

COUNTRY PREPARES FOR APRIL 14

Protest Committees Announce Their Plans

WHILE CABINET MINISTERS WERE ISSUING THREATS THAT THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT WOULD USE THE WHOLE FORCE OF THE STATE TO DEAL WITH ANY DEMONSTRATIONS, PREPARATIONS WERE GOING AHEAD ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO IMPLEMENT THE STAY-HOME PROTEST DUE TO START ON APRIL 14.

IN JOHANNESBURG a statement by Mr. Oliver Tambo, general secretary of the African National Congress, stressed that "there is the greatest unity on this issue in the ANC and organisations allied with us."

The President General of the African National Congress, CHIEF A. J. LUTULI, in a statement also emphasised there was no serious division in the ranks of the ANC on the issue of staging the demonstrations. He said the ANC would do everything possible to discourage any intimidation.

IN PORT ELIZABETH the Working Committee of the ANC (Cape) issued directions to all branches in the Cape calling upon the people to stay at home for the whole week beginning on April 14.

IN DURBAN the Natal Protest Week Committee has called for a boycott of Nationalist products as part of the protest week plan for the people of Natal.

IN CAPE TOWN and many other centres meetings have been held and leaflets distributed to advertise the stay-home protest.



Vol. 4, No. 24 Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
SOUTHERN EDITION Thursday, April 3, 1958 6d.

"ANC United Over Stay-Home Protest"

— OLIVER TAMBO

JOHANNESBURG.

IS there any truth in the United Party charge that the election-eve protests are aimed at "stampering" voters into the arms of the Nats? Will National Protest Week take identical forms in all areas? Are there any splits in the African National Congress over this campaign?

These and other questions are answered in an interview, exclusive to New Age, with Mr. Oliver Tambo, general secretary of the African National Congress.

QUESTION: Is there any truth in the current propaganda that the African National Congress is in favour of the return to power of a Nationalist Government?

ANSWER: None whatever. The Nationalist Party, during its ten years in office, has proved to be the most vicious and brutal enemy of the people. The return of this party for another term would spell disaster to the country.

QUESTION: The charge is levelled that by timing their national protests for election eve, the African National Congress (together with the other Congresses), are aiming to stampede voters into the arms of the Nationalist Party.

ANSWER: This is merely malicious propaganda. It comes from people who cannot understand the situation in the country—and who regard the voters merely as cattle to be "stampeded."

One should credit the electorate with the elementary intelligence to understand that this type of protest which has become increasingly frequent and widespread—is the inevitable reaction to unendurable Nationalist oppression. The United Party and its press is doing incalculable harm to the country and even to its own cause by spreading this stupid propaganda.

This demonstration, decided upon by the National Workers' Conference, is not designed to help either the United Party or the Nationalists.

The significance of its timing is that this is the right time to bring home to the electorate the blindest problems of our country—which are being ignored by the party politicians—the people's poverty; their hardships under the pass laws and apartheid; their demand for a voice in the affairs of the country.

QUESTION: Will the protests
(Continued on page 5)



Mr. Tambo.

P.E. PLAN COVERS WHOLE WEEK

PORT ELIZABETH.

OVER last week-end the Working Committee of the A.N.C. (Cape) issued directives to all its branches in the Cape, and also a leaflet which will cover industrial areas as well as the reserves. Both directives and the leaflets state that:

- The people will stay at home the whole of the week beginning April 14.
- Domestic servants should return to the location at the end of the working day on April 13.
- During the whole of the week beginning on the 14th people will buy at the location, but should keep an eye that Nationalist products are
(Continued on page 5)

Beyleveld Triumphs At Athlone Meeting

Boycotters Routed On Their Own Ground

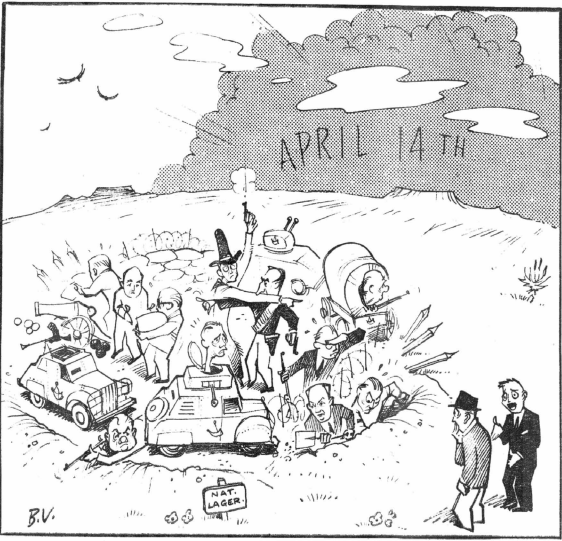
CAPE TOWN. DIET BEYLEVELD carried the Congress fight into the heart of boycott territory last Monday night when he held his second election meeting at the Glenmore Town Hall, Athlone. About 500 people attended. Despite attempts by supporters (Continued on page 3)

Local "Protest Week" Committees have been set up in a number of areas. The form of the "Protest Week" demonstrations will differ from one area to another, according to the decisions of these local Committees.

Publicity material is being sent all over the country to popularise the slogans of National Protest Week:

- For—
- A 11-A-DAY LAW!
- REPEAL OF PASS LAWS!
- END NAT RULE!

Five thousand posters and 100,000 leaflets are being printed and will shortly be sent out to branches of all participating organisations.



"It's all because the workers want a pound a day!"

NEW AGE LETTER BOX

People's Discipline Shamed Baragwanath Authorities

The panic-stricken activities of the Baragwanath Hospital authorities prior to the Women's Federation demonstration at Baragwanath on March 22 have not so far as we know, been made public, and we thought that readers of New Age might be interested to hear of them. The precautions taken by the authorities were as follows:

1. Female medical staff were warned not to report for work on that day.

2. Doctors who live in married quarters at the hospital evacuated their wives on the day preceding the demonstration.

3. The windows of all wards were closed as a precaution against tear gas and stray bullets.

4. Fire-fighting equipment was prepared, and fire-hoses decorated the lavvies of the hospital.

5. Hospital transport for employees was at a standstill from 8 a.m. on the day of the demonstration until the demonstrators had dispersed.

6. Doctors who wished to drive their cars to work had to obtain special permits in order to get through the road-blocks set up by the police.

7. Patients who were not critically ill were discharged from the hospital in order to make room for the "casualties" who would be admitted to hospital after the demonstration.

8. The medical staff was requested to be "pleasant" to the African nurses, and not to provoke or argue with them. (A sad reflection on the official attitude to African employees during times when there is no "emergency" in the hospital.)

9. The Non-White doctors were not told of these precautions, one reason being that the authorities suspected one of them of having organised the demonstration.

One of the senior doctors

asked permission to bring his own firearm to work on the day of the demonstration.

In other words, the stage was set for a grand sledge by a horde of black savages. It was a somewhat shameful Baragwanath which was forced to acknowledge the quiet discipline of the demonstration in the presence of an almost unparalleled show of force on the part of the police.

