

FOSTER DISCLOSES COMMUNIST SPLIT

Chairman of Party Opposes Committee Majority on Plans for Future

William Z. Foster charged yesterday that a proposal by a majority of the Communist party's national committee would keep the party "paralyzed in its mass work and a prey to factional discord."

The Communists' 75-year-old national chairman said "the bulk of the party membership" wanted a decision at next month's national convention to continue as a party. A majority of the national committee has proposed, instead, a further period of discussion on possibly changing the organization into a political association.

Mr. Foster also asserted, with respect to Hungary, that the "bulk of the party" had come to "the same opinion as that of Communists in other countries, particularly with regard to the 'grim necessity' for the Red Army to enter that country to prevent a very serious growth of reaction and war danger."

The Foster statement was published in *The Daily Worker*, along with a reply by Sid Stein, chairman of the convention resolution committee. The result was a disclosure at party headquarters that the majority recommendation to delay decision on the party's name and form beyond the Feb. 9-12 convention had carried with ten votes in favor.

Two Votes Against

The only negative votes were cast by Mr. Foster and former City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis. Eugene Dennis, the party's general secretary, abstained, although he had moved separately to go ahead definitively as a party and to reject the political association proposal.

John Gates, editor of *The Daily Worker*, and other New York leaders who have favored turning the party into a political association voted with the majority for delay and more discussion.

Mr. Foster labeled the political association proposal "liquidationist," and asserted the majority planned that "the matter should not be settled until a special convention a year later."

Mr. Stein denied any idea of a year's delay. He cited the majority text, which proposed review at some "appropriate time."