

Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, New York 10003

July 14, 1969

To All YSAers

Dear Comrades,

The Socialist Workers Party has called a national convention, to be held in New York from Friday, August 29 through Monday, September 1. The SWP has extended an invitation to all YSAers to attend the convention as observers and has made its pre-convention discussion bulletins available to all YSAers.

The YSA National Office encourages every YSAer to make plans to attend the convention. It will be an invaluable educational experience in the politics and organizational norms of our movement, and offers YSAers the opportunity to meet and discuss with members of the SWP from around the country.

YSAers should also order and read the pre-convention discussion bulletins, which will serve as the basis for discussion at the convention. The SWP National Office has sent out order forms to YSAers for the first 4 bulletins and will continue to do so for subsequent bulletins.

The Arrangements Committee for the convention will be sending out information on housing for the convention. Comrades who are going to attend should let the Arrangements Committee know their plans as soon as possible.

At-large YSAers and local that are not close to any SWP branch may want to inform the SWP branch nearest them of how many comrades in their area will be attending, and let them know if any problems, such as transportation, arise.

If there are any questions about the SWP convention, comrades can write to the SWP National Office, 873 Broadway, NY, NY 10003. If there are any questions about arrangements, you can write the Arrangements Committee, New York SWP, 873 Broadway, NY, NY 10003.

Comradely,

Charlie Bolduc

Charlie Bolduc
National Chairman

Report on New York Third World Fraction, by Derrick Morrison, July 14, 1969.

This is a communique to all Third World comrades, to NCers and organizers, and to Black and Third World Fractions, or Third World Work and Minority Work Fractions.

I should note here the difference between Black and/or Third World Fractions, and Black Work and/or Third World Work Fractions. While the former are composed of just Black and/or Third World comrades, the composition of the latter includes non-Third World comrades. Where there are very few or no Third World comrades at all, this work is organized by Third World Work fractions. Where there are sufficient Third World comrades, it is organized by Third World fractions.

This report on the New York Third World Fraction applies to both types of fractions. The transmission of the experience in New York is meant to facilitate the work of the YSA in relation to the Afro-American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Asian-American, and American Indian struggles.

The New York Third World Fraction started in the latter part of February with about 6 or 7 comrades. At present, the TWF is composed of about 23 comrades. The fraction is composed equally of Black and Puerto Rican comrades. The TWF also possesses a periphery attracted principally through the Socialist Workers Party campaign, which is running Paul Boutelle for mayor of New York City.

There are principally four factors that account for the growth and development of the fraction: 1) the Boutelle for Mayor campaign; 2) our education program; 3) the struggle that broke out this spring at the City College of New York; and 4) the high school struggles. All of these factors penetrate and interrelate with each other.

The New York election campaign began early this year and goes on to November. This election campaign has served as the axis of our work. Everything and anything relate to it. The election campaign speaks to motion in every sector of the community: high school students, campus students, workers, and the general community.

The major activity of the campaign revolved around the campuses and high schools during the spring. Meetings were set up before the various Black student groups. Outdoor rallies were held near high schools. Through these activities, numerous campaign supporters were picked up. For the summer, we are projecting a series of campaign literature tables and rallies on the street.

Another factor was the motion generated by Black and Puerto Rican students up at the City College of New York. Despite the fact that we only had one Puerto Rican comrade at CCNY, the work of the whole fraction was geared to the struggle. During the occupation of the campus, our work consisted of a literature table and discussions on the strategy and tactics of the struggle. In the course of the struggle, our comrades was able to draw a group of Black and Puerto Rican students around him on the basis of consistently explaining the tactics of mass struggle rather than those of adventurism.

The CCNY intervention gave us first-hand experience with the Black and Third World student struggles. We hope to enhance this experience in the fall. We also had two other Third World comrades at campuses where we carried on some activity.

Our educational activity has also played a major role in the development of the Third World Fraction. We started off with the concept of having both internal and external educationals. Internal educationals were primarily directed to members. External educationals were directed toward contacts and potential members.

External educationals tended to be on general topics, with the idea of stimulating discussion.

Our first internal educational revolved around a series of classes on the theory of permanent revolution.

The theory of permanent revolution was chosen because it is this idea that separated Third World Trotskyists from all other nationalists. Most nationalists just see the Black Revolution or the Puerto Rican Revolution, etc., and nothing else. In their view, revolutionaries and revolutions can come only from the Third World. The industrialized countries are either left out of the picture or only given token consideration.

It is the theory of permanent revolution that sets everything in its place and shows the inextricable connection between revolution in one part of the world and the rest of the world. The Black Revolution will be part of the North American Revolution, not something in and of itself. And of course, the end result of this theory makes clear not only the necessity of building a multi-national party of the socialist revolution on a world scale, but a multi-national sector of that party right here in the U.S.

In discussing the various defeats and partial victories in the Third World, Stalinism and Maoism are exposed in the concrete. This is especially the case with Maoism since sympathy for it is rife among Third World militants. Through studying the history of the Chinese Revolution, we went beyond the superficial understanding that is displayed by many.

Our summer educational program is devoted to Introduction to Marxist Economics by Mandel. This is being taught by a Puerto Rican comrade in the Socialist Workers Party. The TWF, which started as a YSA fraction, has now become a joint SWP-YSA fraction. Thus, we are able to draw upon the experience of the older comrades.

Because of the activity during the spring, the external educational series was dropped. We plan to begin it again in the fall.

This is just a brief report. We hope to be able to send out reports in the future that describe the general and the specific activities of the NYTWF. We encourage other fractions to do likewise when the need arises.