

AFRICANS ANGERED BY MEETINGS BAN

NEW AGE

P.E. POLICE EVEN CLOSING DOWN CONCERTS

From GOVAN MBEKI

PORT ELIZABETH.—THE GOVERNMENT'S BLANKET BAN ON MEETINGS OF 10 OR MORE AFRICANS IN THE PORT ELIZABETH AND HUMANSDORP AREAS HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITH GREAT INDIGNATION BY THE WHOLE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT HERE.

Already the police have used the proclamation to clamp down even on social activities. Last week-end African National Congress leaders were called in by the Special Branch of the police and told that a concert which was to have been held at New Brighton on Saturday morning was cancelled in terms of the banning order.

The ANC leaders pointed out that the concert had nothing to do with the ANC, and that in any case entertainments were excluded from the ban.

BUT THE SPECIAL BRANCH CLAIMED THIS WAS MERELY A CONGRESS STUNT TO COVER UP POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

Not satisfied that their warning would be heeded, the authorities sent several trucks, vans and cars with uniformed and plain clothes police to the hall where the concert was scheduled to take place. People who did not know of the order cancelling the concert were dispersed by the police on their arrival.

At Korsten also the Special Branch brought pressure to bear on the owner of a hall where another concert was due to be held. At the time of writing the daily press here had not got round to mentioning this iniquitous ban, which destroys at one stroke the freedom of assembly of nearly a quarter of a million people in this area.

PROTESTS

But democratic organisations and individuals have not been slow to voice their anger. "The aim of this draconian measure is perfectly clear," says a statement issued by the Eastern Cape Regional Committee of the African National Congress.

"This Government of restrictions and injustice is aware of its unpopularity among the great majority of South Africa's people. Realising that it does not command any popular support. (Continued on page 8)

Duma Nokwe Admitted

JOHANNESBURG.

Last week the first African barrister was admitted to the Transvaal Supreme Court—and he had to obtain the permission of the Minister of Justice to travel from Johannesburg to Pretoria for the ceremony of admission.

This was Mr. Philemon Duma Nokwe, secretary of the African National Congress Youth League. Banned from all gatherings and confined to Johannesburg in terms of the Riotous Assemblies Act, Mr. Nokwe was granted permission to go to Pretoria to be admitted as the first African barrister in this province, and the second in the Union, only on condition that he reported to the Special Branch before leaving Johannesburg, reported again on his arrival in Pretoria, and reported for the third time his departure from that city and return to Johannesburg.

The little ceremony in Pretoria's Supreme Court where Nokwe was admitted as a practising barrister was watched from the public gallery by his mother, wife and two little girls.

A well-known political figure up and down the country, Duma Nokwe studied law part-time and graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand last year.

Born in Evaton, Nokwe grew up in Orlando and went to school first in Pinville and then at the Anglican St. Peter's School in Rossettenville. A science graduate of Fort Hare, Nokwe taught for two years at the Krugersdorp Government school and then joined the Defiance Campaign. After serving a prison sentence, he was victimised by the Government and dismissed from his teaching post. He then taught at the Central Indian High School started by the Indian community as a counter to the ghetto school at Lenx.

"COLOUREDS WILL NEVER SURRENDER" —SACPO

CAPE TOWN.

"The Coloured people will never surrender their rights without a struggle and can never be persuaded to accept the status of second-class citizens, which the Nationalists wish to assign to them," the South African Coloured People's Organisation declared in a statement last week, calling upon the people of Cape Town to attend a mass meeting on the Grand Parade on Tuesday, March 13, at 5.30 p.m. to protest against the latest Nationalist threat to the municipal franchise rights of Coloured and Indian men and women.

"We can see no reason for the proposed change in the municipal franchise except blatant racial prejudice," says SACPO. Both European and Non-European have contributed to the development of the major centres of the Cape, both pay taxes and rates, both share the burdens of civic expenditure, and therefore both should be entitled to an equal say in civic affairs. To deprive the Coloured women and the Indians of their civic franchise rights would be to discriminate against the Non-Europeans in favour of the Europeans, and would be only a stepping-stone towards the complete destruction of the franchise rights of the Coloured men as well.

"This is simply part of the Nationalists' plan to exclude the Non-Europeans completely from all administrative and legislative bodies, and to place them completely at the mercy of 'white baasskap,'" says SACPO, urging the Coloured people to join in the campaign to defend their rights against the Nationalist attack.

WOMEN'S DEPUTATION FOR STRIDDOM

TO PROTEST AGAINST PASS LAWS

From RUTH FIRST

JOHANNESBURG.—Like a huge dragonet the burning issue of passes for women brought African women flocking to Sunday's Transvaal Women's Day meeting here in Johannesburg. From the floor, moved by a woman from Nataalspruit location, came the suggestion that the conference snapp up decisively: The Federation of South African Women should organise another huge mass women's deputation—this time to the Prime Minister, Mr. Striddom, to protest against passes for women.

The mover of this resolution spoke seriously, without visible excitement, at this conference of over 2,000 women crowding the hall till its walls seemed to bulge. Briskly but calmly they voted unanimously for this resolution.

Mrs. Lillian Ngoyi, in the chair, twice repeated the proposition: "Do you want to go to Pretoria?" The hall replied: "We want to go." During the voting for this proposition Mrs. Ngoyi's eye fell on a man in the audience who had his hand raised in the air for the proposal.

"We'll call you from work to join us when we go!" The hall of women, with but a sprinkling of men, joined in the laughter, but nevertheless welcomed a man's vote for a proposition they took to their hearts.

THE PLATFORM

The platform of Women's Day sparked with the Province's most dynamic and militant personalities of the liberation movement—the ANC Women's President, Mrs. Lillian Ngoyi, Mrs. Helen Joseph, trade unionist, Mrs. Lucy Mvubelo, Miss Amina Asvat, of the Indian Wo-

men's Movement, and from the Coloured People's Organisation Miss Sophie Williams, nurse Mrs. Albertina Sisulu—but perhaps the star of the occasion was Miss Bertha Mashaba who only a week before had led the women of Germiston and Nataalspruit on their local anti-pass protest.

God has given us passes already. Our children are our passes," said Bertha, and the meeting took up those words like a refrain. "Our children are our passes." Added Bertha Mashaba: "We do

RESERVES FOR THE COLOURED PEOPLE?

See feature article by Peter Meyer on Page 6.

not want to carry passes. We are telling the Government. We have begged it long enough." Huge contingents of women came from Venterspost on the West Rand and from Germiston, Nataalspruit. (Continued on page 8)

"Omar Has Been Shot! You Can Fetch His Body From The Morgue"



CAPE TOWN.—At about 11 o'clock in the morning of Wednesday last week a 15-year-old boy, Omar Arend, was playing with a squirrel in the yard of a home in Elsie's River. At 6.30 of the same day a police van stopped outside the lane leading to his mother's home in Woodstock and informed her, through a messenger, that her son was dead.

"OMAR HAS BEEN SHOT," SAID THE MESSAGE. "YOU CAN COME AND COLLECT THE BODY AT THE MORGUE TOMORROW MORNING AT HALF PAST EIGHT."

The following day Jan Ben Wiese, 39, a detective, appeared in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court at a preparatory examination of an allegation of murder, arising from the death of Omar Arend, who had allegedly been shot in the chest in the charge office of the Woodstock police station. The case was adjourned till March 22. Wiese being released on £200 bail, with orders to report at the Rondebosch police station twice a week.

The picture on the left shows a mourner bending over the body of Omar Arend before the funeral last Thursday. (See "A mother mourns her son" on page 5.)

2 Children Show The Way!

Two young school children, ardent admirers of New Age, have wasted no time in making their contribution towards our £10,000 National Campaign. Sheila Weinberg and her brother Mark have saved up £3 and £1.10s. respectively out of their pocket money. As soon as they saw our appeal they emptied out their money-boxes and brought the proceeds to our office. A magnificent gesture! If all our readers were to display the same spirit we would soon reach, and even pass, our £10,000 target.

The Durban Branch of the Congress of Democrats also deserves special mention for being the first organisation to make a contribution towards our target since the launching of our Campaign. Needless to say, we hope that other democratic organisations will soon follow suit.

