

# Issue Draft of Proposed CP Constitution

A draft constitution for submission to the Communist Party's 16th National Convention in February, 1957, was made public yesterday by the Party's National Committee. While re-adopting portions of the Party's 1948 Constitution, which was re-

affirmed at a 1950 convention, the National Committee draft emphasizes in its preamble that "there are various roads to socialism and that the working people of our nation will find their own road to socialism." It then continues:

"We advocate a peaceful, democratic road to socialism through the political and economic struggles of the American people within the developing constitutional process."

It declares as one of the purposes of the organization the unity of the working people of the U. S. "against monopoly control of the political and economic life of our nation."

The draft emphasizes that "unconditional equality for the Negro people is basic to the fight for democracy" and declares that the Communist Party "fights uncompromisingly against imperialism and colonial oppression." It asserts the "cardinal principle" of the "common bond uniting the workers of all lands" and the necessity for peaceful coexistence and "the strengthening of the United Nations as a universal instrument of peace."

On the point of unity of workers throughout the world, the draft adds:

"This common bond is strengthened when working-class movements operate in an atmosphere of independence and equality and exercise the right of fraternal and constructive criticism."

## Preamble to Draft Of CP Constitution

Following is the Preamble to the proposed draft constitution of the Communist Party:

The Communist Party of the United States is an American working-class political organization which bases itself upon the principles of scientific socialism. It champions the immediate and fundamental interests of the workers, farmers and all others who labor by hand and brain, against capitalist exploitation and oppression.

The Communist Party believes that the abolition of the exploitation of man by man, of poverty, war, racism and ignorance will be finally achieved by the socialist reorganization of society—by the common ownership and operation of the national economy under a government of the people led by the working class. The Communist Party holds that there are various roads to socialism and that the working people of our nation will find their own road to socialism. We advocate a peaceful, democratic road to socialism through the political and economic struggles of the American people within the developing constitutional process.

The Communist Party seeks to advance the understanding of the working class in its day-to-day struggles for its historic mission, the establishment of socialism. Socialism, through the achievement of a vastly widened democracy, will fulfill the promise of an atomic age and guarantee the realization of the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," turning the epic achievements of American labor, science and culture to the use and enjoyment of all men and women.

The Communist Party upholds the achievements of American democracy and defends the U. S. Constitution and its Bill of Rights against those who would destroy democracy. It fights uncompromisingly against imperialism and colonial oppression, for curbing and breaking the power of monopoly, against racial, national and religious discrimination, anti-Semitism and all forms of chauvinism. It regards the struggle to wipe out the system of Jim Crowism and to

win immediate and full citizenship and unconditional equality for the Negro people basic to the fight for democracy.

Referring to the Party's basic theory, the draft states: "The Communist Party bases its theory generally on the cultural heritage of mankind and particularly on the teachings of the giants of scientific socialism, Karl Marx, Frederick Engels and V. I. Lenin, as interpreted by the Party and creatively applied and developed in accordance with the conditions of the American class struggle, traditions and customs. In the struggle for democracy, peace and social progress, the Communist Party carries forward the democratic traditions of Jefferson, Paine, Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, and the great working class and socialist traditions of William Sylvius, Eugene V. Debs and Charles E. Ruthenberg."

Sylvius was a socialist-minded pioneer of the labor movement in the 19th century. Debs, a labor and socialist leader, was socialist candidate for President in 1920. Ruthenberg, who died in 1927, was a left-wing socialist who was one of the founders of the Communist Party in 1919.

Indicating a new approach to other socialist-minded groups, the draft declares that "in the struggle for socialism the Communist Party seeks no narrow partisan monopoly. It fights side by side with all who struggle for socialism and seeks to cooperate with all socialist-minded Americans to achieve socialism."

Express provision for the right to dissent after majorities have reach-

ed decisions are also incorporated in the draft, as are proposals for full regional representation on the national committee, the right of recall of national committee members and referendum on basic policy questions.

