

COMMUNIST PARTY SETS CONVENTION

**First National Meeting Since
1950 to Be Held Here
From Feb. 9 to 12**

The first national convention of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. since 1950 is to be held in this city next Feb. 9 to 12, the party's national committee announced yesterday.

The party also reported it was working on changes in its program and structure "in the light of new conditions." Proposed changes are to be made public in mid-September, along with any different views individual party leaders may choose to disclose. Any final decision is to be taken at the convention.

The party's last national convention—the fifteenth—was held Dec. 28 through 31, 1950, behind closed doors here at the time of the Korean war. At that time, William Z. Foster, national chairman, called on members to oppose preparations for "an imperialist war" and charged President Harry S. Truman with rejecting "eminently fair proposals" by the Chinese Communists and Russians for settling the Korean conflict.

Yesterday's statement said the convention date had been set at a four-day "enlarged meeting of the national committee" at party headquarters, 101 West Sixteenth Street, that ended Sunday. The statement added that "the long gap between conventions was due to the imprisonment of many party leaders under the Smith Act, political persecutions and harassment of party members."

The committee also was said to have approved "a preliminary draft" of a resolution on "the present condition of the country, outlook for the people's fight against the monopolies, the American path to socialism, and proposed changes in the work and structure of the party in the light of new conditions and of an analysis of the functioning of the organization in recent years."

The committee assertedly took into account discussions in the last three months—a period of party turmoil following Soviet Communist leaders' devaluation of the views and policies of the late Joseph Stalin.

According to the statement, "controversial questions in various sections and paragraphs were resolved by majority vote." The committee is to meet again to complete the draft for mid-September publication, with state, county and section meetings to pass upon it thereafter.

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