

FOSTER CRITICIZES COMMUNIST SHIFT

Chairman Says Party Tries to Downgrade Lenin— Sees Struggle Ahead

William Z. Foster, who is fighting for survival as national chairman of the Communist party, has written a sharp 14,000-word attack on the new party line as approved by the party's national committee.

He accused the committee of "trying to downgrade Lenin" as well as Stalin, and of leaning toward "Browderism."

He saw such trends in the committee's adoption, by a 12-to-1 vote, of a political resolution confessing past errors of leadership. Earl Browder, leader of the Communist party from 1930 to 1945, was expelled by the party in 1946 as a right deviationist.

Mr. Foster cast the only vote against the resolution.

Mr. Foster had no objection to the party's confessing it had "tended to accept uncritically many views of Marxists of other countries."

"But he did complain against the assertion that the party had 'already discarded as obsolete Lenin's thesis that war is inevitable under imperialism.'"

Mr. Foster insisted that the party must prepare for "intense political struggle against powerful, predatory and militant American imperialism."

A rejection of the militant role, he said, would be "reckless and suicidal."

He deplored what he called a "strong right tendency" in the party. He warned this would lead to a repudiation of Marxism-Leninism and could only re-

sult in "liquidation" of the party.

His article, to be published in the October issue of *Political Affairs*, a Marxist theoretical monthly, inveighed bitterly against John Gates, editor of *The Daily Worker*, Communist party organ.

He charged that *The Daily Worker* and the New York State Committee of the Communist Party had adopted "the Browder line" and were seeking "eventual elimination of Marxism-Leninism from our party life."

He accused Eugene Dennis, general secretary, of having failed to emphasize in a report to the national committee that the United States "had been following a policy of war, directed at winning the mastery of the world."

"This understatement of the war danger and of the aggressive role of American imperialism," he said, "put into question the whole political line of the party which * * * had been to fight against the atomic war threat upon the basis that it was a real danger, and that American policy was warlike and aimed at world domination."

Mr. Foster charged that Mr. Dennis' "exaggerations of party errors and shortcomings" had been seized upon by "strong right tendencies" that, he said, wanted "to eliminate the Communist party and show the way for the so-called 'Marxist' party."

It was all right, he said, to try to "Americanize" the Communist party, but the national committee should beware "short-cut proposals that would divorce us from our basic principles."

Mr. Foster called for revision of the resolution before it is presented to the Communist party convention next February.