We are still a long way from our target, however. Indeed, our donations this week total almost £16 less than last week's. It is obvious that a much bigger effort will be required by all concerned—and that means every true democrat in our country. New Age is an asset which none can afford to lose! That total must be pushed up, and pushed up rapidly, otherwise we shall fall too far behind and

the whole future of New Age will be placed in jeopardy. Show the enemies of progress just what South African democrats are made of. Give them an example of your determination to crush fascism and win freedom in our lifetime.

MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

Our addresses are:—
Cape Town: Room 20, Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street.
Durban: 6, Pembroke Chambers, 472, West Street.

Port Elizabeth: 9, Court Chambers, 129, Adderley Street.

THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS
Congress of Democrats (Durban Branch) £8; R.M. £4; R.A. £4.3; A.N. £2; B.R. 6s; Z.S. 4s; Conf- nant 7s; Progress £1; Com 10s; A.A. £5; Lbs £1; L.M. 4s; H.G. 19s; Harold and Babs £2; Nola £1; Hopeful 10s; Spuds £1; Dr. L. £4.9; C.M. 2. 6d; D.D. 2.6d; K.P.G. 2.6d; K.K.G. 1.6d; Spes 10s; J. De C. 1s; E.A.L.

1.6d; Rummage 3.6d; Jumble Sale £32.10.6; Friend £10; Anon 4s; Donation £1.10; Friend £7; Granny R. £10; R.E. £10; Rebecca £5; Vic £5; Sheila Weinberg £3; Mark Weinberg £1.10; Bellevue 19.6d; Bushness £5.



Previously Acknowledged £150.18.8
Total this week £134.11.0
TOTAL TO DATE £285.9.8

The Union Government should reconsider its decision in the light of the international situation which is becoming more favourable for peaceful co-existence. This breach of international relations adds more to South Africa's isolation at a time when we are striving for peace, friendship and understanding.

PAUL JOSEPH
Johannesburg.

Points From Letters

A message to Mr. Kotane: You, as our honoured representative, please send a boy to the Minister for Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd, with a copy of the Freedom Charter and ask him to sign it. And let the boy tell Dr. Verwoerd we don't only want a signature, but those of the whole Cabinet as well.—S. A. Nleke, Sec. ANC, Ermelo.

Barbaric Police Raid: One day last month a motor car knocked down and killed an African man here. Many people ran to the spot to see what help they could give. When the police saw this, they used the occasion to trap the people. They stood over the body and demanded their documents, the hated enslavement papers.—James Afrika, East London.

Provocative Arrests: We, the people of Mzimba, strongly oppose the way in which our people are being arrested by railway police, and the beating of people standing in corridors and lavatories. We also strongly oppose the system of using people who are in plain clothes and not known to the public—J. L. Walaza, Sec. ANC, Orlando.

There Shall Be Peace and Friendship: Take care of those people who are spreading the idea of "Africa for the Africans." These "Africanists" are like the Nats; they are not out to win freedom, but to spoil freedom. Africa belongs to all the people who live in White, Black, Indian and Coloured.—G. Kgsane, Thaba Nchu.

Classification Evil: The Nationalists are classifying the Coloureds as Africans because they fear that the Coloureds will dominate Parliament in a few years time. Classification is one way of removing the Coloured voters from the Parliamentary roll.—M. C. Boshelo, Johannesburg.

Editorial

LIFT THE BAN!

THE Nationalist Government is steadily making it quite plain that it intends to deprive the African people of all political and civil liberties.

Two weeks ago, by proclamation in the Government Gazette, the Government prohibited the holding of all meetings of more than 10 Africans in the Port Elizabeth and Humansdorp districts. In future no political, A.N.C. or trade union meeting can be held unless special permission is first obtained from the chief of police or the local authority. And since it was the Port Elizabeth and Humansdorp local authorities which asked the Government to impose the ban in the first place, it can be imagined that the people's organisations will meet with great difficulty in securing the necessary permission.

There is no atom of justification for the imposition of this restriction on the African people in the Eastern Cape.

The Government cannot even pretend there is a so-called "emergency." In any case, the Government has adequate powers under the Public Safety Act and other laws to deal with any "emergency" which may arise.

What then is the purpose of this restriction? The answer is that the authorities—and the Port Elizabeth Council must share the odium with the Government—are out to crush the people's movement by hook or by crook, and no longer care what methods they use. There is no longer any pretence or facade of democracy. The African must simply do as he is told, or else. He must continue to work for low wages, under bad conditions, live in a dilapidated shanty of tin and sacking, see his children die of starvation, be denied the opportunities for education and the acquisition of skill, be hounded from one town to another and see his family broken up at the whim of a Verwoerd—and suffer all uncomplainingly in the interests of preserving "Western civilisation," "White supremacy," "Baasskap" or what you will.

The restrictions now in force in the Port Elizabeth area must be read together with the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act making it a crime for African workers to go on strike; the Prohibition of Interdicts Bill now before Parliament, denying the African the protection of the courts if Verwoerd or any of his underlings orders that he be ejected from his home, or deported; and the host of other discriminatory and restrictive laws which make the African a prisoner in the land of his birth.

The status which the African is being reduced to is worse than slavery. At least the slave had his place. The African today has no place, no home he can call his own.

The Government and its supporters must not think they can hold the African people down by these methods. The very intensity of the persecution to which the African is being subjected only intensifies his determination to be free. The latest restriction will not kill the ANC in Port Elizabeth. On the contrary, it will yet prove to be one of the nails which the Nationalists themselves have knocked into the coffin of their so-called supremacy.

At the same time, it would be a mistake to submit to this new invasion of democratic rights quietly. The whole democratic movement must voice its protest, and demand that the unwarranted restriction on the rights of the African people be lifted immediately.

Wants Rent Control Re-imposed

Since rent control was removed, landlords in Maritzburg, have seized the opportunity to raise the rentals of business premises to fantastic heights.

One property at the corner of Knipe Street and Church Street, built in 1905 of raw brick, valued today at £3,000, was originally bought in 1938 for £1,800 with an income and yard for rent of £35 a month. Today the landlords have put the rents up to a total of £218, in spite of the fact that the premises are dilapidated and leaking.

One shop selling second-hand goods has a couple of 8 by 10ft. rooms and a yard for rent of £20 a month. The tenant was paying a total of £75 a month. Now he is asked to pay £280 a month.

There are many other instances of this sort of thing in this town. Living houses are so scarce that one has to pay anything from £20 to £50 a goodly before getting a roof over one's head, and then has to pay a high rent on top of it.

G. M. A. GOGA
Maritzburg.

Protectorates' People Must Wake Up

If we, the people of the Protectorates, can sit back and watch how the British Government is selling us to the Union Government, we will wake up when it is too late.

The radar stations which are to be built in our countries with the idea of attacking an "enemy" from preventing the Union's industrial centres are not aimed at anybody far away. They are part of the plan to guard us in case we become tired of the Union Government which is busy making thousands of regulations restricting us.

After the last war, in which the people of the Protectorates lost thousands of souls, the Union Government stopped us from receiving education in its area. We are only allowed to work in the mines or on the farms. We must join Mohlambi of the Protectorates and prevent the enemy from swallowing us alive.

DUNCAN MAGOGWE
Port Elizabeth.



POLICE CHASED AND SWORE AT LITTLE CHILDREN

Recently our cultural clubs from Korsten were raided by the police. It took place in the open veld. More than 500 children were holding an exhibition of their work, and were singing songs while they were waiting for the guests to arrive.

No sooner had the guests arrived than the police also arrived, and they took the names and addresses of all the visitors. After the visitors had departed, the children went back to their clubs in four different groups, accompanied by their group leaders and their mothers. A few minutes later the police came to the clubs and demanded the names of the group leaders. Then a police van came with three senior police officers who tried unsuccessfully to threaten the group leaders, together with their mothers.

The most disgusting thing of all was to see these high-ranking officers chasing, threatening and swearing at little children, telling them to disperse from the club and go to the notorious Bantu Education Schools which, these police officers said, were standing empty whilst the children were kept loafing.

But the group leaders and mothers of Korsten stood firmly against this intimidation and after the police had gone carried on quietly with their work.

