

CROWN 'TREASON' WITTE SENT TO JAIL



Vol 4, No. 9. Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper

SOUTHERN EDITION Thursday, December 19, 1957 6d.

'Thoroughly Bad Person'—Judge

KIMBERLEY.

SOLOMON X. Mgbasi who was called by the Crown at the treason examination to give evidence against the African National Congress about alleged "powder gas to be used against Transkei Europeans," was last week convicted of fraud in the Kimberley Supreme Court.

This was his fifth criminal conviction. He is already serving a three-year sentence for fraud.

him to four years in jail, part of which will run concurrently with his present term. When the case began Mgbasi applied for a postponement. He said that the evidence in the case was connected with the treason trial. But the judge told him that he had read the preparatory examination record of the evidence against him.

"It has no bearing at all on the treason trial! The application is refused."

WORTHLESS CHEQUE

The evidence showed that on arrest Mgbasi had been found in possession of cheques made out by him to the value of £700. He had only £200 in his banking account.

false representation that he was a lawyer coming to practice in Kimberley.

Another witness told of how the accused had defrauded him of £23.

A bank sub-manager gave evidence of having opened an account for the accused on the basis of his statement that he was a law student with several degrees and that he had a bursary "from the offices of Mrs. Ballinger".

Pleading in mitigation after being found guilty on two counts of falsity Mgbasi asked the judge to take into account that "I am not an educated African".

"You are a thoroughly bad person," said the judge. He conceded however, to Mgbasi's request that the sentence allowed to run concurrently with the one he was serving.

A Kimberley general dealer gave evidence of having lost £39 through cashing Mgbasi's worthless cheque

Solomon Mgbasi, Crown witness at the "treason" examination, who was last week sentenced in the Kimberley Supreme Court on two counts of fraud, his fifth criminal conviction.

The back of the photograph published above, taken on December 16, 1955, bears a rubber stamp with the words "S. X. Mgbasi, B.A. B.Sc. LL.B., President Joint Universities Students' Association," and is signed by Mgbasi. He does not, in fact, possess any of the university degrees set out and has not completed a single year at a university.

Treason Allegations Against 61 Persons Withdrawn

CAPE TOWN.

THE ALLEGATIONS OF HIGH TREASON HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN AGAINST 61 OF THE PERSONS ACCUSED.

This news has been received with immense satisfaction by the entire progressive movement.

All recognise, however, that this trial must be a signal for renewed support for the people's leaders who still face the rigours of a long trial.

At the time of going to press no details were available, but a full review of the legal implications will appear in our next issue.

LEADERS OF HALF WORLD'S POPULATION GREET THE ANC

End Passes; £1 A Day; Throw Out The Nats

Says Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

LOUD cheers greeted messages to the annual conference

of the African National Congress held in Orlando over the week-end from Prime Ministers and other leading

figures of the Africa-Asian powers.

WARM GREETINGS CAME FROM MAO-TSETUNG, COMMUNIST LEADER OF CHINA'S 600 MILLION PEOPLE. WISHING CONGRESS WILL IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RACIAL OPPRESSION.

A full report and discussion of conference will appear in New Age next week.

He was joined by the Prime Minister of Ghana, Dr. Nkrumah, the Egyptian President, Colonel Nasser, the Prime Minister of Ceylon and Dr. Cheddie Jagan, Prime Minister of British Guiana.

The leaders of more than half the world greeted the ANC—far more than would ever greet any Nationalist Party conference.

An indication of the breadth of the international support for the fight against apartheid was the fact that a message came not only from the World Federation of Trade Unions but also from the right-wing International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Govan Mbeki the conference agreed that the main tasks facing the Congresses and the country are:

- The abolition of the pass laws
 - A minimum wage of £1 a day
 - The repeal of the Group Areas Act and the ending of the removal of the people from their homes
 - The defeat of the Nationalist Government and the winning of a united front to achieve this.
- Conference reaffirmed its faith in the Freedom Charter and its confidence in the treason accused.

TRIBE SAYS "NO!" TO GOVT. REMOVAL ORDER

JOHANNESBURG.

LIKE the Mamathola the Dinkwanyana living on the farm Boomplaas near Lydenburg have dug in their heels and refused to move.

To the Government order to quit their land these people have answered "We will say nothing, sell nothing, exchange nothing and sign nothing."

They gave this answer at a meeting attended recently by the Chief Native Commissioner for Pietersburg, the Chief Magistrate of Lydenburg, other officials and police. The tribe is ordered by the Government to move from Boomplaas to Sterkspruit, 63 miles northwards.

MOSQUITO-INFESTED

A tribesman who has been to inspect Sterkspruit says it lies between two mountains, is mosquito infested and thickly grown with trees. It would take several weeks, he said, to clear the land to build a house, and months to prepare the ground for ploughing. Even then the wild trees would probably come up again, he said.

A Government employee who regularly visits Boomplaas to per-

suade the people to move has been telling them tales of pumpkins grown on Sterkspruit soil growing so big that they have to be cut with a saw instead of a knife. To which the people replied: "How is it we have never seen such pumpkins at the market?"

The Dinkwanyana have had their land valued by a private valuator and say it is worth £80,000. Government compensation offered them amounts to just under £20,000.

SINCE 1904

Boomplaas was bought in 1904 by Chief Moega, grandfather of the tribe's late chief.

Families are offered £12 each compensation if they move at their own expense and £2 less if the Gov-

ernment moves them. The compensation is to be paid only after they leave Boomplaas.

If the tribe refuse to move it will have to find its own home and will not be allowed to go to Sterkspruit, the authorities are threatening.

The widow of the late chief Victoria yielded to Government pressure to move, but she was followed by only nine families. The Boomplaas school was then closed by the Government and desks and teachers transferred, but still the tribe remained adamant against removal.

Older children walk 12 miles to school in Lydenburg, but the younger children, about 100 in number, do not go to school at all and have not done so for the greater part of the year.

Following the tribal meeting, when the tribe announced its refusal to move, the people were told the matter would be referred to the Secretary for Native Affairs, and the next move must therefore come from Pretoria.

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NEW AGE LETTER BOX

UNITY GROWING

Various incidents have occurred in the past which prove the might and unanimity of the Africans.

From these, we are able to draw an inference that Africans can fight for justice jointly and triumphantly. The bus boycott at Alexandra, Sophiatown and Evaton are examples of political unity and spirit. Despite Schoeman's terrifying words, these Africans with the result that they achieved success.

In the field of economy, Africans are playing an important role. The flour mill workers have made a successful stand against low wages. Coloured and Indian workers have protested against the tyrant, De Klerk.

In this country, anyone who boycotts is regarded as a communist, anyone who advocates parliamentary rights for all the people, commits high treason.

Our women have shown heroic resistance to passives, although some African chiefs, under the influence of NAD officials, try and force them to take out passes.

Let us not forget the Day Campaign. Away with the rule of these tyrannical, blood-sucking Nationalists and Strudom's brutish Cabinet.

Let us march forward to freedom. Mayibuye i-Afrika!

M. HANI

(Youth League), P.O. St. Marks, Cape.

Death On The Line

BOARDING a train in Johannesburg, or at the stations of the outlying townships, is a task of great difficulty and involves considerable danger.

It takes the strength of a very strong young man to negotiate an opening and tear your way through the throngs that grow to 400 strong on these stations.

As it is terrible to see how many of the womenfolk, even those at the point of becoming mothers, are forced to become involved in the struggle to board the trains at these stations.

Many people can be seen haneing from the open doors while the trains are in motion. And many deaths arise out of this situation. It is awful. Travel has become deadly. Passengers including women on the line from the southwest townships which carries two-thirds of Johannesburg's labour force have resigned themselves to death.

The question of African transport service has been a subject for discussion for years and no attempt has been made to remedy the ugly situation. Any civilised country would have taken immediate action to do so even if it involved State expense.

SIPO KOTTI.

Meadowlands, Tvl.

"Treason" Concert

in P.E.

From Tamba Mqota

PORT ELIZABETH.

Port Elizabeth raised £50 for the Treason Trust Defence Fund at a concert held here. Assisted by the AN Women's League and Siroppi, the organising committee roped in a number of well-known artists in the Eastern Cape and the show turned out to be a success.

