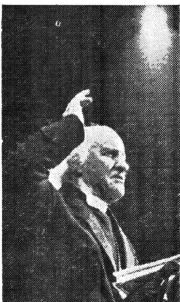


MAY DAY SPECIAL ISSUE

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GREETINGS FROM:
The Dean of Canterbury



ANC CONDEMNS VERWOERD'S BILLS

Warns of Concentration Camp Danger

JOHANNESBURG.
VERWOERD'S LAWS BEFORE PARLIAMENT THIS MONTH GIVE DICTATORIAL POWERS TO PETTY OFFICIALS IN THE SMALLEST TOWNS AND VILLAGES TO BANISH, TO RUIN, AND TO CONVICT WITHOUT TRIAL ANY AFRICANS THEY CHOOSE. THEY ALSO OPEN THE DOOR TO THE CONCENTRATION CAMP SYSTEM OF THE NAZIS.

The Natives (Urban Areas) Amendment Bill gives municipal officials the power to banish Africans from their areas without trial and without giving any reason.

The Natives (Prohibition of Interdicts) Bill—the second version of which is now before the House—will make it impossible for the courts to protect Africans against banishment, removal or wrongful orders.

"From now on, the lives of the African people will be arbitrarily governed by orders of petty officials, superintendents and Native Commissioners," said the African National Congress, in a special statement issued from head office last week.

"This is the time when every section of the people, be they European, Coloured, Indian or African, should vehemently protest against the Hitlerian spectre introduced by the Nationalists.

(Continued on page 8)



Intending passengers in a Cape Town suburb accept a lift rather than ride in an apartheid bus.

BUS BOYCOTT GATHERS MOMENTUM

CAPE TOWN.—"The thousands of people who started to boycott the buses last Monday are still doing so, and many more, European and Non-European, joined them in the first week of the boycott," Mr. Alec la Guma, president of the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, and one of the organisers of the boycott, told New Age this week, reviewing the first 10 days of the campaign against bus apartheid in Cape Town.

The campaign is being run jointly by the Congress movement here, SACPO, ANC, COD and SACTU.

During the first week, pickets were confined mainly to bus termini in the centre of the city, but by Monday, volunteers were also picketing bus queues in the suburbs of Mowbray, Claremont and Wynberg, asking the people to demonstrate in an active way their opposition to bus apartheid.

"Our organisation is growing fast," said Mr. la Guma, "and we are confident that we will soon have sufficient volunteers to picket bus termini throughout the Peninsula.

"The people of Cape Town realise that if they can make the bus boycott a success, they will show the Government once and for all that they are not prepared to accept apartheid, whether it is on the buses or anywhere else. The campaign against bus apartheid is therefore part of the struggle against apartheid as a whole."

Factory workers came to the fore last week in support of the boycott

and 400 in Parow alone declared their intention of walking to and from work in the future. Factory meetings in Salt River, Observatory and other areas have also met with enthusiastic support. People from Elites River, Goodwood, Grassy Park, Retreat, Blouville have promised not to use the buses.

MEETINGS

Immediate plans to increase the boycott include the holding of a number of public meetings, the first taking place tomorrow, Friday, April 27, at 8.15 p.m. at the Wynberg Town Hall. Another meeting will take place in the Athlone Town Hall on Thursday, May 3, at 8.15 p.m. and local area meetings are also being arranged.

Additional support for the boycott during the past week came from three members of Parliament, the Liberal Party, a conference called by the Federation of S.A. Women to defend the municipal part of the Heatherly Civic Association.

In a joint statement the M.P.s MESSRS. A. HEPPLE, L. LOV-

ELL AND L. LEE-WARDEN, declare that bus apartheid will destroy the atmosphere of co-operation between the races which has existed to a greater degree in Cape Town than in any other centre of the Union.

"For this reason we believe that the decision of SACPO to organise a boycott of the buses is the only way open to them to resist the evil which the Government seeks to impose on them.

"As the position of the Europeans is vitally affected, we urge them in

(Continued on page 8)

I am most interested in your May Day program and I do hope you may be successful in your appeal for £10,000 to keep the New Age going. The value of these papers is beyond calculation at this particular time in the world's history.

You are in the main current of modern life and very rapidly the rest of the world is moving in the same direction so you can feel confident that you are in the rising tide and also feel the deep sense of responsibility that lies upon a paper and a country like yours in the advancing world.

Many eyes are upon South Africa now and many questions are asked in many lands. No country can live apart from the rest of the world today nor can they live with the ideals of yesterday in a world of today.

I enclose a guinea as a token of my goodwill.

Yours very truly,
HEWLETT JOHNSON.
(More May Day messages on p. 3)

NEW AGE

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COLOUR BAR THREAT TO RAND FESTIVAL

JOHANNESBURG.
Many of the top-ranking artists booked for Johannesburg's Festival may not perform in this city at all, if arrangements are not made for them to appear before all sections of the people.

The Festival preparations thus far announced are elaborate and ambitious . . . but for Europeans only. The programme planned for Non-European participation, though not yet fully completed, is worse than third-rate. Sports stadiums are to be built in some locations and the policy, officials have announced, is

to provide "amenities of permanent benefit." Just what amenities, apart from the stadiums, no one yet knows.

Several Non-European cultural organisations have approached the Festival organisers with offers to participate, but they have been met with evasive replies.

Non-European citizens of Johannesburg want full participation in the Festival and despite anything the Festival authorities may be planning, it looks as though, unless they get it, the Festival will have to be pruned to a fraction of the original plans.

The British Musicians' Union last week announced its decision that its members should be permitted to sign contracts for engagements in South Africa or Rhodesia only if they contain a clause permitting appearances before ALL sections of the population. The union's members are to be clearly instructed that they may not accept engagements to perform in circumstances where discrimination of any kind exists. Yehudi Menuhin has already announced that he will insist on performing to Non-European when he comes to the Union.

Dame Margot Fonteyn has written to a Johannesburg cultural body that there would be no question of her coming to South Africa to dance, and not performing before Non-Europeans.

Other big catches for the Festival, like the London Symphony Orchestra, will be affected by the "no-colour bar" ruling of the Musicians' Union.

The International Musicians' Union is shortly due to decide on a similar proposal that all visiting musicians and artistes should refuse to perform before White audiences only.

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INDIAN YOUTH BACK NEW AGE

"New Age Must Live!" That is the resounding slogan which the Transval Indian Youth Congress has adopted in their campaign on behalf of our National Fund. They have promised to do their best to raise £50 by the end of June and sent along an advance instalment as an earnest of their determination to reach their target. In addition the T.I.Y.C. ungratefully decided:—

- (a) That their entire Executive should sell the paper weekly;
- (b) that regular drives be organised in the areas to raise funds;
- (c) to appoint a permanent liaison between New Age and the Youth Congress;
- (d) to make the paper known to the maximum number of people;
- (e) to organise functions for New Age.

This wide-awake Youth Organisation has on more than one occasion given proof of its political awareness and qualities of drive and initiative. The "older" political organisations should not be ashamed to follow this outstanding example!

Behind last week's acknowledgement of £20 from Mrs. Eccleston of Sheffield, England, lies another example of initiative. Mrs. Eccleston didn't require any nagging or prodding. She read our appeal and got busy among trade unionists and church people in her town,

with the very good result reported above.

If only twenty individuals in South Africa could display the same initiative during the forthcoming week our total would shoot up by £400! There are many of our readers who have both the time—and the contacts—to raise £20 on our behalf. In asking you to do so we are certain we are not asking for the impossible. Make the effort for your paper, and keep your conscience clear.

Let no one make the mistake of thinking that our appeal is "just the same old story, and that 'it can't be as bad as all that.'" When we tell you that New Age is in serious danger, we mean every word of it. We can only keep New Age going IF EVERY INDIVIDUAL DEMOCRAT AND EVERY DEMOCRATIC ORGANISATION IN SOUTH AFRICA PLAYS A PART IN HELPING US RAISE THAT £10,000. Get moving NOW!

Don't wait until it is too late.

THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS

Per Ray £1; R.T. £1; Paul £17 15s.; Rummage £1 10s.; A.F. 2s. 6d.; Barnes 1s. 6d.; Mr. O. (readers' pennies) 3s. 1d.; B.H. £4 9s.; Per N.G.D. 4s. 8s. 3d.; Anon £2 2s.; H.B. £2; F.S. £1; A.G. 10s.; Anon £3; Mama £1; S.J. 9s.; Dinner (part proceeds) £54 3s. 6d.; Diamonds £10; Saviour £3; Wreath; Anon £1; M.B. £1; Anon £1; K.P. £4 4s.; Wellwisher 7s. 6d.; T.H.S. £10; In memory of Bill

Andrews £1 1s.; Les £6; Donation £1; Paul (Collections) £2; Youth Congress Collections £11; Anon £2 9s.; Donation £29; Collections £41; Dr. I. £20; R.A. £8. Previously acknowledged £945 2s. 2d. Total this week £247 2s. 10d. Total £1,192 5s.



Editorial

THESE BILLS MEAN FASCISM!

TWO new Bills before Parliament are among the most blatantly fascist ones the Nats have introduced. Urban local authorities—village boards, municipalities and town councils—are to be given the power to banish Africans without trial or inquiry of any kind.

An amendment to the Natives (Urban Areas) Act provides that if in the opinion of an urban local authority the presence of any African is "detrimental to the maintenance of peace and order" it may order him or her to leave the area. No provision is made for the person concerned to be allowed to hear the charges against him, let alone answer them.

Nor does it matter if the man or woman concerned has lived all his life in the town or city concerned and has a home and family. Gone is the "security" under the old Act, of the person who has lived in the town for 15 years or worked for the same employer for ten years.

No provision is made for how the person who is banished is to live or where he is to go to.

To make doubly sure that every trace of legal protection is taken away from the African, Verwoerd has reintroduced a revised version of the Natives (Prohibition of Interdicts) Bill.

It prohibits the Supreme Court from protecting any African who has been ordered to leave, even if such order is quite illegal, as long as the order "purports" to have been made under any law.

It is only after the African has left the area that he may commence proceedings to obtain "the payment of compensation" for the illegal removal.

THERE IS NO PRETEXT ABOUT THESE BILLS. THEY ARE DESIGNED TO ENSURE THE DEPORTATION AND BANISHMENT OF ANY PERSON WHO RAISES HIS VOICE IN CRITICISM OF THE POLICY OF THE URBAN AUTHORITY, ANY PERSON WHO SETS OUT TO OBTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN LIVING CONDITIONS, ANY PERSON WHO IS NOT WILLING TO BE COMPLETELY SERVILE, OR READY TO RUN AND SAY "JA-BAAS" AT THE LOCATION SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMAND.

If these Bills become law the conditions of the African people will be such as are unknown in any country except the most vicious fascist dictatorships. For the African there will be no shred of security, no protection from the law, no personal rights. But for the Whites South Africa will equally become a prison camp, for no man can live in freedom while his neighbour is in chains. Fear, suspicion and race hatred will be the order of the day.

That is not the future which the people of our country want. Our South Africa is the land of the Freedom Charter, where all men will be equal. Our South Africa is the land of the brave, ordinary men and women who are dedicated to the struggle for freedom. And our immediate target in that struggle must be to prevent the passing of these fascist measures.

Group Areas Amendment Bill "A Wicked Measure"

—Lee Warden

CAPE TOWN.

The Group Areas Amendment Bill could not be regarded as slum clearance, as many would believe, but was a deliberate attempt to perpetuate the insecurity of the African people, said Mr. L. B. Lee-Warden, African representative, during the debate in the House of Assembly.

"This is an immoral and wicked measure designed and wanted by people whose souls are saturated with racial prejudice," he went on. "This Bill shows that the Government has nothing but utter contempt for the African people and for public opinion."

The Group Areas Amendment Bill was specially introduced by the Minister of the Interior to allow for the expropriation of the African location of Lady Selborne in Pretoria and its declaration as a White area. Africans who owned freehold in Lady Selborne would not get freehold land in the new areas to which they would be forced to move.

It was a common practice today, said Mr. Lee-Warden, for the author-

ities to move the Africans several miles from town, thus involving them in a great deal of travelling, which caused a great deal of financial hardship and expenditure of time.

Furthermore "I want to point out," he said, "that this Bill is morally wrong because it makes no provision whatever for alternative accommodation. . . . Today we find that the new deal for Africans under these removal schemes is enlarged paraffin tin townships and hessian shelters or hovels. The site and service scheme has become a thing of tomorrow."

"People who had had some freedom in their surroundings were being moved into locations where they were deprived of their rights, and placed under the constant supervision of some official who took great pleasure in inflicting petty indignities on the people under his charge."

All this involved more opportunities for clashes with the police and did not conduce to harmonious race relations in South Africa.

Unity Movement's Boycott Policy A Stupidity

The behaviour of the Non-European City Councillors in boycotting the meeting of the City Council when such an important issue as apartheid in municipal affairs was being introduced, is a further proof of the isolated and childish political outlook of the members of the so-called Non-European Unity Movement.

The apartheid measure will have terrible repercussions, subjecting the non-white people of Cape Town to the sadistic and inhuman requirements of the Apartheiders, entrenching the herekvul still further, and yet these self-styled leaders decided to boycott the meeting.

What foolishness!

The Coloured people must realise that the time of ineffective and wishful boycotts are over. Only active boycotts, AS A TACTIC AND NOT A PRINCIPLE, can bring them into the militant struggle for freedom. Only active support for SAFCPO, which is the only Coloured body which works hand in hand with the other Congresses, can bring the Freedom Charter into realisation.

L. E. MORRISON

Johannesburg.

The Africa Meets A Lion

You are not safe if you meet a policeman; it is like meeting a lion. Before you can ask any help from a policeman, he is demanding your reference book.

I saw me demand to be governed like it says in the Freedom Charter.

TEMBA H. PONIE

Port Elizabeth.

NEW AGE LETTER BOX COUNCILLOR HOLMES DEFENDS HIMSELF

I wish to refer to your article in the issue of April 12 headed "Move to Reverse Cape Town Council's Apartheid Decision" referring to my colleagues and myself.

It is regrettable that my consultation on the telephone should have provided you with an opportunity to publish a distorted version of what I actually said. I made it quite clear that after consultation with Cllrs. Viljoen and Schroeder a joint statement would be issued. At the City Hall when your lady reporter again confronted me. It was merely trying to be courteous and helpful, but during the course of a general conversation I gave her a general outline of our policy. This was not an interview, I did not deny that I had opposed the item but I merely said that I wanted to make sure of my facts, nor did I say that I could not remember.

I made it quite clear that a joint statement would be issued. This statement was delivered by myself personally on Monday which you conveniently ignored because you preferred your own distorted views thus trying to ridicule and belittle us, and further making it a racial issue by enlarging a European Councillor who had hitherto not shown great interest in the issue.

COUNCILLOR HOLMES

Lansdowne.

(Our "lady reporter" assures us that her version of the City Hall interview is correct and that the charge of "distortion" should be laid at a door other than that of New Age. The "joint statement" was merely a reply to an attack

on all the Non-European Councillors in another newspaper, and added nothing to the general picture. Ward X Councillors slipped up badly, and New Age owed it to the public of Cape Town, bitterly disappointed in their representatives, to reveal the true story. —Editor.)

"Foreign Bodies" Forced on Africans

Down with the cold-blooded murderers of the entrenched classes of the South Africa Act. The Native Representative Council was destroyed about six years ago. The Bunga was forced about a year ago to commit suicide. The Native Advisory Boards now subsist under the sword of Damocles.

We are told these organisations have contributed little towards improving the community (tribal) area; they are foreign to the Bantu traditional form of government and have no power.

This may be true. They are dummy bodies, but whose fault is it? Any institution which is schemed up by the fascists in Parliament for the Africans in their parliament is bound to be a sham, foreign and nonsensical.

This business of creating and then destroying bodies when it suits the Government must come to an end. The country must be saved from becoming a one-party police state and the Government must proceed according to the principles of the Freedom Charter.

C. LAWRENCE MATIMBE
Benoni.

BUILD A UNITED FRONT, SAYS MOSES KOTANE

Fraternal greetings to all workers, oppressed people and democrats in South Africa on this May Day, 1956. May Day is the traditional international workers' day, a day on which workers in every country throughout the world come together to review their forces and their achievements and failures for the past year, and to rededicate themselves to the cause of the peoples' freedom, human progress and happiness. We too must look back and assess our achievements and shortcomings for the May Day year, 1955-1956.