I. J. M. MATHIBELA
Korsten.

We Must Not Keep Quiet

I kneel down to Mrs. Annie Silinga, who is not frightened of jail, because we Africans are in jail already. This woman, so faithful and bold Annie, has been deported by the Nationalists under section 10 of the Urban Areas Act. The Government pays no

attention to the needs of her three children.

I want to register my protest against this. We have nowhere to rest. In our homes or in the street we are persecuted. Thousands of men and women are in jail because of the Pass laws. Must we then keep quiet? No.

We are told not to stay here, but here; what we must do in the course of our birth. Must we keep quiet? No. We are tired of this intimidation. Our children are orphans.

When I was overseas in East Germany I visited an orphanage where children are kept if their parents are sick or in jail. Children up to 14 years of age are looked after there. We should have these things in South Africa, even if they are only a drop in the ocean.

Our country is large and rich but the richness of our country is for the few White people and life is hard for the Africans, who are the majority of this country.

DORA TAMANA
Bloubaui.

Scandalous Treatment of Soviet Consul

After asking the Soviet Consul to quit South Africa, for reasons unsubstantiated and unprecedented in the world, the authorities deemed it necessary to send an impi of the Special Branch to observe and make notes of those persons who came to the station to bid farewell to the Soviet Consul and his staff.

This humiliating and scandalous treatment toward a great power whose representative has behaved in a most dignified manner, is most uncalculated for and must create the condemnation of all fair-minded persons.

French Foreign Minister Denounces Western Policy

"Public Opinion Favours Peace"

PARIS.—AN OUTSPOKEN ATTACK ON WESTERN FOREIGN POLICY MADE BY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER, M. PINEAU, RECENTLY HAS SPOTLIGHTED THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT IN FRANCE OF THE DEMAND THAT THE COUNTRY ADOPT AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY.

Speaking at a luncheon of the Anglo-American Press Association, he expressed "profound disagreement" with the policy that the Western Powers had followed in recent years.

They made a "gigantic error" by adopting the policy that "military security problems" predominated everything, and that they should be concerned with those problems alone. Between the conception of "military security at any price" and that of peace, public opinion would favour peace.

The speech, insultingly described by the London Times as "this extraordinary outburst" came two hours after the announcement by M. Pineau that he and M. Mollet had accepted an invitation to visit the Soviet Union in May.

M. Pineau said that he had noticed an "immense echo" in French public opinion whenever the Government expressed itself in favour of negotiations and contacts with the socialist countries. He suggested that the West might take bolder initiatives on disarmament.

He also endorsed M. Mollet's recent statement that he only went to German re-unification, lay through disarmament, and pleaded for a "more active policy of co-existence."

"I shall systematically direct French policy towards cultural exchanges between East and West," he said. "I want to convince our Anglo-American friends of the need to revise our foreign policy. The policy of war has been ruled out. It is a question now of pursuing a policy of peace, so as to ensure the triumph of our common ideal of justice, equality, and freedom."

"SHALL BE BEATEN"

Attacking the recent invitation to France to take part in SEATO naval manoeuvres in the Gulf of Siam he asked: "Do you really think that, in this atomic era, this handful of ships will give the impression that the West is the leader of the world?" Marshal Bulganin and Mr. Krushchov, in offering to the countries of Asia all the aid of which they stand in need, especially in the economic field, are doing something much more important than can be accomplished by such naval manoeuvres. The West does not make an effort in the direction of propositions of peace, we shall be beaten on the field of propaganda and on that of policy."

Nor did M. Pineau feel it necessary to hide the fact that France is well aware that her imperialist "Allies" are waiting to strangle her throat. There was no such thing as a common Franco-American-British foreign policy, notwithstanding all

claims to such a common identity of views, he said.

In North Africa, he said, he had the impression that "certain powers" were waiting to take over if France were to have to "abandon" her colonies. This bitterness against the Americans was recently expressed in more concrete form by Frenchmen in North Africa who laid siege to the U.S. Embassy in Tunis and beat up some of the staff.

And in Viet-nam, he said, the Americans had "quite frankly pursued an anti-French policy."

Among other "Western actions which came under fire was the Bagdad Pact. In a clear attack on U.S. State Secretary Dulles, M. Pineau spoke of "the man who always talks about the military solution." The real task was rather "to set about making a peace policy."

So concerned was Sir Anthony Eden, the British Prime Minister, at M. Pineau's defiance of the American whip that he immediately issued an invitation to M. Mollet, the French Premier, to visit London for talks.

In a television interview M. Mollet tried a few days later to tone down the effect of M. Pineau's remarks. While noting "with satisfaction the evolution in Soviet policy," the French Premier emphasized his continued support for the Atlantic war alliance.

UNREPENTANT

Unabashed, M. Pineau repeated his criticisms a few days later when he attended the SEATO meeting at Karachi. "I am in favour of a change in the trend of Western policies of the last few years," he said. France believed, he added, that the West could make progress in the field of social and economic improvement, which had a greater appeal to people than their emphasis on military aspects."



British M.P.'s Call To Socialist International

ZURICH.

A strong appeal to take a positive attitude to the proposals made by Mr. Krushchov at the recent congress of the Soviet Communist Party was made by British M.P. Mrs. Barbara Castle to the meeting of the Socialist International held here recently, at which there were representatives from Socialist Parties in 15 countries.

She criticised the negative attitude taken up by some delegates, stressed the urgency for adopting a broader and more tolerant view in the present stage of world affairs, and criticised the Bagdad Pact.

She considered that the time had arrived when the Socialist International should give a firm lead and accept the Soviet offer to enter into talks.

But the majority of delegates adopted a vigorously anti-Soviet policy and decided to reject the Soviet offer.

Indonesian Opposition Resigns

DJAKARTTA.

The members of Indonesia's Opposition political parties have tendered their resignation from the provisional parliament.

The reason for this action is that although these parties—the Nationalist Party, the Muslim Priests Association, the Communist Party and the Muslim League—won an overwhelming victory in the last elections, the U.S.-puppet Masjumi Party, which formed the caretaker government before the elections, is still refusing to hand over power.

The mass resignations are intended to make it impossible for the Masjumi to keep up the pretence of being the constitutional government.

Failure Of U.S. Foreign Policy Dismays Americans

"Soviet Self Assurance"—Asop Bros.

NEW YORK.—Comments by all of the most widely circulated political columnists in the U.S. show that the foreign policy proposals adopted at the recent congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union have led to widespread dismay in America.

The inability of the U.S. to put forward a foreign policy of her own which will be able to win world support, is a recurring theme in all newspapers.

James Reston in the New York Times says: "There is more apprehension in the capital today about the conduct of foreign policy than at any time since the Korean war." This has been caused partly "by the fear, which has been growing steadily here in the last few months, that the Administration has miscalculated Communist strategy and has no effective policy to meet it."

He adds: "Congress is particularly upset by official testimony that Moscow may well be the first to produce a 1,500-mile guided missile. Reports from West Germany of the weakening of the pro-Western Aduener coalition, reports of growing weakness in Turkey and of mismanagement of American economic aid in South Korea have all led to widespread dismay, not merely for an investigation of the Middle Eastern situation, but for a searching inquiry into the whole purpose and machinery of American foreign policy."

BIGGEST SET-BACK

"In these past six months we have suffered the biggest set-back since the Communist victory in China," complains Walter Lippman whose articles are syndicated to hundreds of papers.

"The fundamental cause of the set-back is that the Soviet Union has been developing a new foreign policy since Geneva, whereas we have remained frozen and inflexible in the policy of the pro-Geneva period."

The ultra-right-wing Scripps-Howard Newspapers say: "Only a quick glance at the headlines of recent weeks shows all its far from well in the Western world, that there is no dynamic leadership, that the West has lost the initiative to the Kremlin." They refer to "substantial Soviet gains in South Asia while America's relations with that area decline daily; loss of Cambodia in South-East Asia to neutralism; serious setbacks to pro-Western Chancellor Adenauer in West Germany; alarming support in Greece for a Communist-backed political coalition."

"TIDE OF HISTORY"

The Alsop Brothers, who are syndicated by the New York Herald-Tribune write: "The Soviet Union is now genuinely and absolutely confident of their position. Internally, they are sure there is no shadow of a threat to their regime. Externally, they are sure that the tide of history is now flowing

Selwyn Lloyd Offends Indian Opinion

DELHI.

