

LEFTISTS IN DRIVE FOR STATE TICKET

Call Parley Here to Set Up
1958 Slate—Communists
Interested in Project

By PETER KIHSS •

Left-wingers are moving ahead with plans for a state ticket in this year's election. This would pull together elements of the defunct American Labor party and the continuing Socialist Workers party, a Trotskyite group.

Politically such a move would appear more to hurt Governor Harriman and the Democrats, who might otherwise get some of the votes involved, than the Republicans.

The left-wingers hope to attract 50,000 votes—just about what they drew in 1954, when Governor Harriman slipped in by 11,125. The A. L. P. then polled 46,886 for John T. McManus, and the Socialist Workers 2,617 for David L. Weiss.

Lamont Backs Move

There has been no A. L. P. ticket since, but the Socialist Workers moved up to 13,453 votes for Mrs. Joyce Cowley for Mayor here last year.

A key leader in the new move is Dr. Corliss Lamont, lecturer in philosophy at Columbia University. As 1952 United States Senate candidate of the Progressive party, the then A. L. P. ticket, Dr. Lamont garnered 104,702 votes, far above the 64,211 for Vincent T. Hallinan for President.

A New York State Independent Political Conference has been called for June 13, 14 and 15 at the Great Northern Hotel, 118 West Fifty-seventh Street.

Henry H. Abrams, last New York County A. L. P. chairman in 1955, said yesterday a May 2 call had gone to 800 persons and had produced enough response so that a new bid would be sent to 10,000.

The initial call was signed by Dr. Lamont, Mr. McManus, Mrs. Cowley, Mr. Abrams, Richard DeHaan, W. E. B. Dubois, Mrs. Muriel McAvoy, Otto Nathan, Russ Nixon, Annette Rubenstein, Howard Selsam and George Stryker, all as individuals.

The Socialist Workers headquarters said yesterday that its national committee had proposed a joint ticket last February. It urged its members to attend.

Communists Interested

Asked if any official Communist party representatives had been approached, Mr. Abrams said yesterday that some had been. "They've indicated some interest but not entire agreement with the project," he added.

The conference will have final decision on whether to run a ticket, but Dr. Lamont said the chances were "60 to 40" in favor of putting up candidates for the four top state offices and the United States Senate. To get on the ballot, the group must get 12,000 signatures, including fifty from each of the state's sixty-two counties.

The conference announcement charged that "the political machines of our state and nation" agreed on "brink-of-war poli-

cies" and "continued nuclear weapons testing." This system, the announcement said, raises danger of "a new economic collapse," denial of civil rights, impoverished education, inflation, high taxes and juvenile delinquency.