

'FIRMNESS' URGED ON COMMUNISTS

Social Democrats Reach End of U.S. Convention Here

The Social Democrats, U.S.A., the name adopted Saturday by what was then the Socialist party, wound up a national convention yesterday by calling on supporters to work through the Democratic party and labor movement for social progress at home and "firmness toward Communist aggression" abroad.

The programs adopted at sessions in the McAlpin Hotel also, however, opposed "any efforts to bomb Hanoi into submission," and held that a Vietnam agreement should provide assurances against President Nguyen Van Thieu's regime using military and police power to crush Communist political cadres in South Vietnam.

More than 100 delegates voted by roughly two-to-one in favor of a domestic program introduced by Tom Kahn, a national committee member and assistant to the president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, and an international program offered by Carl Gershman, a vice chairman of the Young People's Socialist League.

Harrington Leads Minority

The minority was led by Michael Harrington, former national chairman of the Socialist party, who introduced a resolution that would have called for United States acceptance of the October cease-fire agreement on Vietnam and for immediate withdrawal of American forces. The resolution was defeated.

Despite the open divisions at the convention, negotiations resulted in election by acclamation of a 33-member national committee. This provided 22 seats for a majority caucus, represented in the negotiations by Irwin Suall, former national secretary; eight seats for Mr. Harrington and members of his "coalition caucus"; two for a "Debs caucus" led by Seymour Steinsapir, and one for an independent, Samuel H. Friedman.

The majority program included such points as a call for applying wage-price controls "equitably to all forms of income—or to abolish them altogether." It opposed "short-cut diversionary solutions" such as racial quotas and held "the main hope for black Americans lies in the success of the American labor movement's struggle for an egalitarian society."

The program also asserted old "free-trade" concepts had been affected by growth of managed national economies, internationalization of technology and spread of multinational corporations—all influencing a United States trade deficit. The program held "the volume and composition of imports and exports should be a matter of social policy."