And the demonstration had an effect beyond that of expressing its abhorrence of passes—it made hundreds of Whites at the hospital who were previously ignorant of such matters, aware of the strength of the Congress.

"TWO BARANIKS" Johannesburg.

Banning Condemned

The East London Branch of the A.N.C. and Youth League condemns in no uncertain terms the banning of Mr. C. J. Fazzie under the Suppression of Communism Act. Mr. Fazzie has been prohibited from attending gatherings in any place in the Union and S.W.A. for five years. This order has caused an unpardonable anger to all members of the local branch up to the top level.

The intimidation and threats shall never deter the forces of the oppressed from fighting for liberation. The A.N.C. shall never accept perpetual white domination.

F. GCOBO, President, D. HOHO, Secretary, A.N.C.V.L.

1324 Ncoingo Street, Duncan Village, East London.

WE SALUTE THE WOMEN

We salute the women who made their way to Baragwanath Hospital for the demonstration against passes for nurses organised by the Federation of S.A. Women and the ANC Women's League. The courageous and dignified behaviour of the women despite the unprecedented and outrageous display of armed force and the crippling road blocks is yet another measure of the growing strength and unity of the women of South Africa.

While we record appreciation of the courteous welcome accorded to the women's representatives, we deplore the atmosphere of tension and suspicion created at the hospital in the days preceding the demonstration. The air of secrecy was brought about solely by the hospital and police authorities. The Transvaal Chairwoman of the Federation of South African Women had made a public announcement of the demonstration to some 5,000 people at the National Workers' Conference on March 16 and had called upon women to go to Baragwanath Hospital for the demonstration.

The Federation of South African Women pledges its continued support to the nurses in their last struggle against apartheid in their profession.

We shall not rest until we have won for our children their fundamental right to freedom, justice and security.

BERTHA MASHABA HELEN JOSEPH Joint Regional Secretaries Transvaal Region of the Federation of South African Women, P.O. Box 10876, Johannesburg.

Coloureds Must Lead From Africans

We should have nothing to do with the forthcoming Coloured elections on April 3.

I need not enumerate the sufferings and degradation of the African people since Separate Representation was foisted on them. Are we unable to learn from the experience of our fellow sufferers? Will a Bevelved or a Bloomborg succeed where a Molteno or a Balfinger have failed?

Although I will agree that the boycott may not work in certain cases, yet this is one time when the boycott must be applied 100% and so confound the Nationalist law and strengthen the hand of our United Nations supporters.

I, SABAN "Dawn," Sir Alfred Avenue. A boycott in the Coloured elections will help the Nats and the U.P., and harm the cause of the Coloured people.—Ed.)

EDITORIAL

GOVT. PLANNING ATTACK ON NEW AGE

NEWS have received in the last couple of weeks indicates that some sort of case is being cooked up against New Age. What it is we don't know. There is not much point in speculating about it.

But one thing is clear: sooner or later this fascist Government, which cannot tolerate any form of opposition to its policies, must try to silence New Age, the voice of the people, just as it tried to silence its predecessors the Guardian and Advance.

New Age is the symbol of people's resistance to the tyrannous policy of apartheid. Its very existence is a challenge to the beastly racial theories of the Nationalists. Every issue is an exposure of the tortures which apartheid inflicts on our people. And at the same time, every issue is a spur to encourage our hard-pressed people to fight back, to fight like lions for the freedom that Strijdom denies them. So long as New Age lives, the hope of a glorious tomorrow can never die in the breasts of our readers.

New Age insists on its right to continue publication. We are a legal, registered newspaper, and more than any other newspaper we can claim to speak for the vast majority of the people of this country. If we are being attacked, it is not because we have, like the Nationalist press, preached racial hatred, white supremacy, or, like the so-called English press, have served vested interests. It is because we have preached the brotherhood of man, and have lent our support to the cause of those who fight to bring it about in South Africa.

We reject with contempt the charges which the Nationalist Government may bring against us. Who are these men, the admirers of Hitler and the violators of basic human rights, to make accusations against us? They may pass laws and bring actions to destroy us, but they can never purge the passion for peace and freedom which burns in the hearts of all our peoples, and which will yet flare up to consume the monsters who are turning our country into a Belsen with their shameful, filthy policies.

We shall defend to the end our right to speak, and we call upon all men and women of goodwill to join us in this defence, and to help beat back any new attack on press freedom in this country. Can there be any doubt that the cause for which we fight is just, that the cause of those who attack us is evil? All that is needed is courage and determination on the part of our people to put right what is wrong, and to place our country on a firm foundation of people's friendship and co-operation instead of hatred and suspicion.

There are signs on all sides that our people are rising to this challenge, entering the political struggle, facing the future with confidence. Of the eventual outcome there can be no doubt. All South Africans shall be free and equal, come what may.

WORKERS DON'T WANT A NAT. REPUBLIC

During the last world conflict, when the dark clouds of Nazism hung all over the world, when Great Britain stood alone against the challenge of Nazi tyranny, a jubilant Nationalist extremist, addressing the "Broederbond" conference in the Free State, said: "The time will eventually come when our fatherland will become a republic. When that time eventually comes, the Africans (kaffers) will be forced by legislation to give their services freely to the farmers, as was the case during the republic of our ancestors."

This gives an insight into the kind of republic envisaged by the Nationalists, and Senator D. P. De Klerk's assurance to the "Institute of Citizenship" that it would remain within the Commonwealth is a political hoax.

The protagonists of a republic in South Africa (now the present ruler) are too stupid to have the impression that it will be in the best interests of all sections of the community, and forget to add: non-whites excluded.

The Africans have become too urbanised to revert to their tribal way of life, as the Nationalists want. The Nationalists are out to set the clock back a century. They do not live in the age of space

travel but live in outlook, in the days of the ox-wagon.

H. MTEIWA Block CD1, New Brighton.

"MY PAPER DOESN'T WANT TO STOP UNTIL I DIE"

THIS week New Age has as usual received many letters from the most remote parts of Southern Africa. We are going to present extracts from these letters to show more clearly than any words of our own can describe why we call ours the "people's paper" and feel justified always in asking you, our readers, to donate liberally so that New Age can reach those who so urgently need it to show them the way forward.

(A) From a farm somewhere in S.W.A. comes this note: "... I am not living in town any more. I am out on the farm. I am an old man and there's no work in town for me. And I am just got out of hospital. I am just for seven months and I just got out in Feb. I am glad by as much one of the paper, because all other papers they can stop but my paper I doesn't want to stop till I

die. I've just got two pounds together and I am sending so that you may carry on with the paper..."

