

# STARVATION IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY

## Horrifying Conditions in Eastern Transvaal

### AND IN ZULULAND



#### JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa sat up with a shock this week and last when the facts of the famine were released, following an investigation of the hungry areas of the Northern Transvaal.

- The facts are shattering:
- In the Glen Cowie Hospital, Stofberg area, missionaries said that children sometimes go without food for two days or three days.
  - In certain areas of Potgietersrust, despite relief feeding (this is one of the areas where the Government has sent in help) adults can afford to have mealie-meal only every second day.
  - In most areas, including Sekhukhuleni, Bushbuckridge, Acornhoek, Pietersburg, Potgietersrust and Warmbaths, African crops have failed for two successive years as a result of drought and the majority of Africans are forced to buy their food from the traders' stores.

#### EXTREME SIGNS

Belsen-type cases—children with scaly skin, ulcerated mouths and eyeballs, emaciated, feeble bodies—are the extreme signs of the hunger epidemic. But even in districts not among the worst, there is underfeeding and the diseases of underfeeding, which is a polite name for starvation.

Many countries of the world know hunger. But not amidst surpluses. In Sekhukhuleni, 12 miles from the citrus-growing areas along the Steelpoort River, Africans were found to be suffering from scurvy (a Vitamin C deficiency which oranges could prevent).

(Continued on page 4)

# NEW AGE

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## AFRICAN LEADERS ARRESTED IN P.E.

### Intensive Police Drive To Halt Sabotage Campaign

#### PORT ELIZABETH

MORE than 20 African leaders were arrested here early on Monday morning following intensive police activity in the townships of New Brighton and Zakale.

Among those arrested were Messrs Govan Mbeki, Mountain Ngunzugwana, Livingstone Mancoke, Wilberforce Khupe, Ben Tshumbe, James Kati, Caleb Mayekiso, George Sambudla, Stanley Vanga, S. Nzube, C. Kotani, Alven Bennie, Nonkanyana, Nkampani, Mkhutshulwa, Suluba and Matshaba. ALL THE ARRESTED MEN WERE RELEASED AGAIN ON TUESDAY MORNING.

The police activity centred round the repeated acts of sabotage which continued throughout last week.

New Age learns that a number of police, more particularly Special Branch, have been drafted into Port Elizabeth from centres as far afield as Johannesburg. The people in the township report that large numbers of normally uniformed police now wear overalls, and tie scarves around their heads when they do patrol duty at night.

#### FRESH EXPLOSIONS

Police stop people carrying parcels and order them to turn their contents out on the ground for



Mr. GOVAN MBEKI

examination. In houses paraffin bottles and tins are particularly suspect and in some cases have been confiscated. The police interrogated petrol attendants at the filling stations at New Brighton about people who buy petrol in bottles and tins. In some cases the police took shoes which were returned to their owners after a few days.

In the meanwhile explosions of (Continued on page 5)

## Woman Treks 2 Miles For Water

Famine stalks Zululand, and the African people are in a desperate plight as a result of one of the worst droughts to hit this area for many years. The people are starving as cattle grow leaner and crops wither away and die.

Rain has not fallen since April and unless the drought is broken soon there will be serious consequences affecting the health of the people.

The water situation is critical and people have to trek miles in order to get a little water to drink. They cannot obtain any water to wash themselves or their clothes. This old woman has trekked almost two miles over the parched and eroded land to get a little water for herself and her family. (Farther pictures on page 4).

## Body Found In Gas-Filled Flat

# Special Branch Search Home Of Dead Journalist

#### JOHANNESBURG

A HALF hour after the body of 'Oosie' Oosthuizen, journalist and Congress of Democrats member, was found in his gas-filled flat, Special Branch detectives arrived and searched through the books and papers of the dead man.

With the Special Branch was a reporter of the Nationalist party organ 'Die Transvaler.'

The death of Oosthuizen has shocked his friends and associates in the Congress movement. It took place shortly after 'Oosie' had been sacked as a reporter from

the staff of the Rand Daily Mail, and against a background of persistent Special Branch harassment and persecution.

Oosthuizen, who was 29, was educated at Potchefstroom University, worked on the 'Vaderland' as a reporter, and then as an editor of the 'Suid-Afrikaanse Stem.' He was later Johannesburg correspondent for the 'Sunday Tribune,' and then joined the staff of the 'Mail.'

His services with the 'Mail' were abruptly terminated from the beginning of October after an allegation that he had let his political views and associations intrude upon his duties as a reporter.

'Oosie' was plagued by visits of the Special Branch to his flat, even during his absence, but also by rumour, by a man suspected to have been planted at the instance of the Special Branch, that he was an informer.

A leading member of the now banned Congress of Democrats received a telephone call some weeks ago by a man claiming to be a friend of Ben Turok's, conveying a 'warning' about Oosie. The caller said that apart from being an informer, 'Oosie' had an Immorality Act charge pending against him. The caller would not give his name. This seemed part of a campaign to spread suspicion against him in the Congress movement.

The dead man left three notes, all in Afrikaans, in his flat. One ended 'Freedom for South Africa. Long Live Mandela!'

# NEW AGE LETTER BOX S.W.A. UNITY MUST COME FROM BELOW

May I put the record straight on the progress of S.W.A. unity talks by way of comment on your article "S.W.A.P.O. OPPOSED TO 'ONE PARTY' PLAN" in "New Age", September 27, 1962, which Mr. Njijima and I saw before he left for New York.

The Accra statement was an agreement amongst the S.W.A. delegates to the Freedom fighters' Conference last June. This was to recommend the idea of unity between S.W.A.P.O. and S.W.A.N.U. It recognised that this idea could not be dictated to the people from outside but could only be recommended as unity would only be feasible if accepted and implemented initially in South West Africa. The next move will thus have to come from the Organisations themselves in South West Africa. In the meantime the S.W.A.P.O. and S.W.A.N.U. representatives abroad will co-operate where possible. As soon as we hear from headquarters a meeting of the S.W.A.P.O.-S.W.A.N.U. representatives abroad will be convened to make the necessary arrangements on the basis of the position taken by the Organisations in South West Africa.

