

REDS HUNT HOTEL FOR CONVENTION

20 Buildings Here Denied to Party—Assessment Made With Call for Parley

A formal call for a national convention, apportioning votes and levying assessments for expenses, was made public yesterday by the national committee of the American Communist party.

A spokesman said the party had been refused space by more than twenty New York City halls and hotels, but still intended to hold the session here Feb. 9 to 12 as announced Aug. 27.

Delegates are to be elected by district organizations—two for each district where there are fifty or fewer members; three for each 100 members in any district up to a total of 600 members; and two delegates for each 100 members above 600.

Such a basis would call for at least 600 delegates if the party's membership remained as high as the 20,000 to 25,000 members estimated by Eugene Dennis, general secretary, last September. However, the spokesman said only 300 to 320 delegates were expected, ascribing this to financial difficulties. Those attending are to divide the vote.

Assesment Is Levied

The call levied an assessment of \$2 each for employed party members and fifty cents each for unemployed members and housewives to pay for convention costs.

The Communist convention would be the first since December, 1950, during the Ko-

rean war. It comes after the party had been hit hard by Smith Act convictions of many leaders here, and after the international Communist movement has been shaken by Soviet downgrading of the late Josef Stalin and by nationalist upsurges in Hungary and Poland.

The convention call said there were now "new vistas" for peace and for progress in the United States. But it added that "our party will not be able to play its role unless it corrects past errors and strengthens its ties with the American working class and people's movement."

"Our party is at the most critical juncture of its history," the call went on. Domestic developments and "the revelations of serious weaknesses and injustices in the socialist world," it said, had led the membership to "spirited debate around our theory, policies, program and organizational forms."