

Negro Liberation Struggle

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(Concluded From Last Week)

I want now to speak very specifically upon the role of the I. L. D. in the Black colonies. The I. L. D. has been able to achieve certain successes, but we must not close our eyes to the shortcomings which were correctly emphasized by Comrade Stassova in her report. We must utilize this Congress to form the basis for intensifying our work and crystallizing the influence achieved during the past period.

In the Union of South Africa, we have been able to establish an I. L. D. Section. Comrade Jackson, who will report on South Africa, will deal more concretely with this phase of the work.

In Madagascar, we have also succeeded in organizing a section, and the French comrades especially must take note of this. In Madagascar, the French imperialists, realizing the influence of I. L. D. have carried out a wholesale attack upon our comrades there. Nearly all of the leaders of the organization, as well as 400 members of this organization have been victims of French imperialist attack. Because of this situation, it is the special duty of the French supporters and adherents of the I. L. D. in France, to establish the closest bonds of solidarity between the proletariat of France and the toiling masses in Madagascar.

MUST AID MASSES IN THE COLONIES

The same thing applies to the British comrades. Our comrades in Great Britain must give more attention, more concrete assistance, more material aid, support and advice, to the colonial victims of British imperialism. They must expose before the English proletariat the vicious policy of British imperialism in India, Africa and the West Indies.

CALL FOR SOLIDARITY

The same thing applies to the American comrades. The American comrades, besides the work which they have undertaken in the United States among the Negro masses, especially in connection with the Scotsboro case, must not lose sight of the fact that American imperialism also has its tentacles around the necks of the toiling masses in the colonies—in the Philippines, Cuba, Haiti, Liberia, and in the Latin American countries. The American comrades have a moral obligation, and a revolutionary duty to perform. Their task is to establish supporting groups for these colonial countries, to utilize the revolutionary press to organize campaigns, to educate the more backward sections of the workers about colonial conditions. For as Karl Marx correctly pointed out: "Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded." Neither must we forget the memorable words of our leader Lenin, when he said that the toiling masses of the colonial countries, and the oppressed peoples, have a certain amount of suspicion and distrust even for the proletariat of the oppressing nation.

How are we going to break down this suspicion and distrust? How are we going to bridge this gap between the metropolis and the colonies? Only in one way. Not by words, not by phrases, but by deeds. Words and phrases are the weapons of

the left social democrats. We will break down this suspicion, we will break down this distrust only by concrete deeds, and material aid. Only by demonstrations calling for the greatest possible sacrifices will we be able to build a steel bridge of international solidarity between the toilers in the metropolis and those of the colonies and oppressed nations.

Already the I. L. D. has shown the way. The tour of Comrade Ada Wright and Engdahl in Europe has been one of the most successful undertakings to dramatize before the European proletariat, to dramatize before the whole world, the vicious character of American imperialism, and for that matter, world imperialism against the Negroes.

TASKS OF COLONIAL COMRADES

Comrades, I want to say a few words with respect to some of the tasks which lie before the colonial peoples. We colonial comrades also have an obligation to perform. We must fight against all tendencies of bourgeois nationalism. We must fight to break down the suspicion and distrust which is widespread among the colonial and oppressed peoples for the proletariat of the oppressing nations. We, as the more advanced and class-conscious element of oppressed Negro peoples, of the colonial masses, must point out to our more backward comrades that our struggle against imperialism, for national freedom and social emancipation is not an isolated struggle. That we will never be able to tout imperialism unless we get rid of our distrust and suspicion of the white proletarians of the metropolis. Only in this way will we be able to build up the united front between all workers and the toiling masses irrespective of color, race or nationality. This is our task, this is our special duty. Not for one moment can we colonial comrades neglect this important Leninist lesson.

In conclusion, I want to congratulate the I. L. D. once more upon its successful Congress. This is the first time that I think such a large Negro delegation has come directly from the colonies to Moscow, and we must not permit this opportunity to pass without bringing home to us many valuable lessons. We must take away with us from this Congress the experiences of the more advanced sections of the I. L. D. We must take away the collective wisdom and experiences of the various sections of the I. L. D., and pledge ourselves to establish section of the I. L. D. on our return home, in order that at the next World Congress we will be able to also contribute concrete advice on the basis of our own experiences gained between this Congress and the next one.

Long live the Struggle of the International Proletariat!

Long live the I. L. D., the valiant leader, Champion, Friend and Defender of all Peoples who are Struggling against World Imperialism!

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