

## ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

See later

## MINUTES

Armstrong asked about the EC minutes on the youth conference. Cunliffe moved that the reference to Morrow's threat to resign should be removed from the minutes. Wolf said EC minutes should be fuller.

Agreed to refer to the EC the minutes on Morrow's threat to resign, and the general issue of how minutes are kept.

Hill gave notice that he would re-raise the item from the EC about Joplin's position on the youth steering committee.

## FINANCE

Kinnell reported. Hill moved from the organisers' sub-committee that all employed comrades be asked to donate a week's wages. Discussion: agreed comrades would formulate resolutions for voting later.

## INTERNATIONAL WORK

Cunliffe presented a resolution on TILC, and some amendments.

(See resolution reproduced separately).

Page 1, point 3(a), para 3: for "most vocally committed to", read "who were the strongest advocates of".

Pages 1-2, point 3(b), para 1, line 2 and following: for "give the WSL grave concern at the internal procedures and the treatment of political opponents of the RWL leadership. Some of the political issues raised in that crisis by comrades of the ex SL DC...", read: "mean the WSL would wish further to discuss the internal procedures of the RWL leadership. Some of the political issues raised in that crisis by both sides..."

There was a lengthy discussion, with contributions from Carolan, Parsons, Johnson, Kinnell, Traven, Kendall, Keith, Jones, Wolf, Hill, Hunt, Gardiner, James.

Carolan moved amendments:

A. Page 1, point 1, lines 3-4: for "reconstruction and political regeneration", read "political regeneration and organisational reconstruction".

B. Page 1, point 3, line 4-5: for "material and political obstacles", read "political obstacles", and after "... at the forthcoming December conference", add, "In addition there are major material problems".

C. Page 2, point 4, line 6: for "large-scale fusions", read "significant fusions".

D. Page 2, point 5, throughout, for December read Easter.

E. Page 3, point 5(6): for all after "... should discuss", read "the situation".

Hill moved an amendment:

Page 2, point 5, first sentence: delete all after "... the following steps".

Kinnell moved a counter-amendment to Carolan's amendment D:

Page 2, point 5, after first sentence add: "(The list of documents below may have to be restricted in line with the ability of the WSL and other sections to adequately prepare. The WSL EC should meet urgently to discuss this)."

Carolan also moved that Cunliffe's second amendment (on the RWL) be voted on.

## Voting

Cunliffe first amendment: accepted without vote.

Cunliffe second amendment (on RWL): LOST by 11 votes to 12.

Carolan amendments A, B, C: accepted without vote.

Kinnell amendment: CARRIED by 13 votes to 10.

Hill amendment: LOST by 11 votes to 12.

Carolan amendment on 5(6): (amendment E): LOST by 9 votes to 13.

Carolan: further amendment - page 2, at end of point 13, to add: "and by rigidifying relations, could lead to the dispersion of the forces presently grouped in TILC".

Resolution as a whole: CARRIED by 22 votes for to 1 against (Hill) and 3 abstentions (Gardiner, Carolan, Kinnell).

Carolan moved a supplementary resolution on the RWL.

"The new WSL is by the fusion agreement a democratic centralist organisation. Its borders are defined by membership of the WSL and not by membership of the loose and politically non-homogeneous federation which the TILC is at present. The WSL will at all international conferences etc relate to the other components of TILC as a democratic centralist organisation to distinctly separate organisations unless the WSL NC or EC has decided otherwise. The relations of WSL members with the RWL etc. will be strictly under the supervision and control of the NC and EC through the agency of the US commission".

Cunliffe moved that NC instead endorse the decision of the Organising Committee of 6.8.82:

"US commission to be re-established as channel for any comrade wishing to maintain relations with RWL, so that relations with the RWL are under the control of the leading committees of the WSL".

Agreed unanimously.

Parsons moved a resolution on the RWL.

"The WSL notes with alarm the split in the RWL. We have played a crucial part in the struggle to build a nucleus of the future American revolutionary party and we have a responsibility to continue to do so through a decisive intervention into the disputes within the US TILC supporters.

"Our immediate priority is to preserve the longstanding relationship we have had with the SL(DC) ods. Whatever assessment we might make of their decision to leave the RWL we must recognise that they have struggled to the best of their ability to build a consistently Trotskyist group in the US for many years.

"We must reluctantly recognise that the US fusion has, for the time being at least, failed. We urge the TILC to recognise the minority as an independent force and will propose giving them a seat and a vote at the December conference.

"We will initiate an inquiry within the TILC into the failure of the US fusion including all the organisational and political points at issue and the possibility of re-establishing unity.

"The NC instructs the EC to (a) prepare a political critique of the minority documents 'Statement of the Proletarian Tasks Faction in the RWL' and 'Party Front or United Front: the Broad Left Trade Union strategy for the 1980s', (b) publish these documents in the IB immediately, (c) convene a meeting of the revamped USA commission whose job it will be to control and organise discussion with all the US comrades".

#### Amendments

Jones: in point 3 to read instead, "Urge one of the minority comrades be allowed to attend the December conference". CARRIED by 14 votes to 6.

Whettling: in point 2, to delete all after "... RWL". Accepted without a vote.

Cunliffe: in para 4, to add at the end, "or alternatively of recognising the minority as an independent force with a seat on TILC in the short term". Accepted without a vote.

Johnson: Delete "inquiry", insert "discussion"; delete "organisational and". LOST