As far Mr. Kerina-Getzen's proposals for "One Party" or the NAMIB INDEPENDENCE PEOPLE'S PARTY, are concerned, the position is as follows:

I agree with him that the best form of unity would be on the basis of "One Organisation" (for South West Africa and was prepared to put this idea before my Organisation for consideration. If approved the next move would have been to approach S.W.A.P.O. and other groups in South West Africa but not to dictate to them, as I expect Mr. Getzen to do the same i.e. to work through his Organisation rather than through newspapers and embassies abroad.

I cannot understand why Mr. Kerina-Getzen is in such a hurry now about his "One Party" when to the point of "resigning" from S.W.A.P.O. Only a year ago when I announced in Accra that I was prepared to recommend the dissolution of S.W.A.N.U. if the others were prepared to join in the move for One Organisation he stated in Dar es Salaam (when both S.W.A.P.O. and S.W.A.N.U. representatives there pressed for unity) that unity between S.W.A.P.O. and S.W.A.N.U. would come only over his dead body.

I am rather suspicious now whether Mr. Kerina-Getzen really wants "One Party" or whether he has been going about this. Apart from announcing this first to the Press in New York and elsewhere he sent the following message by expensive Cable to Windhoek.

"John Otto Geingob Njanjane Mundauna S.W.A.P.O. S.W.A.N.U. S.W.A.U.N.O. Chief Kutako Box 574 Windhoek following text of proposals contained in Dr. Kerina-Getzen's accord stop dissolve all existing political parties stop form One National Pan-African Revolutionary Party stop establish National Coordinating Committee to arrange a general national convention for election of truly representative executive committee of the new party stop form fully representative committee for drafting of constitution of new party stop full text of agreement follows

stop hope this will help to facilitate matters for formation of proposed National Party stop greetings Dr. Kerina"

What this actually means is that agreement between Kerina and Kozonguizi is enough to dissolve Parties in S.W.A. What I know of S.W.A.N.U. is that constitutionally S.W.A.N.U. can be dissolved only by decision of the National Conference and not by either the National Executive or the President. Whilst it has been easy for us (abroad) to fly around and confer, the conditions within the country have not allowed S.W.A.N.U. to hold a National Conference since its inaugural one in September 1959. In 1960 there was a state of emergency and in 1961 funds had to be used for the Defence in the "Public Violence" trial, and the one scheduled for 1-3 September 1962 had to be cancelled in August when the members of the National Executive Committee were arrested.

If Mr. Kerina-Getzen "resigns" from S.W.A.P.O. it is only that he (as a person) has no support there. Did he have to wait 2 years in S.W.A.P.O. only to "resign" when moves for unity are about? I should think "One Party" is merely a form of unity but unity itself can take various forms and shapes. And unity itself is the most important under the circumstances. What he should do is to see how he can achieve his noble objective without antagonising someone for whose he should have in the "One Party".

I suspect that the explanation for his 'resignation' lies elsewhere and not in that S.W.A.P.O. is opposed to the "One Party" idea. Sooner or later we'll get to know about it.

J. KOZONGUZI

London.

## VERWOERD'S NEW IMPERIALISM

Everyone is puzzled when thinking of what South Africa will be like when independence has been given to the African peoples of the reserves in the Transkei, Zululand and Northern Transvaal. When these people are declared to be nations with their own parliaments and their own flags what will the South African Republic be then?

Will each of these independent states be able to apply for membership of the United Nations? Will South Africa allow them to join the British Commonwealth if they want to? If not, what does it mean to be a nation of that kind?

It seems as though the Republic of South Africa is also going to form a South African Commonwealth and call these reserve independencies to join her. If so, this will be a new-born imperialism of Africa.

A. J. CHITUNGA

Capetown.

## EX-PAC AND EX-ANC Must Unite

Today we are in the decisive stages of the struggle for freedom. Unity is essential among the Africans. The ex-PAC and ex-ANC must fight shoulder to shoulder as brothers. The ex-PAC must understand that there are Whites in the struggle who are as dedicated to the cause of freedom as any black leader. The ex-ANC must not think that change in this country will only come when every White has understood the futility of baaskapism.

The Communist Party before it was banned preached brotherhood among all people regardless of colour. The ANC preached racial harmony. The answer to this has been the hardening of the Whites round the slogan of White supremacy, except for opposition from the tiny minority in COD.

For three centuries the Whites have planted the seeds of hatred and dissension in our hearts and now they are going to reap what they have sown. For apartheid to come down its pillars must be crushed, and it is the African and nobody else who must take the lead in this struggle.

A people that oppresses other peoples are digging deep their grave.

V. M. ZEMKINKOMO

Magwalandini.

## EDITORIAL

# FRIGHTENED OF THEIR OWN SHADOWS

There is something pathological about the way the Nationalists refuse to admit that there can ever be anything wrong with their administration.

Since they came to power, they have steadfastly refused to inquire into any of the manifold abuses and excesses on the part of their servants which have been brought to light during the last 14 years. There have been riots and shootings, deaths and injuries, uprisings and emergencies, but the Government has been quite content to carry on as before. In fact, its first reaction has been to jump to the defence of any of its personnel who are under attack, no matter how serious the charge against them might be.

The only exceptions were in the cases of the Sharpeville and Langa massacres, when the massive protest of a shocked world forced the Government to appoint judicial commissions.

Last week there were two more examples of the Government refusal to acknowledge its shortcomings. On the one hand the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, despite the remarks of Mr. Justice Beyers following the brutal killing of a convict at Klein Drakenstein, despite two attempted jail breaks resulting in loss of life, refused to appoint an inquiry into the prison service, maintaining that he had no intention of launching a witch-hunt at the instigation of the daily press and that he was quite satisfied his prison officials were doing a good job.

On the other hand the B.A.D. Minister de Wet Nel rushed into print to refute the allegations of two nutrition experts that there was widespread starvation in the Eastern Transvaal, where Africans were living in such desperate poverty that their conditions were akin to those of people living in the Stone Age. "All official reports indicate that there is no starvation in the areas", said the Minister. "There is a degree of malnutrition due to traditionally wrong eating habits of the Bantu."

This is so fatuous as not even to warrant a reply. Yet what it does reveal is the fear of the Government that any inquiry into anything may strike at the roots of the apartheid system which the Government is pledged to maintain no matter at what cost to the people of this country.

In fact, Dr. O. Martiny, a director of the Nutrition Corporation, did tell a Rotary Club meeting in Johannesburg last week that the serious extent of malnutrition in South Africa was due to the entire system of reserves and low wages.

"The reserves today are places where women, children and old people live—depending on money sent back by their menfolk on the farms and in the cities. But the wage position in the cities and on the farms makes it impossible for them to support their families."

This is a real body blow against the whole system of Bantustans, which are revealed as mere reservoirs of cheap and starving labour, and it is because the Government cannot now abandon its Bantustan policy, no matter what misery it entails, that it is not prepared to countenance any criticism or inquiry.

This rigid inflexibility characterises Government behaviour in all spheres of its work. The Nationalists are not prepared to argue about the merits of their theories and policies. They merely impose them on a population the majority of whom have no say in the affairs of the country at any level.

Any Government which proves itself insensitive to public opinion must eventually be removed from office. How this is to be done in South Africa, where most people are denied the vote, has now become a burning issue among the people.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE NON-WHITE PEOPLE

Sons and Daughters of Africa. Once again the White nationalists and their Nazi government propose to assault our people through the mad "Removal of Africans from the Western Cape" scheme.

Once again we hear the voices of protest and the cries of indignation against this proposal to tear our people from their homes and jobs.

But this time, we, the youth, are not going to sit obediently beside our fathers and listen to their voices and cries fade out in fear and inactivity. We, the youth, are not afraid of the Nazi Nationalists or their armies of destruction!

In the final, positive assault on oppression.

We call on our people to stand up on their feet, together united and determined. Let us all raise our right arms, close our fists and roar "AMANDLA!"

Power belongs to the people. Let us use this power to free ourselves. Let us use this power to defy the madness of the removal of Africans from the Western Cape. Let us use it now.

Forward to one South African Nation!

Forward to democracy and a life fit by the fire of truth in the freedom charter!

"AMANDLA!"

R. LUDSKI

Chairman

H. LAWRENCE

Prov. Secretary

S. A. Congress of Youth

Capetown.

## THE SECRET OF OUR SURVIVAL

If you study this week's donations, you will understand the secret of our success, and why we are still able to function.

The money had been collected by our Johannesburg office, but had arrived too late to be included in last week's column. In fact, the money only arrived from Johannesburg on Tuesday and our bank manager was very worried! We need hardly add that we were very worried too.

And our worries are not over. Each month brings with it fresh problems. And this month's problems have only just begun. We are hoping that you will ease our minds by sending us a present in time to celebrate our birthday next week, when we will be eight years old. Make it a nice, big, fat donation—it may be your last opportunity to give us a birthday present.

SO GIVE GENEROUSLY.

AND DON'T WAIT.

Last Week's Donations:

Johannesburg:  
In memory of "Oostie" from Paul and Adelaide R6, Sheila birthday R1, Donation R810, Donation R100, Lawyer R100, Mrs Collis R4, D. R. L. R2, London R100, Birthday R5, Lesley from the Buntings R50, Sesley and Ivan R10.

Capetown:  
Razz concert R15, Cheque R4, Ase R2, Blanket R4.10, Kalk Bay R2, N. R2, Bob R2, Edna (fete) 20c, Joyan R10, Dot R2, Doulos R2, R5, Watches R2, Sylvia R4, Rubar R4, Athlaw R10, Broken R2, Pearl R4, J. H. R10, Friends R2.

DURBAN:  
G. Singh R4, Geo's collection tin R4.50, J. N. collection tin R2.66, Graham R1, Jonah R1, Kay R25, R.N.V. R1.50, Eleanor 50c.

GRAND TOTAL R1699.80

Ex-COD Members Sentenced



MARY TUROK



PIXIE BENJAMIN



MOLLIE ANDERSON

Pro-Govt. Chief Commits Suicide

NEWS reached Johannesburg on Monday morning that on October 4 Chief Alfred Marufa Matlala, the pro-Government chief of Matlala's location, committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree. At the time of going to press no details were known.

This chief, a former school teacher, sat on the throne of Chieftain Mokoena Matlala banished far from her people because she resisted Bantu Authorities. All the years of her exile there has been pressure from her supporters for her return.

# NEW AGE OF SABOTAGE ON RAND

LAST WEEK WAS MARKED BY RE-NEWE D OUTBREAKS OF SABOTAGE ON THE RAND, PORT ELIZABETH AND EAST LONDON.

At Kew, near Alexandra Township, Johannesburg, 16 sticks of dynamite were used to blow away the four supports of a 60-foot pylon carrying electricity to part of the northern areas of Johannesburg. Despite the damage, the pylon did not collapse.

The blast, described as "like a crack of lightning", occurred at about 9.30 p.m. on Sunday. Residents nearby saw a column of smoke shoot into the air.

Another sixteen sticks of dynamite attached to another pylon failed to explode.

Other dynamic attacks were made on high-tension pylons at Noordgesig, but only one was damaged. An attempt was also made to blow up a storage tank of Sasol at Industria.

**UMKHONTO WE SIZWE**  
The "Star" newspaper reported that it had a telephone call from an African who said the explosions were the work of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

The "Star" also quoted Colonel Spengler, the head of the Special Branch, as saying: "The people involved are not amateurs. They obviously had a working knowledge of explosives."

Sasol spokesmen have decided not to divulge any details of the damage to the Sasol plant on the grounds that "it is not in the public interest."

## BOMBS AND RAIDS IN EAST LONDON

THE Security Branch of the South African Police took four hours last week to search the home and office of an East London attorney Mr. Louis L. Mthizana, of Duncan Village. The Security police showed Mr.

Mthizana a warrant authorising them to search his premises for circulars or circular letters pertaining to the following organisations: The Non-European Unity Movement, All African Convention, Basutoland African Students' Association, South African African Students' Association, The Congress Alliance, SASA and the South African African Rugby Board, a body of which Mr. Mthizana is President.

The security police consisted of 3 European, 3 Coloured and 2 African. After searching Mr. Mthizana's home in Frederick Street, Duncan Village for two hours, they went down to his office in Bantu Street, Duncan Village. They spent a further two hours there. They left his home and office in disorder, taking documents, letters and some books away with them.

Another seven Security Branch police—five Europeans and two non-Europeans—also spent more than four hours at the home of Mr. Levy Mqotsi of Mqago Street, Duncan Village on Thursday morning. They swooped on his home at 5.45 a.m. and left again at 10.05 a.m. Mr. Mqotsi, who is an article clerk in the employ of Mr. Louis Mthizana, is general secretary of the African Peoples' Democratic Union of Southern Africa; joint secretary of the Non-European Unity Movement and assistant secretary of the All-African Convention. He was also among the 1960 State of Emergency detainees.

**BOMB ATTACK**

A second bomb attack, on a building in Duncan Village, occurred shortly after midnight on Tuesday night in a photographic studio, Maligo Studio in Qulaba Lane, Duncan Village. A bottle "bomb" believed to have contained petrol started a fire in the studio. Not much damage was done to the studio owing to quick action by the owner Mr. S. "Best" Mafu and about a score of nearby residents. Neighbours emerged from their homes to help him put out the fire. Damage was estimated at £25.

Some weeks ago a paraffin bomb was thrown into the offices of the Municipal Native Administration Department.



JOHN BENJAMIN

## FILE EX-COD MEMBERS GET JAIL SENTENCES

Distributed ANC Leaflets

**JOHANNESBURG**  
FIVE members of the banned Congress of Democrats were found guilty of furthering the objects of the unlawful African National Congress and were sentenced to 18 months imprisonment in the Regional Court last week.

They are John Benjamin and his wife Pixie, Mary Turok, Mollie Anderson and Eva Hall. Twelve months of the 18 months sentences was suspended in the case of the four women, who will thus serve six months in jail, and the whole of John Benjamin's sentence was suspended.

The magistrate said the accused had "premeditatedly and deliber-

## A CRIME TO BE A WIDOW

JOHANNESBURG.

SHE is a widow and contravenes Section 10 (1) d. This is the crime of Mrs. M. Komani of Naledi Township who is fighting a one-woman battle against the City Council to keep a roof over the heads of her four children, aged from 7 years to six months.

Mrs. Komani's husband, who was a tubercular for 10 years, died two months ago. A fortnight after the funeral Mrs. Komani went to report her husband's death to the superintendent and was told to pack her belongings and leave the house. She did not qualify under section 10 (1) d to remain in the urban area and had to leave the Council house, she was told.

Two weeks later she was woken at 3.30 a.m. and ordered to report to the office of the superintendent with her four children. She waited for the office to open at 8 o'clock and was again told to leave the house.

Mrs. Komani has been unable to find anywhere else to live. Now she is threatened with a court order to eject her. And each week she is visited by municipal police reminding her that she must leave if she "doesn't want trouble".

**FOOTNOTE:** In the same plight are five other similar families in the township but they refused to give their names because they still hope the Council will relent and withdraw their ejection notices.

## BARNEY DESAI TO STAND FOR PEAKE'S SEAT

CAPE TOWN

MR. Barney Desai, banned leader of the S.A. Coloured People's Congress, has agreed to stand as a candidate in Cape Town's Ward Six, where there will be a by-election as a result of the imprisonment of the sitting councillor George Peake.

Mr. Desai has been banned from gatherings for five years and is confined to the magisterial districts of Cape Town and Wynberg. He has also been ordered to resign from 27 organisations. He is further restricted from entering any factory or African township. In terms of the Sabotage Act his statements may not be published in the press.

Mr. Desai, who is well known locally and nationally for his cam-

paigns against discrimination and for equal rights for Non-Whites, was closely associated with Mr. G. Peake. He served as election agent to Mr. Peake during the last general Council elections. During that period he was also an executive member of the Workers'



Mr. BARNEY DESAI

Civic League which sponsored the successful election of Councillors Gool, Parker and Peake.

On this occasion, Mr. Desai's candidature is supported by one of the two sitting Councillors for Ward Six, namely Mrs. Z. Gool. He is also supported by Dr. M. A. Ebrahim, Mr. Bagus Allie, Imam Abdulla Haron, Mr. Cardiff Marney, Mr. Aggie Allie, Dr. Abrahams, and numerous other prominent citizens in the Ward.

Although he is banned from gatherings, Mr. Desai, is fully entitled to participate in debates of the City Council, which as a statutory body does not fall under the definition of a "gathering".

## FAMINE RELIEF

JOHANNESBURG.

TRANSVAAL AND NORTHERN Transvaal Congress members have been spending their Sunday mornings collecting from door to door in Fordsburg and Vrededorp for famine relief in the Northern Transvaal. Their collection total to date is R106, and they are still at it.



# THE LIFE OF M. W. PIROW

WHEN Mr. Vorster was appointed Minister of Justice, there was quite a hubbaloob in the press about the fact that he had been a general in the Ossewa Brandwag during the war. It was right, some asked, that a man with such a background should be put in charge of the department responsible for the maintenance of law and order?

The Minister himself dismissed these queries as irrelevant. As far as he was concerned, he said, the Ossewa Brandwag was purely an Afrikaner cultural organisation.

A cultural organisation, run by "generals"?

## Born in 1938

The Ossewa Brandwag was born in 1938, when Nationalist Afrikanerdom celebrated the centenary of the Great Trek by means of an expedition from Cape Town through the Free State and Natal to Pretoria, where the foundation stone of the Voortrekker Monument was laid on December 16—then Dingaan's Day, now the Day of the Covenant.

The Ossewa Brandwag was formed to embody the upsurge in Afrikaner nationalism which was experienced at that time. Its first leader was Col. J. C. Laas, an officer in the Permanent Force. And its first units were recruited from the ranks of the South African armed forces.

Groups of men in each unit who were loyal to Afrikanerdom were picked out for this purpose. This explains why the Ossewa Brandwag had from its very inception a quasi-military character. The members not only went in for folk-singing and dancing and volkspele, but also for military drills in the uniform of open-necked shirts with the knotted scarf which was supposed to be a replica of the dress

## 3 TO STAND TRIAL JOHANNESBURG

THREE officials of the banned Congress of Democrats failed in the exception they took to the charge against them and they will stand trial on November 12 for "violating the dignity" of President Swart.

The three are former C.O.D. president Pieter Beyers, general secretary Ben Turck, now serving a three year prison term for sabotage, and former Johannesburg regional secretary Eve Hall, who was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment (12 months suspended) in another court last week.

The magistrate dismissed the defence argument that the wording of the Act was not clear and unambiguous and that the earlier, pre-Republic law should be applied. The magistrate ruled that the meaning of the 1961 statute, under which this is a first prosecution, was clear and it created an entirely "new" offence.

The charges arise from a Congress of Democrats leaflet urging protests against Johannesburg's conferring the freedom of the city on the President.

worn by the male Voortrekkers. The women wore the long Victorian dress and the kippie.

Col. Laas was a somewhat mysterious character whose mannerisms pleased nobody. He was first relieved of his command in the South African forces while Pirow was still Minister of Defence in the Hertzog Government. In September 1940 he was relieved of his command by the Ossewa Brandwag, which replaced him as Kommandant-General with the former Administrator of the Free State, Hans van Rensburg.

Laas later came to life with a new organisation Die Boereenassie, but after a while abandoned that ship too. Die Boereenassie flared into vigorous life for a while under

## By a Special Correspondent

Manie Maritz, but later sank back into obscurity, where it is now headed by K. K. Kudu. In Cape Natal, whose pronouncements on racial matters occasionally figure in the columns of the Sunday press.

## Transformation

Under Van Rensburg, a confirmed Germanophile and admirer of Hitler and National-Socialism, the character of the Ossewa Brandwag underwent a considerable change. The ideological element became much more pronounced. When Pirow's New Orderites were threatened with expulsion from the Transvaal Nationalist Party, Van Rensburg announced they would be welcome in the O.B.

Nationalist Afrikanerdom, as personified by the O.B., was preparing for the final assault on the oasiums of British-Jewish-Liberal-Imperialist Democracy, whose collapse was believed. The current news that Hitler was triumphant on the continent of Europe.

## Sabotage

The actual order for attack was never given, but the O.B. was held in readiness for Der Tag should it ever dawn. Inside the city, grew the organisation Stormjaers, the storm troopers of Afrikanerdom. The Stormjaers were employed in operations ranging from defence of Nationalist political platforms to outright sabotage, dynamiting of post offices and railway lines, cutting of telephone wires, etc.

Two members of the O.B., Visser and van Blerk, were sentenced to death under the Emergency Regulations for their part in blowing up the Benoni Post Office. A nation-wide petition was organised by the Nationalist Party and they were later reprieved, to be released completely when the Nationalists came to power in 1948.

A half dozen or so other members of the O.B. were shot trying to escape from internment camps or jails, the most celebrated incident of this kind being the dramatic pursuit of "General" Johannes van der Westhuizen, O.B. wrestler and hero, who was shot while on the run near Krugersdorp. Thousands of members of the O.B. were interned for their activities during the war, including Mr.

Vorster himself, who was O.B. "General" in the Eastern Cape. We may assume that the Government was not prejudiced against them because of their cultural activities. Van Rensburg himself admits in his autobiography: "We often broke the law—and broke it shatteringly."

## Interrogations

O.B. members were no strangers to the political police, and were frequently raided and interrogated. Van Rensburg writes:

"When the police raids were at their height and men were being taken right and left at all hours of the day and night, many fellows disregarded their orders to give no information under interrogation. We had warned all comrades that they should refuse to inculpate or exculpate themselves; confine themselves to their names and addresses—or refuse even that, if they felt that way.

"Unfortunately, some imagined that they would be able to get out of it by fooling the detectives with all sorts of ingenious excuses and explanations. The other side was too well briefed to be misled so easily, so it usually ended in the talkative arrestees being trapped in their own fairy tales within an hour or so.

"By that time they were for it and were held indefinitely. For why should an innocent babe in the wood be out of his way to tell lies? They landed in gaol or an internment camp."

Van Rensburg quotes jokingly

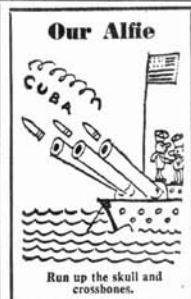
the proposal of one of his lieutenants for a coat of arms for the Stormjaers. "It would portray a dejected parrot, pining in a cage. Outside a lot of wild birds would be flying round the cage, jeering at the caged bird. The motto would be: 'He talked'."

## Provocation

One of the tactics of the O.B. was provocation. After the death of Mussolini, "this Caesarian figure," the greatest Italian of our age," they held a memorial meeting at the Johannesburg City Hall. And to ensure that the occasion was sufficiently lively, they tried to provoke the sort of boogalooism at which their members were so well-trained and adept.

"Men were detailed to ring up the Communist Party headquarters two or three times a day for a week, and also that of their spiritual fellow-travellers, the Springbok Legion," writes van Rensburg. "These calls—in solidly English and from ostensible sympathisers—vibrated with indignation at the very idea of these 'Fascists' daring to show their face in public. . . . Whatever our fellows could do to whip up Communist hate and fan Communist courage, was done. I know of no act of incitement and provocation which was left untried."

Van Rensburg says the O.B. organised a few hundred Stormjaers to act as a reception committee in case the communists tried to break up their meeting, but to their disappointment, no Communists put



in an appearance. He heads this chapter of his book: "The dog that barks is no biter."

## Summing Up

Summing up the achievement of the O.B. during the war, Van Rensburg says:

"I fought (Smuts') war effort and I fought it bitterly with all the means at my disposal—which were considerable. . . . There is no doubt that they (the O.B. members) seriously hampered the Government's war effort. Hampered it because the Government was forced to draw off considerable manpower to guard many strategic points and essential services. A not inconsiderable military element also had to be retained in South Africa as a strategic reserve for possible emergencies."

In most countries this would qualify as treason.

But Balthazar John Vorster, our Minister of Justice, prefers to call it "culture."

A very cultured man, our Minister, steeped in the traditions of Western civilisation, father of the Subotage Act, banished and banisher. He has'nt changed much since the war.

# P.E. WOMEN PROTEST AT DEPORTATIONS

## Demonstration at Offices of N.A.D. Manager

PORT ELIZABETH ABOUT 200 angry women from Zakele and New Brighton went to the offices of the Manager of Native Affairs last week to lodge a protest against the deportation of women from the urban areas to the reserves.

Of late the police and Municipal police have been carrying out a determined drive to round up women who do not qualify under Section 10 to remain in the urban area. Under this Section of the Urban Areas Act no African is allowed to live in an urban area without a permit, which is only granted to those who are employed. Only those who have worked without a break for one employer for 10 years or have been employed in the area continuously for 15 years automatically qualify for permanent residence.

## THE CRUEL MACHINE

The regulations under this section are being tightened to such an extent that both the children and women who do not qualify are being turned out of houses in the location. The women together with their possessions and household goods are bundled into kwelds and driven to the B.A.D. Com-

missioner's Court where they are fined on the average R15 for being illegally in the area.

No sooner do the husbands pay the fine than the cruel machine takes one more turn. They are ordered out of the urban area to return under escort to the reserves. Scores and scores of women with children and personal belongings cram the 3rd class carriages, and at junctions like Amabele the platforms are cluttered with women whose anxiety is written on their faces as they squat on the ground with their crying children, surrounded by their personal belongings—blankets, suitcases, saucers, and what not.

## COMPLAINTS

The main complaints raised by the women and generally by the people are:

- That husbands and wives do not get an opportunity to live together. Migrant labour which under the Influx control regulations is classed according to labour posts is not allowed to be in the reserves for longer than six months. Otherwise the man loses his chance to be allowed to work in the particular urban area.
- When the man leaves to go to

the reserves he must first go to the B.A.D. Commissioner for his reference book to be endorsed accordingly.

In answer to a statement by the B.A.D. Manager that women who visit their husbands are not allowed to remain in the area for longer than 14 days, some speakers said: The women come from the reserves to get children from their husbands. How are they going to know in a fortnight if the purpose for which they came has been accomplished?

## GENOCIDE

A dock worker who had been refused permission to visit his home for longer than six months posed the position thus: "My wife is sick and she has been getting medical treatment here, and now has been deported. When I ask for leave to go and see to her treatment in the reserves I am not allowed to remain there longer than a specified period. Is this government now denying the Africans even the right to reproduce?"

● Another point which was raised sharply was that people were being thrown out of the site-and-service scheme houses without being refunded what they had already paid in capital and interest.

## MIDDLE EAST

# REVOLT IN YEMEN

AFTER 1,100 years of rule the feudal Imams of Yemen have been overthrown. As in Egypt and Iraq during the 1950's, the army played a vital role, and even now is busy trying to save the revolution from being crushed by interventionist forces from feudal Saudi Arabia. Provided that the general population are involved to the extent that they feel that this is their revolution to advance their interests, there seems to be no reason why the feudalist forces should not be defeated.

An important step aimed at preventing attempts from within to restore the monarchy has been the execution of several dozen leading supporters of feudalism, which in the Yemen assumed a most cruel and despotic form. (In the past, let it be noted, the late Imam, known during the 14 years of his rule as Ahmed the Devil, had many of his opponents beheaded in public. Contrary to expectations he himself died a natural death, but his successor Crown Prince al Badr, died in an artillery bombardment of his palace two weeks ago).

## Foreign Policy

The army command issued a statement defining the foreign policy of the newly-proclaimed Free Arab Republic of the Yemen.

- It would aim at resisting imperialism and foreign intervention;
  - adhere to the U.N Charter
  - establish friendly relations with all countries recognising its independence
  - and consolidate the Arab League.
- At home the objectives of the revolution were "to put an end to the monarchical regime and foreign influences,"
- The new Government would abolish tribal differences
  - organise the people and qualify them to run their own country
  - introduce social justice
  - and reorganise and strengthen the arm
  - "build capitalism but discourage any monopolies"
- Two of the first countries to recognise the new revolutionary regime were Egypt and the Soviet Union.

The twin dangers to the new government are the feudal elements in the rest of the Arabian peninsula, more especially Saudi Arabia, and the British troops in Aden.

## All About Aden

The people of Aden, under the leadership of the Aden Trade Union Congress and the People's Socialist Party, have rallied enthusiastically to the cause of the Yemeni revolution. Their bitter opposition to British moves to incorporate Aden with the many feudal, British-dominated protectorates in Southern Arabia led to widespread demonstrations in the colony at the end of last month in which a number of people were killed.

Progressive groups in Aden have always said that their little territory belongs by rights to the Yemen, but while the Yemen was under the despotic rule they could not hope that union would bring many benefits to Aden. The way is now open for the unification of all the small states of Southern Arabia on the basis of anti-imperialism and social progress. The British, however, can be expected to leave no holds barred in their determination to hold on to their military base at Aden, a base which threatens the independence of all the peoples of the Middle East and East Africa.



THESE TWO MAPS show Yemen's position at the southern end of the Red Sea. The map on the left illustrates Yemen's position in relation to the Arab countries of the Middle East (note how it is dominated by Saudi Arabia), whereas the map below shows the closeness of Yemen to Aden and to Africa.



# BEN BELLA'S FIRST RECEPTION



The new Algerian Prime Minister, Mohammed Ben Bella, for his first official reception since being voted into office attended a ceremony organised by the Chinese charge d'affaires in Algiers, Mr. Hsien Yi. The reception was given on the eve of the 13th birthday of the founding of the Chinese People's Republic. The picture shows (from left to right): Mohammed Ben Bella, Ferhat Abbas (chairman of the Algerian National Assembly) and Hsien Yi.

## People's China's 13th Birthday 'Most Difficult Period Past'

From TED BRAKE

PEKING

WHILE China is still confronted with many difficulties which it would be wrong to ignore, the most difficult period has already passed, Vice-Premier Chen Yi said at the 13th anniversary celebrations of the country's liberation here.

"The economic situation both in town and country is improving daily", he said.

Last year it was slightly better than the year before; this year it was again slightly better than last year.

Despite the widespread floods and drought in various parts of the country the actual harvest of summer crops turned out better than last year.

### INDUSTRY, TOO

The yield of autumn crops now being gathered was also expected to be higher.

Chen Yi said this gradual improvement in agricultural production had in turn promoted industrial production. Readjustments in industry and capital construction had also yielded positive results.

Considerable increases had been registered this year in many products of light industry, as well as in badly needed heavy industrial equipment.

Speaking of future policy, Chen Yi said agriculture must continue to be the foundation of China's national economy and industry must be readjusted to that end.

### WAR THREAT

Turning to the international situation Chen Yi said: "Imperialism is the source of war."

"In order to prevent war and safeguard world peace, the Socialist camp, the international working class, the national liberation movements, all countries that oppose war—all peace-loving forces—must unite and act together in warring a tit-for-tat struggle against U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war."

Some 300 guests from more than 50 countries including British scientists on an official delegation from the Royal Society, watched the colourful two-hour march past. Grey skies did nothing to damp the enthusiasm of the half-million demonstrators.

### TWO SIDES'

IN an interview with Japanese television, China Vice-Premier, Chen Yi, said: "The home situation in China has been affected by natural disasters and poor harvests for the past three consecutive years. Now we are looking forward to a good autumn harvest."

"We want to build up Socialism, a thing which has never before been attempted by the Chinese people in their thousands of years of history. We have no experience, and there are quite a few mistakes and shortcomings in our work."

"These two sides add up to serious difficulties, but the entire Chinese people are united as one in their struggle to beat off the natural disasters."

### TWO FRONTS'

MEANWHILE a recently concluded plenary session of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, the country's key-policy-making body, declared that the most urgent task was to develop the national economy "with agriculture as the foundation and industry the leading factor".

The session called for a struggle on two fronts in China—"against revisionism and against dogmatism".

The fundamental objective of the Algerian Government will be a socialist economy which will lift the country out of its undeveloped state. Land reform starts this week.

"Algeria is for

all Algerians"

says Ben Bella

### ALGIERS

THE fundamental objective of the Algerian Government would be a socialist economy which would lift the country out of its undeveloped state, said Mr. Ben Bella, Algerian Prime Minister, in his investiture address here recently.

"Within the coming year the first quota of available land would be redistributed within this programme of land reform—a reform which would end the impoverishment of the masses and unemployment (there were now more than 2 million out of work)."

Mr. Ben Bella announced that from October 7 the Government would begin running those farms and farms "declared vacant" i.e. whose owners had run away or fled to Europe.

Management committees were being formed and these farms would be an embryo of the collective farms of the future.

Mr. Ben Bella reaffirmed the Algerians' role as "Arabo-Islamic, Maghrebite and African peoples." Finally, he said, Algeria would be for all Algerians.

# AN OUTSTANDING SPORTSMAN

IT is the season for "Sportsmen of the Year" again. Every year we have a crop of these, from all sorts of organizations—some qualified, some purely commercial—and so, as usual, we make our own nomination for the honour of Sportsman of the Year.

There are various standards for judging this competition, but one of the best is surely to ask: who has done most, on a national scale, to promote true sportsmanship?

If we exclude organisations such as the South African Sports Association and think of sportsmen, then the honour must surely go to general R. Lutchman, general Secretary of the South African Soccer League.

### NO ONE HAS DONE MORE

There is no sportsman in the ranks of non-exclusives who has done more in the past year to make integrated sport a reality and a success.

He has had his critics and will continue to have them: men who feel that he is too dictatorial, that there is too much power in his hands and that he does not consult enough.

But he has had an exceedingly difficult job: he has had to control an organisation dealing with thousands of people and handling thousands of rand. It has had great responsibilities and he has had to be on his toes all the time and give it careful consideration.

It is unfortunate that feeling between him and the amateur bodies is not yet as cordial as it ought to be, but there is



no doubt that he has done a fine job. If Indian schoolboys hero-worship African players like Scara Sono and Mandy David, if Coloureds can forget their racial feeling in cheering heroes like Dharam Mohan and Mthembu—this is part of Lutchie's work.

Sportsmanship Today there is a better feeling of sportsmanship among the groups than ever before—and it is partly the work of the South African Soccer League, led by men like R. K. Naidoo, Dan Tlala, Reggie Feldman and the indefatigable Lutchie.

Some racial feeling still exists, but it is steadily disappearing as people flock to the outstanding entertainment and sportsmanship the League provides.

For this work, Lutchie must take much of the credit and we daily nominate our Sportsman of the Year: R. LUTCHMAN.

# NON-RACIAL OLYMPICS COMMITTEE FORMED

## New Headache for White Sportsmen

DURBAN

THE South African Sports Association, which has been conducting a fight for international recognition of all sportsmen and the removal of the colour bar in sport, launched the South African Non-racial Olympics Committee (SANROC) last weekend at a conference in Durban.

This major break-through will undoubtedly mean the further isolation of all-white South African sportsmen. Other decisions to stamp out racism at future Olympic meets include:

1. Immediate application by S.A.N.R.O.C. for membership of the International Olympics Committee.
2. Negotiation.
3. The drawing up of a constitution for S.A.N.R.O.C. based on the Olympic Charter.

The energetic secretary of S.A.S.A. was elected first president of S.A.N.R.O.C. Other officials include Rev. B. L. Sigamoney, chairman; R. Feldman, vice-chairman; R. Hlongwane, secretary.

Another welcome decision was to reject the suggestion of disbanding S.A.S.A. on the main ground that S.A.S.A. still has a role to fulfil in all other branches of sport other than Olympics.

The resolution opposing dissolution, moved by George Singh and seconded by Alan Paton, was carried by an overwhelming majority.

## ANC LEAFLET ON ADVISORY BOARDS

DURBAN.

A CALL to fight for "real National Independence and Freedom" and not to vote for Advisory Boards has been issued in all the major townships in Durban by the banned African National Congress.

The Government is preparing to hold elections for Urban Bantu Councils and the banned A.N.C. in its leaflet warns the people that Advisory Boards and Bantu Councils have already proved to be instruments which have been used in further oppressing the African people.

Under the heading "Call to the people", the leaflet states: "Boycott the Boards! Unite everywhere and fight against Advisory Boards.

Ostracise and isolate those who support the Boards. Expose the Matanzimas and the Cyprians of Durban."

## Charity Show For Moslem Society

CAPE TOWN

A charity show in aid of the Mosque Building Fund of the Moslem Educational Benefit Society, is being presented at the Kismet Theatre, Athlone, on Sunday, October 21, at 7.30 p.m.

Among the stars who will be taking part are Farida Schroeder, Geo. E. Mattram, the 12-year-old Aly Khan, Danny Joseph, Max Adler and Vijay Pather. Comper will be Tony Naidoo.

# GRAND FÊTE AND BAZAAR

**SATURDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 10 a.m.—6 p.m.**

★ Food and Refreshments of all kinds will be sold ★

## Drill Hall · Cape Town

CLOTHING at bargain prices

GROCERIES extra cheap

VEGETABLES fresh and cheap

TOYS for Xmas

MATINEE DANCE from 2 p.m.

## Fine Victory for Avalon

Avalon Athletic further enhanced their chances of winning the coveted U.T.C. League Competition when they convincingly beat Orlando Pirates by four goals to one at Curries Fountain last Sunday.

With three matches to go Avalon have 22 points on the League log. The League leaders Moroka Swallows have 23 points with only one match to go after their win against lowly placed Lincoln City at Pietermaritzburg. As Aces United with 20 points also have three more matches to play to complete their League fixtures, the next few matches promise thrills galore and a fitting climax to a great season.

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# BASUTO STUDENTS CALL FOR NATIONAL FRONT

MASERU

THE Basutoland African Students' Association (B.A.S.A.) at its annual conference held on September 29 and 30 called for the formation of a national liberation front in Basutoland.

The resolution, which was unanimously adopted, read "that this conference calls on the patriotic forces in Lesotho to unite in a national liberation front for the achievement of national independence."

B.A.S.A., the oldest student body in Basutoland (founded in 1933 and takes students from Form A to university level) is the most representative and consistent students' organisation in Basutoland.

Owing to its militant struggle for students' rights and interests it has incurred the hostility of the Government and certain school

authorities. It has been banned in some schools and Government officials sometimes refuse to recognise it.

Its call for a national liberation front was made independently and without awareness of that made by Lekhotla la Balo (see New Age September 27).

This is a sign of the broad feeling of the need for unity in Basutoland.

The conference also adopted a resolution affirming its policy of consistent participation in student politics but not party political partisanship at this stage.

Another resolution passed was that of launching a campaign of "B.A.S.A. in Country" whereby branches will be established in towns and villages in order to integrate its activities in the people's self-determination movement "for the achievement of students' and national aims."

# PROFESSIONAL SOCCER

12,000 UNITED TOBACCO CO'S LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION

CURRIES, DURBAN (SECOND ROUND)

## Hearts vs Transvaal United

CURTAIN RAISER at 1.30 p.m.

## Coastals vs Spartak Dynamos

SUNDAY, 14th

SHOWGROUNDS, PIETERMARITZ

## Athlone Athl. vs martzburg City

CURTAIN RAISER at 1.30 p.m.

## M'burg United vs Union Jacks

0 p.m.

MI-FINAL