(B) From a Zulu student at a college in Natal: "It is difficult to express my gratitude. My subscription expired in October last year. ... I have been going through these ups and downs of life but you never forsook me. I cannot think of a nobler justification for the donations you ask for from the public. I am not being selfish when I say I felt much ashamed of receiving these copies with my subscription long overdue. I was not worthy of it. Anyway be as it may, Forward into Light Enclosed 18/-"

(C) From a young African scholar in a tiny village in the Transkei: "May I have some copies of New Age for which I have enclosed 3/6d including postage. ... I am sorry to give you so much trouble by not paying the full subscription. I am only a scholar and have not got the money and there is no New Age agent here. ... These letters are not exceptional. They are typical of many letters which we receive every week from all corners of the Union and beyond. Somehow or other these readers have scraped together their last pennies to pay for their paper. There are many others who just cannot manage it and who tell us that they will pay later if we "just carry them for a few weeks". We

treat each case on its merits and have never been let down by these poor workers. They in their turn pass the paper to others, and so our paper is read by many more (thousands than actually subscribe for it).

Recently donations to New Age have again dried up. Please remember the many thousands like the three from whose letters we have quoted, and see that New Age is not forced to stop because you failed to send in your donation more promptly. Send it now.

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS Rummage, Ma Pa and Mrs. Pinto £12 11s.; Doctor £3, J.M.D. £3 18s.; G.C. 5s.; K. M. Pyramid 9s.; Students £2; Anonymous 10s.; Dora £5 5s.; C.B. per Dora £3; E.B. £3; McSweney £1; S.A. £2; Anonymous £1 1s.; Anonymous 5s.; "H.B.M." £10; R. and J. £5; "Hand M" £1 10s.; Total £59 6s.

COLOURED ELECTIONS

FATAL STAGES OF BIG CAMPAIGN

Widespread Activity in Peninsula

CAPE TOWN.

THE last stages of the SACPO election campaign to return the Treason Trial candidate, Mr. Piet Beylveld, to Parliament for the Cape Peninsula seat was conducted in an atmosphere of feverish activity, tension and high optimism.

Workers fanned out into all corners of the Peninsula for a last-minute canvass of the remaining unvisited voters and brought back enthusiastic reports that the odds were on Beylveld to win. After the great SACPO meeting in the City Hall, and Mr. Bloomberg's cancellation of all further meetings, many voters were convinced that Bloomberg had thrown in the towel. Many of Bloomberg's own supporters decided to change their minds in favour of Mr. Beylveld.

Other reports said that Mr. Bloomberg had thrown his whole family into the field, apparently in a frantic attempt to consolidate his faltering support.

HIVE OF ACTIVITY

SACPO offices, a hive of activity throughout the campaign, were packed with volunteer workers during the last days, as clerks sorted cards, officers organised transport and allocated positions for helpers on polling day.

SACPO secretary and chief election agent, Mr. Reg September, remained constantly at the telephone, making and answering calls. Mr. Piet Beylveld, the candidate, was kept on the move visiting voters and making final arrangements for polling day.

And all the time the news came in that the vote for Beylveld was steadily growing.

OUTENIQUA

SACPO president, Mr. Jimmy La Guma, made the long trip to Riversdale and George to address meetings of the Congress Movement's second candidate, Mr. Piet Vogel, in the Eastern Cape constituencies.

Mr. Vogel received votes of confidence at both meetings.

In both the Peninsula and Outeniqua constituencies, Congress policy was making a hit with the Coloured people.

THROUGH DUNES

Canvassers tramping through the dunes and bush of Retreat, Cape Town, were assisted by local residents, one of whom got out his car and took a worker around to the voters scattered throughout the undeveloped area of the Flats.

"Beylveld is the man," was the general opinion. "You don't have to convince me. I'm voting for Beylveld."

"Why shouldn't I vote for a man who is prepared to go to jail for my rights?" said another voter.

The third candidate, Mr. L. Kellner, was little in evidence anywhere. The consensus of opinion was that he would be an "also ran".

SMALL-SCALE WAR

The whole campaign had taken on the aspect of a small-scale war. A war of agitation and propaganda, with the three candidates vying with each other for support, and the Unity Movement pleading with the voters to turn their backs on the election and "boycott dummy representation".

The walls of Cape Town were plastered with posters and slogans of all colours and descriptions. Parliamentary elections, April 3 Vote for Bloomberg; was that candidate's officious appeal.

"Vote for Kellner who has fought

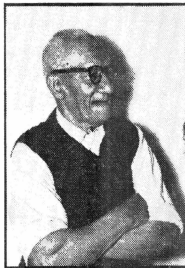
for you in the City Council and will fight for you in Parliament," pleaded Mr. Kellner, pompously. "Equal rights for all! Vote Piet Beylveld!" Mr. Beylveld's big photograph and the slogan that was nearest the hearts of the non-white people, caught on.

"The people have no candidates," howled the Unity Movement.

POSTERS AND LEAFLETS

Unknown persons blacked out all Bloomberg's posters one night. Marauders ripped a "Vote Beylveld" banner from the wall of a house. It was replaced with an even bigger one. Signs painted in red disfigured walls in Walmer Estate, Woodstock, calling on people not to vote.

SACPO produced thousands of leaflets, calling on the voters to show their rejection of the whole system of white supremacy and baskkap. Voters were impressed



Still going strong, Mr. R. T. Davis, 80 years old, is one of the voters in District Six who is supporting Piet Beylveld. "We can use our vote to show the Government where we stand," he told New Age.

by the fact that the Treason Trial candidate made no promises of what he would do for the people in Parliament. They were sick and tired of past promises that were never carried out. The election of the Congress candidate would be in the main a gigantic political demonstration.

CONTRASTS

The level of political argument varied with the candidate.

Said Abe Bloomberg: "His name is Petrus Arnoldus. He comes from the Free State. Who supports him? Blockheads like La Guma and Desai. He has white women canvassing for him."

Said Piet Beylveld: "It is true that what the Nationalists call apartheid! The United Party calls segregation, and what the Nats call 'white baskkap', the United Party calls 'discrimination with justice'. I for one have still to learn the difference and I am sure that as far as the non-white people are concerned, there is no difference whatsoever."

Kellner held no meetings. In the City Hall, Cape Town, Beylveld's supporters garlanded

him with flowers. In the Woodstock Town Hall, "goon squads" backing Bloomberg bludgeoned a boycott into a bloody wreck.

And the children took the side of the Treason candidate. In the streets of District Six the chant of "Vote for Beylveld. We want Piet" became an everyday feature. The doors of SACPO offices were packed with youngsters clamouring for little "Vote Beylveld" stickers.

The whole of the Cape Peninsula constituency, from Sea Point to Simonstown, had gone "Piet Beylveld." And as April 3 drew near, the country waited to see where the voters would make their crosses.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS BODY?

CAPE TOWN.

New Age has been asked to help the Railway Police who are anxious to identify the body of an African man which was recovered from the Cape Town harbour last Friday.

The body is described as well built; height: 5 ft. 7 in.; two upper front teeth missing, and was dressed in dark blue trousers, grey jacket, light brown check shirt and black shoes.

Anybody able to assist in identifying the body should contact Detective Constable Cummings, S.A. Railway Police, telephone 38, extension 2267, or the Government mortuary, telephone 3-2300.

ANC MOVES TO RESTORE UNITY IN TRASSAAL

Disciplinary Action Taken By National Executive

SWIFT action has been taken by National and Provincial leaders of the Transvaal ANC to restore unity and discipline in the Province.

