

George

YOUNG SOCIALIST EDITORIAL BOARD MINUTES - Nov. 23, 1958

- Agenda: 1. Tour 3. National Guardian 5. YS Conference
 2. Area reports 4. Dec. issue 6. Publications

Members present: Voting: Bert, Tim, Mike, Jim (during pts 5-6). Sec: Allen
Non-voting: Martha, Allen. Absent: Dick, George. Observer: Nora.

1. TOUR: Philadelphia will be visited as planned. The other areas will be rescheduled to February to permit fuller preparation for the YS Conference.

2. AREA REPORTS: New York YSA gained 7 new members and increased its mailing list by 45 during the past 5 weeks.

Philadelphia sold 100 YS at Seeger hootenanny Nov. 22. YPSL sold 20 Challenge.

3. NATIONAL GUARDIAN: Tim will write an article on "The American Student" that will feature the YS tour. An exchange ad has also been arranged.

4. DEC. ISSUE: Editorial on the elections by Bert. Passed unan.

Manifesto on the war question by the left-wing of the IUSY (2nd International Youth Org). Accepted: For-Tim. Abstain-Bert, Mike. It was reported that Dick was in favor of publication.

Statement by Bert: "I did not vote for publication because I believe the Manifesto could be more effectively used in a different manner."

Statement by Mike: "This article is not fundamentally sound. Such important positions as unconditional defense of the S.U., the political rev. in the S.U., etc., are either glossed over or sometimes incorrectly inferred. Also, we are not for "disengagement", we must be for the class struggle, for the international prole. rev. and clearly state so. Therefore the above-mentioned article, should only be published with an editorial stand on the war question."

Editorial statement protesting the imprisonment of the two North Carolina Negro boys. Accepted unan. We urge all supporters to investigate possibilities for public protest on this case.

5. YS CONFERENCE: Motion that it be held in Detroit, Sat-Sun, Dec. 27-28. Passed unan.

Interim Motion on Organization has been received from Jim R. Proposal to append to minutes for informational purposes and to discuss it at next meeting. Passed unan.

Proposals that registration, attendance, accomodation, and proxy forms be sent out, to be returned to ed. bd. by Dec. 14. Accepted unan.

Motions concretizing method of representation, adopted at Aug. 17 meeting. Passed unan

- 1) A qualified voter must have a YS Supporter Card, have paid dues for Dec. (minimum 50¢) and have paid a 50¢ Conference assessment.
- 2) Each supporter has one vote and to cast it he must attend the Conference or personally delegate his vote on the standard proxy form.
- 3) Proxies be divided as equally as possible among those attending from any area, unless there is a political division, in which case the supporters should delegate their votes so as to give fair representation to all points of view within the group.

6. PUBLICATIONS: YS Forum #5 is available for purchase at 50¢ by writing to Jim Robertson, 196-A Connecticut St, San Francisco 7, Calif.

Motion that YS Forum #6 contain all the documents presented to the Conference for a vote (Memorandum of Aug. 2, Ed. Bd. Policy Statement, Conference Agenda, and Motion on Organization), plus any other material submitted in relation to those documents. Passed unan.

Motion to publish a 16-page booklet addressed to newly interested people, describing the fundamentals of socialism in question-and-answer form, mimeod in Varitype style. Passed unan.

Next meeting: Sun. Dec. 7, 8:00 PM.

INTERIM MOTION ON ORGANIZATION

1. Young Socialist Supporters

- a) The basic direction of the Young Socialist and its work shall rest in the hands of its Supporters.
- b) A YS Supporter is any young person who seeks to further the aims and work of the Young Socialist in common with other Supporters and who contributes financially to the support of the YS to the extent of at least fifty cents a month.
- c) A majority vote by the local body of YS Supporters will grant a young applicant the status of YS Supporter. Where no local body exists decision rests with the YS Editorial Board or its representatives.
- d) Any YS Supporter more than three months in arrears in financial contribution shall cease to be in good standing. Only Supporters in good standing may vote in any meeting of YS Supporters.

2. National Conference

- a) The YS Supporters shall meet annually in a delegated National Conference. The Conference has the full and final power to adopt all political and organizational policies for the YS and to elect the National Committee of YS Supporters.
- b) The National Conference shall be called by the National Committee which shall allow for at least sixty days of pre-conference discussion in issuing the conference call. The sixty day period shall begin only when the principal majority resolutions have been published.
- c) The number of Conference delegates shall be elected in the local areas in such a ratio to the number of Supporters in the areas as is set by the National Committee. Delegates will be elected at the conclusion of organized pre-conference discussion held in each area among YS Supporters.
- d) Where there is a division between factions in electing delegates to the Conference, election shall take place on the basis of a proportional representation system as established by the National Committee in the Conference call. A faction shall be considered established and defined by the presentation for vote of a written document as the basis for representation.
- e) In electing the National Committee by the Conference a proportional basis shall be followed if factional divisions are present.

3. National Committee

- a) Between Conferences, the National Committee of Young Socialist Supporters shall be the highest body. It shall consist of 15 full members and 10 numbered alternates.
- b) Any National Committee member may appoint any alternate member to replace him for all or part of any meeting of the Committee.

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- c) The National Committee shall elect from among its members an Editorial Board to serve as its resident sub-committee. It shall also elect all nationally appointed officers.
- d) The National Committee may coopt members to itself in the event its list of alternates is exhausted; or if it is so required in order to maintain the strength of organized factions, as established at the preceeding Conference; or in order to maintain the Editorial Board up to size.
- e) The National Committee may delegate any of its authority to the Editorial Board; and as it sees fit may dispose of its business by referring it to the Editorial Board or by mail polling of the Committee members or by plenary meetings, regular or special.
- f) The National Committee shall meet at least three times yearly, including immediately after and before Conferences.

