

GREAT WORKERS' CONFERENCE BEGINS

NEXT WEEK

"Mass Action" Is On Agenda

JOHANNESBURG.

WITH ONLY EIGHT DAYS TO GO BEFORE THE NATIONAL WORKERS' CONFERENCE OF THE CONGRESSES, PREPARATIONS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ARE SPURTING FORWARD.

- The Conference will be the climax to a year of campaigning for
- A national minimum wage of £1 a day and higher wages for all workers;
- Greater struggle for the defeat of job apartheid;
- The fight against pass laws, deportations and passes for women;
- The end of hated discriminatory laws, and equal rights for all.

The air is beginning to ring with these demands and with persistent calls from the workers for strong action on these issues.

This conference on March 15 and 16 will discuss the nature of the "mass action" by the people for their demands, as called for in the latest statement by Chief Lutuli.

SACTU's third national conference will be held immediately after the National Workers' Conference.

VENUE

The venue of the conference has been announced as Congress Square in Newclare, Johannesburg, corner of Hamilton and Bevan Streets.

AGENDA

Conference agenda features the item "The Peoples' Grievances against the Nationalist Government's harsh laws and restrictions" for the opening session on Saturday afternoon March 15, commencing at 1 p.m.

After a main speaker and open discussion on this item the conference will deal with the Disabilities of the Women, and then the item "Passes."

The demand for a national minimum wage of £1 a day will be dealt with by Conference on Sunday.

MORE ON THE CONFERENCE—
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Volunteers hard at work in Piet Beyleveld's election rooms. Response of electorate has led to nomination of second SACPO candidate, Piet Vogel.

New Zeerust Terror

JOHANNESBURG. Two-pronged action has been taken by the Government against the people of Zeerust.

● A number of deportations from Zeerust appear to have been ordered by the authorities, and by last Monday there were already two, and more were expected.

Mr. David Molisoa was fetched from Newclare by Zeerust police who took him and all his belongings away to a destination unknown. At the time of going to press another man, Mr. A. M. Mpagale was deported to some place in Natal.

A report is circulating that the police are now looking for the deposed Chief, Abraham Molisoa.

● Simultaneously the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd, clamped an iron curtain round the Zeerust district by a proclamation making it illegal for any African to enter the Mafeseng reserved area without a permit.

SACPO CHOOSES SECOND ELECTION CANDIDATE

Encouraged By Support For Beyleveld, P.E. Coloureds Nominate Piet Vogel

ENCOURAGED by the enthusiastic response of the Coloured voters of the Cape Peninsula to the candidature of

Mr. Piet Beyleveld, the Port Elizabeth branch of the South African Coloured People's Organisation have nominated Mr.

Piet Vogel to contest the Outer-niqua (Eastern Cape) seat under the Separate Representation of Voters Act.

Mr. Vogel, well known among Coloured workers as "Piet," is chairman of the Port Elizabeth Congress of Democrats and of the consultative committee of the C.O.D., SACPO, and the African National Congress.

"Like SACPO, the Congress of Democrats vigorously opposes the form of representation given to the Coloured people," Mr. Vogel said. "But we believe that this election can be used as a demonstration against the Nationalists and U.P. that the Coloured people are no longer prepared to tolerate oppression, whether it is called white-baskap or white guidance. By voting for me the people will be voting for the Congress policy of unconditional democracy for all, and for the Freedom Charter."

BOYCOTT IS NEGATIVE

"Let the Coloured voters of the Eastern Cape demonstrate their strength and solidarity for SACPO and Congress," Mr. Vogel said.

Referring to the advocates of boycott, Piet Vogel said that to re-

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ANC UNITY: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TAKES PROMPT ACTION

JOHANNESBURG.

THE national working committee of the African National Congress has decided to intervene to restore unity in the Transvaal ANC.

The province has been agreeable to obtaining assistance from the national body for the ending of the dispute but by the beginning of the week the form of proposed inter-

vention had not yet been decided. National intervention will probably be popular among branches because the longer the delay to amicable settlement the more Congress work is paralysed and the more the initiative passes to the Lebello group.

Above all else Congressmen are urging that the dispute must not be allowed to block urgent campaigns—especially next week's National Workers' Conference. The National Working Committee has an-

nounced that work for the Conference must go full speed ahead.

Not All Africanists

Mr. P. Lebello, the Africanist leader, and some of his allies among the petitioning groups (not all of whom are Africanists) were not standing idly by this week. This Sunday in Lady Seaborne, Pretoria, a special meeting is being called of representatives of Transvaal branches "to review the present situation." Mr. Lebello said that the conference was being convened by the requisition committee and that it "might" hold elections. He would not commit himself to accepting the National Working Committee intervention but said cogently "yes it is in the interests of the organisation."

But Mr. Lebello has declared previously that the Transvaal is a vital Congress area and that once it is taken over this will be but a short step to taking over the national leadership. Chief Lutuli, Mr. Oliver Tambo and others he condemns as being "too tame and legalistic."

A member of the requisition committee who is not an Africanist

told New Age that the Pretoria conference was not being convened officially by the requisition committee but by representatives of the petitioning branches. He denied that elections would figure on the agenda.

NO VALIDITY

Mr. Duma Nokwe, secretary of the National Working Committee, pointed out to New Age that constitutionally any elections held by this group, and, indeed, the very summoning of a conference will not have any validity inside Congress.

A National Working Committee spokesman said that national intervention does not mean a declaration of no confidence in the provincial leadership. "That is a matter for the conference to decide." But although the provincial committee may command an overall majority of support in the province it has become a party to the dispute now raging, and a conference called by the National Executive would have a far greater chance of unifying the different elements in the province. Provincial organising and campaigning is grinding to a stop while inter-branch disputes drift on and impartial intervention by the national

(Continued on page 2)



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CONGRESSES WIN CIGARETTE BOYCOTT LEGAL BATTLE — See p. 5



"SPLITTERS HARM FREEDOM STRUGGLE"

ROSE MATTHEWS WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION FROM SACPO

My name was among the half dozen people who were recently reported to have resigned from the South African Coloured People's Organisation because of differences of opinion on the question of Coloured representation in Parliament.

Since then I have given much thought to this matter and have come to the conclusion that our action was somewhat hasty and ill considered. I feel that it was our hurt pride rather than sober political consideration that drove us to this rash action. I therefore wish to, through your columns publicly announce the withdrawal of my resignation from SACPO. I do so in the hope that my colleagues will do likewise.

Whether the Coloured section of the population should be boycotted or not is essentially a matter of tactics and not a question on which political workers should make a last ditch stand. It is unquestionably subsidiary to the paramount task before us all; that of building up the maximum unity of our people, in the defeat of Nationalist tyranny and for the establishment of a society in South Africa where the noble principles of the Freedom Charter are guaranteed by law to all people.

The ideals for which we are all dedicated can only be accomplished by the Congress movement. The history of Non-European political organisations is full of mushroom bodies being born and meeting their death by making the slightest impact on the people. Only the Congress movement has survived and grown from strength to strength in the face of great odds.

The path chosen by the splitters can only lead to the political wilderness. I am disappointed and saddened that a veteran such as Adam Daniels still continues along this path. I wonder what he feels like after so many turbulent years in the Congress movement to find that the only applause he receives nowadays comes, not from his lifelong friends and comrades, but from the circles of the Nationalist Party and from shady political groups such as the Non-European Unity Movement, known enemies of the freedom struggle.

I firmly believe in the Congress movement and am certain that the unity of our people and the freedom which will triumph and outlive all the splitters' splinter organisations.

(Miss) ROSE MATTHEWS
West St., Johannesburg.

Cause Of Crime

The Minister of Justice admits that the crime wave is assuming alarming proportions.

The increase of hoodlums is the fault of him and the Nationalist Government. The law is completely failed to maintain law and order.

After the passing of the Hanging Bill where do you go from the Blackie? Guillotine in open squares maybe?

The Minister should resign before building the state into a source of perpetual fear.

As usual it is the innocent African who will suffer from every new measure.

