



19. Endré Sik, KUTV lecturer.

20. The KUTV building today.

21. The Soviet Union's first Africanist experts in 1934. Alexander Zusmanovich is second from the left, back row; Ivan Potekhin is first from the left, middle row; Endré Sik is at centre, between the front and the middle rows; Dmitry Olderogge is first from the right, front row, Igor Snegirev is in the middle, front row.



Letter from Provisional Secretary for Calling the Negro Conference to Executive Committee, CPSA, 23 July 1923¹

Moscow, July 23 1923.

To the Executive Committee of the CP of South Africa.

Dear Comrades:-

The Fourth Congress of the Comintern decided to hold a Negro Congress. The Enlarged Executive decided to call a Negro Conference at the time of the Fifth Congress.

After consulting with your representatives here,² we have concluded that it will be impossible to arrange the conference as originally planned. We have decided as follows therefore:

1. There shall be a conference as planned in Moscow, of Negro Communists, this conference to take place at the time of the Fifth Congress. It will be the duty of your Party, therefore, to add a Negro delegate to your delegation to the Fifth Congress.

2. The International Negro Conference (open conference) will take place either in London, Paris or New York. We consulted your representatives here, who seemed to prefer London to New York. Since that time, Paris has been proposed, owing to its being favourably disposed toward the Negro. We ask your final word in the matter.

This conference will be attended by all the delegates who have been to Moscow and about 30 or 40 others who are required for the work. We expect a number of delegates from Africa, but realize the difficulty they will have in leaving the country. This has been the chief reason for our changing our plans. There will also be a number of liberal and petty-bourgeois Negro representatives from the US, West Indies and Central America. We believe that the centre of propoganda for the Conference will be New York.

However, it will be chiefly the task of the South African Party to reach the Negroes of southern Africa. We include Mozambique, German East and British West Africa, and Rhodesia. Your delegates informed us that you would be able to penetrate these parts and possibly obtain representatives of the natives to attend the conference.

3. As it is our intention to hold a Negro trade union conference simultaneously with the general conference, we request you to have this in view when selecting your delegates.

1. This document is an unsigned copy of the original letter.
2. 'Your representatives here' would seem to refer to D.I. Jones and W.H. Andrews.

We ask you to begin the work as soon as possible. We shall inform you as to the place and exact date of the general conference, as soon as we have conferred with the various parties involved. The conference will occur in the early part of May, in all probability.

With Communist greetings,
Fraternally,
Provisional Secretary for Calling
the Negro Conference³

RGASPI, 495/64/19/3.

Original in English.

Typed. Copy.

Inscription: 740.

32

**Letter from Secretary for Calling Negro Conference to CPSA,
15 November 1923**

15/11/23.

To the EC of the CP of South Africa.

Dear Comrades: –

The Presidium of the Comintern has decided that the open Negro Conference¹ shall be held in New York. The date will probably be May 15.

As stated in our original letter on this question, we shall expect you to send a Negro delegate to the V Congress of the CI, at which the whole Negro question will be taken up and decisions made for the guidance of the Communist delegates to the open conference in New York. If possible, we also ask you to include a Negro among your delegates to the RILU Congress.

It is essential, however, that the open conference in New York be as well attended as possible, especially by representatives of the native population of Africa. We ask you, therefore, to make the greatest efforts to ensure the success of the New York conference.

Doc. 31

3. The name of the Provisional Secretary could not be identified.

Doc. 32

1. See document 31.

Do not fail to let us know at your earliest opportunity whether the Native Congress² will participate in the calling of the conference.

We have received considerable information on the situation of the African natives from Comrades Jones and Andrews, also from Com. Bunting's report to the Comintern. We should like to have a comprehensive report from you on the situation not only in South Africa, but other parts of Africa with which you are familiar and on which you have any material.

We do not doubt that you are beginning the work among the natives with energy. Please send us whatever propaganda matter you are getting out, in the form of articles, leaflets etc. Also please furnish us with clippings or newspapers containing matter on this question. If there are any native papers, we ask you to send them to us regularly, as there is a dearth of material in Moscow.

We would recommend that a member of your Executive Committee be especially charged with this work.

With Communist greetings,
Secretary for Calling Negro Conference³

RGASPI, 495/64/20/2.

Original in English.

Typed. Copy.

33

**Minutes of Third Congress of CPSA,
27–30 October 1924 (Extracts)**

THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

(SOUTH AFRICAN SECTION OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL)

Third Congress held in the Council Chamber, Trades Hall, Johannesburg on December 27th–28th and No. 4 Trades Hall on December 29th and 30th 1924.

-
2. Obviously, the ANC.
 3. The name of the Secretary could not be established.