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REDAKSIONEEL.

1950—GEEN VERPOSING

MET die onthulling van die Voortrekkermonument, die Kersvakansie, en die daarmee gepaard gaande politieke wapenstilstand agter die rug, vra elke demokrat hom of haarself met reg af wat die groot „kokkedore" van die Nattes vir hierdie jaar in die skild voer.

Die aankondiging dat die regering nie vanjaar sal voortgaan met wetgewing om die Kleurling kiesers op 'n aparte lys te plaas, en wel as gevolg van die feit dat Mnr. Havenga nie bereid is om hulle op hierdie punt te ondersteun nie, het bra as 'n verrassing gekom. Die verrassing sou egter veel aangenaam gewees het, as ons met erns kon glo dat Mnr. Havenga se beswaar op beginsels gegrond was. Volgens sy eie verklaring is dit egter nie die geval nie.

Die Minister van Finansies se Brakpanse toespraak is nog vars in almal se geheue. Volgens sy uitlatings aldaar, is hy nie bereid om te torring aan die verkanste klousules omdat hy meen dat die huidige regering nie 'n groot genoeg meerderheid het, en daarom nie 'n onbetwiste opdrag van die volk ontvang het om so'n stap te regverdig nie.

In 'n onlangse toespraak weer het hy melding gemaak van die feit dat wêreldmening teen ons is, en dat dit gevolglik sake sal vererger as die regering op hierdie tydstip besluit om uitvoering te gee aan sommige van die beloftes wat aan hulle ondersteuners gedoen is. Hy het verder laat blyk dat die verskil tussen hom en die Nasionaliste op punte van uitvoering berus en nie op beginsel nie.

Hiervan kan alleen afgelei word dat oorwegings anders as oortuiging verantwoordelik is vir die standpunt deur die minister ingeneem. As Minister van



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ORGAN OF THE SPRINGBOK LEGION.

Finansies is Mnr. Havenga anders as sy kollegas bewus van hoe gevoelig die finansiële barometer is vir wêreldmening, en omdat Mnr. Havenga se reputasie eenvoudig nie 'n onpopulêre begroting kan oorleef nie, moet hierin sy vernaamste motief gesoek word. Dan is daar ook nog die moontlikheid dat deur weg te doen met die Kleurlingstem in sekere Westelike Provinsie kiesafdelings, die Nattes mag voel dat hulle posisie aansienlik sterker is, soveel sterker dat hulle mag besluit om weg te doen met die hulp wat hulle tans van Mnr. Havenga en sy Party ontvang. Hierin skuil 'n ander vername motief.

Om egter op te som. Mnr. Havenga vanweë die feit dat hy duidelik laat blyk het dat hy nie van sy kollegas in die regering in beginsel verskil nie, vorm geensins 'n stut teen die dreigement tot verwatering van die gevestigde demokratiese regte soos deur verskillende seksies van die Suid-Afrikaanse bevolking geniet.

Die meeste wat ons dus kan verwag is dat wetgewing insake Kleurling en Naturelle verteenwoordiging vir 'n jaar uitgestel is, en dit is juis van hierdie

pouse wat ons as demokrate gebruik moet maak, en wel deur te organiseer. Organisasie wat ons in 'n posisie sal plaas om hierdie getorring aan ons konstitusie doeltreffend te bestry moet ons taak No. 1 wees vir 1950.

Ons verneem dat die Raad vir Beskerming van die Kleurling Stemreg wat onlangs in die lewe geroep is, besluit het om voort te gaan met organisasie ongeag die verklaring van die twee leiers van die reperingspartye, en ons doen 'n beroep op ons lede om hulle heelhartige steun aan hierdie beweging toe te sê. Vir die demokrat is daar geen verposing in die stryd om te behou wat hy het nie.

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YOU'RE TELLING US

Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir,

Thank you for the latest "Fighting Talk", just received.

Firstly, I wish to convey my sincere good wishes to the Springbok Legion, for the new year just entered. I sincerely hope they become stronger by the day.

Well, at last, we in South West are experiencing the Union's troubles. Our overtime payments etc. have been taken away and there is a lot of discontent floating around. The railways are grousing, we have a loco here, and the Dept. of Works, in fact in every Government Department there are complaints. In fact, just a couple of days back we received a circular stating all promotions, salary increases, etc. have been frozen! There is a sort of commission coming around this year who will decide whether our services are really necessary, etc. I guess this must be the big bang! The Nats. amongst the working types are singing the loudest tune! Our replies are, "Serves you right. We told you so!"

However, some of the Nats. are saying they don't want the U.P. back but a complete change! The cry for the Labour Party seems to be making itself heard! I have spoken to a lot of Nats. some of them are switching round to U.P., but a lot say they only want to vote Labour. They are shouting for a Labour candidate to appear in South West. Now is the time for an intensified programme on the Political Front here. I have noticed this mainly amongst the working types. I also have my grouses too! With no overtime, etc., I find it extremely difficult to come out these days. The prices of commodities here are appalling.

