

Negro Workers Awakening

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THE International Conference of Negro Workers, destined to be convened in July next, is of vast significance, for this will be the first conference which will serve to unite the Negro workers of the U. S. A., the West Indies, Latin-America; and South, Central and West Africa. This will be the first conference at which Negro workers will assemble for the purpose of discussing the methods and means for waging the struggle against imperialism and race oppression. Of particular importance is to draw into the labors of this conference the toiling masses of the most backward colonies of West and Central Africa, just where during the course of the past year some rather militant manifestations of the Negro toiling masses took place.

The fact alone that the Negro workers will meet at an International Conference, the fact that they are taking up for solution a number of general class political tasks—is a sign of the growing class consciousness of this most oppressed and most cruelly persecuted section of humanity—it is the harsh warning for imperialist domination. Imperialism based and bases itself today on race oppression. It was imperialism which first gave rise to the theory of privileged and non-privileged races; it was imperialism which squeezed and squeezes out of the colored toilers untold super-profits; it, in the full sense of the word, exists on the blood and sweat of scores and hundreds of millions of toilers. Following in the footsteps

of the bribed yellow press, the exploiters and trade union bureaucrats, many of the white workers under the impression that they are compared to the blacks, are a privileged race; they do not understand that this is a pure slave-holder theory, directed both against the black as well as the white workers.

The International Negro Workers' Conference should dispel the mist which has been created by the ruling classes with regard to colored labor. It must be announced by this conference, with all determination and plainness, that the Negro workers are part and parcel of the whole international proletariat, that they are ready to take up the struggle hand in hand with the toilers of the world, for social, national and race liberation, that they do not separate their fate from the fate of the exploited classes and oppressed peoples, and that without the class struggle it is impossible, nor can it be possible, to abolish race oppression.

Whatever the composition of the conference may be, whatever may be its decisions, we are firmly convinced that it will be a serious stride forward on the road for uniting the black and white workers in a strong fraternal union; that this conference will come to be the center of gravity for the most backward and oppressed Negro workers throughout the whole world.

Greetings to the International Conference of Negro Workers!

Greetings to all comrades and allies in the fight against imperialism!