

State CP Reports On Its Convention

New York Communists completed early Monday morning a two-day state convention at the Yugoslav-American Hall, 431 West 41 Street. With virtually all of the 425 delegates in agreement on the resolutions of the national convention, held in February, the state convention, according to a release issued yesterday:

- Discussed the civil rights struggle, desegregation in the state's schools, housing, youth work, trade union questions, Latin American and Puerto Rican questions and the Jewish question in the Soviet Union.

- Elected 11 New York members to the party's national committee.

- Elected 16 members-at-large

of the New York State Committee. Forty-four others are to be elected in regional conventions. The full committee is to elect its officers.

The convention was the second session of a recessed gathering the first of which was held in January.

In a 50-minute opening report to the convention, George Blake Charney, as chairman of the outgoing state committee cited "two national issues that have emerged as major focal points." These he listed:

"One is the civil rights issue.

(Continued on Page 7)

State CP

(Continued from Page 2)

This combines the legislative fight in Congress and the effort to compel Eisenhower and the executive to intervene against the spread of lawless violence and terror in the South. A showdown is in the offing.

"The other is the ferment in the labor movement as a result of the new offensive against labor throughout the country. The hearings in the Senate on racketeering are designed through repressive legislation and other means to undermine the trade unions.

"The remarkable rank and file dues revolt in the steel union is but one of many indications of the ferment among the workers and the growing basis within the labor movement to advance the struggle for militant, democratic unionism."

Speaking of the coming municipal elections, Charney indicated that the party's "main emphasis must be on issues."

"We are concerned with issues," he said, "and the need to promote the broadest unity of labor and liberal forces to offset the influence of reaction on the administration and to build a peoples' coalition, led by labor. There is growing criticism of the Democratic Party in the unions, Negro organizations and liberal groups, but it is doubtful that traditional ties will be severed in this election but the situation affords new opportunities for greater independent activity by these forces and more vigorous intervention on questions of program and candidates.

Charney placed heavy emphasis on the fight for Negro and Puerto Rican representation and the projected possibility for common action on program of and candidates with socialist-minded groups in the elections as well as "the desirability of running Communist candidates for office."

In a 30-minute speech, former City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis discussed a number of aspects of party work. First turning to the international scene he hailed the birth of the republic of Ghana.

"The brightest star on the international political horizon since our first session late January is the emergence of Ghana as a free and independent state," he said. "This is the first time under modern world conditions that a Negro state has been established. This was of great significance because of the fact that the Negro people throughout the world are regarded as the lowest in the scale of the so-called racial hierarchy established by the white supremacists of world imperialism."

Turning to the national scene, Davis said:

"In the center of the national struggle is the upsurge of the Negro peoples of the South. In addition to unofficial terror of the White Citizens Councils and the Ku Klux Klan to frustrate the Negro peoples movement, we now have local courts openly defying the Supreme Court decision against segregation.

"Housing and the desegregation of schools are the two focal issues in the fullest democratic integration of Negro citizens in New York City."

Commenting on some economic questions, the former councilman

urged that "attention be given the high cost of living, which is at an all-time peak."

"This," he added, "is a vital, burning issue in forging an anti-monopoly coalition in our state and nation."

All these issues, Davis emphasized, "give great opportunities to our movement to aid in build-and consolidating the Communist Party."

The convention indicated its desire for unity by electing Charney and Davis by acclamation to the incoming State Committee. Fourteen others were elected by secret ballot, tallying for which was completed at 2:30 a.m. Monday. Among those publicly announced as elected as members-at-large to the new state committee were Simon W. Gerson, Max Weiss, Doxey Wilkerson, Jesus Colon, William L. Patterson, Abner W. Berry, Morris Schappes, George Watt, William Weinstone, William Albertson, Max Gordon, Lillian Gates and Charles Loman.

Principal immediate issue before the convention was the fight for civil rights legislation posed in a report from an unanimous panel. Speed in mounting public support for bills now in the House and Senate—which may be "filibustered to death" was stressed, as was a wide-scale public struggle to implement the Board of Education's recent reports on desegregation in the city school system. A special housing conference to take up the fight for increased public housing for low-income and middle-income groups was also advanced.

Numerous speakers stressed the national convention resolution singling out the fight for civil rights in the South as "the nation's No. 1 democratic task."

A detailed resolution analyzing events in the Soviet Union in respect to the Jewish question was overwhelmingly adopted, with five votes in opposition and 12 abstaining. Resolutions on the Mid-east situation and on the fight against anti-Semitism in the U. S. were referred to the incoming state committee.

[Full text of the adopted resolution on events in the Soviet Union will be published in tomorrow's Daily Worker.]

Yugoslavs

(Continued from Page 5)

councils concept and their system of workers' self-management, Borba claims. But the article continues, "all of a sudden it was revealed that the policy of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia is 'revisionist' that it harms the cause of socialism and that it 'diverts from proletarian internationalism,' etc."

The Yugoslav Communists, however, followed up this article with the French and Italian agreements, noted above, and with their statement on the Soviet H-bomb proposals. The Yugoslav Communists object to a narrow definition of the "socialist camp." In their opinion socialism should not be confused with a bloc of nations. They hold that there are diverse and numerous streams that lead to socialism which cannot be officially contained in what is called the "socialist camp." And they often point to similar ideas on this very question which were expressed a little more than a year ago at the 20th congress of the Soviet Communist Party.