

Report on Plans for the SMC Conference, by Helen Meyers, Feb. 4, 1970

Plans for the SMC Conference are in full swing and it appears that this will be the largest conference to date for the antiwar movement.

Independent groups and local SMC's from areas of the country never heard from before have indicated that they will attend the conference. (See enclosed list of areas and groups that have notified the SMC National Office that they will be coming.) There are also indications from around the country that our opponents are mobilizing for this conference.

Because of the importance of the Cleveland conference, all comrades in the east coast and midwest locals should plan to attend. The west coast and southern locals should plan to send at least the leading com- active in antiwar work. All other comrades who can attend are urged to do so. Locals should immediately forward to the YSA N.O. a list of all those who will be attending from your area. Indicate on the list all comrades who are active in the following areas of work which will be covered in the conference workshops: Third World, high school, GI, and women's liberation. Comrades who are representatives to the SMC Steering Committee should arrive in Cleveland by 5:30 p.m. and call the Cleveland YSA headquarters. All other comrades are urged to arrive in Cleveland by Friday night, and should also call the Cleveland YSA headquarters. (Cleveland YSA, 2921 Prospect Avenue; 216-861-3862)

The Cleveland SMC arrangements committee is setting up a defense guard for the conference. We will be helping out and Charlie Bolduc will be organizing our comrades for this. Each large local should assign 5 people per day to the defense guard, 2 or 3 of whom should be women. The defense guard is to report to the main entrance of Harkness Chapel by 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, and to the main entrance of the gym by 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. Because of the seriousness of this task the local leadership should explain to comrades the purpose of this as- signment.

Due to the strictly limited amount of private housing and hotel space, all comrades should plan to use mass housing and bring sleeping bags or bed rolls. There are a limited number of beds available in the dormitories which will be given out on a first come, first served basis.

All areas should assign one or two comrades to the fraction steer- ing committee. Comrades on the steering committee will be responsible for maintaining contact with all the comrades from their area during the conference.

A Pathfinder Press table, a "Join the YSA" table, and a national election campaign table will be set up at the conference. Areas where campaigns are being run should bring literature for the national dis- play.

Fraction meetings will be Saturday and Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in Hatch Auditorium in Baker Building. A map and last minute details will be forthcoming.