In this country—where the ruling class and the reactionary, obscurantist Nationalist Party Government are, through false race theories, apartheid measures and economic and social bribes, doing their worst to eradicate the idea of May Day and to obliterate the spirit of interracial brotherhood and working-class solidarity—the lessons and traditions of May Day are of great importance and significance to us, particularly this year.



The tightening of the pass and permit laws and the extension of the pass system to African women, and a host of other unjust and wicked laws, regulations and proclamations accentuate the oppression, exploitation and humiliation of the African people, while ethnic grouping must militate against and retard the political unity and national organisation of the ten million oppressed and exploited African people in the Union. The loaded vote of the Coloured people of the Cape has

been rendered even less effective so that they can be pushed about with impunity in the same way as the Africans.

However, in spite of the many setbacks suffered during the year, there were some achievements, the most outstanding of which was the Congress of the People which produced the world-renowned document which today serves as a beacon to the Congress movement and an inspiration to the people of South Africa: the historic Freedom Charter. We must learn to follow up our successes.

We have a big task before us: the ending of oppression, racial discrimination and injustices in this country. For this we need an organised force capable and ready at all times to frustrate the plans and intentions of the ruling class, and which constantly presses forward the demands of the people.

It is therefore the duty of every worker, every democrat and every true South African to work actively for the building of a powerful progressive united front movement which will, in the spirit of the Freedom Charter, work and fight for the abolition of political oppression, economic exploitation and social discrimination and injustices in South Africa.

C.O.D. PLEDGES AID TO NEW AGE

The South African Congress of Democrats greets New Age on this May Day, 1956, which marks the increased influence of the progressive views of the paper and the onwards march of the Congress movement.

We recognise the valuable and consistent support given by New Age to the S.A. Congress of Democrats and to the national liberation movement in general, and to the popularisation of the Freedom Charter.

We are pledged by a resolution unanimously adopted at our recent Annual National Conference to "take steps forthwith to increase circulation of New Age through sales to the public, organise functions to raise money for the £10,000 appeal by the paper, and make regular donations to the fund." All these tasks were accepted and undertaken as our duty to New Age



C.O.D. President, P. Beylveid.

which guides us in our work, and helps us in our organisational tasks.

We wish New Age many years of freedom to express its views as well and as fearlessly as ever before.

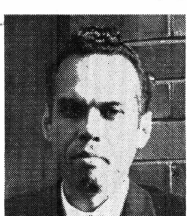
Forward to the Freedom Charter! Afrika—Mayibuye!

Forward To A New Life

May Day message from SACPO President, Alex La Guma

To all the workers and oppressed people of South Africa I extend, on this great day, my sincere greetings and good wishes for a democratic, happy and peaceful future.

May Day this year is defiled with increasing oppression by the ruling class and the Nationalist tyrants.



Police terrorism and violence is rife. "White baasskap" and "Christian civilisation" marches to the crack of the sjambok, the hose-pipe and the sten-gun.

But on the other hand May Day is greeted and raised to glorious heights by the heroic struggles of the oppressed people against apartheid, pass laws, removals, deportations and economic exploitation—for the new life of the Freedom Charter.

Day by day the unity of the oppressed peoples of the world grows stronger. From Africa to Asia the forces of anti-imperialism, peace and friendship are marching forward. The sun of colonial slavery and war is setting fast.

DOWN WITH APARTHEID! FORWARD TO THE FREEDOM CHARTER! DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM AND WAR! LONG LIVE NEW DEMOCRACY, PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY!

"One Of The Priceless Forces"

As an exiled editor of a progressive paper in the U.S.A., where some of our problems do not vary enormously from yours, I know what you are up against and know that your paper must be kept going. I have the deepest respect for the work you have done and are doing. The world is moving forward rapidly and positively will see the New Age as one of the priceless forces that kept the light burning on one of the toughest trials.

I don't have any money but I enclose a widower's mite and hope you can get a few thousand others to match it.

Sincerely yours,
CEDRIC BELFRAGE
Editor of the National Guardian, the progressive weekly, who was recently deported from the United States.

"MILLIONS ARE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM"—Dr. Dadoo

May Day 1956 marks great and decisive advances for the working men and women of the world.

Today 1,000 million people in many lands stretching from the Soviet Union to China are engaged in gigantic tasks of reconstruction and are fighting the way for a brighter future for mankind.

Today, millions more in Asia and parts of Africa liberated from the yoke of colonial exploitation are making worthy endeavours to rid their countries of all vestiges of colonialism and feudalism. Today, the struggle of the working people all over the world for peace and freedom lights the way for a brighter future for mankind.

Today, we in South Africa must take inspiration from these great events taking place in the outside world and re-dedicate ourselves to

"You Are Serving The Cause of Peace"

—D. N. Pritt

I send you my warm wishes for success in your struggle to maintain the struggle in South Africa against colour-bar policies and all the repression and horrors and offences against human dignity which go with them. In carrying on that struggle you are serving also the cause of world peace and friendship.

I hope that everyone will rally round and help quickly, so that you may celebrate the great festival of May Day with less financial anxiety. No other anxiety should cloud our minds on May Day, for the world is marching swiftly on to true freedom, whatever bad signs may appear for a moment here and there.

I enclose a small cheque for your funds.

Yours very truly,
D. N. PRITT.

We, Women of South Africa awakening as never before, pledge ourselves this May Day, 1956, to fight unceasingly for our happy future.

A new force is arising—organised women—which united with all workers will prove invincible!

Greetings to all freedom fighters from the Transvaal Region of the Federation of South African Women.

Women reject all pass laws!

THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (Head Office)

salutes the workers of South Africa on the occasion of the workers' day—May 1. We who believe in the interdependence of the struggle of the oppressed peoples and the workers are inspired by the victories of the workers in the greater part of the world. We are confident that South African workers too will redouble their efforts to unite all the workers in the struggle for better living conditions in South Africa, a struggle in which victory can only be achieved by the unity of all the progressive forces against the enemies of the working class, the fascist Nationalist Government.

Owing to pressure on space some May Day messages have been held over until next week.

May Day Greetings From Huddleston's Successor—Rev. Jarrett-Kerr

I am glad to send a message of greetings to New Age for your May Day number. In these days when the liberties of all individuals in this country—except those individuals who support the present re-



game—are threatened, it is vital that all men of good will should stand together.

I write this as a Christian priest, and the Christian believes that Justice is one of the "cardinal Virtues." It is the essence of Justice that it is non-discriminatory; where there is one kind of justice for one section of the population, and another for another, it ceases to be Justice.

That state has been long in existence in this country, and is steadily deteriorating. The only encouraging factor is that, on a long view, the fantastic racial and discriminatory legislation that we are witnessing is (no one can deny) having the effect of uniting peoples who before were divided (Africans, Indians and Coloureds); and this will hasten the day of 're-adjustment'.

A realistic study of History will show plenty of parallels to our situation; and none of them holds out the least permanent hope for present Nationalist policies. The danger will always be that the overthrow of one tyranny may lead only to its replacement by another. Therefore we must start working now to see that when tyranny is overthrown here, a truly democratic regime may emerge in its place.

The Rev. Father Martin Jarrett-Kerr, C.R.

the noble task of liberating our people from the sjambok rule of the Nationalists and White baasskap. We must struggle on all fronts—against each and every form of apartheid and racial discrimination.

Workers! join your trade unions—strengthen working class and trade union unity—defeat De Klerk's attempt to split up and weaken the trade union movement.

Women! stand firm and fight against the attempt to degrade and humiliate you under the evil pass system. Let not Verwoerd pass!

Patriots and Democrats—unite under the banner of the Freedom Charter for it expresses the desires and aspirations of all the people of South Africa, both White and Non-White. It shows the way forward to a free South Africa for all with equal rights and opportunities for its citizens irrespective of race, colour, creed, or sex.

South Africans—support the New

Aff. Give every penny you can afford, for it is an invaluable and indispensable weapon in our struggle against apartheid and oppression—for peace and freedom.

