

Distributed Chicago, Ill Aug - 21/21 10218-427 (19)

TO NEW NEGROES, WHO REALLY SEEK LIBERATION

To The Delegates of The Second Negro International Convention

And to The Negro Race in General

THE GREAT BLACK Race is waking up to its strength with new longings for freedom and a determination to win for itself its rights as a People to live and prosper and enjoy the blessings of civilization. This new will for freedom and liberty manifests itself in the desire to organize into one strong body the Negro People so that they may as one man fight oppression, peonage and slavery wherever found.

There are gathered at the Second Negro International Convention the leaders of our people from many organizations and many lands. May everyone of those present show himself worthy of his People, may everyone go forth from this congress proud of his record in the fulfillment of his duty to his race, may they go forth preparing our people to be ready for the occasion with a stein determination to bring nearer the day of emancipation.

Negroes of the World! To be equal to the occasion there must be but one purpose, and one organization with a strong discipline, and a strong center, whose commands must be obeyed. This organization must prepare our People for the manifold struggle. It must protect their lives, their material interests; it must educate and advance the cultural life of the Race, it must develop the fighting spirit of our people and keep high their morale. To accomplish these things there must be a clear evaluation of the forces of the enemy, his strength, his weaknesses, his methods of struggle, and out of a sound understanding of the enemy's position and strategy, there must evolve a plan and a program that will unite those worthy and proud of the Race into one army with one principal purpose: the emancipation of our People from oppression, bondage and slavery, and be it said here by us once for all: **WOE TO THOSE WHO SHAMELESSLY FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL AGGRANDIZEMENT AND GLORY SHALL TREAT LIGHTLY THE HONOR AND WELFARE OF THE RACE.**

In order to achieve the above outlined purpose the African Blood Brotherhood delegation and other delegates of this Congress have adopted the following manifesto to the delegates of the Second Negro International Congress meeting in New York City during the month of August, 1921, to serve for their guidance during this history-making Congress.

MANIFESTO

The world is in the throes of unrest and transformation. Empires crumble into dust, kingdoms are overthrown, misery, starvation, pestilence and strife are stalking in the wake of the Great World War. The slaughter of millions for the benefit and advantage of profiteering capitalists has aroused the indignation of all the exploited and oppressed, new alignments take place, new ideas sweep the world, new organizations and powers arise. It is useful and necessary for us, the Negro people, to properly understand this situation, and to make it serviceable for our emancipation to foster the divisions in the camp of the enemy and make alliances that strengthen those that are with us.

The Negro People being a great Race, inhabiting many lands and continents, cannot escape the changes and vicissitudes of the situation. More than any other people they suffer from the tyranny and degradation of Imperialism. Nearly all of their countries on the African and American continents suffer the oppression of foreign capitalists and their governments. Thus Africa is partitioned among the big white Powers, all of whom keep up a well-equipped and strong army in their respective "colonies" to keep our people in subjection and to exploit them mercilessly. On the American continent the same situation is developing. One after the other the free-Negro republics are being subjugated by American marines who establish a rule of terror, brutalising and torturing our people. To openly revolt against these conditions while Capitalism is still in power in the big white countries would be equivalent to the committing of suicide. It is a rank illusion to imagine that by moving from one "colony" to another our people can escape oppression, for the same oppressor awaits us everywhere, always ready to mercilessly subjugate and exploit us, and even those few Negro countries which have retained a measure of freedom are dependent upon the toleration of the Big Powers and will no doubt be subjugated like all the others as soon as the Capitalists' greed for profit requires it.

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There is but one great exception which stands out as a beacon of hope to all the oppressed.

The old autocratic despotism in Russia was overthrown after the defeat in the World War, and the oppressed took charge of the government. The new government which represents the interests of the former oppressed class: the workers and peasants, is conducting an aggressive struggle in behalf of the oppressed in all lands. It is fighting French and British as well as American Imperialism, it is liberating the oppressed small nations from the yoke of the big oppressors, it grants full freedom and self-determination to all oppressed upon their liberation. It has entered into treaties of brotherly protection with dark-skinned Persia and Afghanistan, Yellow China and Nationalist Turkey. It has also given genuine independence to Latvia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and hapless Armenia. The Workers' Republic of Soviet Russia recognizes that the world cannot exist half slave and half free, half in capitalist bondage and half in Communist freedom. Therefore, Russia's interest and many acts in behalf of the liberation of the Darker Peoples. Soviet Russia is to-day the greatest menace to Imperialism. Her doctrine of freedom and equality for all peoples is diametrically opposed to the doctrine of exploitation, oppression and degradation of England, France and the United States. Because of this, Soviet Russia is fanatically hated and viciously attacked by the capitalist press and pulpit of those countries. But Negroes of the World! Be not misled! Remember that the day the European workers arise in "armed insurrection" against the capitalist exploiters of black and white toilers will be the day of your opportunity to conquer power and seize control on the continent of Africa. On that day, Negroes of the World, we must see to it that Negro troops are not available as "White Guards" to crush the rising power of the workers' revolution! On that day, Negro Comrades! the cause of the white workers will be the cause of the black workers, the cause of a free Africa the cause of a Europe freed from capitalist control.

Under the lead of the new power which has arisen in Russia there are millions of determined, well-organized, well-disciplined revolutionists before whom the Capitalists and Imperialists tremble in all lands. The revolution of the oppressed and exploited of their own race threatens to shake into dust their power. The only certain way, and therefore the best way, of reducing the enemy is to besiege and destroy him in his own land. Only then will the peoples in the "colonies" be able to successfully rise and free themselves from their aggressors. To attempt to fight our

enemy without allying ourselves with all those forces that are seeking his destruction would be to destroy all hope of early success. For us, of our own accord, to choose the tactics he would have us choose would be the height of folly.

The A. B. B. challenges anyone to deny the correctness of this analysis. This being so, what shall be the task, of the Negro People? What shall be their stand in relation to the World Situation? Their task shall be to ally themselves with the oppressed of all lands even now forming into one mighty army to accomplish the abolition of the exploitation, oppression and tyranny of the Capitalist Powers and to effect the establishment of a Commonwealth of free Republics, where each people according to its own choosing shall enjoy the blessings and good things of Life.

Thus, this Congress shall devise means to organize and prepare our people so that they shall be ready when needed to defend themselves, that they may be ready after the downfall of Capitalism to establish their own governments.

This Congress must devise means to raise and protect the standard of living of the Negro People.

This Congress must take a stand and devise means to stop the mob-murder of our People and to protect them against sinister secret societies of cracker whites, and to fight the ever expanding peonage system.

Out of this Congress there must emerge a federation of all existent Negro organizations, molding all Negro factions into one mighty and irresistible factor, governed and directed by a Central Body made up of representatives from all the major Negro organizations.

Unless these things are accomplished our people will not be able to display their solidarity and their strength, will not be able to make effective preparation, and this Congress will have been in vain and its every delegate disgraced!

SUPREME COUNCIL,
THE AFRICAN BLOOD BROTHERHOOD
A FULL AND IMPARTIAL REPORT OF THE CON-
VENTION WILL BE CARRIED BY THE SEPTEMBER
CRUSADER MAGAZINE.

Our delegates at the Convention are:—

W. A. FLEMING
BEN BURRELL

L. C. CAINE
ORRY N. DEIBOL