

THE TOILING NEGROES AND THE I.R.A.

In May 1930 the First World Congress of Negro Workers was held, which adopted the following Resolution.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE NEGRO WORKERS

(Resolution on the International Red Aid)

In the revolutionary struggles of the Negroes for liberation from the capitalist yoke the Red Aid is of immense importance. The exploitation and oppression of the toiling Negroes in the imperialist countries and in the colonies in Africa, Australia, in the Antilles has become greatly intensified. The imperialists try to solve the world crisis, accompanied by a narrowing of the world market and other factors, by mass unemployment, reduction of wages, etc. The result of it is a new wave of revolutionary class struggles. An ocean of blood, armies of political prisoners, political

refugees of all peoples and races, millions of destitute women and children who have lost their bread winners, are the result of this method of "salvation" of the capitalist order of society which is being shaken out of joint. But the exploited in the imperialist countries, in the colonies and in the semi-colonial parts of the earth are organising their ranks for new struggles against their oppressors and exploiters. The Negroes, working in the imperialist states, are treated by the ruling class as the pariahs among the exploited, the Negroes of the equatorial countries, of South Africa, of the Antilles and the Australian countries, most of them still in medieval slavery, begin to become conscious of their class position and carry on important struggles, as the last strikes and political actions in the U.S.A., the uprisings in the Congo, Gambia and South Africa, eloquently prove.

In the imperialist states fascism, white terror, emergency laws, mass persecutions, bourgeois class justice; in the colonies mass shootings and mass executions, destruction of whole villages by aerial bombings, devastation of large territories, mass deportations to waste islands,—these are the methods of the imperialists of all races and their agents in the whole world to kill the rebellions and revolutionary movement.

The congress states with satisfaction that the Red Aid is doing great work in the struggle against the oppression of the colonial peoples and on the field of material and moral support of the hundreds of thousands of revolutionary fighters and their dependants of all races. The I.R.A. has led an international campaign against the bloody suppression of the Negro race (Haiti, Madagascar) and issued a special pamphlet in the English, Russian and German languages about the situation of the Negro workers. The national sections of the I.R.A. have developed a great movement against lynchings, Jim-Crowism and other forms of white chauvinism (struggle of the I.L.D. of America, campaign of the French Red Aid in connection with the Negro revolt in Central Africa and the events of Madagascar). The English speaking and French Red Aid organisations have begun in their own country to take up the fight against the oppression of the toiling Negroes in the colonies of their masters. The Congress is deeply of the opinion that these organisations will still more strengthen and improve their work in this direction. While the lackeys of imperialism, as the Negro Deputy Diagne and most of all the Social Democratic Parties, defend the bloody colonial policy of oppression, or carry it out themselves—the I.R.A. is one of those revolutionary class organisations which stands fully and wholly on the side of the oppressed Negroes.

In view of the millions of victims, coming from the ranks of the toiling masses through imperialist oppression, the congress expects that the Negroes will join the ranks of the International Red Aid in tens and hundreds of thousands.

The Congress appeals to all organisations and Negro workers to support everywhere the existing Red Aid organisations through active participation in their work and actively taking part in the creation of new Red Aid Sections where such do not yet exist.

Further the Congress calls upon all existing Negro trade unions and

other organisations of the toiling Negroes to affiliate collectively to the International Red Aid.

It is the duty of the revolutionary Negro to draw the broad masses of the toiling Negroes into the ranks of the I.R.A. in order jointly with the toilers of all races, to take up the struggle against lynchings, against all forms of race persecutions and white chauvinism, against white terror, fascism, capitalist class justice, for self determination, for the development of international proletarian solidarity and for the struggle for the social and economic liberation of all toilers from capitalist exploitation.

THE TOILING PEASANTS AND THE I.R.A.

RESOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN PEASANTS' CONGRESS ON THE I.R.A.

March 1930

After having heard the report of the I.R.A. delegate, the European Peasants' Congress places the following facts on record:

The International Red Aid is an independent class organisation of the toiling masses of town and countryside, having a membership of eight millions. During its existence it has given aid to tens of thousands of revolutionary workers and peasants throughout the world.

Apart from direct material, legal and moral aid to persecuted revolutionaries and their families, the I.R.A. has organised a number of campaigns for the defence of militant workers and peasants' masses.

Owing to its defence of the victims of capitalist persecution and to its fight against exceptional laws and persecution of revolutionary workers and peasants' organisations and of national minorities, the I.R.A. has secured the sympathy of the working class and of an important section of the militant peasant masses. In doing so, the I.R.A. has proved itself to be a united front organisation of the toiling masses of town and countryside for the fight against Toryism, capitalist class justice, white terror, fascism and new imperialist wars, and against the war in preparation against the Soviet Union.

Notwithstanding these facts, the number of peasants in the ranks of the I.R.A. is still very small which is a serious impediment to the support and the consolidation of these reserves in their struggle, which fact is of special importance in view of the preparation of another imperialist war and of the war against the Soviet Union.

The European Peasants' Congress appeals to all peasants to pay the utmost attention to the International Red Aid.

As practical measures, the Congress decides:

1. That all existing organisations of toiling peasants must affiliate collectively to the I.R.A.

2. To promote in all countries the consolidation and strengthening of the R.A. organisations, by drawing into them large masses of peasants as individual members.