MAY DAY GREETINGS TO ALL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

HOW MAY DAY BEGAN

THIS May Day, in countries embracing a third of the world's population, the people will parade in the streets in their most joyous, jubilant official holiday of the year. Everywhere else, including South Africa, the workers will combine their celebrations with the determination to press on with renewed vigour in their struggle.

It is significant that it was the fight of the workers of the United States—whose bosses are today the greatest enemies of world progress—which first gave rise to this holiday.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the birth of May Day.

16-HOUR DAY!

In 1884, when working conditions in the United States were even worse than they are in our own country today, and when workers in some industries worked as many as fourteen or sixteen hours a day, the congress of the trade unions of the U.S. resolved that May 1st, 1886, be fixed as the target date for the beginning of the chief demand of the workers—the eight-hour day.

May Day as a day when the workers demonstrate their class and international solidarity thus had its origin in their efforts to achieve a shorter working day.

Leadership in the struggle for the eight-hour day was given to the Marxists, and to German immigrant workers who had benefited from their experience of the more advanced working-class movement in their own land and throughout Europe. The demands and methods they advocated swiftly won mass support throughout the American working-class movement.

At first the workers had concentrated on pressure on the state parliaments for laws to reduce working hours. But they quickly found that this brought no results. Even when laws were passed, the bosses found ways to break them.

"MAKE IT YOURSELF!"

"The only way to get the eight-hour day is by organisation," said P. J. McGuire, Socialist founder of the Carpenters' Union. "In 1868 the United States passed an Eight-Hour Law, and this law has been enforced just twice. If you want an eight-hour day, make it yourself." It was his union which submitted the resolution to the trade union congress, fixing May 1st, 1886 as the deadline.

The resolution gained an immediate enthusiastic response from the workers. Circulars were issued. There were huge mass meetings.

Some opposition, of course, there was. One group declared that to fight for an eight-hour day meant implicitly that you accepted that workers should be exploited 8 hours. "To grant the point that capitalists have the right to eight hours of our labour is more than a compromise. It is a virtual admission that the wage system is right," said they, and so on. It was an argument very similar to that of the Unity Movement in this country.

The movement for a shorter day, they said, was trivial compared to the struggle to abolish the wage system. It would only be a sop thrown to the workers to keep them satisfied and to divert their energies from the struggle to overthrow wage slavery.

WORKERS SOLD!

But they were a voice in the wilderness. The workers everywhere were stirred by the call for shorter hours. The common front of the workers was solid.

Based on an article by the American working-class historian PHILIP S. FONER

As May 1st approached, the workers' newspaper declared triumphantly: "There is eight-hour agitation everywhere." Almost a quarter of a million industrial workers were involved in the movement, and so powerful was the upsurge that about 30,000 workers had already been granted an 8 or 9-hour day.

Never before had a popular slogan gripped the hearts of American workers as did the eight-hour call. Newspapers and other spokesmen for the bosses waited that the eight-hour day was "Communism, lurid and rampant," that it would encourage "loafing and gambling, rioting, debauchery, and drunkenness, and would only bring lower wages, more poverty, and social degradation." For American workers, however, the bosses were not impressed. They smoked "Eight-Hour Tobacco," purchased "Eight-Hour Shoes," and sang the Eight-Hour Song:

We mean to make things over; we're tired of toil for rent; But here enough to live on; never an hour for thought. We want to feel the sunshine; we want to smell the flowers; We're sure that God has willed it, and we mean to have eight hours. We're summoning our forces from shipyard, shop and mill; Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest; Eight hours for what we will!

Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest; Eight hours for what we will!

Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest; Eight hours for what we will!

Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest; Eight hours for what we will!

THE STORY OF MAY DAY IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE WORKERS' BLOOD IS WRITTEN IN BLOOD

by E. R. BRAVERMAN

THE first May Day demonstration in South Africa was held as far back as 1895. It was organised by the Johannesburg District Trades Council.

It gradually extended to other Cape Town held its first May Day celebration in 1906. From this time onwards the history of May Day is a record of the many great events that form part of our traditions.

MANN AND ANDREWS In 1910, the demonstration was led by Tom Mann, the great English dockers' leader and international labour figure. He marched ahead of the procession with Bill Andrews followed by a united gathering of trade unionists and scientists. The unity established on that day brought about a united demonstration of 1st of May.

Four years later when the Botha-Smit government had moved into action against the rising tide of working class indignation, the Social Democratic Federation called the workers out on the streets in Cape Town on May 1st to protest against the Riotous Assemblies Bill, the first of many laws the ruling class used to trample the rights of the working class and to crush its organisations.

On the fateful first of May itself, workers in every industrial centre downed tools. About 350,000 workers at 11,562 factories and other places of work came out.

"Every railroad in the city was crippled, all the freight houses were closed and barred, and most of the industries in Chicago were paralysed. No smoke came up from the tall chimneys of the factories and mills, and things had assumed a Sunday-like appearance," reported a Chicago newspaper.

"HURRAY FOR SHORTER TIME" was the New York Sun's headline. It is estimated that there were close to 25,000 marchers in that city in a torchlight procession which swung past two platforms—a German and an English-language one. Over the first one "the red flag flourished," reported the paper.

MARTYRDOM—AND VICTORY!

True to form the bosses met the peaceful demonstrations with violence. In Chicago, using the terrorist tactics typical of the American ruling class, the police threw a bomb into the demonstration and then blamed the workers for the loss of life.

Eight workers' leaders were tried and convicted on a framed-up charge. Four were hanged. But the fight and the sacrifice were not in vain.

185,000 of the 350,000 who struck that day gained their demand for an eight-hour day the same day or soon afterwards. For those who did not win complete victory there was partial victory. The daily working time of no less than 200,000 workers was reduced from 12 or more hours to 10 and 9 hours per day.

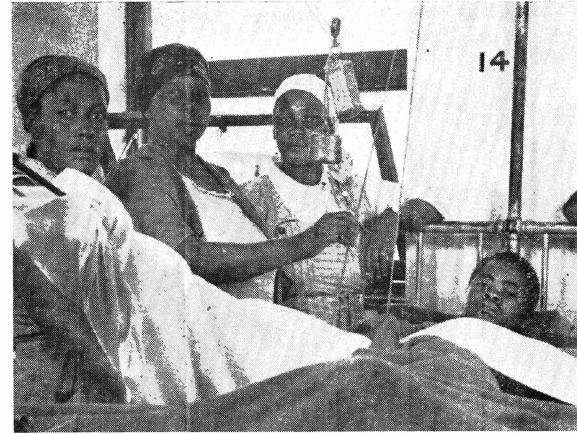
In many trades in which the daily working hours were 14 or 16, a reduction took place to 12; in a few 12-hour industries were reduced, and scores of 10-hour trades were cut down to 9.

"ONE OF GREATEST" In London, Frederick Engels read reports of the great eight-hour day movement and of the tremendous uprising of American Labour on May 1st. He regarded this as "one of the greatest events of the year." The dramatic way in which the American working-class supported the movement was to him quite extraordinary.

"Six months ago," he wrote to a friend, "nobody suspected anything, and now they appear all of a sudden in such organised masses as to strike terror into the whole capitalist class. I only wish Marx could have lived to see it."

One of the martyred workers' leaders had declared from the scaffold: "There will come a time when our silence will be more powerful than the voices you are strangling." His words have been proved true. Three years after the great first of May strike, the International Working Men's Congress meeting in Paris on July 14th, 1889 to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the storming of the Bastille, which began the great French Revolution, decided to set aside May 1st as the annual day of working-class unity.

That is why, in every corner of the world the workers put down their tools every year when May 1st falls and celebrate the world's only truly international holiday.



Fifteen-year-old Samuel Bore has a bullet wound in the thigh. He was walking to Sophiatown with his mother when she saw a crowd stoning passing trams. The police then opened fire and he was hit. A friend pulled him into a taxi and had him taken to the municipal offices, from where he was removed to hospital. Here his mother and relatives visit him in the ward.

