

# COMMUNIST PARTY ANNOUNCES SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR NATIONAL NEGRO WEEK MAY 10-20

The following statement, setting aside the period of May 10 to 20th as National Negro Week, in which to dramatize the struggles of the Negro Workers and Farmers, and calling upon the whole Party to mobilize for the Negro work, has been issued by the National Negro Department of the Central Committee, Communist Party of the U. S. A., over the signature of Cyril Briggs, acting director.

The Negro workers and farmers in the United States constitute the most exploited section of the American working class. Victims of

white ruling class terrorism, lynch-murder, race hatred, police brutality and a system of bold-faced robbery on the part of the white planters of the south, coupled with a humiliating social, political and economic status, they are leaving the southern agrarian districts in increasing numbers for the cities and industrial employment. With this movement there is developing a numerous Negro proletariat, capable of giving leadership to the oppressed Negroes of the world.

These millions of workers, unorganized and bitterly exploited, are herded into filthy segregated districts at extortionate rents. They are allowed only the lowest paid and most menial jobs under the capitalist system. They are being constantly discriminated against in industry, in the courts, in government departments, in every phase of capitalist society. They suffer from all the ills inflicted upon the working class,

and, in addition, are oppressed as Negroes, as a racial minority, thus suffering a double exploitation.

## Communist Party Champion of Oppressed.

The Communist Party of the U. S. A., as the Party equally of the black and white workers, as the historic champion of the most oppressed sections of the working class, has pledged itself to fight the battle of the Negro workers and farmers. Tricked by politicians, betrayed by their own bourgeois leaders to their class enemies, burned and tortured by white mobs of planters and business men, fed with soft meaningless phrases by liberals and the yellow socialists, both black and white, double-crossed by the American Federation of Labor, which has refused to organize them or segregates them into Jim-Crow unions, these Negro

workers and farmers must be organized as part and parcel of the great revolutionary army which will overthrow the capitalist system in the

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## CONFERENCE FRIDAY.

The District Negro Department of the Communist Party urges upon the Section Negro Directors and unit representatives as well as union fraction secretaries to be present at the conference to take up immediate tasks confronting the Party in mobilizing the Negro workers. The conference will take place on Friday evening, 8 o'clock at 26-28 Union Square.

# Communist Party Sets Aside May 10-20 as Negro Week

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United States and create a republic of workers and farmers, without regard to race or color.

As part of its **Build the Party Drive**, the Central Committee designates the period of May 10 to May 20 as National Negro Week. During this period the full strength and resources of the Party must be mobilized to dramatize the struggles of the Negro masses and push the Negro work of the Party and to win these masses to our standard.

## Party Must Prepare Now!

Every district, section and unit of the Party must begin Now to prepare for National Negro Week. Those districts which have not yet elected a District Negro Committee and a director of Negro work must do so at once. Every section must elect a Section Negro Committee. Every unit must have a comrade responsible for Negro work. (This applies even to those units and sections functioning in territories where there is no Negro population. These will have to function in Negro work in one way or another; i. e. mobilizing sentiment in favor of the struggle of the Negro against all forms of white oppression, raising funds for the energetic prosecution of the Party's Negro work, etc.)

National Negro Week must be opened in each district with a mobilization of forces by way of an affair of some kind: dinner, dance, etc., the proceeds of which shall be sent to the National Negro Department of the Central Committee to apply on Negro work. The District Negro Committees must arrange to have speakers appear before each Party unit to set aside a meeting solely for the discussion of the problems and struggles of the Negro masses and the Party's Negro work. An outline for this discussion will be sent to all District Negro Committees and must be transmitted to the units.

