

14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014

January 30, 1975

TO CAMPAIGN DIRECTORS AND SUPPORTERS

Dear Comrades,

We are launching a campaign to get the "SWP Proposal for a Bill of Rights for Working People" out to tens of thousands of people this spring. The Bill of Rights contains solutions for the problems that are on the minds of all Americans, from students facing cutbacks and tuition increases to the growing numbers of working people facing layoffs and unemployment. Moreover, the worsening economic situation is forcing millions of Americans for the first time to question the capitalist system itself.

Socialism as a viable alternative for the United States is being seriously discussed in broader circles than at any time since the Depression and radicalization in the 1930s. The socialist campaign is a vehicle for reaching as many of these people as possible with realistic solutions for these problems and to let them know there is a party actively campaigning for socialism that they can join. Already the response to the first campaign ad in The Militant has far surpassed that received in response to the first ad placed during the 1972 campaign.

Outside of the national speaking tours, the campaign to circulate widely the Bill of Rights for Working People will be the central presidential campaign activity this spring. This distribution campaign can begin immediately. Campaign committees and supporters will not want to wait until the national campaign speaker comes through on tour to begin national campaign activity, especially since a number of tours are not scheduled until late March or April.

The Feb. 14 issue of The Militant will give a big boost to the campaign, reprinting the Bill of Rights in full. At the same time, the national campaign committee is preparing a mailing of the Bill of Rights to be sent to hundreds of prominent individuals, groups, and trade unions all across the country soliciting their response to its proposals.

Distribution of the Bill of Rights can be an integral part of all activities that campaign supporters are involved in. Supporters can be urged to carry the pamphlets with them at all times to have handy when talking to people. Everyone who is participating in organizing for the Feb. 14-16 conference against racism in Boston should receive a Bill of Rights.

Campaign supporters will want to take copies of the Bill of Rights to work with them to circulate among their coworkers. Members of CLUW and other trade unionists can be expected to be especially interested in the Bill of Rights proposals. The national campaign committee is particularly interested in what working people think of the SWP proposal and campaign supporters are encouraged to send in letters to the campaign committee describing discussions and reactions received in this campaign.

Campus supporters will want to carry bundles of the Bill of Rights with them, as well as featuring them prominently on literature tables and distributing them at all campus political meetings. Campus forums, classes, and/or discussions may be organized in order to facilitate drawing people into the discussion on the Bill of Rights.

One of the most important activities in which to integrate distribution of the Bill of Rights will be sales of The Militant. This alone could guarantee that as many as 100,000 of the people who are the most likely to be seriously interested in the proposals will see them this spring. For example, sales of the Feb. 7 special issue of The Militant on unemployment will present an excellent opportunity for Bill of Rights distribution.

Areas will want to experiment with ways to most effectively use the Bill of Rights and will want to be sure to send in brief reports on their experiences and suggestions that can be passed along to other committees.

The Socialist Workers campaign committee in Chicago is planning an educational conference in February around the theme of the Bill of Rights for Working People.

The campaign committee in Washington, D.C. has already distributed 5,000 copies of the Bill of Rights. Supporters there have mapped out an audacious campaign which includes first and foremost passing them out at virtually every political event in the area this spring. Distribution so far has included 2,000 at the Jan. 15 "Jobs For All" demonstration, 800 at a meeting for Eugene McCarthy at George Washington University (with an attendance of 800), and 1,000 at the Assembly to Save the Vietnam Peace Treaty.

Each campaign supporter participating in Militant sales in the Washington, D.C. area carries 50 of the pamphlets with him or her to give to people who buy a copy of The Militant and to others who express interest. Sales locations regularly include unemployment lines, where the Bill of Rights has received a friendly response.

Campus tables set up by members of the YSA in Washington, D.C. feature the Bill of Rights, and a brochure is planned outlining a series of classes on socialism for those interested in finding out more about the socialist campaign.

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The Spanish edition of the Bill of Rights will be available in February. Campaign committees will want to begin now to plan out how these can best be circulated.

Committees will also want to consider including news on the distribution campaign and its response and results in Militant campaign articles.

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Enclosed is the biographies brochure, "The Socialist Workers Candidates for '76." This will be especially useful for display on campaign tables, in approaching media, and in fundraising. The enclosed form can be used for ordering these brochures as well as all other campaign materials.

Comradely,

*Doug Jenness*

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National Campaign Director