

Wednesday, April 5, 1939.

Minutes of previous meetings read. A motion to curtail the minutes because they seemed too voluminous was dropped. Minutes accepted.

Comrade Freedman read following letters:

One from Refugee Committee asking delegates for Wednesday, April 5th, 1939, but it was too late to send delegates. Contents of letter to be taken up under Refugee Committee report.

Letter from Lib. League, Washington, reporting collection of \$31.26 by them for refugees, and asking where it should be sent. Will be taken up later.

Letter saying \$5.00 received from Russian Friendship Group, Philadelphia; one from C. L. Cook, Secretary of Rocker Com., California, \$1.00 from Port Angeles, \$4.00 from San Francisco Group, \$1.00 received from subscription through International Review, with letter asking Vanguard to pay debt and put \$1.00 toward our account; also asked if we would cooperate with them in publishing some literature and if interested in the last number of the Review. A motion was made to have Literature agent talk matter over with Review - carried.

A letter from Writer's Research asking ~~that~~ *for* specific cases of Communist outrages was ordered filed.

Entertainment committee reported party of last Saturday a success, with net profits of \$15.00. Comrade Garcia not able to cooperate on next party; Benny appointed in his place. Com. Sterling reported that announcements had been sent out to papers; needs help to make posters and requests cooperation.

Com. Freedman reported that one band wished to charge \$35.00 for four piece band. This was considered too expensive. Suggested that letter be written to Pearl regarding the hiring of band. Audrey volunteered for Committee. It was suggested that

Nicolodeon be hired for \$3.00. Report will be made by Committee at next meeting.

Motion made that admission of 15¢ be charged. There was a discussion and as that detail has already been taken care of, the price could not be changed.

Harry, Leon and Joe volunteered to help on posters.

No tickets to be printed.

Completion of ^mcommittee delayed until next meeting.

Suggested raffle books be distributed. Motion made and carried.

Motion made and lost that committee use its discretion about serving liquor.

Reverting to April 1st party, Committee reported that Dora Pine was very favorably impressed by ~~conduct of guests at party.~~

A motion was made and carried that letter of thanks be sent to Dora Pine.

A motion was made and carried thanking the cleaner-upper at Dora Pine's party.

Hall Committee. Sterling reported great progress had been made. Asked for volunteers for painting Vanguard on Banners, etc. and also for decorating. Suggested that only members of group and Comrades be admitted to office. Report accepted.

May Day Committee Report: Meeting next Tuesday will be attended by Committee. Hunts Point Palace has been hired and a speaker from Vanguard has been requested. Sam Weiner suggested. Com. Freedman volunteered to write Sam regarding this.

Refugee Committee: Motion made that Washington people be notified that they might send funds to either Cia or Refugee Committee at FAS. Motion carried.

Forum Committee reported that it was still working on list of speakers and various comrades arose and protested against neglect, etc.

It was suggested that Forum Com. contact people of prominence as well as members of the group and comrades in the movement.

Managerial Com. reported no progress. Toto said he would take over work and do it himself.

Brooklyn Group reported no meeting held; therefore no report could be made.

Editorial Board: Article cabled for to Paris was received; it has been translated and magazine will go to press very soon. No idea whether work will be completed within a week, depending upon Roman and printer.

Mike gave report from Italian Group conference and said that it was very gratifying to find so many groups represented and so many delegates. There is a likelihood that there will be an Italian federation. Twenty-five groups represented and from 150 to 200 people at conference. Hope to organize industrial groups on a point of production program. Elected two delegates to send to May Day Conference for Eng. speaking groups. Com. Solomon also made report. He had attended session of Conference and suggested that at next meeting a discussion be held looking toward closer cooperation between Italian Federation and other groups. It was proposed that Mike should be contact man with Italian Fed. This was made a motion, which was accepted by group and by Mike.

Committee that went to beard Christian Front in its den stated that after ~~friendly~~ argument with an Irish policeman and some representatives of the Christian Front, Toto and Mike sold one pamphlet and retired.

Good and Welfare Committee: Mike objected to various members directing others what to do at business meetings and suggested that those who wished to hold discussions, etc, be allowed to do so without being reprimanded.