I guess this is all for now. Things are really becoming interesting around these parts, as men are slowly being paid off! I seem to spend most of my time thinking out conjuring tricks of how to divide a straight salary into a huge account. I think I spoilt myself through earning too much overtime in the past. However, it's the same old story all over again.

Yours faithfully,

South West Africa.

J.A.K.

The Springbok Legion,
P.O. Box 4088,
Johannesburg, Tvl.

Dear Sirs,

Until recently I was resident in Cape Town, and I now wish to inform you that I have moved to New Zealand, and would appreciate it if you would send copies of "Fighting Talk" to the above address in the future. I am a life member of the Legion; my old address being P.O. Box 1981, Cape Town.

Ex-Servicemen and women in New Zealand have only one ex-service organisation, known as the "New Zealand Returned Services Association". The membership is high, and the problems of its members are never in doubt. One wishes that the Springbok Legion could become such a powerful organisation as the N.Z.R.S.A.

I look forward to receiving further issues of your grand magazine, and take this opportunity to wish your organisation all the best for the future.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

D.L.

New Zealand.



"This shoe is specially designed for non-Legionnaires who don't know whether they're coming or going."

One Man's Meat

WONDER how many of you have experienced the latest instalment "of control" gone mad. I refer to the gigantic human meat grinder called Influx Control. This is the Johannesburg Municipality's contribution to Apartheid.

In addition to all the other passes, permits, and what have you, which an African needs before he can enter the Elysian Fields of the Johannesburg Labour Market, he now has to have a permit, renewable every thirty days and issued by the Municipality. Should he lose his job, the permit is cancelled and he has to return to whence he came, or alternately to the nearest farmer, who will be delighted to employ him — at £2 per month.

My job requires me to hire labour from time to time, and each visit to the Pass Office leaves me sick with anger and shame. Thousands of patient Africans queue from morning to night waiting their turn to be barked at and badgered by petty officials who seem to delight in proving their own superiority by blocking, side tracking, tormenting, and in every way stalling the bewildered applicants. The dodges are varied: an official may let a long queue form at a counter, wait while he has tea or deals with a European, then finally he calls an African policeman to turn them away to another counter. Or, he may require about five different documents and official stamps — naturally, one at a time, on five different occasions. It is not unusual for an African, unprotected by the presence of his European boss or in possession of a magic talisman in the form of a note, to spend a full week getting straightened out, and God help him if the official had a row with his mother-in-law the night before. At any stage of the proceedings any tuppenny-ha'penny clerk may decide to hurl in — and the quickest and easiest way is to consign Peter or Sixpence to the Platteland. What of Peter's or Sixpence's ambitions or plans or economic needs? The clerk couldn't care less. Just another nig or kaffer to swell the ranks of farm labourers.

Maybe I'm crazy, maybe the whole business doesn't depend on blind chance, and is governed by regulations, but the

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 3)

powers invested in a Grade Z26 clerk (I.G.96) over the lives and destinies of masses of human beings, with all the leeway for personal caprice and disposition, seems to me to be iniquitous and indefensible.

Anyway, I'm sure it can't last and were I a sporting gentleman, I should be laying odds that the patience of incensed European employers struggling in skeins of red tape, will give out before that of the long suffering Africans. Did someone say freedom was inadvisable?

While on the subject of the dignity of labour, I must tell you how I spent the day after Christmas. I spent it at the Fort, bailing out a couple of my African workers who had been picked up. I was just in time, as they had already been detailed to groups for whom were waiting farmers from as far afield as Ermelo.

I heard discussions among these eager employers as to the merits of putting cages on their lorries to better protect their victims (sorry, I mean workers, of course). One horsy Englishspeaking woman with a posh accent complained bitterly that "those swine" persisted in sitting on the roof of her truck cab and had dented it.

In the office I heard a warder on the phone. He was most apologetic — it was

really no use the "bod" at the other end coming in, he couldn't give him any kaffers as unfortunately most of them were paying their fines or being bailed out. Tough.

I wonder if these farmers have ever heard of one of the basic principles of Capitalism, the law of Supply and Demand, which says that if a commodity (such as labour) is scarce, the price goes up until the increased incentive attracts the supply away from other competing demands. Obviously, the economists didn't take into account the South African Police as a regulating factor.