SIPO KOTTI
(ANC Youth League)
Meadowlands,

Overtime Complaint

Unity is strength. A means whereby the employers want to use one worker against another is overtime. Overtime always means excessive exploitation since no extra payment compensates the worker for the premature tiredness of his vital energies by being deprived of recreation and sleep. Overtime is for the employer a means of avoiding the engaging of additional workers.

LUCAS SEJE
Alexandra Township.

AFRICA!

Africa, you are like a beautiful yet cruel woman. You cannot bear my sight though you love my strength which I possess before your greedy eyes. The gold and silver of this land.

I pray for your guidance. Rather be a free savage than a civilised slave. Though the shackles round my ankles are invisible, I feel their weight dragging me down every time I lift my foot towards human decency. Oh Africa, you deprive me of the light that can illuminate my way to freedom and prosperity.

In a land of riches we are starving. We crave happiness, you give us grief. We scream for peace, you offer war.

DUGMORE BOETIE
Johannesburg.

We Suffer Like Animals

On February 25 I was really annoyed and shocked to see a number of white policemen arresting three African men for failing to produce their passes. One of the three men whose name is Edwin, the patient of a certain doctor (name supplied) and had just had his appendix taken out. The stitches are still fresh and he was taken to jail to sleep on the cement.

Fancy, this man managed to produce a doctor's certificate but these police ignored all that. We must suffer like wild animals for the sake of a document without which you may lose your precious life.

So I appeal to sons and daughters of Africa to undertake action before it is too late. Forward to freedom and let us march to our final goal and get free from this present bondage.

EPHRAIM MCGUWA
Kensington,
Cape.

Help For Lichtenburg

The local branch of the ANC decided that finance must be provided urgently for the rescue of the Lichtenburg women who were arrested for burning passes. Functions were arranged to collect money.

The Chamber of Commerce has compelled the Council to slacken the influx control in order to avoid a shortage of African labour in Lichtenburg.

There are many complaints about the shortage of domestic servants. Some councillors state that servants are often scarce but because of the "fanatical Native policy, the housewife is meeting with one frustration after another."

There have been many arrests of Africans without night passes. I myself have been arrested one night when owing to working late I missed the bus and had to walk home without a special night pass.

Myself and two others had to spend the night in prison and the next day we were fined 10/- in the magistrate's court.

Boksburg, M. P. NKAMBULE

War Would Destroy World

Because a nuclear war would mean the end of human life on the earth, the most noble task is for the people to force all governments to agree on the abolition of atomic weapons and general disarmament.

I appeal to all to wake up and do whatever you can to help the peace movement so that it becomes strong enough to disarm the warmongers, i.e. the capitalist governments.

It should be the task of the peace movement to produce pamphlets which will explain to people, who started the peace movement, what proposals have been made for disarmament and how these proposals are treated by capitalist and socialist countries.

So the people will learn who really wants peace.

QUEENSTOWN, CONGRESSMAN

ANC UNITY

(Continued from page 1) body will help to clear the way to a solution.

It is widely felt, and this is a key point, that democratic elections at an orderly representative conference and a more representative provincial committee is the most important single step to rebuilding unity and bringing order into Congress organisation in the Transvaal. For there can be no doubt that there are members of the present committee who have lost the confidence of some branches which are loyal to Congress principles.

If the shambles at the Transvaal special conference did not impress us it is deeply shocking responsible Congresses on both sides of the dispute. It showed dramatically where unbridled factional passions can lead Congress to chaos, conflict and mob rule—which play right into the hands of the Nationalist Government. Africanists are showing themselves to be scheming and scrupulous wreckers against whom Congress must take disciplinary action. Above all the Transvaal members must be on the tactics of the National and Cape conferences where the Africanists were isolated on policy questions and shown up to be a tiny group.

INTRANSIGENT DAMAGING

The intransigent attitude of the Provincial Committee, which drives branches with orientations into the arms of the Africanists because they feel they cannot get a fair hearing within Congress, is doing much damage.

It is felt that this is a time for

EDITORIAL

TIME FOR UNITY

THE liberatory movement is entering a period of heightened activity. The Workers' Conference next week, and the decisions which will be taken by the delegates there, are certain to serve as a springboard to further advances in the fight for freedom.

And in the Cape, SACPO's election campaign is daily bringing the Congresses' programme and the Freedom Charter into the homes of the Coloured people. It is creating the opportunity for SACPO to plunge its roots deeper, and to become as firmly identified with the Coloureds as the ANC and the Indian Congress are with the Africans and Indians.

In these stirring times the often-repeated slogan of the urgent need for unity of all true democrats in the struggle for freedom takes on new meaning.

IT IS NATURAL THAT AT CRITICAL TIMES THERE SHOULD BE STRESSES WITHIN THE LIBERATORY ORGANISATIONS. OUR EFFORTS—EACH OF US—TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS, TO STAND FIRMLY TOGETHER, ARE THE MEASURE OF OUR WORTH TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM.

EXPOSE NAT CRIMES

A FORTNIGHT ago New Age published pictures of African workers who had been smashed over the head by police during a strike. The "crime" which they had committed was that they had asked for higher wages from their bosses. Most of us would have made the same demands if we had to support our families on £3 per week and less.

Our ace photographer produced some graphic pictures of what happened at Benoni.

It showed better than any words could describe what happens to defenceless workers who live below the bread-line and cannot bear to see their kids starving and dying from all sorts of sicknesses which assail those who are forced to live in slums and other squalid areas of this country of ours.

The sickening scenes as depicted in the pictures at Benoni are not an exception to the rule as far as Government action is concerned in South Africa. New Age gets letters every week from some corner of our land where the writers or the very victims of these heinous charges cry out for help and for action against these brutalities. Imagine the plight of the victims of such isolated spots as Zwerust for instance.

If New Age had the money, it would be quite possible to send our photographer and journalists to all these "hot spots" not only to bring you first hand reports of these incidents but also visual proof of what happens when the downtrodden people of our country dare even demand the most elementary democratic rights for themselves.

We very often feel frustrated at the fact that such first hand proof has had to slip out of our grasp because of the lack of funds. The Government has blatantly denied such accusations in the past when no proof of their actions has been available. Give us the money and we will give the indisputable proof necessary to show with what violence the Government deals with industrial disputes and other normal demands from the workers of South Africa. Give us the money NOW and we will expose their brutalities as no other newspaper can do.

Last Week's Donations

T.H.S. £10. McSweeney £1. M.R.M. 10s. A.D.C. 6d. Anonymous 10s. F.M. £2. V.M. Gve us the money and we will give the indisputable proof necessary to show with what violence the Government deals with industrial disputes and other normal demands from the workers of South Africa. Give us the money NOW and we will expose their brutalities as no other newspaper can do.

TOTAL—£45 6s. 6d.

POLICE DICTATE TO JOBURG CITY COUNCIL

Workers' Conference Banned From Sports Ground

JOHANNESBURG.

WHO runs Johannesburg: the police or the Council? The South African Congress of Trade Unions asked the Town Clerk last week in a strong protest at the refusal of the Indian Sports Ground as the venue for the National Workers' Conference on March 15 and 16.

On February 7 a Council sub-committee, the Public Amenities Committee, granted permission for the use of this large and central sports ground, subject to the consent of the Indian Sports Board of Control. The consent was obtained.

SAGTU then proceeded to print leaflets announcing the venue of the conference.

Then, a day or two later, came a telephone call from an official of the Town Clerk's Department that permission had been withdrawn as the police had objected.

A SAGTU deputation saw the Mayor on February 21 to stress that it was almost impossible to call a central meeting of workers in Johannesburg where they could state their grievances and discuss their problems. On the one hand, said the deputation, the Council had appointed a commission of inquiry into the causes of the Dube riots last year, and on the other, permission for a peaceful meeting for the fullest discussion of grievances was withheld, giving rise to further tension and dissatisfaction.

SAGTU was finally informed that the ban on the venue stood. THE NEXT DAY IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE NATIONAL WORKERS CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD IN NEWCLARE, ON CONGRESS SQUARE, CORNER DEWAN AND HAMILTON ROADS, ADJOINING THE NEWCLARE STATION.

Religious Meetings Under Police Eye

PORT ELIZABETH.

"YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU," was the theme of a sermon delivered by the Rev. Snook Antoni on June 26 at the T.C. White Hall, New Brighton. As a result he was sentenced to three months of £50. Both sentence and fine were suspended for two years.

Three others, Rev. Mr. Zweni, Messrs. Mazzi Manoko and Congress old man, Kedamile Mjo were similarly sentenced, but two and a half months or £40 of their sentences were suspended for two years.

The judgment brought to an end a case that has dragged on for eight months. The four men were charged with addressing an illegal meeting of more than 10 Africans. To round off the June 26 activities the ANC had held the commemoration service.

Giving judgment the Magistrate said there were features in the service which were foreign to a religious service.

Since March 26, 1956, meetings of more than 10 Africans were banned in the entire magistrical district of Port Elizabeth and Humansdorp.

"YOU GET WORSE FOOD AT HOME" - SAYS MATRON



Worms in Their Porridge!

DIRECT ACTION BRINGS QUICK RESULTS

"You get worse food at your homes anyway," said the Matron of Waterval Hospital to the patients on her hands.

Twice a day the T.B. patients at this hospital eat meal-meal porridge and, the patients complain, it has worms. The patients told the matron but, they say, conditions still did not improve. They then went to a doctor in charge and laid the same complaint. Although the doctor promised to look into the matter he did not turn up on the day the patients were waiting to hear from him.

The patients then raised the slogan

"We don't eat the porridge." A further step they took was to elect a deputation to see the authorities at the Public Health Department in town. The deputations were provided with bus fare by the rest of the patients.

Even as they left the hospital some of the doctors and the sisters threatened that they would be expelled from the hospital if they dared to leave the hospital grounds. "We have got our own homes," they replied.

Some twenty patients arrived at the offices of the Public Health Department and carried a plate of porridge as an exhibit. They would have had a bigger deputa-

tion had they had enough money, they said. The officials they saw promised to investigate the matter. When they returned to the hospital they found good news waiting for them. New meal-meal was being ordered and no more porridge would be made from the old meal-meal. Till the new stocks arrived patients would receive extra bread.

Our picture shows members of the patients' deputation which consisted of both men and women. When the New Age photographer took the picture passers-by asked them to smile but, said the patients, "We are very angry, we can't smile."

£1-A-DAY DEMAND FOR PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

NATS AND UP. UNITE AGAINST TUROK AND CURRAN

CAPE TOWN.

UNITED Party members of the Cape Provincial Council voted with the Nationalists against the motion put by African Representatives B. Turok and P. B. H. Curran for a general increase in the wages of Non-European workers.

The motion put by Mr. Curran (Eastern Cape) and seconded by Mr. Benny Turok (Cape Western) called on the Administrator to instruct the Government and local bodies to "take strong measures" to remedy the undesirable state of affairs in the conditions of non-white workers.

Speaking in support of the motion Mr. Turok said that the demand for a minimum wage of £1 a day was growing. He told the Council about the preparations being made for the N.E.S. workers conference next week.

The speeches of the two African representatives fell on deaf ears as Nationalist members simply ignored them, boycotting the debate on the motion. They returned only when the division was called.

U.P. VOTES NAT

When it came to voting on the motion the United Party sided with the Nationalists and it was defeated by 50 votes to 2.

"The United Party cannot hope to win the elections if it does not win the active support of enlight-

ened people," commented Mr. Turok.

Nat interjection: "Do you want the U.P. to win?" Mr. Turok: "Anything is better than the Nationalists."

PASSES FOR WOMEN

The instruction by the Nursing Association in the Cape to nurses to supply the Nursing Council with their population registration numbers for the establishment of separate registers for nurses would lead to speeding up of the extension of the pass system for African women, said Mr. Turok.

Forcing the pass system on women was dangerous as had been shown in the strike in Zwerst, The African women had now reached a stage where they would rather go to jail than accept passes. Mr. Tu-

rok called on the Administration not to assist in the extension of the pass laws to African women.

Death of Mrs. Ethel Nthite

THE sudden death occurred last week of Mrs. Ethel Nthite, wife of treasury trustee Peter Nthite.

A Congress funeral took place on Saturday when volunteers, Youth Leaguers and ANC Women's League members paid their last respects to Ethel who was always close beside her husband in Congress activities.

Mrs. Nthite leaves two small children.

The staff and management of New Age express deepest condolences to the Nthite family.

Women's Protest Against Passes For Nurses

JOHANNESBURG.

The Federation of S.A. Women protested against the present practice of requiring nurses to produce identity numbers for professional registration.

"It is clear that this is a device by the S.A. Government not only to force African nurses to accept the hated identity cards, but also to force identity cards upon the whole profession," says the Federation.

"The nursing profession, so universally honoured, is the first victim, but other professions should take note. Shall we one day behold the spectacle of the university graduation ceremony at which the diploma, the degree, the doctorate will be bestowed only upon production of an identity card or a pass? Or will the doctor or the nurse, hastening to the desperately ill patient be arrested for inability to produce a pass or an identity card?"

"The Federation of S.A. Women maintains that this requirement of identity numbers for the maintenance of separate racial registers is totally unnecessary and that it has been introduced solely for political ends, and calls upon women of all races to rally in opposition to this attack upon the nurses and to work together to preserve the womanhood of South Africa from the danger of the identity card and the reference book."

WHO ARE THE AFRICANISTS?

The Africanists: Are they a "Carbon Copy of the Nationalists,"? the worm in the Congress apple—or "Loyal Congressmen of the Future"? Two controversial articles on the Africanists and their policies are a feature of the February issues of *Fighting Talk* which launches an open discussion on this topic.

This issue also contains "ZEE-RUST: The Full Story"; an interview by Lionel Forman with Barbara Castle suggesting that this Labour M.P. who recently visited South Africa may be Britain's next Colonial Secretary; Professor J. D. Bernal on the H-Bomb; and a tribute to Mexican artist Diego Rivera by Albert Maltz, the American novelist now living in Mexico.

Fighting Talk is on sale at all branches of the C.N.A. at 6d. a copy, and the annual subscription at 7s. 6d. is available from P.O. Box 1355, Johannesburg.

Church Agreement in Hungary

LONDON.

The Hungarian Government has agreed to maintain full financial aid to the Reformed Calvinist Church, though this was due to be cut by a quarter under a 1948 agreement. The decision has been made "in view of present good Church-State relations," but the government will review the situation next October. Last October, under an agreement with the Roman Catholic Church, the State promised not to reduce for another year stipends paid to priests.

BEHIND BRITAIN'S LABOUR PARTY REVOLT

IT has happened again and again in British Labour Party history that when the Conservatives have been so discredited in the eyes of the public that they can no longer rule, the Conservatives inside the Labour Party have taken over that Party.

The result has been that the defeat of the Conservative Party at the polls and the victory of the Labour Party has meant—in all spheres of importance—the continuation of Conservative rule.

It was a Labour government which gave the U.S. a free hand to set up air bases in Britain. It was Labour's John Stracey, author of an enthusiastic text-book on Marxism, who had himself photographed proudly at the head of troops waging war on the Malayan movement—and, ironically, a Conservative Government which later gave Malaya a measure of independence. The examples could run on almost endlessly.

BARBARA CASTLE'S PREDICTION

While she was in South Africa, the Labour Party's vice-chairman, Barbara Castle, predicted that after the next election the more militant Labour Party leaders—the Bevanites without Bevan—would refuse to sit by passively and watch

WORLD STAGE By Spector

another sell-out, and that there might be a showdown in the party, and, conceivably, even a split.

First signs of such a development showed clearly last week with the formation, within the ranks of the Labour Party of the 'Victory for Socialism' movement.

While its roots lie in the widespread dissatisfaction at the complete failure of the Labour Party to present a real alternative policy to that of the Conservatives in domestic and foreign affairs, the immediate cause has been the refusal of the Labour Party to take up the issue which has become a matter of the gravest disquiet throughout Britain—the possibility of the complete destruction of Britain by the H-bomb.

For years the only political party which has campaigned for the banning of the H-bomb has been the Communist Party. Tirelessly that Party has sponsored ban the bomb rallies, printed ban the bomb slogans, backed the campaigns of the British Peace Movement. And for years the Labour Party has stood aloof, or even sabotaged the Peace Movement by dismissing it as 'just a Communist stunt.'

BRITAIN WAKES UP

Now Britain has, with dramatic suddenness woken up to the fact that the call for a ban on nuclear war is of vital urgency.

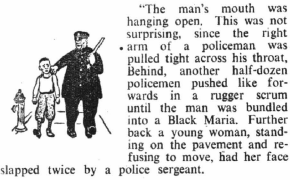
A huge campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was inaugurated a week ago. Five London halls were hired for meetings in London addressed by Bertrand Russell, J. B. Priestley and others. So great was the number of applicants who wished to attend that the organisers deliberately stopped advertising, and returned thousands of applications after all the available halls were full.

"It was," said the News Chronicle, "the biggest indoor demonstration in London since the war—probably since the great Popular Front rallies against fascism in the late nineteen-thirties." An astonishing collection of £1750 was raised. (There was no mention of the rally in the South African press, nor, incidentally, in the London Times.)

The response was not confined to London. More than one hundred local committees have been set up in centres outside the capital and meetings are being held throughout the country.

POLICE REACT

Police reaction to the Campaign has not been friendly. This was the scene when some of the crowd, after the London meeting, went to Downing Street to demonstrate outside the Prime Minister's house, as described by J. P. W. Mallalieu, Labour M.P.:



"The man's mouth was hanging open. This was not surprising, since the right arm of a policeman was pulled tight across his throat. Behind, another half-dozen policemen pushed like forwards in a rugger scrum until the man was bundled into a Black Maria. Further back a young woman, standing on the pavement and refusing to move, had her face slapped twice by a police sergeant.

"In the gutter was a man who had been knocked out, and when a photographer tried to take a picture as the ambulance arrived, a motor-cycle policeman seized his shoulder and flung him along the pavement. 'You're not having a picture of that,' he shouted. 'Why?' 'Because I say so.'

"ONLY IN INDIA"

"These scenes were the more inexcusable because the crowd which had sattered into Downing Street last Monday night to chant slogans at the Prime Minister was entirely good-humoured—and passive. Indeed, I heard a senior police officer say at one stage: 'They're sitting down and I don't know what we're going to do. We can't turn hoses on them. They only do that in India.'

"But the police had been caught on the hop. When the first saunterers arrived there was no one to stop them from reaching the Prime Minister's front door. In panic, whoever was in duty sent for large reinforcements, not only of constables but even of Alsatian dogs—new and disturbing entrants to the political scene—and some of them lost their tempers.

Not altogether unremissive of South Africa, although not even our gentlemen have yet thought of the Alsatian dog angle.

Focal point of the campaign was the Conservative's insistence that U.S. bombers must be allowed to use British aerodromes as hydrogen bomb bases so that, in the words of Defence Minister Duncan Sandys, "if Russia were to launch a major attack on (a Western nation) with conventional forces only," there could be "a massive nuclear bombardment of the sources of power in Russia."

NOTHING TO DEFEND

The New Statesman commented (Feb. 22): "If Mr. Sandys' deterrent is employed, it will inevitably lead to the virtual extermination of life on these islands. Our bombers will still be flying in the sky, but they will cease to have any function. There will be nothing left for them to defend, nowhere for them to land."

Could any British Prime Minister take the decision to commit "national suicide" in this way, the paper asks. To ask the question is to answer it. The "deterrent" is nothing but a palpable bluff, and the Soviet Union knows it. The result is that the Sandys policy left Britain completely defenceless.

The alternative: "Negotiations leading to general disarmament . . . the paradox is that only a disarmament agreement can enable us to discharge our military and political commitments and defend our interests."

LABOUR FAILURE

But through everything the Labour Party slumbered. A few days before the 'Victory for Socialism' movement was announced, Mallalieu made this comment on the mass London rally:

"Here was an example of the wholly avoidable failure of the Labour Party. The meetings approved a statement calling for the suspension of H-bomb patrols, flights over Britain and of H-bomb tests, for the abandonment both of missile bases in Britain and of the provision of £1750 million of nuclear weapons to other countries. But doesn't the Labour Party in fact accept all these?"

Yet at these meetings cynical references to the Labour Party were applauded as loyalty as references to the Tories.

"If only Labour would be a bit more precise and a lot more outspoken about what the position really is, if Gaiskill and Bevan would stand on platforms with Russell and Priestley, not merely say they put themselves at the head of a campaign which anyway is beginning to stir the country, but, far more important, they would give to the bewildered ordinary man the belief that his antipathy to frustration could be concentrated into effective action."



'You're improperly dressed, you know' (Vicky in the New Statesman)

WHATEVER THE POLICE MAY SAY:

CRIME STILL RULES AT ALEX

Tennyson Makiwane

THE police in Alexandra Township have arrested four members of a gang, and ever since then they have not stopped patting themselves on the back, boasting that they have wiped out crime in the township. The local daily press through sheer lack of imagination—and information—has taken up the police cue that overnight South Africa's most crime-ridden township has become a biblical Jerusalem. This act of magic has been attributed to the fact that Alexandra is now under the management of the Peri-Urban Areas Board.

I still accuse the police of sitting back and doing nothing whilst gang warfare of the worse type goes on in the township. The police still conduct daily arrests for passes and beer. But crime marches on.

Just this very last week-end I fell into the hands of the police patrol and had a taste of their methods.

It was Friday night and being pay day and the end of the month the "tsotisis" were very active.

We went by car to visit some friends in another part of the township, and while my friend, who was driving the car, went into the house, I remained outside. A police van pulled alongside the car. Police blinded me with torch lights and started searching both me and the car for "dangerous weapons."

I told them not to waste too much of their time because I was on the right side of the law. I was shortly to regret my "arrogance."

An African police sergeant then turned round and asked for my pass. I did not have it with me. I had left it at home. I told them. I explained that I was not a tsotisi, I was a treason suspect and I report at the police station every Thursday.

While I was speaking a European policeman slapped me on the face with his open hand. The African police told me to keep quiet because they would charge me for resisting arrest as well if I continued talking. I was then hauled into the van and driven towards the police station. On the way the African police who were with me at the back started arguing among themselves whether to let me go or not. The African sergeant who had arrested me also said that as soon as we arrived at the police station he would release me.

Another man there, possibly a member of the "ghost squad" because he was not in uniform, objected and insisted that I should be charged. He then whispered into my ear that the charge of failure to produce documents was serious. I would be kept fourteen days awaiting trial but if I gave him five pounds everything would be alright.

As we passed a certain street corner a very interesting thing happened. One of the African police sitting in the back of the van said "THERE'S THE MSOMI GANG" and the others pressed against each other and looked through the bars of the van. The van however just continued to drive along.

We arrived at the police station after about ten minutes' driving through the township and I was still the only prisoner in the van. The very African sergeant who had promised to release me apparently said that he should produce something to show that he had been out on duty and insisted that I be charged. Two policemen behind the Rembrandt company interdict against the African National Congress was withdrawn.

CIGARETTE BOYCOTT: CONGRESSES WIN LEGAL BATTLE

Rembrandt Withdraws Before Any Evidence Is Led

JOHANNESBURG. THE Congresses won the cigarette boycott legal battle last week when the Rembrandt company interdict against the African National Congress was withdrawn.

Court interdicts had restrained the Congress movement from distributing material urging a boycott of this company's cigarettes, but last year the company withdrew against the Congress of Democrats, the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, the S.A. Coloured Peoples' Organisation—and now, finally, against the African National Congress.

THE RESULT IS A COMPLETE VICTORY BY THE CONGRESS MOVEMENT.

This legal tussle began with the Rembrandt Tobacco Manufacturing Corporation rushing helter-skelter to court one Saturday morning last year in June to get an urgent interdict to prevent the Congresses commencing a boycott of its cigarettes.

The brands are as follows: Rembrandt, Rembrandt van Rijn, Meesters, Consulate, Rothmans, Peter Stuyvesant and Lexington.

INTERDICT—THEN WITHDRAWAL

The urgent interdict was granted and after some postponements the matter came up for hearing on certain defences raised by the Congresses.

Rembrandt later withdrew against all the Congresses except the African National Congress.

By the final withdrawal against the African National Congress last week the Congresses have scored a complete victory.

No restraining interdict operates now on these bodies.

In the legal battle, now called off by the withdrawal of the interdict, two matters would have been tested in court.

● whether Rembrandt in fact is under "political Nationalist control and direction" as the Congresses said.

● whether one is entitled to get an interdict against a boycott instituted for political purposes.

As a result of this withdrawal by the cigarette company neither of these questions will be tested in court.

Rembrandt in fact withdrew before the Congresses were called upon to produce their evidence of this company being under Nationalist control, and this matter was never fought to a finish.

During the nine months the interdict was operating the firm of John Chapman Ltd. obtained the agreement of the Congresses that the boycott would be withdrawn against them as they satisfied the Congresses they were not Nationalist-controlled.

SACPO CHOOSES SECOND CANDIDATE

(Continued from page 1)

frain from voting the Coloured voters would leave the door open to the enemies of Coloured progress, the Nationalists and United parties, to get into parliament and claim to be representing Coloured opinion.

"The boycott of the elections is a negative method," said Mr. Vogel, "in any case, indications are that the advocates of the boycott have little influence among the people."

SACPO Chairman, Mr. Eddie Heynes in a telephone conversation with headquarters in Cape Town said that he had all confidence that the Congress candidate would win the election. "The people are behind us," he said. "It's in the bag."

CAPE TOWN ENTHUSIASM

IN the meantime, results of canvassing in Cape Town show that the voters are strongly in favour of Piet Beylvelde, and every evening canvassers report and report carry out the organisational work

JOHN CHAPMAN'S

- Famous Tobaccos.
- Mine Captain
 - Chapman's Special**
 - Silver Cloud
 - Greyhound Mixture
 - Wayside Mixture
 - Champion Plain
 - Champion Mixture
 - Vryburger Mixture
 - Iris Mixture

★

CHAPMAN'S BULK TOBACCOS:

DARK FINE No. 17 MMR.

MINE CAPTAIN.



CONGRESS-BACKED SCHOOL ASSISTS PARENTS

SINCE the opening of school term the Central Indian School, founded three years ago with the backing of the Transvaal Indian Congress has found itself flooded by a large influx of new students. Its roll this year is three times that of last year. Due to shortage of accommodation some of the classes are held in the open.

When the schools opened hundreds of Indian school children living in Johannesburg found

that they could not attend the schools near their homes in the city as it had been decided by the authorities that they should attend the school at Lenasia some 18 miles out of town.

The Central Indian High School came to the assistance as best as it could. Although the school is not government subsidised and is supported solely by the Indian community, the staff was increased and more students were taken on.

So good is the atmosphere between the teachers and the scholars that even when the sun is hot and the outdoor classes cannot be continued, the children refuse to go home and prefer to sit around and work on their own.



of the campaign.

Also significant is the fact that the boycott attitude believed to have been prevalent among voters is actually negligible.

Examination of cards show that for 147 voters canvassed one Sunday morning in Athlone, 137 were in favour of Beylvelde, 2 were boycotters, 8 were Bloomberg supporters and 15 were doubtful. The great majority of voters seem never even to have heard about the boycott campaign.

Other people who were previously "not interested" in elections have been firmly convinced of SACPO's attitude and have decided to vote for the Treason Trial candidate.

SACPO has asked supporters to come forward to assist both candidates with canvassing in order to increase the maximum amount of voters. Helpers are also needed on election day. Thursday, April 3, and volunteers are asked to report at the committee rooms at 1 Roger Street, Cape Town, or phone 2-059, and at SACPO headquarters Port Elizabeth.

as workers deal with large numbers of cards, address envelopes, and carry out the organisational work

BACKGROUND TO NEXT WEEK'S £1-A-DAY CONFERENCE

PASS LAWS, APARTHEID, THREATEN OUR WHOLE ECONOMY

(From our Industrial Correspondent)

JOHANNESBURG. VERWOERDISM has brought South Africa's workers to the end of their tether. On the eve of the National Workers' Conference, mass resentment and indignation at this tragic and brutal regime is simmering up to boiling point.

At the same time the employers themselves are having it sharply brought home to them that if this inhuman machine of pass-books, labour bureaux and mass deportations is allowed to continue much longer, the country's economy will grind to a standstill.

Little attention has been paid by the daily newspaper press to the unendurable position the African worker has been placed in, struggling desperately on the one hand against soaring living costs on his starvation wages; on the other hand subjected to the remorseless process of endless pass raids, living in constant dread of deportation from the urban areas.

But now that the employers too, faced by an inevitable scarcity of labour, are feeling the pinch, the papers are beginning to describe the position as "desperate,"—as indeed it is.

WHITES ON SHORT TIME

"The African labour shortage is regarded as the most serious problem facing the economic structure of the Witwatersrand," wrote the Rand Daily Mail in its main news story last Friday. "There is already talk of putting Europeans on short time because the Africans with whom they work together are not available."

"The cause of the labour shortage is attributed by industrialists to the Government's influx control regulations and the policy of the labour bureaux of putting a too rigid control on potential workers."

PASS SYSTEM

The Regional Workers' Conferences held recently in preparation for March 15-16, devoted a great deal of attention to the hardships of the pass system and it is certain that this issue will figure prominently at the National Workers' Conference.

More and more clearly workers are realising how closely this system is related to their starvation conditions and their demands for increased wages and a £1-a-

day minimum wage.

If it were not for the operation of the pass-and-influx control system, the normal operation of supply-and-demand and collective bargaining by trade unions on behalf of their members, as takes place in every civilised country, would long ago have raised African workers' wages to a level similar to those paid to other workers.

£15 A MONTH

When the Bureau of Census and

Statistics announces that "average family incomes in the urban areas are about £115 a month, they may be making an overestimate. Of course they omit non-white workers altogether, and jumble up company directors with artisans. Yet the figure is not so very wide off the mark for the European population. It is scandalous that in the light of these figures, the majority of workers now getting less than £15 a month should have to battle against bitter state and employer opposition for the bare minimum of £1 a day.

It seems an extraordinary thing that the employers show no sign of realising that the scarcity, high turnover and relatively low-efficiency level of their basic labour-force is directly related to the scandalously low wages they pay. Yet the simple fact is that the

combined operation of the pass and low-wage system is just about bringing industry to the verge of a breakdown.

The time has come when the majority of the workers see that things cannot go on like this any longer. They have appealed to the Government. They have appealed to the employers. No-one should be surprised if, failing any response to these appeals, they now resort to other methods to rectify their intolerable position.

Fundamentally these methods will not be directed against the employers. The real target will be the Nationalist Government itself, whose methods of labour-conscription for the farms and terrorisation of the African people, are driving the whole of industry, both employers and workers, to ruin.

MESSAGES TO NATIONAL WORKERS' CONFERENCE

JOHANNESBURG.

Messages of greeting to the National Workers' Conference of next weekend are pouring in from far and wide.

The World Federation of Trade Unions. On behalf of 92 million workers in the W.F.T.U. we greet you at your conference to mobilise the workers of South Africa for a minimum wage of £1 a day; higher wages for all workers; the abolition of the pass laws and passes for women; the defeat of job apartheid and the right to skilled jobs for all races.

The International League for the Rights of Man (U.S.A.). Since we are wholly opposed to apartheid in any form whether in South Africa or elsewhere we send you our best wishes for a continued campaign of resistance to these measures. On the principle of equality applied to all men regardless of colour offers a foundation on which human rights can be successfully built.

Canon John Collins, Christian Action (Britain). I am delighted to learn of your intention to do all in your power to get the rigorous and oppressive legislation against African, Indian and Coloured workers altered, so that all in

South Africa of whatever race, colour or creed, may have equal rights and equal opportunities.

Sir Leslie Plummer, M.P. (Britain). I am happy to send to the delegates of the National Workers' Conference my comradely greetings and my hope that they will succeed in their struggle against apartheid and for a living wage and freedom of opportunity, side by side with White workers.

The Miners' Trade Unions International. We follow with particular interest the efforts of miners' organisations and condemn all forms of violence used by employers and government to stop miners forming their own trade unions. Warm greetings to SACTU and best wishes in its work.

Mr. Fenner Brockway, Movement for Colonial Freedom (Britain). It is good to know there has been so much unity among the different organisations to initiate the conference. Those of us in Britain who know of the deplorable wage standards of Non-White workers in South Africa and the humiliations imposed by apartheid, with the exception of their own trade unions. Warm greetings to SACTU and best wishes in its work.

UP MY ALLEY

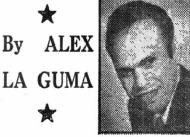
DO sharks prefer white meat?

You'd better ask a shark, but it appears that the folks at Margate, Natal, think so. Because I've just seen a picture of anti-shark nets strung around the European section of the beach. All nice and fancy like something out of Buck Rogers. With the beauty queen of the South Coast splash in the water as an illustration that the contraption really works.

Anyway, they haven't bothered about safety nets around the Non-European beach yet. That'll come later they say. The same old line. I suppose they're going to wait until Mr. Shark finds out he can't get at the white meat and decides to sample the third grade black.

● I'm surprised somebody hasn't thought of erecting a similar kind of net to prevent conversations of the Immorality Act.

SO now we're going to have to funeral apartheid. It's getting so that a guy won't be able to die without organising a protest about the way he's going to be buried. Maybe they'll get around to thinking up a way of extending apartheid beyond the grave one day. I wonder what part of



By ALEX LA GUMA

● But does it now mean that Non-Europeans will have to have their tombstones done in black marble?

THANKS for the letter Leon Phakathi, and the good wishes contained therein. But, man, you have to be so suspicious! Fancy me going the same way as the Axe Killer. Indeed. Keep on the bright side, big boy, and don't bother about the pity, either. Let's hear about you in the struggle against the Nats. That's all I need to keep me happy.

A LITTLE sadness must creep into the alley this week due to the death of Mrs. "Lovey" Ntshite, wife of one of the treason trialists. It really came as a shock to me, especially after the pleasant moments spent at the Ntshite home in Sophiatown. ● Heartfelt condolences to dad Peter, baby La Guma Ntshite and sister.

I NOTICE that the recently formed Domestic Servants' Union have been organising lectures for the members on how to operate the household machinery.

I hope they also organise lectures for the "madams" on how to be good employers.

● But, hell, man, this is the first time I've ever heard about a "servant's" union. Where's your pride as workers, girls?

How The £1-A-Day Campaign Began

THE £1 a day demand has its origins in the great Reef bus boycott of last year when in the second month of the boycott, delegates of the 60,000 boycotters walked from their boycott areas to a central meeting to discuss their economic plight.

A proposal at this conference, in February 1957, for an increase for all workers of 10s. a week was turned down by the delegates who instead called on the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions to initiate a campaign for £1 a day.

This was breaking new ground for SACTU and for a parture from previous trade union experience of organising for specified demands in particular industries. The campaign called for a national mass movement for higher wages and the rallying of both union members and the unorganised members.

Together with the demand

for the minimum wage was launched SACTU's drive for 20,000 new trade unionists.

NEW UNIONS

Not only has the demand for £1 a day caught on, but during the campaign several new unions have been formed, of glass, brewery and nightwatch patrol workers, among others.

As the campaign grew SACTU urged the Chambers of Commerce and Industry to form a liaison committee with it to discuss the £1 a day proposals. Some initial correspondence the Chamber of Commerce backed out of any further discussion. The Chamber of Industries Chamber of SACTU's memorandum but did not follow up any of the proposals made by SACTU.

SPOKE OUT

The urgent need for substantial wage increases has been widely acknowledged. In Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce, last year's Mayor of Johannesburg, the Manager

of the Non-European Affairs Department, the Pretoria municipality and many others have spoken out against the low wage levels and have called for relief measures.

Since the bus boycott promises and half-promises have been forgotten and wages remain as low as ever.

SACTU's memorandum issued at the opening of the campaign to the Chambers of Commerce and Industries and to all employing bodies appealed for an amicable solution before hundreds of thousands of South African workers were driven to seek remedies whose consequences "might prove unfortunate for the economy of the country." SACTU announced it would always be ready to meet employers' organisations immediately to facilitate direct negotiations with workers or unions.

ALL CONGRESSES BACK IT

It was in October 1957 that

plans for the National Workers' conference were to be laid and all the Congresses threw their weight behind it.

Preliminary to the national conference 35 meetings large and small have been held in the Western Province to discuss conference demands and from all has come the cry for mass action.

In the Eastern Province workers have travelled the 20 miles to Port Elizabeth (where gatherings are banned) to Uitenhage to hold crowded meetings. The demand has spread to workers' meetings in places as far afield as Kimberley and Middelburg.

Conference curtain-raiser have taken place in many centres and this week and next participants in these regional conferences and many other delegates, drawn from factories and townships, are preparing to travel to Johannesburg for the first time in a large and representative gathering of the people.

COMMUNISTS WIN FRENCH BY-ELECTION WITH INCREASED VOTE

Socialist Party Manoeuvres Over Tunis Bombing Fail

CONFIDENT statements by right-wing press commentators Party had been drastically weakened as a result of internal dissension over Hungary" were dramatically proved false at last week's by-election in a quarter of a million, the Communist Party topped the list.

The Party held the seat by an increased majority, increasing its percentage of votes from 36.1 to 38.86 since the 1956 election.

The by-election was caused by the death of the previous M.P. for the seat, also a Communist.

On the first vote the figures were:

Doize (Communist)	97,729 (38.86%)
Andrieux (Radical)	60,000 (24.84%)
(Socialist) ...	70,031 (27.84%)
Fraissinet (Poujadist fascist)	61,553 (24.47%)
Four other candidates ...	22,146 (8.83%)

Under the French election system, if no candidate obtains over 50% of the votes on the first poll there is a second poll a fortnight later. The invariable practice in French by-elections until now has been that where a Communist has headed the first poll, all other parties have then withdrawn in favour of the candidate who is second on the list, consolidating their votes to prevent the Communists from obtaining the seat.

But this time Fraissinet, the fascist candidate, threw a spanner into the works. He said that he saw no difference between Communist and Socialist and refused to withdraw.

It was as a result of this that Socialist leader Mollet attempted a cynical sell-out which has had the effect of discrediting the Socialists even further in the eyes of the workers—and which, in any case, received no reward.

The first round of voting had taken place just before the French bombing of the Tunisian village of Sakiet.

The rank and file Socialists rose

in anger at the act of aggression, the parliamentary party was virtually unanimous in condemning the bombing, and so were most of the Socialist ministers.

But in the final debate the Socialists voted in favour of the government motion which authorized and justified the attack on Sakiet. Only the Communists voted against.

The reason for the Socialist Party's cynical vote is an open secret in France. Mollet was convinced that the Fascists could be prevailed upon to withdraw in the Marseilles by-election—and the price the "Socialists" paid for that was the vote for the bombing of the people of Tunis. But Mollet's cynicism was matched by that of

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the fascists. Mollet delivered the vote—but they refused to withdraw.

HOW FOREIGN POLICY IS MADE "IN SOCIALIST CAMP"

Gomulka Interview With London Times

A SIX-HOUR interview given by Polish leader Gomulka to the Warsaw correspondent of the London Times has aroused special interest in the West. It was the first given by him to any Western correspondent since he became party leader in October 1956.

Speaking on Poland's foreign policy, he said that it was quite wrong to regard Poland as sitting on the fence with one foot dang-

and suggested instead that the Socialists should pull out in their favour.

In the end there were three candidates in the field, many of the Socialists, disgusted at their party's behaviour either abstained or voted Communist, and Communist candidate Doize romped home with nearly ten thousand votes more than he obtained on the first ballot.

ling in each camp. "Our international policy is, and will be, in accordance with the policy of the whole Socialist camp."

"At the same time," he said, "I should like to emphasize one thing. The view sometimes expressed in the West that the course of our policy is conditioned by directives from the Soviet Union, or that our policy is simply some sort of an echo of the Soviet policy, is false.

COMMON DIRECTION "Of course we are united in our common international policy. That is true. But every Socialist country has its influence on the policies of other Socialist countries. "If we take into account the fact that there exists a very close

Why Cubans Kidnapped Racing Driver

THE recent dramatic kidnapping of world champion racing driver, Juan Fangio, by rebels in Cuba has drawn the eyes of the world to that strife-stricken island.

The rebels, under the leadership of Fidel Castro, have for more than a year been waging a bitter struggle against the ruthless, terroristic dictatorship of Fulgenzio Batista.

Since installing himself as dictator several years back, Batista has ruled the island with an iron hand. Trade unionists and political opponents have been shot indiscriminately. The political police, known to the population of Cuba as "the beasts," have been rampant, mercilessly stamping out all signs of opposition by the only method they know—death.

But opposition, far from being stifled, has increased as a result of this terror. The overwhelming majority of the people of the island, representing all classes in Cuban society, are bitterly opposed to Batista, and their opposition has been taking on increasingly violent forms.

MIDDLE-CLASS Towards the end of 1956 Castro, who has been described as "a middle class idealist," landed on the east coast of Cuba with a band of followers dedicated to the overthrow of Batista.

The methods which they adopted were twofold—armed raids from their hideouts in the hills against Batista forces, and economic sabotage.

Supported by the peasants in the area, they have not only resisted all attempts by Batista's troops to annihilate them, but they have increased their numbers throughout the country.

Enfuriated by the success of the rebels, Batista ordered the wholesale clearing out of the peasantry in the areas where the rebels hid, and the scorching of the whole district with napalm bombs.

Anyone who has anything to do with the rebels is arbitrarily shot. A number of doctors who have attended to rebel wounded have been killed in this way, and others have been clubbed to death.

At first Castro's aims for the future of Cuba were concentrated on the simple slogan—"Down



These leaflets, issued by the "Saboteurs Squad" of the rebel forces under the command of Fidel Castro, show how bitter and violent the campaign to overthrow Cuban dictator Batista has become.

The one on the left touches off Castro's campaign with the word "YA"—NOW. It calls on Cubans to burn the sugar and tobacco crops of the big plantations. The one on the right shows how the rebels want people to do it: by homemade incendiary grenades, by petrol-soaked sponges tied to rats tails or shot from slingshots or bow and arrow.

with Batista!" His calls for economic sabotage met with great success, as millions of dollars worth of ripe sugar cane (the island's basic crop and main source of revenue) were burnt.

But he offered no programme of social and economic reform which could rally the workers, peasants, intellectuals and national capitalists behind him in an island-wide mass movement.

Last November, however, he issued such a programme, which showed that he no longer thought merely in negative terms and of destruction.

Amongst the points outlined in the programme were:

- Nationalisation of the telephone and electric systems, owned by U.S. capital;
- "A final settlement of the land problem" by turning over small farms to the tenant farmers who now till them;
- A profit-sharing scheme for

employees in all industrial, mining and mercantile enterprises, many of which are U.S.-financed.

Restoration of civil liberties. Washington has not, of course, taken kindly to these proposals, but it realises that Batista's rule is very shaky, and has maintained a cautious silence on Castro's campaign. Batista, by the way, is still regarded as one of America's "staunchest allies".

The recent kidnaping of Fangio and the subsequent sabotaging of the race in which he was due to appear, were designed as a protest against the Government's pre-occupation with satisfying the needs of tourists while failing to satisfy even the most elementary needs of the Cuban people.

The rebels have been greatly heartened by the overthrow last month of the Venezuelan dictator Jimenez, and are confident that the day when they get rid of the hated Batista dictatorship is near.

Basutoland Congress Calls For Murder Enquiry

MASERU.

The Basutoland African Congress has written to Lord Home, British Secretary for Commonwealth Relations, calling for a commission of enquiry to investigate the reliability of evidence led in the Basutoland Supreme Court and resulting in the conviction of a number of men on charges of "medicine murders".

Congress also calls for the postponement of the death sentences passed, pending the outcome of the enquiry.

"It is a well-known general feeling, even in government circles, that the Basuto are not satisfied with the conviction," says Mr. Stephen Mlotlana, the secretary-general, in the letter to Lord Home. "It is generally felt that this evidence could very well be taken as 'unfounded evidence'."

Congress expresses itself gravely concerned with the "causes underlying these murders, police methods of investigation and the acceptance of accomplice evidence."



Mr. Gomulka—"No Soviet instructions."

collaboration on each side, and a complete independence among countries of the Socialist camp, you can see that we can work out a common direction and way of acting."

Mr. Gomulka picked out the Rapacki plan as an example of what he meant. In the West, he said, it was often said that the Soviet Union instructed Poland to present the plan, and that Poland did so only to mislead the western countries. Others took an entirely opposite view.

What was the truth? "Of course it is a Polish plan. It was the result of our own deliberations and studies. We wanted to take a first, in our opinion the most simple and effective, step in reducing international tensions, and so conceived the idea of a nuclear-free zone.

It is obvious that it was produced after consultation with the USSR and other Socialist countries in Eastern Europe. We had, indeed, wide discussions beforehand, and finally our idea was accepted in the Socialist camp."

Mr. Gomulka said there were other examples of mutual consultations on foreign policy matters among the Socialist countries.

"We also fully support the recent proposals of the USSR for a lessening of international tension. "I must say in the same breath that Poland and other Socialist countries—and perhaps Poland is a leading position here—can influence Soviet ideas on this matter of lessening tensions in the world."

CAPE ANC AGAINST SPORTS TIGHTENING

ANTI-CONGRESS GANGSTERS



DELEGATES TO the recent Cape Provincial Conference of the ANC shared with those at the Transvaal ANC conference, meeting at the same time, a common desire to rectify errors which affected the proper administration of Provincial affairs and therefore tended to create confusion amongst the branches.

Unlike the Transvaal, where the trouble appears to have been complicated by a number of other factors, the Cape treated the matter as a Provincial one and

been made to reason with a small organised group of thugs who were bent on use of violence to break the Conference.

The resolution, correctly regards this type of wreckers as Government inspired. It is certainly inconceivable that a Congressman, however, much he was determined to obstruct progress at any Conference, would resort to use of violence to break up such a meeting if his point of view did not prevail.

The behaviour and methods used at the Cape Conference were typical of that adopted and practised by the black shirts in the thirties when the Nationalists mimicked the methods employed by Hitler and Mussolini. The Nationalists then enlisted into the ranks of their tough boys the despoiled Afrikaners who had been forced out of the farms by their sweat, but had failed to adjust themselves to the city conditions because they were unskilled.

These men broke up meetings by beating up people with bicycle chains, knuckle dusters and batons. They were unscrupulous, ragged men who had been taught to look upon the Jews as the cause of their plight, as Hitler accused them of the defeat of the Germans in 1918.

Similar hirings rose to their feet to disturb the progress at Conference. One after another rose to his feet and started shaking his fist. One hooligan was stopped in the act of hitting a delegate with a baton.

The Conference resolution notes the emergence of this type of hiring as indicative of a transitional phase in the history of our liberatory movement.

The results of the elections that took place at the Cape Town Special Conference are an indication of that transition. The whole Executive consists of young men drawn from the ranks of the men in overalls. These men are sworn to uphold the policy as embodied in the Freedom Charter. Changing the importance of the changes that are manifesting themselves in the orientation of the rank and file members of Congress more particularly in the ranks of the Nationalists as to the employment of thugs to

cause confusion and wreck the organisation.

When they have these elements, the Special Branch, whose presence has a unifying effect, keep out of the meeting, and

This timely resolution focusses the attention of the Congresses on this new plague which is going to be used to a much greater extent and with disturbing results if Congress does not double its efforts to get the masses to appreciate the Congress policy as embodied in the Freedom Charter and to exhort them to be loyal to the policy and to infuse discipline throughout the Congress ranks.

From a Delegate To The Conference

determined to keep it at that level. The bold swift and determined manner in which the Cape handled the situation came after many months of smouldering discontent with the manner in which the Executive handled the affairs of Congress.