Com. Solomon proposed that committee be formed to take up routine matters outside of group business meetings. There was a discussion on this and one business meeting a month was suggested, with one open membership meeting a month. A report on this will be brought in. A committee consisting of Coms. Solomon, Stein, Hoffberg and Sterling was suggested but only Com. Solomon consented.

Raffle books distributed.

Meeting : adjourned.

April 12, 1939.

Minutes of previous meeting read and accepted with two corrections, which were made by secretary.

No correspondence had been received.

Hall Committee reported progress. There was a discussion on decorating and also regarding painting floors. Report accepted.

Social Report: It was reported that the cost of hiring Nicolodeon would be \$7.00 for night. A committee of six for social dance Saturday night reported necessary. Comrades were urged to continue their efforts to sell raffles. Suggested that each comrade bring a dish and glasses as such are badly needed. Two hundred post cards covering announcement of Saturday night affair had been mailed; posters placed at FAS, CIA, Wobbly Halls and the Green Leaf Restaurant.

Hall Committee asked that they be allowed to make further report, which stated that a comrade from FAS had called in person and stated he wished to know how much it would cost to subhire the hall one night a week, and how much it would cost to hold an affair in the hall. Comrade Sterling agreed to contact the Group who wishes to hire hall. This was placed before meeting as a motion and carried.

Returning to Social report, a suggestion was made that some type of entertainment be arranged for Saturday night. It was decided to try and secure Nicolodeon. Social Committee report accepted.

Forum Committee: Letters were sent to seven potential speakers with request that some speak on certain subjects, while others were given their choice. Each speaker assigned a tentative date. The Forums slated to begin April 21st. Letters and list of

speakers read. Report accepted.

Library: Committee needed to catalog books and care for them. Volunteers requested.

May Day Committee: Tickets on hand for Celebration and full details arranged by Committee. Posters being printed. Comrade Weiner's name does not appear on these posters, as the Committee who had printing in charge was not sure he had accepted. The name will appear on a later poster. The group will have to prepare five posters; a number of the group will have to work on committees.

Brooklyn Group in its report stated that a lecture to be given by Sylvia on Imperialist War did not take place as the speaker had not prepared it. Business meeting held. Report accepted.

Refugee Committee: Nothing to report.

Membership Committee: No report. A count showed that nineteen comrades had attended present meeting.

A motion to the effect that reports of all Committees be prepared in advance and handed to membership committee was made and carried.

Good and Wellfare: A motion was made that floors be painted. This was not carried. It was stated that floors would be waxed for the dance. There was a long discussion regarding painting of floors.

Harry and Joe volunteered to prepare signs for the Forum lectures.

Yvette volunteered to catalog books.

It was stressed that five signs for May Day affair would have to be made within the week. Joe promised to take care of three and Harry two; the Forum signs to be sidetracked for awhile.

Audrey, Yvette and Toto agreed to serve on May Day Floor Committee.

✓ The appointment of two people to take care of literature at May Day Celebration tabled until next meeting.

Roman reported for Editorial Board that he personally was doing his best to have issue out by the end of the week so as not to be more than a month away from the original publishing date. He said that the issue would be very fine and gave a list of articles to be included.

✓ It was asked if arrangements had been made to appoint new member of board. This was tabled until next meeting. Report accepted.

April 12, 1939.

Discussion following
business meeting.

Murray: One time students gave reports of what occurred in the schools. Now the important day of April 22nd approaches but no reports are forthcoming. Would like to know what others are doing and what the position of Conrades is in relation to that day.

Yetta: Brooklyn College. It has been decided in the Brooklyn Group to give out anti-war leaflets. Two strikes expected - United Students and Anti-War League. Do not fully agree with the programs of these leagues. Intend to give out own anti-war literature and present own position. Nothing been done about drawing up leaflet. Socialists, Trotskyites and others in Anti-War League and the program is not specific.

Audrey - Hunter College: Cannot support program of Trotskyites.

Roman inquired regarding absence of delegates at Challenge Conference. No delegates were elected and Vanguard had officially stayed away from the Conference. The remarks made at the Challenge Conference boiled down were that Vanguard cried out for organization and cooperation but did not give it.