ART CORNER

Of course you have heard of Bethal. Who in the civilized world hasn't? I spent a day there not long ago. In front of the very fine and modern Mealie Co-op. I saw from a distance a statue of two men, one lifting and one carrying a bag of mealies. Ah, I thought, a gracious token of appreciation of the labours of the Africans whose sweat and tears (and blood too) have produced the wealth which made the Co-op. possible. I drew nearer and was immediately struck by two things . . . the artistic mediocrity of the sculpture and the fact that the men depicted were Europeans. Surely the first time in the history of Bethal that any mealie boere did manual work. No wonder they erected a statue to them!

Presentation Speech Made By Our Chairman To Genl. Smuts

(Story on page 8)

ON discharge, all Ex-Service Men and Women received a letter from you expressing your thanks to us for our contribution to World War No. 2. On the occasion of your retirement as C. in C. of the South African Armed Forces, it is fitting — in fact it would be ingratitude not to do so — that Ex-Servicemen should express to you their appreciation and thanks for your leadership during that world-wide struggle. Without your inspiration our individual efforts could not have developed into the magnificent contribution of our country to the safeguarding of democracy. Whatever the future may hold, South Africa and particularly the Ex-Servicemen, will not forget this period of high endeavour and the lustre which you gave to it.

We have given a place of honour in this document to the "Red Tab" which stands for many of the ideals for which we fought together. It was the symbol of our South African nationhood. It united us in a common endeavour and distinguished us from the troops of other allied nations. The "Red Tab" has temporarily lost its place of honour, but it, too, will not be forgotten.

May we take this opportunity to wish you a happy and fruitful year. South Africa needs you as much today as at any time in the past and we draw courage from the fact that you are still prepared to place your energies, guidance and wisdom at the service of our country.

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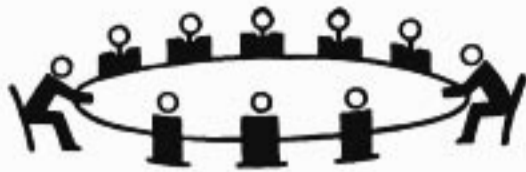
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SOUTH AFRICA AND UNO

THE arrival of the Rev. Michael Scott at UNO has once again caused relations between the Union and that organisation to become strained. Our Government has stated that UNO should never have given the Rev. Scott a hearing and General Smuts has supported this view. Both seem agreed that to allow the Rev. Scott to voice the complaints of tribes in South-West Africa is to permit interference in the Union's domestic affairs.

This phrase "interference in our domestic affairs" is becoming very popular. Often it means simply that the Government concerned does not want any advice or criticism — even if it is mis-managing its affairs and not giving sections of its population the economic and political rights to which they are entitled.

South-West Africa is continually being brought under the world spotlight. The Union has been accused of incorporating the territory (although the Government denies this), and it has been stated in forthright terms that the tribes in South-West Africa are being unjustly treated.

How does all this appear to the outside world? Writing in the London "News Chronicle," Stanley Burch said:

"The angry mutter of Africa has broken through the crust of the United Nations. Something new and unique has happened to the Parliament of the World.

"To some of the delegations — Britain among them — a 'very dangerous precedent' has been established.

"To other the United Nations have found their soul and recaptured the inspired mood of San Francisco.

"Black tribesmen of South-West Africa, who for decades have been under the white man's rule, have smashed through the cleverest opposition on earth and have presented their story of suffering and their petition for redress to the United Nations Assembly.

"From now on the United Nations will never be quite the same — they have accepted the tremendous principle that suppressed and silenced peoples can come here or send an envoy to speak for them."

That is a human summing up of the aims of UNO. If every nation were to resent "interference in its domestic af-

fairs", there would soon be very little room at UNO for the voicing of grievances. Oppressed nations and tribes would remain oppressed and voiceless; they would have to go on bearing their cross in silence.

UNO took a progressive step when it decided to allow the Rev. Michael Scott, that "poor, sick Anglican priest", to speak for the tribes of South-West Africa. If he had not spoken for them, it is unlikely that anyone else could have done so.

The Rev. Scott, at considerable personal danger, went to South-West Africa and obtained a mandate from the tribes to appear at UNO on their behalf. His credentials were examined and found to be perfectly in order.

Yet many South Africans believe that he is an annoying parson who meddles in affairs which are no concern of his. The point here, the question to be asked, is: Whose concern is suffering and oppression? Is it not everyone's concern? The Rev. Scott did not exaggerate or distort. He obtained a valid mandate, and spoke only facts.

South Africa could have attempted to dispute his arguments, it could have tried to counter his charges, but it had no grounds, no justification, for trying to silence the Rev. Scott. Conspiracies of silence are never pardonable.

That may not be the way South Africa, or at least the South African Government, looks at the matter, but it was the verdict of the world, as represented by their delegations at UNO.

Possibly it is asking too much to expect the Union Government to accept the error of its ways and concede in future that under-privileged races are entitled to elect people to speak for them. It is more likely that the South African delegation will continue denying the right of people like the Rev. Scott to

speak on behalf of tribes and nations who are not formally represented at UNO. It is even possible that the South African Government may walk out of UNO: it is foolhardy enough to do this.

