

Communist Parley Votes To Reestablish Party

By unanimous vote of the 93 delegates to the special national convention of the Communist movement, the Communist Party of the United States was reconstituted yesterday.

This action eliminated the short-lived Communist Political Association which delegates felt had been an outgrowth of policies promoted by Earl Browder minimizing the independent role of the organization and sapping its ability to resist the reactionary policies of American big business.

With genuine enthusiasm the delegates adopted Article I of the new constitution of the Communist Party, which reads:

"The name of the organization shall be the Communist Party of the United States."

As a result of reorganization of the party and development of a vigorous policy of action, there was a general feeling among the delegates that the Communist movement could play a more aggressive role in cooperation with other groups in combatting fascism and reaction.

Section by section the delegates adopted the new constitution, but did not yet pass on the new preamble nor formally approve the constitution as a whole.

At today's session (Saturday) the convention will adopt the constitution as a whole, hear a report on immediate perspectives of the organization from Eugene Dennis, member of the three-man secretariat in charge of activity during the past two months. The convention will pass resolutions and hear reports from Friday's panels dealing with problems of labor, the Negro people, veterans, youth, agriculture and organization.

LIVELY DISCUSSION

There was lively discussion on the constitution, which was designed on the whole to tighten up the organization and increase both the responsibilities and the democratic participation of the members.

Membership in the Communist Party was declared open to any person "who accepts the aims, principles and program of the party as determined by its constitution and conventions, who holds membership in, and attends club meetings, who is active on their behalf, reads the party press and literature and pays dues regularly."

Strongly emphasized in the new constitution was the principle that members of the party have "not only the right, but the responsibility, to participate in the making of its policies and in the election of its leading committees."

Every member of the organization was obligated "to fight with all his strength against any and every effort, whether it comes from abroad or within our country, to destroy the rights of labor and the people, or any section thereof or to impose upon the United States the arbitrary will of any group or clique or conspiracy."

BROWDER PRESENT

Browder was present at part of Friday's discussion on the new constitution in his present capacity as president of the Communist Political Assn., which was in effect dissolved. But he was not a delegate and did not vote.

At a dramatic session Thursday night, Browder defended the policies which were unanimously rejected by the convention in its decision to reconstitute the Communist Party.

Browder adhered to his thesis that the big bourgeoisie of the United States "is driven onward on this path of a progressive policy, not by ideology or humanitarian impulses, but by a much more powerful motive, the search for expanding profitable markets which cannot be realized by any alternative policies.

"They are policies which can be

accepted by the working class as joint policies regardless of the entirely different motives of the working class."

Browder said he agreed with the slogans in the resolution adopted by the National Committee advocating completion of victory in the war against Japan, but declared there was a serious weakness "in its failure to motivate solidly these slogans and even by inference to leave room for doubt among our membership as to our motives and their soundness."

BROWDER DISAGREES

Expressing disagreement with references in the resolution to negative aspects of American policy in the Far East, Browder said:

"It is not enough to note the vacillations of American policy toward China and to denounce this as revealing the aim to maintain the reactionary Kuomintang puppet regime. It is more important and more permanent that official American policy, whatever temporary vacillations may appear, is pressing toward the unity and democratization of China."

While denying that he would build "a Browder opposition," Browder said that "it is a naive view that this convention of the CPA will decide and close the discussion on all these questions."

John Steuben of Local 6, the Hotel and Restaurant Service Employees, AFL, in New York, said Browder "has been teaching us for a long time many things and among them the unity of the Party" but that he had now forgotten these things himself.

BROWDER OPPOSED

Other trade unionists who expressed sharp disagreement with Browder's views included Frederick N. Myers, vice-president of the National Maritime Union, and Ben Gold, president of the Furriers Union. Roy Hudson and Robert Minor, veteran Communist leaders, also took exception to Browder's statements.

But the high point of the discussion came when Eugene Dennis, a member of the three-man secretariat, took the floor to reply to Browder on behalf of the National Committee.

Dennis opened with a brief discussion of the dissolution of the Communist movement in the South which Dennis characterized as "one of the crass examples of the content and direction of our whole revisionist policy."

While accepting his own personal responsibility for Communist activity in the South, Dennis denied suggestions that there had been any "conspiracy" in dissolution of the Communist Party in the South. He said that the mistakes made "arose from our main political line and not any other line."

Turning directly to Browder's remarks, Dennis said the suggestion that the convention would not close the discussion on Party policy was an attempt "to prolong the present discussion over policy and line" and "to pave the way to resist the decisions and actions of this special convention."

Dennis said that the war against Japan "can and must be fought through with the intervention of the peoples as a war for national liberation and democratic aims."

But pointing to the grave dangers of a compromise peace in the Pacific and that big business circles will want to stop short of complete destruction of Japanese imperialism,



TYPING AN ARREST SHEET for the 65-year-old German man (left) who violated curfew regulations in Bamberg, Germany, is Pfc. Lloyd B. Roberts (right), of Annabella, Utah. The German civilian was arrested by military police, U.S. Third Army. He faced a fine of 100 marks for staying out after 9:30 p.m. U.S. Signal Corps photo.



THIS STRIKING PHOTO was made from the bridge of the U.S. cruiser Santa Fe as the ship bucked a wild hurricane somewhere in the South China Sea. Rough weather was no more than an incident of the Santa Fe's front-line duty in the Pacific, where through 25 months she has fought repeatedly without losing a man. Navy photo

Dennis said that this objective of war to the finish "will require the vigilance, the unity and the direct intervention of labor and the people, particularly from our own country."

"To put it briefly, we must help organize and set into motion the broadest labor-democratic coalition of all anti-imperialist forces, of all those desiring to bring Japan to defeat, a movement, a campaign to shake the country and stop the moves toward a compromise peace."

WOULD OUST GREW

Dennis called for the removal of Undersecretary of State Joseph Grew and special assistant Eugene Dooman as advocates of a negotiated peace.

"We must demand a policy of unconditional surrender and make clear that unconditional surrender means the complete destruction of the Japanese war potential and her monopolistic war industries, as well as the prosecution of all war criminals, including the emperor."

Dennis also called for a more serious campaign for an American policy toward China based on the proposals and policies of Yen-an and urged American lend-lease aid to the Yen-an government.

It was Dennis' contention that Browder's position overlooked all the complexities and dangers of the

war in the Pacific and left no room for action by the people to influence American policy in a progressive direction.

As the session was about to adjourn following general criticism of his policies, Browder took the floor to state:

"I further declare that I shall submit myself to the decisions of this convention and I am perfectly ready at any time to give my services in any capacity—any capacity—to the carrying through of the decisions of this convention. I want that to be understood and I want it understood that this is unconditional."

Browder asserted that his speech had been misunderstood and that he did not propose to defy the convention. But William Z. Foster, veteran leader of the Communist movement, served notice that Browder would be expected to adhere strictly to his new pledge.

"This is the second or third time during the course of our discussion that he has made similar pledges and violated them," Foster said. But I want to say this to Comrade Browder: "You may in the National Board make pledges and then the next day violate them, but you are making this pledge before the convention of the Communist Party and you will be held strictly to keeping this pledge."