

NEGRO POLITICIANS APPEAL TO COOLIDGE FOR CONCESSIONS TO HINDER WORKERS' ORGANIZATION

By HAYWOOD HALL.

The world-wide reaction of the capitalist press to the American Negro Labor Congress has amply demonstrated the significance and importance of that organization. The American Negro Labor Congress has succeeded in forcing the "race problem" to an uppermost place in the national mind. In other words, it has called for a showdown on the part of the big political bosses and the self-styled leaders and protectors of the inherent rights of the Negro masses, under whose moral, spiritual and political guidance they have been for so many years. It has asked of these emissaries of big business and also of their henchmen, the Negro politicians, the "good man Fridays" who have capitalized on the exploitation of the Negro masses, what are they doing to deserve the further confidence of these Negro masses?

Mission Appeals To Coolidge.

Whereupon a group of these self-appointed leaders, under the leadership of one, Melvin Chisum, field secretary in recent years of the National Negro Press Association; veteran of many shady deals; erstwhile promoter of bogus stock companies that were instrumental in fleecing the working class of his race out of many of their hard-earned dollars and whose questionable career in the field of Negro journalism has been highly enlivened by many charges of slander; went to the white house to interview President Coolidge in behalf of the "Negro people of the United States."

It should require no great amount of mental exertion to lay bare the opportunistic character of their enterprise. This charlatan, Chisum, and others of his ilk merely seek to capitalize upon the interest aroused by the American Negro Labor Congress and regain the fast ebbing confidence of the Negro masses. To bring the once docile and long suffering flock back into the fold is the task to which these shepherds of depravity have set themselves. This group, recently formed under the pretentious title of the National Political and Economic Conference has been highly acclaimed by the Negro petty bourgeois press thruout the nation. In their plea for executive aid for the abolition of discrimination in the various branches of government was embodied a veiled warning to the republican party, the delegation stated that "while in the past, the black race has usually aligned themselves with the party of Lincoln and Roosevelt because of their belief in the principles set forth in its platform, we thought it advisable to say to the party leaders that if they expect the black race to continue in the practice of their party fealty, we shall expect full participation in all that pertains to party activities." (Bold type mine.) And we might also add, the spoils accruing therefrom.

Look For Jobs.

Altho this group went up to see "Silent Cal" ostensibly on the program of racial welfare and betterment we have no doubt that their mission was "successfully" terminated as are the usual run of these pre-election crusades by the throwing out of a few mediocre jobs as campaign spellbinders by the chairman of the national republican committee.

This charlatanry amply demonstrates the true character of a certain type of leadership now obtaining in the Negro race.

It is interesting to note that as a result of the interest aroused by the American Negro Labor Congress, con-

WAR DEPARTMENT FLATLY REFUSES TO RECONSIDER PAUL CROUCH FRAME-UP

(Special to The Daily Worker)

ALCATRAZ, Cal., Dec. 3.—Paul Crouch, Communist ex-soldier imprisoned here, has received a flat refusal from the war department to his request for an investigation of the illegal manner in which he was tried by general court-martial and given a sentence of 40 years at hard labor. The war department has declined to give Crouch the opportunity of presenting new evidence.

The Communist ex-soldier offered to prove that his trial was a prepared farce and that the charges against him and Trumbull were manufactured for the purpose of preventing soldiers from expressing sympathy with the workers' cause and the only workers' country—the Soviet Union.

It is obvious that something was wrong when a sentence of 40-years was reduced to 3. It is evident, even from the viewpoint of the war department (after a bombardment of public protest), that the court martial had a perverted and distorted sense of justice. But like the Tea Pot Dome incident and other crimes of the master class, it must not be investigated. The masses must not be shocked by an expose of this bosses' crimes.

cillatory movements are daily springing up thruout the country in an attempt to stem the rising tide of unrest manifesting itself within the ranks of the Negro masses.

Newspapers hitherto hostile or indifferent to the Negro are adopting a more friendly tone. All are extremely solicitous in "keeping our blacks from turning reds"; some even go so far as to admit that it is thru their negligence in regard to the welfare of the Negro that is responsible for their unrest and to insinuate that in the future they must do better.

To Fight Negro Workers.

Basing our deductions upon the matter that has come before us since the congress, we are ready to predict that many conciliatory movements fostered by the ruling class will now arise for the purpose of counteracting the "pernicious red propaganda."

The Negro petty bourgeois leaders will again divulge the innate parliamentarianism of their class by adopting the role of mediators, a role, the character of which, will at same time, bring some advantages to themselves.