4. Editorial Board

- a) The Editorial Board shall be the body immediately responsible for the Young Socialist and for acting on its behalf as well as undertaking such work as is delegated to the Board by the National Committee.
- b) The Editorial Board shall meet at least twice monthly and shall send full minutes of its meetings to all members and alternates of the National Committee.
- c) Any Editorial Board member may appoint any alternate Board member to replace him for all or part of any meeting of the Board.
- d) Subject to approval by the National Committee the Editorial Board may appoint as it sees fit Corresponding Editors, not necessarily themselves YS Supporters.
- e) Any decision of the Editorial Board may be taken by any member of the National Committee to the National Committee for final decision.

5. Officers

- a) The Editor of the Young Socialist shall in addition to his editorial duties act as principal national spokesman for the YS and its Supporters.
- b) Other officers may be appointed by the National Committee or the Editorial Board.

WOHLFORTH REPORT ON NATIONAL TOUR - Nov. 16, 1958
CLEVELAND - OBERLIN, DETROIT, CHICAGO

CLEVELAND-OBERLIN: At present there is little or no youth activity in Cleveland itself, though there is a potentiality for it and we have active supporters in the area. There is plenty of activity in the adult arena, however, and I had a chance to meet and talk with Eric Reinthaler and Jerry Gordon who are organizing the Cleveland Conference as well as others. Also we had a small meeting of those who responded to a mailing to YS subscribers in the area and a group of students from Kent State, some 30 miles away, came.

At Oberlin a new socialist club, the Oberlin Socialist Club, has just been formed. In fact my meeting there was the first it had as a recognized club. There is a good group of students connected with it and it has a potentiality of becoming the leading political club on campus. All its members are friendly with the YS and they have agreed to take a bundle.

I spoke to some 200 students (over 10% of the student body) at an open air meeting for over an hour and a half. This was what is called on this campus an "Arch 7," an old tradition which had not been practiced at Oberlin since I left there. Before speaking I had dinner with the young socialists at one of the co-op houses. Afterwards I went over to the college radio station where I analyzed the election returns from a socialist point of view.

Our supporters in Cleveland have agreed to pay close attention to Oberlin and do what they can to develop closer ties between these students and our paper.

DETROIT AREA: The basic organization of our work in this area has changed recently. The IBM club, the Independent Socialist Youth, was reconstituted but had nobody in it outside of the YS supporters. Therefore it was dropped and a new setup was established emphasizing four areas of work: 1) A Young Socialist Committee to push the paper and to coordinate all our youth work; 2) an Independent Socialist Club on the Wayne University campus, the first socialist club to be recognized on campus since the demise of the Wayne Socialist Club several years ago; 3) Washtenaw County Young Socialist Club (this contains students from Eastern Michigan College in Ypsilanti and University of Michigan in Ann Arbor); 4) a teenage club in Detroit.

During the course of the tour I spoke at Ann Arbor to the Washtenaw group, before the Philosophy Club at Wayne on Dialectics, twice off campus in the Wayne U. area, and to the teenage club. I spoke to over 125 persons in the area. By the time of the Christmas Conference our comrades estimate they will have 12 YS supporters in the area. There are about 45 people total in the three groups we are working in.

All in all the setup at Detroit is one of the best in the country. We have solid roots on the Wayne campus, contact with students at two other campuses, and a very active and vivacious teenage group. The comrades have pledged \$10. a month sustainer to the YS and would like to use a newsrack at Wayne.

CHICAGO: The situation in the Chicago area is not too good. The YPSL had taken over as the major socialist force at the U. of Chicago and controls the Politics Club which has some 100 members. We have several comrades on campus and our group, the Socialist Youth Committee, is on campus, but so far our activities have not been too successful and the amount of financial aid from this area has been low.

However there is hope that with better working relations among the YS supporters themselves we can make real headway. The comrades all agree that the YS must

be pushed as the central aspect of our work. They are proposing that the SYCC endorse the paper and that a committee of YS supporters in the SYCC take care of its sales, etc. They have pledged a \$7 a month sustainer to the YS and have agreed to hold some sort of fund-raising event for the paper. They estimate some 12 YS supporters by the Christmas Conference.

During the tour I spoke to about 30 people on the Chicago campus, to a class at the University High School, and we had a successful party. We had about 10 people at the YS supporters meeting.

SOME STATISTICS: With this report the major section of our tour comes to its end. I will visit Philadelphia briefly in December but save the rest of the tour until February. This is a good time to record some statistics on this section of the tour.

So far I have visited some 15 areas in the Western and Midwestern parts of the U.S. and Canada. I have spoken to over 2,000 people at meetings, most of whom were students. I spoke at some 23 different campuses. And finally I spoke at 40 public meetings in all.

FINANCES: The comrades are to be congratulated in raising their tour quotas. The tour so far has been financially self-sufficient even though I spoke at a number of places where no money could be raised. Following is a list of the sums received from the various areas.

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| Los Angeles..... | \$1.50 |
| Bay Area..... | 105 |
| Seattle..... | 50 |
| Vancouver..... | 25 |
| Twin Cities..... | 75 |
| Chicago..... | 15.47 |
| Detroit..... | 50 |
| Cleveland..... | 45 |
| Milwaukee..... | 10 |
| Denver..... | <u>9.50</u> |
| Total..... | \$534.97 |