

# FOSTER OPENS COMMUNIST CONVENTION

## Green Anti-Soviet Plank to Democrats Assailed by Labor

### Kennedy, Brown Mitchell Score The Proposal Of A.F.L. Head

### Washington Progressives Barred from Parley on Resolutions

By Alan Max  
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, PHILADELPHIA, June 24.—Labor representatives in attendance here, freely expressed their disagreement this afternoon with William Green's proposal of a Democratic plank for withdrawal of Soviet recognition.

Thomas Kennedy, Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania and Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, called Green's proposal "the bunk." Kennedy is here as a delegate-at-large from this state.

He also criticized the weakness of Green's suggestion for a constitutional amendment, requiring a two-thirds vote by the Supreme Court in order to nullify acts of Congress. "The United Mine Workers believe that the Court should not be permitted to void acts of Congress under any circumstances at all," Kennedy said.

**Brown Disagrees**

Heywood Brown, President of the American Newspaper Guild, who urged the Resolutions Committee to incorporate a stiff constitutional amendment plank, said later of Green's anti-Soviet speech that he was "quite certain that the membership of the Newspaper Guild does not agree with William Green on withdrawal of recognition."

Outspoken opposition to such a plank was also voiced by Harry L. Mitchell, Secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, here to seek support for a plank on Federal legislation to protect the organizational rights of both agricultural and industrial workers, also urged such a plank.

Members of the Platform Committee displayed varying reactions to Green's speech. Senators Hugo Black of Alabama and Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma said they were opposed to breaking off trade relations with the Soviet Union. But Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, declared that he "had never been in favor of recognition."

Representative Byron Scott, delegate from California, though not a member of the Platform Committee, said he hoped that such a plank as Green proposed would not be adopted.

**West Coast Progressives**

There are delegates to this Democratic convention who understand the necessity of having local Farmer-Labor parties in the field in November.

These same delegates want to see a "production-for-use" plank inserted in the Democratic platform. But they are not very hopeful of getting a hearing.

I visited the headquarters of the delegation from the state of Washington today and interviewed County Commissioner Louis Nash of Seattle and State Senator Mary Farquarson. These people represent the most progressive position at the convention. There are a few more like them scattered throughout the other Pacific Coast and mid-western delegations. But they have no contact with one another.

They are at one end of the wide range of political thought and in-

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**Empire Gone, Eden Tells Haile Selassie**

LONDON, June 24 (UPI).—

### Plank to Curb Court Asked At Democratic Convention

### 30-Hour Week Also Urged by A. F. of L.—Pickets Assemble at Headquarters

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June 24.—Delegates returning to the Democratic headquarters today between sessions were concerned to find the Hotel Bellevue Stratford being picketed. Representatives of the American Federation of Teachers and of the American League Against War and Fascism carried signs calling upon Senator Joseph T. Robinson, of Arkansas, to halt the terror against sharecroppers in his state. Robinson is to be elected permanent chairman of the convention at tonight's session.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24.—Demands that the curbing of the Supreme Court's power and the thirty-hour work week be New Deal planks in the forthcoming election were placed today before the platform committee of the Democratic national convention by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Heywood Brown, president of the American Newspaper Guild, appeared before the committee to insist that the platform framers include the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively.

Green and Brown were among a series of witnesses before the committee, headed by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York. Others included Helen Doriot, of the American League Against War and Fascism; Edward A. O'Neal of the American Farm Bureau; Louis J. Taber, head of the National Grange, and Representative Caroline O'Day of New York.

**Asked to Denounce Fascism**

Miss Doriot, speaking on behalf of her organization, urged the committee to include a strongly-worded section denouncing fascism.

Brown also called for a Federal requirement that newspaper owners publish stock and bond holdings outside of the newspaper business.

Among the demands made by Green were:

**The thirty-hour week.**

### Lemke Aide Admits Defeat

### Coalition With Smith and Townsend Groups Sought

(By United Press)

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Rep. Usher L. Burdick, national campaign manager for Rep. William Lemke, Union Party Presidential candidate, today admitted defeat in the November elections.