The "News Chronicle" is by no means an extreme newspaper, yet it quoted an official report, which stated:

"Ravages which the past century has wrought have brought us to a turning point in Africa's history. These peoples' fate is now for UNO to decide. The future of all Africa calls for a firm holding to their moral obligations by all civilised nations."

Times have changed, and Governments can no longer put a shroud of silence over subject races. These races have won their right to be heard, and the world is listening to them now.

A British Legion Resolution To British Peace Conference

THIS British Peace Congress of over 1,000 delegates protests at the meeting of United States diplomats who have come to London from their Embassies in the Peoples Democracies and the Soviet Union to discuss the intensification of war preparations.

At a time when Britain has become a base for atom bomb aircraft this meeting is another step in the American preparation for a third world war and a further threat to our national independence.

We call on all British patriots to protest against these American intrigues on British soil and to demand the immediate disbanding of the U.S. Base at Burtonwood and other such bases.



Left to right: Jack Hodgson, Jack Isaacowitz, the General, Cecil Williams, Denis Etheridge.

FOLLOWING on the suggestion of a Cape Town member, the Springbok Legion presented General Smuts with a "discharge certificate." Here is an account of what took place.

YOU always understand a man better if you meet him in his home. It was therefore a stroke of good fortune that made it necessary for Jack Isaacowitz, Jack Hodgson, Cecil Williams and me to visit General Smuts, not in an office in Pretoria as planned but at his home in Irene.

The purpose of our visit is well-known to you from the radio news and the daily press: Jack presented him with a "Discharge Certificate" beautifully executed on vellum, in recognition of his outstanding services during the war, services which had received such scant recognition from the Minister of Defence. The presentation was the essence of simplicity. Jack made a short speech, admirable in content, and deserving of a larger audience. The General accepted the Certificate, admitted it, said how much he appreciated it and then posed with Jack for the press photographer. Then the rest of us were called into another photograph behind one of the two great desks. The ceremony was over; the visit had just begun.

Thousands of words must have been written about the simple, old Irene home of the Empire's elder statesman. He told us its story: he bought the land some time after the Boer War and had erected upon it a British mansion which had seen service at Middelburg. A friend had

purchased it for him and had described it as small, which, to say the least, was a gross under-exaggeration. It had cost him about £500 which was, as the friend had said at the time, less than the value of the doors and the windows.

It is a rambling old home, book-lined. Books flank the long walk down the passage to the study and books crowd about the study itself. All four walls of this large room, which was the Officers' Mess in the cantonment, are lined with shelves of books on science, philosophy, politics, law and history. There are some gaps in the law section: "I have had to lend books to my legal friends—law books are hard to get and expensive now."

The furniture in the study embraces two cras—the severe wicker sofa, loosely covered, on which the General sat at times; the comfortable easy chairs which swallowed us. Our discussion on South African affairs had hardly begun when Dr. Louis Smuts, the Dubasa's daughter, served us with tea. We helped

ourselves, to sugar with an enormous spoon reminiscent of Trekker days and to mixed biscuits. The old general took his tea, stirred it deliberately, and then for the next five minutes paced the room, talking animatedly while sipping from his cup in which the teaspoon still stood held by his thumb, and making an occasional gesture with the saucer in his other hand. No scene could speak more fluently of this great man whose greatness lies in the fact that he is so many men of so many eras.

The General showed in discussion that he still has the grip of South African affairs that has characterized him through the years. He replied at length to our many questions and took pains to ensure that he had made his point quite unambiguously.

We rose to go, out of a sense of obligation for an hour had passed. The General, perhaps sensing our wish to see and hear more, showed us his books and then as we left the study, paused for a moment at a portrait of Jan Hofmeyr: "A terrible loss . . . a truly great man . . . ahead of his time . . . but his ideas were beginning to be accepted . . . to think that a little microbe did the mischief." Jack interpolated the wish that the microbes would be more discriminate in choosing the politicians on whom to do their evil work.

Down the passage again and into the

(Continued on page 14)

THE LEGION MAKES A PRESENT- ATION



To Field Marshal Jan Christiaan Smuts

Now that you have been retired from your position as Commander in Chief of the Union Defence Forces, we wish to express to you the thanks of South Africa's ex-servicemen and women for the part you played in the great world struggle against Fascism. You made the sacrifice for South Africa and for the wider cause of world freedom. You, above all, upheld the honour and interests of South Africa. . . . For all this we express our warm thanks to you.

The aftermath of war and the process of readjustment have produced in our land many difficulties and problems. The people of South Africa still need your leadership; the demands upon your courage and spirit of service remain as great as ever. We have confidence in the future since you are prepared to render your country and your fellowmen equal unselfish service.

