coast Correspondence.

1. BERKELEY ELECTIONS

Dobbs reported request from Peter C. in Berkeley for opinion about running a party ticket in the city elections next year.

Discussion: Halstead, Hansen, Kerry, Barnes, Dobbs, Novack.

General agreement to recommend a propaganda campaign centered around running a party ticket in the city elections.

2. ANTIWAR REPORT

Barnes reported on progress in building toward the spring action. Meetings have been held in three cities in the Midwest to plan for the mobilization, and coordination is beginning on the West Coast. The first issue of the spring action newspaper, The Mobilizer, will be out shortly. There are plans to move the headquarters from Ithaca to New York.

A trade unionists' peace conference has been called by the Chicago Trade Union Division of SANE to be held in Chicago the weekend of December 17-18. This is the first large scale conference of trade unionists on the question of the war. Trade union comrades in the Midwest will be attending.

Halstead reported on the reaction within the Parade Committee to the bombing of Hanoi. Parade Committee leaders had previously agreed to participate in civil disobedience should the bombing occur, and this action will take place today.

Discussion: Barnes, Dobbs, Kerry.

3. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported:

(1) Letter from E. regarding Deutscher's reaction to the beating of Tate. When questioned by Deutscher, Healy acknowledged responsibility for the attack, saying Tate had "provoked" it. Interview ended with Deutscher ordering Healy from the premises and Healy stamping out, calling Deutscher "petty bourgeois."

(2) There are indications that Healy is suing Tate for libel on the basis of a letter on the beating circulated by Tate to the press and left circles in England. The line of the Newsletter is moving to justify this course of action.

Recommendation that we write another letter to the SLL leadership, indicating we haven't received an answer to our first letter, and pointing out the meaning of this resort to bourgeois courts.

Discussion: Dobbs, Kerry, Sheppard, Novack, Barnes.

Motion: To approve the general line of the draft letter to the SLL leadership.

Carried.

4. WEST COAST CORRESPONDENCE

Kerry reported on agreement with the West Coast comrades, reached informally at the plenum, to provide NC members copies of correspondence on the Conference on Power and Politics sponsored by the Californians for Liberal Representation last fall.

Motion: To provide NC members copies of the correspondence on the Conference on Power and Politics.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.