Burdick accepted Lemke's invitation to manage his Presidential campaign and to become National Committee chairman of the Union Party with evident pleasure. "I've always wanted to run a Presidential campaign," he said.

The immediate problem of Burdick and Lemke is to effect a coalition with Father Charles E. Coughlin's Union for Social Justice, Dr. Francis E. Townsend's Old-Age Pension group, and the remnants of Huey Long's Share-the-Wealth Organization, headed by the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith.

Coughlin already has pledged support of his organization. Support of the other two appeared nearer after a conference attended by Lemke, Burdick, Townsend and Smith.

**Support Pledged**

KANKAKEE, Ill., June 24 (UP).—The National Farmers' Union will support the Union Party and the candidacy of Rep. William Lemke of North Dakota for President and Thomas Clark O'Brien of Boston for Vice-President, Union officials said today.

Lemke will visit national headquarters here to confer with Farmers' Union officials, state officers said.

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### Roper Acts To Enforce Blacklisting Of Seamen

### Copeland Bill Passes—He Waits the Signature of Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Enforcement of all details of the government blacklist against seamen considered "troublemakers" or "agitators" was started today by a special meeting of the advisory committee action under authority of Secretary of Commerce Daniel C. Roper.

The committee was called into session to discuss a new series of departmental regulations calculated to put the provisions of the Copeland-Bland "Safety at Sea" act into effect. The Copeland measure passed the House of Representatives in the last hours of its sessions, and now awaits the almost certain signature of President Roosevelt.

Just what this bill means was stated authoritatively by Joseph B. Weaver, director of the future Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation provided by the Copeland-Bland Law.

Weaver interpreted the bill in an interview in Boston. He said:

**"Most Far Reaching"**

"The new legislation to deal with the menace of radicalism is the most far reaching of its kind ever put through and consists principally of the adoption of a 'continuous discharge' book, which will be virtually a service record of every seaman and is patterned somewhat after a passport.

"A photograph will be part of the book, which will contain a full account of the man's work as well as notations that mark the owner as a breeder of dissatisfaction or a trouble-maker.

"Shipmasters will retain these books, and they are to be turned over to the shipowner when the seaman is paid off or discharged with necessary notations entered in the presence of a United States Shipping Commissioner. Duplicates will be kept in Washington and, when a seaman leaves one vessel, his chances of signing on some other ship will depend almost entirely on this record. Under this system undesirable will be kept ashore and many cases of outbreaks among crews of American ships that have occurred recently will be avoided in the future."

### G-Men Chief Asks Forming Of Vigilantes

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 24.—J. Edgar Hoover, the chief of the "G-Men" who caught Dillinger but who has done nothing about the Black Legion killers—wants to organize vigilante committees throughout the nation.

In a speech made today before the Kiwanis international convention, the head of the Department of Justice called for the organization of "Law and Order" committees in every community. Under the cloak of a mythical attack on "crooked politicians, fat-brained and flat-footed policemen and politically controlled pardon boards," Hoover suggested the formation of vigilante groups.

Workers and trade unionists in many sections of the country have felt the lash of just such "Law and Order" bands, which the leading "G" man would form. The recent big rubber strike in Akron was threatened with armed violence by a "law and order" group in that city.

## Browder Gets Thunderous Ovation; Krumbein and Gil Green Report

### 751 Delegates at Sessions Plan for 1936 Elections

### MANY NEGROES Foster Summarizes C.P. Program of Struggle Against Reaction

By Joseph North

They lay down the planks today over which 130,000,000 will march eventually to a "free, peaceful, prosperous and happy America."

The procession has already started. The 751 registered delegates attest to that.

You can see it right here before your eyes. Workmen from the shops snatched an hour off at lunch to file by the rostrum bearing bouquets of roses to present the Communists.

"I represent the workers of the Pennsylvania railroad..."

"... the seamen of the port of New York..."

"... the traction employes in the Harlem car-barn..."