At the Conference was observed a feature which was so striking that the Conference passed a resolution whose importance will soon be taken note of. It resolved:

"We recognise the emergence of elements used by the Government to disrupt the National Liberatory Movement, as a clear indication of a critical transitional phase in our history which demands unwavering loyalty to Congress policy as set out in the Freedom Charter." The Conference arrived at the resolution after many efforts had

Africanists Again Routed At Nyanga

CAPE TOWN.

A GROUP of Africanists from Nyanga, a hitherto and Kensington stuck their black tent into the ground in New Nyanga early on Sunday morning, March 2, 1958. This was to signify to the whole population that this factor were to hold a public meeting that afternoon. Ten people attended the meeting, including those who had come from the outlying areas.

A joint meeting of new and old Nyanga A.N.C. branches held the same afternoon attracted a crowd of between 400 and 500 people.

After the end of their abortive meeting, the Africanists came across to break up the A.N.C. meeting, but their disruptive efforts were easily foiled by A.N.C. volun-teers, who forced the Africanists to run away.

The volunteers also captured the Africanists' flag. Some of the Africanists later asked for the return of their flag, claiming that it did not belong to the A.N.C. but to what they described as "the A.N.C. extension"—which is who the Africanists are calling themselves these days. The request was rejected.

41-A-DAY CAMPAIGN
MASS SOLIDARITY MEETING
on the
GRAND PARADE, CAPE TOWN
on
SUNDAY, MARCH 16th
at 2.30 p.m.

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Racing at Kenilworth
Following are Damon's Nursery Stakes for Saturday:

- Cape of Good Hope Selections Stakes: KING'S LYNN. Danger. Sylvia.
- Wyndere Handicap (A): DIVULGE. Danger. Saroop Singh.
- Wyndere Handicap (B): TOP WALK. Danger. Trumpeter.
- Kenilworth Handicap (1st): ST. BOB. Danger. Crown Witness.
- Kenilworth Handicap (2nd): CLEAR EVENING. Danger. Vava Con Dions.
- Juvenile Handicap: GIPSY HILL. Danger. Calendar.
- Kenilworth Stakes: LIBERTY BAY. Danger. Bakon Exness.
- Wyndere Stakes: PEASANT. Danger. Watermark.

Except where otherwise stated all political news and comment in this issue by Lionel Forman, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town, Cape Town news by A. La Gama, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town, Johannesburg news by Ruth First, 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner St., Durban news by N. P. Maicker, 703 London Road, 118 Grey Port Elizabeth news by Govan Mbeki, 9 Court Chambers, 129 Addeley St.

Windermere Women Petition The Mayor

CAPE TOWN.

A request to the Mayor of Cape Town to receive a deputation on March 14 to discuss "the callous policy of breaking up our families" has been sent by a number of leading women of Windermere.

"Respectful of the Cape Town City Council's decision to stay the demolition of our homes," says the letter, "the dreaded so-called 'screening' accompanied by shameful interrogation of African women at Langa Administration Offices is in full swing. Women and children are being driven out of Cape Town, being made homeless husbands forced to lead bachelor lives and family life inhumanly broken, which may mean that Black human marriage bears no value in the eyes of White authority."

"At the same time we want to express our intention to accept the proposed issue of Referees' Rules. Passes breed midnight pot raids, banging and kicking of doors, daylight street arrests and showings rounds that end in police cells."

The letter is signed by Mesdames S. Sobiba, A. Madlebe, Ivy Kokoba, Dinu Simone, Emily Jatyane and V. V. Vilakazi.

CRICKET

MUCH has been read and heard of the prowess of the Abed brothers who have made their name in sporting circles. W.P. is indeed fortunate in having many such sporting brothers, especially in cricket. The MacIons brothers, four in number, are all fine cricketers playing for Oaks in the Somerset West Union. Time and again they have recorded excellent figures with both bat and ball. It is no wonder the Oaks have been so successful in winning the championship year in and year out. The Neethling brothers, F. and J., are two great cricketers playing for Elma in the Maitland and Parow Union. J. Neethling, pace bowler for the S.A. Coloureds, has had a very successful season while his brother, H., has been registering big scores match after matches. He recently scored 162 no.

The Fairbairn brothers of Somerset West are also excellent cricketers. Although playing for different teams, they have been most impressive as batsmen. Rungeth, while his brother, H., has come quite a habit match after match.

TENNIS

WIMBLEDON, the Mecca of tennis, known throughout the world as the testing ground for tennis champions, is the oldest institution in the world and the most cosmopolitan. No colour bar exists there, for in recent years Non-European players have come to the front, chief of whom were participants from India, our own David Samaai, and most successful of all, the Wimbledon champion, but not much less significant was the woman's Singles title last year, and thus became the first Non-European to be recognised as a world champion.

David Samaai, our S.A. Champion has participated in past years in the Wimbledon championship, but not much less significant was the woman's Singles title last year, and thus became the first Non-European to be recognised as a world champion.

Every step should be taken to finance his proposed tour to England, for I am confident that by his failures, his defeats, and of course his successes (which he has achieved on his previous visits) we may learn to better our standard to European opposition.

In the event of Samaai going overseas (of which I am confident), I would make this special appeal, that not much less significant should be made with the Non-European participants to make a tour of this country in the near future. This we know has to be a tour of our own, say for example, Alibi Gibson, Krishnan and Naresk Kumar. Their participation in the European Championships is of this nature will be a sell-out, before the participants are even here.

CAPE TOWN'S FUTURE SPORTS GROUND

NOWHERE in the Cape, have we Non-European sports Clubs where we can go to witness a match of cricket, tennis, football or hockey in perfect surroundings and convenience.

Durban has just completed its Stadium at Curries Field, while Johannesburg is in the process of building its new grandstand. Their long range policy of providing better facilities is receiving favourable comment.

But what have we in the Cape to offer? With much to boast about, my final comment in these

columns for the Athlone Stadium administrators to get cracking will probably take some time, but I have much to be informed by our sporting Councilors. Mr. H. E. Parker, that the Indian community have been granted a good few morgen of ground for the use of sportsmen. It is indeed pleasing to note that the Council HAS AT LAST GRANTED THE INDIAN COMMUNITY GROUND WHICH THEY CAN CALL THEIR OWN, for they have had to beg and borrow grounds from the other more fortunate Non-European communities over the last twenty to thirty years. I must state that the said communities did co-operate and assist the unfortunate Indians in their effort to build up their sporting prowess over the years. Their standard has no doubt been weak, but their enthusiasm and interest has been high, thanks to this fine spirit of "camaderie" existing amongst Non-European sportsmen.

From information gathered from Councilor H. E. Parker, this ground made available to the Indians will be second to none in the Cape. In a long range policy, they have plans of a fine stadium which will serve as a club house, with facilities for indoor games, such as table tennis, badminton, etc., while outdoor, cricket and football pitches will be available.

About six tennis courts will be around the entire field with the possible inclusion of a swimming bath.

This no doubt will be an answer to our prayer for suitable playing field in the event of teams making a tour to this country in the near future. Clir, Parker, we wish you, together with the use of sportsmen and project workers, every success in your project, and I am confident that in your effort to raise funds, the Non-European will rally to the good cause, for who knows, you may provide us with a ground equally comparable to the Braubourne Stadium in Bombay or Lords, in the not too distant future.

BOXING

IT is regretted that the Tiger Shaik promotion did not materialise, because of the unfortunate abstention of the Boxing Board of Control officials.

In a way this may have been fortunate, for the array of boxers was not impressive. Cape Town boxing fans are accustomed to seeing the best of the country's boxers on view, and those, as advertised were far from that. Julius Caesar, five years ago was good, but today he would surely be a "has been," and insofar as his going overseas—hearing this story has become monotonous, for he would be just wasting his time there.

Let him first prove his mettle against our leading fighters before embarking on such an adventurous effort and going to an imaginary "Wales."

I am confident in predicting that this promotion will not be the success the Tiger expects, for there is no real draw-card. Give us the top notchers, and we will through your promotion in the thousands.

But for them to prove themselves, they need smaller monthly boxing tournaments amongst themselves, where they are matched against superior talent from the Transvaal. Johannesburg have such small smaller tournaments, so why not

myself, without booklet (NA), hannes-