

INDEPENDENT AFRICAN, John Chilembwe & the Nyasaland Rising

by Shepperson & Prole (U of Edinburgh, 1958)

P.418: Negro campaign against Am. imp. -
1896 short-lived Nat. Assoc. of Colored Men
1897 Am. Negro Academy
1899, Afro-Am. Council demanded end to lynching &
enforcement of 14th&15th Amendments. This was the yr of Spanish
War ~~which~~ WEED & other Negro intellectually actively
supported RECENTLY FORMED ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE, castigated
war as unjust, linked their own struggles with demand America
should not expand overseas. Negro protest did not end with
acquisition of Philippines; in 1900 many voices, incl.
Bishop Henry M. Turner were against use of Negro troops in
US effort against Boxer Rebellion in China. (Cf. Geo. M. Parks,
111, 'Opp. of Negro Newspapers to Am. Philippines
Policy, 1899-1900' The Midwest Journal (Jefferson
City, Mo., iv, I, Winter, 1951-2, p. 23)

P.419: Nyasaland Native Rising of 1915: different from other
rising, 1st not supported by tribe or headed by tribal leader
as former Resistance movement in Afr. (Matebele War 1893-4)
Later, 1896 Mahoma-Matebele Rebellion; Zulu wars culminating
in Bambata Rebellion of 1906; in Ger. E. Afr., fierce Chaco
Hene wars in early 1800's & in Ger. So. W. Afric., Herero Rebellion
of 1903-07; & lesser known movement in Portuguese territories
such as Bailundu war of 1902 & 1913-15 Bata revolt in Angola.
By WWI it was clear tribal wars could not win; CHILEMBWE'S
marks new stage in action. (Maji-Maji Rebellion*)

P.423 Chilembwe's heritage goes back to the beginnings of
Negro congregations among the plantation slave labor
in predominantly Protestant America & ultimately to the
'social sources of denominationism' in Wes. Christianity.

Chilembwe opposed Afr. participation in WWI where Negro Am. leaders
did not. But Aug. 1920 conference of UNIA did draft "Declaration
of Rts of Negro Peoples of the World" which opposed such wars.