M.H. Williams on Meeting of Communist and Workers' Parties

THE Communist Party of New Zealand supports the principle of a meeting of the Communist and Workers' Parties to resolve the ideological differences between them." This comment was made by M.H. Williams, President of the Communist Party of New Zealand, in Auckland on April 8.

"In fact, ours was one of the first, if not the first, Party to make this call when it became apparent that the differences were deep-seated," he said.

"Our proposal for a world meeting had this qualification—the differences must be resolved in conformity with the 1957 Declaration and the 1960 81 Parties' Statement.

"These documents stated that where differences arose between Parties they should be discussed between the Parties concerned as free and equal Parties. This principle avoids open public polemical discussion (which started with the attack, at the 22nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1961, on Albania).

"The cessation of polemics can now only result from mutually acceptable agreement which provided the Communist Party of China and others adequate time to complete their replies to the attacks already made.

"Failure to initiate and finalize unilateral and multilateral talks could only lead to a type of meeting where decisions would be taken on the basis of opinions previously held and without recourse to their solution on the foundations of Marxism-Leninism.

"Failure to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Declaration and Statement has led to the position we now see—a proposed meeting where decisions would be taken on the basis of head-counting. It would be fortunate indeed if the proposed meeting did not widen existing rifts and create new ones. Already commentators in the daily press are speculating on the question of two world centres—Moscow or Peking.

"Unfortunately, this approach has been helped by a statement reported to have been made by Mr. Suslov: "The Kremlin will be strong enough to surmount all difficulties and have the ranks closed behind Moscow."

"The Comintern was dissolved in 1943. Since then some Parties, particularly the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of China, have enjoyed some moral authority because of their historical records. However, this is a much different thing to the concept of an organized centre or centres and some Parties leading other Parties.

"Certainly, it is not in conformity with the principle of 'free and equal Parties' as set out in the 1960 Statement.

"Finally, whatever the outcome of the proposed meeting, if and when it is held, one thing is certain—the principles of Marxism-Leninism will eventually triumph. The people in action will ensure that," added Williams.

Jacques Grippa Condemns C.P.S.U. Leadership's New Splitting Activities

THE publication of Suslov's report constitutes a grave new step in the rabid splitting activities which the revisionists have engaged in over the years," says an editorial by Jacques Grippa, Secretary of the Belgian Communist Party, in the April 10 issue of the Party's organ La Voix du Peuple.

Grippa was commenting on the report delivered by M.A. Suslov, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, at the Central Committee's February Plenum. The editorial entitled "Marxist-Leninist Unity" says: "Suslov's report is an out-and-out calumny and lie against Marxist-Leninists.

"It is a disgusting hodgepodge of rubbish from the old-line revisionism of Bernstein, Kautsky and Trotsky.

"It is national egoism turned into great-power chauvinism which demands that the Communist Parties submit to the foreign policy serving imperialism.