

C.P. Parley Delegates, Guests Total 1,500



DELEGATE — Mrs. Katie Thompson, president of the National Progressive Convention of Missionary Churches, pledged to recruit 100 new members in the C.P. membership drive. She brought in 121—the majority of them, including the two pastors—from the church in which she is an organist. Mrs. Thompson is a delegate to the 1944 National Convention of the C.P. which culminates with a public session at Madison Sq. Garden next Tuesday evening.

Four hundred delegates, representing virtually every state in the Union, and 1,100 invited guests will attend the 1944 convention of the Communist Party of the United States which takes place this weekend in New York.

Opening Saturday morning at the Riverside Plaza, 253 W. 73 St., the convention will hold its closing session at Madison Square Garden Tuesday night with Earl Browder, general secretary of the party, as the chief speaker of the evening.

For three days the delegates will deliberate on the important issues facing the American people and on Tuesday night Browder, as the foremost spokesman of the party, will report to the more than 20,000 progressive-minded New Yorkers who are expected to fill Madison Square Garden to capacity.

Preceding as it does the Democratic and Republican national conventions, the Communist convention deliberations and decisions—particularly as they affect the issue of the forthcoming presidential elections—are expected to arouse national interest.

PLANS FOR 1944

In his speech at the Garden Tuesday night Browder is expected to stress the urgency of national

unity in the 1944 elections and urge maximum support for a fourth term for President Roosevelt on the basis of national unity and as a war measure. He is expected to emphasize the non-partisan approach that the Communists will urge on the issue of the elections.

Browder will analyze recent political developments in the South, the victory of administration supporters in the recent primaries, and the withdrawal of Martin Dies as a candidate for re-election.

The Communist leader will announce the new name to be chosen by the national convention, and outline the organization's tasks and perspectives in the light of present-day developments.

Those who attend the Garden session of the convention Tuesday evening will not only get an opportunity to meet the 400 delegates to the previous convention sessions, but will receive a colorful memento attesting to their presence at the historic Garden session. They will also meet more than two score especially invited Honor Guests to the convention who have been active in the labor movement for 25 years and who are among the founders of the party.

Besides Browder, speakers will include Gilbert Green, secretary of the New York State Communist Party; Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Ben Gold, president of the Fur and Leather Workers International; Bob Thompson, holder of the Distinguished Service Cross; Ella Reeve Bloor, and Arnold Johnson, Ohio district secretary of the C.P.

Co-chairmen of the closing session of the convention at the Garden will be Communist Councilmen Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., and Peter V. Cacchione. They will be presented by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the party.

An entertainment program will feature Josh White, folk singer; Laura Duncan, Jack de Merchant and Bernie Hern.

Tickets ranging from 50 cents to \$2 are available

Slav Parley in Pittsburgh May 28

PITTSBURGH, May 17.—Several hundred American Slav organizations in this area have received a call to send delegates to the first American Slav conference of Western Pennsylvania, to be held Sunday, May 28, at 10 a.m. at the Fort Pitt Hotel.