The British Government appears to have learnt nothing from Jordan's decisive rebuff to its war policies. Britain's Foreign Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, who is now on a visit to India, has gone out of his way in every point to offend Indian opinion.

Supporting military alliances like NATO, SEATO and the Bagdad Pact in a speech (which was supposed to deal with peace) to the Indian Council of World Affairs, he said that Sir Anthony Eden had discussed atom and hydrogen bomb tests in Washington with Eisenhower and Dulles.

"They had concluded that the "practical consequences of the tests which have so far taken place have been insignificant so far as the risk to health is concerned," Mr. Lloyd told the astounded Council.

This speech has been described in the Indian press as a direct rebuff to Nehru who had only the previous day urged Britain to make a new initiative on disarmament, and to India's representative in the United Nations, Mr. Krishna Menon, who had challenged the right of America to stage such dangerous tests on other people's territory, and given notice that he would raise the matter in the World Court.

FINLAND'S WORKERS are all out in the first general strike the country has seen since 1917 when Finland was still under czarist domination and the workers came out in support of the Russian revolution. Two hundred thousand workers are involved in the trade union federation's demand for a 5 per cent wage increase.

ever more rapidly in the direction of the world hegemony (leadership) they seek."

"Observers on the spot, like Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, and Soviet experts in the country, agree that this remarkable self-confidence was the real hallmark of the Twentieth Congress of the Soviet Communist Party."

"As Krushchov and his colleagues look about them, they can be pardoned for self-congratulation. Their home political base is wholly secure. They have in China a dependable and increasingly powerful ally. All Asia is leaning their way, as Paul Hoffman has just sadly warned, so that there is now solid basis for Krushchov's boast that "the majority of self-congratulation of our planet" is on his side. As Trevor Gardner has also warned, there is not the slightest doubt that the Soviets are now threatening to surpass us in the whole area of airatomic power.

"Finally, the Soviet Union is now most seriously challenging the supposedly unchallengeable industrial might of the United States. All in all, it is not difficult to understand the reasons for the public show of self-assurance which Krushchov and his fellow workers have just staged in Moscow."

ANC Message To Atherine Lucy

JOHANNESBURG.

"Fight on!" says a message to Miss Atherine Lucy from Mr. O. Tambo, secretary-general of the African National Congress.

"Millions in Africa are watching with the deepest sympathy and admiration your gallant fight for human rights and equality of colourism. On behalf of the African National Congress I wish to assure you of our full sympathy and solidarity."

U.S. ELECTIONS POSE PROBLEMS FOR PROGRESSIVES

This year the presidential elections will take place in the United States, and the announcement by Eisenhower that he is a candidate has got the campaign going in real earnest. The two likeliest contenders are of course, Eisenhower for the Republicans and Stevenson for the Democrats.

This policy of participation has not been universally accepted in the U.S. Some progressives—the "National Guardian" has been their spokesman—have argued that this was the road to futility, that it could only lead to progressives becoming "the tail of the Democrat kite." A lively debate still rages on these issues.

CALIFORNIA VICTORY

But some light was cast on the controversy by the results of the convention last month of the Democratic Party in California which met to elect its candidate for Senator. California is at present represented by a vicious Republican red-baiter and war-monger, Senator Kuchel. At the last elections the Democrats put up against him one Sam Yorty who tried to out-Kuchel Kuchel by putting forward a policy even more fascist than that of his rival, Kuchel was elected.



Yorty had until fairly recently been considered the likely Democrat candidate once again. But last month the California Democrats' convention decisively rejected him by 1,480 votes to 127.

In his place they nominated Richard Richardson who had identified himself with a policy of peace and civil rights—and had even gone so far as to sign a brief to the Supreme Court on behalf of Communist leaders imprisoned in California, laying himself open to a furious red-baiting assault from the right-wing California press.

His nomination was the result of pressure from the rank and file of the Democratic Party, against the failure of party leaders to speak up for peace. It came from Negro organisations which demanded a clear-cut stand on civil rights. It came from organised labour.

Though by no means a left-winger, Richardson is nevertheless a far cry from Yorty, and as Democratic candidate there is every possibility that he will defeat Kuchel.

KEFAUVER RECEPTION

Similarly the California Congress, though there was no vote, gave a warmer welcome to presidential candidate Kefauver, who came out strongly for co-existence, than it did to Stevenson, who vacillated on the issue.

Progressives do not claim that it was they who were responsible for Richardson's election. But they do claim to have played, in the words of one left-wing commentator, "a modest and constructive role" in bringing it about.

And they say that this victory did not in any way involve trailing after the right-wing Democratic leadership, but on the contrary, it required resolute opposition to the policies of the leadership.

PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS

The question of what attitude to adopt to the leading presidential contenders is causing progressives even greater difficulty. Of the three main Democratic candidates, Stevenson, Kefauver and Harriman, Kefauver has adopted a slightly more forthright stand on civil rights for Negroes and other issues, and comments in the progressive press make it clear that he is the least objectionable candidate.

On the other hand, Harriman, who is a millionaire and has the support of the reactionary Catholic hierarchy, has little to distinguish him in his blind anti-Communist hysteria from McCarthy, and a substantial section of progressives, particularly those in New York, which is the main centre of vocal liberalism in the U.S., are urging the Geneva Conference—or for Stevenson at once to prevent the growth of Harriman support.

As things are now, the general stand being adopted by many progressives is that the best thing to do is not to declare themselves in favour of Stevenson until the last moment, in order to build up pressure on him to take an unequivocal stand on the main issues in the election.

For if one thing has been made clear by the campaign so far, it is that it is possible to influence the leading Democratic contender by mass pressure.



PROGRESSIVES' PROBLEM

The question then which the U.S. Left and Progressive Movement has been discussing is this: Is it possible to engage in effective independent political action in the course of the 1956 elections? Or do progressives have no other course but to wait for the formation of a third party, in the meantime "boycotting" the fight between the two big parties?

WORLD STAGE

By Spectorator

A substantial section of the Left movement, including the Communists, take the view that it is both possible and necessary to influence the elections. They say that to abstain from the immediate struggle would be to surrender the field to the reactionaries.

And they propose that the lively political interest and general canvassing of opinion that takes place in election year should be utilised for winning victories in the struggle for peace, economic well-being, equal rights for the Negro people and civil liberties, strengthening the independent action of the workers and progressives with a view to the formation of a workers' and farmers' party—a democratic coalition—which would be a serious challenge to the two monopoly parties.

The objectives are these: To canalise the people's desire for peace, and their rejection of big business's control of the Republicans (which has won Eisenhower's team) the title "Cadillan Cabinet" so that the Eisenhower administration can be emphatically rejected in the elections. And the chief difficulty—to put this fight on a basis which rejects any position of support for the Democratic Party as such.

Readers who remember the situation in South Africa in the 1948 general elections when progressives here were faced with the similar need to unite for the defeat of the Nats without supporting the policies of the U.P., will see a fairly close analogy.

NOT THE WAY

Progressives are pointing out to the electorate that the Republican and Southern Democracy policy of acquiescent support for warmongering, for attacks on the Negro people and on civil liberties, cannot be defeated if the Democratic Party platform is dominated by the call for "party unity" with the Southern racials, or by the line adopted by Truman of attacking the Geneva Conference—or for that matter by the vacillations, retreats and "moderation" of Stevenson.

By rejecting proposals to isolate the Left by putting forward a third party presidential candidate, progressives believe it is possible

- To defeat the McCarthyites of both parties;
- To weaken the influence of the war-mongering forces led by Dulles and Nixon who dominate the Republicans, and of the racials in the Southern Democratic parties;
- To elect a number of members of both parties drawn from the rank and file trade union movement, and a number of Negroes in specially selected seats, as the basis for a Congressional bloc of liberal pro-labour, pro-civil rights spokesmen for peaceful negotiations and co-existence.



GROUP AREAS HEARINGS STIR RACE HATRED IN PRETORIA

JOHANNESBURG.—THE COMING OF THE GROUP AREAS BOARD TO PRETORIA HAS BROUGHT WITH IT RACIAL HATRED ON A SCALE TO SHOCK EVEN HARDENED SOUTH AFRICANS, AND THE UGLY SPECTACLE OF SOME GROUPS OF NON-EUROPEANS TRYING TO ELBOW OUT OTHERS FROM THE AREAS THEY OCCUPY.