Sections dealing with these questions state:

Article 5, Section 6, declares: Members of the National Committee from District or State organizations shall be subject to recall for cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the District or State committees or by two-thirds vote of the District or State convention or conventions of the organization or organizations they represent. Vacancies shall be filled by the same body or bodies by majority vote. Members-at-large may be recalled for cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the National Committee, and vacancies in the post of member-at-large shall be filled by a majority vote of the National Committee. The National Committee has the right to recommend the recall for cause of National Committee members elected by District or State Committee.

Article 5, Section 12, declares: Policy questions shall be reviewed, or new policies submitted for adoption, upon the initiative of one-third of the members of the National Committee.

Every officer and member shall have the right to hold and express a dissenting opinion on any matter of Party policy with respect to which a decision has been made by majority vote of the appropriate Party committee or convention, provided that such dissenting officer or member acts to carry out such policy so long as it remains in effect and does not engage in factional or other activity which hinders or impedes the execution of such policy or endangers the unity and solidarity of the Party.

The guarantee of the right of dissent provided by this section shall be implemented by providing for the expression and discussion of dissenting views in Party publications, including the publication provided for in the next section, and in authorized Party meetings arranged for that purpose.

The draft was submitted to the national committee by a 15-member sub-committee headed by Fred M. Fine, executive secretary of the national committee.

A call to its 16th national convention, to be held in New York City Feb. 9-12, was issued by the national committee of the Communist Party this weekend. The call, addressed to all party districts, state committees, sections and clubs, gives the basis for representation at the convention. It also proposes that all section and district conventions of the Communist Party be held in two parts, one prior to and the other after the national gathering.

Delegates are to be elected on the basis of membership, determined by average dues payments through the first 10 months of 1956, according to the call. "Each district Party organization," the call states, "shall be entitled to elect:

"a) Two delegates where the total membership is 50 or less; "b) Three delegates for the first 100 members, and three for each additional 100 members up to 600; and "c) Two delegates for each additional 100 members above 600."

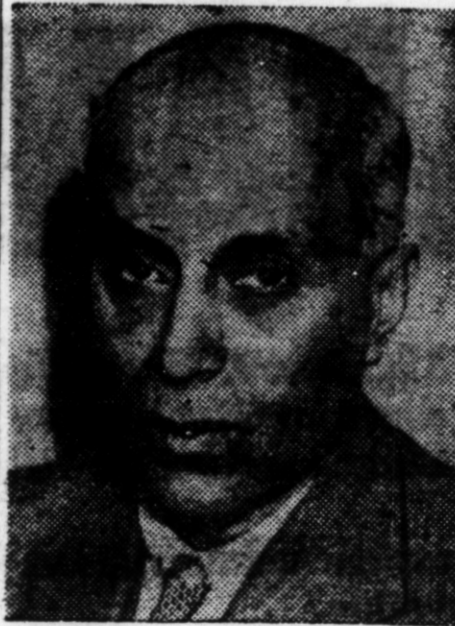
Alternate delegates with voice but no vote may also be elected by each district up to 25 percent of the total number to which it is entitled.

The call also announces the levying of an assessment of \$2 on each employed party member and 50 cents on each unemployed member or housewife in order to help defray the convention expenses.

## U. S. to Ask UN to Condemn USSR Today

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 9.—The U.S. and 12 other powers today demanded UN condemnation of the Soviet Union for "depriving Hungary of its liberty and independence."

### Nehru Said to Oppose Hungary Ultimatums



NEHRU

NEW DELHI, Dec. 9. — The Russians have promised Premier Jawaharlal Nehru they will pull their troops out of Hungary "as soon as the situation there eases," diplomatic sources said today.

They said Nehru's "policy toward Soviet intervention in Hungary apparently was inspired in part by the reported promise and in part by his belief—expressed in a speech here yesterday—that humiliation of a country like Hungary could lead to war.

