

C.P. STATEMENT ON GATES

(The National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party Friday made public the following statement on the resignation from the party of John Gates):

By his own act John Gates has left the Communist Party. His Klieg-lighted resignation comes as something of an anti-climax to Communists, who have had a series of abortive resignations from Gates. The NAC recommends to the party's National Committee that this resignation be accepted.

Despite serious political differences with his colleagues, Gates was afforded every opportunity to express his viewpoint within the framework of the Communist Party and its constitution.

For instance, while there were serious differences over the suspension of the DAILY WORKER, the recommendation for that suspension was made by an overwhelming majority decision. Elementary democracy requires the acceptance of that decision, whatever the ultimate assessment of the reasons for the suspension may be. Gates' resignation today can objectively only harm the job of maintaining and building the weekly WORKER, the pre-requisite to the resumption in the not-too-distant future of a daily working-class paper.

If Gates really wanted to stand on the decisions of the party's 16th national convention—and not build a new platform outside those decisions—his duty was to remain within our ranks, fight for these decisions, and subordinate his views to the majority.

Gates states that he is still motivated by the desire to work for socialism. But to split and fragmentize the Communist Party is not the way to work for socialism. To destroy the Communist Party is the ardent desire of those like the New York Times—authoritative spokesman of monopoly capital and arch-enemy of socialism—as indicated anew in its editorial of today.

At a later date the appropriate party bodies will consider in detail the political views of Gates and his expressed opposition to our party. At this time we can say of Gates, as the National Administrative Committee said of Joseph Clark in a statement to which Gates subscribed on Sept. 11, 1957:

"He has lost his theoretical bearings. Unable to see that this

crisis is a passing though painful stage in the Party's life, he has lost faith in the Party and its future. He cannot see that the Party is moving to overcome the crisis, and that it has a future of new and significant growth and influence.

"His position is that the 'hope and promise' of the 16th National Convention were not fulfilled. The truth of the matter is that the promises of the 16th convention are being fulfilled. (Recent meetings and decisions) . . . are proof positive that the National Committee is determined to carry forward the decisions of the 16th national convention.

"Today the Communist Party is engaged in a determined effort, along with millions of other Americans, to win the complete integration of the Negro people in the nation's life, to ban the H-bomb, and to advance the economic welfare of the American people."

For some time Gates has been politically disoriented and has been challenging many of the basic principles of scientific socialism, Marxism. He has utilized to the hilt the right of dissent within the organization—coupled with interviews in the commercial press—to carry on a sharp struggle for his views. Now Gates has become an avowed opponent of the Communist Party and its Marxist, American working-class program.

On our part we are confident that the overwhelming majority of the Communist Party and its friends will stand staunchly by the Party in its fight for peace, democracy, security and socialism, as outlined by our convention. We are confident that, far from turning their backs on our movement, they will extend themselves to strengthen the Communist Party and its mass ties, and help build the circulation of the weekly Worker. Such a rebuilding of the working-class press is vital for building a stronger party and Marxist movement capable of making its full contribution in the great struggle for a democratic America and a world of peace and abundance.

Soviet Tea Picker

LONDON, Jan. 12.—The Soviets claimed another "first" today. Moscow Radio said Soviets claimed another "first" to first machine for picking leaves off tea plants.