The first rounds were played out in the sessions of the Pretoria City Council and at civic association meetings where the only agreement seemed to be where NOT to put the Indian population.

The Pretoria City Council at first proposed Derdepoort as an Indian group area, then decided that it would put the Coloured community there. Broekskeur was proposed as an Indian group area. The Pretoria North municipality promptly objected to Broekskeur. It's too near Anteridgeville, the African township, they said. Putting Indians and Africans near one another would lead to intermingling ("saamboerdery").

On the other hand, the Peri-Urban Areas Health Board is in favour of Broekskeur as an Indian group area! The ugliest uproar broke out when the City Council proposals for Indian group areas at Sandfontein were made known. Led by Mr. De Wet Nel, M.P., one of Dr. Verwoerd's Under-Ministers, a group of six Nationalist M.P.s flew from the session to Pretoria to organise the revolt in their constituencies against the Broekskeur and Sandfontein proposals.

Mr. De Wet Nel said the Indians would get Sandfontein "over my dead body." He would resign from Parliament if this area became Indian, he threatened. He knew where to put the Indians, he said. If he had his way, he would send them all back to Delhi.

One of the party of six M.P.s was the Nationalist messenger for Brits, who quoted the example of his town. "We have pressed them (the Indians) against the Crocodile River where they cannot be a nuisance," he said.

De Wet Nel was also against Broekskeur as an Indian area. "If we want to commit suicide we will

put the Indians near the Natives of Anteridgeville," he proclaimed.

When Claudius-Erasmus was proposed as an Indian area the residents from that area booted, then got up in a body and left the meeting.

The Pretoria North municipality also objected to Indians being put at Sandfontein because it was too near to Hartbeespoort Dam, "and if Indians are settled there they might spoil the scenic attraction."

"UNPRACTICAL" At the height of the objections and counter-objections flying back and forth, Pretoria's Mayor burst out against the Group Areas Act.

He recalled a conversation he had with the Prime Minister, Mr. Strijdom, when he said the Indian problem was causing the city great

difficulty. The City Council was prepared to help the Government, he said, but the M.P.s (the six Nationalists) had come to Pretoria and said that the Councillors were the sinners. "It is not us that are the sinners," said the Mayor. "It is the M.P.s that are the sinners. They drew up the Group Areas Act, it is most impractical."

So the rat fight goes on and the Board sessions are the scene of revolting racialism.

DISEASE SPREADS Pretoria Non-Europeans have also in the last few weeks watched the embarrassing spectacle of this race disease spread to some of the Non-European groups that are making representations to the Group Areas Board.

Spokesmen for the Pretoria Coloured Vigilance Association have also expressed their acceptance of the Group Areas Act in principle because they want to "live among their own people" and the Act will "give them more freedom." Some Coloured spokesmen, supported also by the evidence of an estate agent who has been prominent at the Board sessions, are pointing for the declaration of Lady Selborne, the African freehold area, as a Coloured group area.

Yet another Coloured Vigilance Association has asked that Bantule, the oldest African location in Pretoria, should be declared a Coloured group area.

Claremont Coloureds, living near to Lady Selborne, have a covetous eye fixed on this area.

The Indian community of Pretoria, facing the steepest fires is refusing to accept the Group Areas Act in principle.



LANGA RENT INCREASES "LEGALISED ROBBERY"

CAPE TOWN.—The Cape Town City Council last month approved a resolution to increase the rentals for houses built with Council funds in Langa because, the Council claims, it loses £640 per month on these houses.

Yet, according to Councillor A. Moosa, the City Council makes such enormous profits on the houses built in Langa on loans from the National Housing Commission, that it should not only be able to offset any other losses it may incur in Langa, but should also, in a few years time, be able to reduce the rents for the whole of Cape Town.

Councillor Moosa bases his calculations mainly on the rentals charged at the new "bachelor" quarters now being erected in Langa. The Council intends building over 400 double units for "bachelors"—i.e. single Africans or those who are not allowed to have their wives with them. Nearly half these units have already been built, with National Housing Commission Funds.

A double unit consists of two similar semi-detached houses, each accommodating 16 Africans, each paying £1 a month rent. The rental the Council receives from such a double unit, therefore, is £32 per month.

The Council would never get such a high rent for a similar property in the fashionable suburb of

of rent, whereas only civil proceedings may be instituted against people of other races. It is wrong for the Council to attempt to have it both ways.

The Council has increased rents in dwellings built with Council funds because the Verwoerd rentals affecting all dwellings and introduced in October 1954, were declared ultra vires by the Supreme Court. The Council is at present still deciding whether and when it will return the £8,000 which the people of Langa overpaid before the increases were held to be invalid.)

Rents in the barracks for single men have been increased from 9s per head to 11s. Nearly 3,000 men are housed in these barracks. Four hundred and eighty men will have to pay 3s. increase in the temporary wooden barracks, while 863 families in the married quarters have to pay increases from 2s. to 10s. per month.

In adopting these recommendations, said Mr. Moosa, "This is legalised pick-pocketing. There is no need to put aside such a big percentage for bad debts. The Council has other means of redress; it can eject tenants for non-payment of rent. Moreover, the law allows the Council to prosecute Africans criminally for non-payment

Main Road, Woodstock, and taken away by the police. And at about 6.30 came the message to the mother that the boy was dead.

Omar was the fifth of 14 children. He left school last year while in Standard IV to help the family earn a living. He found no permanent employment, but worked as a barrow boy in the fruit and vegetable market sometimes earning 5s. or 7s. 6d. on two or three days a week. His earnings were not even that. He got into "trouble" once and was sentenced to cut.

Everywhere people expressed their horror at the tragedy. Father Marraz Arend, a cripple walking on crutches, and a broken-hearted mother Miriam with a babe of 22 months in her arms, told and retold the incidents prior to the boy's death, as if by the very telling they could arrive at some explanation.

On the Thursday of the week before the boy's death, a Non-European constable came to the Arend's home and told the mother that Omar was wanted at the police station. A short while afterwards, a European member of the C.I.D. also came looking for the boy.

To their question: What have you against the boy?, Mr. and Mrs. Arend said they received no satisfactory reply from the police. The parents promised that as soon as the child came home, they would tell the police station.

"I did not see my boy again until they brought his body home from the morgue," said Mrs. Arend.

ALLEGED ACCOMPLICE Later they were informed by others, but not by the police, that their son was wanted in connection with a house-breaking charge and the theft of some clothing. They understood their son was wanted as an accomplice.

The following Wednesday Omar was picked up by the police at Elsie's River while playing with a squirrel. "We heard from eye-witnesses that he went quiet, without protest," Omar's sister, Fatima, said.

Then just after 3 that afternoon, the police were again at Omar's mother's home, looking for him. A European policeman entered the shed where the family live, calling: "Where is Omar?", and turned cupboards and drawers inside out.

£2 4s. 6d. a week.

The family's home has been condemned by the Council and they have been ordered to vacate it. But they have nowhere to go. Mr. Arend's mother gave him a plot of land at Sunnyside to build a house, but he has been unable to go further than the foundations.

"There is just no money. Father started saving up and bought some bricks, but we have not been able to do anything more," said Fatima. The tragedy of Omar's death is being discussed in countless homes in Cape Town. Everywhere there is wide sympathy for the boy's bereaved family.



The bereaved family: Mrs. Miriam Arend and some of her fourteen children photographed in the kitchen of their home.

Reserves For the Coloured People?

Evidence has accumulated during the past few weeks to the beyond doubt that the Nationalist Government is planning to apply exactly the same vicious apartheid laws to the Coloured people as it already applies to the Africans.

Just as it has conceived the idea of a "Bantu national home," so it is now talking about a "Coloured national home." This means an entirely separate territory where in which the Coloured people will have to "develop" on their own.

The theory of "national homes" for the different non-white groups in South Africa has been conceived by the racialisists in the Government as a way of denying the non-white people their democratic rights in the "White areas." The Africans have been told that they cannot expect any rights in the White areas area that they must go to their "national home" in the Reserves if they want to enjoy those rights. The Coloured people are being told that they must look to their "national home" in the northern Cape for the enjoyment of their rights.

