

# New CP National Committee Reports on First Meeting

The full national committee of the Communist Party met here April 27 and 28, discussed a series of policy problems and then set up a 20-member executive board to function between quarterly committee meetings, it was announced at party headquarters yesterday.

The meeting of the national committee was followed by an executive board meeting on April 29.

Chief policy issues discussed by the national committee members—20 of whom were elected at the February national convention and 46 named by various state organizations—were the civil rights struggle and the status of the Marxist press in the country. A written report by Fred M. Fine on the current developments in the labor movement was submitted to the members of the National Committee for their consideration. Amendments will be acted upon at the next meeting of the National Executive Committee and an article based on this report will be published.

The committee approved a report by former City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis on the civil rights struggle. Davis emphasized the dangerous situation for civil rights in Congress, citing the peril of a new filibuster that would

wreck the chances even of minimal legislation.

He noted the growing, many-sided popular movement against the terror in the South and for executive intervention against racist attacks on supporters of the Supreme Court decision for desegregation of schools and transportation. In this connection Davis stressed the responsibilities confronting the progressive forces in the labor and peoples movement.

Davis also noted the widespread support for the non-partisan May 17 Pilgrimage of Prayer to Washington and the call of its advocates for white trade unionists and others to back the movement.

The National Committee head a sub-committee's collective report on the status of the Marxist press, particularly on the Daily Worker and The Worker.

The report noted the papers' contribution to the current mass movements for outlawing of the H-bomb, for peaceful co-existence, and for active support of the freedom and independence of the nation of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The report likewise detailed the contributions made by these newspapers in advancing the cause of civil rights and civil liberties and in reflecting and helping the fight

for the needs of labor, the Negro people and the farming population.

The report also dealt with the improved role of the Marxist press in the battle of ideas and in popularizing the American Road to Socialism.

At the same time the report examined certain inadequacies and shortcomings of these papers and the need for improvement in many areas of news coverage and for effecting a deeper analysis of events.

In this connection there was considerable attention given to the need of improving the reportage of life, events and achievements in the socialist lands, especially for providing a more thorough-going Marxist analysis of the foreign policy of these countries.

The committee discussed in detail the dangerously low circulation of the Daily Worker and the Week-end Worker. It noted the mounting production costs and other difficulties which have faced these papers and have now reached the point where they threaten the very life of these indispensable publications.

On the basis of the report and discussion in which almost every member of the National Committee participated, the committee voted to adopt the report and rec-

ommendations.

The committee expressed its unanimous and most determined conviction that these Marxist newspapers must be maintained, and pledged its full support to the editors and staff of these papers in their current circulation and financial campaign.

The national committee called upon all members of the Communist Party, all adherents of Socialism, and all progressive workers to join in the great effort to insure the continued publication, improvement and expansion of the Daily Worker and the Week-end Worker.

The national committee received and discussed a report of Eugene Dennis on the functioning of the committee and the organization of its work.

The central feature of this report was the imperative necessity of forging party unity and ending factions and factionalism forthwith.

As the main policy body acting in between the meetings of the national committee, the committee established an Executive Committee of twenty. The National Committee elected William Z. Foster as its Chairman Emeritus.

The full executive committee elected follows:

George Blake Charney, Benjamin J. Davis, Eugene Dennis, Earl Durham, Fred M. Fine, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, William Z. Foster, John Gates, James Jackson and Sidney Stein, all of New York City.

Also, David Davis of Philadelphia, Claude Lightfoot of Chicago, Hy Lumer of Cleveland, George Myers of Baltimore, Carl Ross of Minneapolis, Michael Russo of Boston, Martha Stone of Newark, and Carl Winter of Detroit.

Also, Dorothy Healey of Los Angeles and Michael Lima of San Francisco.

Miss Flynn was elected in the hope that she would serve after completing her three-year sentence under the Smith Act. She is scheduled to be released from the Federal Womens Prison at Alderson, West Va. on May 27. The committee voted to place the question of her serving up to her after her release.

The executive committee was instructed to organize its work and to elect the necessary sub committees as well as heads departments next full session, the National Committee and phases of work. After Executive Committee will issue a press release on these matters, including the names of all chairmen and secretaries elected.