

Dear Comrades,

This mailing includes a document from the Political Committee on "Strategies Toward a Labor Party." It is a working draft developed by the Political Committee through discussion and amendment. We are submitting it to the organization as the basis for BEGINNING a discussion -- it is not intended to be a finished position. We are sending it out now because a number of comrades had suggested it would be helpful to have written material.

We are very pleased to report that John Reimann, Recording Secretary of Local 36 of the Carpenters Union (Oakland, CA) will be attending the conference. He is a leader of the Bay Area coalition for a labor party and will be speaking at the conference on the progress of the statewide efforts in California to build sentiment around it. His coming to the conference is important and will give valuable opportunity for discussion. Other registrations are beginning to come in, and it seems reasonable to predict we will have 130-150 at the conference (depending on you!)

Next week you will be receiving another mailing with a document evaluating the Citizens Party experience, as background for the conference workshop on that topic. The workshop will be focussed around the question: did the Citizens Party advance the cause of independent political action? We will present the idea that it did, in a modest way -- we will also try to get responders to present their viewpoints.

Kim's article "Rank and File movements -- Confronting labor's challenge in the 1980's" has been reprinted as a pamphlet. Order copies from the National Office to distribute among people who might attend (25¢ each). We feel it is a valuable piece of literature and a useful conference builder.

I will be on a trip next week to help build the conference. I have already been to Cleveland and will be visiting New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Remember -- now is the time to get commitments and registrations for the conference!

Conference registrations should be in by August 14 with 50% payment. After that, registrations will be taken only if there is room, and no childcare registrations will be accepted. Members are encouraged to register now!

In Struggle

Mark L.