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NATIONAL BRIEFING FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 3 DECEMBER 1979

The top priority for all branch organisers in preparing IMG branch meetings this week is to start collecting the £6 conference levy. If the branch has sufficient funds, we would ask that the full amount be forwarded to the National Office immediately and then a discussion held about exactly how the branch will be able to meet its average sum of £6 per member. If there are not sufficient funds, we would ask branch members who can pay at least £6 to pay up and other comrades to make contributions towards their amount. This should be forwarded by return post to the Centre immediately following the branch meeting.

Secondly, the envelope to the National Office containing the levy collected to date should also include payment for the recent pre-conference discussion bulletins. The first major bulletin cost well over £300 and we have had few bulletin monies in to date. This seriously endangers our ability to keep producing bulletins and clearly if continued, can threaten the ability of the centre to prepare a democratic conference.

This money is vital to the centre. In addition to the bulletins, we have to pay for the hall, creche and other expenses. These will not wait until the conference itself.

Other items on branch meetings this week will clearly include the Revolution conference coming up, the sales of the new issue of the youth paper, and SC sales drive and recruitment drive, and the preparation of the pre-conference discussion. Finally, in continuing our work in British Leyland, there should be reports on where resolutions can be put (see below).

BRITISH LEYLAND: As comrades may have seen in the Morning Star and elsewhere, the Northfield AUEW branch has put a resolution against the executive's action and for an immediate ballot on the removal of the entire executive council "as per rule 15, para 5". This enables a ballot if it is demanded by 10 per cent of the membership; and the ballot requires 2/3 majority. Any cdes in the AUEW should clearly be considering moving similar resolutions in their branch. Furthermore, we have to prepare now for the outcome of the fake investigation into Robinson. There are many militants who will be disgusted with the AUEW and also with the inability of the CP to defend its own membership. Given this, we should be discussing this issue, approaching CP militants for discussion on this, and preparing for the outcome of the enquiry.

REVOLUTION CONFERENCE: Once again, branch organisers should make sure their check-list has been carried out. *All contacts discussed with; *each and every student member released from other assignments to attend; *transport arrangements made by the branch leadership to ensure everyone can attend. The Conference takes place in Birmingham on 14, 15 December. ALSO remember to discuss where to sell the next issue of Revolution which is on black liberation! But first of all, we need monies for past issues.

IMG NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Most branches are now going ahead with discussions on the documents that have been produced to date. Tendency speakers (Tendency 1 is the Cannon et. al tendency), (Tendency 2 the Clynes/Dennis/Manzano tendency) can be organised through ringing the national office. We wish to keep a record of all the pre-conference discussions at the centre, so when you write in your request these will be entered in our records and passed on to the tendency concerned.

We hope branch leaderships will encourage comrades to participate in the written discussion for the conference, as well. Comrades should take the opportunity of the pre-conference period to contribute on any issue they wish. This does not need to be material for voting on. The second major document was distributed at the branch organisers meeting. Branch organisers who didn't attend will be able to get their allocation with SC this week. However, please ensure you have paid for the first one!

TENDENCY 2 MEETING: There will be a meeting of Tendency 2 ad-hoc steering committee. This involves CC members and comrades from different branches. This will take place in London on the weekend of the next Central Committee (27, 28, 29 December). It will discuss the agenda of the Tendency conference which will be held on 5 January. A Steering Committee will be properly elected at this meeting. Further details from Harlowe or Ellis at the national office.

URGENT- CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LABOUR STUDENTS: The SSA recently wrote to the NC of the NOLS asking if they could extend observer status to us for the NOLS national conference. (Birmingham 17-20 December) They declined, but said that ANY members of the SSA in the Labour Party could attend as visitors.

This NOLS conference is very important for us. It is therefore vital that any cde attending in any capacity contacts the Youth Dept. We also want any student cde, in the SSA who is in the LP and support SC, to go to the conference to observe. Travel costs, accomodation to be arranged.

SOCIALIST CHALLENGE XMAS PARTY: This fundrasing event is open to any SC supporters or IMG members is on Sunday, 16 Dec at 7.15 to 11.15pm. It will include a meal/wine/entertainment - all for £5. But space is restricted to 100 people - and tickets will be given on a first come, first served basis! So rush in your orders now. All this is only £5 per ticket, send to SC Party, PO Box 50, London N1 2XP.

Is your branch organising a local fundraising event for SC over the next month. If not, it is still not too late to start organising an Xmas social/raffle/sponsored Xmas event, etc. The paper needs money from these events!

COMRADES NEEDED AT THE NATIONAL OFFICE CENTRE We would ask branch organisers to consider comrades that could be available for work at the national centre. Any suggestions of responsible comrades should be telephoned to cde Biggs at the centre.

A. Companies manager: we are urgently looking for a full-time manager for our printshop and bookshop. The cde would be centrally involved in the longer-term development of both enterprises and their day to day management as part of a team of cdes at the national center overseeing the running of the national apparatus.

B. Conference organiser/national office worker: A cde is needed to start as soon as full-time organiser of our national conference in Feb. 1980. After the conference the cde could work as the central cde in our national office - dealing with branches, some typing, receptionist and telephonist.

c. Distribution worker: A cde is needed from the end Jan 1980 to work as full-time distribution worker on SC and IP/I, organising the distribution systems.

ANY cde interested in any of these posts should contact cde Biggs or Ellis at Centre.

BUILDING WORK AT THE NATIONAL CENTRE Over the Xmas period we are hoping to organise extensive repairs in the national centre. We hope to organise tens of cdes to carry out the work to avoid extensive labour costs. Any cdes with skills/experience in general building work/carpentry/electrics/painting/plumbing/bricklaying and plastering please contact cde Larkin or Biggs. Any other cdes without such experience but prepared to help out contact us anyway. Work would be between 17 December and 3 January. If you think you can help in any way - advice/skills/labour or materials please contact us.

TENDENCY CONFERENCES: The National Secretariat is recommending 5 January to be set aside for all tendencies to hold national conferences!

WORLD CONGRESS: The PC decided to get out the minutes of the World Congress as soon as they are available. Comrades have also been asked to write up their assessments of the Congress for an internal discussion bulletin. With respect to the split in the FI, it was decided that every branch should be visited with a reporter on this, and in the context of this report, all members will be asked to vote on the same resolution which was put to the World Congress. The PC also held a hearing of charges that had been laid against three cdes: Cde Monica, cde Sligo of Cochester and cde IH of Bedford. The PC decided to expell these comrades for their breach of the IMG constitution. A dossier on this will come with the SC this week or be sent in NBs next week.

The dossier prepared by the United Secretariat on the Simon Bolivar Brigade has now been printed. We have received the airmail copies and branches who wish to place an order, please do so. This is an IIDB. It would help enormously if this week monies could be collected in advance and sent with the order, as with two lots of bulletins being distributed, the finances become complex.

IRISH FRACTION to prepare for UDM Conference, Nat. Centre, Fri, 7 Dec. 8pm
YOUTH FRACTION One delegate per branch, pooled fare, Sat Sun. 12/13 January London