The voluntary en-bloc resignation of the Provincial Executive has opened the way for the establishment of a broad 11-man committee which will administer the affairs of the Province pending new elections. This committee includes members of the National Executive, the former Provincial Executive and the former Requisition Committee. All are pulling together for the good of the movement in the Province.

Meanwhile the National Executive is taking stern action against members who—in defiance of a directive from headquarters—attended the disruptive "Africanist" Conference in Pretoria and elected a so-called "caretaker committee". Action is also being taken against those who took unauthorised possession of the property of the Provincial Executive.

Dr. Tsele, secretary of the committee, has been ordered to see that it is disbanded forthwith. And Messrs. Madzunya and Sviswe have been instructed to return the Con-

BEYLELVELD TRIUMPHS AT ATHLONE MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

of Mr. Bloomberg and the Unity Movement to disrupt the proceedings, the majority of the audience gave the platform a good hearing, and at the end a vote of confidence was passed in Mr. Beylveld by a substantial majority.

All the speakers took advantage of the opportunity to launch a full-scale attack on the policies of the Unity Movement which, they declared, left the Coloured people defenceless and frustrated in the face of the attacks of the Nationalist Government.

"The Unity Movement has run away from every struggle that has been conducted by the people during the last ten years," said SACPO secretary, Mr. Reg September, in a hard-hitting speech.

ON TRIAL

And in reply to a boycott which shouted that SACPO was accepting apartheid by taking part in the elections, Mr. September replied: "You can never say we accept apartheid. We are the people who are fighting apartheid. We are the people whom the Nationalist Government is trying for treason. Why is it that there is not a single Unity Movement leader on trial with us?"

Mr. Beylveld said the Congress movement, which he hoped to represent in Parliament, wanted to establish a basis on which all races could work together, and that must be an equal basis.

The "Non-European people of South Africa have already rejected apartheid and will never accept it. They have shown that they desire equal rights and equal opportunities."

A Boycotter: Why don't we get it then?

Mr. Beylveld: Because you will not fight for it. (Applause)

Equality could not be obtained merely by talking about it, said Mr. Beylveld. It could be ob-

tained only by mobilising the masses of the people in support of it on every possible occasion.

"I don't need to tell you that I give everybody accepts the principles for which we stand, it won't be very long before they are put into practice."

THE BOYCOTT

Boycotting the elections would only help Bloomberg and the United Party to win them. Mr. Beylveld went on. It was ridiculous to say that by taking part in the election they were accepting apartheid. The elections should be used to demonstrate the people's complete rejection of apartheid by electing a Congressman who stood for uncompromising opposition to the Nationalist Government, and who would take every opportunity to advance the policy of equal rights for all.

The chairman of the meeting, SACPO President, Mr. Jimmy La Guma, said that the Coloured people could learn nothing from the Unity Movement teachers.

"In this country, as in every other country, it is the working people who lead the struggle for freedom. It is our task to show the way, and the teachers will have to fall in behind us whether they like it or not." (Applause.)

Mr. Barney Desai read an extract from a speech made by Mr. Bloomberg in Parliament during the debate on the Group Areas Act in 1950 which showed that Bloomberg accepted the principle of group areas. (Cries of "shame" from the audience and loud boos.)

"How can a man like this ask for the support of the Coloured people? Let him take this policy to his friends in Constantia. We don't want it!"

Mr. Henry Naudé said SACPO was young organisation, but it was the only organisation which could lead the Coloured people forward to liberation.

QUESTIONS

At question time attempts by the Unity Movement to take over the platform were firmly repulsed by the speakers.

Unity Movement leaders in questions from the floor made a deliberate attempt to mislead the audience by claiming that the Coloured representatives would not be allowed to take part in debated on matters of confidence, the constitution, the budget and war and peace.

"You should read the Act," was Mr. Beylveld's reply. "A Coloured representative has the same powers as any other member of Parliament."

When a group of Unity Movement types were causing a commotion near the platform, Mr. Desai shouted to them: "When your leader Dr. Gool was beaten up by Mr. Bloomberg's meeting, shame of Mr. Bloomberg's meeting, shame of you were there to help him. It was we who had to come forward and save him." (Applause.)

When they saw that they could make no progress with their plans to break up the meeting, the boycotters retired to the back of the hall where they were claiming that they had been "gagged."

But when the vote was finally taken, they had to acknowledge that Beylveld had rushed in, where Bloomberg feared to tread and, with the support of the people, had once again carried the day.

NEW TREND IN FRENCH ELECTIONS

In Algeria, in spite of the French army's use of the most advanced weapons of war, combined with the most primitive savagery and ruthlessness, the liberation movement, poorly equipped and without military training, is stronger than ever.



And in France, in spite of the whipping up by the government of patriotic war fervour, and the labelling of the Communists as "traitors", the Communist Party is moving from strength to strength.

Here is one of history's best examples of how an oppressed colonial people and the advanced workers of the imperialist country can derive strength from and complement one another in the struggle against their common enemy.

COMMUNIST VOTE RISES

All French political commentators are drawing attention to the increase in support for the Communist Party shown at a recent series of by-elections. In each case the Communists were the only party to stand foursquare behind the demand for peace in Algeria and an end to the war against the Algerian people. In each case, in spite of feverish Press campaigns against this "treason", and in spite of the maximum publicity given to renegades who left the Communist Party at the time

of the Socialist Party candidate. He is forced to keep quiet about Algeria because his party is part of the government which is waging a campaign of terror and torture there. But he knows very well that the rank and file party members are wholeheartedly disgusted with the government's policy. And to make matters worse, Daniel Mayer, who is one of the Socialist Party M.P.s who represent this constituency, was elected in 1956 on a programme of peace in Algeria, and has opposed his party's policy in parliament.

Marcel Cachin's seat will not be filled by a Communist in the general election his party polled 20.9% of the constituencies' votes. This was sufficient, under the proportional representation system, to return two Communists among the ten M.P.s elected. But in the by-election some sort of anti-Communist coalition candidate is sure to win. Nevertheless the party is, of course, using the occasion to expose the bankruptcy of the warmongers.

The right is faced with the growing possibility of sweeping left-wing gains at the next general election—when rank and file pressure in the Socialist Party could lead to the acceptance by that party of the Communists' standing invitation to combine forces and form a Popular Front government. The Gaullist, Conservative and Fascist parties are preparing to meet any such move towards a peaceful transition to socialism with the traditional methods of the desperate capitalist class—force and violence.

FASCIST DEMONSTRATION

One of the first demonstrations of fascist strength and arrogance was the recent widely-publicised march on parliament by the Paris police force. For over two hours all traffic in the centre of Paris was stopped while the police surrounded parliament and shouted: "Algeria must stay French", "Hang the Jews", "Throw the deputies in the river".

