

Negro Bosses Fight Labor, Not Lynching

By CYRIL BRIGGS.

(Editor "Negro Champion")

Out in California the Baptist Ministers' Union has at last been roused on the lynching evil. Undisturbed by the atrocious lynchings of Charles Shepard and Emanuel McCollum by Mississippi sadists, serenely tranquil while Negro workers are being burned at the stake and Negro women violated by white planters and employers, the Baptist Ministers' Union is all "het up" by the fact that the Workers (Communist) Party is denouncing lynching and other forms of capitalist terror against the Negro workers and is distributing thousands of leaflets among the Negroes of California calling upon them to organize to fight capitalist terror shoulder to shoulder with the revolutionary white workers, at the same time calling upon the white workers to make common cause with their oppressed Negro fellow workers.

The Baptist Ministers' Union "went on record," the newspaper reports say, as "protesting against the spread of Communist influence" among the exploited Negro workers of California, and called upon the slaves to "stamp out Soviet propa-

Baptist Ministers and Fake "Council" Unite To Hit Communist Defense Against Mobs

ganda" and show their loyalty to the American master class and to such characteristics of Americanism as the lynch rope and the stake. Joining with the sky-pilots is the "Commonsense Council of American Africans." This latter is something new, whose advent indicates that the Negro masses are to have another dose of "common sense" (yassah boss) injected into them by the servile and conscious tools of the white oppressor class. This organization, like the Baptist Ministers' Union, is also silent on the crimes perpetrated against the Negro workers, silent on the criminal acts of the oppressors of the Negro race, but rabidly articulate against those who dare to defy the oppressors of a race, who dare to step forward to participate in the struggles of that race and to fight shoulder to shoulder with the oppressed Negro masses against capitalist terror, against lynching, against race prejudice and for full race equality: political, social, economic for the Negro race.

The protest of these two organizations, say the newspaper reports, is chiefly against the action of the Workers (Communist) Party in distributing 30,000 Communist circulars in Los Angeles. This is an interesting and significant point, and serves once more to demonstrate the futility of expecting the Negro bourgeoisie to prosecute the struggle for Negro emancipation. That struggle can only be waged in so far as the Negro workers themselves wage it in alliance with the revolutionary white workers. Here are some of the demands of the Workers (Communist) Party which these two servile and treacherous Negro organizations find objectionable:

"The Workers (Communist) Party stands forth as the champion of the oppressed Negro race on a platform which demands: 1. Abolition of the whole system of race discrimination; 2. Abolition of all laws which disfranchise the Negroes on the ground of color. Rigid enforcement of the 14th and 15th amendments; 3. Aboli-

tion of all Jim-Crow laws and practices; 4. Immediate removal of all restrictions in all trade unions against the membership of Negro workers; 5. Equal opportunity for employment, wages, hours and working conditions for Negro and white workers; equal wages for equal work; 6. Abolition of all Jim-Crow distinctions in the army and navy and in the civil service; 7. A federal anti-lynching bill with teeth in it—against the lynchers, which will penalize the states where lynchings occur."

To the unsophisticated it would appear mighty strange that Negro organizations should object to such demands or protest the distribution of leaflets containing such demands. But to those who know the treacherous role played by the native bourgeoisie of oppressed India, China and other countries enslaved by imperialism, this action of the Negro bourgeoisie will not be surprising. Increasingly the Negro bourgeoisie and its instrument, the Negro church, is exposing its incapacity to prosecute the struggle for Negro emancipation; increasingly it is revealing its inherent treachery to the interests of the Negro workers.