All bearing bouquets to give the Communists.

Ever read anything like that about the convention of the Donkey or of the Elephant?

Truly, as Earl Browder wrote recently: "Communism is the Twentieth Century Americanism." The vanguard of America is here. Glance at the placards they bear. The spirit of '76—drummer boys, fier and standard bearer—march again on the banner dominating the hall. The faces of Washington, Jefferson, John Brown, Lincoln and Frederick Douglass look down from the canvases on the balcony.

Al Smith may take his walk pretending to follow the shades of Jefferson and Jackson but his high silk hat spalls it. Here are the real Americans.

Yankee Doodle as well as the International was the theme song.

**Foster Speaks**

William Z. Foster, the Indomitable Warrior, returned from his sick leave, to deliver the opening speech.

"The old order has the seal of death upon its forehead," he said. "But it is not willing to die."

The grave-diggers of the old order—as Marx called them—are here in convention. They are also the builders of a new life.

"We are meeting under the shadow of menacing fascism and war," Foster says.

The placards on the balcony mirror the story. You see the trim, respectable rows of crosses on Flanders Field labeled, "War Under Capitalism." You see the smiling faces on Soviet workers, labeled, "Peace Under Socialism."

Jim Crow bowed Jim Farley at the Democratic convention. A great percentage of the delegates here are Negroes, interspersed among the whites in the hall. The placards show Jim Crow in the saddle: "Lynching Under Capitalism." Counterposing that you see the various peoples of the U.S.S.R. in fraternity: "Equality Under Socialism."

Over all the slogan, "For a free, peaceful, prosperous, happy America." Dimitroff's statement on the red banner draping over the platform: "Let the clarion call of Marx and Engels, Lenin and Stalin, the battle cry of the Communist In-

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### AFTER OPENING CONVENTION



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

—Photo League

## Foster's Speech

The text of the address by William Z. Foster, chairman of the Communist Party, opening the Ninth National Convention follows:

Comrades:

This Ninth Convention of the Communist Party of the United States meets at a moment of universally recognized crisis. The old order of things is collapsing about our ears. Capitalism, which is the private ownership by a few rich families, of the economic machinery of our land, reveals itself as the destroyer of the productive forces it itself has created, and even more, the destroyer of the people, millions of whom it has thrown upon the scrap-heap along with its idle and rusted machinery.

The old order has the seal of death upon its forehead. But it is not willing to die. It fights desperately to maintain itself and its power over the people. It risks all to keep up the fabulous profits to the level of the period of its prosperity. It throws the cost of the crisis onto the shoulders of the poor. Seeing the people rebelling, it frantically seeks to cancel the democratic rights and civil liberties of the people, prepares civil war against them, organizes Black Legions, Ku Klux Klans, and self-styled Liberty Leagues. It takes refuge in an irresponsible oligarchy—the Supreme Court—which it hopes is out of the reach of the people. It prepares to throw the whole world into a new and more terrible war which threatens to blot out civilization.

**FASCISM AND WAR**

We are meeting under the shadow of menacing fascism and war.

Millions of our people are awakening to our dangerous situation. Millions are becoming aware that the old order is dying.

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### C.P. Offers People Only Way Out of Crisis, Says Foster

### LABOR PARTY URGED Browder Cites Aim of Progressive Forces to Meet People's Needs

By A. B. Magil

[The full text of the speeches by Charles Krumbein, William Foster and Earl Browder appear elsewhere in this issue.]

A gavel made by a former Negro slave yesterday rapped to order the convention of the party of liberation of the entire people—the Communist Party of the United States.

A total of 751 delegates and about as many more invited guests arose to give a stormy ovation for the chairman of the Communist Party, William Z. Foster, leader of the great 1919 steel strike, as he received the gavel from Charles Krumbein, New York State Secretary of the Party.

Foster, who has only recently returned to active work after a long illness, made the opening speech of the convention.