"Fascist control of the police is the direct result of the Algerian war," the New Statesman (March 22) noted. "... the police are currently engaged in a race war, and anyone with a dark skin is now automatically suspect and liable to be shot on sight. . . . In this atmosphere the police are gunning not only for Algerians but for those they call the 'defeatists'. . . . In recent weeks the police have been working more or less hand in glove with the street gangs controlled by (fascists) Biaggi and Le Pen. . . . The Fascist weekly *Rivard* supplies the rank and file with their orders."

But the fascists were astute enough to know that they were not yet in any position to try any coup d'etat. Though no longer barred their way from walking into parliament and carrying out their abhorred threat "Hang the Jews and Communists", the police mob contented itself with shouting and finally dispersed of its own accord.

FASCISTS WON'T SUCCEED

For, as *Time* (March 31) noted with a trace of sadness, "Despite the political debility of the French Republic, France is not yet on the verge of a coup d'etat. The one individual who might bring off a coup—General Charles de Gaulle—cannot hope to do so without a far graver crisis and far more parliamentary support than he now commands. The unrest in the French army . . . is still largely confined to a few embittered career officers."

There is another reason why the fascists will never succeed with a coup d'etat—and that is the lesson which the French workers have learnt from the past. Working-class unity will stop the fascist scum in their tracks.

As a first step, strengthened by the immense public anger at the police action, prime minister Gaillard summarily dismissed Paris police chief André Lahloune for not preventing the demonstration. The Socialists stood firm with the Communists in demanding that more drastic action be taken and that the Minister of the Interior, Maurice Bourge-Manoury, be sacked too.

In this stand prompted by the rise of fascism, the Socialist and Communist Parties stood together for the first time in years.



Delegates to the third national conference of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions held in Johannesburg recently.

Bosses Approached About £1 a Day —But Did Nothing

JOHANNESBURG.

ALL sorts of people are suddenly asking: Why wasn't a direct approach made to the employers about the demand for £1 a day and general wage increases? Why was no attempt made to negotiate?

The answer: Such approaches have been made, repeatedly and persistently. Here are the facts:

In June, 1957, the Management Committee of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions approved a memorandum calling for a general increase in the wages of low-paid workers and a national minimum wage of £1 a day. After being presented to, and approved by, affiliated unions and meetings of workers, the memorandum was placed before employers, including the S.A. Federated Chamber of Industries, the Chamber of Commerce and the Transvaal and Orange Free State Chamber of Mines.

The memorandum pointed out that the desperate economic position of the workers faced the country with "a serious emergency situation, which only emergency measures can meet". It proposed: (1) "Immediate and substantial increases" wages; (2) A £1-a-day minimum wage for "so-called unskilled workers"; (3) Recognition of and direct negotiation with trade unions of African workers, without State interference.

Stressing the "extreme urgency" of these issues, S.A.C.T.U. offered to meet employers' organisations immediately to discuss the above proposals, in order to facilitate direct negotiations with workers or trade unions involved.

EMPLOYERS' ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On August 20, 1957, Mr. C. D. C. Bain, "Non-European Affairs Secretary of the S.A. Federated Chamber of Industries, wrote acknowledging the memorandum, stating that the S.A.C.T.U. proposals would be "circulated throughout our organisation for comments", but stating that the procedure of the Chamber, as a federated national body, would "involve certain unavoidable delays".

Feeling, perhaps, that the delays were becoming too protracted, S.A.C.T.U. wrote to the Federated Chamber on October 3, again proposing "direct discussions with representatives of your Chamber". An actual time was suggested for the meeting—on the morning of October 9 "at any place suitable to you". A reply was received stating that the proposed meeting would be considered at the Chamber's Non-European Affairs Committee in the first week of November.

Since then no communication of any kind has been received by the Congress, from the Chamber, the Congress of the Chamber, or the Chamber of Commerce. The Congress of Trade Unions also proposed a joint meeting to the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce. In a letter, dated July 23, this Chamber declined the proposal on the grounds that they "were not a registered employers' association and did not fix wages". An appeal from S.A.C.T.U. for the Chamber to reconsider this decision was again rejected on December 7.

On January 22, Mr. Massina, secretary of the Congress of Trade Unions, wrote finally to the Chamber, expressing the "deep regret" of the Management Committee at this decision, but stating S.A.C.T.U.'s readiness "at all times . . . to meet your representatives and discuss matters of common concern". The letter asked that the Chamber would "not close the door to discussions and negotiations between our two organisations".

The correspondence was placed before the recent national conference of S.A.C.T.U. report back meeting of workers at the Orient Cinema on Sunday, March 16, 4,000 coloured and African workers attended.

The meeting, which was presided by one of volunteers only, took place in the afternoon and resolved that the workers in the Eastern Cape pledge themselves to carry out the decisions of South African workers of all races to stay at home as from April 14, the meeting also reaffirmed the conference decision calling for an immediate end of all passes. Further, the meeting expressed its determination to apply its energies to ensure that the Nationalists must go so that a true democratic Government, that will govern in accordance with the will of the people, will be established.

The meeting pledged to carry out the struggles of the people during stay-at-home week quietly, and said that if there was any trouble, the responsibility would rest with the Nationalist Government.

In expressing solidarity with the Amato workers, the meeting resolved that if the workers are not reinstated a total boycott of Amato products will be called.

NATIONAL WORKERS' CONFERENCE SHOWED

PEOPLE WANT A FIGHTING REPLY TO NAT. TYRANNY

In the first instalment of this article published in *New Age* last week, Mr. Harmel pointed out the dangers of a continuation of Nationalist rule. This week he shows that the U.P. is falling down on the job of providing an alternative, and that it is against this background that the decision of the National Workers' Conference must be viewed.

ple goaded and tormented beyond endurance. He knows of the anguish of Zerst and the agony of the Mamathola. The business and civic leaders in the United Party could recognise clearly over a year ago the desperate poverty behind the bus boycotts—though they did little more about it than make wailing noises.

If the U.P. leaders know these things, why don't they say them? Why don't they tell the truth and come before the country with the obvious fact that Verwoerdism, swartering brutal repression, is to blame for the nation-wide disturbances which are plain for all to see? Why don't they warn the country not to attempt to meet these demonstrations with further force and repression is to invite a calamity: an explosion whose end-effects none can foresee?

Because with their mean, petty politicians' outlook, they don't want to tell the voters these "unpleasant" truths. Because they have calculated that to tell the truth might lose them some votes. This calculation is not only petty and contemptible, a betrayal of the real interests of the country, it is also utterly mistaken and wrong.

Telling the truth now; coming forward with a genuine alternative policy: this will not lose the election for the U.P. In fact, with things as they are, even at this eleventh hour, it affords the main, probably the only hope of opening the eyes of the voters and defeating the Nats. And the U.P.'s glaring failure to do so in fact places the responsibility for further force and repression is to invite a calamity: an explosion whose end-effects none can foresee?

Moreover, even if by some extraordinary fluke the U.P. were without challenging any major aspect of Nationalist policy—to be returned in the election on their present appeasement policy, or rather lack of policy, what sort of Government would they form? And what sort of policy would they follow?