Once the plan for "national homes" is complete, the Non-White people will have only one "right" left in the "White areas," the right to work for the White man for slave wages.

The Evidence

In the Joint Sitting debate on the S.A. Act Amending the Bill (Joint Sitting Hansard No. 2, Col. 794), the Prime Minister, Mr. Strijdom, said: "He (Mr. Strauss) says the Coloured people have no territory of their own. Is he not aware of the fact that the Coloured people have various areas in South Africa which are their own and which comprise more than 2,000,000 morgen?"

Senator J. M. Conradie (U.P.): "Kalahari."

The Prime Minister: "I concede that a big portion of it is dry, but this land includes very valuable irrigation land along the Orange River, and since 1948 when the Nationalist Party came to power, the territory of the Coloureds has been increased by 240,000 morgen of land, valuable Crown land, and even land that was purchased additionally, and that process is continuing. My hon. friends may say that the territory of the Coloureds is smaller than that of the Natives. That may be true, but it is absolutely untrue to say that it was in order to place the Natives on a separate roll because they have their own territory, but that that cannot be the case with the Coloureds because they have no territory of their own. That is not true."

Adding Insult to Injury

Mr. Strauss did not let the matter rest there. He spoke later in the debate, and said (Col. 855): "The Coloured people have no reserves or any national home of their own for which they can hope or aspire. I still want to know from the Prime Minister what their fate is to be under the Government's pattern for the registration and deployment of human beings in our country, and their separate existence eventually to be found? The Prime Minister spoke about 2,000,000 morgen as reserves for the Coloured people, their national home, apparently comparable to the national home of the Bantu. I have tried hard to find out where this national home for the Coloured people is. What do I find?"

In your constituency of Gordonville, Mr. Speaker, there is a Coloured settlement of nearly 500,000 morgen. There is a reserve in the desert waste of the Boesmansland (Springbok) of 1,300,000 morgen. Mission stations comprise

127,000 morgen. In the Free State there are approximately 42,000 morgen. In the Transvaal, at Louis Trichard, there are 11,800 morgen where the descendants of the Buys family live, and in Natal

there were a series of positive lines along which the Coloured people could develop. In the Western Province—the home of the Coloured people—the time might come when a university for the



by Peter Meyer

there are 5,000 morgen, totalling some 2,000,000 morgen.

"To equate that with the national home for the Natives, to try and make out that the Coloured people of the Cape have a national home in those areas, is nothing more or less than an insult to the Coloured people. That, after depriving them of their vote, is adding insult to injury."

The new announcement came from the Minister of the Interior, Dr. Dinges, who in his recent speech at Stellenbosch said (Cape Times, 9.3.56): "The separate representations of voters was not the complete policy of the Nationalist Party. It was recognised that

Coloured people would be established."

Where Will it Be?

Where is the "national home" going to be established? In the northern Cape or the Western Province? The answer is quite simple, really. The "national home," where rights are enjoyed, will be in the Kalahari and Godeonia. The actual home, where the Coloured people will work for the Whites, will be in the Western Province. Presumably, it will be more convenient for the Government to establish a Coloured-only university (where students

"LET THE NATS DO THEIR OWN DIRTY WORK"

ANC Calls for Rejection of Bantu Authorities Act

JOHANNESBURG.—"We must reject the Bantu Authorities Act. Let the Nationalists administer their own dirty laws and face the wrath of the people," say a stirring and outspoken "Open Letter" sent by the African National Congress to African chiefs, local and tribal council members in the countryside, leading teachers, ministers and other personalities in the rural areas.

The Open Letter has been produced in several of the vernacular languages.

"Year in and out," says, "laws are made whose sole object is the tightening of the shackles on the people; the crushing of their hopes and the frustration of their legitimate efforts to liberate themselves. The Bantu Authorities Act is one of that treacherous collection of laws."

Dr. Verwoerd claims that the Bantu Authorities Act was made for the benefit of the Africans, that it will restore tribal life; increase the powers of the chiefs; and increase the responsibility of the Africans in their own affairs to enable them to develop according to their own traditions. These are shamelessly deceptive claims.

"The real purpose of the Bantu Authorities Act is to create an administrative machinery to intensify oppression of the people."

"The Nationalists have made so many vicious and revolting laws against which the people have protested and struggled, that now they fear to enforce them directly themselves. They want now to shift the burden of enforcing, stock cutting, Bantu Education and passes for women to the chiefs who will thus become the immediate instruments of the suffering and misery of their people."

FIRST VICTIMS

"The chiefs will also become the first objects against whom the peo-

ple will be indoctrinated, not educated in the Western Province.

The Coloured people should not make the mistake of thinking that because they will be allowed to continue working in the Western Province, life will be on just the same. This would be to miss the whole significance of the new "national home." The theory of a "national home," whether it works out in practice or not, is of the utmost importance. It provides the excuse for depriving the Coloured people of their democratic rights in the Western Province.

Dr. Dinges told his audience that the Nationalist Party's election manifesto in 1948 outlined the future plan for the Coloured community. The manifesto envisaged a Department of Coloured Affairs (which has since been established), separate residential areas, representative Coloured council (the advisory council set up by the Separate Representation of Voters Act).

The manifesto, said Dr. Dinges, also referred to the Coloured man's position in commerce and in the management of his own Coloured townships (Kleuringdorpe). The manifesto further referred to the service which the Coloureds would render to their own people, as nurses and social workers.

Dr. Dinges recalled that the Parliamentary Select Committee

and those who prove faithful to the Government will be elevated. The Bantu Authorities Act is intended to split the tribes into smaller, hostile and weaker units.

STRIFE AND DIVISION

"Finally, the Act is designed to create strife and division among the various tribes. The solid, courageous unity of the African people against the Nationalists is one force through the Nationalists fear. Through the Bantu Authorities Act, the Nationalists are trying to dissipate the energy of the people on fictitious tribal differences.

"When the Nationalists contemptuously made the Bantu Authorities Act against the protests of the people, they consulted nobody. Today, when they want to implement it they are pretending to consult the chiefs. Dr. Verwoerd has been running all over the country, making gifts of Bibles to chiefs, and trying to clothe his wolf in sheepskin. But the people are alert and will not be deceived.

"We must reject the Bantu Authorities Act. Do not allow ourselves to be used as tools against our own people. Let the Nationalists administer their own dirty laws and face the wrath of the people."

Greenwood Ngotiyana's Appeal

CAPE TOWN.

Mr. Greenwood Ngotiyana, Cape Town, the people's leader, has given leave last week to appeal to the Appellate Division against his conviction under the pass laws. The Cape Supreme Court overruled the Langa Native Commissioner's verdict that the crown had established that Mr. Ngotiyana was in Cape Town for another purpose other than that for which he had a permit. But it held that the Native Commissioner was wrong in acquitting him on the ground that he was required him to establish that he was in Cape Town lawfully.

Deportation proceedings against Mr. Ngotiyana have been stayed pending his appeal.

on the Vote Bill had recommended that separate political representation should be regarded as only one part of the whole scheme for the "development" and upliftment of the Coloured people as a separate group."

Dr. Dinges announced that the Government planned the systematic creation of large areas for the Coloured people, analogous to the "Bantu national home," by the regular purchase and allocation of land. The Budget on March 15 will make provision for this purchase.

At the same meeting at which Dr. Dinges spoke, the Prime Minister, Mr. Strijdom, referred to "helping the Non-Europeans to develop their areas so that these can become a real home for them," and said that this applied not only to African areas, but also to Coloured areas.

Cheap Labour

Is any doubt left as to the Government's intentions? The aim is to reduce the Coloured people in the Western Province to the status of cheap labourers who take away their businesses so that whatever trading they do will be in their "own areas"; and to convince the owner, they are professional men—to working among their own people in their "own areas."

This is not guess-work. The whole pattern already exists for the Africans. The Government is presently instituting a discriminating Non-White traders and professional men from the "White areas." But the Non-White customer will not be forced to buy in the "Non-White areas." If he works in a White area, he will buy at the White man's shop, and he will work in the White sector. The division of rights cuts only one way.

