

MAY DAY FETE HELD BY 2,000 IN UNION SQ.

Left-wing groups mustered 2,000 persons for their annual May Day celebration at the north end of Union Square yesterday. Howard Fast was the chairman. He said the rally was the "biggest" since the Park Department barred the Communists and their followers from holding the meeting in Union Square proper.

On hand were 107 uniformed policemen and a detail of detectives, before the scheduled start of the meeting at 3 P. M. However, the rally did not get under way until 5 P. M. and lasted until 8.

Placards held aloft bore such slogans as: "Repeal Witch Hunt Laws," "Wipe Out Disease Not Cities," "Atomic Energy for Peace Not War," "Let Robeson Sing to the World, Grant his Passport," and "Outlaw Anti-Semites and Jim Crow."

Former Councilman Benjamin J. Davis Jr. brought "greetings" to the crowd from the other top Communists who served in prison with him after their conviction under the Smith Act. The rally was sponsored by the Provisional United Citizens Committee for May Day 1956.

Today from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. the Fourteenth Street Association will hold a patriotic rally in the same enclosure. The Red Cross will be honored. Blood will be donated in a store at 43 East Seventeenth Street, directly across the plaza from the speakers' stand.

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