It doesn't take much imagination to see what would happen. The Government would be the prisoner of the Opposition, dancing to its tune, continuing its policy, afraid to make the slightest concession to the masses, lest they be branded as Kafferboeties. What difference does it make to the country if Piet van der Byl replaces Verwoerd as the King of the Africans—and continues the same hateful and perilous policy? Viewed thus in its broader aspect, the issue is not one of gaining or losing a vote, but of changing the future for the better. The National Workers' Conference will be seen in retrospect as a major turning point in history.

(Written by Michael Harmel, 102 Progress Buildings, Johannesburg.)

By MICHAEL HARMEL

ANC UNITED

(Continued from page 1)

take an identical form throughout the country? ANSWER: No. Political conditions and organisation differ in various parts of the country. The people on the spot will decide upon the most effective form their participation in National Protest Week will take.

QUESTION: Is there any split in the African National Congress over this campaign? ANSWER: I am not aware of any. I believe that there is the greatest unity on this issue in the African National Congress and organisations allied with us.

QUESTION: Mr. J. Madzunya of Alexandra Township has called for the African National Congress to dissociate itself from the stay-at-home protest. Any comment? ANSWER: I do not think his call merits any comment.

QUESTION: Have the Congresses been approached by the Chamber of Industry or Commerce with a view to the setting up of any liaison body to discuss or negotiate wage increases? Would the African National Congress be agreeable to such discussion? ANSWER: We are informed by the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions that repeated approaches have been made to these Chambers, without effective results. Such discussions would tend to a better understanding between the employers and the workers, but they could have no bearing on, and should not be confused with, the political demonstrations of National Protest Week which include the demand for legislation for a minimum wage of £1 a day.

QUESTION: Are anti-pass protests part of the election time programme and what form does the A.N.C. think they should take? ANSWER: Another demand of the National Workers' Conference is for the repeal of the pass laws. This should not be taken as a separate question. It is bound up with the demand for higher wages and the ending of job reservation, group areas and so on, which are the burning issues of today. Therefore we are not advocating separate action against pass laws at this stage.

And the U.P.'s AGONY

And the U.P.'s AGONY does nothing better than to call upon the Government to intervene—by pouring petrol on the flames? He must know that the present workers' upsurge is one of a peo-

WORLD STAGE

By Spectator

of the Hungarian revolt and who have thoroughly discredited themselves by their eagerness to be used by the right-wing, the Communist vote has gone up.

The Communist victory in the Marseilles by-election in which 250,000 voters participated (*New Age*, March 6), has been followed by a significant increase in the Communist vote in the even bigger Nord industrial and mining constituency. France's fifth largest electoral division, it has 560,000 voters, and as it is a working class area the tradition is that the Communists and the Socialists fight it out for the head of the poll.

In the latest elections the total Communist and Socialist vote increased and the right-wing vote fell. But, more important, it was to the Communists that the whole gain went, their percentage poll rising from 37.4 to 40.6 (since the Jan. 1956 elections) while the Socialist percentage actually fell slightly.

ALGERIA MAIN ISSUE

The Communists put the demand for peace in Algeria as the main point of their programme. The Socialist candidate, to use the words of the *London Times* (March 15), "preferred to skate over the matter". The Communist vote in the extreme right, jointly supported by the Gaullists and the Conservatives, stood for the intensification of the Algerian war. He polled 17.4%. But low as was this vote, compared with that for the Communists, it represented a 5% gain from former moderate right-wing parties.



In other words, while the left is growing in strength, the fascists are growing too, winning members from the less extreme right-wing parties. (In Marseilles, it will be remembered the candidates in the final ballot were narrowed down to three, the Communist, the Socialists, and the Independent Popularist (fascist), the latter bearing the banner for the whole non-socialist right, and they came in that order in the voting.)

And then in Nièvre, with an electorate of 151,469, the Communist vote went up from 29.3% to 31.5%, the highest point ever reached in this constituency.

Trends are most strikingly illustrated in the current Paris by-election caused by the death of the immensely popular "old man of the Communist Party", Marcel Cachin. There are 600,000 voters in the constituency.

'SOCIALIST' DILEMMA

A feature of the election is the awkward position

Smoke and Enjoy

JOHN CHAPMAN'S

Famous Tobaccos.

Mine Captain
Chapman's Special**
Silver Cloud
Greyhound Mixture
Wayside Mixture
Champion Plain
Champion Mixture
Vryburger Mixture
Iris Mixture

★

CHAPMAN'S BULK TOBACCOS:-

DARK FINE No. 17 MMR.

MINE CAPTAIN.

LIBERALS AND C.O.D. PROTEST AGAINST BAN ON A.N.C.

JOHANNESBURG. A CALL for the immediate withdrawal of the proclamation banning the African National Congress was issued last week by the Liberal Party (Transvaal) and the Congress of Democrats.

Both bodies took part in an impressive poster parade on the City Hall steps and a leaflet "Verwoerd" from high buildings in the vicinity.

"Protest to your M.P. about the banning" and "Protect the Right to Organise" read some of the banners.

Why has the African National Congress been banned? asked the leaflet.

"You can't make people like passes.

"No amount of police intimidation, deportation of leaders or even the banning of the African National Congress will make people accept slaves—to them, the mark of slavery!"

"Verwoerd's action in banning the African National Congress in certain Reserve areas is directly related to the tense situation existing in these areas. In Zeerust, police intimidation and brutality have driven

thousands of refugees into Bechuanaland, but opposition to the extension of passes to the women continues. Verwoerd seems to think that by banning the ANC he will finally wipe out this opposition.

"Similarly, in Sekhukhuni-land another of the areas affected by the ban, the people are incensed by the deportation of their chief. Verwoerd does not realise that as long as there are grievances, as long as a people feels that it is being unjustly treated, so long will they continue to protest, regardless of whether their organisation is banned or not. The African National Congress has always stood for multi-racial harmony in South Africa. The proclamation banning it must be condemned by all civilised people.

"WE CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PROCLAMATION AND THE BAN ON THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

"WE URGE A SUSPENSION OF THE ISSUE OF PASSES TO WOMEN."



Looking like the "before" picture in a patent medicine advert, Tommy Steele grips his guitar and prepares to "play."

TOMMY STEELE DIDN'T STEAL THE SHOW

TO THINK THAT MOZART DIED IN POVERTY!

What a crazy world, I thought to myself after seeing the Tommy Steele show. Don't get me wrong, though. I do not object to Tommy Steele on the same grounds as the Dutch Reformed Church and the Afrikaans cultural organisations which prevailed upon the Pretoria City Council to ban his shows in that city.

"The show was injurious to the future of our people," they said. Juvenile delinquency is on the up and up, but not because of rock and roll. The other night at a wild party in Cape Town teenagers were dancing round the camp fire in the nude, but Tommy Steele was not there.

Yet it is true that the Tommy Steeles and the Elvis Presleys are glorified among large sections of the youth. Some have fallen for the slick advertising campaigns of the promoters; others make the Steeles and Presleys their "banners" for noisy behaviour, their idea of rhythm and what not. How else do you explain the frenzied enthusiasm which greeted Tommy Steele the purse of some £4,000 which he earned for being here for a couple of weeks?