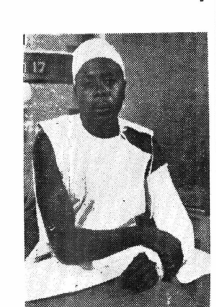
Congratulations For Miss Lucy

The general meeting of the Southern African Student Association in London recently congratulated Miss Atherine Lucy on the brave stand she has taken against racial discrimination in the Alabama University, and affirmed its strong belief in academic freedom and the right of students everywhere to be admitted to Universities and other institutions of learning without any discrimination of race, colour or creed.



Mr. Elias Motane, of Western Native Township, had been to the shops on the afternoon of April 13. He says he was unaware of any disorder near the beer hall, when suddenly a policeman fired at him from a passing tram. Here his sisters Jeanette Moloi and Lillian Maseng visit him in hospital.

These Men Were Shot By Police During Western Areas Clashes



Mr. John Ndlovu of Sophiatown was drinking in the beer hall when he heard a quarrel break out. Suddenly a constable rushed up to him and struck him on the head with a klerie. As he tried to get away he was shot in the left arm.

PENSIONS FOR NAZI OFFICIALS, who lost their jobs when Germany lost the war are to be increased, the West German government has announced. "The interest in the Nazis shown by the Government parties is out of proportion to that accorded to the many classes of victims of Nazism who have been waiting for years for compensation for loss of family, property and earning capacity," comments the London Times.

A GREAT WORKERS' LEADER

April 20 this year marked the 86th anniversary of the birth of the great South African workers' leader, W. H. "Bill" Andrews.

In his own words "The struggles of the workers of S.A. for some measure of justice at the hands of their exploiters, although extending over a period of little more than 50 years, have been marked by a not inconsiderable number of dramatic, even tragic incidences. These events, and the patient and selfless work of hundreds of rank and file workers who have played their part in building up the workers' organisations are largely unrecorded and are in danger of fading into oblivion."

Bill Andrews played a leading and active role in those struggles over the full half century up to his death in 1951. He grew up and matured with the labour movement in South Africa, both as a trade unionist and as a political fighter for the working class.

He was one of the founders of the trade union movement in this country in the early 1900's when the workers were fighting for the very right to organise. He was associated with the first Workers' Trade Union Council and was the first chairman of the S.A. Labour Party, formed at the time of Union. He was the first secretary of what was later to become the Trades and Labour Council.

Bill Andrews was also one of the founders of the International Socialist League, a forerunner of the Communist Party, which was formed during the first World War. He played a prominent part in the affairs of the Communist Party and in his later years was its National Chairman.

Throughout his political career, Bill Andrews fought against the colour bar. "The African as a worker," he said during a Parliamentary election campaign in 1917. "We are all workers. To the workers the world will belong if they stand together. It is the imperative duty of the White workers to recognise their identity of interests with the African workers as against their common masters. All segregation schemes are doomed to failure." I.O.H.

AFRICAN WOMEN REJECT SEN. COWLEY'S ADVICE

"We Will Not Carry Passes"

DURBAN.—"When you go back to Cape Town, tell Parliament that we African women will not carry passes," Mrs. H. Ostrich, Chairman of the Durban Branch of the ANC Women's League, told Senator Cowley, Native Representative for Natal, at a Conference held by the Durban Regional Committee of the African National Congress.

Mrs. Ostrich was replying to a speech by Senator Cowley, during the course of which he advised the delegates to accept the extension of the passes to women on a trial basis before condemning it outright.

The Conference, which was called to discuss a report from delegates who had attended the recent National Conference of the ANC, held in Johannesburg, had invited Senator Cowley to attend and present his views on this subject.

Moving a resolution condemning the pass laws and calling on the women to organise and defeat the extension of this vicious law, Mrs. Ostrich said: "We cannot and will not passively accept the pass laws which cause so much hardship to our women."

"We must, all of us, spend every spare moment we have to prepare our people to oppose this mad law," she said.

The resolution was unanimously accepted.

FREEDOM CHARTER

Opponents of the Freedom Charter were soundly defeated, being able to muster only five votes

Memorial Meeting to Manilal Gandhi

JOHANNESBURG.

Speeches of tribute to the work of Mr. Manilal Gandhi were made at a memorial meeting. Mr. Gandhi, organised here last week by the Transvaal Indian Congress. The meeting passed a resolution extending condolences to Mrs. Gandhi and her family and recording that in his lifetime Manilal Gandhi "fought bravely the humiliating and oppressive laws of this country, and was a staunch supporter of non-violence as a political weapon."

Mr. J. Lewin said that Mr. Gandhi showed South Africa "the importance of passive resistance as a form of protest."

Mr. S. Lollan said that Mr. Gandhi was in full agreement with the Freedom Charter.

Mr. Patrick Duncan spoke of his friendship with Mr. Gandhi and the days when they served a jail sentence together during the Defiance Campaign.

Mr. P. Mathole of the African National Congress said that on many issues Mr. Gandhi differed with Congress, but we know his heart was in the right place."

Other speakers were the Rev. A. W. Blaxall and Mrs. S. Stephen. A message was read from C. W. M. Gell. Mr. D. U. Mistry was in the chair.

SHARP EXCHANGES IN HOBBS COURT CASES

African Women's Leaders Charged

JOHANNESBURG.—In Winburg, the little Free State town where 153 pass books issued African women were burnt earlier this month, long drawn-out trials have started against the five women and two men singled out by the authorities as the leaders of the anti-pass protest.

In the courtroom the atmosphere has been brittle and tense, with sharp exchanges flying back and forth. Outside, in the town, the Government team has continued to issue the pass books to women. By last week 4,832 pass books had been issued in Winburg and Excelsior. This week the team will go back to Excelsior, and at the beginning of May books will be issued to African women in Senekal.

The pass burning before the Magistrate's Court took the authorities off guard, but they are now losing no time in trying to stamp out the movement. One of the rumours that flew round the location was that Mr. Lukele, the African attorney appearing for the seven accused, had himself been arrested and that he had in any case no right to appear in the court.

Several score women were called to the police station for questioning. Many were under the impression that they were under arrest. At the police station the women were divided, after questioning, into groups. Some who said they had burnt their pass books were sent to take out duplicates at the cost of 13s. 6d. Others have subsequently appeared in court as witnesses for the crown. During the hearings it has emerged that some of the witnesses giving evidence for the crown have not had to pay 13s. 6d. for the duplicate book, but only 3s. 6d. (the cost of the photograph).

35 COUNTS

The first case to be heard is that of Mrs. Elizabeth Tsie, charged on 35 counts of theft of reference books or, alternatively, malicious injury to property. During the three days of the hearing last week only 7 of the Crown's 35 witnesses were called to give evidence. The hearing was then adjourned till Wednesday of this week.

Three times during the proceedings Mr. D. Lukele (of Mandela

AFRICANS TRICKED INTO GOING TO NYANGA

From A Special Correspondent

CAPE TOWN.—The Africans who are transplanting their pondokkies in the new emergency camp at Nyanga are not leaving their old homes in Goodwood, Elsies River and other parts of the Peninsula because they think it is their own camp such a wonderful place.

A chat to a number of the camp's new residents quickly revealed this, and refutes the claim made recently by Mr. H. M. Maseganga, Manager of the Nyanga Administration, that the people have moved voluntarily, and are happy to be there.

A big proportion of the new camp dwellers were tricked into going there.

Women from Goodwood and Elsies River who went to renew their permit to remain in the area were, instead, handed a note to the Native Inspector, who, in turn, sent them to the Nyanga Native Administration office with another note. In Nyanga, the women found that they were being issued with a site. It was made quite clear to them that unless they moved to Nyanga,

bottle in her hand. She poured a liquid over the books.

The other women crowded round her and then he saw flames.

Mrs. Mary Davis, for the Crown, said that she had been to a meeting on April 8 when it was agreed that the passes would be taken to the magistrate because she would not want them. She did not hear that the books were to be burnt.

Mrs. M. Koolepa, for the Crown, said she had given her book to Mrs. Tsie. It was to be handed back to the magistrate. "I willingly gave my book to the accused; I was not forced." She said also that she had contributed 2s. 6d. towards the defence of those who might be arrested as a result of the action taken by the women.

Another witness, a young girl of 17, said she had given her pass to Mrs. Tsie as they were "wanted by the Baas" (the magistrate).

