

U. S. REDS UPHOLD NAGY'S EXECUTION

National Committee Rejects
Criticism—Two Leaders
Reported to Have Quit

By HARRY SCHWARTZ

An attempt to keep the American Communist party from endorsing the execution of Imre Nagy failed at a meeting of the party's national committee late in June.

The Worker, the party's weekly organ, reported yesterday that the national committee had defeated, 28 to 10, a resolution criticizing a Daily Worker editorial last month on the Nagy execution. That editorial supported the execution, accepting the guilt of the former Hungarian Premier and his associates as having been proved.

The factional inroads upon the party leadership were indicated by the fact that only thirty-nine of the national committee's fifty-seven members attended the meeting. Sources close to the party reported that a number of the absent members, including George Blake Charney, former New York State chairman, and Sidney Stein, former party secretary, had resigned. They could not be reached yesterday for confirmation.

The meeting elected a new slate of officers for the party and expanded the party's national executive committee to thirteen members.

New Officers Elected

The new officers include Eugene Dennis, national secretary; Robert Thompson, executive secretary; James Jackson, secretary for Negro and Southern affairs; Arnold Johnson, legislative secretary, and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, national field organizer.

The national executive committee now includes Benjamin Davis, Mr. Dennis, Mrs. Flynn, Mr. Jackson, A. Krchmarek, Claude Lightfoot, Micky Lima, Hy Lumer, George Meyers, Burt Nelson, Jack Stachel, Mr. Thompson and Carl Winter.

Mr. Thompson reported that considerable gains had been

made since last February in increasing and stabilizing the party's membership. At the same time he assailed the party's left and right wings, whom he accused of engaging in factional activity.

The committee decided unanimously to postpone for at least six months consideration of the shift of the party's national headquarters from New York to Chicago as ordered by the February, 1957, national convention. The cost of such a move, The Worker said, "creates an impossible added burden at a time the party and the Marxist press are facing a period of the most serious financial difficulties."

Sources close to the party reported that Mr. Davis had attempted at the meeting to secure the removal of Dorothy Healey as leader of the Communist party in Southern California, but was defeated. With the illness of William Z. Foster, Mr. Davis is generally regarded as leader of the Stalinist faction among the American Communists.