For these reasons, they said, the Indian Premier is urging the West not to send any ultimatums to Hungary or Russia.

### Czech CP Leader Assails Tito

VIENNA, Dec. 9.—Czechoslovakia's Communist Party secretary Antonin Novotny accused the west today of striving for a "return to the cold war" and trying to "create the pre-conditions of World War III."

Excerpts from the Novotny's speech to his central committee were broadcast by Prague Radio and monitored here.

Novotny insisted on closer friendship with the Soviet Union since "everything we have achieved is a result of that friendship."

He accused President Tito of Yugoslavia of running counter to the precepts of Marxism.

"We are of the opinion that some new international platform in the Communist movement, different from the platform of Leninism which is firmly supported by fraternal parties, is being set up," he said.

Novotny charged that Tito's speech of Nov. 11 in which he criticized Soviet intervention in Hungary "endangered the unity of the world-wide communist movement."

He also assailed "some elements" in Poland which have used a divergence of views among party officials "to stage an anti-Soviet and anti-peoples democracy propaganda campaign."

He charged that the Polish regime of Wladyslaw Gomulka was particularly wrong in its "liquidation of collective farms."

Developments in Poland are causing fear among Czech communists that "all progressive achievements in Poland will be abandoned," he said.

He noted with satisfaction that the Hungarian Government of Premier Janos Kadar is "taking an increasingly tough attitude toward counter-revolutionaries in order to protect socialist achievements."

They presented a resolution for action by the General Assembly tomorrow morning which also called upon the Soviet Union to agree to withdraw its troops from Hungary under UN observation.

Another resolution would reject the credentials of Hungary's delegation to the Assembly. No final decision has been reached on whether a suspension resolution would be submitted. The U.S. at first favored such action, but now was "weighing all the factors." Involved were a policy principle on recognition of revolutionary governments—an issue which disturbed many Latin American countries—and the possibility of obtaining an absolute two thirds vote for exclusion measure.

Fourteen backed last week's resolution to send observers into Hungary. Thirteen of these subscribed to the new measure, but Cuba withdrew its sponsorship, declaring the condemnation resolution was not stern enough.

### Yugoslavia Withdraws Its Envoy to Hungary

BELGRADE, Dec. 9.—Yugoslavia has withdrawn its ambassador to Hungary in protest of the alleged kidnapping of former Hungarian Premier Imre Nagy by Soviet soldiers, it was announced today.

A brief statement in the party newspaper "Bobra" said ambassador Deligor Soldatic "paid a farewell visit" to Hungarian Premier Janos Kadar.

Nagy who had entered the Yugoslav embassy Nov. 4 left it Nov. 23, and was seized by Soviet troops and exiled to Romania.

Yugoslavia protested to both the USSR and Hungary but the protests were rejected.

Sources said that Soldatic's recall does not mean a complete break in Yugoslav-Hungarian relations.

### Martial Law Declared by Hungarian Govt.

VIENNA, Dec. 9.—Hungary's government tonight declared martial law and outlawed regional workers councils in an attempt to cut short a new armed revolt flaring in several provinces.

The government cracked down on the Budapest Workers Council which this morning called for a 48-hour general strike to begin tomorrow midnight.

Radio Budapest, only source of news from the Hungarian capital since telephone and commercial teletype lines were cut off this morning, suddenly interrupted a day-long musical program to announce that martial law had been proclaimed effective at noon tomorrow.

The Hungarian Presidential Council listed several reasons for the declaration, which would permit a drastic purge of "counter-revolutionaries." Primarily it said, there had been new armed uprisings.

It said "several persons were killed and injured" in a bloody clash yesterday at Salgotian on the Czech-Hungarian frontier.

It said there had been other uprisings in the Tatabanya coal mining region west of Budapest and in Bekescsaba and Battonya in southern Hungary.

The government said "provocateurs forced" loyal workers into a demonstration and then mowed

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