CHARGED WITH THEFT

Also facing trial in Winburg are Miss Winnie Mantje, Miss Susan Tsie, Mrs. S. Kagabale, Mrs. Dikeledi Deseni, and Mr. Simon Motse. All are charged with theft of reference books.

Mr. Donald Tale is charged with theft, robbery and impersonating the police, with the alternative charge of malicious injury to property.

They have been offered bail at £50 each.

Last week two of the three women sentenced to prison following the pass burning were released, after automatic remission of their cases. They are Mrs. Laetitia Seitshe and Mrs. Evelyn Thebe, sentenced to four months' imprisonment each. Still in prison serve a three-month term is Mrs. Evelyn Tsimile.

A.N.C.—ELSIES RIVER BRANCH

sends its greetings and wishes to all the workers of the world, and especially to those who are still struggling to free themselves from the chains of imperialism. May we all stand together in solidarity until freedom is won.

WESTERN PROVINCE SWEET WORKERS' UNION

wish to extend to all workers, greeting on May Day. May the year 1956 bring to all workers a better life and better conditions of work.

S. V. REDDY

Greetings to the workers of South Africa Unite and defeat all apartheid legislation.

PAUL JOSEPH

May Day greetings to all my glorious brothers in the noble struggle against oppression, misery and exploitation of man by man.

The Food and Canning Workers' Union (Transvaal)

warmly greets all workers on the occasion of May Day, 1956.

Let us redouble our efforts in building a mighty trade union movement. Let us live the unity of the working class!

TIMBER WORKERS' UNION (Cape Town)

We send greetings to all our comrades of the working-class. Together we shall see freedom in South Africa. We join hands with the Congresses in the fight for a better life for all.

MRS. PANDIT BACKS S.A. FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Message to Durban Conference

DURBAN.

"The struggle for equality and the removal of racial discrimination, waged in South Africa, is the struggle of humanity and indeed of civilisation itself," says a message from Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, High Commissioner for the Government of India in Britain, in a message to the All-India Group Areas Conference to be held at the Natal Indian Congress, on the 5th and 6th May, 1956.

The message adds: "In the words of the Charter of the United Nations, it demands faith in the fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women, and of nations, large and small.

"I have no doubt that these fundamental human values will ultimately triumph and your struggle will succeed."

Chief A. J. Lutuli, President-General of the African National

Congress, and Dr. S. Cooperan Pillay, accepted an invitation from the Natal Indian Congress to submit papers for discussion at their All-India Conference, on Group Areas, which will be opened by Mr. Leo Lovell, Labour Party M.P.

According to Mr. N. T. Naicker, the General Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress, the paper to be submitted by Chief Lutuli will deal with all legislation which makes the African people a landless community, which will not be considered views on the Tomlinson Report.

Dr. Cooperan, who is a leading Indian educationist, will deal with the effect of Group Areas on Indian education.

Commenting on the response from organisations invited to send delegates to the Conference, Mr. Naicker said: "We are more than satisfied. We are daily receiving letters welcoming the Conference and expressing full support for it."

CAMPAIGN TO DEFEND MUNICIPAL VOTE

CAPE TOWN.

A preparatory committee to take a campaign to Defend the Municipal Vote will be elected following a special conference called by the S.A. Women's Federation in Cape Town last Saturday and attended by 27 delegates and observers from the liberation movement, trade unions, and civic associations.

"If the municipal vote also is taken away from the Coloured people, then we will have no say whatsoever in the running of our country," because already we have no say in Parliament," said Mrs. G. Smith, who presided.

"The reason why we are ruled by a minority is because we Non-Europeans are not united," said Mrs. Elizabeth Mafeking. "The pass evil will also come to an end if we unite."

The Government likes to give the impression to the outside world that its policy is a fair and just one which claims that it is giving the different racial groups rights in their own areas," said Mr. L. Lee-Warden, M.P.

"Yet, in the Western Cape, which is supposed to be the 'home' of the Coloured people, the Government is depriving them of their very fundamental right to vote."

Conference condemned the Administrator of the Cape's threat to the municipal vote of Non-European women as an "attack upon democratic principles and therefore upon the rights of all people as well as those of the Non-European people in particular."

Conference went on to solemnly warn the South African people that the repeated blows delivered by the Nationalists against the Non-European people are destroying the goodwill that has existed in the Cape before the racialist attacks, and would, unless prevented, lead to intolerable tension and conflict between the people.

"We therefore call upon all South Africans, regardless of race, who wish to develop peace and friendship, to make it possible for all people to build a common society in harmony and goodwill, to defend the Municipal franchise which has stood for our interests."

Other speakers included Mrs. Katie White, who stressed the importance of the municipal franchise in relation to the struggle for social and playgrounds, roads, hospitals, etc. for the people. "If Councilors do not have to come to us for our vote, then they will not fight for our interests."

Mrs. G. Qalings of Langa spoke on passes which "produce only evil and hunger. We cannot understand how passes will be of help to Africa, unless they are produced only mischief and harm for our men."

Transvaal Indian Congress

We greet workers of South Africa and the world. Let May Day, 1956, inspire us to rid humanity of the indignities of exploitation and discrimination; inspire us towards the full realisation of the Freedom Charter. Let us march forward to Freedom in our lifetime. Mayibuye Africa!

S.A. Coloured People's Organisation (Cape Town Branch)

Extends May Day good wishes to all its members and supporters. The battle of the Buses is on, and SACPO calls upon the people of the Cape Peninsula to demonstrate their opposition to Apartheid by supporting the boycott campaign and refusing to use the buses. Forward to Freedom!

METAL WORKERS' UNION (Cape Town)

"Greetings to the toilers of the working-class. Let us fight with determination for a better life. As workers we join hands with all oppressed people in the march for a free South Africa."

S.A. Congress of Trade Unions (Western Province Committee)

We extend our greetings to all workers in the fight for a peaceful future. May Day should be remembered as a day for all races to unite against the tyranny and exploitation of the capitalist class. May Day sees the workers organising a Bus Boycott campaign. Let this be the turn in the tide against Apartheid.

Remember, an injury to one is an injury to all.

SACTU'S MAY DAY LEJUGES FOR 1956

JOHANNESBURG.—During the past year the workers everywhere in the world have made great strides forward, says the South African Congress of Trade Unions in a May Day message.

Many countries, comprising more than half of mankind, have broken away from systems of oppression and have strengthened their independence by building new economic systems, free from exploitation and free from colonial oppression. Many countries in the East have joined together at the Bandung Conference to preserve world peace and further friendly relations throughout the world.

In South Africa the workers have improved their organisations, despite the oppressive features of the Nationalist Government. The S.A. Congress of Trade Unions was formed and strengthened during the year, the first no-colour bar association of workers in South Africa. Despite the bans imposed on the leaders of workers' organisations, the workers have moved forward. The Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act, which the Government introduced in order to "kill the African trade unions" has time and again been proved a dead letter by the united and brave action of the workers at the factories. Despite the bans and the terrorism of

the South African Police State the delegates of the people met on the historic 25th and 26th of June, 1955, and drafted the future for South Africa, the inspiring Freedom Charter—the challenge to all oppression and to the dark and sinister plans of the Nationalist Government.

The Nationalist Government is morally afraid of these advances of the people. That is why they are applying ever more stringent measures against freedom. They are tightening up the hated pass laws, even trying to impose them on our women. They are trying to stifle our future by instilling a slave mentality into the minds of our children through the Bantu Education Act. They are trying to keep the peoples of South Africa forever divided by their mad plans of apartheid.

But the growing struggle of the workers proves that the plans of oppression, of slavery, are doomed to fail. The people of South Africa are learning that there is a mighty power for good in their unity and that a bright and happy future can

be theirs, if they organise, if they unite and if they fight and work determinedly for it.

On the 1st of May, 1956, we pledge once again to rally the forces of the workers and oppressed people for a better future.

● "For powerful, well-organised trade unions, embracing all workers, irrespective of race or colour on a basis of common interests!"

● For the defeat of the Industrial Conciliation Bill, which threatens to kill the independence, unity and strength of the trade union movement!

● For higher wages and better conditions for all workers.

● For unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation, old age pensions, assistance for working mothers on an equal basis for all, irrespective of race or colour!

● For the Freedom Charter, the future constitution of a free South Africa!

● For peace and friendship between all nations!"

