

N. Y. Convention For Return to C. P.

By MAX GORDON

By a unanimous vote, the 1,000 delegates and alternates to the New York State Convention of the Communist Political Association yesterday accepted the "main line" of the resolution of the CPA National Committee on the political situation and perspectives in the United States.

The delegates also voted, with three opposed, to propose to the CPA National Convention next week that the Communist Party be immediately reconstituted, that shop and industrial organizations be revived and that over-sized community branches be reorganized.

The Convention, which was both intent and highly vocal, urged that the National Resolution be strengthened by a more extensive analysis of the nature, composition and role of American monopoly capital and by a much more adequate treatment of the Negro problem with particular emphasis on the struggle for democracy in the South and the maintenance of the wartime gains of the Negro people in industry.

The long and sometimes sharp discussion from the floor followed presentation of these resolutions. Delegates were particularly aroused by the revelation concerning the dissolution of the Communist movement in the South.

ACT ON WAR VETS

A resolution on veterans presented a detailed program for additional legislation and urged the strengthening of labor-veteran ties. It also proposed that the veterans be involved in National, State and branch leadership of the Communist movement and special attention paid to training them.

A night session was scheduled to consider resolutions on several other problems.

Highlight of the convention which was in its second day, was the appearance of William Z. Foster, National Vice-President of the CPA, who alone among national leaders, fought against the opportunist program developed under Earl Browder's leadership.

Foster attacked the idea, which he said was developing in some circles, that Communists support the war against Japan merely as a sort of carry-over from the war against Hitler. The war against Japan, he emphasized, is a people's war of liberation. The stake is the national independence, democracy and future of the peoples of the Far East. Hence he said, it is essential also to the democracy, future peace and freedom of the people of the United States.

He differentiated sharply between the stake of the people in this war and that of the American imperialist interests. By keeping clear the democratic objectives and organizing the people for them, he maintained, the imperialists can be defeated.

DISCUSSES STRIKES

Discussing the no-strike pledge, Foster maintained that Communists remained adamant in support of it. But, he said, when strikes do break out, Communists and trade unionists will have to analyze them specifically regarding origin, purpose, etc., and take their position accordingly. He defended the position of the Daily Worker in support of the recent news deliverers' strike "outside of a formulation or two which could be subject to misinterpretation."

Foster maintained that the demand for 60,000,000 jobs is a symbol of the struggle for the right to work. After the last war, he said, the American working class fought for social insurance. In this far it is fighting for the right to a job.

He insisted that a long-time peace is possible, but only on the basis of the struggle of the people against the war-making imperialists.

Turning to the discussions within the Communist movement concerning the past practices, he said, in answer to a question, that he believed on the basis of experience that his action in withholding from the membership his letter of opposition to the Browder position in 1944 was correct. The consequences of his making public that letter, he maintained, would have been his expulsion from the movement, a split in the organization and the probable elimination of his influence.

He recognized, he said, that the movement would have to get back on the right track. He maintained there were signs that the National Board was moving in that direction when events after V-E Day could not be squared with the Browder theory, but that this trend was speeded up by the article of Jacques Duclos, French leader, criticizing American Communist policy.

The convention was scheduled to recess last night after election of delegates until after the National Convention. It will reconvene Aug. 12 and 13 to elect the State leadership and act on relevant decisions of the National Convention.