

Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003
November 20, 1968

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NCers

Dear Comrades,

As the enclosed letter from comrade Sid Nickerson indicates, he has notified the NEC that he wishes to submit his document, "What Role for Young Socialists in the Labor Movement" as a counter-resolution to the NEC draft political resolution. It was earlier submitted as an amendment.

This change means that there are now two counter lines before the YSA. One is embodied in the four draft resolutions of the NEC dealing with the international youth radicalization, the political perspectives for socialist youth in the U.S., the Afro-American struggle, and the antiwar movement. The other line is embodied in the Nickerson document.

It is on this basis that the political division, if any, in each local should be established. The correct procedure for each local would be the following: at the close of the pre-convention discussion in each local, the vote on the documents should be taken. The proper motion for a supporter of the line of the NEC draft documents would be, "Motion to approve the general line of the NEC draft international, political, antiwar, and Afro-American struggle resolutions taken as a whole." The proper motion for a supporter of the Nickerson resolution would be, "Motion to approve the general line of the political resolution, "What role for Young Socialists in the Labor Movement."

It should be explained clearly to the local that we vote on conflicting general lines. It must be taken seriously and treated seriously. Since a political resolution is the central resolution tying together and putting into focus all other resolution, a counter political resolution obviously effects our entire orientation in all areas of work. The NEC draft resolutions together constitute one general line; the Nickerson resolution another.

The convention call should be consulted to determine how many votes the Nickerson resolution would have to receive in your local to entitle Nickerson supporters to a delegate.

If there is a political division in the local, supporters of each general line would caucus separately to elect the numbers they are entitled to. If there are supporters of the

Nickerson line, but fewer than necessary to elect a delegate, those who voted for the Nickerson line are still not entitled to take part in the election of the majority's delegates.

The John Hansen organizational resolutions do not constitute a line resolution and should not be involved in defining the political division for the election of delegates. If comrades in your local want to conduct a straw vote on the Hansen organizational resolutions so that the delegates will know the general opinion of the local on those resolutions, such a straw vote would be in order.

Comradely,

Mary-Alice Waters

Mary-Alice Waters
National Chairman

P.S. Because this resolution is submitted so late in the discussion, it is possible that some locals will have already elected their delegates. In such a case, the local is under no obligation to reopen the discussion and reelect delegates.