

Student Union Calls Dies Quiz 'National Menace' Refuses by 322 to 29 To Condemn Russia For Attack on Finland

By the United Press.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 30.—The American Student Union's fifth annual convention today denounced the Department of Justice for its activities against the Communist party and called the Dies Congressional Committee on un-American Activities a "national menace."

The convention made the denunciations in resolutions adopted after it had rejected, 322 to 29, a resolution terming Russia the aggressor in the war with Finland.

The Dies resolution had been expected. The committee had called the union a "breeding ground for Communism." The resolution condemned the committee for "its attacks upon all progressive organizations, including the American Student Union," and urged Congress "to put an end to this national menace and appropriate funds instead for the La Follette Civil Liberties Committee."

Stand on Browder Rejected.

The Department of Justice resolution was adopted by a voice vote after the convention had rejected, 192 to 165, a similar resolution which referred specifically to government prosecution of Fritz Kuhn, German-American Bund leader, and Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist party of America.

"We are opposed to the use of federal or local police against minority groups, particularly as used recently against the Communist party," the resolution said. "We are opposed to the action of the Department of Justice in employing technicalities against political personalities; furthermore the rumor that a bill is to be introduced into Congress to outlaw the Communist party we regard as the greatest menace to civil liberties, and if the bill is introduced the A. S. U. must make as one of its main objectives the fight against such a bill."

Vote on Russia a Surprise.

The overwhelming vote against condemnation of Russia came as a surprise. The resolution, presented by Allen Gottlieb, Harvard University, said "that while the A. S. U. has no sympathy for the Russian attack on Finland and specifically condemns it as a clear act of aggression, nevertheless it does not want to see our neutrality prejudiced."

Joseph Lash, New York City, national secretary of the union, and Molly Ward, Chicago, national chairman, had urged that the resolution be adopted. Instead the convention approved a compromise resolution blaming German aggression and Great Britain's policies toward Soviet Russia as the causes of the European war.

The resolution condemned the United States' \$10,000,000 loan to Finland, the moral embargo against Russia and the sale of 44 planes that had been intended for the navy, to Finland.