

# Report on Dec. 20-22 Meeting Of CP Executive Committee

The National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A., yesterday issued the following press release dealing with the meeting of the National Executive Committee on December 20-22, 1957:

(1) At its last meeting in December the National Executive Committee discussed an extensive report by George Morris on the recent AFL-CIO convention. It decided to incorporate its views in the draft Labor Policy Statement for 1958 now being considered by various party conferences.

It also referred to a sub-committee a recommendation to issue a press statement embodying the conclusions of the NEC regarding the outcome of the Atlantic City convention and the lessons to be drawn therefrom.

The NEC also received a number of memoranda submitted by Eugene Dennis regarding the coming session of Congress and the Communist viewpoint on points of an immediate program of labor-democratic action for peace, jobs and security, and civil rights and liberties.

(2) The NEC considered a number of recommendations from a Press Committee which, for several months, had been examining the problems of saving the Marxist press. In view of the heavy deficit and the pressing, large-scale financial needs of the Daily Worker, and taking into account the mounting rise in the costs of publication which have already jeopardized the Daily Worker, the People's World, and other labor newspapers—the NEC was of the opinion the Communist Party, at this time and on its part, could not guarantee the organization of the collection of the large financial contributions presently required to make possible the continued publication of the Daily Worker. This is so not least of all because of the unsatisfactory situation within the party.

Moreover, the NEC was of the opinion that a temporary retreat might have to be made and the Daily Worker might have to be suspended for a period, in order to ensure that the weekly Worker could continue, since the huge deficit and losses in the Daily's circulation were jeopardizing The Worker too. Therefore the NEC recommended to the owners and publishers of the Daily Worker that they consider suspending the Daily and make an all-out effort to preserve The Worker, increase its circulation and improve its contents—a goal and project which the CPUSA considers essential and feasible, and to which it pledges its utmost support.

The NEC also decided to poll the 60 members of the National Committee on this proposition, with the understanding that the NEC proposal would not be final or operative until the full National Committee had made a collective decision. Regarding the distorted version of this which already appeared in the commercial press, the NAC already issued a press release on Dec. 26.

(3) The NEC received a report

by Eugene Dennis on some aspects of the work of the CPUSA since its 16th national convention on the internal party situation, and the tasks ahead. It also heard a conflicting report by Sid Stein on the same subject matter. After lengthy deliberation, it was agreed to continue the discussion on these divergent estimates at the next meeting of the NEC, and meanwhile to submit both reports to the members of the National Committee for their information and consideration. This is preliminary to the collective action of the National Committee which will be taken by the committee as a whole at its next regular meeting in February, 1958.

(4) The NEC also received a report by Robert Thompson on the profound significance of the recent Declaration issued by the 12 Communist and Workers Parties of the socialist countries, and on the inspiring peace manifesto issued by 64 Communist and Workers Parties. The NEC adopted a statement thereon which will be published in the January issue of Political Affairs.

This statement was approved 11 to 7, with 2 abstentions, 2 absent. Those voting for the NEC statement were: George Charney, Dave Davis, Fred Fine, John Gates, Dorothy Healy, Claude Lightfoot, Mickey Lima, Carl Ross, Mike Russo, Sid Stein, Martha Stone. Those opposing the NEC statement were: Ben Davis, Eugene Dennis, Earl Durham, Elizabeth G. Flynn, James Jackson, Hy Lumer, Robert Thompson. Abstaining were: Carl Winter, Jack Stachel. Absent were: William Z. Foster, George Meyers. Those opposing the NEC statement will make known shortly the reasons for their vote.

By a similar vote, the NEC went

on record censoring the procedures taken by a majority of the National Administrative Committee (Davis, Dennis, Jackson, Lumer) on Dec. 2; also the NEC declined to approve the contents of a letter on the 12 Party Declaration sent to the National Committee members on Dec. 3 which the above-mentioned NAC majority voted for and which Gates, Fine and Stein opposed. The NEC directed the NAC to prepare additional material and reports to be discussed at its next meeting in January.

The motion of censure reads in full:

"The NEC considers the efforts of the 4 to 3 majority of the NAC in attempting to push through and make public a statement of important policy in relation to the 12 Party Declaration in the NAC and their refusal to consult with the NEC as a serious breach of party democracy, an act of bureaucracy contrary to the spirit of the 16th Convention.

"The NEC expresses its sharp criticism of the failure of the NAC to function within the limits of its clearly defined administrative role. It instructs the NAC that there shall be no repetition of such an action in the future."

Statement by Benjamin J. Davis

"I voted for this press release because I wish the membership of the CP to get as much of a picture as possible of the NEC. My reservations are due to my belief that the press release doesn't give a full picture of the differences and other matters transpiring at the NEC meeting—and because the NAC rejected amendments put forward by myself which would have in my judgment given a clearer picture of the NEC meeting."

## N. Y. State's Jobless Claims Show Increase

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 30.—New York State's unemployment insurance fund was pronounced in good shape today despite mounting claims for jobless benefits.

Industrial Commissioner Isador Lubin revealed yesterday that the weekly average of claims in the first half of 1958 was expected to be one-third higher than this year's first six months average of 242,000.

A spokesman for the service said today, however, that basic tax rates from 1958 would remain in the current range of one-half of one percent of payroll to 2.7 percent. The higher rates are paid by employers with poor employment records, principally seasonal industries.

In his year-end report, Lubin

said that more people were out of work, but those with jobs were earning more.

He predicted that in January unemployment insurance claims would jump by more than 100,000 from the current 286,000. The rise will be in large part seasonal, Lubin said, followed by an expected partial drop in February.

Republican state chairman L. Judson Morhouse, seeking political capital in the Lubin report, called on Gov. Averell Harriman to in-

(Continued on Page 4)