Then, if the Coloured man feels that it is time he enjoyed a few rights, he need only get in a train and go to Gordonville where he can have a wonderful two weeks' holiday, enjoying the right to vote, trade and practise as a doctor or garage owner, they are professional men—to working among their own people in their "own areas."

Meanwhile, the University of Stellenbosch, according to the "Cape Times," is conducting a three-year study "that puts the Cape Coloured people under the microscope of the most comprehensive socio-economic research programme yet attempted in South Africa. The life, work and culture of the Coloured person will be studied in detail in relation to his surroundings."

Research teams have started collecting information which could eventually, according to Dr. S. P. Cilliers, senior lecturer in sociology and research officer, "serve as a blueprint for the future economic development of the Western Cape and its peoples."

And Professor C. G. W. Schumann, of the University of Stellenbosch, added: "For the Government, which has to work out a definite policy and carry it out, the survey could be of great value."

Common Struggle

In the face of this mass evidence, the Coloured people cannot have any doubts over what lies in store for them. They are being subjected to exactly the same apartheid pattern as that applying to the Africans. As I remarked last week, the Coloured people will share the African people's burden and their struggle. They are allies, comrades in the great campaign for the liberation of South Africa from the Nationalist dictatorship.



AT LAST WEEK'S SACTU CONFERENCE

Above: Textile workers' delegates and observers. On the extreme left of the picture, in the second row, is Mr. C. Sibande, SACTU vice-president, and in front of him is Mr. P. Byleveld, past national president.

Below: A group of delegates chatting. From the left: Mrs. Louisa Kellerman (Tin Workers, Cape Town), Mrs. Annie Mackenzie (Food and Canning, Lamberts Bay), Mr. Moses Mabhida (Rubber and Dairy Workers, Natal), Mrs. Margaret Mostert (Food and Canning, Lamberts Bay), and Mr. R. G. Thomas Reddy (Tin Workers, Natal).



CONGRESSES APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT:

HEAL BREACH WITH SOVIET UNION

JOHANNESBURG.

South Africa should heal the breach with the Soviet Union, enter into diplomatic relations with that country, as well as China, India and other powers of East and West, give effect to the people's will for peace, and get back into the United Nations, says a leaflet issued jointly by the Congress movement this week.

Together, the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress, the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation and the Congress of Democrats express their opposition to war plans and the foreign policy of the Government.

Why has the Government suddenly broken off relations with the Soviet Union and told its Consular representatives to go within one month? We are at peace with Russia—not so long ago she was our ally in the grim struggle against Hitler. She has not shown the slightest unfriendliness with South Africa—on the contrary, she buys

millions of pounds worth of South African wool and meat. What possible reason can there be for this rude break with one of the world's Big Four Powers?

Mr. Louw's lame excuses did not convince anyone in South Africa or anywhere else. How could anyone seriously believe that seven Soviet families are a "menace" to South Africa?

But this is just in line with the general way the Nationalist Government has been behaving towards the outside world. It instructs its representatives to walk out of the General Assembly of the United Nations. It refuses to follow UNO's request to hold discussions with India: and so we have a break with that great country with its 400 million people.

The Government does not "recognise" the Government of China and so there are no relations between South Africa and the 600 million people in the People's Republic of China. And now the Government turns its back on the 200 million people of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

All over the world the cry has gone up from the hearts of the

people: "We want peace! Stop the 'cold war'! Stop the atom bomb tests! Give us peace!"

Is the Government helping to carry out the wishes of the people for peace? No: its actions show that it not.

When he came back from overseas recently, Mr. Erasmus, the Minister of Defence, told Parliament that he and his Government had entered into certain military commitments with the "Western" imperialist powers, to send troops out of South Africa, to the Middle East and elsewhere. He said:

"It was said that Africa was the greatest prize on earth and that it had to be secured for the West. The question was what measures the Western world was prepared to take to retain its hold on Africa."

It is clear that the Government is committing the country to military blocs not to "defend" South Africa—no one wants to attack us—but to help the European powers to retain their hold over the people of Africa by putting down their movements for national freedom from colonialism.

CULTURAL CLUB LEADERS AGAIN ARRESTED

JOHANNESBURG.—Club leaders of the Alexandra Cultural Club face a prosecution under the Bantu Education Act for the second time, following another police raid on the Club in which two cultural Club leaders and a young African boy were arrested. The 14-year-old boy was arrested for shouting "Afrika," was handcuffed and huddled into the pick-up van.

The following day the charge against him of creating a disturbance was dropped and he was released. He is Titus Tseha.

Police armed with sticks and search warrants invaded the cultural club last Friday morning. The children were singing at the time. Two European detectives and six Africans walked in, closing the door of the hall behind them, and warned the two club leaders, Mr. Bently Langa and his sister Miss Mary Susan Langa, that they were under arrest for conducting an illegal school.

The police escorted the club leaders to the pick-up van amidst shouts of "Afrika" from the children. The children followed closely behind singing the new liberation song "Verwoerd Irlkolo silyawtwe" (We have boycotted the Verwoerd schools).

The police then turned on the children and chased them away. As they scattered the detective grabbed Titus and placed him under arrest.

The club leaders were then driven to the Union Club where they were under arrest. They removed a few Junior Certificate textbooks and a suitcase containing three pieces of chalk.

At the police station the club leaders were charged with contravening the Bantu Education Act and were released on bail of £10 each. They will appear in court on March 27.

"We are as determined as ever," they said as they were bailed out of the police cells.

Charges Laid Against Police

CAPE TOWN. Mr. Cardiff Marney and Mr. Kenneth Hendrickse were recently arrested while distributing leaflets protesting against the dismissal of teachers van Schoor and Kies, and taken to Caledon Square. After a while they were told to go. No charge was laid against them. They have now laid charges against the police for assault, wrongful arrest and slander.

Women Protest At Nat Vote Robbery

CAPE TOWN. Cape Town women of all races celebrated International Women's Day last Thursday, March 8, when they met at the Mitra Hall, Mowbray, under the auspices of the local branch of the Federation of S.A. Women.

The hall was decorated with a wonderful display of handwork done by women of other countries. Mrs. Gladys Smith was in the chair and chief speakers were Mrs. Katie White and Mrs. F. Baard, from Port Elizabeth.

The meeting adopted a resolution protesting the 10th anniversary of the Women's International Democratic Federation and pledging to struggle unceasingly for world peace.

Another resolution protested strongly against the "persistent attempts to impose upon the people of the Cape a policy of colour discrimination which is alien to our traditions and contrary to our way of life."

The resolution called upon all sections of the people to reject the attempt to take away the municipal vote from Coloured and Indian men and women, and urged the people to organise meetings of protest and send deputations to the City Council and Provincial Council and in no uncertain manner resist this fascist attack upon the people's rights.

The meeting also expressed its solidarity with Miss Annie Silings, women's leader, deported from Langa under the Urban Areas Act, and demanded the abolition of the pass system.

Protest At Dismissal of Teachers

CAPE TOWN. A public meeting in the Athlone Town Hall last week protested against the recent summary dismissal of school teachers W. P. van Schoor and B. M. Kies, an declared that the teachers had committed no offence.

The meeting pledged to fight for the reinstatement of the teachers.

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Look At Him! What Could You Say He Was!

How the Coloureds Are Being Classified

JOHANNESBURG.—For almost six months now race-mad Government officials have had a field day shooting haphazard questions at Coloured people, probing into their family life and their friends and associations, and classifying them under the Population Register.

This week the tests will come under Supreme Court scrutiny for the first time when a Pretoria cinema owner and shopkeeper, Mr. Jacob Goliath, has his classification as an African argued out in the Transvaal Supreme Court.

Mr. Goliath, his daughter Mary, a probationer nurse, and his son, a student teacher, were all classified African by officials of the Bureau of Census and Statistics. They appealed to the Race Appeal Board against this classification, but their appeal was rejected.

A number of other cases, similarly rejected on appeal to the Board, are due for argument in the Supreme Court, among them the cases of Lambert and Engelbrecht.

At the end of this month the Appeal Board is expected to transfer its hearings to Johannesburg.