Among the artists were the Schauderville Boys' Choir and the New Junior Jazzmen. Eastern Cape treason suspects were present as guests of honour and the Special Branch tried unsuccessfully to gate-crash unnoticed.

Death of a Freedom Fighter

The old man, William Nduvane, who at the age of 81, defied the unjust laws during the defiance campaign, and who was imprisoned for six weeks, passed away on December 3.

The Uitenhage Branch of the ANC has lost a great old man, who was a volunteer and also executive member of the Cultural

He played a prominent role in organising the people of Uitenhage against the issuing of reference books to African women. It was his militancy that culminated in the burning of reference books by the women of Uitenhage in August.

Many people criticised him when the women were arrested and sentenced to eight weeks imprisonment; but he said, "This is all part of the struggle. I shall be there to welcome them when they come out." And on November 11, the old man was there to speak at the "Welcome Home" party given for the women.

The ANC's last tribanda to this great old man was Uitenhage ngokolo Nsoonde, ukuzo mat usitelele." (Go rest in peace, Nsoonde, and speak for us where you have gone.)

M. M. PHONGOLO

Uitenhage, Cape.

MORE HIGH RENTS

RENTS are very high and unfair at the new housing scheme at Despatch location. The houses built by the municipality are cement throughout, and people are pushed into them without a chance to object.

The rents are four rooms £3, three rooms £2, two rooms £1 10s. And remember the distances the people have to travel to work, and that also costs money.

Let us fight until we win freedom in our land.

ALFRED METHILE.

Despatch, Tvl.

When the lion lay down with the lamb

When the lion lay down with the lamb,

Said the lamb to the lion, O Lion, some features are missing.

What do I see
When a mane should be
But a shawl

And a habit of kissing.
And what is this antic
That's driving me frantic,
Of pawing the air with your claws?

And why do you sit
Leaning back a bit
Shaking ones' hand with your jaws?

That ain't no lion,
That ain't no mane,
Them's no fangs nor no claws,
Though I look out for one of them left-hand paws
I've noticed before at these feasts

That the king of the beasts,
Said the hare,
Ain't no lion, chum,
But a bear.

Abraham Bell.

Bantu Authorities in Reserves

RECENTLY Taung's Native Commissioner convened a meeting for the four reserves here. The meeting place was Mamula. He told the people about Bantu Authorities.

After he had given explanation one old man stood up to ask him whether under the policy of "self-rule" as they call it their livestock will be allowed freedom of movement and not kept in camps. Secondly whether the people will be allowed to plough as they used to, and the police stock limitation and removals abolished.

The Commissioner said that if the people accept the Bantu Authorities Act their cattle will not

ject it as they are refusing to ride from donkey carts into motor cars. He concluded that it is through such cunning that the people of Majeng could afford to collect £300 for congress, because they have plenty money.

The majority told him that they were not getting anything to do with Bantu Authorities.

A strong political organisation is a necessity to awaken the sleeping Africans particularly those in the reserves and to safeguard them from the poisonous tongues of the black mambas (the headmen).

Mayibuye i-Afrika!

M. GOEEMAN

Majeng, Warrenton.

FICKSBURG ANTI-PASS MEETING

A big public meeting organised by the A.N.C. Local Branch was held at Ficksburg last week to protest against the issue of pass books to African women.

An item on the Agenda was the arrest of our leaders. People were encouraged to stand firm behind their leaders who are still under arrest.

Other items:

● Ethnic grouping, designed to divide the African people tribally so that the Government should be able to play them off against each other.

● Bantu Education Act an Act which is also designed to cripple the minds and personality of the African children.

● The enforcement of influx control regulations which is so tightened that it makes it very difficult for any person outside Ficksburg Location to pay his or her friend or relative a visit.

Those from across the Caledon River, Basutoland, are given only three hours to see their friends and relatives. Should they be found after the specified time one is liable to arrest and to a fine of three pounds.

The worst of it all is in the case of African young women, married to Basutoland men. These young women can no longer stay with their parents but are only allowed three hours to see them.

Sometimes they are refused entry for no cause.

E. E. NTHOBA.

Ficksburg, O.F.S.

Venezuelan Students Killed

NEW YORK.

Students at the Venezuelan University of Caracas have gone on strike following on a clash with the police in which several students were killed recently.

The clash occurred when students carrying anti-Government placards demonstrated against a plebiscite—set for December 15—for the re-election of dictator Jimenez.

The only choice will be to vote for or against General Jimenez: there is to be no other candidate.

Mr. LOUW IS DISPLEASED WITH THE WORLD

(And The World Doesn't Care)

WAS Eric Louw's broadcast just a piece of silliness? As a reply to the International Declaration of Conscience issued on the day of protest against apartheid, December 10, it was dismally poor.

No attempt was made to answer any of the charges made against the Nationalist Government. Instead, Mr. Louw named Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and other sponsors and dismissed them as "leftists" as if he had the same powers on the world stage as the Liquidator in charge of the South African list of "named

At the same time Mr. Louw was not to mention people like former U.N. head Mr. Trygve Lie, four U.S. Senators, 16 members of the House of Representatives, from both parties and the many others whom even Mr. Louw would not be brash enough to dare call "leftists."

Then there was the righteous indignation at the fact that a vice-president of South Korea's fascist government (no leftist, this one!) and members of Hungary's "government in exile" were also on the list.

The Nats send South African airmen to bolster up Korean fascism; the least the Koreans could do in return is to support South African fascism. Mr. Louw evidently feels, with some justification, there's honour among thieves, but not, apparently, among fascists.

And while Hungarian run-aways are enjoying all the tainted benefits of white supremacy, their runaway government attacks the Nats. Mr. Louw was very distressed indeed. We can only hope that he has learnt a lesson and that in future he will oppose the giving of aid to foreign reactionaries.

The attack on the world's "left" was hardly likely to impress anyone overseas, as the Argus commented. Mr. Louw can hardly expect everyone everywhere to become a rightwinger just to please him. Not surprisingly the overseas press completely ignored Mr. Louw.

But all the same we do not believe that Mr. Louw's speech was just a piece of silliness.

It was a party speech made with one intention only—to impress potential Nat voters.

As the speech came over the radio in the Afrikaans version it was possible to hear this very clearly. Here was plain strydrag oratory, the brave man calling on Afrikanerdom to close its ranks against the powerful foreign enemy and the dreadful new internal foe the "ultra-liberalists."

It is interesting that a prediction made by the Communists before they were banned, that once the Nats had succeeded in outlawing communism they would turn upon the liberals and give them similar treatment, seems to be being borne out by speeches like Mr. Louw's. The "communist bogey" seems to have given way to the "ultra-liberalist" bogey. Mr. Louw brought out Bishop Reeve's name with the sort of venom one might have expected him to reserve for Kruschov.

Afrikanerdom unite against the enemy! It is the same old technique that has succeeded in two elections. It sounds stale, weak and rotten now—stale enough, weak enough and rotten enough to stir faint hopes in our breasts.

Surely no electorate can keep on voting for people who talk like Mr. Louw in this twentieth century?

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

The Editor and Staff of your paper wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and well over the New Year

In spite of all the trials and tribulations which the people of South Africa have undergone this past year, we are all looking forward to a future of peace, prosperity and freedom, and trust that next Christmas we will be closer to everything we desire.

However, although we extend good wishes to each other at this time of the year, peace, prosperity and freedom do not really come as a result of wishing only. Together with good wishes must go hard work and unflinching sacrifice.

New Age is looking forward to your continued support and trusts that the flow of donations will not cease. We need money for newspaper, money to keep the paper going, and money to help bring about the peace, prosperity and freedom we long for in South Africa. It's up to you.

New Age is waiting for its Christmas and New Year donations. If you are among the unlucky ones who won't be at our Xmas Rock and Roll dance you will still want to be among those who will be giving us the whopping big Christmas present that our supporters always combine to give us at the dance. Send your donation to our office marked—for the Xmas Dance—and it will be announced there and will swell our happy total.

M.P. Naicker and Tennyson Makiwane Visit "A Bug's Den:"

"Kwa-Twopence, Durban's 'Answer' to the Housing Problem

IF we didn't have to buy stamps every once in a while we'd probably never find much use for two-pence. Out here in Durban if you are an African worker and you are homeless you'd be well advised to hold on to that two-pence—it might help to provide a roof over your head one of these nights.