With all good wishes for your future

On behalf of the ex-servicemen and women united in the Springbok Legion

J. M. M. M.
National President

J. M. M. M.
National Secretary

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THIS DOES NOT FOOL US....

SHORTLY before Christmas Malan and Havenga issued a statement proclaiming that the Government had deferred its plans to remove the Coloured Voters of the Cape from the common roll during this session of Parliament.

At the same time, the Council to Defend the Coloured Vote was preparing in detail its plans to protect South Africans against this latest and most dangerous assault on democracy.

How is the Council's task affected by the latest decision of the Government?

In the first place, the Council has noted that the plan is merely deferred and not abandoned. The Nationalist Party is committed to the change, which was a major feature of its election cry of apartheid. Malan has made it clear that only pressure exerted by Havenga caused the postponement and Strydom has gone out of his way, in a couple of recent speeches, to express his disgust at the attitude of the Afrikaner Party. It is quite clear that if the Nationalists could push the measure through Parliament without Mr. Havenga's 'say-so', it would be Mr. Strydom's policy to do so. The opportunity to do this may well occur before the session is over. The Nationalists might obtain an independent majority by a clean-sweep in the S.W.A. elections early this year, and by two defections from the Afrikaner Party. In this event the Nationalists could achieve their purpose unaided and would subsequently be in a position to increase their majority beyond the limits of immediate danger.

Nor is this development unlikely; for the scruples of Mr. Havenga and his followers do not arise from any deep-seated political conviction in favour of the Coloured Voters. Rather, they arise from certain considerations that, in the course of a single session of Parliament, may fall away. Mr. Havenga is the man who has to produce the Budget in March, and, in the present state of the country's finances, the Budget cannot be a popular one. The Nationalist Party, therefore, will find solace in replying to the people's dissatisfaction by pinning responsibility on to the Afrikaner Party through the Minister of Finance. And Mr. Havenga will have to take it, or face a charge of breaking up a hard-won "volksseenheid". He has accepted the position, but temporarily it gives him a certain bargaining power. The price he has exacted is the compromise on the Coloured issue: changing financial considerations will remove any cogency from this line of argument.

Further, Havenga's appeal to "Hertzogism" is unconvincing. Hertzog was

at all stages constitutional if undemocratic. Havenga could force an election on the Nationalists over this issue — if he wanted to. Instead he has made vague pronouncements about the "broad will of the people" being behind any change; not, mark you, the constitutional

two-thirds majority, but something vaguely in between that and the present Government majority of seven.

In the light of these considerations, the Council to Defend the Cape Coloured Vote has decided to go ahead with its plans until the threat to this franchise has been finally removed and not merely postponed. A vast amount of preliminary work is being tackled by the three committees of the Council, in finance, publicity and organisation. When the campaign breaks it will be a national co-ordinated effort, worthy of the cause it is designed to defend.

....NOR DOES THIS

CONTRARY to hopes and expectations, the United Party has learnt nothing and forgotten nothing since they lost the last General Election.

Ignoring contributory factors, the fundamental reason for that defeat was that the United Party had ceased to represent the interests and aspirations of the voting masses. They had allowed the Nats. to assume the role of standard bearers of Afrikaner culture and nationalism. Furthermore, the U.P. stood pat on the status quo and representing mainly the Chamber of Mines, the big industrial and commercial interests tried to convince the people that all was well. The Nats. on the other hand could offer the mass of underprivileged Afrikaans workers the bait of a bigger share of the national income. The floating vote, which had no ideological stake, naturally turned to the Nats. who were at least promising better economic conditions.

The U.P. feverishly took stock and apparently decided that the reactionary policies of the Nats. were what the people wanted. Since then they have no clearly defined political convictions, it was not difficult to forsake the ideas and memory of Hofmeyr and ape the Nats. Obviously the U.P. cannot out-Nat. the Nats., but once more they are trying their best.

The latest effort is by Mr. Marais Steyn, who in a pamphlet to M.P.'s, attempts to set out the U.P.'s attitude on the vexed questions of Communism itself, and Communism in relation to the Trade Unions. This effusion adds up to clear support for the Nats. declared intention

to interfere with the Unions, and justifies all sorts of interference with personal freedoms in the interests of the Communist witch hunt. It seems that the U.P. has chosen for itself the ignominious role of the Social Democrats of the German Weimar Republic, who so efficiently paved the way for Nazism.

Let the U.P. consider again and more deeply before taking side against the Trade Unions, and coming out in support of undemocratic actions. Before playing into the hands of the Nats. let them ponder over the true value of political expediency and opportunism and see where that path leads.

