

and organisation in the struggle against the bosses, the boss courts, the AF of L bureaucrats, "Socialists" and all others opposed to the Left Wing labor movement. A Provisional Committee which included Negro and Youth representatives, was elected to prepare leaflets and a program of action.

Mob Rule in America.

According to the report compiled in the Department of Records and Research in the Tuskegee Institute there were 121 persons lynched in 1929. Six of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, five from jail and one from officers of the law outside of the jails. The States in which these lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows:

Florida---4, Kentucky---1, Mississippi---1, Tennessee---1,
Texas---3.

Communists Protest Lynchings.

The police of Chester, Pennsylvania, attempted to break up a mass meeting called by the Communist Party of America to protest against the lynching spirit stirred up in this town by the editorials and articles of "THE CHESTER TIMES," a white chauvinist newspaper, which threatened a Negro worker that unless he moves out from the "Lily White" Section of the town, he will be lynched.

The Communist Party is taking the lead in fighting against white ruling class terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Under the clumsy pretext that the meeting, which ^{was} held in the Benn Theatre, had no permit, the police drove out three hundred Negro workers together with some hundred white workers who had come out to demonstrate their solidarity with the Negroes against the effort to intimidate them.

Instead of being terrorised, however, by the uniformed thugs of the capitalists, the workers marched to the Communist Party Headquarters where a successful meeting was held.

In Chester, where attempts are being made to confine Negro workers to segregated ghettos where they are robbed and exploited at the will of landlords and denied even the most elementary sanitary protection, was denounced by both white and Negro speakers.

The Caribbean and Latin-America.

West-Indian Workers Barred from Venezuela.

Because of the militant struggles carried on by West Indians against the oppressive labor laws enacted by Gomez, the Dictator of Venezuela, in order to protect the oil interests of American imperialists, a new law has been introduced prohibiting the immigration of foreign-born Negroes into Venezuela. Those already resident in the country will not be permitted to return once they leave. Nor will the wives and children of Negro workers who are resident in Venezuela be permitted to enter the country to join their husbands and fathers.

There are about 10,000 Negro workers in the oilfields of the Standard Oil Company in Maracaibo. Most of these are from Trinidad, Barbados and Grenada.

West-Indian Federation.

The movement for a Federated West Indies and the abolition of the Crown Colony system through which British imperialism at present functions in its exploitation and oppression of the majority of the West Indian colonies, is rapidly crystallising among the middle class leaders of the Islands. How extensive the movement already is may be judged from the following remarks of the "Jamaica Critic", one of the most open exponents of the idea:

"There's unrest in the West Indies and it is general, not local, which is a very pleasing aspect of the situation. It is a political

unrest centered upon forms of government and constitutions."

After assuring the British oppressors, in typical middle class cowardice and treachery, that the movement is not calculated to break the shackles of the bitterly exploited peasants and workers of the Islands, but merely to assure the native middle class a share in the exploitation of those masses, the Jamaica "Critic" goes on to show how extensive the movement has already become:

"Trinidad, which has every right to be dissatisfied with the constitution given her not so very long ago; Granada, which is groaning under a sort of civilised despotism; Demerara, whose wounds are still gaping wide, are all active. Barbados and Jamaica are in a peculiar position; the former has full Representative Government and the latter though a semi-Crown Colony, is at the present time blessed with so enlightened an administrator that they enjoy all the advantages of Representative institution. But even in those colonies there's unrest."

So far the hegemony of the movement is in the hands of the middle class, which is the only class that enjoys the so-called "representative institutions" which the "Critic" says exist in Barbados and, by grace of an "enlightened administrator" in Jamaica. According to the plans of the middle class, the working class is to be simply a pawn in the game. But there are many indications that the terribly oppressed workers and farmers of the Islands are awaking to the merits of organisation and militant working class leadership, and upon these indications must rest the hope that the workers will be able to seize the movement and turn it to their own advantage in a relentless struggle against both native and foreign exploiters and to its logical conclusion for a FREE INDEPENDENT FEDERATED WEST INDIES!

H a i t i .

Although crushed by the overwhelming military forces of the most powerful imperialist country in the world, in their recent attempt to break their fetters, the Haitian masses are nevertheless seething with discontent and dissatisfaction. This undercurrent spirit of revolt will soon express itself in another armed rising against both the native and foreign oppressors.

In the Northern part of the country the oppressive alcohol and tobacco taxes are rankling the peasants. In the coffee-producing territory around Jacmel, the recently adopted coffee standardisation law is an added grievance. Complaints are heard everywhere against grating communal officials and corrupt courts.

In order to strengthen the revolutionary position for new attacks the peasants are organising under the leadership of the newly formed Workers' Party. This Party, however, is dominated by middle-class politicians who cannot be depended upon to conduct a relentless struggle against the native bourgeoisie and foreign capitalists. The Haitian workers must realise this danger and immediately take steps to provide their own proletarian revolutionary leaders in order to guarantee a successful struggle against Imperialism.

N o r t h A f r i c a .

Negroes Forced Into Military Service of Spanish Imperialists

How ten West Indians were lured into the Spanish Foreign Legion and tricked into fighting against the heroic Moroccans, whose long struggle for freedom has thrilled the colored masses throughout the world, was revealed through the story of Richard Benn, one of the ten.

Benn told how he and nine others had applied to a Spanish firm in Cuba when they heard that men were wanted for building operations in Morocco.

Collection Number: AD1715

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

PUBLISHER:

Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

©2013

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document forms part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.