At Somstue Road there is a huge men's barracks housing six to seven thousand men who live under the most shocking conditions imaginable.

We visited the place one evening at a time when men were coming in from work. The dormitories were scandalously overcrowded. When we got into a dormitory our guide said to the inmates "The authorities say you are living happily here and now I have brought these people to see for themselves." This provoked a storm of denials and complaints on living conditions from the men. We thought that we had seen the worst but, our guide turned around to us and told us that we had seen nothing yet and that he would take us to "Kwa-Twopence" (at two pence).

OUR BIGGEST SHOCK

We proceeded along a dark, damp, stinking passages to the rear of the barracks and that is when we got the biggest shock.

To avoid the responsibility of providing housing for thousands of African workers the local authorities have made a makeshift arrangement by which you pay two-pence and obtain sleeping accommodation for the night. The congestion and the heat bits you like a bag of sand as soon as you get inside. This consists of huge barrack sheds—only a barn is a little better—it has walls. Here they've just got supporting pillars on which has been placed a roof. Both in summer and in winter the place is exposed to the elements.

SLEEP ON BOARDS

The floor is cement and the men are provided with wooden boards on which to sleep.

This whole location is in fact a scandal. Even in the better sleeping quarters which consist of blocks of dormitories, there is serious overcrowding.

In a 7 ft. by 17 ft. dormitory about twelve persons are accommodated. Because no kitchens are provided, the men cook and eat their food in the same place as they sleep. When they do their washing, they hang it up to dry in the same room.

Sanitation and the general health requirements are extremely bad. In what is supposed to be bathrooms, lavatories, taps from which people get drinking water are situated. There are no doors to the lavatories. Only a wall of about four feet high separates one lavatory from the other.

In a block of dormitories we visited only six lavatories are provided, serving 78 dormitories. If they got blocked a chaotic situation develops.

TAPS IN LAVATORIES

The evil mainly criticized by the inmates is the fact that they have to get their drinking and cooking water from taps situated in the lavatories. The overcrowding also was severely criticized by them. The feeling was generally expressed that the Council should provide much more accommoda-

tion for the workers in Durban. The local Branch of the African National Congress has made frequent appeals to the superintendent demanding privacy in the lavatories, the cleaning up of passages which stink, and the introduction of measures to protect the inmates from disease. "This place is a bug's den," they say in one of their letters.

The authorities, however, are silent. The position is getting from bad to worse.

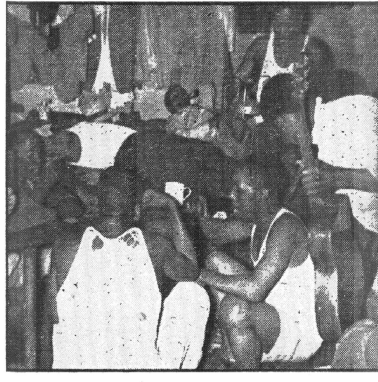
MEETING BANNED

In the meantime, a request to hold a meeting in the only hall available in the location, has been turned down by the Location Superintendent.

He states in a letter to the Branch Secretary of the A.N.C., that the refusal has the support of the Location Advisory Board.

The inmates interviewed by us are up in arms and indications are that these members will not remain on the Board after the next elections.

A local Tenants Association that has come into existence recently has decided to hold a meeting of the workers next week to discuss the scandalous conditions that exist in the location and to invite Councilors to come and see for themselves that their complaints are genuine.



The living quarters at Kwa-Twopence. Men sleep, wash, play their music, hang their clothes, eat—all in one room.

B.A.'s instead of A.B.'s

PORT ELIZABETH.

Mr. Young, chairman of the New Brighton Advisory Board, said at a meeting here recently that he wished the Minister of Native Affairs would implement his promise to establish Bantu Authorities in urban areas.

Mr. Young was giving vent to his indignation because a number of seats on the Board had not been filled because, as a result of the boycott, no people could be found to nominate candidates at the recent elections. The few old people who turned up on election day were reported to be some of the employees of the Native Administration Department.

Now that all efforts to breathe life into the Advisory Board have failed, the Council may be expected to request Dr. Verwoerd to hasten the day of the establishment of "embassies" for the Bantu Authorities.

More Zeerust Arrests

ZEERUST.

Not a week goes by without fresh arrests in Zeerust. The latest to be convicted are 13 women from Moitswedi sentenced to a fine of £30 each or six months imprisonment for burning pass books.

The 13 women were arrested late one afternoon and by 11.30 the following morning they had already been rushed to court and convicted before any legal defence could be secured for them.

An appeal has not been noted, but the judgment has not yet been given.

COLOUREDS STILL DIFFER ON ELECTION ATTITUDES

RESUMING his interviews with Coloured people to sound their opinions on the general elections and the separate representative elections, New Age interviewed a doctor and several "men in the street," and also received a joint letter from a number of well-known people who expressed their views on the issue.

Mr. R. January, a worker at a cardboard box factory in Ndabeni said: "I haven't been interested in politics in the past, but the Nationalists have forced everybody to become interested. Now we must do what we can to get them out of power. They are going hell-for-leather to oppress us. So I'm looking forward to the general elections to see them voted out. As for the Coloured elections, you won't find me voting for a Nat. I'm prepared to vote only for a candidate who will fight for our rights."

Mrs. Ida Williams, a housewife of Silverfont, Athlone: "Of course I haven't got the vote, but I hope to have it one day. The people can't stand the Nationalists any more, so I hope the men will do the best they can—vote to keep the Nationalists from gaining any more strength. We will all be watching the elections and pray that the Nats don't get in again."

Hoosain Abdullah, a hawker in Hanover Street: "We don't want the Nats. I hope the white people will have sense enough to vote them out."

William September, of Claremont: "I'm fed up with elections. What do they bring us? We vote and vote and nothing happens. I'm not interested."

A prominent doctor in District Six said that on the one hand he

elections as far as the non-whites are concerned is a farce. "But on the other hand, we must close every gap through which the Nats might get in to increase their power. Right now we should think in terms of keeping the Nats out, and make use of the meagre rights which we have to help in this direction."

But a number of people active in S.A.C.P.O., including some of its leading figures had a very different view. In a letter to New Age signed by George Penke, Adam Daniels, Stanley B. Lollan, Lionel E. Morrison, Mary Moodley, Norman Peters, Christine Jason, Stella Damons, S. J. Tobias and H. Mantel, they say:

"Polling day for the election of wards to represent us in the Assembly is swiftly approaching. This travesty of elections is to be held eight days before the general elections.

We are, however, not in the least concerned with this mockery.

When at the last conference of S.A.C.P.O. the delegates adopted a resolution to boycott all elections to be conducted under the Separate Representation of Voters' Act, they took a bold and important decision in the struggle for democracy in South Africa. The importance of the boycott decision lies in the fact that it is a practical effort to remove the veil behind which the political enslavement, economic strangulation and social degradation of our people will be perpetuated by the Coloured Representatives. That on this issue a very strong boycott consciousness exists amongst our people, is evident from the report that after the July supplementary registration of voters, the number of voters on the Coloured role had dropped to 29,244 compared with more than 49,000 who were previously on the common roll.

Notwithstanding the fact that the boycott decision has embarrassed some of the Coloured leaders, we are confident that the salvation of our people will not be advanced by their participation in fraudulent elections.

We herewith reaffirm our unanimous support for the boycott decision, and call upon all our people who are eligible to vote to demonstrate their abhorrence for Separate Representation by primarily not registering and those who are registered by ignoring the mock election.

That is the view of these S.A.C.P.O. members.

S.A.C.P.O.'s policy on the elections will however be open for revision at the national conference this weekend and the whole boycott policy will be fully rediscussed.

LEATHER WORKERS

TURN DOWN INVITATION

PORT ELIZABETH.

A multi-racial conference of all workers is being organised by the Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage branches of SACTU to discuss the £1 a day campaign. Passes for women and job reservations.

Invitations have been issued to various organisations including the Black Sash, Liberal Party, leather and garment workers' unions as well as teachers and members of churches.

Thus far the only refusal to attend came from the local branch of Leather Workers' Union who said that they were "not interested in the Agenda as we are dealing with these matters through the S.A. Trade Union Council."

Cyprian's Wife Stands With The People

DURBAN.

