With this Programme and a relentless struggle to realise it, 

rationalisation will grow from strength to strength, and will be able to 

lead the working masses of South Africa victoriously against the forces 

of Capitalism and Imperialism.

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NATIVE WORKERS' T. U. MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

By T. Reed.

The native labor movement of South Africa during the last 

quarter of 1928 was distinguished by a number of events which once more 

brought this movement into the centre of attention of the country. In 

October the native workers in one of the Government enterprises, the ex-

perimental veterinary station in Pretoria, declared a strike. The workers 

of the Station, who are practically all united in the Industrial and 

Commercial Workers' Union, demanded wage increases and nominated for the 

negotiations with the management a delegation in which two representatives 

of the local union branch participated. The management, however, acting 

according to the directions from the Ministry for Agriculture, emphatically 

refused to permit the representatives of the Union to negotiate and then 

issuie an order to dismiss all members of the delegation. This served 

as the pretext for the declaration of the strike of 75 workers, union 

members. Immediately after the non-turn up of the workers at the station, 
a company of police arrived, and by threats of arrests attempted to force 

the workers to call the strike off. The workers refused to submit and 

were immediately arrested and sent to prison. After several days impris-
onment the workers were sentenced to pay a fine of 10/- each, and upon 

return to the station they were all dismissed.

Such is the short shift meted out to the native workers upon 

their first attempt at organised action during the past year. Even the 

elementary standards of law, which have been established by these same 

authorities were violated.

As the experimental station is a Government enterprise and all 

these actions were taken upon the immediate directions of the given min-

istry, by these actions the Government in no uncertain sense showed how 

it intends to react to analogous action by the native workers, and what 

is its attitude towards the activities of the native Industrial and Com-

mercial Workers' Union.

When Kadalie, the Secretary of the Union, arrived at the 

scene of the strike, he was under threat of arrest not even permitted to 

set foot on the territory of the station.

Thus, all the services of the leaders of the Industrial and 

Commercial Workers' Union in class collaboration, all their assurances 

that the union is being reorganised on a purely trade unionist basis and 

has the task of improving the position of the native workers by "consti-

tutional means" (this in a country where constitution signifies for the 

black workers complete disenfranchisement and ruthless exploitation), all 

their endeavours to carry favour with the employers by expulsions of Com-
munists from the Union --- all this was of no avail and did not help them 
in gaining the recognition of their right to participate in the settlement 

of the dispute which involved the native workers and union members.

Directed in its native policy by the cryers of "Native Danger", 

the Government of the bloc of the Nationalist-Labor Party has proved that 
it prefers to break up any and all, even the most moderate, movement of 

native workers.

The more "sober" ones in the camp of the South African bour-
geoisie during the lively polemics in the press, which started in connection 
impression...
with the events at the veterinary station, beat an alarm as to the Govern-
ment pushing the native workers into the embrace of the Communists by
such an attitude towards the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union, and
expressed an opinion that it was necessary to consider whether "the organi-
sation (ICU) promises to become as a safety valve in cases of dissatis-
faction of native workers". The press of the South African Party (a Party
representing the interests of British commercial and industrial bourgeoisie
on its part, gives an emphatically positive reply to this question.

The other action taken by the native postal workers, who demanded
from the Ministry wage increases and general improvement of the conditions
of labor is in the closest connections with the Pretoria Strike. This
action has become especially important in view of the fact that it was
the immediate cause of the subsequent ministerial crisis and the resigna-
tion of Madeley, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, member of the "Left"
Wing of the South African Labor Party, and the only representative of that
Wing in the Cabinet.

After Madeley, under the pressure of the South African Trade
Union Congress (white), to which the I.C.U. had appealed for assistance,
had commenced negotiations on the position of native postal workers with
the ICU and Congress delegation, the Prime Minister Hertsg requested him
to resign in view of the fact that his attitude towards the ICU was not
in conformity with that of the Government and did not accord with the po-
sition taken up by the Minister of Agriculture in connection with the re-
cent strike in Pretoria. As Madeley refused to resign, Hertsg resolved
to carry out his line to the end, himself resigned, and then once more
accepted the post of Prime Minister, forming a new Cabinet, leaving out
Madeley, who was replaced by Sampson, a member of the chauvinist Cresswell
Group, which had split off from the Labor Party. As regards Madeley's
stand, it was only to be noted that the significance of this Left gesture
taken by him should not be overestimated. That his action (negotiations
with the ICU) is nothing but a Left gesture, is proved by the whole sub-
sequent policy of the "Left" group of the Labor Party, to which Madeley be-
longs and which, on the eve of the Parliamentary elections, is once
more seeking rapprochement with the Cresswell Group, as without the united
forces of both groups their chances are exceedingly small at the elections.
All this characterises the conditions in which the native labor
movement of South Africa develops. And it becomes clear that only by rev-
olutionary action, despite the inevitability of heavy losses, only by over-
coming all conciliatory reformist tendencies, will the native labor move-
ment of South Africa be able to develop successfully and strengthen its
ranks.

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THE NEGRO REVOLT IN "FRENCH" EQUATORIAL AFRICA

By Barbe.

What is generally called the French Congo is composed of four
districts: Oubanghi-Chari, Gabon, Middle Congo, Hutu Ogoue; since the
Versailles Treaty the former German colony Cameroon was added to this.
In 1910 the approximate black population of these four colonial
districts -- without Cameroon -- was 9 million inhabitants. According
to the official figures given by the Minister Sarraut in 1912 this popula-
tion had fallen to 7 million and the last official figure which was given
in 1921 it had fallen still lower to 2,800,000. These figures indicate the
constant and almost unbelievable destruction of the population, which is
going on under imperialist colonisation. The disappearance of more than
6 million Negroes is not due solely to reasons of migration nor is it due