

In 1954, William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, USA, pointed out that the Party's struggle against chauvinism must be combined with the fight against Negro bourgeois nationalism. He stated:

"While the Communist Party militantly combats white chauvinism as the worst ideological menace to Negro-white co-operation and solidarity, it does not ignore the lesser danger of Negro bourgeois nationalism as a divisive force. It fights on both fronts. Bourgeois-nationalist ideology 'is the instrument through which the Negro petty bourgeois leaders, posing as champions of general "race" interests, i. e., the interests of the whole Negro people, seek to rally them in support of the narrow class interests of the Negro bourgeoisie.' It manifests itself in a two-fold way: in reformist illusions of automatic integration into white institutions and, consequently, in the idea that there is no need to struggle against the white oppressors; or in sectarian, isolationist policies of segregationism. In both cases it is a surrender to white supremacy."<sup>48</sup>

In 1955, Foster further declared that:

"...there are more than a few traces of white chauvinism even in our own ranks, although our Party is far in advance of other organizations as to being free of this poison. The fight against white chauvinism is one we must make constantly, not only among the white masses, but also in our own Party...."<sup>49</sup>

The national committee of the Communist Party, USA, held an enlarged meeting in New York City on April 28-May 1, 1956. While there, several of the Party's Negro leaders criticized previous Party policy in the field of Negro activities. They complained because there were so few Negroes