Socialist Literature Sold
By Group on OSU Campus

By TOM COTTON

Two avowed believers of Marxist philosophy and a member of the U.S. Socialist Party were on the Ohio State campus yesterday, selling Socialist literature and attending student meetings.

The three—Mike Houser, an Arts College student, and Paul Lodico and Thaddeus Beebe, not associated with the University—claimed they were here to gather support for the U.S. Socialist presidential campaign, spread the ideas of socialism and publicize a Socialist conference to be held in Detroit, Mich., later this month.

They sat in on activities of the Soap Box Forum on the Oval and the meeting of Students for Liberal Action in the Law Building.

The group was not here at the invitation of any student organization and hence their presence and sale of Socialist literature was in violation of University regulations, Dean John T. Bonner, executive dean of student relations, said.

Dean Bonner told the Lantern that any disciplinary action against the student member of the group would have to be taken by the Arts College.

The trio was first observed at the corner of 15th Avenue and High Street at 3:30 p.m. selling copies of the Young Socialist, a bi-monthly, and the Militant, a newspaper "published in the interests of the working people." They also had a number of other leaflets.

They moved onto the University campus and attended the Soap Box Forum on the Oval, where Mr. Houser took part in the debates.

At the Students for Liberal Action meeting they continued to sell their literature, and spoke briefly.

After the meeting, Mr. Houser told the Lantern he had been a member of SLA, but had voluntarily resigned last night because SLA had dropped plans to sponsor an off-campus meeting featuring Edward Shaw, vice presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party.

He said the meeting was canceled on "extremely short notice."

Mr. Beebe, who said he is from New York, and Mr. Lodico, who says he is a former student of Wayne State University, said the Young Socialist Alliance to which they belong is a Marxist-Leninist organization. They said they support the Russian Revolution, but claimed no affiliation with any foreign power.

The two non-University men are traveling throughout Ohio on behalf of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Mr. Houser, who lives at 308 W. 8th Ave., said the group spoke at the SLA to get support for the Midwest Student Conference on Independent Political Action to be held at Wayne State University Oct. 24 and 25.

Among the speakers at the meeting will be Mr. Shaw, Clifton de Berry, Socialist Party presidential candidate, and James Shabazz, a member of the Black Muslims.

The three said they were not bothered by Columbus or Ohio State police, but the two out-of-towners were arrested in Bowling Green recently for "soliciting the sale of literature without a license." They are to appear there Oct. 14 for a hearing.
Ohio State’s Leftist Groups Differ in Goals

by ROBERT TAMASY

Last year Ohio State was an oasis of calm in a nation plagued with student discontent, protests and takeovers.

By the spring of 1969, only two left-wing organizations were still active at Ohio State—the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and the Campus Americans for Democratic Action (CADA). Two other organizations, the Independent Student Union (ISU) and the Free Student Federation (FSF), had broken up or become inactive by Winter Quarter, 1969. Members of these two organizations apparently lost interest or broke away from the group to become involved in other organizations.

Goals of Groups Differ

Although SDS and CADA are both considered left-wing organizations, there are marked differences between the two. Bill McDonald, instructor in German and an active member of CADA, described the organization as committed to the “new politics,” seeking change by working within the American system. “We seek reform rather than revolution, we aim to modify rather than to destroy.”

The argued goals of SDS are quite different from those of CADA.

Bob Donenberg, Arts-3 and a leader of the Ohio State SDS chapter, said the goal of his organization is to be part of the international socialist movement, seeking a revolution in the U.S. and the breakdown of the present system. He said members of SDS are striving to create a system that would provide for true equality for all.

“Capitalism can never provide for civil rights because of the basic profit motive in the system,” he said. Only a socialist structure based on the ideas presented by Marx and Lenin would solve the problems and injustices cited by SDS members and other groups seeking large-scale change.

CADA Supports 34, Green

Another major difference between the two organizations is the scope of their goals. CADA has been active in trying to bring attention to problems directly related to the campus, such as support for the 34 indicted black students and David Green, convicted of draft card burning, and the move to eliminate ROTC as a University requirement.

SDS has also supported the 34 indicted black students and has voiced its anti-ROTC sentiment, but the scope of SDS feelings on these issues is much broader.

The SDS stands reflect its basic goal, the fight against “the corporate structure and the present U.S. system of capitalism and imperialism.” As it is referred to in leftist terminology, SDS sees the struggle against the 34 as examples of the oppression of the black community in general. And this, in turn, is seen in terms of an oppression of many groups, including blacks, Indians, Latin Americans, and perhaps most important to them, the American working class.

SDS seeks not only to eliminate ROTC as a requirement, but to have it removed from the University curriculum. According to Donenberg, SDS members see the university as a tool of the present system, to perpetuate capitalism and society.

SDS Protests Imperialism

“There can’t be a free university in an unfree state,” Donenberg said. “The fact that the academic requirement of ROTC is dropped does not solve the problem. ROTC still exists for the exploitation by capitalists to train officers to fight their wars.”

The SDS’ concern about military involvement of universities extends beyond the protest against ROTC. Donenberg cited Ohio State’s ties with Battelle Institute and military-related research. He said it is also an SDS objective to eliminate any ties between the University and the military.

