

POLITICAL BUREAU

NUMBER 12

August 13, 1974

Present: Barnes, Britton, Finkel, A. Hansen, Jenness, Jones,
Lovell, Morrison, Stone

Visitors: Camejo, Scott

Chair: Morrison

AGENDA: 1. Fall Sales and Subscription Campaigns
2. Party Expansion
3. Membership
4. Perspectives

1. FALL SALES AND SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGNS

Jones reported on the proposals to conduct a fall Militant sales campaign to regularize weekly sales with quotas that can be made consistently -- quotas to be worked out with the branches; to conduct a fall subscription drive for the Militant and the ISR; to circulate prepaid subscription cards for the Militant.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the proposals.

Carried.

2. PARTY EXPANSION

Stone reported on the proposal to work toward building a new branch in Milwaukee.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the proposal.

Carried.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Scott reported on the recommendations of the Seattle branch to readmitt T.A., of the Oakland-Berkeley branch to readmit E.M., and of the Washington D.C. branch to readmit B.E.

Discussion

Motion: To concur with the recommendation of the Seattle branch to readmit T.A.

Carried.

Motion: To concur with the recommendation of the Oakland-Berkeley branch to readmit E.M.

Carried.

Motion: To concur with the recommendation of the Washington D.C. branch to readmit B.E.

Carried.

4. PERSPECTIVES

Barnes reported on the following proposals:

That in order to take advantage of the interest and ferment surrounding preparations for the 1976 presidential election campaign, we should launch our presidential campaign early. This would mean kicking off the campaign at the YSA convention this December in St. Louis and following this up with national tours of the candidates in the spring instead of waiting for fall.

A short plenum of the national committee could be held in St. Louis before the YSA convention to discuss plans for the presidential campaign and to take up other pertinent national and international questions. The plenum would start the afternoon of December 26 and last one or two days.

Initial steps should be taken immediately to set up a campaign office and begin making projections for the campaign. A member of the Political Bureau should be assigned to head this up. This person would also be responsible for working with the branches on the 1974 election campaigns and for coordinating our various legal offensives, including ballot work.

Another project which we should carry out this fall is to send a Political Bureau member or members to Chicago to help with the expansion and continued building of the party in the Midwest. In addition to the established branches in the Midwest, another branch is planned for Milwaukee. We also have a large concentration of YSAers -- about 30 -- in Indiana. The Midwest will continue to be an important area with many openings for building the party. For these reasons, we should make a decision in regard to the Midwest similar to the one made in sending Barry Sheppard to California last year.

Carrying out these proposals will necessitate a reorganization of the national office and a change in the assignments of some of the comrades on the Political Bureau. We will have to consider changing the assignments of Stone, Britton, Jenness and Jones. A first step which we can take in this direction will be to make Frank Boehm available to be New York city organizer.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the proposals.

Carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED