

# FULL-PAGE PICTURE OF THE TREASON ACCUSED—PAGE 5

# FORWARD TO A MINIMUM WAGE OF £1 A DAY

**NEW AGE**

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*These Workers Want A Living Wage*

## SACTU's May Day Message To The Workers

JOHANNESBURG.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS GREET'S ALL THE WORKERS OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WORLD ON THIS MAY DAY, 1957.

Great and decisive advances have been made by the working people in almost every part of the world during the past year.

In vast areas of Africa, Asia and the Middle East millions of people are making determined efforts to rid their countries of all vestiges of colonialism and to win the full political and economic independence that is theirs by right.

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The average railway worker earns 4s. a shift plus 15s. 10d. cost of living allowance a month—a total of about £7 3s. 4d. a month. Married men receive a cost of living allowance of £2 17s. 8d. and 5s. 9d. a shift. Rent costs a minimum of £2 18s. a month. They work from Sunday to Sunday. Because of the strenuous nature of the work, frequent injuries take a heavy toll of the workers.

## BANNED BY SWART!

JOHANNESBURG.

TWO Special Branch detectives waited next to the dock for Mrs. Helen Joseph, one of



the treason trial accused, to come to court one morning last week. Then they served on her two notices signed by the Minister of Justice: a five-year ban on her attendance at all gatherings, and a five-year prohibition on her leaving the magisterial area of Johannesburg.

Mrs. Joseph is national secretary of the Federation of South African Women, an executive member of the Congress of Democrats and of the African Education Movement. It is the Women's Federation, together with the ANC Women's League, that has organised the campaign against passes for African women, in which Mrs. Joseph has played a leading role.

Strong protests against the banning have been issued by the Congress of Democrats and the two women's organisations, which call upon the people to "intensely their opposition to the degrading pass system" in answer to Swart's ban.

## Bishop Says Church Will Defy Verwoerd's Law

JOHANNESBURG.

"MONSTROUS," "so foul that it will seriously pollute our national life," "a new chapter in the advance of tyranny in South Africa."

This was how ne Bishop of Johannesburg, Ambrose Reeves, described the Native Laws Amendment Bill when he and Alan Paton addressed a meeting of 500 people, called by the Civil Rights Committee, outside the City Hall last week. "If the Government want an open

conflict with the Church in South Africa, they can have it," said the Bishop.

Alan Paton accused Dr. Verwoerd of attempting to make it impossible for Africans to have contact with Europeans outside of the

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# NEW AGE LETTER BOX

## MORE SUPPORT FOR NEW AGE

### From the Congresses

We wish to place on record our wholehearted support for the People's Paper, New Age. We appeal to all democrats, both white and non-white, to support it at the new price of sixpence, or even more. Let us regard this as a personal levy in support of New Age, which has stood for and with us in the struggle for liberation and a free democratic South Africa as envisaged in the Freedom Charter.

**WORKERS, SUPPORT NEW AGE!**  
LONG LIVE NEW AGE!  
Z. Z. MALINDI  
H. NAUDE  
A. HURZUK  
D. GOLDBERG  
R. GOSCHALK

Cape Western Consultative Committee, African National Congress, South African Coloured People's Organisation, S.A. Indian Congress, S.A. Congress of Democrats, S.A. Federation of Women, S.A. Congress of Trade Unions.

### From a Mother

As a mother of the children all over the world, I cannot keep quiet when my paper is falling. The loss of New Age would be an irreparable disaster indeed in the struggle for freedom.

The New Age is with us in our struggle, in spite of all the threatenings of the Government. So, my people, my children, let us support the New Age with its increase in the price by three pence. Let's do it with a will.

Long live New Age! Long live democracy and peace! Mayibuyei!

FLORENCE MATOMELA  
Banned leader and treason suspect, Drill Hall, Johannesburg.

## ANC Conference on Native Laws Bill

**CAPE TOWN.**  
An all-in conference to oppose the Native Laws Amendment Bill is being called by the African National Congress, Cape Western region, in the Woodstock Town Hall on May 26.

All organisations and individuals in the Cape Western region are being invited to attend, and an approach is being made to members of Parliament of all parties to take part in the discussion.

## LANGUAGE REFORM IN CHINA

**LONDON.**  
According to the Peking committee for reforming the written language, 500,000 teachers have completed a course of phonetic training in standard spoken Chinese in preparation for romanization of the language. Thousands of gramophone records have been produced for primary and secondary schools, the committee said, and courses on the radio have helped millions to learn the standard language.

## Economic Boycott In Western Cape

**CAPE TOWN.**

A series of meetings throughout the Cape Western region is being called by the African National Congress to implement the decision of the Cape Provincial ANC that all Nationalist products and finance houses should be boycotted in protest against the policies of the Government.

Meetings are being held in Kensington on May 5, in Retreat on May 12; in Athlone on May 19; in Nyanga on May 26; and in Langa on June 2.

## More Calls For Boycott

**CAPE TOWN.**

"For generations the Herrenvolk have deceived the Coloured people and separated them from the rest of the oppressed people by lies about them being a political appendix to the whites and about the gradual extension of the franchise," says a statement issued by the National Anti-CAD Committee.

Pointing out that they are now a "totally disfranchised people," the statement says the Coloured people must now "demonstrate that they have finished with illusions and self-deception, that they neither claim nor seek any special favours or privileges, that they are demanding among us struggling for full and equal citizenship rights for all, without regard to colour, 'race,' creed or sex."

Denouncing those who propose to "work the political machinery of disfranchisement" as collaborationists, quislings and herrenvolk agents, the statement calls upon the Coloured people to boycott the CAD, the CRC, "all dummy elections" and "all quislings."

## Forward To Minimum Wage Of £1 A Day

(Continued from page 1)

We share the joy of the workers of Ghana in the achievement of self-government for their country, and look forward to the rapid economic development of their country to liberation from the shackles of imperialism.

The people of Egypt with the support of the workers of the Middle East and progressive people throughout the world have successfully repelled the imperialist invasion of their country.

The hundreds of millions of people in the Soviet Union, China and other socialist countries are making great strides towards a better future.

But poverty, capitalist exploitation and imperialist domination are still the lot of the majority of the world's workers. The dark shadow of atomic war still hangs over mankind.

**PEACE! BREAD! FREEDOM!**  
**THAT IS THE BATTLE CRY OF THE WORKING CLASS ALL OVER THE WORLD.**

Here in South Africa, our working people are fighting a grim struggle against poverty, racial discrimination and Nationalist tyranny. Headed by the great Congress movement, of which our Congress of Trade Unions is proud to be a part, and many of whose most eminent leaders are now on the charge of High Treason, the

## Editorial ABOUT OURSELVES

WITH this issue, New Age increases its price to 6d. We have given advance warning of our intention to do so, as well as an explanation of our reasons for doing so. And now the time has come when our readers must come forward and help carry the burden of producing New Age.

We know it is a hard burden for poor people to bear, at a time when they are already struggling to make ends meet. But, as we have pointed out before, we have no option. It is either a sixpenny New Age or no New Age—we just could not carry on at the old price.

We are confident that all our readers will respond to our appeal and continue to support the paper as enthusiastically as they have done in the past. For New Age is not just a newspaper; it is the conscience of a sorely-stricken country, the hope of a future about to be torn, a battle-flag for all our people fighting for a better life. To let New Age die would be like abandoning one's faith in the future. Obviously that must not, cannot, will not happen.

The messages we have carried from the people's leaders in the last two weeks are testimony to the fact that New Age speaks for the vast majority of South Africans, of all races. We thank all those who have given us their support, and pledge now that we will stand by them, and the people for whom they speak, until freedom for all has been won. Nothing must be allowed to break the bond between New Age and its readers which is the guarantee that the people's paper will survive all crises.

Meanwhile we must point out that the increase in the price of New Age to 6d. will not automatically solve all our financial problems. We are still boycotted by big business, still unable to get advertising, although our circulation has been steadily rising since the beginning of the year.

In other words, we will still need your donations to help close the gap between revenue and expenditure. It is you who have so generously helped us in the past, and who have earned the thanks of the whole liberation movement, must realise that their contributions will still constitute our biggest source of income. Our donors and collectors cannot afford to relax for one moment. If they do, we will be right back where we were before we went up to 6d.

New Age and its predecessors have kept the freedom flag flying for over 20 years now. The going was never easy. Only faith, determination and ceaseless hard work by all in the progressive movement have made that achievement possible, in the face of almost insuperable odds. Let us all, on this May Day, unite in our resolve to do everything in our power to keep New Age alive and fighting the good fight as vigorously as it has ever done in the past.

workers and oppressed people of our country are fighting back on every front, with spirit and determination, against the ever-increasing attacks of the Government.

**The great Rand bus-boycotts of January-March 1957 will go down in history as a wonderful demonstration of unity and the power of the common people, once they are united, to triumph over all the violence and intimidation of a dictatorial Government.**

The shocking state of poverty revealed by the bus dispute, however, cannot be cured by boycotts, nor by the promises of well-meaning employers' associations and others to make investigations and take steps to improve the terrible conditions which, they all admit, exist.

The only way in which substantial improvements can be secured is through the united demand of the workers themselves, organised in effective and militant trade unions.

**THE WAY AHEAD**  
That is why the South African Congress of Trade Unions, backed by the entire Congress movement, has called for the enrolment of 20,000 new members into trade unions, in order to achieve the workers' demands for a national minimum wage of £1 a day and an immediate all-round increase in wages of all workers.

A powerful, multi-racial trade union movement can not only win substantial advances in the economic status of the workers; it can also bring a decisive reinforcement to the ranks of the democratic and liberation movement, seeking an end to Nationalist tyranny and the establishment of a South Africa free from apartheid and discrimination.

It is therefore the duty of every worker, every democrat and every true South African to work with all his might for the fulfilment of the SACTU campaign, by

- joining his trade union,
- encouraging fellow-workers in every factory to join or form trade unions,
- holding meetings and canvassing door to door for the success of the "Asinamali" £1 a day campaign.

**SOLID FRONT**  
On this occasion of May Day, the workers' day, let the South African Congress of Trade Unions call on all workers and democrats to unite in a solid front for the defeat of Nationalist tyranny and the advance to the winning of the Freedom Charter!

**STAND BY OUR LEADERS! AGAINST POLL TAX INCREASES! NO CASSES FOR WOMEN! DOWN WITH THE NATS' 'ANTI-TRADE UNION AND 'BANTU' LAWS! ASINAMALI—SIUFUN! IMALI! WE WANT £1 A DAY!**

In this penetrating analysis of the South African scene today, MOSES KOTANE says that only by building the maximum unity amongst all anti-Nationalist forces can the great crisis in South Africa be resolved in favour of the people.

Recent events, he says, have shown that the masses are "ready and more than ready for effective action. What is wanted is courageous, united and decisive leadership".

# THE GREAT CRISIS AHEAD

## A CALL FOR UNITY

By MOSES KOTANE

MOSES KOTANE, general secretary of the Communist Party of South Africa before its dissolution, banned executive member of the African National Congress, is at present one of the accused in the treason trial in Johannesburg.

### Foreign Pavilions At Rand Show

JOHANNESBURG.

A number of overseas governments have established pavilions at the Rand Exter Show at Miller Park. Among them are Holland, Austria, Western Germany, and two socialist countries—Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The Polish Government, exhibiting for the first time, appears to have had little time to prepare its exhibit, which does not compare favourably with others on the Show. No doubt in future years it will improve. In Czechoslovakia, on the other hand, is most impressive. A wide variety of manufactures, ranging from heavy machinery and glass panes to delicate watches and textiles, has drawn large crowds throughout the Show period.

## NAT. STUDENTS APOLOGISE TO COLOURED PEOPLE — AND MR. GOLDING CHANGES HEART

CAPE TOWN.

THE Coloured people of Cape Town have been wondering what it was that Mr. George Golding, President of the Coloured People's National Union, said to the delegates of the Afrikaanse Nasionale Studentebond when he addressed their annual conference at Stellenbosch recently.

Details of his speech were withheld from the press, but it was reported that the number of Nationalist students who listened to him was double the number attending the normal conference sessions; that they seemed to hang on every word he said (he spoke in Afrikaans); and that they gave him an ovation when he had finished.

Those who have been following Mr. Golding's spiritual movements in recent years (and he has changed course several times) think it most likely he was returning the compliment of the ten Stellenbosch university students who, early in April, attended a Moral Rearmament imboree in the Woodstock Town Hall to see a performance of the MRA film "We Are Tomorrow".

### APOLOGY

After the show the students, wearing their maroon and yellow striped university blazers, lined the platform to commit themselves "to bringing a new unity to South Africa and the world," according to the Moral Rearmament programme.

LET us remember what promises brought the Nationalist Party to power. They came to power on the promises that they would arrest and reduce the rising cost of living, eliminate crime, improve the economic and social conditions of the people, remove fear and bring about good and healthy race relations in the country. Their magic wand, apartheid, was supposed to do all these things. That was in 1948, some nine years ago!

What is the position today? The situation has become far worse in every way: crime, prices, conditions, race relations are which threatens the peace and future of South Africa. Not only has the so-called panacea of apartheid failed to cure any ills, but it has instead aggravated all existing disorders and started some new and strange ones. As a result the patient is now in a critical state. This has thrown the Nationalist magicians into panic and despair.

With the deteriorating political-social conditions our magicians, headed by the honourable Adv. J. G. Strijdom, seem to have lost all sense of proportion and have become even more frenzied and frantic in their efforts to remedy the situation. This is quite understandable. Crime has grown to unheard-of proportions, race relations are strained to an alarming extent, and the

cost of living has soared to unprecedented heights. Prices and costs of all commodities and services have risen, rents and taxation have been and are still being heavily increased. And yet the wages of the low paid workers remain below the breaddline.

### Mood of Defiance

Because of the injustices, ruthlessness and indignities which accompany the implementation of the policies of apartheid and segregation, a mood of resistance and defiance is rising among the voiceless and rightless Non-White people in this country. More and more they are turning to the African National Congress and the five-fold Congress alliance, whose policy is the direct antithesis of that of the Nationalist Party. Instead of apartheid the Congress movement stands for human fraternity; instead of baasskap, equality; instead of suppression, liberty.

As was shown in the recent great bus boycotts, involving over a hundred thousand men and women, the people are learning how to answer the Government with massive united action, against which every sort of threat, violence and intimidation have proved powerless. Thousands demonstrate at the Drill Hall when leaders are charged with High Treason. The women refuse to take the passes. The people react with anger and resistance when the Government deposes Chiefs who refuse to co-operate. Not only among Africans, but also among Indians, Coloured people, and increasingly wide sections of the European population, dissatisfaction and resentment against the Nationalists has reached its highest point since 1948.

### The Government's Reaction

THE Government does nothing to alleviate the sufferings and difficulties of the people which inspire them to acts of resistance and opposition. The only positive Government policies are yet more restrictive and repressive measures which, in turn, result in country-wide unrest, agitation, demonstrations and disturbances. Scared by this rising tide of opposition to its maladministration, the Nationalist Government is attacking the people in every direction. It is doing so in order to crush the spirit of resistance and to impose an iron dictatorship, based on intimidation, police terror and violence.

If one turns to the current proceedings in Parliament, one cannot find a single move to improve the living standards, health, educational level or wellbeing of the people. Instead one finds a new string of disgusting Bills conceived in fear and bigotry, each one of them a flaunting insult to the spirit of liberty, a spitting in the face of humanity.

Both the Native Laws Amendment Bill and the University Apartheid Bill reveal the megalomania of their author, Dr. Verwoerd. Roughly brushing aside traditions of academic, religious, political and cultural freedom common to all societies which claim to be civilised, he seeks to impose his will upon the entire African nation; to isolate them from cultural, social and political contact with other groups; to disintegrate them into antagonistic "ethnic" groupings; to control their lives, their movements, their very thoughts. In town and country, through his ever-growing army of Native Affairs Department officials, through servile "Bantu Authorities," through Bantu schools and Bantu "universities," through Native Labour Boards and Pass Offices and Labour Bureaux—always with the police and its grim security branch at his side, and the Skietkommandos and the army in the background—the bold Dr. Verwoerd imagines that he can hold up and frustrate the advancement of our great people, whose capabilities are second to none, towards its rightful place among the nations of the world.

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Mr. Jan Louber, last year's president of the Afrikaanse Nasionale Studentebond, apologised to the Coloured audience for his previous attitude of superiority and indifference towards men of other races.

He added: "We from Stellenbosch University have decided to change. What happens in Stellenbosch will be listened to in South Africa, and what happens in South Africa will affect the rest of Africa and the world."

Was Mr. Golding, who in 1951 for a period associated himself with the preparations of the Franchise Action Council to call a strike in protest against the Separate Representation of Voters' Bill, possibly telling the students at Stellenbosch that he has also undergone a "change of heart" and is now prepared to co-operate with the Government in the implementation of its plans for the Coloured people?

### INTENSIVE WORK

The intensive work being done by Moral Rearmament teams among the Non-European peoples of South Africa should not be ignored. Many prominent leaders of the people have been taken in by its "change of heart" call.

On March 27 and 28, 1957, 1,500 people of all races attended performances of the film "We Are Tomorrow" at the Crispin Hall, Port Elizabeth, centre of the National Union of Leather Workers.

They were welcomed by Rev. George Molefe, Principal of the Newell High School in New Brighton and first African Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the Eastern Cape, who said: "Too often we have placed the blame on the other person. Moral Rearmament helps us to begin with ourselves and thus to bring an effective answer to the country."

What the answer was he did not explain, nor what effect Moral Rearmament policies have so far had on Government policy. But Mr. Molefe introduced to his audience yet another former opponent of Government policy who has been led to see the "error" of his ways—Mr. P. Q. Vundla, chairman of the Western Native Township Advisory Board.

### BLINDED BY HATRED

Mr. Vundla, who had played a prominent part in opposing the Western Areas removal plan, declared: "I was blinded by hatred of the white man. I knew how to play on my people's feelings so that they would see in me the great leader. My 12 children used to run away from me when I entered the house.

"But through MRA I have found an answer for my life. I have worked harder than ever before to carry out God's will. Africa has a tremendous chance to show the way to the world."

# THE GREAT CRISIS AHEAD

(Continued from page 3)

HE WILL FAIL. HE WOULD DO WELL TO THINK DEEPLY ABOUT THE FATE OF THE MAN HE USED TO ADMIRE SO OPENLY, THE LATE, UNLAMENTED ADOLF HITLER.

## Isolated from Reality

Could anything show more clearly the utter isolation of the Nationalists from the realities of life in South Africa than their decision to increase the taxation of Africans, by steep increases in poll tax and its extension to women? The bus boycotts showed the whole world that our people are so poor that they cannot afford to pay even a penny increase in fares, and are prepared to walk up to twenty miles a day to avoid it. And this remarkable demonstration was understood even by the great employers' associations, the Chamber of Industry and the Association of Chambers of Commerce. "Asinamali!" (We have no money) our people rightly say. Every door to higher-income occupations is closed against us and double-bolted and barred. And yet we who get less benefit from the State than anyone else who have no vote in electing the Government that decides the amount of tax and how the revenue is to be spent, are expected to pay taxes on a higher level than Europeans. We cannot pay.

In addition to these new threatened laws, now under discussion in Parliament, the Government is intensifying the cruel and strict application of existing barbarous laws.

The Group Areas Act was recognised from the start, both in South Africa and abroad, to be one of the most infamous and callous pieces of legislation ever passed by any government. But now, as it begins to come into operation, as day after day people have it brought home to them what havoc it causes; how it brings suffering and ruin to innocent, ordinary people, Indians, Chinese, African, Coloured; how breadwinners are deprived of their livelihood, women and children condemned to starvation and homelessness, cast adrift with the rot taken away from over their heads and nowhere to go—humanity revolts against this hateful demonstration of apartheid in action.

## The Pass Laws

The Pass Laws have always been the key to the exploitation and oppression of our people. Under the Nationalists they have become something more. The police hunt for service contracts, permits and poll tax receipts has become a daily instrument for punitive measures against Africans. Wherever, as during the boycotts, the people dare to make peaceful legal protests, the police are let loose against them. Mass police raids are conducted almost daily in the streets and in African townships—at the dead of night—for the apparent purpose of raising revenue for the State and in order to cow and humiliate the people and destroy their spirit of independence and self-reliance. In recent years these raids have taken on the character of a one-sided minor civil war against the African people.

As stated before, the extension of the pass system to African women has caused a great deal of resentment, unrest and resistance. As a result many lives have already been lost in attempts to force African women to carry passes. It is obvious that before the end of the story many more lives will be lost and a great deal of disturbance will take place.

## Defend the Congresses

It is not many years since the Nationalist Government banned the Communist Party, and now insistent threats are heard from Government sources that steps are to be taken to ban the African National Congress and other democratic organisations.

The African National Congress must do all in its power to defeat any attempt to make it unlawful. It is its duty and responsibility to rally the people for the defence of its legal existence. This is an historical and political task facing it as the leader and spokesman of the oppressed, exploited, poverty-stricken and voiceless African masses. We are confident that the African National Congress will not fail the people, that it will boldly and strenuously resist the attack.

While it is primarily the responsibility of the African National Congress to oppose bitterly the attempt to ban it, the responsibility for the defeat of the sinister intention and for the continued legal existence of the African National Congress is no less that of other democratic political organisations. When the Suppression of Communism Act was introduced, defenders of civil liberties pointed out that it was the duty of those who did not agree with Communism nevertheless to uphold the right of Communists to advocate their principles and maintain their Party. So today,

we must point out that those who do not support Congress have nevertheless the duty to fight for its legality and prevent it being driven underground. For, just as the suppression of the Communist Party proved the prelude to the wholesale banning, victimisation and persecution of non-Communists, as well as Communists, so the suppression of Congress would be the prelude to the persecution of all opponents and critics of the Government.

## Reaping the Whirlwind

"THOSE who sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind," says the proverb. Far from calming the turbulent situation, the Government's repressive policies are bringing South Africa fast to the brink of the greatest crisis in its history. Each fresh assault against the people brings a counter-campaign of increasing vigour and determination.

Deporating a "troublesome" Chief is no longer a relatively quiet administrative process of hustling some unfortunate tribal leader off to a train in the middle of the night. It is followed by prolonged disturbances which threaten to spread to surrounding areas.

People charged with pass and permit offences are refusing to plead guilty and pay fines to save themselves hardships and difficulties. They are defending themselves, demanding proper Court proceedings, and throwing the whole sausage-machine of the Native Commissioners' Courts into chaos and disorder.

The people are losing their fear of punishment. And the whole State system of the country which is based in every detail affecting the Non-Europeans on the existence of fear, is finding itself increasingly unable to function.

## Whites' Reaction

It is not only among Africans and other Non-Europeans that the crisis is expressing itself. There is a steadily growing number of serious thinking White South Africans who, although some of them may not care to be associated with our Freedom Charter, are aware that the future of this country lies in the policy of equality of rights for all its inhabitants. More and more White South Africans appreciate that they must give full and unstinted co-operation in building this new South Africa and making it great and prosperous. Many others are for the first time beginning to see and understand these obvious facts. It is the duty and responsibility of the progressive organisations and their leaders to assist this process of thinking and realisation in these people and do all they can to draw them into the movement for democracy.

Standing at the head of the democratic movement, and bearing the brunt of the fascist attack, the Congress alliance cannot but applaud and welcome the increasing progress and initiative of such groups as the Labour Party, whose three M.P.s have in Parliament brilliantly undertaken the burden of Opposition which the United Party leaders have so miserably failed to carry; the Liberal Party, which has boldly tackled the evil of Group Areas and other issues; the courageous Churchmen symbolised by the Bishop of Johannesburg; the Black Sash women, who show a steadily increasing awareness of the rights of the Non-Europeans as the central issue in our country; the students and staffs of the free, open Universities, who have offered resistance to academic segregation; the Race Relations Institute, today taking a bolder stand than ever before.

The widespread public support for the Treason Trial Defence Fund; the sensible and generous response of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce to the problems of the bus boycott; the spontaneous actions of the hundreds of European motorists who gave lifts to the African boycotters—all these are indications of an ever-widening repudiation by Europeans of the Government's terror policy and of apartheid.

## What It Means

This rejection of apartheid does not necessarily mean that all these people have already accepted the democratic and equalitarian alternative contained in the Freedom Charter. Many Europeans foresee that any further attempts to enforce Nationalist policies can only lead the country towards ruin, chaos and even civil war. They are not prepared to face that future for themselves and their children, for the sake of a total segregation which they neither want nor believe possible.

(To Be Concluded Next Week)

## Full List Of The Accused

THE following is a list of the accused present at the treason trial when the picture printed on the next page was taken. The accused are sitting in the same order as they sit in the Drill Hall, Johannesburg.

**Bottom Row:** left to right: F. Adams, M. Asmal, Y. Barendse, H. Bursell, L. Bernstein, P. Beyeveld, I. Bokala, A. Chamitic, S. Esakjee, B. Hlapane.

**Second Row:** A. Hutchinson, J. Hodgson, Helen Joseph, Paul Joseph, F. Ketsings, Moses Kotane, Jerry Kumaal, A. Kathana, Leon Levy, Norman Levy, S. Lollan, F. Madiba.

**Third Row:** A. Mahlangu, V. Make, P. Mokofo, Tenyson Makiwane, J. Makue, H. G. Makhathi, E. Mafule, S. Malupe, Nelson Mandela, S. Masemola, L. Masina, July Mashaba, Bertha Mashaba, P. Mathole, J. Matlou, J. Mavuso.

**Fourth Row:** T. Masi, J. Modise, P. Mofolo, J. Molefi, M. Moolli, Dr. H. M. Mosea, E. P. Moretsele, O. Motsabi.

**Fifth Row:** M. K. Mpho, S. Nathie, P. Nene, L. Ngoyi, B. Ngwundu, J. Nkadameng, D. Nkwane, P. Ntshite, A. E. Patel, J. Poo, K. Press.

**Sixth Row:** James Hadebe, M. Ranta, R. Redha, B. Seidshiro, N. Sejake, P. Selepe, S. Shall, M. Shope, Cleopas Sibande, Walter Sisulu, G. T. Sibaso, Ruth Siso, W. Slovo.

**Seventh Row:** Oliver Tambo, S. Tyeki, R. Tunzi, M. Tshabalala, Rev. D. C. Thompson, Sonia Bunting, J. Busa, F. Carmeson, A. Dawood, L. Forman, J. O. Horvich, A. La Guma, C. Makhohliso, D. Mnguniye.

**Eighth Row:** J. Morolong, L. Morrison, J. Mpoza, J. Mtshi, G. Ngotyana, G. Peake, A. Sibeko, R. September.

**Ninth Row:** A. Silinga, B. Turok, L. B. Lee-Warden M.P., F. Baard, D. Fuyanz, Rev. S. W. Gawe, J. Jack, C. Jasson, L. Kepe, P. Mashibini.

**Tenth Row:** J. Matthews, Prof. Z. K. Matthews, W. Mati, Florence Mafongela, C. Mavengiso, W. Mimi, E. Mfusa, S. P. Mkalipi, W. Z. Mkwayi, B. Ndimba, J. Kampeni, B. Ntsangani.

**Eleventh Row:** B. Nogaya, T. Tshumbe, T. Tshunungu, S. Vangaja, A. Aronson, Dr. C. Conco, S. Dhlamini, A. Gumede, J. Hoogendyk, G. Hurbans, Chief A. J. Lutuli, P. S. Manana, I. C. Meer, P. G. Mef, Bertha Mzike.

**Twelfth Row:** K. Moonsamy, Dr. M. Motlali, Dr. G. M. Naicker, M. P. Naicker, N. T. Naicker, B. Nair, A. Ngoobo, D. Nyembe.

**Thirteenth Row:** E. Shanley, Dorothy Shanley, P. Simelane, M. B. Yengwa, G. Dichabe, Dr. A. E. Letele.

**Fourteenth Row:** J. B. Mafora, Marthia J. Mofhakoana, L. S. Monnanyana, A. Sechochoreng.

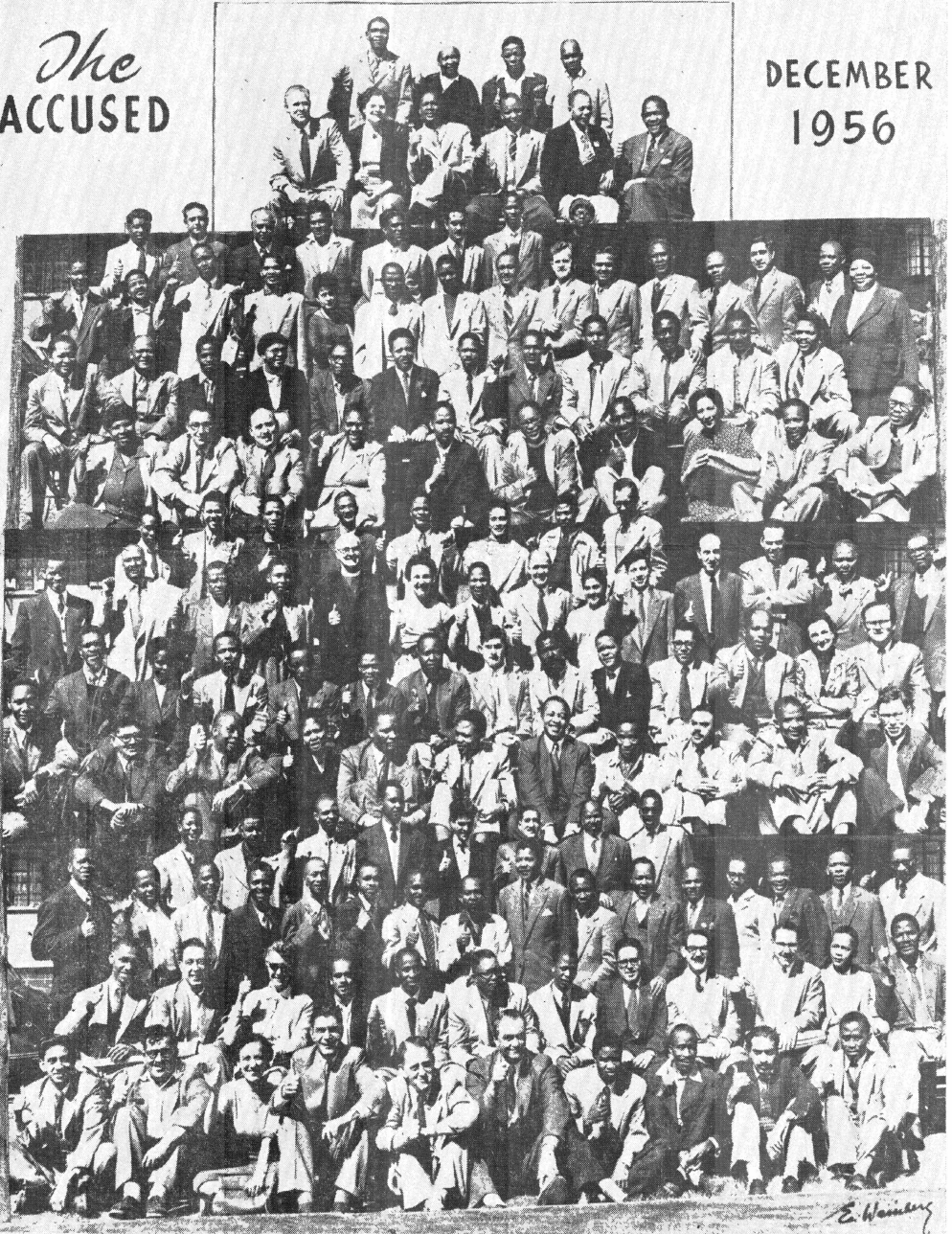
**Absent:** L. Nkosi, S. M. Kumalo, Rev. A. J. Calata, Debi Singh, Stella Damons, T. Mqota, D. Seedit.



# TREASON TRIAL

*The*  
**ACCUSED**

DECEMBER  
1956



# MAY DAY IS OUR DAY, THE WORKERS' DAY

Is This What Will Happen To Women, Too, When They Mislaid Their Documents?

# WILL WOMEN CARRY PASSES?

Frank Talking On Women's Problems — By Jackie Arenstein

THERE are many public holidays in South Africa. Some of them are religious holidays, such as Easter, Ascension Day, Christmas and Boxing Day. Others are holidays that have a particular political significance: Van Riebeeck Day commemorates the landing of the first white people at the Cape; Union Day marks the day each year on which the Union of South Africa came into being from the four separate provinces; Kruger Day commemorates the birthday of Paul Kruger, President of the Transvaal Republic; the Day of the Covenant, December 16th, is the day that the Boers massacred the Zulus at Blood River.



There is another reason why May Day is very important to us. It is because it is the workers' day not only in South Africa, but throughout the world. In every country, workers celebrate May Day, and as they do so, they think of their fellow-workers of other countries, speaking different languages, living in different lands and climates, but with the same needs, desires, struggles and ideals as themselves. May Day becomes a day of unity, of international unity; the people of the world, the ordinary people, the people whose lives are hard, who work, who hate wars, who hate oppression, racial discrimination, injustice, poverty, ignorance—the mass of the people everywhere—raise their heads and clasp hands as comrades and brothers, united in one struggle throughout the whole world, the struggle for peace, freedom, equality, justice; the struggle for education, for homes, for their children; the struggle for the future.

May Day arises out of our modern civilisation. It is a day that came into being only with the development of machines and factories in the big industries. It is sometimes called "Labour Day"—meaning the day of the workers, not the bosses.

In America they will remember that it was in Chicago more than seventy years ago that a police attack on a workers' procession demanding an 8-hour working day actually brought the idea of May Day into being. And in South Africa we will recall May Day 1950 when there was a general strike against the pass laws, cattle culling, restrictions on freedom of movement—in short, a general strike against the policies of the Nationalist Government.

### The Idea of Peace

May Day is a day when the idea of peace spreads like a fiery dream across the world. The people of different countries realise that they cannot go to war against each other, because their interests and needs are the same, not conflicting. They see the danger of war as a terrible weapon that imperialist rulers use to maintain their wealth and power. They understand that men and women must fight not against their fellow-workers of other countries, but against those who want to maintain and extend their grasp of the wealth of the world.

May Day is like a great river flowing across the boundaries of mankind joining together, the streams of each factory and industry, of each country. On May Day we KNOW that we, the people, are the strongest and will triumph. We KNOW that the nightmare of racial oppression, the force of exploitation that presses so hard on us, can be overcome. We KNOW that all the terrible laws of the past few years that divide the people of our country and destroy them, can be swept away.

By HILDA WATTS

say: 'You celebrate your successes, but this is the day we working people claim as our own, when we re-pledge ourselves to fight for justice, for a better way of life.'

### ROCKEFELLER SPILLS THE BEANS

The latest issue of "Liberation," now on sale, contains the full text of a startling letter written by President Eisenhower about American policy towards Africa and Asia. The writer, Nelson A. Rockefeller, heir to the Standard Oil millions, and an important figure in the moulding of U.S. policy, frankly advocates bribery and economic penetration as a means of establishing American influence in those countries which have resisted involvement in the "cold war." He opposes further extensive subsidising of the Middle East, where "the Shah would not dare to make a cabinet change" without consulting the American Ambassador. "A hotbed fire needs no bait," he explains.



The issue of the magazine also contains a leader covering a wide field, ranging from Ghana to the Nationalist Government's latest attacks on the people, the conclusion of Govan Mbeki's challenge series on the Transkei and the Bantu Authorities Act, and a further article by A. Bernstein on the Reichstag Fire of fifteen years ago. "Liberation" is available at a shilling per copy from P.O. Box 10120, Johannesburg.

In every country, the people will recall past struggles. In Japan they will remember how the Americans fired on their May Day processions only a few years ago, killing many people. In England they will recall that May Day of thirty-one years ago, when a general strike of workers paralysed the whole country and brought the British people to the brink of grasping power from the ruling class.

### Past Struggles

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### A New Life

We KNOW that not only will we end fascism in South Africa, but that with it we will sweep away the whole structure of our unjust society, liberating the great



constructive force that lies within the different races of our land. We KNOW that police rule can be ended, and the Freedom Charter made a living reality. We KNOW the ideals of liberty and democracy are not just dreams, but something we can and will achieve. LET THIS MAY DAY, 1957, BE THE TURNING POINT IN OUR LONG STRUGGLE. WORKERS OF ALL RACES, UNITE! THE FUTURE AWAITS US.



Africans handcuffed after being topped for passes in Johannesburg recently.

# UP MY ALLEY BY ALEX LA GUMA

EVERY important event should be hailed with a fanfare. And since this issue ushers in a new phase in the life of sacrifice which is the lot of the ordinary man, we blow the fanfare for you, comrade reader, for it is you who are making the sacrifice today by paying for, for your copy of NEW AGE. Happy reading and may you become regular frequenter of the Alley. Both bricks and bouquet will be welcome.

MAY Day is upon us again and all over the world the worker are celebrating their victories and pledging their solidarity one will the other. In our own country we are passing through critical times what with the Nats pushing through Parliament new laws against the people, and the Treason Trial entering its sixth month.

A NEWS report informs us that a special snuff made by an old dame quickly cures head colds in nine cases out of ten. It keeps the head passages and sinuses clear. We strongly recommend that permits be granted to all Nat. M.P.s for the importation of quantities of this snuff for their use during sessions. Perhaps better results could then be expected from Parliament Street, Cape Town.

WE are told that the United Party has not yet decided on the attitude it will adopt in the Nursing Apartheid Bill. The Bill

THE Minister of Native Affairs is making dangerous progress with the issue of passes to African women in the rural areas. If the Congress fail to act vigorously now, thousands of women will soon suffer the cruel consequences of the pass laws.

According to Government Gazettes of the last six months, the African women of more than 50 magisterial districts should have received reference books by the end of last week. Last week's Government Gazette announced Pietersburg as one of these areas, giving five days notice only to the women there to take out pass-books (the date fixed was April 24).

In only a few areas has there been organised opposition but news of what has happened in the other specified districts seems hard to believe by. Does the silence mean that in most of these centres the Government has succeeded in applying the pass laws to the women?

### Real Threat

Let us face the fact that the Government's threat to compel African females from the age of 16 to carry passes has become a reality; and that the time has come for the people's organisations to decide whether or not they are going to allow Verwoerd to implement this evil plan with such ease.

What Minister Verwoerd is trying to do is perfectly clear. Passes for women must be introduced first in the backward, rural areas where ties with the Congress are weak, and opposition therefore unlikely. After this has been achieved there, the machinery of the Natives Abolition of Passes

woerd than passes are issued to African women.

Next step must be to establish the closest contact with the African women in the different towns. Then there must be the collection of thousands of signatures from the Non-European and progressive European women for the printed pledge to be sent to the Minister of Native Affairs. This pledge is being circulated by the ANC Women's League and the Federation of S.A. Women. The signatory pledges to take part in the struggle against the pass laws until they have been abolished.

The response to this pledge has been tremendous wherever it has been driven to the people, but the drive for signatures is not gathering speed because so few women have come forward to help and to take the places of the women's leaders like Helen Joseph, Lilian Ngoyi, Bertha Mashaba and others who are prisoners at the treason inquiry.

We must ensure that many more thousands of signed pledges flow into the offices of Dr. Verwoerd than passes are issued to African women.

### United Effort

The weaknesses can be overcome if all the efforts of the members of the ANC Women's League and the Federation of S.A. Women, with the full support of the Congresses, are directed against Verwoerd's scheme to destroy the freedom of movement, the status and the dignity of the African women.

### This Is The Pledge The Women Are Signing

TO THE MINISTER OF NATIVE AFFAIRS. I solemnly pledge myself to the whole people against the issue of passes to African women in the rural areas of the Republic of South Africa. I will not allow myself to be intimidated by the Government's threats to take action against me. I will continue to work for the abolition of the pass laws until they have been completely abolished.

### AFRICAN WOMAN ALLEGES SHE WAS BEATEN BY POLICE

JOHANNESBURG. An African woman here, Mrs. Johanna Mashaba, worked for two months for her employers. She was paid the salary for only one month and was then sacked. Her fourteen-year-old daughter who worked in the same place as a nurse-girl, was also told to go. Part of her salary amounting to £7 10s. was still outstanding. She reported the matter to the police at Brixton Police Station but got a rebuff and was asked by the police what she needed the money for. She then went to the Labour Bureau offices, but was sent back again to Brixton police station with a note. This time she alleges that the police sent her husband out and started beating and kicking her. She fell and was dragged along the ground by one of the policemen. She alleges that all the three assailants are European police constables stationed at Brixton.

Mrs. Mashaba was later taken to the Coronation Hospital by her husband where she received treatment for injuries on the arm and leg. She has reported the matter to the brick- or bouquet, Letters and comments welcome. Tot siens

### Indians Want No Group Areas

DURBAN. Mr. J. N. Singh, appearing for the Queensburgh Indian Ratepayers' Association, told the Natal Committee of the Group Areas Board at Westville that the Indian ratepayers wanted no Group Areas recommendation whatsoever. Mr. A. B. Hercourt, appearing for the Borough of Queensburgh, had proposed that it should be declared a White area. The first witness for Queensburgh was Mr. G. Gale, Borough Engineer, who said that the estimated population of Queensburgh was 9,500 Europeans, 5,500 Asiatics, 2,300 "Natives" and 450 Coloureds.

Questioned by Mr. Singh he agreed that if the Council's plan was accepted to India would be able to retain his livelihood as a market gardener in the area. Mr. Gale also said that to his knowledge the Asiatics had not been consulted about the Borough's Group Areas plan.

Mr. J. N. Singh told the Committee "We feel that it is impossible to find a just plan to accommodate all races in Queensburgh. A plan

### TROUBLE OVER LENASIA

JOHANNESBURG. Many Indians who bought land at Lenz—paying up to £400 a stand—are having trouble with the private company that sold it to them. They cannot obtain transfer, although Lenz has been found for Indian occupation. Nor up till now have they been able to get their money back.

The land is to be expropriated by the Group Areas Development Board, but the Board has failed to reach agreement about the price, and New Age understands the matter will probably go to arbitration.

The purchasers are incensed at the way things have turned out. "We feel that it is impossible to find a just plan to accommodate all races in Queensburgh. A plan

put forward by the Indian community would be just as preposterous as the one proposed by the Town Council."

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With 5 H-Bombs recently detonated by the Soviet Union and another series of tests planned by the British in the near future, the peoples of the world are demanding:

# HALT THE H-BOMB TESTS!

**CHRISTMAS** Island in the Pacific Ocean—the island of peace and goodwill in the ocean of tranquillity—is now the target of a monstrous bomb that is about to blast it to bits, spraying its earth high into a vast poisonous cloud of dust which will be carried by the winds over the surfaces of the earth before being silently deposited on helpless victims. And all to prove that the British are still big boys capable of making a big enough noise to get their own way.

If the dangers to humanity were not so great, the situation would be laughable. One week the British Government issues a White Paper stating categorically that there is no defence against a hydrogen bomb attack, the next week they re-iterate their plans to carry on hydrogen bomb tests, knowing full well that if ever they were to use hydrogen bombs in a war, the British Isles would receive the same treatment that the Christmas Isles are due to get this month.

## Who Stands to Gain?

Who stands to gain from the tests? Not the British people, who are committed to the tremendous expenditure involved in manufacturing the bombs, and who would be annihilated if ever they were used in a war? Not even the Tory rulers, for in a hydrogen bomb war there will be no retreats to run to as so many of them did in the last world war. Even from the short-term point of view their determination to explode the bombs is a mad one. They increase their budgetary difficulties, they cause their own people and the people of the world against them, and they have not even got the means to deliver the bombs if ever they wanted to.

To their shame the Labour Party in 1955 agreed with the Tory Government that Britain needed the hydrogen bomb. Atlee got round opposition within his party by saying that the possession of atomic weapons would make Britain less dependent on the United States. Now the British have the "bomb," but they have not got the rockets to launch them with.

So instead of having American bomber bases on their soil they now have American rocket bases, and are more dependent militarily on the Americans than ever.

## Storm of Protest

It is little wonder, then, that wide sections of the British people have raised a storm of protest against the tests. Some are the days when the Communists, pacifists and other supporters of the world Peace Movement were the only ones to speak out against hydrogen bomb tests. The Labour Party has officially recorded its opposition. Students from 90 British universities have signed a scroll over 100 feet long calling on the British Government to postpone the tests. And the British Council of Churches has responded to an appeal by the National Christian Council of Japan by adopting a proposal demanding the continuance of the tests.

One of the worst features of the tests is that they are to be carried out not in the wastes of Canada or Australia (for though

the Governments of these Commonwealth countries support the Forney, they should not dare allow the tests to be carried out in their territories), but on an Asian island. It is not only the islanders themselves, with the prospect of

## WORLD STAGE by SPECTATOR

not being able to return to their island home for fifteen years, who are angry about this.

The Japanese, who have suffered more than any other nation from atomic and hydrogen bombs, have issued agonised pleas to the British to reconsider their decision. No less than 33 million Japanese signed a petition demanding the abolition of hydrogen bomb tests. The Japanese Government has three times asked the British Government to suspend the tests and three times been refused. Even the sending of a personal envoy from the Japanese Prime Minister to Macmillan was of no avail.

The Indonesian Government has protested against the tests, and the Indian Government has dropped hints that it will consider leaving the Commonwealth if the tests are proceeded with.

## Menace to Life

It is not only the fear of the colossal destruction and even the extinction of the entire human race that might result from a future nuclear war, that has aroused such widespread opposition to the tests. The fact is that the increased radioactivity resulting from the detonation of hydrogen bombs in itself constitutes a menace to human life now.

According to reports issued last year by the British Medical Research Council and a special commission of the American National Academy of Sciences, this increased radioactivity is harmful in two ways.

Firstly, almost all radiation, however small in quantity, causes some change in the hereditary particles, or genes. These changes are almost always harmful. Even before hydrogen bombs were exploded, 2% of all births in the U.S.A. were marked by defects caused by radiation. If the radiation to which the Americans are exposed were doubled, then the number of children marked by defects would be increased by 200,000 in the first generation of Americans.

The second danger results from the production by atomic explosion of a radioactive isotope of the element strontium, known as strontium-90. Strontium is chemically similar to calcium and like it, becomes accumulated in bone. When the radioactive isotope lodges there, it tends to give rise to both cancers and leukaemias (blood cancer).

The H-bomb, estimated to be 1,500 times as powerful as the atom bomb which destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, throws up a cloud of dust 30 miles into the atmosphere. The dust is then caught by winds and distributed to various parts of the world where

it is gradually deposited, polluting the air and the soil for a period of up to thirty years.

## Scientists Disagree

Exactly what danger is constituted by the explosions already carried out and those still planned, is a matter which is disputed by the scientific experts. Without exception they all recognise that harm to the people of the world must result; where they differ is in their estimates of the amount of harm.

Expert reports last year by American and British scientists suggested that the damage from tests to date was infinitesimal, but more recent reports, such as the one produced for the World Health Organisation last month,

indicate that the hazard is more immediate than was earlier supposed.

The mere fact that the scientists cannot agree on the extent of the danger is in itself cause for alarm. If the harm being caused by radioactive fallout from the tests is in fact serious, then by the time the effects manifest themselves in crumbling bones and the reproduction of idiots, it will be too late to call a halt.

Yet despite this fact, and despite the fact that a war with H-bombs is practically unthinkable, the tests continue. Last month the Soviet Union detonated 5 H-bombs. (At least the explosions took place on their own territory, and after their repeated offers to abandon the tests subject to a promise from the other great

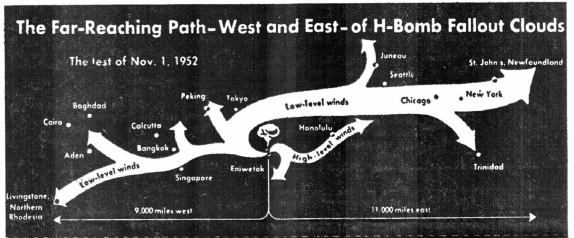
powers that they would also suspend all tests had been rejected by the West.) Now the British plan to do the same, stubbornly refusing even to offer to suspend their tests.

## Soviet Proposal

The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Valerian Zorin, has told the U.N. Disarmament Committee now meeting in London that, as the Western Powers do not want to accept the complete abandoning of H-bomb tests now, the Soviet Government proposed as a first step agreement on the suspension of such tests for a specified period.

He said the Soviet Government felt:

(Continued on page 9)



This diagram, reproduced from the U.S. magazine "Newsweek," shows the paths followed by the radioactive cloud resulting from the H-bomb explosion at Eniwetok, in the Pacific, on November 1, 1952. Note that dust from the explosion was traced as close to South Africa as Livingston, Northern Rhodesia.

# HOW TO BE A COMMUNIST

**ARRIVING** back in America after an absence of 15 year or more, Dr. Emory Hornsnagle was surprised by a strange creature approaching him along the road. At first he took it to be a weird animal or land bird of the emu or cassowary variety. It waddled clumsily on four legs and had a large plum-like tail protruding from the rear.

As it drew nearer he perceived it to be a man crawling on his hands and knees. His hair had been shaved off and his beard had been painted blue. His body was encircled by red stripes. What looked like a tail was a long stick decorated with streamers of colored paper and bearing a placard: I LOVE CAPITALISM.

As the man crawled he muttered over and over: "I am not a Communist. I am not a Communist."

"Then what are you?" asked Dr. Hornsnagle. The creature took one look at Hornsnagle, then turned around and began to crawl away as rapidly as its hands and knees could carry it.

Hornsnagle quickly lassooed it by one leg and tied it to a tree. "Now there's no reason for you to be frightened," he said. "I am

not going to hurt you. As a scientist I would like to know what you are."

"Let me go," begged the creature. "If I am seen talking to you

An allegory by the late American journalist MIKE QUIN

I will get into trouble!" "Why should you get in trouble for talking to me?" asked Hornsnagle.

"Because you are a communist," whined the creature.

"Nonsense," said Hornsnagle.

"What makes you think that?"

"Because," said the creature, "there is nothing about you to indicate that you are not. If you were not a communist, you would certainly do something to indicate that you are not. As for myself you can see at a glance I am no communist."

"Just what is a communist?" asked Hornsnagle. "I don't know," replied the creature, "but you certainly would not accuse me of being one."

"But crawling on your hands and knees," said Hornsnagle, "and that, er, tail—isn't it all somewhat

inconvenient?"

"The creature broke into tears and Dr. Hornsnagle kindly loaned it his handkerchief. "I used to walk erect," it said, "and speak my mind freely. It all started when they brought that resolution into the union."

"What resolution?" asked Hornsnagle.

"The resolution against communism," said the creature. "They told us the employers would not deal with us because they suspected us of being communistic. So we passed the resolution to convince them."

"And then what?" asked Hornsnagle.

"They were still not convinced," said the creature. "It was discovered that many of our members had communist books and literature in their homes."

"So what did you do?" asked Hornsnagle.

"We expelled them," said the creature, "and the rest of us burned our libraries to make absolutely certain."

"Did you convince them?" asked Hornsnagle.

"No. They said our officials were communistic. So we expelled them too and elected new ones who were highly praised in the newspapers as reasonable and patriotic."

"What happened then?" asked Hornsnagle. (Continued on page 9)



# HALT THE H-BOMB TESTS

(Continued from page 8)

1. Agreement on banning the tests would ease international tension, and remove the suspicion caused by the continuing experiments with weapons of mass destruction.
2. Halting the tests would be an important practical step toward solving the atomic problem as a whole—the banning of the use of these weapons, discontinuance of their manufacture, and their removal from national armaments.
3. Halting the tests would remove completely the serious danger to the health of human beings caused by radiation resulting from the tests.

The Soviet Union proposed that the question of A- and H-weapon tests should be separated from the general problem of disarmament—not linking agreement on other aspects of disarmament.

The Japanese Government has indicated its support for the Soviet proposals. A heavy responsibility now rests on the British and the American Governments to do the same.

## People Impatient

The people of the world are becoming impatient. While the dangers and futility of keeping up an H-bomb race are obvious to everyone, the Governments of major powers are unable, by agreement or by unilateral action, to bring about an abandonment of the production and testing of the bomb.

This is the reason why the proposed H-bomb anti-bomb crusade feet into the 'danger area' around Christmas Island has captured the popular imagination anywhere. Perhaps few brave volunteers will succeed, where Governments have failed, in putting a stop to the H-bomb madness.

EXCEPT for the phrase "here in England" sometimes reads "here in America" or "here in Australia," the following passage from one letter is typical of a number of letters I have received recently:

"Here in England there are as you know, sharp divisions of opinion on many questions in which the Soviet Union is directly concerned. . . . Living as you do in the Soviet Union you must see different sides of these questions and various signs of the changing times that we cannot see from here. . . . So perhaps you might be able to help people like myself to 'get our thinking straight' on some of the questions I have set out below."

Frankly I have not got my own thinking straight (in the sense of



having reached firm conclusions) on many of the questions put to me, and what few conclusions I have reached are based less on on-the-spot observations than on almost interminable discussions with Russian and non-Russian friends.

## Progress Noted

True, there are plenty of "signs of the changing times" here, but these signs could be read in a dozen different ways by a dozen different observers.

For instance, I could, in answer to a number of questions about the "progress of democratization," give many examples showing that the progress is better than I would have thought possible, and many other examples of progress so slow that it makes me tear my hair. In ordinary circumstances these examples would make good journalistic copy. (Kirovodi, Soviet humour magazine, has had many joke-cartoons on the subject) but they simply would not add up to one well-balanced, informative picture.

My own summing up, for what it is worth, is that the progress in this field is far too uneven and, on the whole, not quite fast enough; but that (as a Russian friend has pointed out with plenty of justification) is the summing up of a typically, or more-than-typically, "impatient Westerner," and the people with the biggest stake in this "democratization" are obviously much more satisfied with the rate of progress than many Western sympathisers are.

## Many Factors

That reference to impatience brings me to one of two points which, in living as I do in the Soviet Union, I feel are not always given the weight they deserve in

# How Fares Soviet Democracy?

MOSCOW.

## By ARCHIE JOHNSTONE

A Scotsman by birth, a topflight British journalist by profession, and a resident of the Soviet Union for the past 10 years, Archie Johnstone is uniquely qualified to give an estimate of Soviet life.

He came to Moscow in 1947 as editor of "British Ally," the British Government's official Russian language propaganda organ in the Soviet Union, and resigned in 1949 because of Britain's cold war policy. He has since written many sketches on Soviet life and customs.

discussions amongst foreign progressives.

When a writer uses the phrase "Russian historical and geographical factors" it often sounds like (and is often dismissed as) just another issue-dodging formula. That, I insist, is wrong. The more one knows about Russia, the more weight one gives to those factors. The trouble is that they are so numerous, so varied and so complicated that you simply can't explain them adequately in short space.

I shall mention here only one of these factors. The Russian attitude to time is very different from our own. If you want to be critical you could say that they don't value time so much as we do and that they lack our sense of urgency; if you want to lean over the other way you could say that they have a broader and more philosophical or even a more "poetical" attitude to time than we have—and in support of that argument you could mention the almost visionary far-sightedness without which they could never have conceived their great long-term projects whose benefits will be enjoyed not by the planners but by generations not yet born.

What, you may ask, has that to do with—say—Hungary?

I had a long discussion recently with an old engineer working on one of the Volga dams. He was violently (and, I must add, untypically) critical of what he described as the "mishandling" of the Hungarian situation and of the

"lack of faith in the good sense of the common people."

## Engineer's View

"But," he added, "look at that dam over there. It will be standing there and getting on quietly with its job long after you and I are gone and long after the blunders of today are forgotten, or at least seen in their proper perspective."

I could not help commenting: "A few years ago you wouldn't have dared to speak like that about the powers-that-be to a foreigner in a post-war period, because it answers, in part at least, questions I have been asked about the voicing of criticism."

I wish I could add here that the press adequately reflects the great increased volume of criticism, from below upwards, that is voiced nowadays in private discussions and at meetings large and small. The situation is much better than it was a few years ago (when it was frankly deplorable), but I feel that what used to be said about Soviet literature can now be said about the Soviet press— "It lags behind Soviet life."

The situation as regards literary criticism is in my opinion rather worse than a mere lagging behind life. During the "Stalin era" I could forgive novelists who glossed over that whole slice of "reality" that was affected by what today's over-zealous critics call the Cult of Personality; but I could NOT forgive, and I still cannot forgive, those critics who criticised novelists for

their "lack of Socialist Realism," and their "failure to give a true reflection of reality" when those critics knew damned well why the novelists wrote as they did.

## Jewish Culture

It seems that many of the Old Firm of critics are still at their reflection of reality. Whether they are churning out the prescribed portion of butter for some duly-established novelist or receding in horror from some writer who dares to break new ground, they use what amounts to a special grammar which forbids the use of phrases like "it seems to me," "in my opinion," "I think," and so on.

How about the restoration of Jewish culture? Many of my Jewish friends are fairly satisfied about the progress made. I myself look back in sorrow at some allegedly "high-level" statements on the matter which I do not think showed a high level of anything and did not promise much.

Do newspaper writers feel much concern about the dissensions in the ranks of progressives in capitalist countries? If they do, they don't show it.

But please note that the foregoing negative points all involve individual psychology and are, in their own way, "private problems." In the much wider realm of "public problems," where errors can be speedily corrected by leading the masses in the right means, things are going very well.

The gigantic task of "rehabilitation" was completed long ago. I have met a number of people who spent many years in the prison camps, and it has been one of the most deeply emotional experiences of my life to note that not one of them lost their basic faith in the Soviet regime.

## The Nato Factor

Now to a point which I think is just as widely relevant and just as often overlooked as the "historical and geographical factors" mentioned earlier. Call it the NATO factor.

Many Western left-wingers who are critical of the "Soviet attitude" as regards Hungary and various other matters, external or internal, are also critical of NATO, the Eisenhower Doctrine, and the continual rejection by the Western powers of Soviet proposals for disarmament and the lessening of international tension.

In other words, they condemn one party in the international arena for menacing another party; but they do not condemn the menacing party for actions and attitudes which, if one probes deep enough, could be shown to be a natural reaction to that menacing.

"Living as I do in the Soviet Union, I venture the opinion that if these critics could make an effort of the imagination put themselves in the position of a people oppressed, so to speak, the guns of NATO are pointed, they might swing round to the opinion that the actions and attitudes they criticise are, in the circumstances, not merely justified but inevitable.

To me it seems that practically every phase of Soviet life, internal or external, is affected by the "international climate." If, for instance, the leaders of the Western powers are to change their minds and find it even "politically expedient" to agree to new "summit talks" in the Geneva spirit of 1955, I am certain that this would have an immeasurable beneficial effect on the "progress of democratization" and all the other matters on which there is a division of opinion among progressives abroad.

# HOW NOT TO BE A COMMUNIST

(Continued from page 8)

"Then we stopped holding meetings," said the creature. "There was nothing to meet about anyway. It was impossible to make any demands or conduct any business without being called communistic. Later on we disbanded the union altogether."

"Didn't that convince them?", asked Hornsgale.

The creature shook his head sadly. "No, indeed, employers made a rule to employ only the most non-communistic workers who would work for the lowest wages. Everybody began to out-do each other in being non-communistic. Some of them began to crawl, and pretty soon no one could get a job at all if he didn't crawl. The tail piece was thought up by William Green."

"Why don't you stand up and tell them to go to hell!," asked Hornsgale.

"That would be impossible," said the creature.

"And why so?", asked Hornsgale.

"Because," said the creature, "that would be communistic."

# CIVIL LIBERTIES IN THE SOVIET UNION

DETAILS have been disclosed in Moscow of extensive guarantees that the legal rights of individual Soviet citizens will be respected. The guarantees are being discussed in the preparation of a new law embodying principles of court procedure in the Soviet Union.

These principles, together with principles governing the new codes of criminal and civil law, are under discussion by the legislative commissions of both houses of the Soviet Parliament and the judicial commission of the Council of Ministers.

The proposed changes in procedure for inclusion in the new basic principles include:

1. Extension of the number and powers of the people's assessors, who roughly correspond to jurymen in Britain, in trials before Soviet courts.
2. The principle that a man is innocent until proved guilty, to be clearly stated and embodied as part of the basic principles.
3. Recognition by law that no person can be convicted on his own confession unless this is supported by independent and objective evidence.
4. No witness in a case to be obliged to answer questions which might result in his incriminating himself.
5. Right of defence counsel to intervene in a case before it comes up for trial in court.
6. Preliminary investigations in criminal cases to be carried out not by the militia—the Soviet police—as at present, but by judicial organs under the investigating department of the procurator's office.

## PUBLIC TAKE PART

The discussion of the new law and basic principles has attracted widespread public attention here. The legislative commissions of both Houses of the Soviet Parliament are receiving hundreds of letters from lawyers, judges, court officials and ordinary citizens from all over the country submitting definite proposals for inclusion in the new law.

## TREASON INQUIRY

# HE WAS LOCATION BOSS, POLICE INFORMER AND BURGER REPORTER ALL AT THE SAME TIME

## Mr. Oosthuizen Gives Evidence

From Lionel Forman

DRILL HALL, Johannesburg.

**A MAN who filled the triple rôle of location superintendent, police informer and Burger reporter gave evidence at the treason enquiry last week.**

Mr. P. J. Oosthuizen, superintendent of the Kaya Mandi Location, Stellenbosch, told the court that he began his collaboration with the police as long ago as 1942 when he was a student.

He had been at Kaya Mandi since 1953 and had taken it upon himself to attend meetings held at the location, make notes and hand them over to the police. In addition, when a speech struck him as having news value, he sent it to Die Burger, a paper which, he said, supported Nationalist Party policy. For this he was paid. But for his work for the police he received no money.

The first meeting of which Mr. Oosthuizen gave evidence was one addressed by Mr. Len Lee-Warden M.P. during his election campaign. Asked to identify Mr. Lee-Warden he walked into the dock and picked out the Hon. Horwitz.

The second meeting of which he gave evidence was one addressed by Ben Turok.

Asked to identify Mr. Turok he walked into the dock and picked out Leon Levy.

### THE GUARDIAN

Coaker: You didn't consider these meetings unlawful?—No.

Coaker: Is taking these notes part of your duties?

Oosthuizen: It is my duty as guardian of the people in the location.

Coaker: Is there any regulation giving you authority to take these notes for the police?—Not specifically.

Coaker: Did you volunteer to the police for this?

Magistrate: What difference does this make? Supposing he was acting contrary to law. Would that make the evidence less admissible?

### MR. OOSTHUIZEN ON VIOLENCE

ASKED by Mr. Coaker, for the defence, whether speakers stressed a policy of non-violence and racial harmony, Mr. Oosthuizen agreed. "But that is contradicted by the contents of the speeches," he said. "There is a continual stress on the idea of violence."

Could you give us some examples of this? asked Mr. Coaker. **AND THIS IS THE SPEECH QUOTED BY MR. OOSTHUIZEN AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE STRESS ON VIOLENCE:**

"The time has come for us to elect a representative to tell the Government what is hurting us. We have chosen Lee-Warden from the group which will tell Parliament of our burdens and difficulties. Each step that we take is hated, because even if you put your foot forward, you are arrested. If you haven't a pass you must pay ten shillings or a pound."

Coaker: Are you seriously suggesting that this is an appeal to violence?

Oosthuizen: Not to violence but to related matters like difficulties.

Coaker: If a man talks of hardship that is related to violence?

Oosthuizen: He is creating an atmosphere conducive to violence.

Coaker: If he makes a complaint?

Magistrate: That is the witness's opinion. These questions don't get us anywhere. He says the non-violent references are contradicted by the speeches.

Coaker: And the example you gave is what you have in mind?

Oosthuizen: Yes.

### MEMORY

Cross-examined further by Mr. Slovo as to his ability to remember what happened at meetings without reference to his notes, Mr. Oosthuizen was asked to name the speakers at a particular meeting.

Oosthuizen: Turok was one of them.

Slovo: Turok. And what did he say?

Oosthuizen: I think that he expressed the idea of non-violence.

Slovo: Ah. Well, Turok wasn't there at all.

Oosthuizen: I am making a mistake. This was another meeting.

### "THIS IS NEWS"

Mr. Oosthuizen insisted however that there was one phrase from a speech by Mr. Greenwood Ngoyana which he could clearly remember because it had made a deep impression. "When he said it, I thought to myself—'this is news.' It awoke something in me and I decided to send it to my old paper, Die Burger."

This was Mr. Ngoyana's memorable alleged phrase:

"You are Natives, Malan and his gwagushas and Verwoerd are the bedbugs, which suck your blood." Gwagusha, Mr. Oosthuizen explained "refers to the Afrikaners."

### GWAGUSHA AND DLAGUSHA

Cross-examined Mr. Oosthuizen agreed that the word gwagusha did not necessarily mean Afrikaner. "It is very hard for me to give a complete translation. The impression I am trying to convey to the court is the one the word made on me as a Xosa-speaking person."

Slovo: Now sergeant—I mean Mr.—Oosthuizen. How do you spell that Xosa word?

Oosthuizen: Gwagusha. But that really means a person who wears clumsy clothes. He should have said 'dlagusha—a sheep-eater. Both Xosas denote Afrikaners, Nationalists and the Government."

Slovo: You say the speaker made a mistake, not you?

Oosthuizen: Yes, the Xosas today don't understand the usages of their language.

Slovo: But you learnt the language when you didn't you?

Oosthuizen: Yes.

### LANGUAGE TESTS

After Mr. Oosthuizen had said that Xosa was his second language after Afrikaans and that he spoke it better than English—in which he was giving his evidence fluently—

Mr. Slovo gave him certain tests in Xosa.

In the first test he translated the Xosa words for "avoid the old people" as "avoid the old people."

The Magistrate: This test may be of little value. That may be a complex sentence.

Slovo: I am trying to show that his knowledge of Xosa is important enough to permit serious errors.

Magistrate: It is understandable that in a complex sentence the negative concept may be given.

Slovo: The opposite of 'avoid' is 'dumpy later' not 'arouse'.

Mr. Oosthuizen translated the second phrase as "the hair worries the ear." He did not know what its idiomatic meaning was. "It is a common idiom meaning 'a chip off the old block,'" said Mr. Slovo.

I do not consider myself an expert," said Mr. Oosthuizen.

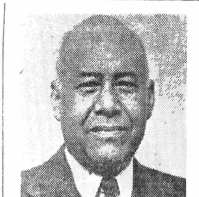
### DISAGREES WITH NATS

Asked if he agreed with the Government's policies, Mr. Oosthuizen said: "Not in all respects. I think it is a negative. Not enough opportunities are given to Non-European to make up for rights taken away. I feel that when the ANC takes a positive stand they should not disagree with it. For example the ANC strives to develop pride and self-confidence among the Africans."

After saying that he wrote nothing but the truth for his paper, he agreed that if Ngoyana had said: "The ANC stands for all that is best in our national life," he would not have reported it to Die Burger.

"There would not be much sense in sending in a report that wouldn't be published," he said.

Re-examined by the prosecutor, Mr. Oosthuizen said he was studying for his M.A. degree in Xosa. There was laughter in the public gallery.



Mr. J. la Guma.

## WAY FORWARD FOR COLOURED PEOPLE

CAPE TOWN.

**CONFIDENCE** in the struggle of the Coloured people to build a new South Africa where "there will be equal rights for all sections of the people without discrimination on the grounds of colour," was expressed by Mr. Jimmie la Guma, veteran Coloured leader, when he opened the SACPO conference in Cape Town recently. Confidence in la Guma has helped to build the cities of sunny South Africa, helped to till its soil, cultivate its vineyards, helped to produce the abundance of wealth of which ours is a very meagre share.

Reviewing international events and the future of this country, la Guma showed how reaction to negative movements had never succeeded in establishing themselves, permanently, and the South African Government would be no exception.

"What assures our ultimate victory? That we are a strong and talented people? That we have confidence in ourselves? Not only these factors but the dominant fact that we are stronger still in our association and unity with strong allies, our African and Indian brothers and the growing number of democratic Europeans."

la Guma urged the conference to raise the level of political consciousness of the Coloured people, to build SACPO and to develop new leaders from amongst the working class.

## CHURCH WILL DEFY

(Continued from page 1)

Native Affairs Department and the South African Police.

The Bill was not merely a denial of "freedom to kneel in church with persons of another race." It was a fundamental attack on all freedom of association.

"The Bill attacks my right to associate with any African with whom I have common interests. . . it tries to destroy the growth of inter-racial understanding on which depends the future of this country."

"I am absolutely certain that Verwoerd doesn't know a single African person or understand African opinions," he said. "Yet it is the man who is becoming Minister of Industrial Affairs, Minister of University Affairs, Minister of Municipal Affairs, and the new Minister of Race Relations, Personal Communication, and Personal Association."

Mr. Paton denounced the harsh powers which he said "rest in the hands of Dr. Verwoerd to control the lives of Africans in urban areas."

applause greeted the Bishop's announcement that the Anglican Church would disobey the Bill if implemented, and would instruct its members to ignore Dr. Verwoerd's directives.

Expressing his "utter abhorrence of this iniquitous piece of legislation," he gave assurance that the Church would stand by all victims of the Bill.

"If this Bill is passed it will mean that in South Africa only state officials will have any contact over the colour line," said the Bishop.

# NON-EUROPEAN BUS WORKERS' MOVE TO END COLOUR BAR

## Resolution Discussed At Midnight Meeting

CAPE TOWN.

**A MOTION** calling upon the Tramway and Omnibus Workers' Union to open all jobs in the industry to its Non-European members without any discrimination on the basis of race, colour or creed was moved at the midnight meeting of the union on Tuesday night last week. About 200 union members were present.

"The Non-Europeans have since the inception of the union fought side by side with the Europeans for better wages and working conditions, and have contributed their share in sacrifices and heroism," said Mr. E. Gideon, who moved the resolution.

"The suggestion that if there is a further employment of Non-Europeans as drivers and conductors the economic standard of the Europeans will be lowered is utterly and completely false.

"The most important fight in the history of the union took place at the time of the 1919 strike, in which the shedmen played a most important part. This was the strike which forced the company to recognise the union, gave us our first wage agreement, and stabilised wages, working hours, uniforms and annual leave.

"These gains were achieved by unity. Workers of all races have to be united not only to protect their existing wages and conditions but also to intend to protect the interests of the European workers. The Act gave the Minister the power to reserve certain jobs for certain races."

### MINISTER'S AIM

Pointing out the dangers of the Industrial Conciliation Act, Mr. Gideon said the Minister of Labour had publicly declared that the Act was intended to protect the interests of the European workers. The Act gave the Minister the power to reserve certain jobs for certain races.

"The Government has in all its legislation discriminated against the Non-European peoples. We know that, if there is a depression the Minister will give preference to the Europeans in the allocation of jobs. "Now we Non-Europeans want

to know what stand the trade union is taking against this discrimination. The Non-Europeans today not only want equal pay for equal work, but they want an equal opportunity to work."

### MOTION DEFEATED

The motion, which aimed to rescind the meeting passed at a previous meeting that no more Non-European should be taken on by the tramway company, was put to the vote and defeated, all the Non-European voters in favour, but all the Europeans, who were in a majority, voting against.

The motion passed at a previous meeting that no more Non-European should be taken on by the tramway company, was put to the vote and defeated, all the Non-European union members suggested that the route along lower main road, Observatory, should be open to Non-European drivers and conductors, as the vast majority of passengers are Non-Europeans. But once again the European majority voted to regard their own interests at the expense of the Non-Europeans.



# "KING KONG" INITIAL

**EZEKIEL** Dlamini, former heavyweight champion, better known to the fighting fans as "King Kong" or "King Marshall," is no more. He was reported to have ended his life recently via the short route—suicide. While working with other prisoners at the Letewok prison farm he jumped into the dam and that was the end of him.

"King Kong" had been sentenced earlier this year to 12 years imprisonment for killing a woman in Johannesburg. He asked for the death sentence but the judge refused.

The news of "King Kong's" death did not surprise me. In fact I expected him to commit suicide, while awaiting trial at the Johannesburg Fort. When I saw him at the Fort early this year, I saw he was depressed and had lost hope in life.

## DESPERATE MAN

I met him on the steps leading to the yard of cell No. 7. Dressed in a pair of corduroy trousers, red shirt, big all-weather boots and boxing boots, he was leaning against the wall. His long hair, which had not felt the touch of the comb for many days, made him look wilder and more desperate than before. He seemed to be studying every prisoner that passed and every prisoner seemed to make it a point not to pass close to him.

I greeted him. He looked at me for a moment. He smiled and shook my hand. "What do you want here?" he asked. I told him. "What is the penalty for the crime you have committed?" Death, I replied.

He looked at me as if he envied me and said: "You are lucky." He continued, "I wish I could die. I can no longer stand this. . . please, I did not like his eyes, and left for my cell."

"King Kong" was certainly a different man. No longer the rosy, energetic bully with a giant-like face who went through the streets of Johannesburg sending to slumberland with a vicious smash the right anyone whose face he did not like or who happened to laugh when "King Marshall" passed by.

## "KING KONG" THE FIGHTER

ONE of the most difficult assignments for any boxing reporter would be to write about "King Kong" the fighter. For there is really very little to be said about him in the field of block and parry. Firstly, there is a grave shortage of heavies and this gave him few fights. Secondly, he was never because he was not so good as such. Not only was he also unorthodox but he was also unorthodox. He had no respect for the law. As for his defence he was as open as the gate leading to the Zoo. What is more, he was the most difficult boxer to manage.

With all these shortcomings "King Kong" was a professional boxer, once a champion for that matter. If there is anyone he was sure of, it was the power behind his fists and that is what made him a king of the heavies until he retired owing to health reasons.

But there is this to be said about "King Kong." He was a colourful boxer, a crowd pleaser. All he did in the ring was to please the fans. His jumping over the ropes when he got into the ring; his jumping about the ring with his fists in the air and when he crowded his opponents to land with shots yet unknown in the boxing world. The reason for the fact that "King Kong" was more on the lips of the fans than Simon Grech, Minkulu who, knocked-out "King Kong" in the

third round on October 17, 1953.

This fight will for many years be vivid in my memory for what it was and the events that surrounded it.

A week before the fight "King Kong" came to the offices of the "African Sports" magazine where I was associate editor and demanded that Sy Mogapi, boxing editor, and myself tell him who was going to win between himself

## By Robert Resha

and Greb. When we said we hoped he would win he left the office.

After he was knocked out by Greb at the Bantu Sports Ground, he slept flat on his back for a number of minutes. His seconds poured water on his face and body. When "King Kong" woke up, he looked around and said, "This rain is spoiling our fight!"

A week after the fight he was assaulting anybody who looked at him. The same week he came to our offices. Sy was standing at the doorway when he saw "King Kong" coming. Sy came back and took his seat. "King Kong" stood at the door for a minute. We did not know what to do. I said, "Hallo Dlamini." He replied, "I'm not Dlamini, he is my father," and left. After two minutes Sy peeped to see if he was gone. He had left. Now we know we were safe.

Yes, "King Kong" is dead. Fighting fans will miss him. "King Kong" was essentially not a rogue. But he was a sensationalist. He was the type of person who would do anything for publicity and admiration. He knew that you admitted him there was nothing he would not do for you.

How I wish I could take a return ticket to heaven and see how the angels will welcome this showman. Will he raise his hands as he has done in this picture? I have a feeling that although his disappearance in the world was

abrupt, his entry into the new world will be colourful.

Goodbye, "King Kong." I'm sorry to miss you.



King Kong.

## Tour By P.I Rugby Team

CAPE TOWN.

The 1st and 2nd teams of the "Butcher Birds" Rugby Club of Port Elizabeth captained by Isookutu and T. Mini respectively have been touring Cape Town for the past two weeks.

The first team have played four matches, three of which they have won. They beat the "Busty Bees" of Langa 14-6; Langa High School 3-0 and won 24-6 against the teachers.

On Saturday 27th in the last game of a very enjoyable tour the tourists were defeated 3-5 by the Bantu Club of Cape Town at a ding-dong battle where the skill shown in the balance until the last moment of a closely fought contest between two very evenly-balanced sides.

The whole visiting side acquiescence in this praise of its fine hospitality shown them by their hosts and are hoping to have the chance soon of reciprocating when a team from Cape Town visits them.



Our picture shows five members of the Worcester Transport Committee which is running the bus boycott: Back row, from the left, J. Mengu and J. Ngubane; front row, G. Mpinde, acting secretary of the ANC, K. Bantman, ANC chairman, and H. Tshizana.

## CRUCIAL WEEK FOR WORCESTER BOYCOTTERS

From E. K. Tollie

AS early as 4 a.m. one is awakened from sleep by the boycotters singing their newly composed song *Imana la bu Kwazi mablongwe* (The boycotters' name should be praised).

After work last Thursday, men, women and children assembled at the Freedom Square. The leaders of the people read a letter from the bus company agreeing to negotiations with a delegation from the people this week.

The boycotters resolved: 1. That nothing less than a fare should be accepted; 2. That negotiations should take place directly between the parties and not in the offices of the company's attorneys; 3. That Africans should not use the buses for journeys outside Worcester but should hire lorries instead.

When it was reported that one of the leaders, Mr. K. Bantman, had been summoned to appear in the Regional Court on May 8 in connection with a speech he made recently on the Grand Parade, Cape Town, the people were indignant and declared that thousands of Bantmans will take his place.

At its last meeting, the Worcester Advisory Board was presented with proposals from the Town Council whereby public meetings in future may be prohibited if it is felt that "the peace may be breached." Applications for permission to hold meetings must be made to the authorities 72 hours in advance.

It would appear that these powers are being sought at a time when the Council is trying to force a beehall on the people and is nervous of their opposition. But, as one Congressman said afterwards, "if the Council spend £17,000 to build such a beehall, they will be sorry."

## STOP PRESS

New Age is informed that the Worcester boycotters and the bus company have reached agreement that in future the fare from the location to the town will be 5d. for a single trip, and 4d. if tickets are bought on the coupon system.

The agreement was to be submitted to a public meeting of the people in the location on Friday night.

## NEWLY FORMED UNION BACKS £1 A DAY DEMAND

SUPPORT for the demand that all workers should get a minimum wage of £1 a day is expressed in a circular issued by the newly formed Pyrotechnics' Union in Cape Town.

Many of us are earning only 10d. a hour—including some who have served the factory for more than 8 years," says the statement. "The dogs at the big and beautiful homes of our bosses are better fed than we are."

The union, which was formed in January 1957 at Rondan's factory in Cape Town, has appointed Miss Hazel Ruiters as secretary.

"We are convinced that the union is the only way through which we can increase our wages, improve our working conditions and also educate ourselves and enjoy a decent social life," continues the statement. "We will not allow the bosses to destroy it."

"More than this, we will find ways and means to compel them to recognise our right to independently organise ourselves and to elect our own spokesmen. We call upon our fellow trade unions and all those who are interested in the welfare of the workers of this country to assist us in this task."

## NEGOTIATIONS

The statement reports on negotiations which the union attempted to conduct with the management with a view to obtaining better wages and working conditions. The management refused even to see the workers' delegation and called in Labour Department officials who "called us foolhardy" and tried to frighten us by saying that our union was illegal and that our delegation was a strike.

"They told us that we could be arrested, and that our children would starve if we had to spend 4 or 5 days in court. We replied that our children are already starving."

"These Labour Department officials tried to divide us by stirring up racial feeling. 'You Natives cannot be members of the union,' they told some of us. But our union has, as members, almost every worker in the factory and we refuse to be weakened by being divided on racial grounds. We know that unity is strength."

Police intimidation also failed to break the workers' spirit, and the union declares its determination to carry on its activities until its demands are won.

## Non-Europeans Were Treated With Warm Welcome

CAPE TOWN.

A LARGE mixed gathering of Europeans and Non-Europeans were present in the Salt River Railway Institute Hall, Cape Town, last Thursday to welcome home the first South Africa overseas in any sport.

The players represented South Africa at the world table tennis championship in Stockholm and were giving an exhibition to a Cape Town audience before leaving for their respective homes. The audience were thrilled by a scintillating display of a large variety of strokes.

Their manager, Mr. C. Bassa, expressed the gratitude of the team to the S.A. Table Tennis Board who made the trip possible and thanked the public for their support and encouragement.

Talking about their travels, Mr. Bassa told the gathering of the extremely high standard of play at the tournament where they played to crowds of about 10,000. The South Africans were not successful in any matches, firstly because this was their first encounter with international players, and secondly because they found that overseas players used the sponge bat whereas they were used to the rubber bat.

Mr. Bassa praised the warm welcome received from the Swedish hosts and the other teams and said that now, after a tour where they found any trace of colour discrimination against them. Everywhere they had been received with open arms and treated as equals.

## MAYOR RELEASED

LONDON.

The Mayor of Laraca, Mr. George Christodoulides, who has been "detained" since December, 1955, when the Cyprus Communist Party was outlawed, has been released.

# THE "CHURCH CLAUSE" IS A TREAT TO EVERYBODY

## Indian Protest To Mayor

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal Indian Congress has appealed to the Mayor of Johannesburg to withdraw the new apartheid trans on the Newlands route, pointing out that previous arrangements worked satisfactorily, and that the new service would operate at greater cost and less convenience to transport users of all racial groups.

While acknowledging that the City Council has in the past tried to stand up to the Government's imposition of apartheid, the letter describes the council's voluntary introduction of segregated transport as 'trafic'.

The Congress urges all citizens to unite to halt the Nationalist policy, and warns the Council that the action of the Tramways Department will encourage the Government to plunge deeper into the mire of race bitterness, conflict and force.

C.P.E.

Lord's blessing for our Great White Father, Dr. Verwoerd?

**WHAT IS A NUISANCE?**  
I don't know why Dr. Verwoerd went to the trouble of talking about "nuisances," when as everyone knows he regards the entire non-white population as a nuisance (out of working hours). The rest of Clause 29 makes it plain, perfectly plain, that the Minister is setting about eliminating wherever possible contact between whites and non-whites, except in the capacities of "ward" and "guardian."

The powers conferred on him by Clause 29 extend not only to ban Africans from churches (including church bazaars), but from "any school, hospital, club or similar institution." Imagine a hospital! School could mean a night-school, and club could mean a social, cultural or sports club.

Again, there is no mention to "nuisance." Dr. Verwoerd has taken care, however, to ensure that nuisance means whatever "in his opinion," is a nuisance.

The Clause further entitles Dr. Verwoerd to prohibit Africans

to engage the non-Dutch Reformed Churches in open conflict.

But what about the other organisations that are threatened? The Liberal Party issues a statement after the original Bill was published, saying that "some" of its leaders could not see their way clear to obeying it. What does the Liberal Party think about the new Bill—which the churches have rejected just as vehemently as the old one?

**THE NATIVE LAWS AMENDMENT BILL MUST BECOME THE BAILING POINT AT THIS STAGE FOR ALL DEMOCRATIC ORGANISATIONS, BECAUSE ALL SOUTH AFRICANS WHO BELIEVE THAT INTER-RACIAL CONTACT IS THE WAY TO HARMONY IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AFFECTED BY IT.**

**MOST** of the 217 lines of clause 29 of the Native Laws Amendment Bill are camouflage. But useless camouflage. Nationalist backbenchers fell over themselves in their haste to tell the Opposition exactly what lay behind the wordy clause.

If you examine the clause, you find that it gives Dr. Verwoerd the power to ban Africans from attending churches in urban areas if the Africans make a "nuisance" of themselves at church, or on their way to church, or if there are too many of them at church.

As it stands, the clause implies that Dr. Verwoerd is not opposed to the principle of mixed races meeting at church, but that he merely wants to avoid Africans becoming "nuisances."

### THE TRUTH

So much for the camouflage. Mr. D. J. Scholtz, the Nationalist M.P. for Namaqualand, had a different reason to offer. He said that every person carried with him a "dampkring" (an atmosphere) which might be offensive to another group. If it were possible to pray together over the radio or on the telephone, he said, there would be no need for this legislation. The only reason for it, he explained, was that the Government regarded the mixing of races in churches as a "social evil," as on trains and in other places.

Mr. Scholtz's attitude was that apartheid was just as desirable in churches as anywhere else. He was backed by Mr. J. C. Greyling, a talkative Nationalist who has been hitting the headlines lately. Mr. Greyling said frankly that the "church clause" contained the essential apartheid principle, and that it was a stimulus for the further development of apartheid.

Where does Dr. Verwoerd's "nuisance" excuse come in now? Mr. Scholtz and Mr. Greyling are speaking the truth; it is the Bill that lies. Dr. Verwoerd is not concerned merely with eliminating a few "noisy" Africans, but with eliminating all Africans ultimately from churches in "White" areas. One must agree entirely with Mr. Scholtz and Mr. Greyling that this is the old apartheid story; it is Dr. Verwoerd going around hushing Africans on a Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Scholtz's wish that whites and non-whites could pray together over the telephone, so that they would not have to behold each other, indicates the desire of the Nationalist Party for a form of push-button apartheid. The trouble with apartheid of this type is that it is so complicated. Wouldn't it be nice if old Johns could simply pick up the telephone in his hushing way to Mr. Scholtz: "Baas Scholtz, I have put the tractor in its shed and I am ready to worship now. Would you please guide me in seeking the

## Looking At Parliament

from attending "any place of entertainment" in an urban area; this could mean the Huddleston farwell concert in the Bantu Men's Social Centre.

### MORE BANS

Also, the Clause gives Dr. Verwoerd the right to ban meetings, assemblies or gatherings (including any social gathering), and to order any particular person not to arrange any racially mixed gatherings. Judging by remarks passed by Nationalist speakers, the Congress of Democrats will be one of the first organisations to feel the impact of this provision. Discussion clubs, too, will be threatened, and in time—the Nationalists take these things in stages—bodies like the Liberal Party and the S.A. Institute of Race Relations will come under the axe.

The Assembly barely mentioned these additional provisions of Clause 29; when it had finished discussing the "church clause," the Nationalists cut the debate short in true totalitarian fashion.

The introduction of the Native Laws Amendment Bill, and the debate that has taken place on it, are a sign that the Government is preparing for the apartheid blitz. Several vicious apartheid measures lie ahead still: the nursing bill and the poll tax bill among them. It seems that the Government has stored up these measures deliberately, so as to concentrate as much poison into its little space as possible. Two months of concentrated apartheid venom would be a good kicking-off point for the 1958 General Election.

### VIGOROUS FIGHT

But the Nats are not having it all by their own way. The churches, for example, are putting up a vigorous fight against what they regard as interference with religious freedom. The Church of the Province has announced that it will defy the "church clause," and Bishop Reeves—who deserves the acclaim of democratic South Africans, rather than the gibes of Nationalists—has added that "if the churches want open conflict with the church, they can have it."

This kind of fighting talk worries the Nationalists. Strong as they are, they are in no position

BEFORE ALL HONESTY—ABOVE ALL JUSTICE

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The total of £82 18s. 5d. for the week is not nearly good enough. Readers must try and make up for this in the coming week.

On this May Day, the ANC (New Britain) set an example to the whole country by donating £5 to the people's paper.

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In memory of Babs £1; Bill Andrews Memorial Evening £9.15; Sundries £29.17.

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## E I D GREETINGS

New Age wishes all its Moslem readers a Happy Eid and well over the fast.