

I.B.103

A QUESTION OF LEADERSHIP.

McInnes

The zombie oracle.

In mid-October 1983 I was unlucky enough to present a few resolutions to the National Committee....an assortment of rather bored and turgid individuals. To my surprise, I discovered that these proposals did not mean what I said they meant. For information about their secret significance, I and the others present were required to consult the Oracle, in the form of 'Comrade Kinneil' a particularly zombie-like individual who keeps breaking down because he refuses to be a human being. The Oracle duly reinterpreted my proposals. One or two suggestions from less timid N.C. members that implied that these resolutions might in fact mean what I said they meant were carefully ignored by the moral majority, in case the lethal brands of sterile thought which masquerade as 'post-war trotskyism' be disturbed by a breath of fresh air, real life and new ideas.

The problem in general.

Ideas are not examined by our national leadership for their useful components; they are caricatured and opposed...if they deviate too far from the peculiarly distorted approximations of 'marxism' peddled by the two factions which exist as the political basis for this ramshackle little group. Any freshness, novelty, experience and understanding enjoyed by the membership is prevented from surfacing by the routinely manipulative, boring and uninspired methodology of the London-based clique. Meanwhile, the Oxford based faction have been consistently outsmarted as unwilling partners in the competitive petty power politics which their rivals in London think is post war trotskyism. And whilst this is all going on, disillusion spreads among the rest of the membership. Comrades with years of experience leave. Local work suffers. National direction flounders..

Is there any solution?

I CONCLUDE THAT OUR ONLY HOPE OF SURVIVAL as an effective political force lies in the creation of a NEW TYPE of leadership working on the basis of a different set of political methods. We have to be organised in a different and more effective manner. I do not consider that those who dominate in the leadership and who are the cause of so many of our problems are at all capable of providing a solution. I have come to this conclusion as a result of my own experiences in ICL and WSL some of which I will now outline.