HUGE CROWD
The atmosphere was charged with enthusiasm when Tommy Steele played to a Non-White audience at the Bantu Men's Social Centre and there was a turn-out not seen when Tony Scott or Larry Adler were here. And part of the audience, itching to hear the British Rock 'n Roll King were shouting, "We want Tommy." I like Tommy, throughout the early supporting part of the show.

Ultimately, the smiling Tommy Steele, wearing blue stove-pipe jeans and a white shirt and carrying a guitar in his arms, came on, accompanied by a group of four instrumentalists—a pianist, saxophonist, drummer and a string bass player—called the "Steelman". As soon as the saxophonist set the "rock" tempo and Mr. Steele

waggled his blonde forelock in front of the microphone and sang "Oh ho! ho!", a section of the audience just yelled and yelled for more.

The atmosphere which made Tommy Steele's task very easy had been created beforehand. Quite a big section of the audience could not care less about what he was singing but roared with delight again and again as soon as Tommy shook his body, kicked his leg about or lay on his back. The "Steelman" were quite a sight to watch. I honestly think that the drummer is the only person who earns his keep.

The pianist was too silly for words—he did not sit on a chair, he vamped the keyboard furiously, sometimes with one hand, and he even played while sitting on the floor—but you could not hear a single note as he was drowned by the noisy saxophonist. The same applied to the string bass—the player's only task appeared to be to toss the instrument around and kick his legs about. Tommy Steele himself is certainly not a good singer and he does not know how to play a guitar.

To me the only thing which made the show worth anything was Tommy's attack on the Pretoria City Council when he did find an occasion to make a few remarks. "I'm glad you folks have the pleasure of hearing this and not the people (Pretoria City Council) out there," he said. Otherwise it's "No thanks" for me to Tommy Steele shows.

His co-star Judy Martin sang

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES for fourteen capitalist countries have been published by the London Times. They reveal that there are over ten million people who are unemployed in these countries—and the figure is still rising. Statistics for the Socialist countries show that there is no unemployment at all in any of them—except in Budapest, where 2,000 are reported jobless, as compared with 20,000 a year ago, just after the Hungarian revolt.

some nice songs and it was very good of her to blow those kisses at us.

T.M.

THEATRE

"THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN"

CAPE TOWN University's Drama Department and its director, Rosalie van der Gucht, are warmly to be congratulated on their enterprise in presenting one of Bertolt Brecht's plays and their success in bringing it anti-

Brecht, a strenuously anti-Nazi, anti-capitalist dramatist, inevitably found all his works banned by Hitler, at a time when his "Dreigroschenoper" was stirring audiences to revolutionary fervour through Germany and after spending years of non-recognition in the U.S.A. Brecht returned to Communist East Germany and was given every State facility for developing his peculiar technique to the full. Consequently by 1955 his Berliner Ensemble had a shattering effect on Paris audiences at the Drama Festival and on London audiences in 1956.

HIS BELIEF

The core of Brecht's approach to theatre is that a play should be written, directed and acted in such a way as to ensure that the mind of the audience functions critically throughout and after a performance. An audience should not be merely stirred emotionally by the enactment in the theatre of life's injustices, but should be stirred to do something practical after they have left the theatre.

UP MY ALLEY

ONE papa who seems to be het up about his daughter's appearance in the Tommy Steele show for N.E.S. is the old boy who has written to Dos Doneses and Div. about it.

At the same time the dress designer for the show seems to have gone to a lot of trouble to explain that the costumes worn by the chorus are quite presentable for use before non-white audiences.

I guess stern-minded Puritans would want all chorus girls to be regaled in the neck-to-shin costume a la D.R.C. But as a Coloured young lady who used to be an artist's model for both white and non-white painters said to me when I spoke to her about the business:

"What have Tommy's girls got that I haven't?"

AND now Deputy Sheriff Blackie Swart is going to deal with ducktails himself. He's even going to bring up in Parliament a Bill that will solve the problem. Like all the legislation we've had it will pass the buck on to the people—this time the parents. They're responsible for the goings on of young hoodlums, says Blackie.

This Bill and the banning of Terry Dene will curtail the growth of demonstrations of hoodlumism apparently associated with rock-n-roll music . . . Blackie hopes . . . in the same way the passes and deportations are supposed to prevent crime among Africans.

● But our young folk must have something to replace rock-n-roll, Blackie? What's it going to be? A travelling choir of the D.R.C.?

THE "Unity Movement" mob, looking at the parish through rose-coloured glasses, are inundating voters with lengthy sermons which, after close study (use a microscope), tell them not to

vote for "dummy representatives." The question I am asking is: Are they going to boycott the City Council elections, too?

Ah, ah, they will say. There we have direct representation.

Direct? asks I. When thousands of people in the municipal housing schemes have been taken off the roll? And what about the Africans? They can vote. And with the City Council loaded against any progress. (Same as in Parliament, mind you) Isn't this also "dummy representation"?

● But of course, we have to look after representatives Holmes,



By ALEX LA GUMA

Viljoen, and Schroeder. Any-way, they are carrying out the policy by boycotting inside the City Council.

QUESTION I'm asking the "Unity" teachers. Are you going to boycott the schools if education is handed over to the CAD, probably after April Fool's Day? If you don't, you'll be "working the machinery of oppression." What?

Oh, I see. You're not going to boycott? It depends what you really teach the kids in the classroom.

But isn't that what also applies to African and Coloured representatives in Parliament? It depends what they teach outside the House?

● And why were the boycott canvassers telling people who insist on voting to vote for Beylvisd?

In "The Good Woman of Setzuan" Brecht states the harsh fact that in capitalist society it is impossible to be good while you are poor and you cannot be rich unless you depart from the paths of goodness. This theme he presents by means of a tale set in China, a tale that by turn is a parable, a buffing and always ironic; a tale that to contemporary audiences is strange, delightful and disturbing, and according to the prolonged applause at certain-fair a most acceptable change to the "afternoon tea" type of play that is usually dish up.

GOOD BALANCE

Rosalie van der Gucht struck a fine balance between the emotional and intellectual appeal of the play and constantly created fresh interest for us in the abundance of realistic and impressionistic acting. Eveline Garratt, in the exacting title role, handled the duality of the role exceptionally well. I thought her playing of the "cousin" was over-gentle, thereby softening the savagery of Brecht's satire, but she introduced herself to Cape town as a fine and sensitive actress.

As the off-beat "hero" of the

piece, Percy Sieff played with assurance and ease, though it occurred to me that he might have contrived to persuade the audience that his was nasty because circumstances made him so. Joyce Burch, Frances Shrand, Harry Victor and Sam Kantor gave excellent support. Indeed, apart from occasional lapses into overacting, the very large cast responded splendidly to Brecht's peculiar challenge.

Special words of appreciation to the décor of Stephen de Villiers and the music of Erik Chisholm.

The whole show was a credit to and fine justification of the university's drama department.

Cecil W. Williams.

