

Small group meeting, Oct. 6/75

Present: Sue, Bob, Gary, Steve, and Ken

The primary topic of discussion was the union and whether or not we should disaffiliate from the CNTU. It was agreed by those present that it is presently premature to decide on disaffiliation, that instead we should attempt to contact all the other locals in Ontario and through meetings and correspondence with them we would hopefully be in a better position to make a decision. In particular we should talk to the folks at Better Read (especially with respect to their ideas on the CCU), and since their affiliation with the CNTU came about through us, any decision we make should best be made in conjunction with them. It was also felt that we should talk to Serge about our present reservations re organizing into the CNTU etc. and get more practical ideas from him about the feasibility of us working with the CNTU in Ontario. In the meantime we felt that everyone in the shop should be paid up in union dues until September, and that after that time (from now on I guess) we propose that we have an open shop, that those who wish to disaffiliate need no longer pay dues. We also propose that we allow people not presently working in the shop but interested in the CNTU to join the union for the purpose of engaging in any possible future union activities. *eg the nx typesetting group*

It was also felt by those present that the time has come for those interested to begin concentrating their energies, to engage in some form of community activity while still allowing the time necessary for us to meet our other commitments. One area that was suggested as a possible beginning was the ward system and beginning some movement towards its implementation. We felt that by starting now, by beginning with talking to other people on the left in K-W about raising the issue of the ward system, we could start building some kind of base in the area, we could address a topic common to a broad range of people that would allow us to make some important links for future activity. Also by starting now we should have sufficient time to build something tangible before the next municipal election. Consequently, we propose a meeting of those in the shop interested in working on this (or perhaps proposing ideas of their own), for the near future or even as the basis

of our next small group meeting. In conjunction with this we wish to see future small group meetings become more directed, and allow for discussion on particular topics. We do not wish to exclude other people from such meetings but in an attempt to avoid guilting other people into activity they may not be interested in, we want to make it known that we feel a need to begin discussion around particular activities, and then hopefully, to act upon them.

The final topic of discussion was Bob and Sue's proposal for a newsletter to be circulated among local left or left-leaning groups. This proposal will be submitted to the shop soon so there is probably no need to go into details here.