

The EC on March 16 called a special National Committee for:

MARCH 31

starting 10.30am in London (precise venue to be circulated later, or phone in).

The items on the agenda are: the faction's response to the resolution passed at the last NC (see page 5 of this bulletin: the EC asked the faction to present a written reply before the March 31 NC); and the current political situation, specially the miners' strike.

The EC also received a letter from Jagger (see end of this bulletin). Smith said there was no possibility of discussing it. Parkinson moved, and it was agreed; that the letter should lie on the table.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE, MARCH 10, 1984

'SOME IMMEDIATE TASKS'

(See IB 83 for original draft, IB 86 for amended version).

Kinnell introduced; discussion. Parsons proposed that the document not be voted on but instead go to pre-conference discussion. Proposal lost, 2 votes for.

Smith, Jones and Cunliffe declared as a general explanation of their votes that they agreed with most of the practical proposals in the document but disagreed with the politics.

Voting:

- 1.E. Jones amendment to delete last sentence on anti-union laws campaign and instead insert proposal to recall Sep. 17 conference on theme 'Crisis of leadership in the TUs' Lost, 4 for (Cunliffe, Jones, Piggot, Smith)
- 1.F. (On health cuts campaigning) Carried 8-6
- 1: rest of whole section ('Industrial') bar paras 3 & 5 of 1.F. Carried 12-5 (Cunliffe, Jones, Piggot, Parsons, Smith against)
- 1.E. paras 3 & 5 (on anti-union laws campaign) Carried unanimously
- 2.A. Kinnell amendment to Hill amendment (add to 2.A. "This should be coupled with propaganda for general strike action", rather than "This should now be tied to a call for the TUC to prepare a general strike, and go with propaganda for general strike action in the paper") Carried 9-7
- 2.A. Hill amendment, as amended Carried
- 2.A. Carolan amendment (add 'Fight the Tories' to 'Break collaboration') Carried unanimously
- 2.C. Hill amendment (add reference to stepping up propaganda for workers' government) Carried, 2 against, 3 abstentions
- 2.A&B (as amended: on 'break collaboration' and 'recall the TUC') Carried, 1 against, 1 abst.
- 2.C. (Workers' government) Carried, 5 against

- 2.D.....(Demands on leadership).....Carried, 4 against
3. Weightman amendment (on workplace branches) Carried, 2 against,
2 abstentions
- 3., all but last para of C (on 'Militant') Carried, 1 against,
1 abst.
- 3., last para of C Carried, 1 against,
1 abst.
4. (On women. There was some discussion about broadening out the scope of the conference). Carried, 1 against,
2 abst.
5. Joplin amendment (to add point /E, on students) Carried, 14 for,
3 against.
- 5., as a whole (on youth) Carried, 1 against,
3 abstentions.
6. Weightman amendment (addition on workplace branches) Carried, 1 against,
2 abstentions
- 6.D.....Hill amendment (on new nominations for councillors being taken with 'caution', not 'great caution', and decided by OSC):
- Levy amendment: EC, not OSC Carried 7-5
- Amendment as amended Carried, 14 for, 1
against, 2 abst.
- 6.D. Hill amendment (omitted in error in IB 86):
add "The experience of the Militant MPs confirms that Parliament is a more useful platform for socialists than the council chamber. Branches should immediately investigate the possibilities of putting forward our supporters in the forthcoming round of re-selection, and discuss these with the OSC".
- Cunliffe amendment to the amendment: Carried 7-5
'EC' not 'OSC'
- Amendment as amended: 1st sentence Lost
2nd sentence Carried, 2 abst.
- 6.E. Matthews amendment: delete after "... a bad odour around us" in 7th para, and replace by "Local Bs have been set up in many areas. Generally they have been set up where left caucuses have been established at wider than constituency level, and have adopted a B identity. As a model for left unity London B has had a superficial attraction. Its political ambiguities make it and more so its local imitations quite unstable and often of little durability. But where local B groups are established we must press for (three * points as in original text.) Our involvement in them should depend on our success in getting them to take up this orientation, in the absence of a local broad group of comparable strength."
- 6.E. Keith amendment: delete last para on page 4 in IB 83 (on maintaining broad groups) Lost

- 6.A. (Assessment of Labour Left) Carried, 3 against, 2 abst.
- 6.B. (Prospects for organising the Left) Carried, 23 for, 3 against, 2 abst.
- 6.C. (Workplace branches) Carried, 13 for, 2 against (Parsons, Piggot), 1 abst.
- 6.D. (On local government Left) Carried, 3 against (Smith, Jones, Piggot)
- 6.E. First para: assessment of our 'broad groups' Carried, 12 for, 4 against, 2 abst.
Rest (on 'B') Carried, 11 for, 7 against.
- 7.E. Strummer amendment (addition on May 26 and June 9 demos) Carried, 15 for, 1 against, 1 abst.
7. as a whole Carried, 17 for, 1 abst.
- New section 8 on international solidarity, proposed by Cunliffe.
Amendment from Kinnell, to say instead that 'Every sizeable League branch must...', and delete 2nd sentence. Lost.
New section Carried, 17 for, 1 abst.
- Old section 8, now section 9
Amendment from Weightman (addition on workplace branches) Carried, 12 for, 2 against, 2 abst.
- 9.A. ('Wiganisation' etc.) Carried, 1 against, 2 abst.
- 9.B. (areas for 'Wiganisation') Carried, 12 for, 3 against, 2 abst.
- 9.C. (on paper sales) Carried, 15 for, 2 'not voting' (Oliver, Parsons)
- 9.D. (on recruitment among youth) Carried, 1 abst.
- 9.E. (on internal situation): left for voting later, but in fact the NC never came back to it.

PROPOSAL FOR T.U. SCHOOL

(See IE 83. Weightman had an amendment to add O. workplace branches to agenda of school).

Parsons suggested that branches be asked what items they would like to be on the agenda: this suggestion was accepted tho' not formally voted on.

Smith spoke against the Weightman amendment. He also proposed that details of the school be fixed by EC rather than OSC: this was lost 7 to 8.

Weightman amendment carried, 11 for, 4 against.

Resolution as amended carried, 15 for, 1 against, 1 abst.