

MINUTES, N.Y. SPARTACIST COMMITTEE.....2 June 1965

Present: Jim, Lynne, Shirley, Mark, Harry, Sam, Roger, Dave
Other: Vivian, Chuck (Balto.), Chuck W.

Absent: Shane, Tippy, Paul, Peter, Price, Lyndon, Al (in Balto), Danny (in Chi.)

Meeting convened at 8:45 p.m.

- 1. Organization of Meeting:
 - (a) Chairman: Mark
 - (b) Agenda adopted
 - (c) Minutes of 19 May read and accepted by vote 6-1-1.

Motion: To admit Vivian. Motion: To admit Chuck C. with voice.

Motion: To admit Chuck W. with voice. all passed

2. General Information and REB Report - Jim

- (a) Chicago- 2 letters received from Bob S., 24 and 27 May. First reports details of strike initiated, led and won by Jack G. to protest firings of Jack (shop steward) and 30 others. Firings referred to compulsory arbitration and all workers reinstated pending decision. Second letter reports on anti-HUAC demonstrations. Two committees were formed, the biggest by Stalinists, supported by SWP and SDS. The 2nd, militant, committee had steering committee of us, ASOC, and independents, led charge of 30-40 against police barricade attempting to gain entry to hall. Police completely disconcerted, slammed gates shut, whereupon group immediately sat down, were arrested. Huge publicity for action in local press. Application for new member, first contacted in Austin, referred to REB for action.
- (b) Miscellaneous- Houston- sent in organizational report and money. NYC- a rich friend of Tippy's has offered to pay for reprinting of and help distribute in Harlem BA Statement on Malcolm X--referred to Exec. Ron- has temporarily gotten Spartacist Box: Spartacist, Box 203, Wheatridge, Colorado 80033. Ron has been distributing leaflets and selling papers. New Orleans- Letter received from Joe stating our letters to him have helped him to move very close to our position on deformed workers states. U.Sec. Reply- appended. North Jersey- We are working with Sue B., sympathizer, who is attempting to organize her work shift.
- (c) REB (other than Wohlforth)- Meeting of 24 May initiated work on our National Conference, authorized new M.B. to include document exchange with Wohlforth in 1963.
- (d) Wohlforth- REB authorized reply to W. (contained in new Internal Information Bulletin). Two important additional letters received since REB met: one from Geoff of 23 May raising pertinent questions re unity with W.; and letter from W. to Bob K. of Balto--very conciliatory in tone, indicates W. now hell-bent on unity. His real long-term intentions will be indicated by his position on our relation to Healy's International Committee. W. group meets tonight to decide response to our reply--indicates they have no membership outside N.Y. of any significance since decision can be made by N.Y. local. New N.Y. 'member' of W. group turned out to be merely sympathizer, open and friendly to us. Also they have one other N.Y. sympathizer.

3. CORE - Harry

- (a) General- Vivian Anderson, PL Grand Jury contempt victim who was fired from teaching job after refusal to testify, appealed to N.Y.CORE for support for her appeal to School Bd. Harry's motion to support her passed ca. 15-5, CORE to send delegates to defense meeting.
- (b) Employment Committee- Meeting on Garment Center action of all CR orgs. was a failure as Regional CORE sent our announcement and program either late or not at all. Only reps. of CCNY CORE and Regional were present. New meeting scheduled for June 9 with Gerena-Valentin of Nat'l.Assoc. for Puerto Rican Civil Rights (NAPRCR), others to be rallied by phone. Valentin has contacts in every local. Hope first action can be launched in 3rd week in June. Disc: Shirley, Lynne, Harry, Jim, Sam, Harry

4. HOC- Shirley

A few more contacts made of potential members, HOC becoming more solid as an organization. Potential eviction facing two tenants was forstalled when they gave landlord withheld rents under advice of neighborhood fink instead of fighting.

5. Columbia - Roger

Result of May 7 incident was letter of censure to 50 students and threat of expulsion for any future similar actions. 11 of the 12 students who were summoned to hearings apologized, and Univ. administration ignored others such as us and M2M who defended the May 7 action. NROTC awards ceremony held on Graduation Day, picketed by 40-50. Jim spoke at M2M Rally before 50-100 campus radicals on Vietnam; also another picket line later in the day.

6. Modified Chicago Proposal - Dave

Dave and Tippy spoke to Steve Neuman, head of Columbia M2M. He personally was not in favor of proposal on grounds it would tend to withdraw active people from struggle in U.S., however, if there were some who actually were ready to volunterr, then they would consider working with us. Geoff reported that on Berkeley Viet Nam Day, Arnoni of Minority of One called for volunteers to the Viet Cong, caused minor sensation but mainly wonderment. Thus the proposal has publicly been made on a mass scale. Jim's speech at Columbia Rally referred to Arnoni's proposal and called for response to it, made it clear we are pushing it. A wide spectrum of the Left was present at this rally: YAWF, HDC, Northern Student Mvt., M2M, and us. Mark suggested we contact Arnoni, get him to write proposal up in Minority of One.

7. Sales - Sam

Got onto stand in Lower East Side suggested by Martin J. Stands should be checked every 2 weeks. Friday sale to be held at Music and Arts H.S. and Stuyvesant H.S. Sale on 125th St. in Harlem set for following Sat. Weekly sales in Wash.Sq. on Sundays. Tuesday mass SANE rally at Madison Square Garden. Next Thurs. and Fri. Columbia Summer School registration. Friday meeting of Independent Socialists, Sy Landy.
Motion by Jim: That the local mobilize in connection with this SANE rally, and Exec bring it to the attention of entire local membership over the weekend. passed unanimously

8. Finances - Jim

N.Y. local, and our other groups, have been doing a good job in meeting their financial obligations in the last few weeks. We have now paid off our printing and mailing costs for SPARTACIST 4 which came to about \$700 and have \$200 on hand (we still have some capital expenditures to pay off). However, two locals, Austin and Baltimore, have never made pledges or paid a dime!

9. YAWF Rally

Tomorrow at 6:30 against Ultra-Right rally at Manhattan Center. Disc. Roger, Sam, Chuck C., Mark, Harry, Jim

Motion by Jim: that we support the demonstration.

Amd. by Roger: that our people come with our slogans on unsigned posters. If prevented from entering the line with our signs, that we not participate unless the signs available are politically adequate. [Roger accepted an additional amendment by Harry that we have at least one signed sign.]

Vote on Amendment: For- Roger, Sam, Dave, Jim, Harry Opposed - 0
Abst.- Mark, Shirley, Lynne

Amendment passed

Vote on Motion:

Passed unanimously

10. Epton Candidacy for State Senator (from West Harlem-Columbia University area)

Motion by Lynne: to critically support Epton's candidacy.

Disc. Harry, Jim

Motion by Jim: to table Lynne's motion and refer to N.Y. Exec to come back with a more comprehensive motion on the local elections.

Disc.: Harry

Passed unanimously

Exec. urged to come back with statement for the press.

Jesse Gray is running in Democratic primaries.

11. Forums and Class:

Jim will have draft of outline on class on Leninism ready in one week.

Forums- Dave in charge of organizing first one, hope for panel on Bolivia and S.A. Revolution in about 3 weeks, composed of Shane, James O'Conner and Robt. Hirschfield (who was recently in Bolivia, is close to Trotskyists). Other suggested forums: New Left, PL-Spartacist debate on Viet Nam, Civil Rights panel with Conrad Lynn and Jim in August. Get room for 75.

Disc: Lynne, Dave, Shirley, Lynne, Jim, Roger

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.