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New York, New York
June 2, 1971

Administrative Committee
New York, New York

Dear Comrades,

There are two procedural matters that have arisen in regard to the New York branch division and the preconvention discussion. Below are the problems and the preliminary thinking of the New York Local Executive Committee on how to handle them.

1. Delegates to the convention. Section 4 of the Basis of Representation of the Convention Call states, "Branches organized after April 19, 1971 are entitled to send fraternal delegates as provided by the party constitution."

The New York branch division and therefore the creation of three new branches took place after that date. The constitution contains no specific provisions to cover this situation. It is our view that the Brooklyn, Upper West Side, and Lower Manhattan branches are not "new" branches, but are sub-divisions of a previously existing branch.

If this view is correct then it would seem that each branch should proceed to elect its delegates as stated in Section 3 of the Basis of Representation of the Convention Call.

2. Transfers during preconvention discussion. Section 7 of the Basis of Representation of the Convention Call states, "Members transferring from one branch to another within the same locality subsequent to April 19, 1971, must vote in the branch from which they transferred." New York is now a "locality."

At first glance one could say that each member who joined before April 19 should vote in the branch to which he or she was assigned at the time of the division. In the branch division report to the City Convention, however, it was projected that a certain "shaking out" would naturally occur due to the difficulty of adequately consulting with 190 members before the division. Since the division perhaps a half dozen comrades after consulting with the organizers have switched branches for personal reasons or personal difficulties (travel, job, etc.) with their particular branch.

It is the Local Executive Committee's opinion that this process has completed itself and each branch is now stabilized. In view of that one possible solution to this problem would be for the New York local to set May 31, 1971 as the "Section 7" cut off date for transfers within the New York local. May 31 is the date when oral preconvention discussion began in each branch.

Will you let us know on these matters, so that we can report a judgement to the branches.

Comradely,
s/Lew Jones
New York Local Organizer

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N. Y. 10014

June 9, 1971

NEW YORK LOCAL

Lew Jones

Dear Lew,

The Administrative Committee concurs with the procedural proposals of the New York Local Executive Committee outlined in your letter of June 2, 1971.

Under the circumstances they are a reasonable application of Sections four and seven of the Convention Call.

Comradely,
s/Jack Barnes