

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
January 31, 1972

TO ALL BRANCH ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

The WONAAC National Conference is now less than two weeks away. Our major tasks are to help get as many women as possible to the conference and help prepare for the political discussion that will take place at the conference.

As you may have noticed, the WONAAC Newsletter has been printing a pre-conference literary discussion. The next Newsletter, February 1 issue, includes at least three position papers: (1) Two proposals from the UAG (University Action Group), an organization in Boston in which PL plays a dominant role; (2) a proposal from International Socialists (IS) National Office in Detroit; and (3) a spring action proposal from a broad range of supporters of WONAAC which we support. These proposals should be circulated as widely as possible prior to the conference, and their contents made available to our comrades.

We can expect that there will be a good discussion at the conference around the many successful projects WONAAC has already initiated, such as collaborating with Bella Abzug in getting an abortion law repeal bill introduced into Congress, responding to the attacks by the right to life in New York and around the country, etc. The political debates will probably revolve around (1) whether the slogan of free abortion on demand should be added to or be a central focus of WONAAC's abortion campaign; (2) whether WONAAC should become an organization which takes stands and organizes around other issues of women's oppression besides the campaign on abortion and its related demands; (3) redbaiting and (4) adding the demand of freedom of sexual expression.

There are no indications yet as to what forces, PL, IS and other opponents of the abortion law repeal campaign, are allocating to this conference, but we do know that they are coming. Those areas which have information on this should relay this to the SWP national office.

We want to make sure that as many female members of the SWP and the YSA attend the conference, therefore we are calling for a mobilization of the women comrades from the East Coast and Midwest branches and YSA locals. Southern and Western States branches and YSA locals should try to send a few comrades where possible.

A complete list of comrades, including what workshops they could be assigned to (high school, campus, legislation, Black, Chicana, working women, gay, class action suits, etc.) should be sent to the SWP national office, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014. It should also include an indication of when they are expected to

arrive in Boston. A copy should also be sent to the Boston SWP headquarters, 295 Huntington Avenue, room 307, Boston, Mass. 02115. Attention: Carol Lipman. The Boston SWP headquarters will serve as the fraction headquarters the week leading up to the conference. Their phone: (617) 536-6981 or 262-9688.

For those comrades arriving in Boston by 5:30 PM Friday, February 11, there will be a fraction meeting then at the Boston SWP headquarters. On Saturday morning at 8:30 AM, a fraction meeting will be held for all comrades, at Boston University, the details of which will be made available to the branches soon. Any new comrades, unfamiliar with our organization norms, should be told before they leave for the conference.

This communication has been sent to SWP branch organizers. Its contents should be made available to both the party and the YSA. The YSA regional centers should take responsibility for organizing female YSA comrades in the region.

Comradely,

Carol Lipman

Carol Lipman
SWP Women's Liberation Director