**Nominations Sunday**

The convention was opened in the ball-room of the Manhattan Opera House, Thirty-fourth Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues. It will continue there for the rest of the week, winding up Sunday with a public session at Madison Square Garden, where the Party's Presidential ticket will be nominated, its platform adopted and a National Committee elected.

The afternoon session began with another tumultuous ovation for Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, who made the keynote speech and main report to the convention. Ella Reeve (Mother) Bloor, beloved 73-year-old veteran of countless labor and farm struggles, acted as chairman of this session.

The membership of the Party, it was announced by Earl Browder, general secretary, is now about 40,000, plus 11,000 in the Young Communist League. This is a 66 per cent increase since the last Communist convention two years ago, and a 500 per cent rise since 1929.

The high-point of convention enthusiasm was reached at the conclusion of Browder's keynote speech. The entire audience arose like one man and applauded and cheered for fully twenty minutes. Then the delegates grabbed their state standards and started marching around the hall, concluding with enthusiastic singing of the "Internationale."

Following Browder's speech, Gil Green, national secretary of the Young Communist League, gave a report on work among the youth, and Krumbein spoke on the training of leading personnel. In the evening the convention committees held their meetings.

The 751 delegates represent every state in the Union. Of these, 325 are regular delegates, 136 are al-

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**Demand Made Chiang Sever With Japan**

HONGKONG, June 24.—South-

# Foster's Speech

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millions who do not yet understand socialism, the new order, and the road by which it must be reached.

We take our stand, shoulder to shoulder with the masses of the people, and in the front line of all their struggles. Our program is one of immediate unity of these masses, in the daily fight for better living conditions, maintenance and extension of their democratic rights, and for peace. Our program is for the people's front against reaction, fascism and war—for peace, freedom, and prosperity for our country.

In this immediate task, also, history has already given us proof of the correctness of the Communist program. The glorious victories of the people's front in France, its electoral triumph and its immediate translation into better wages and working conditions, more complete and solid organization of the masses, especially in the trade unions, its repulse of the reactionaries—these are the first fruits of the Communist program when followed by a majority of the people, even when only the first steps of this program are accepted by the majority.

## PATH TO VICTORY

The triumph of the people against their oppressors, in partial and temporary fields of struggle or in the final struggle for socialism, is gained only where the program of the Communist Party is followed, in part or in full. Victory can be gained only in the path pointed out by the Communist Party. . . . .

Our party has its roots deep in American life and revolutionary traditions. We inherit and continue the traditions of 1776, of the Declaration of Independence, of the birth of our nation in the fires of revolutionary upheaval. We inherit and continue the tradition of Lincoln, of the Emancipation Proclamation, of the revolutionary Civil War. We inherit and continue the tradition of generations of heroic struggle to

build the American labor movement with its organizations, from the days of illegality to its great promise of today, when, for the second time, it challenges its greatest enemy, the Steel Trust.

At the same time our Party is international. Our greatest pride is that we bring to the American people the accumulated wisdom and knowledge of the toiling people of the whole world, that we unite our growing strength with the rising movement of the toiling people throughout the world, that we are a section of the World Party of the toilers—the Communist International.

## THE CRISIS TODAY

Today, the American people face a crisis, deeper and more far-reaching than those of 1776 and 1861. We have the most complete confidence that our people will meet the test of this crisis in the spirit of its best revolutionary traditions. This Ninth Convention of the Communist Party of the United States represents the vanguard of the American people, come together to discuss the difficult problems of our working masses, and to find the best, the quickest, the least painful way out. Our decisions will be our own, as the fight is ours. We will be encouraged and strengthened by the knowledge that all over the world, our brothers and sisters are finding their way also along the same path.

Along this path we will find the way to unite the toilers of America against their enemies, the monopolists and bankers of Wall Street, and all their agents. Along this path we will find the road to a better life. Along this path we will unite with our friends of all lands to maintain peace in the world. Along this path we will forge a mighty people's front against reaction, fascism and war—a Farmer-Labor Party. Along this path we will march on toward socialism.

I now declare that the Ninth Convention of the Communist Party of the United States is open.