Majoli Thoko, wife of Cyprian, Paramount Chief of the Zulus, says that as her people do not want the Bantu Authorities Act, she does not want it either.

That was her reply to a representative of the African National Congress when he asked her if she supported her husband's acceptance of Bantu Authorities.

"Go and tell the Native Commissioner," she added, "that I am not in line with their policy. I will take my seat with the rank-and-file."

Jewish Art In Soviet Latvia

OTTAWA.

Some 600 Jewish people, young and old, recently saw a performance of The Witch, by A. Goldfinger, in the Cultural House of the Soviet Latvian city of Dvinsk. This was one of several recent performances by Jewish cultural groups in the city.

This is reported by the Canadian Jewish weekly.

The paper says the Canadian Jewish Congress in Vancouver has appealed for relief for Hungarian Jewish migrants who are without jobs or places to live.

Baghdad police have arrested 28 students and young workers, including a girl, who went to the Youth Festival in Moscow.

THE NEW VOTE SWINDLE

IN CENTRAL AFRICA

THE government of the Central African Federation has passed a Constitutional Amendment Bill altering the voting rights of Africans, the British Conservative Government has rejected Labour's call to veto the Bill, and it is now law.

Needless to say the amendment to the Federation's constitution is one designed to swindle the Africans of the few rights they possess.

The Federation comprises 6,680,000 Africans and 260,000 Europeans.

Formerly there were 6 Africans and 29 European members of Parliament. It is now proposed to increase the number of Europeans to 47 and the number of Africans to 12.

The important thing is how those twelve are to be elected.

Eight of the twelve will be elected by voters on a common roll—and the Europeans make up the overwhelming majority of the voters on the common roll. In other words eight African members of Parliament WHO ARE INDEPENDENT ON WHITE VOTES will be returned.

The other four Africans will be indirectly elected by purely African bodies.

MAJORITY DOUBLED

The intention of the swindle is obvious. Instead of the present majority of 29 to 6 the plan is to have an effective majority of 55 to 4, and the Africans are elected mainly by white voters who will have to outdo all other candidates in their servility.

No wonder the plan was opposed by the African National Congress in the African Congress, in all the African Congresses of the territory, and by democrats throughout Africa and in Britain.

The Labour Party's chief colonial affairs spokesman, Mr. James Callaghan, in a speech to the House of Commons, "I know no one outside the Federal Government and the British Government who favours the Bill."

AFRICAN AFFAIRS BOARD

And the African Affairs Board, a mainly European body set up by the British Government with the special task of ensuring that no anti-African legislation is passed by the Federation Government also announced its opposition to the Bill.

The Board had been set up by Britain to meet the protests of Africans at the time the Federation was pushed through in 1953. Africans claimed that a Federation government would lead to the loss of African rights. At the time the Board (criticising Federal legislation for the first time) opposed the anti-African constitutional amendment—the British Government ignored it. The Africans had been defrauded once more.

THREE WAYS

The Board drew attention to the fact that the Africans were being discriminated against in three ways.

First, because the possible size of the majority against African interests will now be greater than before; and the Board pointed out that "in Parliament it is the size of the majority that is important."

The non-African majority over the Africans will be thirty-five as against twenty-three at present.

Secondly, it objected to "jumping" eight additional African members to be elected in a voters' roll in which the Europeans are also included. The Bill violates the 1953 Constitution; for this lays down that Africans "specially" elected in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland must be elected only by Africans.

Thirdly, it pointed out that only four Africans (two in Northern Rhodesia and two in Nyasaland) will be "specially" elected by Africans.

Because Europeans will vote for eight Africans these will be regarded by most other Africans as the "stooges" of the Europeans. This is certainly the European view, for a Southern Rhodesian European member in the discussion on the Bill in the Federal Assembly emphasised that:

"African voters who are not elected solely by Africans are evidently more moderate than those from the North."

DIVIDE AND RULE

It is clear that this swindle is being perpetuated, not, as is being professed, to increase partnership between Africans and Europeans, supposedly the objective of the Federation in the 1953 Constitution, but simply and solely on the age-old device of "divide and rule."

The four Africans from the Protectorates who must still be elected by Africans under the 1953

Constitution will have set against them eight other Africans, who will tend to be mouthpieces of the Europeans, for their seats will depend mainly on the votes of Europeans.

Various estimates have been made of the number of Africans who will be entitled to vote under the electoral proposals put forward in this Bill. The most generous estimate is that of the total African population of Southern Rhodesia, only one in every 152 will have the vote; in Northern Rhodesia one in 141 and in Nyasaland one in 2,580. This compares with the respective figures for Europeans of one in four in Southern Rhodesia, one in five in Northern Rhodesia and one in four in Nyasaland.

This means that in the whole Federation the maximum number of African votes is 31,000. Other estimates are as low as 20,000. The remainder of the African population (apart from the handful of 2,000-odd who are reckoned to qualify to vote on the general roll) are still considered "politically immature," "irresponsible" and "uncivilised" and all the other epithets that the Europeans use against them.

Odd it is that, nevertheless, they are considered

WORLD STAGE

By Spectator

"mature," "responsible" and "civilised" enough to work for European employers at a wage below £120 a year (the lowest income for which they may qualify to vote), and are the means of providing more than £200 million annual profit for their "civilised" masters.

REASON FOR NEW MOVIE

Why has the British Government thought it necessary to crack down on the Federation's Africans?

For the old reason—fear that the growing surge towards independence would menace the huge profits being drawn from the Federation.

Last year the profits made by companies operating in the Federation was £110 million—this was the recent boast of the Federal Minister of Finance. And this was by no means all the profit.

For example the unattributed profit now in the hands of the two giant monopolies controlling the COPPER BELT ALONE (the American Metal Corporation and the Anglo-American Oppenheimer group) was also over £100 million.

Many other big companies, both American and British, get their whack from exploitation in the Federation. Profits from banking, insurance, contracting—all without exception European owned—are never disclosed. They would push the profit total well beyond these figures.

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS' DEMANDS

The African liberation movement in each of the three territories is the African National Congress. Each of them demands universal adult suffrage. The Africans see that the peoples of India, Ghana, and the East and West Regions of Nigeria already have it, and that Africans in Kenya are gathering their forces to achieve it. But Sir Roy Welensky, the Federal Premier, has said that while he is in power there will never be any question of granting even manhood suffrage to Africans.

The Constitutional Amendment will also be used as part of the growing government "get tough" policy with the Congresses.

As the correspondent of the London "Observer" noted, "The changes are designed in part, to open up political prospects for 'moderate' Africans who are willing to reject Congress."

At the same time there is an immense anti-Congress police and propaganda drive in order to force the faint-hearted into the roles of stooges being prepared for them.

With only a quarter of a million whites, the Federation government has not been able to adopt the same strong-arm methods as our own Strijdom. Welensky has chosen his own path, but every road marked racialism leads to hell.

THE NATO MEETING



GENTLEMEN, PLEASE. ARE YOU MOON-GAZING OR ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

In this special report JACQUELINE RENSTEIN tells

HOW BANTU EDUCATION IS DESTROYING NATAL'S SCHOOLS

DURBAN.

Conditions in Bantu Education Schools in Natal are becoming critical.

The acute shortage of African teachers is being severely aggravated by unjust dismissals, resignations and retrenchment.

In an interview with I. C. Durban branch of the Natal African Teachers' Union to Pretoria to discuss vital matters with the Minister was told to go back home and not to return again.

TWO NAD BLOWS

Two blows delivered by the Native Affairs Department last month. Firstly, a notice was sent to a number of schools in Natal instructing them to retrench male teachers. The reason given was that there had been a drop in the enrolment of pupils. Yet classes at the schools affected contained from 40 to 50 pupils each. In non-African schools the quota is 20 pupils per teacher.

The African Teachers' Union denied that enrolment has decreased and claims that even if less teachers are required at some schools there is no justification for retrenchment. The teachers could be transferred to numerous other schools where staffs are finding it impossible to cope with overcrowded classes.

The African Teachers' Union believes that the reason for the retrenchment demanded is to reduce expenditure on Bantu Education and to replace as many men as possible by women who are paid lower salaries.

ADMIT ONLY ZULUS!

The second blow was a directive from the Native Affairs Department

to the Ohlanga Institute, secondary school, ordering admitted only Zulus from next February into the tradition of the school has been to serve the African people regardless of the ethnic group to which they belong.

