

copy for

Hunt J A

Los Angeles, Calif.

SEP 8 1971

Sept. 3, 1971

Political Committee

Dear Comrades,

The Political Committee Statement on the wage-freeze arrived here today. I think it is a good statement and I support it. I would like to discuss just two points in it.

First, The call for a Congress of Labor as the central point in our campaign at this stage is correct. It should be possible for some of our unionists to get motions to this effect passed in their locals. In presenting the idea of a Congress of Labor in a union local, however, I think it is best not to include at this stage exactly who should be included in such a Congress. If a motion includes, besides the unions, the oppressed nationalities, women and other allies of labor, it makes it more difficult to get its adoption.

Our first task is to popularize the idea of the Congress. To do this most effectively the idea should be presented in as simple a form as possible. If the idea is accepted and gains some fairly wide support, then the composition of the Congress can be introduced into the discussion as the next logical point.

Of course, this should not prevent our people from introducing the idea of a Congress in national liberation organizations, in the Women's Liberation Movement and elsewhere. In doing this a slight amendment should be made in the form that the actual motion is presented.

The PC Statement calls our next move a "propaganda campaign." In our press we can use the formulations of the statement that are of wider scope than what I have suggested above. I am thinking in terms of how the idea is actually proposed in organizations. This, I think, should be clarified, as distinct from our propaganda.

The second point I have concerns the use of the expression "incomes policy." This, I think, has been borrowed from the British. Perhaps the British understand the exact meaning of this expression; I don't think it is widely understood in the U. S. We should use the expression "wage-freeze." That tells the real story succinctly and exactly. I believe that most Americans identify the word "income" with something good, even a raise and certainly not with a wage-freeze.

Comradely,
Milt
Milton Alvin