

25A, Amberley Road,  
London, W.9.  
England.  
21.11.60

Dear Russell Blackwell,

Many thanks for yours of Oct. 27. We shall greatly appreciate it if you can let us have the M-W States list for U.S. and your Canadian addresses for circularising WIE by mid-December, so that we can send them January issue. Results from your lists to date are quite good; response from: Carlos Cortez, Toivo Halonen, John Hoyer, Eric Wolfe, Anthony Garcia, M.E. Blanck, Alan Graham, Charles Smith (Los Gatos), Joffre Stewart, Loren Miner (Boston), Dick Ellington, Frank Harper (Del Mar), E.J. Lessin (Monterey Pk), S. Sutton (St Helena), Jeff Ball, A. Orrantia, J.B. McAndrew, Norman di Giovanni, Kyril Radov, Betty Sexton, John Schram (Detroit), Carl Bradel, Wm Daly (New Haven), S. Sherman (Los Angeles), Hoover Institution, Hugo Hansen (Freeport), Frank Ianni (Winslow), R.T. Gabbert (Chicago), E.A. Bergman (Aurora), Edgar Leslie (Santa Rosa), Roger Taylor (Franklin Grove), Paul Weiner (Miami), James Wilkins (Evanston), Ed Johnson (W. Liberty)

The Cuban situation looks bad. We are publishing the detailed statement by Cuban Libertarian Group, which you approved, and shall also mention the L.L. statement, which I find excellent--the sort of clear thinking that sections of our movement desperately need.

You will have seen, I expect, that my optimism re CNT has been justified by events: reunification on the basis of traditional anarcho-syndicalist position. From the practical point of view, the CNT will gain incalculably by speaking with one voice, instead of two. POUM paper "La Batalla" says this unity should play great part in helping anti-fascist action against Franco. Spanish comrades here are optimistic that Franco regime will fall next year. I'm counting no chickens on that one.

Here we progress slowly. Together with other groups we are sponsoring an industrial rank and file conference in London (Jan. 29). Aim is formation of national rank and file movement outside TUs, linking militant shop steward committees, etc. Interesting development here is emergence of several groups which have split with Trotskyism and orthodox Marxism to adopt "Workers' Councils" position. We are working with them and trying to draw them into outspoken anarcho-syndicalist position.

One proposal is that the Rank and File Movement should take over the title of our old paper, DIRECT ACTION, and publish as a weekly. That is a possibility to be welcomed and would enormously strengthen the chance of putting forward Syndicalist ideas among industrial workers. We should, of course, be represented on the editorial committee.

We are looking forward to reading the full report of your Conference in the I.F. Bull. It is good to know you are making steady progress out there and Bob Calese's report of the amount of lit. you are clearing is inspiring.

Best wishes from us all,  
Fraternally,