In an interview with I. C. Durban branch of the Natal African Teachers' Union, I was told that one of the most grave problems is the widespread resignation of teachers that was taking place.

Many teachers found their work not so frustrating that they could carry on. The demoralising and humiliating conditions created by the distorted facts and theories had to teach the children, had turned African teaching in a work which, according to regulations, are to be used by respective schools to purchase essential equipment, are being withheld by the authorities in Pretoria.

Their resignations should be organised into an effusive united withdrawal from the schools.

"Unfortunately, some people adopt the 'we told you so, why didn't you support the boycott' attitude. This is futile and will not help to solve our problems."

MUST RENOVATE BANTU EDUCATION FIGHT

Teachers did not support the boycott in the beginning because they were afraid of losing their jobs. To-day they are quickly learning that Bantu Education has been their jobs worthless. Many, therefore, will be prepared to participate in a properly organised campaign.

"The parents, on the other hand, having supported the boycott policy but unable to make it effective, are hesitant and unsure of the next step to take in the fight against Bantu Education."

The boycott is virtually dead and has therefore deteriorated into a negative policy which is neutralising opposition and producing confusion in the mind of the people. The result is that nobody seems to know what to do," said Mr. G. Mduduzi Mbela, vice-president of the Teachers' Union.

"There is the feeling that the Congress movement tends to evade the issue instead of finding out what is happening in the schools, re-examining its policy and facing up to the new problems arising."

The National conference of the African National Congress meeting this week is expected to give attention to this matter. From this conference the people are awaiting leadership and clarity on the course of action to be pursued against Bantu Education."

See World Stage next week for an analysis of the results of the Nato Meeting

CAPE TOWN TRADE ACTIVITY RISKS AT A LOW EBB

I HAVE just completed a survey of recent trade union activities in Cape Town. The results are not pleasing. The failure of many trade union leaders, past and present, to give any sort of militant, clear-headed lead has resulted in unpreparedness and disorganisation which needs immediate remedy.

The recent decision of the Garment Workers' Union leaders in the Cape to rely on the courts and to refuse to lead the workers into militant action against the De Klerk's resignation determination, together with recent developments emerging from discussions held by the major trade unions in the Cape, illustrate this unsatisfactory situation.

With January 1 approaching, the date of the coming into force of the I.C. Act, no positive stand against the threat to their jobs and livelihood, or in the defence of their trade union unity, was embraced by the major unions emerged from the major unions, and have the power to spanner in the works of industrial apartheid, and for that matter the whole Nationalist machinery of oppression.

STATES ALEX LA GUMA IN THIS SPECIAL REPORT

There has taken place a series of juggling acts to defeat the attempts of honest trade unionists to lead the workers out of the quagmire which Senator de Klerk and his henchmen in the trade union movement have prepared for them.

Three major meetings of trade unions took place in Cape Town over the last few weeks, starting with a conference of unions of the furniture trade from all centres.

They Asked For Apartheid

Apart from statements to the press deploring the Act, and condemning the reservation of jobs, a strict censorship was kept on the discussions held at the conference. The reason for the wooden curfew around the conference was that some of things done there would have caused considerable embarrassment to many.

One of them was a memorandum for submission to the Minister of Labour De Klerk, from the Coloured and European executive of the Transvaal Furniture Workers' Union, complaining about the infiltration of Africans into the industry, and asking that thirty operations in the industry be reserved for Europeans and Coloureds.

With the agitation against reservation of jobs for Europeans going reached considerable proportions, one can imagine the uproar the revelation of such a stand would have caused, especially among the non-whites.

Following the decision to split into white and non-white unions, as an alternative to white domination in the executive and separate branches, along with a change in the leadership of the Co-ordinating Council, it is not altogether surprising that some members of the non-white leaders have revealed signs of racial animosity perhaps even unconsciously, in their attitude to the white workers.

A lot of the European leadership in the trade unions concerned have openly supported apartheid, and have even backed up their attitude by pleading white leadership in the trade unions in the name of workers' unity."

New Coloured T.U. Body

When the Building Workers' Union in the Cape called a conference of local Coloured trade unions recently, the result, a new Coloured trade union federation, smacked of the anti-white sentiment of the deep wounds inflicted on the Non-Europeans by the attitude of European trade unionists.

It is perhaps significant that the prime mover of the proposal to establish a new Federation of Non-European Trade Unions was the furniture workers' delegation.

The conference had been ostensibly called to discuss (a) what action could be taken in support of the garment workers' union with regard to the reservation of jobs in that industry, (b) what could be done in case the Minister took similar steps in the industries covered by the unions invited to the conference.

White Coloured trade unions were invited to this conference, the building workers' circular stated that they "would not mind" if any white delegates wished to attend.

The unions present were the Builders, Sweet Workers, Rope and Canvas Workers, Pyrotechnical Workers, Laundry Workers, Food and Canning, and the Municipal Workers Association.

No decisions were taken with regard to job reservation. Instead a resolution to form the Federation was carried. But its adoption was by no means unanimous. The voting was 12 for and 11 against, the eight unions present equally divided on the issue. I learn that at some stage the Pyrotechnical workers' delegation left the conference.

FROM WHAT HAVE GATHERED, THE NEW FEDERATION, IF IT LASTS, WILL CATER FOR THE REGISTERED UNIONS, THIS MEANS THAT AFRICAN UNIONS ARE EXCLUDED.

They Don't Inspire Confidence

The leading figures in the Federation are men like Furniture workers' secretary Deane, Municipal workers' Gibbs (who, as we reported last week, is under fire in his union, charged with a number of irregularities), and building workers' secretary Bob Simmons. These are not men who will inspire the confidence of progressive trade unionists.

But it is possible that the Federation will seek co-operation with SACTU, the non-colour-bar trade union.

When the Building Workers' Union in the Cape called a conference

PACKING THE XMAS PARCELS



Helpers at Ma's Xmas Club in Cape Town and Arnold's in Johannesburg are hard at work sending out their parcels. This picture was taken at Ma's.

union centre, and this would be an important step towards trade union unity.

Prior to this conference the building workers attempted to arrive at a decision on their attitude to the I.C. Act. A general meeting was called last month to discuss a resolution of the Executive Committee.

The resolution proposed that the union deregister and then form two separate unions, white and non-white.

Approximately 200 of the 3,500 members turned up and the motion was defeated by 112 to 93. In effect this meant that the meeting, composed mainly of about 20 workers, agreed to remain a mixed union within the framework of the Act and accept an all-white executive with separate branches for whites and non-whites!

Anti-Coloured Coloureds

In support of this decision were arguments that the petition had been given a chance to run the union and had proved themselves incapable. This was no doubt a reflection on the ability of the leadership past and present who apparently did not prove themselves worthy of leadership, but that Coloured workers fell for the line that it is better for whites to lead their union is certainly a good indication of the low level of political consciousness of sections of the working class.

Shortly after this meeting the secretary of the Building Workers' Union received a petition signed by 36 members calling for a special general meeting before December 20 to approve the appointment of a new executive. (30 is the prescribed number necessary for the calling of a special general meeting.) Only five white members signed the petition.

I learn, on the other hand, that the present executive of the union feels that the ballot taken at the general meeting of November 20 was not a true reflection of the wishes of the entire membership and they intend calling a meeting to redress the matter.

In the meantime they have applied to the Minister of Labour for an exemption insofar as the composition of a mixed union is concerned.

Apart from altogether declining registration under the Act, which in many cases might result in a break-up of the union, the division of the trade unions into separate white and non-white bodies is the alternative to white domination. With proper handling and leadership it might not even be necessary to achieve the demands of the workers through the operation of the provisions of the Act. This has been shown by the successful negotiations made with employers by the Port Elizabeth branch of the Food and Canning workers recently.

However, events indicate that the intention of the I.C. Act are still not clear to a great many workers, and together with the refusal or inability of leaders to give the proper guidance, the situation may well prove dangerous for the trade union movement. For while they stumble around in the dark, the Minister of Labour can comfortably sit back and rub his hands with glee.

The situation is a reflection of the failure of SACTU, and to a lesser extent SACTU, to do its work properly in bringing to the Coloured workers an understanding of the importance of embracing unity against oppression, SACTU has got to down to the job of fighting all the evils of racism and self-seeking which has been the heritage of apartheid and capitalism in South Africa.

