

DRAFT POLITICAL COMMITTEE REPLY

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
February 15, 1972

Dear Comrades Gregorich et al.,

This is in reply to your letter of December 27, 1971, which states: "We the undersigned ask that the Political Committee call a convention at the earliest possible date (June or August of 1972), and that a long pre-convention discussion be scheduled to begin immediately."

You argue that it is necessary to call such a special convention in light of Nixon's imposition of the wage freeze on August 15. However, the Political Resolution adopted overwhelmingly by the August 1971 convention of the party, explained why the imposition of wage controls was one of the indicated options of the capitalist government in the given economic and political situation, and outlined the party's basic orientation towards the trade-union movement. The orientation and analysis contained in the Political Resolution has been confirmed by the events of August 15 and since. You also assert that the line of For a Proletarian Orientation, which was decisively rejected by the party convention, has been "vindicated," which calls "for a whole new appraisal of the Party's history, its theoretical justifications, and above all, its present orientation." The Political Committee rejects the arguments you advance as an attempt to reopen the discussion decided and closed by the 24th National Convention of the party.

Article X, Section 1 of the party constitution states that special conventions may be called by the National Committee or "on the demand of branches representing one-third of the membership." Your request for a special convention of the party does not meet this constitutional provision.

Comradely,

Barry Sheppard
for the Political Committee