During the entire period of May 10 to May 20, there must be held mass meetings, street meetings, factory gate meetings, inter-racial social affairs (for the purpose of bringing the black and white workers together and in protest and defiance of the capitalist dictum of racial separation). These meetings must be utilized to mobilize the Negro masses for the struggle against white oppression, to teach them the necessity of fighting shoulder to shoulder with the revolutionary white workers against the common enemy, to point out to them the treacherous role of the labor bureaucrats of the American Federation of Labor, to carry to them the message of Communism and to acquaint them with the structure of the Communist Party of the U. S. A., and the leading role being played by Negro comrades who, it should be pointed out, are on all important committees of our Party (including the Central Committee with five Negro members, two of whom are also on the Political Committee) in line with the decisions of the Communist International and the Sixth National Convention. These meetings must also be used (1) to mobilize against the war danger; (2) to point out to the Negro workers the role of the Soviet Union in the fight against imperialism and the necessity for the workers of all races uniting in defense of the Soviet Union; (3) to get Negro workers and farmers to send delegates to the Trade Union Unity Convention in Cleveland on June 1, and 2; and (4) to enlist support for the southern strikes and create favorable sentiment toward left-wing leadership in the labor movement. Here it must be pointed out to our own comrades that the Party is now entering a new phase of its life with its entrance into the southern industrial districts as a leader of the struggles of the masses against capitalist rationalization. Here for the first time in our existence as a Party in the United States we face the task of organizing black and white workers in large numbers in the same locals and on a basis of full equality. This makes it all the more essential that we should push the work of mobilizing the white workers in support of the struggles of the Negro masses, and energetically strive for inter-racial labor solidarity by pointing out to the workers of all races how capitalism seeks to divide and disrupt the working class in its desperate effort to perpetuate its fascist rule.

## Toussaint L'Ouverture Memorial Meetings.

National Negro Week must culminate in the fullest Party mobilization for participation in the Toussaint L'Ouverture Memorial Meetings which the American Negro Labor Congress, with the co-operation of other Negro working class organizations, will hold throughout the country on May 20 in honor of the great Negro leader of the Haitian Revolution. Where there is no indication that the Negro organizations themselves will hold such meetings, the Party must endeavor to hold Toussaint L'Ouverture Memorial Meetings in the Negro districts, inviting the Negro organizations to participate.

## Fight White Chauvinism!

The functions of the District Negro Committees must be both to do work among the Negro workers and farmers and to wage a ruthless campaign against the slightest manifestation of white chauvinism in the ranks of the Party. The Central Committee has given ample evidence of its determination to use the sharpest organizational measures against any Party member guilty of white chauvinism. Already there have been several expulsions on this charge. The District Negro Committees and all other Party committees must support the Central Committee in a relentless war against this non-Bolshevik attitude.

## The Party Press.

The Party press must give full co-operation for National Negro Week. It must fully support the National Negro Department and the District Negro Committees in waging a wide ideological campaign against white chauvinism among the working class. It must publish in full the articles and statements sent it in preparation for, and during National Negro Week. It must also show that it realizes the importance of Negro work by having its own articles and editorials on Negro problems and struggles. It must intensify during National Negro Week its campaign against all forms of oppression to which Negro workers and farmers are subjected. Party editors must thoroughly acquaint themselves with the problems and struggles of the Negro masses and must learn to link these up with the struggles of the various language groups.

National Negro Week must be utilized to mobilize the full strength of the Party behind our Negro work and must usher in a new era of intensified activity in this field! Special instructions have been sent all District Negro Committees. Definite tasks must be assigned to every comrade and they must be held strictly responsible for the carrying out of these tasks. A check-up must be made and a report sent to this department.

**For full social equality for the Negro!**

**For equal opportunity for employment for Negro and white workers!**

**For equal pay for equal work for Negro workers!**

**For the admittance of Negro workers into the unions on a basis of full equality, with participation in leadership!**

**Against lynching and other forms of white ruling class terrorism!**

**Against Jim-Crowism! Against segregation! Against disfranchisement! Against discrimination in any form! Against the convict lease system! Against landlordism which sucks the blood of black and white workers! Against capitalism which robs and exploits the workers and strives to divide them with a propaganda of race hatred and prejudice!**

**For inter-racial workingclass solidarity! For a Workers' and Farmers' Government in the United States!**

(Signed) NATIONAL NEGRO DEPARTMENT OF THE  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE  
U. S. A., CYRIL BRIGGS, ACTING DIRECTOR.