McDonald described CADA as a “pioneer group on campus.” “We were the first group to try to understand black power on and off the campus as explained by blacks. We were also the first to sponsor black student grievances.”

He said CADA was very active in working for open housing, and the organization was “one of the first to recognize the need for ROTC removal.”

Open Housing Successful

McDonald considers his group very successful. “The Open Housing proposal so far has been successful, but we are waiting for the testing of the proposal and to see how it is enforced,” he said.

“We tried to remodel the group,” he said, “and we chose not to support Hubert Humphrey, one of the original members of ADA, during the last election, but chose to support McCarthy and Kennedy instead.” He said that membership in the organization has changed as members changed ideas or took more militant stands in seeking change.

McDonald said the greatest part of his work has been related to black issues. “CADA helped to found the civil rights information center in Orton Hall, but we feel the full potential of the center has not been reached by any means. In general we seek to coordinate efforts on campus in the area of human rights.”

He said CADA has been a leader in seeking support for the 34 indicted black students. He asserted the Administration Building takeover of April, 1968 was brought about by “unresponsiveness by the Administration” to complaints by blacks. “The rage of the blacks was justified and their frustration was legitimate, although we do not agree with all the actions taken by them.” He said punishments considered in no way equaled the crimes.

Trustees Tried Green

McDonald said CADA was also active in supporting David Green even after his conviction. “His action has been removed from context, and the Board of Trustees de facto declared him guilty a year before his trial.”

Regarding the nonviolent nature of CADA, McDonald said one of the group’s primary concerns is to preserve faculty power and the power of peaceful nonviolent students. “If the legitimate channels of dissent dry up, there can be no hope for anything but violence.”

“Our type of action serves something like SDS,” he said. “In any case we won’t lose. We have given people a chance to respond. If they don’t, we will keep on and let other forces take over. But until then we will continue to walk the extra mile and do what is necessary to gain our objectives.”

Referring to a lack of major disruptions at Ohio State last year, McDonald said the 34 students were a factor. “We feared jeopardizing the chances of the 34.”

He said that the peacefulness of the campus did not indicate satisfaction on campus, but rather many were awaiting the results of the trials to be held in the summer.
Reforms Must Be Made

He said he did not know if the campus would become more active in 1969-1970, but "if an adequate black studies program is not provided, if there is not a strict policing of open housing, if there is no recruiting of black faculty members and if the academic requirement of ROTC is not removed, the entire University community will be guilty of creating its own chaos, and only they can be held responsible for what happens."

McDonald stressed that dissent in the universities is not a passing thing. "The problems across the country are very similar, and it is necessary to produce people aware of these problems, who will attempt to solve them, rather than to ignore them. The university is a microcosm of society and educates the elite who will be running society. The university is the last hope, and it has become an island of despair."

Donanberg said the SDS in Ohio has been mainly a campus movement, but there is a trend to expand from the campuses, especially to the cities.

"The focus is now on young people and trying to reach them before they reach college," he said. According to SDS thought, in many cases it is too late to contact students once they reach the college level. By then many have become thoroughly "indoctrinated" in the capitalist system and immediately reject radical thought. Donanberg said the recent surge in student dissent in the high schools was an encouraging sign for the radical movement in the U.S.

Summer Expansion Tries

During the summer SDS members expanded their program into the city in an attempt to build the SDS around Columbus, rather than just the University area. Donanberg said by the fall he expected a city-wide SDS, with contacts all over Columbus, prepared to move into areas of unrest or dissatisfaction. However, Donanberg said he did not expect any decrease in the work on campus. While the SDS was active in supporting the causes of the 34 blacks and abolishing ROTC, it did not lend any support to David Green. "We feel sorry for him," Donanberg said, "but what he did was wrong, and was a political mistake regardless of his reasons."

Ronald Jones, Administrative Sciences-3, cited another aspect of SDS transition. He said the focus is changing not only from the students to the city, but also the SDS is uniting with other radical organizations with the same goals in an effort to provide maximum coverage and concentration.

"In Chicago," he said, "the Young Lords, a Latin American group; the Black Panthers; the Young Patriots, a white, working-class group, and SDS have combined their efforts."

Disruptions Will Continue

Jones said these groups have recognized they are all suffering under a common oppression, and the best way to combat the present system is through unity. "Here in Columbus there is no large Latin American population, but we do have a pretty good relationship with the Black Panthers."

He said he thought student disruptions would continue, and he felt they were all justified. "Any violence on any campus is nothing to that done in five minutes in Vietnam." He said revolutionary violence was a violence "of self-defense of an oppressed people." "To reject the use of such violence would be equal to condoning violence by the system."

Jones said he had served in the Marines for four years and two months and had participated in both the occupation of Santo Domingo and the invasion of Vietnam. "After all that, I can no longer be a pacifist."

The future of radical movements is going to include more repression, he said, "but this time the people are going to fight back rather than deny their membership in radical organizations as was done in the past."

Stands on Rights Differ

Jones felt a major difference between CADA and SDS, aside from their differing views concerning the value of the present social structure and their attitudes toward violence, was their outlooks concerning human rights. "We seek human rights for all races, while CADA devotes most of its time to seeking black civil rights."

"CADA is a liberal organization, but is conservative in that they like the capitalistic society. We cannot accept growths out of the capitalist system.