Murray: Suggested open air meetings. Asked to have debate with Socialist Workers.

Irving suggested no united fronts and no debates. We should take care of matters ourselves and work with people in our movement if we expected to grow.

Harry Stein: Primary thing should be the building up of our own movement instead of joining with other movements. There should be adjustment of group. There should be discussions, particularly

regarding European and world affairs.

A comrade stated that anyone who is in a group should know about the movement. There should be lectures for people not members but not on meeting nights.

Audrey: We should have discussion on current events; we do not have to go into a discussion of Anarchism.

Irving: Get the business meeting over as rapidly as possible and then have a discussion or set aside a separate night for discussions.

Roman: The question of executive committee was discussed; we can relieve ourselves of much of the details of these meetings; one of our great needs is a personnel, and this executive Committee might be a training ground for various tasks.

✓ Irving suggested that definite recommendations be brought in at next meeting as to whether discussions should be held on Anarchism, etc.

APRIL 19, 1939.

Minutes of previous meeting read, approved.

Letter from organization asking that we join them in May Day Celebration was read. It was decided to inform them that we are holding own May Day Celebration and ask them to attend.

Reported that Four dollars in money order was received from an affair held in Westfield, N.J., although no one knew what group or persons held affair.

Bill for \$8.32 electric service from 17th Street Hall received; it was decided that we pay half and Wobbly's other half.

Letter from Philadelphia Group stated that they had not held a meeting since January; had only five regular members and \$21.00 in treasury.

Organizing Committee:

Comrade Solomon reported that he and Comrade Freedman had visited Philadelphia and Washington during the past week. The Libertarian League formed there consists of eight old comrades and two or three new ones. It was organized to perpetuate memory of an old Comrade. Money had been collected for refugees; money had been sent to Vanguard. Five dollars and fifty cents donated from treasury to Vanguard and another fifty cents by a comrade; also one subscription to Vanguard obtained. It was recommended that we should keep up correspondence with that League.

Philadelphia group seemed to suffer from lack of enthusiasm and there was little activity. On return trip Comrades Solomon and Freedman met members of Philadelphia group. Five attended meeting and they seemed in very bad spirits. At first the group expended lots of effort and there seemed to be some promise of a live organization, but this fizzled out. They have no activities and no program and asked advice. They have a loose organization and Comrades do not take a definite stand. One of their activities was

a reading circle, where members read books to each other. Also many of the members did not know anything about the subject of Anarchism. They were advised to study it and also institute a course of lectures, drawing speakers from New York. It was also proposed that Vanguard establish regular correspondence with them. Other suggestions were made and they were advised to try new plan for two months and if it worked out, then institute other ideas and activities. A motion was made and carried that the Secretary write Camelia Domeneck telling her that speakers from our group are available and asking her for dates when speakers could visit Philadelphia.

May Day Committee: Plans for celebration progressing, although Dr. Ibenez, because of Government surveillance over Spanish refugees, had to withdraw as a speaker and Sam Weiner declined to act as solicitor of collection. Two people to be appointed for literature from Vanguard. Report accepted.

Hall Committee reported that hall was gradually being put in form. Piano needed and advertisement placed for this. Dishes also needed. Report accepted.

Social Committee: Party of Saturday last big social success. Raffle books brought \$7.90, party \$3.10. Band cost \$15.00, food \$3.75, Whiskey \$5.00, post cards \$2.00. It was emphatically recommended that in future affairs gate crashing be strongly dealt with and eliminated. Report accepted.

The Free Comrades Group, who may sublet hall for one night a week, will hold their meeting next Monday and Irving will attend and take up subject of sub-letting.

Social Committee further reported that another party has been planned for May 6th; the same band will cost \$15.00; effort will be made to secure it for \$12.00. Suggested that 25 cents admission be charged at next affair; also suggested case of whiskey be bought instead of single bottles. If cheaper this way, it

was agreed to do so. Ten signs needed. Raffles also be distributed. Discussion regarding picnics for Summer; to be definitely decided later. The price of admission for parties placed at 25 cents and carried. Discussion held regarding the advisability of having band, victrola, accordion.