The Nats. have had time to plunge the country to the verge of a depression. The workers are feeling the pinch, and are turning against the Government. What will win renewed support for the U.P. is a clear positive lead. An assurance of the implementation of war-time social security promises, undertakings to bring down the cost of living and solve the housing problem, when the U.P. returns to power. That is what the people are waiting for, and will respond to. We want bread and butter issues: leave the Nats. to have sleepless nights over menaces, whether Red, Black or Jingo.

The U.P. has surged forward in a new lease of life and we look to them to get on with the job. The people do not want Fascism but they must be led towards an alternative and that is the task of the U.P.

*Know your
Organisations — No. 4*



THE GOODWILL COUNCIL

THE personnel of the Goodwill Council, whose past president is the Rev. Dr. James Bruce Gardiner, and whose present president is Mr. Alan Paton, consists of a group of about 30 men and women, drawn from many walks of life and interested in a considerable number of national organisations. Its honorary secretary, until his return to the United States, was the Rev. Dr. James Dexter Taylor.

Its history and inception are linked with the Society of Jews and Christians.

The Society of Jews and Christians came into existence about twelve years ago for the purpose of creating better relations between Jews and Christians and, through the study of its causes, to combat anti-semitism in South Africa. In its early years it did its work through public addresses, private gatherings and the dissemination of various publications, but chiefly through its journal "Common Sense". Today this journal's policy goes much further than the original aims of the Society. While the initial objectives of the Society have in no sense been obscured, they have been combined with the promotion of a more general policy of inter-racial and inter-faith understanding and with an emphasis on the solution of socio-economic problems. This followed on the growing knowledge of the deep-seated causes of racial and group antagonism within our society. "Common Sense" is now well established as one of the leading progressive journals in South Africa, and the Goodwill Council as an off-shoot of the Society functions in a variety of ways.

In 1941 representatives of the Christian Council, the Society of Jews and Christians and a number of interested individuals met to discuss the advisability of establishing a non-Political body which would work for better inter-racial

and inter-faith relationships in South Africa.

The first result of these efforts was the launching, with the approval and co-operation of the Churches and the Synagogues, of an Annual Goodwill Sabbath observed in places of worship in the Union. Literature, in the form of pamphlets and leaflets specially prepared for the occasion, was distributed by the Goodwill Council. Special goodwill sermons were delivered in many of the Churches and Synagogues, some of which were also heard over the air.

In 1943 it was felt that Goodwill work should be extended to the schools. A deputation headed by the late Professor Gray waited on the Director of Education of the Transvaal, who was favourably disposed to the idea and suggested that this should take the form of a concrete project — such as specially prepared lessons for use in schools.

In view of the fact that May 18 had been observed for a number of years in the Cape as "Goodwill Day", when the Welsh children's message was broadcast during School Broadcasting time, it was decided to use that date as the focus for a Goodwill Week in Schools.

Since 1944, the Goodwill Council has been responsible for sending to schools throughout the Union, with the approval of all Directors of Education, lessons specially prepared for Goodwill Week. Written by experienced educationalists, these lessons have aimed at inculcating fellowship and understanding towards all the groups which make up the South African people, through the medium of lessons in religion, civics, history, geography, etc. It is encouraging to find that each successive year has seen a growing responsiveness on the part of principals and teachers to this work.

A feature of Goodwill Week is the "Goodwill" (Welwillendheid) Maga-

zine which is being published by the Goodwill Council and the United Nations' Association. Comprising of articles, stories, poems and illustrations selected from many hundreds of entries, this is, for children in schools all over the Union the great occasion of a first appearance in print. Contributions are in both official languages and are edited by no less an educational authority than Miss Mary McLarty, M.C., M.P.C., former headmistress of Jeppe High School for girls.

The magazine includes the world wireless message from the children of Wales which is always broadcast on 18th May — a date significant in the Goodwill Movement as being the anniversary of the First International Peace Conference held at the Hague some fifty years ago. Since then similar messages have been exchanged by school children of different countries each year.

The small body of people connected with this work feels that, with strengthened personnel, more could be done and through many more avenues than heretofore. Even the limited work in the schools could take on a less sporadic character and become more than just a one-week effort in the year.

The purpose of the Council, broadly is to contribute to the promotion of healthy inter-group and inter-racial relations in South Africa. Within this general aim, the specific aspects of inter-group relations, upon which emphasis is placed from time to time, is determined as actual situations present themselves. This broad statement of aims does not imply that the Council seeks to encroach upon the spheres of organisations already in existence, or that unduly ambitious ideas are entertained for its activities. It is believed, however, that within the vast field of inter-group and

inter-racial relations in South Africa, a significant contribution can be made by a body like the Council in stimulating thinking along certain lines and initiating various constructive projects.

The Council does not aim at mass membership, but consists of a group of persons having contact with various phases of S.A. life and anxious to promote the objects of the Council.

