

Negro Congress Votes Aid to Maritime Unions

By Claudia Jones

DETROIT, June 4.—Support to the coming maritime strike was among the resolutions voted at the closing session of the National Negro Congress.

Organization of a Negro Political Action group was also voted. It was decided to move the Congress national headquarters to Detroit.

After hearing Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO, and Josh Lawrence of the NMU strike committee, the convention decided to establish a committee of 22 leading Negroes to

aid the seamen.

Charles Collins, vice-president, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL, outlined the principles followed by the trade union department by the NNC.

A resolution unanimously voted which had been reported by Marcel Scherer, representative, District 4, United Electrical Workers, stated that, "all of organized labor will be compelled to fight for its very self-preservation and security.

"We must assure with all means at our command, that in this struggle, there is no return to any condition pitting white and Negro workers against each other, to the advantage of their common enemy."

The NNC jobs resolution set as its goal "striving to maintain as a minimum, the levels of employment of Negroes won during the war years."

It likewise urged government ownership of the giant war plants which private industry refuses to operate.

"Such government ownership, and government ownership of the natural resources, will provide jobs, sorely needed by Negro workers displaced from many of these plants north and south, and for returning veterans," the resolution said.

The resolution also urged that federal and state governments undertake without delay programs of vitally needed public works improvements, to provide jobs "for unemployed war workers and veterans whom private industry is failing to employ."

UNION DEPARTMENT

A permanent trade union department of NNC will be headed by Donald Henderson, international president of the Food and Tobacco Workers; William Young, United Steel Workers, and representatives of CIO President Philip Murray's Wage Policy Committee: Mervyn Rathbone, California State Industrial Council; Raymond Tillman, Transport Workers Union; Hodges Mason, United Auto Workers, and Charles Collins. A maximum of

three more persons would include Marcel Scherer, named co-chairman of the committee, a railroad brotherhood representative, and a leading woman trade unionist.

Thirteen vice-presidents were elected. They are, Ferdinand Smith, New York; Edward E. Strong, New York; Collins; Matthew L. Crawford, California; Robbie Mae Riddick, Suffolk, Va.; Rev. A. C. Williams, Detroit; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown; Raymond Tillman; Osceola McCaine, Southern Conference for Human Welfare; Dr. J. S. Bourne, Boston; Frederick Tashme, American Jewish Congress, Chicago; Walter Frisbee, Indiana; and J. B. Simmons, State Council, Toledo, O.

An executive board of 77 was elected. The New Yorkers of the board include City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis; John Goodman, AFL; Ada B. Jackson; Herbert Aptheker; Josh Lawrence; Henry Winston; Ewart Guinier; Hope Stevens, and Doxey Wilkerson.

ELECT EMITH

Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the National Maritime Union, was elected first vice president of the National Negro Congress at the NNC's convention in Detroit, which closed Monday.

Turn Jack Turk Over to Home

Jack Turk, 14-year old baby sitter who was recently acquitted of first degree murder charges in the death of 3-year old Sybil Gurfein, was placed yesterday under the supervision of the Jewish Board of Guardians for "prolonged and intensive care and treatment."

The action was taken by Justice W. Bruce Cobb in Children's Court, Jamaica, after consideration of reports by psychiatrists of Youth House, Manhattan, where young Turk has been since his acquittal May 9.

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