FEW APPEALS

Only a sprinkling of those who have appealed against their classification as Africans have had their appeals heard in public. As a result much of the horror of these snap and arbitrary race classifications and the fantastic questions used as tests of one's fitness has been lost on the general public, and has gone on without protest.

Of a dozen or so appeals heard in public in the last few months, a number have been rejected.

In the appeal of Henry Makno, Makno brought ten witnesses to testify to his parentage and his acceptance of his life as a Coloured. The Board took some time to consider their verdict in what they called "a most difficult case," but then they confirmed the classification of Makno as an African.

THE EVIDENCE

There was legal argument on the meaning of the Act, the powers of the Board, the weight of the evidence produced; there was a weighing up of what was called his "preponderance of blood" and his race associations. The hearing was postponed several times to collect all the evidence.

But perhaps the most telling indictment of these enquiries was the interval discussion between officials of the Bureau of Census and Statistics and others in the Board room when one of the officials asked the witness of the hand in Makno's direction and within his hearing—"Look at him! What would you say he was?"

That is in fact the mystery of this classification scandal. What are the instructions of the officials of the Department? What rule of thumb methods are they using? Are there set questions which officials are instructed to ask? In their judgement final? How do they decide such a thing as "preponderance of blood"? Will these things come out in the first Court hearings?

And what is the Department of the Interior going to do about the families that are divided by these horrifying classification methods? Can officials' "judgements" override family ties?

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Mrs. Esther Damons, a widow, was classified Coloured, as were two of her children. A third son was classified African and has since lost his job in a printing shop and has been unemployed since then. His appeal is still to go before the Board.

A shopkeeper of Silverton was classified Coloured, but his wife was declared to be African. One of the classification tests applied to her was to ask her to pronounce the word 'kaffee'.

Another couple found they were classified African, but their child was classified Coloured!

ONLY GOOD KNOWS

Before the Appeal Board earlier this month the mother of a young student who had been refused admission to a teacher training institute because he had not been classified Coloured, was asked: "Why HAS your son this colour?" and her reply was: "Only God knows that, because we are born like that." The young student was classified African, but his brother has been classified Coloured.

There is no denying that the racialism fanned by the Nationalists to such heat in Pretoria, where they are concentrating most on getting race classifications going, is having its effects among sections of the Coloured community.

This is undoubtedly one of the reasons why so few have elected to have public hearings of their appeals to the Board. Many choose a private session out of a false pride to avoid having to wash family linen in public. In a private session, and particularly where the appellants are not legally represented, the questioning and probes are undoubtedly more grueling.

BEYOND THE PALE

"Hulle het 'n kaffer van hom gemaak!" is a comment one can overhear among the Coloured community. And now there are the Coloureds who have passed the Government's test and there are those that put beyond the pale.

900 TEXTILE WORKERS ON STRIKE

Over 900 men and women textile workers came out on strike at a worsted textile factory in Worcester on Monday in support of their demand for higher wages and better working conditions.

Negotiations have been taking place in the worsted textile industry for over a year, but ended in deadlock when the employers refused to meet the workers' demands. On Monday morning the workers decided to press their claims by strike action.

AFRICANS ANGERED BY MEETINGS BAN

(Continued from page 1)
lar support and that its backward and primitive social and political doctrines are detested by all progressive mankind, the Nationalist Government grows daily more desperate and therefore more tyrannical.

"The African National Congress wishes to affirm, however, that no force on earth is more powerful than an idea whose time has come. The liberation of the African people is on the agenda of world history in our times. Nothing the Government can do will halt the inexorable march of the people towards a free, united, democratic and progressive multi-national South Africa in their own lifetime."

Other protests came from: THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLOURED PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION: We are confident that in spite of this ban the spirit of the people will continue to express itself for the great ideal of FREEDOM. The perpetrators of this ghastly deed will regret it one day.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (P.E.): SACTU views with disgust the blanket banning of meetings in Port Elizabeth. . . but is convinced that there is no man-made law that will halt the forward march of workers against oppression and exploitation. All these prohibitions will be swept away by the working-class progress tide.

Well-known democratic journalist Mr. C. W. M. GELL: By this outrageous measure passed unanimously by the Council of the P.E. City Council has racialised the citizens. But I believe that the African people, however great their legitimate resentment, will rise superior to it and will support the ANC and the Freedom Charter movement in the struggle for a country free of all forms of racial discrimination. I hope that they will be joined by an

WOMEN'S DEPUTATION FOR STRIJDOM

(Continued from page 1)

Brakpan and Benoni on the East. Large numbers of women also came from Orlando and Western Native Township.

The Coloured women of Benoni's newly formed Coloured Women's Organisation came in full force.

NO MORE WEEPING

Mrs. Lily Diedericks, of the Congress of Mothers committee in Port Elizabeth, came to Johannesburg to open this conference and she was introduced by Mrs. Rahima Moosa who chaired the first session.

Mrs. Diedericks said the days when women wept about the evils done to them were over. "We no longer resist ourselves to oppressive laws," she said. "We stand up against them."

Conference passed strong resolutions against the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, Bantu Education, the Nursing Act, the Population Registration Act, the classification of Coloured people, against net increases and against the extension of the pass laws to women. On this the two thousand resolved: Women will not accept slavery. We will do all in our power as the mothers of the nation, as the women of South Africa, until the whole degrading pass system has been abolished."

RAILWAY WORKERS SACKED OVER LEVY DISPUTE

PORT ELIZABETH.—For months the weekly-paid Railway casual workers have been fighting a grim battle against the payment of the service contract levy of 2s. The Railways insist that the men should pay the levy of 2s. per month which every employer of African labour is supposed to pay. The workers claim that the Railways as their employers should pay the 2s. for each worker as only independent people like shoemakers and traders pay the levy for themselves.

When the workers consistently refused to pay, the Railways brought matters to court by dismissing those who were not willing to pay and further took away the metal discs which the employees carry and produce every morning they are re-employed. Some of the workers have been working on a daily basis like this for more than 15 years. At the same time the Railways refused to sign their discharge unless they first went to the Labour Bureau to pay the levy.

The workers therefore found themselves in a position where, though dismissed by the Railways, they could not get a permit to seek employment elsewhere because the Railways themselves, their previous employers, are technically still their employers. Thus in the end the workers had to go to the Labour Bureau to pay the 2s. in order to get their discharge.

At the Bureau they were told to stand aside from the main queue of workers. In the meantime they were attended to, one of their number, Mr. J. Mayoli, was immediately deported.

I am astounded that even the Liberal Party, which has one Senator, one M.P., and one M.P.C. supposedly representing the Africans of this constituency, has not said one word about the Council's ban, though it is nominally pledged to oppose racial discrimination.

THE CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS (P.E.): How fantastic that by a resolution of a few the basic right of association can be removed from thousands.

A prominent member of the INDIAN COMMUNITY: What is being done to the Africans now will be done to the other Non-White people too if they allow themselves to be herded into separate camps under the Group Areas Act. This measure must be fought.

A.N.C. WOMEN'S LEAGUE (P.E.): Realising the growing oppression of the women of South Africa to the imposition of pass laws, the Government is acting like all evil men when their crimes catch up on them—desperately and precipitately. The struggle against tyranny will continue no matter what the difficulty.

MR. C. J. MAYEKISO, A.N.C. CHAIRMAN: I call upon you all to realise that the struggle for freedom continues. Now is the time when we should implement the wise words contained in the presidential address delivered at national conference but three months ago: "In every home a Congress branch, in every branch a school." Afrika! Mayibuye!

- STOP DEPORTATION OF AFRICAN WOMEN
- SIGN THE FREEDOM CHARTER
- DOWN WITH ALL PASS LAWS
- AWAY WITH NATIVE (PROHIBITION OF INTERDICTS) BILL 1956
- FREEDOM—EQUALITY—JUSTICE FOR ALL
- MAYIBUYE IN OUR LIFETIME

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Langa Rejects Bantu Education

CAPE TOWN.

Parents of Langa declared their overwhelming opposition to Bantu Education on Monday night when they refused to elect school committees for the Langa High School, St. Cyprians and the Methodist School.

At one school the school Board member who was supposed to preside over the meeting did not turn up while at another the would-be chairman ran away.

The parents took over the meetings and declared their refusal to co-operate in any way with Bantu Education.

Send a Donation to NEW AGE