

NEGRO CONFERENCE SPLIT ON RED ISSUE

Leaders in Conflict on Soviet and Communism Here and Vote Clash Is Slated

ALIEN 'CONTROL' ASSAILED

Congress President Denounces American Party, Secretary Asks Its Cooperation

WASHINGTON, April 27 (UP)—Leaders of the third national Negro congress split tonight on the issue of Soviet Russia and Communist party aid to the struggle of the American Negro for equality of opportunity.

A. Phillip Randolph, congress president, and John P. Davis, secretary, were in conflict in their opening speeches to the congress. It was not clear which had the support of a majority of the 2,000 congress delegates, many of whom were white representatives of trade unions, the American Youth Congress and similar groups. The relative strength of these viewpoints may be indicated at the election of officers tomorrow.

Mr. Randolph, head of the A. F. L. Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, denounced the Soviet Union as a "dictatorship" which seeks imperialistic expansion of power "over weaker peoples, regardless of color."

In Russia, Mr. Davis said, he had seen "its many nations and people busy and working in amity, collaboration and peace," and he knew of "their deep friendship and aid to all oppressed peoples."

Attitudes on Communists

Mr. Randolph was vigorous in his condemnation of the American Communist party, while Mr. Davis

did not mention the party specifically except to say that the congress welcomed cooperation of all organizations "whether they be Socialist or Republican, Communist or Democrat or non-partisan."

"The Communist party is not primarily, or fundamentally, concerned about the Negro or labor in America, but with fulfilling and carrying out the needs and demands of the consolidation of the foreign position of the Soviet Union in world politics," Mr. Randolph declared.

"Hence, the rapid, amazing and ridiculous shifts in its line on trade union methods, peace and war, the doctrine of self-determination of smaller nationalities, fascism, nazism, unity of the American labor movement, the Negro liberation movement, the New Deal, the Popular Front, the League of Nations, democracy, collective security, and a third term.

"The Negroes do not reject the Communist party because it is revolutionary or radical, or because of its alleged extremism. They reject it because it is controlled and dominated by a foreign State, whose policy may or may not be in the interests of the United States or the Negro people.

Wants "Red" Handicap Avoided

"But the Negroes cannot afford to add to the handicap of being 'black' the handicap of being 'red.'"

To keep out of war, Mr. Davis asserted, the American people should deny any aid—financial or arms—to any of the belligerents in Europe. He urged Negroes to join with organized labor and youth in demanding that the Administration end its "disastrous policy" of "taking sides" in the foreign conflict.

"I firmly believe," he said, "that the American Negro will refuse to follow American imperialism in an attack upon the Soviet Union, will refuse to fall victims to anti-Soviet adventures, will refuse to join American or world imperialism in any attack against the Soviet people."

In discussing domestic issues, the two leaders agreed on the need of larger relief funds, for enactment of the anti-lynching and anti-poll

tax legislation, and denounced both the Republican and Democratic parties.

It was indicated that the Congress will accept tomorrow John L. Lewis's invitation to cooperate with Labor's non-partisan league. Mr. Lewis is seeking to merge youth, Negro and old age pension organizations into a league that will enhance his bargaining position in the Democratic national convention.