May Day and the Negro Toilers

The 41st May Day of struggle against capitalist-imperialist exploitation and oppression will be for the Negro workers an occasion for a mighty anti-imperialist Demonstration, for MASS STRIKES, for Internationalization of their battles!

Away with starvation, want and misery that stalks throughout South Africa, West and East Africa and the West Indies! Demand relief!

Away with Pass-Laws, compound living contract agreements! Fight for the right of assembly and freedom of movement! The right of revolutionary Trade Union organization! The right of peasants’ class organizations!

Fight for shorter hours of work, for higher wages, for Equal Pay for Equal Work, for the special demands of women and youth workers!

For the unity of agricultural workers and peasant toilers with the industrial workers! Down with poll, hut and head taxes! For the return of confiscated land to the peasant toilers!

Down with forced labour, slavery, chain-gangism and peonage! Death to forced labour conscriptors!

Down with soldier and police massacres! Down with lynchings and mob violence! Death to lynchers! Native soldiers and constabularies join hands with your brothers and sisters against the imperialists!

Expose the leaders of the “socialist” 2nd International and the yellow Amsterdam labour international who join hands with the imperialists in exploitation, oppression and slavery in the colonies – Down with McDonald’s bloody reign of terror in Africa! Long Live the Red International of Labour Unions!

For the complete independence and self-determination of the African Negro colonies! For the complete independence of the West Indian colonies! For the right of Self-Determination of the Negroes in the “Black Belt” of the U.S.A.!

Struggle against imperialist war preparations and especially the plans of war against the Soviet Union of Russia, the fatherland of oppressed people! In case of war Defend the Soviet Union! Fraternize with the soldiers of opposing armies! Join hands with the revolutionary Workers!

Long live International solidarity!

---

1 Proclamation published in The Negro Worker, Vol 1, No 4-5, April-May 1931, page 31 (Double number, 5th congress R.I.L.U), organ of the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers, 8 Rothesoodstr., Hamburg, Germany, [RGASPI, fond 532 opis 4/94].