Forum Committee: No letters received in answer to appeals. This was attributed by critics to the fact that letters had not borne a personal signature. Comrade Freedman stated that Liston M. Oak would speak if we assigned subject. Secretary was instructed to write all speakers again and assign new dates and also write Oak and give him subject. Report accepted.

Magazine: Reported that it should be issued any day as it is at printers. Cards will be sent to comrades re mailing.

Brooklyn Comrades reported meeting held last Friday. Next meeting will be round table discussion on Spain.

Finances: Members urged to pay dues.

Good and Welfare: Yetta volunteered for Literature Committee at May Day Celebration and said she would have someone with her. Joe will make some signs for May 6th party and Clara said she could get him some help.

Morris volunteered to be at hall each Tuesday and Thursday.

Seventeen members attended meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes May 3, 1939.

Minutes of April 26th read and accepted.

Correspondence: Letter received from committee arranging testimonial dinner for Harry Kelly commemorating his 45 year activity in the fight for the rights of man. Decision passed to authorize secretary to write for two tickets at \$1.50 each for the Vanguard Group.

Registered letter received from Jimmy Mangano requesting payment of bill by June 1 to avert the drastic action to be taken against us should no remittance be forthcoming. Secy. to answer with an indefinite promise to make a payment in two weeks.

Marcus Graham Comm. letter thanking us for an order for 54 copies of their pamphlet. Further action to be taken by literature.

Communication from Anarchist federation of Gr. Brit. enclosing bulletin of information recording activities of the several groups in Brit. Bulletin given to custody of Editorial Board.

Challenge - Official verbal information received on the formation of a committee of three composed of Brandt, Lisa Brilliant and Zina Dicksrein who wish to meet with a Vanguard Committee of three to discuss the situation between the two groups. Challenge proposals include - 1 Vanguard endorsement of Challenge - 2 Running of Joint street corner meetings and affairs.

Meeting of Committee tentatively set for May 7, 1939, at 12 noon. Vanguard's group tentative proposals for mutual action limited to following - Joint street corner meetings - refugee committee - July 19th meeting 3 year since outbreak of Spanish Revolution.

Secretary to write to Challenge postponing meeting to May 14.

3 - Forum - Ludwig Lore agreed to speak on June 9, on as yet unassigned topic.

4 - Meeting of May Day Committee tomorrow.

5 - Harry Gerson of the International Review requests joint publication.

Social Com. Last affair discussed.

Hall: Toto to be in charge of hall next week. Dal to open hall as often as possible.

27 copies of Vanguard sold at Negrin meeting.

Murry to go to FAS about July 19 meeting; meeting adjourned.

Meeting May 24th, 1939. Recording Sec. Toto.

Minutes of previous meeting not available.

Correspondence: Kropotkin Lit. Society sends us \$47.30. Chedickel sends \$1.00 for bundle.

Letter from Treasury; must go to Custom House to receive pamphlets from England; Audrey will attend to that matter.

Magazine: Dall thinks we could make a better issue if we change paper. Magazine will be out soon.

Dal empowered to spend \$10.00 more on printing.

Vanguard-Challenge: July 19 meeting; we will find out if Spaniards are to hold anything; if not we are to go to FAS to see if they will join; next meeting Monday.

A tentative list of speakers for street corner meetings is ready. Question was raised if Challenge is to be announced from platform. Decided that Challenge to be announced as published by Challenge group. Committee decided to have speakers limit themselves to one topic.

Joint meeting motion 2 for - 8 opposed.

Forum Committee: Irving reported. Motion made that we discontinue Forums. Dropped. M/S that we get committee which should plan discussions for every Friday night. M/S that we hold a business meeting every two weeks. Substitute for first motion that we should alternate business meetings with discussion. A coordinating committee was suggested. This Committee will make all reports and see that all committees function. To keep minutes of their own meetings. Also will take care of necessary business between business meetings. This Committee will consist of secretary, treasurer and one other person - passed - Harry to be other person.

Brooklyn: Did not meet. To have party in near future. Hike decoration Day to Tibbets Brook Park.

Hall: Irving reports that hall open only Wednesday

and Saturday. We are to have open discussion
in hall every other Friday. Sid and Harry to
draw up list of topics.