The programme of the Council develops as it comes to practical grips with its work. It tries however, to function through some, at least, of the following methods:

(a) Relations with other Organisations:

(i) The Council attempts to enlist the interest and co-operation of other organisations like youth clubs, women's associations, religious groups, adult education committees, and so on., in promoting programmes and projects for improving inter-group and inter-racial relations.

(ii) Wherever such collaboration is advisable, the Council works with existing organisations which are functioning in kindred fields in South Africa.

(iii) The Council also maintains contact with organisations overseas which are concerned with similar problems, e.g. UNESCO, the Bureau of Intercultural Education in the U.S.A. and seeks to apply to our own problems the methods which have proved successful elsewhere.

(b) Education:

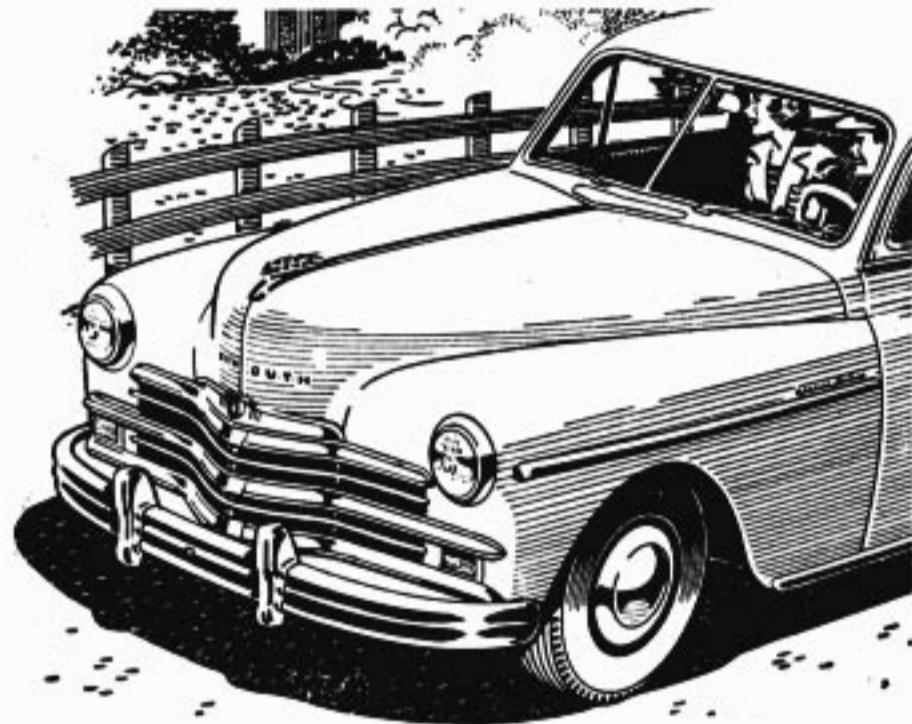
The Council continues and hopes to expand its activities within the schools and colleges in this country, and aims especially at enlisting the co-operation of teachers and of the educational authorities, in order to promote appropriate activities within our educational institutions.

The Goodwill Council feels that its small but by no means insignificant work in the schools could be extended to cover a wider range through publications and the use of the film and the radio, if larger financial resources were available.

In conclusion, I should like to quote a short poem written by one of the younger contributors to Goodwill Magazine 1949. It expresses not only the tenor of this little publication but, I feel, a sentiment which we older people could perhaps give a more prominent

(Continued on page 11)

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My estimate is: (1).....miles. (2).....miles.

(3).....miles. (4).....miles.

NAME (in block letters).....

Address

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Vic Eddy's **ROUND-UP**

BEFORE THE DAWN

DO you remember ten years ago, when we entered the decade that we have now left behind? It was the beginning of 1940, and civilisation was threatened with destruction by the Nazi barbarians. We were all vaguely uneasy about the future and some of us were already in uniform. To me the 1940's seemed full of foreboding, although I did not really doubt an Allied victory. How different things looked five years later, when, although many of us had not survived, to those who lived the world seemed destined for a bright and happy future. But to us in South Africa the process was again reversed in May 1948 and the situation has been deteriorating ever since. Still and all, as the Tommies used to say, opposition to the South African brand of fascism is as strong now as it has ever been, and organisations like the Springbok Legion are evidence of this. Perhaps now, in 1950, as on 1940, it is the dark hour before the dawn.

"THE LITTLE LINDBERGH'S"

NOTICE in the papers recently that Greece held a national day of mourning for the "kidnapped" twenty-eight thousand Greek children who were allegedly carried off by guerillas and bandits. Good Queen Frederika had a lot to say on the subject too, and she referred to the children as "twenty-eight

thousand little Lindberghs". However, the Greek authorities are overlooking one or two small details. For instance, that of the vast majority of the "twenty-eight thousand little Lindberghs" were carried off by their own fathers and mothers who no reason why they should let their children grow up as fascists or Monarchists or both; the fact that the children are now better housed, clothed and fed than those who remained in Greece; the fact that these "guerilla bandits" and their supporters constitute the overwhelming majority of the Greek population. The Government apparently thinks that the "kidnapped" children's educa-

tion would be sadly neglected if they did not witness the sight of several guerilla heads being paraded triumphantly through the streets of Athens.

