

EC. 31.1.82

Present: Smith, Levy, Morrow, Cunliffe, ~~W. Jones~~, Kinnell, Hill.

Absent: Parkinson, Khan, Carolan, Jones.

1. AGENDA

Kinnell: We can't discuss Cunliffe's resolution on women's work without Khan present.

After discussion, agreed to refer the resolution to Thursday's OC and ask Khan and other EC members to attend.

2. ATTENDANCE

Absences: Jones unable to attend because of work pressure, Khan at selection conference, Parkinson unable to travel for medical reasons.

Carolan: Smith reported that Carolan had sent a letter to OC explaining that he was absenting himself from committees while he clarified in his mind the disputes in the leadership. OC had urged Carolan to attend - motion not communicated to him as a result of misunderstanding.

Some discussion followed. Levy moved that EC record it found Carolan's non-attendance unacceptable. Motion carried with 2 abstentions (Kinnell, Hill)

3. LEYLAND: ASSEMBLY PLANT

Smith reported: some feeling in the plant League branch that we should tell BF we will sink him in the election for convenor if he does not call a mass meeting over the victimisation.

Discussion followed. Unanimous view that the feeling in the branch was wrong. BF has been weak on the victimisation issue - just as other non-League militants in the plant have been weak. But there is a difference between a weak ally and a determined enemy. So long as we are not able to win the convenor position ourselves, that difference is important. BF has been weak often before, yet our intervention on the pay issue last year, for example, depended heavily on our relations with him.

Motion carried unanimously to endorse Smith's report: to pressurise BF as far as possible without withdrawing support from him.

4. LEYLAND VEHICLES

Levy reported. Morrow proposed a levy of £5 per branch to finance this work. Agreed unanimously. Also agreed Kinnell to prepare copies of our letter to IMG. Paper to carry appeal for funds for LAC.

5. RAIL

Hill reported: short discussion.

6. LABOUR PARTY

Hill reported. The Bennites have not completely given up - e.g. they have come out strongly for the rail strike. But they have given up the internal fight in the LP against the Right, for now. E.g. Southwark.

Cuts is a pressing issue and we need a longer discussion. I'll be preparing a report for the OC on work round the May election.

Noonan: On fares, the militants are looking to strike action rather than non-collection of fares.

Cunliffe: We should consider a pamphlet round the May elections.

Also agreed to organise a national meeting of comrades involved in these elections, with EC to attend.

7. CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES

EC 13.1.82. Resolution. In point 5 reference should be to 'letter', not 'leafle t'.

(EC. 31.1.82. p.2)

EC 17.1.82: resolution on JQ. In point (a) 'anything sufficiently grave to' should read 'anything to'.

EC 17.1.82: point on unemployed work. Discussion to be scheduled for NC, not EC.

EC 17.1.82: minute of Morrow's contribution on youth school - should say 'need to strengthen leadership', not 'need for new leadership'.

MATTERS ARISING

Hill reported that broad group delegate meeting had approved paper price rise. Some discussion followed on the objections within the League to the rise. Agreed that implementation of price rise would be from Feb.18 and meantime EC members to visit branches and explain.

Allocation of Hunt. Hill reported that organisers had recommended he should move to Oxford. Kinnell moved, and it was agreed, that the organisers should be authorised to modify this decision as necessary to meet objections raised from other youth comrades.

Gardiner reported on the E.London dispute (EC 13.1.82) that he had not in fact been able to see Stubbins' letter.

8. T.U. DEMOCRACY PLATFORM

Discussion not adequately prepared, therefore put back to next EC. Smith to draft amendments.

9. SUMMER SCHOOL

Referred to OC.

10. Resolution from Oxford General branch on WF SUMMER SCHOOL

Kinnell moved, and it was agreed unanimously, that we ask Khan to report to the OC on possibilities of a venue satisfying conditions (a), (b), and (d) in the Oxford resolution.

Cunliffe: we also should see if a bigger place is possible.

11. SOUTH WEST LONDON RESOLUTION

Agreed:

- a) S.W.London resolution to previous NC to go to next one.
- b) On point 2 to accept the criticism on appearance of the IB. To put the IB out this week.
- c) Deadline for next IB to be March 1.

12. RESOLUTION FROM NOTTINGHAM

1. We welcome the youth cadre school as a positive step towards arming the movement theoretically on the questions of the state and the party.
2. We urge the NC to take this question more seriously and devote more attention to educational work among members.
3. We urge the NC to take steps to proceed with the discussion necessary for the resolution of the differences tabled prior to fusion.
4. We ask that the Workers' Government be added to that agenda for discussion.
5. We urge the NC to ensure that the IB is produced on a regular basis, to ensure that these discussions proceed.'

Agreed: to endorse points 1, 2, 3, 5. On point 4 to ask the comrades interested to write for the IB on the Workers' Government.

13. Next EC: February 7.

14. AOB. Cunliffe asked to be relieved of some work in order to work on the TILC document. Agreed in general, details to be taken case by case.

EC: 17.1.82

Present: Smith, Conliffe, Noonan, Hill, Kinnell, Levy, Morrow, Parkinson, Khan

1. UNEMPLOYED WORK: Agreed to schedule a discussion and invite M.F.
2. FULL-TIMERS, (Dooth also present for this item).
Dooth raised question of involvement of full-timers in local branch work. From this developed a long and wide-ranging discussion.
Decision: organisers sub-committee to prepare a report on possible improvements in use of full-timers.

Morrow asked about Eant. Hill: organisers' sub-committee had decided he should move to London to do youth organisation. Noonan and Kinnell objected to this decision, and it was referred back to the sub-committee.

3. RAIL

Kinnell: The Triple Alliance is a major political point to stress.
Smith: It is all contingent on the miners' vote.
Levy: Blacking of newspapers is very important.
Khan: We should get SG to speak at public meetings round the country
Smith: I don't think a lock-out is likely. BR is still a soft employer relative to the likes of BL.

4. BL

Report from Smith

5. YOUTH SCHOOL

Morrow: The school was positive. But there is a gap between the leadership and the rest of the youth - need for a new leadership.
Student work: we should continue in the Socialist Caucus in NOLS.
Noonan: There are new youth comrades coming forward.
Kinnell: I'm not sure about the NOLS Socialist Caucus. He should leave that for further discussion.

6. FINANCE

Levy reported from the organisers' sub-committee and there was a discussion. Organisers' sub-committee proposed raising price of paper. Khan proposed raising dues rates.

Decided:

- a) Propose paper price raised to 25p (10p unwaged). (Unanimous apart from Noonan voting against).
- b) Drive to make sure comrades pay their dues regularly, and that those who can increase their amounts. Also that all ods pay their broad group contributions. Question of raising dues rates to be decided in light of results. (Unanimous).

7. T.U. DEMOCRACY PLATFORM

Brief discussion: agreed ods to come back to next meeting with amendments.

8. SUMMER SCHOOL

Organisers' sub-committee to prepare proposals on agenda for next

EC.