

Communist Party's NC Resolution

An Editorial

On Sept. 23, the National Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S. published its draft resolution dealing with tasks and perspectives in this country. The draft is to be voted on at the national convention called by the CP for February. According to an NC letter to the membership, discussion on the resolution has been opened and will be conducted in a special discussion bulletin. The draft and the letter appeared in the Worker.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously by the NC, with William Z. Zoster and Benjamin Davis, Jr. voting "Yes" with qualifications. Subsequently, in a letter reported in the Sept. 27 Daily Worker, Foster announced he had changed his vote to "No."

The resolution was drafted in such a way as to suppress differences known to exist in the party leadership. The ruling body fears open debate of these differences lest the membership assert control over the party through the democratic process. The top leadership is therefore determined to confront the ranks as a united body. To make sure that the discussion is only a safety valve and does not endanger the power of the ruling group, the draft resolution contains a prohibition of factions.

It remains to be seen whether Foster's "No" vote will now break the solid front the leadership has sought to maintain and allow organized groupings with rival platforms to emerge.

In its political content, the resolution presents no rupture with the Stalinist past. Stalinist domination of the CP meant that its course was determined by the foreign policy requirements of the Soviet bureaucratic caste, in whose interests Stalin ruled. The bureaucracy is still in command in the Soviet Union, and its requirements continue to shape the politics of the American CP leaders. This dictates an intensified effort at this time to achieve a new Yalta-type agreement with U.S. imperialism.

Out of fear of growing revolutionary sentiment in the Soviet bloc, the bureaucracy offers aid to Wall Street in containing the colonial and socialist revolution elsewhere in the world. "Peaceful coexistence" on the basis of helping to maintain the status quo is the traditional Stalinist "peace" program.

The Draft resolution sets achievement of a "people's anti-monopoly coalition" as the strategic task in the U.S. Working for this goal inside the Democratic Party is how the Resolution applies "peaceful coexistence" in this country. The projected "people's coalition" government is sharply counterposed to the aim of working-class rule and the realization of a socialist government in America.

The Draft Resolution further preaches support for the capitalist-minded AFL-CIO bureaucracy. It endorses the union officialdom's policy of keeping the labor movement tied to the Democratic Party. The struggle for socialism is put off to a misty future in the perspective of the NC document.

The Draft Resolution claims to derive tasks and perspectives for American radicals from the new world reality. Because of this, it presents a challenge to the authentic Marxist-Leninist view of our epoch. Opportunist currents have challenged Marxism ever since its birth with the claim that the new reality had rendered invalid basic Marxist tenets. At all times in the past revolutionary socialists came forward to refute the claims of the revisionists and opportunists. In that manner the genuine socialists kept Marxism constantly abreast of events and prepared the ground theoretically for new victories of the working class.

It is in that spirit that the Militant will analyze the anti-socialist character of the Draft Resolution of the NC of the Communist Party.

Against the revisionism of the Draft Resolution we will present the authentic Marxist-Leninist understanding of the present-day world reality and the tasks and perspectives it poses for the socialist-minded workers' vanguard.