



Headline in Pittsburgh Courier parroting call of lynch bosses for greater activity on part of Negro reformist leaders against rapidly growing influence of Communist Party among Negro masses.

Alabama Lynch Bosses Set Next Tasks for Tuskegee Heads

Praise Them For Betraying Negro Cropper Leaders to His Death and Order Greater Effort to Block Communist Influence Among Negro Masses

By CYRIL BRIGGS

In addition to praising the Negro reformist leaders of Tuskegee for their Judas act in turning Cliff James leader of the croppers struggle at Reelton, Ala., over to the landlord-police lynch gangs, the Southern white boss lynchers have set new tasks for their reformist lackeys at Tuskegee for combatting the spread of Communism among the brutally oppressed Negro nationality.

Call For Anti-Red Drive

This is admitted in an article in the Dec. 31 issue of the Pittsburgh Courier, an unofficial organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of which Dr. Moton, Tuskegee Institute head, is a leader. In an eight page scream-headline "Tuskegee Must Take Stand Against 'Reds,'" the Courier itself again responds, as in the Scottsboro Case and the Camp Hill massacre of Negro croppers, to the demands of the Southern white ruling-class for an offensive against the revolutionary workers supporting the struggles of the Negro masses. This, despite the significant admissions in the Courier's article of the economic and national oppression background of the present tremendous struggle of Alabama Negro croppers against the landlord-police terror. These admissions are contained in bracketed interjections by the Courier in a statement quoted from the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, as in the following:

Landlord's "Law and Order"

"The Commercial Appeal editor writes:

"The resistance to law (anything against the will of white people in the South is conceived resistance to law) shown by the members (the share croppers who were attempting to hold a peaceable meeting, seems to be a recognized bit of tactics in the Communist strategy that seeks the overthrow of our government. Law and order certainly must be made supreme. Also the normal functioning of government, in the delegation of power through ballots and not bullets (except as used by Southern whites to suppress meetings among Negroes), must be preserved. It is obvious from the violence near Tuskegee

that the enemies of law and order and the present system of government have established a considerable foothold among the race that Tuskegee Institute is endeavoring to make into law-abiding, useful citizens.

"It is plain, therefore, that there is additional and even more vital work ahead of the Tuskegee institution. Lynchings are on the decrease while Communism is growing. Plain should it be that the harder fight must be conducted against the greater menace."

In its first interjection (anything against the will of white people in the South is conceived resistance to law), the Pittsburgh Courier deliberately attempts to blur the class lines of the struggles in the South. It lumps together all "white people in the South" despite the fact (admitted even in the lynch bosses press) that white croppers and exploited farmers in Tallapoosa County are supporting the struggles of the Negro croppers and farmers, protesting the attacks on them, and hiding wounded Negro croppers from the landlord-police lynch gangs.

Continue Reformist Policy

This lumping together of "all white people in the South" as enemies of the Negroes is not accidental. It is a continuation of the policy of the editors of the Pittsburgh Courier and other Negro reformist leaders to continue the Jim-crow isolation of the Negro People, to smash the growing unity of white and Negro toilers in joint struggle against starvation, against the same forces which rob and oppress Negro and white toilers. It is the policy of the white ruling class, supported by the Negro reformist leaders.

The editorial of the Memphis Commercial Appeal clearly reveals the white lynch bosses' conception of the role of the Tuskegee and other Negro reformist leaders as assistant hangmen of the white lynchers in their murder drives against the Negro masses.

Peddlers of False Information

That this is the role accepted by these reformist leaders themselves is shown in their action of turning over Cliff James to the police of the landlords and in furnishing the landlords with lynch-incitement material in the false information that James had confided to Dr. Dibble of the Tuskegee hospital that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers" in the struggle at Reelton, Dec. 19, between the croppers and the landlord-police lynch gangs.

out for the shipments of men or munitions and to notify at once the American Committees for the Struggle Against War, so that our action may be quick and effective."

This demonstration was prepared by the South Brooklyn Section of the Communist Party on short notice, without any public call for a mass demonstration.