whatever became of the new left?

by Dick Fada

Sitting in at the SD.

As I listened, I was myself increasingly disturbed by the sense that certain spirits once seemed to prevail at that time. I thought to wonder—"Whatever became of the New Left?"

Part of the problem is that SD.

I also want to express my sense of the irrelevance and evasive­

This is not to say that local groups are not innovators—witness the emergence of the totally new and off, who identify with SD.

One obvious reason for the stalemated condition of the organization is its fantas­

If there has been any kind of creative initiative recently it has been the emergence of SNCC's newly-organized program. This ef­

The malaise at the national level has more

I will note that in my paper for the December Confer­

Aside from a lack of a program of internal

Politics, factional maneuver dominate over

And, indeed, SDS national

Additionally, they are always boring) bad because speech­

rhetoric, factional maneuver dominate over concrete political decision-making, dis­

by our most advanced members. The April '66 Moratorium, the subsequent visibility of SDS changed this rad­

Our inability to make explicit decisions or

I was disturbed by two interrelated phenomena—our inability to make explicit decisions or how we logistically handled various priorities and direction for SD.

militaire . . .

I'll continue to be involved in this struggle for a warm democracy, a beautiful soci­

The quality of thinking were constantly going on among the in­

what I learned was that "work style" would

I've grown a lot. But I was not sure that this would mean to point out the significance of a par­

What accounts for it?

First of all, the war. This Vietnam war has

For me to know that in this position I func­

What's happened to the New Left?

The leaders of SDS are not convinced of the inevitability of the war and other events have had on some

The New Left Notes included a large number of militant radicals, less and

I've been involved in SDS for a good number of years, I've been quite disturbed by two interrelated phenomena—

The purpose of the New Left Notes is to provide a focus for the Move­

The war and other events have had on some

The tokenism of the New Frontier, and the

The New Left Notes included a large number of militant radicals, less and


cine and related groups seem to be striving for

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I think that the initiative was lost after the membership failed to approve the anti-draft program last Winter; since then the SDS membership has not been in agreement and the sub­

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the national meetings which can only fairly again

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The University of Chicago will hold a major Conference on the Draft, December 4-7. This is the first national conference of its kind which will be available for use by all organizations that may see fit to utilize it. The University of Chicago to hold draft conference, December 4-7.

The intention is that colleges should not contract with the military, yet how suited to our democracy is the prospectus indicates. At the very least we'd be on better ground, if we ultimately doctored the statement - picket and distribute anti-militarism leaflets, etc. - we if we see now how far they will open the conference.

The second alternative might be to hold the kind of conference we wish at the same time. One can think of the same options - the book and sort of competition can easily be slanted hard against us, and also not to our advantage.

As you can see by the attached, we are requesting the assistance of your Dean of Student government heads, etc., the committee is writing to Deans for recommenda.

UNL, NEBRASKA

I would like to submit my views for your consideration and NAC's, and hopefully in a timeline for a pre-NC NLN, on the student strike proposal. I propose:

a. That a strike be postponed until after electoral events.

b. That it be held as soon as possible after the May primaries.

We can't pull out enough people to shut down any schools, and I don't believe in withdrawing the enrollment for a day any more. I believe we should not make the mistakes of the DRV even before Ky) would result in mobilization.

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s organizers (Negroes, labor, middle class intellectuals) who vote Democratic, while primarily oriented to Johnson would do so, in my view.

3. The development of a foreign policy opposition to the war should be the central and immediate way in which the American left will be one of the many casualties in a prolonged and expanded war. The latter seem justified on their own terms, but should not be mistaken for comprehensive or final objectives for the American left.

4. The abolition of militarism in the US is a conceivable task for present-day radicals, but it does seem plausible to me that the war will go on indefinitely unless we are in the political process we can sustain the momentum that such an effort would enable such a thing to begin and grow.

It is my view that it is through struggle and discussion among the rank and file of the American left that we will build the basis for broad consensus within the ranks of people, willing to make very extended public, through action projects, community education efforts, publications, etc. Perhaps the short-sightedness of the church which is to...
CHICAGO, ILL.

This paper is submitted to NLN in the hope that it will interest members among members, between members, and within chapters, towards the formation of a Movement for a Democratic Society. And, I hope, serious discussion of such a prospect will also take place in the real world of action.

The pages of NLN, from time to time, contain "headers" about this topic. The same pages often contain "reports," and the effect that not enough people are available for the job. As a result, they are available too busy with action tasks to do the mundane work, or are not qualified to do it. The boycott would be like Bob Speck's "Last Will and Testament." Every issue, of course, appeals for funds, funds, funds.

A great deal of the problem, I believe, is the present nature of the university, part-time university and post-university people.

Speaking as my own experience, a person in the aforementioned categories simply has no, or at least very few, avenues of contributo to the movement. I am a full-time worker, a family man, an evening school student, I became interested in SDS while reading a book or report I found. When I started evening classes in the Spring of 1965, I tried to make contact with SDS by leaving my name, address, phone number, etc., at the Student Activities Office (Chicago University).

Several months ago I joined SDS, "unaffiliated," as a matter of showing support. Again, I tried to do from (except I know things, for which I'm thankful). Near the end of the Fall 1965 semester a<button type="button"> Edit </button>