WORKERS OF NATAL

greet the
**WORKERS OF THE
WORLD
on
MAY DAY, 1956**

★

Unite and fight for higher wages, better working conditions, Freedom and Peace

★

LONG LIVE SACTU and WFTU

★

Inserted by:
South African Tin Workers' Union

Tea and Coffee Workers' Union

Natal Box and Broom Workers' Union

Natal Dairy Workers' Union

General Workers' Union

Biscuit Workers' Union

Natal Aluminium Workers' Union

African Textile Workers' Industrial Union (S.A.), Wits, Branch

African Textile workers throughout South Africa engaged in a bitter but victorious struggle against the Native Labour Act and for "the right NOT to be slaves," send greetings to fellow-workers on May Day. Step up the workers' struggle for the unity of all workers and for a free and better life.

Textile Workers' Industrial Union (S.A.), Johannesburg Branch.

Who can say that the workers are fighting a losing battle? Not one, not even the Native Labour Settlement of Disputes architects who are embarrassed by the growing wheel of the workers' forward march—We are determined to have this May Day a paid holiday in our time!

S.A. COLOURED PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION (Transvaal)

greet the workers of the world. May Day, 1956, has a special significance for the workers of South Africa. It comes at a time when, more than ever before, the workers of South Africa should stand together and show their solidarity.

FOOD AND CANNING WORKERS' UNION (Heath Office)

greet all our members, all South Africans and people of the world. Let us redouble our efforts for a free South Africa and Peace the world over!

S.A. ROPE AND CANVAS WORKERS' UNION

greet all trade unionists. Let us unite for free trade-unionism and for the repeal of the Industrial Conciliation Bill and all other repressive Laws!

S.A. TIN WORKERS' UNION

(Cape Town Branch)
May Day Greetings to all fellow workers in South Africa. Let us unite against apartheid and tyranny for a free and happy South Africa!

AFRICAN FOOD & CANNING WORKERS' UNION

(Paarl Branch)
May Day greetings to all workers. Let us struggle for the dignity of all men and women, for the repeal of the Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act and all other slave laws! Freedom in our lifetime!

AFRICAN FOOD & CANNING WORKERS' UNION

(Worcester Branch)
salutes all members and all workers on International Labour Day. Let us go forward for unity, for peace, security and freedom in our lifetime!

OVERPORT SOCIAL CLUB

extends its warmest greetings to the workers of the world on May Day, 1956. Let us pledge on this day to work unceasingly for peace, freedom and friendship.

THE NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

salutes all workers and oppressed peoples on the occasion of May Day, 1956. ONWARD TO FREEDOM IN OUR LIFETIME!

THE BISCUIT WORKERS' SOCIAL CLUB (Durban)

greet all workers, democrats and fighters for freedom on this May Day, 1956. Forward to a Free and Democratic South Africa!

CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS (Durban Branch)

greet all workers and democrats on May Day, day of solidarity and international rejoicing. Forward to a Free and Democratic South Africa!

WORKERS OF SOUTH AFRICA!

we greet you on the occasion of
MAY DAY, 1956

★

UNITE! ORGANISE! FIGHT!

for the implementation of the
FREEDOM CHARTER

★

Inserted by:
NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

Mayville Branch
Merebank Branch
Overport Branch
Sydenham Branch
Clairwood Branch

The Central Executive Committee of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union

wishes to extend fraternal May Day Greetings to all workers and trade unions.

It calls upon all workers to stand united in their struggle for better living conditions and their right to exist as free unions.

LONG LIVE THE SOLIDARITY OF THE WORKING CLASS.

A.N.C. (Cape Town Branch)

May Day is a significant occasion in the world. We African people who form the majority of the working people in South Africa demonstrate our solidarity with the working class of the world against oppression and class distinction in the colonial world.

South Africa needs a change in its social, economic and political system and the African people are capable of bringing about this change in our lifetime.

Long live May Day and long live international working class solidarity.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF DISTRIBUTIVE WORKERS CAPE WESTERN 'A' BRANCH

send May Day greetings to all Trade Unionists.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF AFRICAN LAUNDRING, CLEANING AND DYEING WORKERS (CAPE TOWN BRANCH)

extend Greetings to all workers in South Africa. Unite, Struggle for a happy life for all races and the attainment of full democratic rights for all. Defend World Peace.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (Cape Western Region)

"May Day Greetings to all men and women, to all National-Liberal fighters and lovers of freedom and peace."

"May we go forward in the struggle for real liberty, equality and world peace."

NATIONAL UNION OF LAUNDRING, CLEANING AND DYEING WORKERS (HEAD OFFICE)

extends May Day Greetings to all workers and calls upon workers of all colours to join hands in the fight against all anti-working-class laws.

S.A. CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS (NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

May Day 1956 whilst commemorating a great working-class victory marks the passing through Parliament of a most vicious piece of fascist legislation in South Africa—the Industrial Conciliation Bill.

On this memorable day the N.E.C. of the S.A. Congress of Democrats wishes to express its solidarity with that section of organised labour who have come together in the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, strengthening their common purpose, by transcending racial prejudice which has been a powerful weapon in the hands of the exploiters.

By their united resistance to these fascist onslaughts on the trade union movement, these workers are honouring the cause for which men fought and died over a hundred years ago. To the workers standing outside this great brotherhood we extend the hope that they will unite before it is too late.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (TRANSVAAL)

The African National Congress (Transvaal) salutes all workers of the world. May Day has a close link with all oppressed peoples.

Comrades! unite and implement the Freedom Charter to defeat the unjust laws.

THE NATAL PEACE COUNCIL

of the peoples of South Africa on the occasion of May Day, 1956, to redouble their efforts in the cause of Peace and Friendship.

Mike and Shulamith Muller

Greetings to all workers and socialists on the international workers' holiday of May Day. With our OWN strength and unity, and the fraternal help of the international working-class movement, we shall win and build a new South Africa in which all shall be free and equal.

Furniture and Mattress and Bedding Workers' Industrial Union

On the workers' international day of struggle against freedom, the Furniture, Mattress and Bedding Workers' Industrial Union greets the workers of South Africa and the oppressed peoples through the world.

Never in the history of the working class has the celebration of May Day been as significant as it is this year in South Africa, for the workers of this country are facing an assault upon their rights unprecedented in the history of the workers' struggle.

Long live the workers' struggle for peace and freedom.

S.A. CLOTHING WORKERS' UNION

The South African Clothing Workers' Union greets all forward-looking workers in South Africa and the world, on this May Day, 1956.

Forward for our rights!

African National Congress Women's League, Transvaal

Solidarity and determination should be the theme of the May Day celebration by workers of all races in this fascist-controlled country. Let May Day this year be the turning point for all African women who are threatened by the extension of passes to them by Strijdom and his fellow travellers.

SOUTH AFRICAN PEACE COUNCIL

greet all workers on May Day, 1956. May all workers join hands in the noble struggle for prosperity, peace and security. Long live the unity of the workers for peace.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

ARE S.A. BOXERS GOING SOFT?

By **ROBERT RESHA**

Unless boxing authorities in this country stop panicking, South African professional boxing may find itself being wrapped in "cotton wool" and producing fighters who cannot take punishment.

The cause of this panicking is due to the death of Hubert Essakow recently and the pathetic display of American Garth Panter in his fight with Mike Holt.

Last week, John Mtimkulu, national flyweight champion, defended and lost his title in his home-town Vereeniging, to Ezekiel Shole. The defeat of the champion came in the eleventh round when the referee stopped the fight in favour of Shole on a technical knock-out caused by a cut above Mtimkulu's left eye.

NEAR RIOT

But, of course, the referee had to consult the medical officer in charge before taking the decision. The decision nearly caused a riot in which the doctor, Rex Tate, was nearly assaulted and members of the Board of Control insulted. The doctor had to be escorted out of the Sharpeville Hall, where the tournament took place, by a number of policemen.

Many authoritative critics who were at the ringside thought that the cut was not so serious as to warrant the stoppage of the fight.

There is also the fact that this was a championship fight and there was no doubt that Mtimkulu could last until the twelfth and last round without being handicapped by the cut.

There was the case, last year, of Simon Mbata fighting with a badly dislocated shoulder and the referee and doctor did not stop the fight.