Space Flight is a Practical Possibility

MORE than 100 years ago a British magazine engaged in controversy with George Stephenson, the famous British inventor, wrote that there was nothing more absurd than a promise to build a locomotive running twice as fast as a postal coach.

To believe that the citizens of Woolwich would entrust their lives to this machine, it continued, was as stupid as to hope they would let themselves be fired off in a rocket.

So by way of a joke Stephenson named his first locomotive the "Rocket". In the race that followed the "Rocket" moved several times as fast as a postal coach and delivered all its passengers safely to their destination. Stephenson would probably have been very surprised if he had been told that man would be able to travel just as safely in a real rocket, moving at a cosmic speed, provided certain conditions were fulfilled.

Will be Rocket-Driven

It is generally accepted that any future space ship will be rocket driven.

Travelling by rocket is quite safe because the rocket, as distinct from an artillery shell, gains momentum gradually. Since the speed of a rocket-propelled spaceship through the atmosphere will be relatively low, the ship will not meet with much air resistance, and heat due to friction will be insignificant.

What is the principle of the rocket's motion? The type of rocket with a gunpowder charge that is launched at a carnival cannot be used as a motor for the very high pressures set up by the combustion of gases.

The liquid-fuel rockets extensively used nowadays are superior to gunpowder rockets in this respect. Both gunpowder rockets and liquid-fuel rockets depend for the steadiness of their flight on air friction and rudders.

But these are of no use once the rocket has left the earth's

atmosphere and emerged into space. What are the astronauts to do if the rocket is deflected from its route?

This problem was solved by K. E. Tsiolkovsky, who suggested that rudders be placed in the stream of gas emitted from the nozzle in order to change the direction of the rockets flight in empty space.

The Fuel

ON what factors does the rocket's speed of travel depend?

In empty space, beyond the reach of gravitational fields, the velocity that can be attained by a rocket depends on the speed with which the gases leave the nozzle and the amount consumed. In view of this, use will be made of those fuels which produce the greatest possible exhaust velocity, for example oxygen and hydrogen. Nitric acid and hydrazine (a chemical combination of nitrogen) are more economical, inasmuch as these liquids are easy to handle and can be contained in small tanks.

Other liquid-fuel rocket propellants are benzene, turpentine, paraffin, etc., and hydrogen-chloric acid, hydrogen peroxide, etc., serving as oxidizers.

Thermo-chemical (conventional) propellants produce exhaust velocities of about one and one-half miles per second, but there are good reasons for believing that a speed of two and one-half miles per second can be achieved, which would simplify the problem of constructing a spaceship.

Another method of increasing the rocket's speed and range is to launch it with an auxiliary rocket. When the latter uses up all its fuel it is automatically jettisoned, the touch-down being by parachute.

The main rocket is fired only when the auxiliary has done its job—that is when it has reached a certain height and speed, and it can therefore climb higher than an ordinary rocket.

To increase exhaust velocity, conventional propellants will be replaced by nuclear propellants.

Atom Power

MODERN physics has succeeded in converting a number of

chemical elements into other elements. In certain cases the process is accompanied by a release of atomic energy.

A material that produces such energy is known as a nuclear propellant, a small quantity of which contains enormous energy.

Atomic energy can be used to convert certain elements (for example, liquid hydrogen or helium) into gas and then to expel it from the rocket.

Nuclear propellant with a liquid or gas is called "atomic fuel".

One must bear in mind that the terms "nuclear fuel" are used here only conventionally, since the release of atomic energy and its transfer to an inert body bear no resemblance to the process of burning as we know it.

In an atomic rocket the gases will leave the nozzle at a speed of several dozen miles per second, and the greater the exhaust velocity the less fuel is required for interplanetary travel. This is a big advantage of the atomic rocket.

Although the atomic rocket does not differ in principle from the ordinary types of rockets, there are a number of technical difficulties preventing its construction.

In the first place the extraordinary high temperatures and pressures arising in the atomic rocket must be reduced because no metal can withstand them.

Secondly, measures must be taken to protect the astronauts from the radioactive radiations which are released at the same time as the atomic energy.

To tackle the problem successfully a material must be devised that would absorb such radiations and, would, at the same time, be light, because excessive weight would considerably reduce the rocket's range.

The Human Element

AT take-off of the spaceship and the human organism are subjected to strains as a result of acceleration.

The permissible strain at take-off and consequently the rate of acceleration are limited by the endurance of the human organism. At an acceleration of four to five times gravity, the necessary speeds can be attained in a matter of a few minutes.

We know from practical experience that a human being is capable of withstanding even greater strains than, for example, a fast-moving vehicle he is travelling in comes to a sudden stop, or when he dives under water from a certain height.

An airman is subjected to great strains when his plane is launched by catapult or during aerobatics.

To learn more about this special experiments have been carried out.

The endurance of the organism depends to a large extent on the position of the body during accelerated flight. Experiments show that man can tolerate excessive strains when lying down better than when standing or sitting.

Nowadays, in order to increase the resistance of the organism, jet aircraft are fitted with special couches which adjust themselves to the shape of the body when it is undergoing excessive strain.

Physical training must also be taken into consideration. People who have had good physical training are reported to have endured a strain 15 times greater than their own weight for two to three minutes.

From the physiological point of view this is quite enough to emerge not only into interplanetary space but also beyond it.

What is Weight?

IT is quite natural that people travelling in a rocket moving through space under its own momentum should feel weightless.

The sensation of weight is the result of the pressure of a support (a floor, chair, bed) upon the body, as well as the mutual pressure the different parts of the body exercise upon each other.

If the support is taken away the sensation of weight is lost too.

Let us assume, for example, that we are in a specially designed lift which is in free fall at that moment. All the objects inside the cabin are falling at the same speed and therefore exercise no pressure upon each other.

If you let go of something you have been holding in your hand it will not fall to the floor because it has become weightless as everything else inside the cabin, including yourself.

On the earth we experience a sensation of weightlessness when, for example, we leave the support that holds up and dive into the water or bale out from an aircraft in a delayed drop.

If you jump down with a weight in your pocket you will feel no weight in it in free fall. A partial loss of weight is experienced by a skier sliding downhill or by a person rocking in a swing, especially as he reaches the highest point.

Parachutists and acrobats experience a sensation of weightlessness without losing their balance or orientation.

In literature or astronautics the term "weight" is generally

taken to mean a force that keeps the people and equipment on the floor of a spaceship.

Still More Study

IN the absence of this force, people and objects do not exercise a pressure upon one another and become weightless.

Some authorities say that the weight of a man or an object above the earth's surface tends to increase or decrease. However, we cannot accept this, as the actual difference in weight can be detected by instruments.

Before take-off a one-kilogramme weight suspended from a spring-balance moves the pointer to the one-kilogramme mark.

As soon as the rocket is up in the air, however, the weight of the bodies inside increases several-fold, for instance four times as much, and the pointer of the spring balance points to the four-kilogramme mark.

When the rocket moves under its own momentum, all the bodies inside it lose their weight and the pointer of the spring-balance returns to the one-kilogramme mark.

There is still a lot of hard work to be done on the question of providing astronauts with enough oxygen, water and food for their first journeys to Mars and Venus, which may last more than two years.

A more detailed study also has to be made of the problem of purifying the air and water aboard the spaceship.

But the important thing is that today the solution of these problems is a practical possibility. (From a new Soviet book, *Interplanetary Travel*, by A. Sternfeld.)

UP MY ALLEY

ALRIGHT. We can go on about that Hungarian business forever. We've had a bellyful of "Freedom fighters," and rocketeers and slave camps and long lines of other goings on about what is supposed to be going on "behind the iron curtain." All this we got from the news on the radio.

And this week-end we got a bit more. Eric's a Dirk De Villiers in the local blab: "To a Hungarian freedom means that when there's a knock there is no need to whisper. In fact—who's at the door?" PHOOEY!

I'm not going to argue with the subject of the article, a Mr. Hargatai from Hungary, about the tough time he and his family might have had over there. But, Mr. Hargatai, you don't know from nothing.

No knocks on the door in free South Africa? You know what kind of knocks I mean. Mr. De Villiers, Mr. Hargatai, and Mr. De Villiers.