AS IF THERE WAS ANY DOUBT

COMING back to matters nearer home, the introduction of the amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act has immediately given effect to the wishes of the Nationalist employers of non-European labour. In terms of the Gazetted amendments, all Africans earning less than £182 per year are excluded from the provisions of the Act. No wonder the African Trade Unions are not impressed with the Government's "trusteeship" plans for African workers. The Nats. have shown themselves to be an anti-Labour Government, and European workers too are justifiably rejecting their policies.

(Continued from page 8)

entrance hall. There we were shown pictures and mementoes given General Smuts by the peoples of many cities and countries: an exquisite ivory model of the Temple of Jupiter, a huge dinner gong flanked by superb elephant tusks, pictures of early Pretoria and London. On the old stoep which leads off to a small tree-shaded lawn and then into the wilderness of the Transvaal veld, we talked of the farm, of the General's recent visit to London to pay tribute to President Weizmann, of Hertzog and Malan.

He walked to the car with us. The grass which stood waist high ahead of us was, he told us, named after him. The trees amongst it had grown of their own accord because the veld there was never burned. He told us how happily he had lived at Irene for so many years — it was his retreat from the turmoil of the statesman's life in a busy world. Then he went on reflectively — "It is something we must all learn, to go into retreat. Don't get yourselves too entangled in events." This from a man whose whole life had been entangled in the events of his country and world! There is much food for thought in his statement and it was, I think, the one which was uppermost in our minds as we sped back from the retreat to the turmoil of the city and the Legion office. Why, they tell me that Jock is already on the look-out for a farm outside Johannesburg on which to put down an army hut!

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ITEMS

THE main activity of the Branch has during the month of December been directed to entertainment. The traditional Xmas Three-In-One, which this year was held at the International Club, was an outstanding success. It took the form of a variety concert and the artists all displayed a high standard. The evening was rounded off with a melodrama in the good old Victorian style and judging by the applause and laughter of the audience, it was probably the outstanding event of the night.

Our much advertised Xmas Eve Dance, which was this year held at the Balalaika Tea Gardens, turned out to be as posh an affair as had been promised. Unfortunately it rained on Xmas Eve, but this did not deter the merry-makers from thoroughly enjoying themselves. The Legion made financially on the evening, thanks largely to the tombola stall, which though heavily stocked with attractive prizes, was nevertheless "cleaned out" before the end of the evening.

More and more packed houses for "Home of the Brave"! Although the Legion ran an additional three performances during January, all seats were completely booked out. The public showed no slackening of enthusiasm for our pro-

duction and if theatres were available, we feel confident that we could fill them for at least another fortnight's run. This, mark you only in Johannesburg. In Capetown, the response would be just as good, but there again, we are hampered by lack of theatre space as well as by the fact that our actors are all working people and would find it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary leave. The Branch would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the actors, as well as 'back stage and other helpers, most sincerely for the magnificent effort they put in for the production of "Home of the Brave". Thanks are especially due to the non-Legion members, who co-operated so closely with the Organisation. We wish them the best of luck for the future.

During January, the Branch Committee met twice, as had previously been decided. We hope that this will result in increased activity on the part of the members. The January Three-In-One took the form of a symposium, when Mr. Julius Lewin and Mr. Vance Brown spoke on the Coloured Franchise. They dealt admirably with the subject and it was followed by discussion from the floor. A new innovation was introduced

in the second half of the evening, called a Hat Debate. A hat is passed round with subjects for debate and volunteers select a subject out of the hat. They are given two and a half minutes to prepare their subject and then they speak for two and a half minutes. The judges were Messrs. Lewin and Brown and after some amusing and highly irrelevant subjects were spoken on, the judges unanimously proclaimed Mr. Henry Perreira the winner. We hope to have more of this kind of entertainment at future functions.

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THE GOODWILL COUNCIL

(Continued from page 13)

place in the world we are designing for the citizens of tomorrow. It reads: "Look around you! Look! What do you see?"

*A world of strife, suspicion and unrest
From whose divided nations Peace doth flee.*

The fear of what may come fills every breast

*With dread. Is this, I say, is this the best
That we can do? The way that we re-
quite*

*Those men who fought and suffered in
the quest*

*For peace? No! Let us never cease to
fight*

*To make these many nations one in love
and might."*



RUSS PRIESTLEY

"I don't know about you dear, but I feel like a sandwich."

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