

# N. Y. State Convention Held by CP

By Herman Chauka

The state convention of the New York Communist Party, held April 1 and 2, devoted its efforts to trying to maintain the unity of the organization. These efforts were concretized in the election by acclamation of Ben Davis and George Blake Charney to the new state committee, according to a report in the April 3 Daily Worker. Davis is a prominent spokesman for the Foster wing of the Party and Charney a leading New York spokesman for the Gates group. Fourteen others were elected as members at large to the state committee, with an additional 46 to be elected at regional conventions. The largest group of those elected (though they may not be a majority), are supporters of the Gates tendency. Eleven members, not named, were also elected to the national committee from New York.

## ELECTION POLICY

With 425 delegates present, the convention voted almost unanimously to endorse the line of the national convention resolutions. A resolution was also adopted, with five opposed, on the issue of Soviet anti-Semitism (see story, next week.) In addition to discussion on general labor and civil rights issues, the convention heard a report by Charney on the coming New York City elections. Charney repeated the general formula used by the CP in the past presidential election of "campaigning on the issues." In practice, this meant support to the Democrats.

According to the Daily Worker report, Charney also "placed heavy emphasis on the fight for Negro and Puerto Rican representation and the projected possibility for common action on program and candidates with socialist-minded groups in the election as well as 'the desirability of running Communist candidates for office.'"

Meanwhile, as the state convention concluded, Alan Max charged in the Daily Worker, April 4, that "one-sided and, in some cases, thoroughly inaccurate [national] convention accounts, are appearing" in CP papers abroad.

Max takes issue with a report of the convention in the British CP weekly, World News, by John Williamson. He quotes Williamson as writing that "on the question of democratic centralism, the main resolution made important concessions to non-Communist principles and left other formulations open to several interpretations."

Williamson is also taken to task for describing Foster and Dennis by their respective former titles of Chairman and National Secretary of the Party despite the fact that officers have not as yet been elected by the new national committee. Pravda, and the French CP organ L'Humanite, Max says, also carry convention accounts "which completely miss the mark."