It does appear, therefore, that the wide publicity given to the ring death of Essakow could easily cause fights to be stopped even when it is unnecessary.

A doctor knows the job that he has been trained for, but still, it is a fact that doctors make mistakes.

There is also the mistake that Mtimkulu's manager made that could have disqualified his fighter in that fateful 11th round. When the referee went to examine the cut, the manager jumped into the ring and protested before the referee had given his or the doctor's decision.

A sporting gesture from Mtimkulu who asked the rowdy crowd to refrain from questioning the decision in so rude a manner.

To Ezekiel Shole, the new flyweight champion, we say "keep it up, boy."

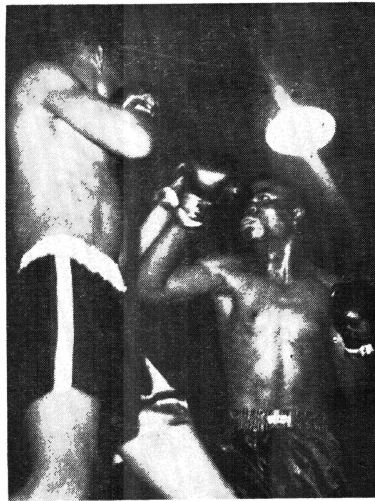
RUGBY TOUR

Looking through the "white glasses" at the all-white Springbok rugby side to tour Australia and New Zealand this season, the selectors have done a good job. The team has a fair chance of bringing

African Textile Workers' Industrial Union (S.A.) (Cape Western Branch)

Greetings to the workers and toilers everywhere. Let May Day lay the basis for greater unity and a sharper struggle against the enemies of the working-class. Forward to Freedom!

L. B. LEE-WARDEN, M.P., extends warm May Day greetings to all his constituents and all workers on this great festival. Let us stand and fight together for Freedom for All in South Africa.



John Mtimkulu (Right) blocks a left from Ezekiel Shole in their national flyweight title fight at the Sharpeville Hall, Vereeniging, recently. Shole won the fight on a disputed decision on a technical knock-out win in the 11th round when Mtimkulu suffered a cut in the left eye.

back with them honours to White South Africa.

The only blot against the selectors is the amazing omission of Freddie Herbst from the side. Up to now it is difficult to understand why this experienced and able full back has been left out. The only reason one could think of is that he had to be sacrificed for "Basis" Viviers who seems to have been selected captain before the selectors were sure of his place as a player in the side.

As it is, if Johnny Buchler returns to his previous form there is no place for Skipper Viviers in the test team. At best he will be a touchline captain. Was it necessary to put "Basis" Viviers in such an invidious position? The value of a captain, in the rugby game at least, is to lead his team successfully on the field of play.

It must be really embarrassing to true sportsmen to realise that in this country, for one to be accepted as a good player and a worthy ambassador of his beloved country to other sporting countries, the colour of his skin must of necessity be white.

When I said this to an old friend of mine the other day, he

Textile Workers' Industrial Union (S.A.) (Cape Western Branch)

extends the hand of friendship to all workers on the occasion of May Day. May our joint efforts soon bring victory in the struggle against tyranny and exploitation.

THE MODERN YOUTH SOCIETY (CAPE TOWN)

sends May Day greetings to South African Youth. Forward to a land of peace, friendship and racial harmony!

was shocked at my way of reasoning. He said: "Good Lord! I am amazed by you. How on earth can you talk like this? Can you name just one Non-European player who could be in the Springbok side?" This friend was one of the best players in this country — a former Springbok player and selector of no mean ability.

In reply I told my friend one should not name players because they happen to be Non-European. Players are put in the field and selected according to merit, not colour. My friend is, of course, not alone in this line of thought. There are many who defend the status quo in sport.

Verwoerd's Bills Condemned

(Continued from page 1)

"The African National Congress calls upon all people to unite in the struggle for the defeat of the Nationalist Government, before it has completed its Nazi scheme which will bring untold suffering to the people."

AUTOCRACY

Congress states that the Urban Areas Amendment Bill is yet another step taken by the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd, to complete his fascist autocracy over the lives of ten million people. The Bill confers upon the local authorities the absolute power of banishing Africans summarily, and also provides that any African who disobeys the banishment order may be imprisoned in a work colony for an indefinite time.

This Bill, together with the Prohibition of Interdicts Bill also before Parliament, is designed to destroy every vestige of the rights to security of the African people and also to deprive them of recourse to the courts of law.

BUS BOYCOTT GATHERS MOMENTUM

(Continued from page 1)

the interests of defending and promoting racial harmony, to do what they can to support the boycott of the buses. In this way they can also show that many Europeans do not support the Government's policy of apartheid."

THE CAPE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY said that bus apartheid was "unjust and completely unnecessary" and "not only extremely unfair in its application but is an insult to all the citizens of Cape Town."

"In expressing our sympathy with, and full support of those who prefer to walk rather than suffer the indignity of travelling in such buses, we urge all supporters of the Liberal Party and of the old liberal tradition of Cape Town to assist them to the best of their ability."

Speakers from the platform and the floor supported the boycott at **THE SPECIAL "DEFEND THE MUNICIPAL VOTE CONVENTION"** in Cape Town last Saturday, and a resolution was adopted condemning most vigorously the introduction of apartheid on the buses in Cape Town.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN, THE MOST REVEREND OWEN MCANN, has also spoken against bus apartheid. He said:

"The decision to introduce apartheid on the buses in Cape Town does not have my approval."

"I think that the new regulations are unfair and discriminating because they do not provide equal facilities. Moreover they constitute a slur on the Coloured people of Cape Town, who have generally conducted themselves well on public transport."

"The Coloured people have long enjoyed the right to occupy any seat available on the buses and this right is now being taken from them."

DONT BOYCOTT THE BOYCOTT

In a special circular to all organisations, political, civic, sporting, religious, social, SACPO this week appealed for active support for the boycott and called for volunteers to picket bus queues.

All willing to help in the boycott, either by picketing bus queues, helping with transport, or in any other way are asked to contact Mr. Mthethwa, 5 Albertus Street, Phone 30337.

SOME SIDELIGHTS OF THE BOYCOTT

● Many pickets get up at five in the morning in order to reach their

picket post at 7. Those who cannot catch trains, walk.

● Charwomen at Hanover Street cladded together to provide their own means of transport — they share taxis.

● Factory workers walking home in groups give the thumbs-up salute and are picked up by passing motorists and lorries.

● One day last week a conductor on the Tamboers Kloof route said his bus had never been so empty and he had been able to have "a good rest."

● One boycotter, a European, walks four times a day to and from Green Point. Another, a Coloured man, walks to and from Mowbray. He refuses to catch a train, "I want to feel the boycott," he said.

● The only "incidents" that have occurred have come from the public — the public the picketers met with most sympathetic response. In at least one case the police used very abusive language to a picketer. In another they confiscated the placard, returning it shortly afterwards without comment.

● One picketer has been arrested and charged with creating a disturbance. He is out on £5 bail, and his case has been remanded to May 1. Another picketer was told by the police to "go home and don't come back again."

MILNERTON TURF CLUB

RACING AT ASCOT

SATURDAY, 28th APRIL

7 — EVENTS — 7

Two £1 Double Totalisators

FIRST RACE STARTS 1.30 P.M.

Bus Services to Ascot Race Course leave from DOCK ROAD, at the corner of Adderley Street and from LOWER BUTENIKANT STREET, near the Castle Entrance.

R. C. LOUW, Secretary.

Oceana House, 20, Lower Burg Street, CAPE TOWN. Phones: 2-6835, 3-3339.

Racing at Ascot

The following are Damon's selections:

Milnerton Handicap: 1. CLIVE OF INDIA. Dancer, Lord Graham.

Ascot Handicap A: 1. FASHION. Dancer, Jungle Law.

Ascot Handicap B: 1. MR. FINK. Dancer, Arava.

Owners' Progress Nine: 1. WINDERMERE. Dancer, Apprenfice.

Progress Six: 1. SILVER STAR. Dancer, Nuptial.

Maiden Plate: 1. GROUND BAIT. Dancer, Filter Tip.

Juvenile Handicap: 1. VAYA CONDIOS. Dancer, Set Forth.

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