

10/4/31

WE TAKE OUR STAND

A group of spurious progressives, consisting of Trotskyites, Lovestoneites, and one or possibly two non-affiliated students, issued a leaflet last Friday in which the Young Communist League was slandered. What are the facts concerning our position on the A.S.U.?

The Young Communist League does not desire to dominate the A.S.U. We concur the sentiments of all good A.S.U. members that the A.S.U. be broad, progressive, anti-Fascist organization. WE HAVE ONE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE; WE NEITHER NEED NOR DESIRE ANOTHER.

Contrast this with the position of the Trotskyites, who call for the creation of a "left wing" group within the ASU, which is just another name for an opposition faction within the Union.

When we consider that the Trotskyites wish to paralyze and break the ASU, just as they do to the Spanish Loyalist Government, we can understand why they rejoice in the type of MEETING WAS A DEFEAT FOR THE ASU, NOT FOR THE Y.C.L., except as any defeat for the ASU is a defeat for the Y.C.L. It did much to defer the growth so necessary to the A.S.U. and the school in general. In this sense they are indeed right when they term it their victory.

After being defeated on their motion for so called "proportional representation," the Trotskyites in desperation--rounded up a group of students who were not A.S.U. members (they admitted this!), but who would follow the lead of the "Fourth Internationalists" in voting.

It is quite true that it had been decided that voting should not be done by raising membership cards, since many members did not have their cards with them. It was agreed, in the words of the chairman, "to rely on the honesty of those present

at the meeting." It was not agreed that there could be no roll call vote (as differentiated from a vote by show of membership cards) at any time when the dishonesty of some became apparent. Yet, the chair ruled out the request for a roll call vote. It is an established fact that any member of an organization is entitled to a roll call vote, especially when the right of many to vote is in doubt.

In denying such a vote the chair stated that there was no roll on hand. A motion was therefore made to adjourn the meeting until such time as a roll was made available. The chair then took a vote not on this motion, but on the chairman's own distortion of it; namely "that election be postponed until the following week." After the vote the chairman showing fine impartiality here! declared his own motion defeated.

He then proceeded at the height of the confusion, when protest against his unfair rulings were loudest, to call for a vote on the Presidency. Those supporting George Lenchner, captain of the Lacrosse team, refused to vote, continuing to protest the previous actions of the chair. Those supporting Slaiman quickly threw up their hands, and the chair declared him elected.

We should like to point out that the Young Communist League is opposed to this type of "democracy" in the A.S.U. WE STAND FOR REAL DEMOCRACY NOT THE DEMOCRACY TO FIGHT AGAINST THE A.S.U. FROM WITHIN; TO DISRUPT, WEAKEN, AND BREAK THE A.S.U. WHILE POSING AS A FRIEND AND MEMBER OF IT.

We want to see the A.S.U. grow, to make it grow, to help make it an organization of two thousand members before the end of the semester. Can we conceivably wish to dominate the A.S.U. while desiring an A.S.U. of two thousand? When the A.S.U. has two thousand members, which it will have despite the sabotage of Trotsky's cohorts, will the small minority of Y.C.L.'ers be able to force their domination upon it?

THE BEST ANSWER ALL PROGRESSIVES CAN GIVE TO THE TROTSKYITE RED-BAITING TACTICS--WORTHY OF A HEARST, A HITLER, OR A MUSSOLINI--IS TO JOIN THE A.S.U., TO BUILD IT, AND TO MAKE IT A BROAD, POWERFUL, AND VIRILE ORGANIZATION OF ANTI-FASCIST UNITY.

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE
CITY COLLEGE BRANCH

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