I've had Knocks on the door, right here up my alley, in free South Africa.

And every time those Knocks came, my house was ransacked by nice cheerful Special Branch dicks. The last time that Knock came it was at four a.m., and they hauled me off without even giving me a chance to wait for my wife to come home from delivering a baby. They wouldn't let me eat or drink, and they wouldn't allow me to take a change of clothes. They just hauled me out and shipped me to the Fort.

Uh-uh, Mr. Hargatai, You just become a Freedom Fighter in South Africa, and you'll get Knocks on your door. But publicity.

LITTLE Eric has been whining again. Oh, these bad people overseas. To kick back at December 10 Day of Consciousness speeches, Eric made with the moans over the radio. Talk about other people of stirring up hatred. I'd like to see you stir up the Africans rioting in P.E. and DEVOURING a nun!

★
By ALEX
LA GUMA
★

● If that ain't stirring up hatred for Africans, I'll eat my hat. My best one.
★

THE record session was quite a relief.
★
CHRISTMAS is a-coming and I'm looking forward to finding what some kind-hearted reader is going to put in my stocking. The first Christmas card I received said:

Merry Christmas, pretty child, Jesus meek and Jesus mild, Linger on the Christmas tree There's a gift for you from me.
● Thanks for the card, friend.
★

A JOKER around here said that his far the most effective sales-talk for socialism has been. Bleep-bleep-bleep.
★

● Be seeing ya at our Christmas Eve party.

LEFT-WING ELECTION VICTORY IN MALAYA

LEFT-WING forces in Malaya have been greatly encouraged, and the Government gravely shocked, by the results of a recent by-election in the Malayan state of Perak.

The candidate of the pro-West, upper class Government Alliance Party was defeated by a candidate backed largely by a grouping of left-wing parties. The voting was approximately 6,000 to 4,000.

Of the 52 members of the Legislative Council, there are now 2 Opposition members instead of 1.

With such a majority the Government is not in danger of defeat in the Council. But the election shows that the tide is running strongly against the Government outside of Parliament.

The seat had been held formerly by a Chinese Minister, and was contested for by the Government by one of the foremost Chinese politicians in Perak state.

EDUCATION POLICY

Yet although the electorate in this tin-bearing district are mainly Chinese, the Government's Chinese candidate was defeated by an Indian.

The successful candidate stood for the right of Chinese citizens of Malaya to be educated at their schools in their own language.

He also stood for negotiating with the Communist guerrillas in the jungles of Malaya so as to end the war by giving the Communists the same rights as other parties.

The Government candidate supported the Government schools policy of denying the right to mother-tongue instruction, a policy which recently caused grave disturbances in the Chinese schools of Perak state.

TO MEET COMMUNISTS

The Government has also done all in its power to oppose any settlement with the Communists.

The victory for the Opposition candidate is all the more serious for the Government because it comes at a time when the Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, is due to meet the Communist leaders in order to present them terms of surrender.

THE OIL 'MIRACLE' IN THE SAHARA

THE PEOPLE OF NORTH AFRICA

Coming into Their Own

THE Arab people of North Africa, as in the Middle East, are at last coming into their own. For more than a century the object of imperialist rivalry and plunder, they are now learning to turn this rivalry to their own account.

The Algerians, Tunisians and Moroccans not only want full national independence and sovereignty, but they also want to enjoy what the French prospectors have found:

That, they know, requires about 400 million capital.

France's stupid and cruel policy in Algeria has ruled her out as the country from whom such capital will be sought.

WITHOUT STRINGS

Although there are "moderate" circles in these countries that look to America for aid, the U.S.'s failure to give unconditional sup-

time make sure that the U.S. oil companies never get hold of a more than 49 per cent control of any one concern.

France is, of course, not the only country interested in the vast wealth of the Sahara.

USA and BRITAIN

Waiting for the Vacuum
FRANCE is angry at the way her American and British allies are stabbing her in the back in order to capture the Saharan prize for themselves.

The Americans are reported to have carried on negotiations with the Algerian nationalists behind the back of France. The recent deal with Tunisia showed clearly that the U.S. and Britain are preparing to abandon France completely as far as her struggle in North Africa is concerned.

Their object is quite clear. They are now posing as friends of the Arabs in North Africa so that they can step into the 'vacuum' when France is finally kicked out of her possessions.

SPAIN

The Hard Way Out

THE discovery of oil in the Sahara has given the Spanish rulers the hope that they will be able to find an easy way out of their economic difficulties.

For a number of years Spain has posed as the friend of the Arabs, and have watched with glee the increasing difficulties which the French have found themselves in.

Whereas the French granted independence to French Morocco only after a bitter battle, the Spanish gave up Spanish Morocco without a fight.

Now that the Sahara is known to have oil, the Spanish are not so ready to abandon their remaining colonial possessions in North Africa.

Hence the fighting going on at present between Moroccans and Spain for control of the small Spanish enclave in Morocco at ENI.

It is not that Itri is itself so important. The Spanish fear that when Itri falls, the people of Rio de Oro and the last large Spanish colony in North Africa will take to arms for their freedom too.

As our map shows, oil has been discovered near the borders of Rio de Oro. The Spanish will no doubt try to hold on to his territory with all the forces at his disposal.

DOWNFALL

These forces are, however, not very great. France is in a weaker position at home than ever before. A costly, unproductive war in North Africa could precipitate his downfall.

As it is, his troops are finding it difficult to hold their line. France may thus be forced into an alliance with France. The pooling of their forces, however, will not help, since country very much for even combined they have not the power to control North Africa.

THERE were unbelievable smiles in oil company board rooms when the French Government announced at the end of last year that big reserves had been struck in the Sahara.

But all doubts disappeared when a Minister of the Sahara was appointed who prophesied that France would solve all her economic problems in the desert.

In March this year, while France

was in a financial fiasco, the Finance Minister, told industrialists that France, which imports 27 million tons of oil a year, would within five years be supplying more than half of her needs.

Four months later, M. Lejeune, the first Minister of the Sahara, advanced the day of self-sufficiency to 1960 and told how this 'miracle of the Sahara' was to come about.

VAST AREA

The hot waste that this name conjures up, stretching 500 miles south of coastal Algeria, 20 times the size of Britain, is a vast mountainous area with peaks rising to 11,000 feet.

- It is the hottest spot on earth, and the temperature varies from 40 to 120 degrees Fahrenheit between night and day.
- It comprises nine-tenths of Algeria but contains only 800,000 people, less than one-twelfth of Algeria's population.

FRANCE

"We're Saved"

FROM this terrain the French ruling class is now making a desperate bid to extract and control a monopoly of those raw materials which will put France back in the Big Power race with West Germany and Britain.

committed that its political representatives about so hysterically in the French Assembly, "Algeria is France."

Prospecting, which started soon after the war, had by the end of last year begun to produce its first results, and to lay bare potential wealth which excited hardboiled oil companies in Britain and U.S. to start bargaining for concessions.

The oil reserves are estimated at 100 million tons. Work has already begun on a 100-mile pipeline to take the oil to the railhead at Touggourat.

● Oil is not the only treasure concealed in the desert. Reserves of iron ore are estimated at 3,000 million tons, one of the five largest known deposits in the world, are to be found in this area.

● Over other parts of the Sahara,

geologists and scientists, with the use of helicopters, are still discovering deposits of uranium, wolfram, manganese, copper and phosphates.

INSULATION

In order to organise the exploitation of these riches under its own control, the French ruling circles decided this year to set up a special organisation, the Common Organisation for the Regions of the Sahara.

By means of this organisation, with its economic and military aspects, the French aimed to detach the whole desert area from Algeria in the hope that it could be insulated from Arab nationalism.

They also wanted to provide guarantees that would attract foreign capital, but at the same

what a Democrat Senator called his advocacy of armed intervention in Indo-China on behalf of the French colonialists.

The supreme test was when he nearly came unstruck in the 1952 Vice-Presidential election over a revelation that he had received

In America they say that anybody can become President.

Here we give a short biography of just one of those "anybodies", who without any special ability other than a knack of unscrupulously climbing on the right bandwagon at the right time, has raised himself to the threshold of the U.S. Presidency—Richard Nixon.

18,000 dollars as a "fund" from Californian businessmen.

With the help of 30,000 directors and script-writers, 63 hours rehearsing and his own fine resonant voice, Nixon got away with it on television.

"MODERATE"

Lately, it is said that the small, neat man with the brooding face that a toothpaste smile never altogether lightens, has trimmed his sails. He has become a "moderate"; salesmanship has groomed itself for statesmanship.

"Moderate" is a relative term in American politics. In October 1956 he was saying that Adlai Stevenson's suggestion that the President should ban nuclear weapons tests was "catastrophic" . . . one of the most extraordinary and appalling statements.

He called the recent 64 Communist Parties' offensive a "massive non-military statement."

But the American people may make the "moderate" trim his sails a great deal more.

Meet "Tricky Dick" Nixon

AMBITION today can be spelled N-I-X-O-N. In a country where all go-getters are brazen gods, at least for those who worship at the shrine of Business) Mr. N. is the arch-priest.

Now, more than ever, Richard Nixon, twice U.S. Vice-Presi-

dent, by the score. "Tricky Dick," "McCarthy in a White Collar," "Old Nick" and "The Unprincipled Salesman" are only some of them.

After giving up ambitions as an actor, he was a small-town divorce lawyer in California, later during the war—in the dry land serving as a naval lieutenant of mid-America.

ANSWERED AN AD . . .

Nixon, on being demobbed in 1946, answered a newspaper advertisement inserted by a Republican Party committee in a Californian district desperately searching for a Congressional candidate. He was accepted and, to the surprise of all, won the election.

But how? His opponent was Jerry Voorhis, a New Deal Congressman, now head of America's Co-operative movement. Voorhis declared his anti-Communism and lost the election, but "Tricky Dick" managed to smear him with the naughty word.

Would-be voters received anonymous phone calls like: "I just want to let you know that Voorhis is a Communist" after which the line went dead.

. . . AND BECAME VICE-PRESIDENT

The 1946 Congressman became Senator in 1950 and Vice-President in 1952, serving, on the way, the Un-American Activities Committee.

He outwitted fellow-Senators in Red-baiting; drafted or supported anti-labor legislation such as the Taft-Hartley and McCarran Acts; an injunction against steel workers; the slashing of spending on housing. He opposed cuts on profiteering during the Korean war.

But this would-be President's foreign policy record is more appalling.

In April 1954, there was almost a "Mr. Nixon's War." That is



Vice-President Nixon.

dent, is only a heartbeat away from the Presidency—the throne of his ambition.

When it happened before, at the time of Eisenhower's nervous illness, Nixon's own pulse must have throbbed the quicker.

But the number of Nixon devotees in America's ruling circles is now matched by the number of his detractors. To some he is the Golden Boy. He is well leashed by others.

At 44, after only 11 years in politics, he has gathered up loving

FRANCE REFUSED ARMS TO YEMEN

LONDON.

THE French Government's anger over the U.S.-British arms supplies to Tunisia was made all the greater by France's own refusal two months ago to supply arms to the Yemen, it was revealed in London this week.

The Yemen at that time sent a request to Paris, and the French Government consulted London. The British Government urged against the supply of arms to supply arms to the Yemen, it was revealed in London this week.

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Factory Changes In Hungary

LONDON.

FACTORY committees under the trade unions are to be instituted in Hungary to extend factory democracy. Workers' councils are to be abolished.

A resolution to this effect has been passed jointly by the Hungarian Government and the President of the Central Council of the National Federation of Free Hungarian Trade Unions, according to Hungarian newspapers.

All State enterprises, including factories, mines, farms, railway and postal and telegraphic services, are required to form factory committees.

Two-thirds of the committee members will be staff members of the trade union and leading members of the management. The remaining third will be elected directly by the workers.

RACING AT KENILWORTH
There are no selections this week

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Published by Real Printing & Publishing Co. (Pty) Ltd., 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town, and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty) Ltd., Forster Street, Woodstock. This newspaper is a member of the Anti Bureau of Circulation. New Age office: Cape Town: Room 20, 6 Barrack Street, Phone 8-2787. Johannesburg: 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street, Phone 22-4623. Durban: 703 Lodon House, 118 Gray Street, Phone 6-887. Port Elizabeth: 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street, Phone 6-7000.

FARMERS RUINED BY FLOODS

JOHANNESBURG.

HUNDREDS of African farm labourers in Amersfort near Wakkerstroom in the Eastern Transvaal face hunger and ruin.

Many who had expected to reap a rich harvest this year, saw their efforts swept away by the recent flooded Vaal River.

The flooding river caused havoc wherever it floods. Local farmers in the District have refused to assist their labourers with food or money.

In an interview with *New Age*, Mr. Joseph Mathebula, the local Chairman of the African National Congress said the damage caused to their meagre lands had forced Africans to offer their stock for sale in order to buy food.

The cattle, he said fetch £15 or

Mr. Mathebula said that on one farm labourers work but earn nothing. They have been offered a piece of ground on which to plough, but it is situated on the river bank.

"For the past seven years we have been unable to reap a good harvest."

Mr. Mathebula added that the farmers do not allow their labourers to break their service contracts, or to leave to find work in the towns.

The U.S. Secretary of Labour has prophesied that unemployment in America next spring will be higher than it was this year. In February this year there were 3,121,000 officially unemployed, and a figure of 4,000,000 has been mentioned as a possibility for next February.

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A.N.C. THRIVES ON ARRESTS

RUSTENBURG.

The arrest of Transvaal ANC officials on the charge of not having 200 members has led to even greater enthusiasm for the ANC, evidenced by the formation of a new Congress branch there.

Huge crowds came to the court case in which those arrested, among them the Transvaal President Mr. M. Ore se were charged, an so 200 members had joined the new branch.

A house where the branch had gathered for a meeting last week was raided by the police and two black membership cards removed.

POLICE APARTHEID

JOHANNESBURG.

Non-European policemen were debarred from the ceremony which marked the official opening of Randfontein's new £105,000 police station by the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart recently.

Crowds of Non-European spectators who gathered in the police yard to have a glimpse at the minister, were chased away. Many had to watch the ceremony behind a gate fence a distance of 100 yards away from the pavilion.

None of the 60 Non-European police stationed at Randfontein appeared or received medals at the parade. They form the majority of the police in the area.

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TREASON TRIAL

Have You These Papers?

THE Treason Trial Defence is in urgent need of the following documents and appeals to any reader of *New Age* who has one or more of those listed below to post them immediately care of the Johannesburg New Age Office, P.O. Box 491.
 All copies of the **LODESTAR**, in particular the issue of November 1953 and May 1954.
 Bulletin of the Transvaal Committee of the Congress of the People, 17.5.1955.
 Bulletin for Peace and Friendship, June 1953 and August 1954.
 The Report to the 42nd Annual Conference of the African National Congress (1954).

THE CASE OF THE MISSING RING

THERE are very good reasons why African women do not want to carry passes which will put them in the clutches of the police. Mrs. Margaret Mofokeng has her own personal experience to go by.

A mother of three children, the youngest an infant of 23 months, she was employed as a domestic servant in Carltonville, near Johannesburg.

One morning her employer accused her of stealing her diamond on a cement run charge. She was ordered to look for the ring and told if she did not produce it she would be handed over to the police. Her employer grabbed her by the arms and shook her.

WENT TO POLICE

After this incident Mrs. Mofokeng put her baby on her back and went towards the police station.

Her employer apparently telephoned the police station while she was on her way, for when she reached the charge office she was told to go back to her employer's house.

Shortly after that the police

van arrived, police searched her room and she was driven back to the charge office.

There she was handcuffed by a White policeman who said she must tell him where the ring was.

The policeman then seized hold of her wrists and pulled her about, the baby still on Mrs. Mofokeng's back.

HIT HER SEVERAL TIMES

"I told him to take the handcuffs off!" said Mrs. Mofokeng, "because my baby was falling off my back. He did so. I sat down on the floor with

the policeman took a stick and hit me several times across the shoulders with it."

Mrs. Mofokeng has bruises and scabs above both wrist joints, and these are now slightly septic. She also has bruises across her back.

After a short while during which Mrs. Mofokeng was kept in a room adjoining the charge office her employer telephoned and told the police to release her.

Later that day when Mrs. Mofokeng went to collect her wages she saw the ring on her employer's hand.

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