LIBYA is to have two new hospitals built by the Soviet Union as a gesture of goodwill. Scholarships at Soviet Universities have also been available.

CUBAN REBEL leader Fidel Castro has announced that a "fight to the finish" will be launched against Cuba's fascist dictator Batista unless he resigns by April 5.

NEGRO CHILDREN PERSECUTED IN AMERICAN SCHOOL

Battle Of Little Rock Continues

LITTLE ROCK, the American town where the army had to be called out to prevent racist mobs from mauling Negro children attending school together with white children, is no longer in the world's headlines. The Negro children are in the school and the mobs no longer stand at the gates.

NEVERTHELESS, THE CREEL PERSECUTION OF THE CHILDREN CONTINUES. THEIR SCHOOL LIFE IS BEING MADE A HELL FOR THEM.

A small group of the white children are trying to make life so unbearable for the Negroes that they will give up the fight and leave the school of their own accord.

And the U.S. educational authorities are either actively conniving this, or closing their eyes to it.

THE STORY OF MINNIE JEAN
There are nine Negro children at the school. One of them is—or rather was—Minnie Jean Brown, a girl who had been a successful, popular and happy pupil at the school she attended before coming to Little Rock.

Minnie Jean had been warned by her parents, her friends and her teachers, that she must be careful at school not to get involved in any trouble.

She wanted to study French. But in her French class a white boy tripped her up every time she came down the aisle. So she gave up French. She did not want trouble.

ONLY A BEGINNING
But her troubles had just begun. Two days before the start of the Christmas vacation, Minnie Jean was suspended for nine days. She had tripped as two white boys moved their chairs in the lunchroom and her bowl of chili had spilled on one of them. The boys said it was an accident but the suspension held.

On Jan. 16 Minnie Jean returned to school under orders from the Principal not "to retaliate verbally or physically to any harassment." Then the harassment really began in earnest. A white boy dumped a tray of food

on Minnie Jean. Other Negro students also bore the brunt of the fellow-students' wrath. Jefferson Thomas was choked by an unidentified white boy near the gymnasium.

A young gallant kicked Carlotta Walls and another kicked Minnie Jean "as hard as he could" at the school entrance in the presence of her mother. All the nine were cursed and vilified at every turn.

Minnie Jean summed it up:

"ALMOST UNBEARABLE"

"For five months the situation has been almost unbearable. I don't think people realize what goes on at Central. They throw rocks, they spill ink on your clothes, they call you nigger, they just keep bothering you every five

minutes.
"All of us were ordered to be humble to the white pupils. They hate me and I know it. No matter what I do that happens to be good, they keep on hating me. Once I had several white acquaintances, but now I have only one, a girl. Make that half a friend. When she's with me she's my friend. When she's with the white students, she acts differently.

"I just can't take everything they throw at me without fighting back."

NO RIGHT TO TALK

After five months, Minnie Jean did not fight—but she did talk back. Frankie Ann Gregg, a schoolmate, followed Minnie Jean from classroom to classroom. She stepped on the Negro girl's heels.

She taunted her time and again: "Nigger, I just hate you; I just hate your guts." After a week of this Minnie Jean called her tormentor "white trash" and Frankie Ann hit her on the head with her pocketbook.

Principal Matthews ordered Minnie Jean out of the school and explained: "She was suspended for talking back to a white girl, Minnie Jean has no right to retaliate." School superintendent Virgil Blossom recommended that the school board expel Minnie Jean and the board concurred. The expulsion barred the Negro girl, not only from Central High, but from any other public school in Arkansas for the remainder of the school term.

Following her expulsion, Minnie Jean accepted an offer of a \$1,050 scholarship to the New Lincoln School, a private inter-racial institution in New York. In Little Rock, she had traveled 17 miles to the Jim-crow Horace Mann School. When desegregation came she could walk nine blocks to Central on Feb. 22 she journeyed 1,081 miles to get the education denied her because she "talked back to a white girl."



"Well, it's all right so far..." (With acknowledgments to Vicky in the New Statesman)

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Yugoslavia Backs Soviet Summit Plan
BELGRADE.

Yugoslavia has come out in full support of the Soviet Union's summit conference proposals.

At a mass meeting last week President Tito accused the western powers of "pectomania" and "shilly-shallying."

He also indicated that Yugoslavia intended taking up with the Italian government the acceptance by Italy of rocket-launching sites aimed to fire over Yugoslav territory.

Spanish Workers Fight On
MADRID.

The Spanish government has suspended three articles of its constitution so that emergency measures can be taken to suppress a "go-slow" strike in five coal mines. Ten thousand miners in Northern Spain have been taking part in the strike.

The emergency measures allow the government to banish people, search houses without warrants and give extended powers of arrest.

Atom Bomb Effects
LONDON.

The U.K. Atomic Energy Authority at Harwell has published a report on radio-strontium in soil, grass, milk and bone in the United Kingdom.

The report shows that the accumulation of strontium-90 in human bone is greatest in young children of about six months. In the country as a whole, the highest figures found come from north-west Britain.

Commenting on the report, the Nobel Prize-winning Dr. R. L. M. Synge, F.R.S., the eminent biochemist, states that "it is a matter for regret that politicians, with their military and scientific advisers, have transferred such experiments from their proper place in the laboratory and have scattered such substances indiscriminately over all the living things on the earth, and particularly over all our children."

KEEP NEW AGE ALIVE! SEND YOUR DONATION TODAY

INDONESIAN REBELS FLEE —Blow To U.S. Policy
DJAKARTA.

INDONESIAN government troops have won success after success against the Sumatra "anti-communist" rebels in clashes during the past two weeks. Demoralized rebel troops have either fled at the sight of the government troops, or come over to the government side.

This has been a major blow to the United States State Department which has hoped for the overthrow of the independent Indonesian regime. Rebel tactics, it says, are "unintentionally" indistinguishable from paralysis.

Ten ships, freighters and tankers, ordered by the Indonesian government from the Soviet Union have been delivered well ahead of schedule, and will be invaluable to the government in making up trade leakage caused by the rebellion.

POLICE DESTROY SARTRE BOOK ON ALGERIA

PRINTERS AND NEWSPAPER RAIDED

PARIS.
The Paris police have raided and seized and destroyed a booklet on torture in Algeria written by the great philosopher and author Jean-Paul Sartre.

They also confiscated the liberal periodical "l'Express which published extracts from the Sartre booklet, entitled "The Victory."

The booklet was prompted by the experiences of Henri Alleg, former editor of the pro-Communist Alger Republican, now banned.

THE VICTORY
Alleg had been driven under-

ground, but he fell into a French military trap and was captured. From prison he managed to smuggle out details of his torture by the French.

It was a story of the victory of his immense courage and faith over every attempt to force him to betray his comrades. And it was this victory which gave Sartre the name for his booklet.

UNTHINKABLE?

This is how Sartre's banned work begins: "In 1943, in the Rue Lauriston (the Gestapo headquarters in Paris) Frenchmen were screaming in agony and pain; all French could hear them; in those days the

outcome of the war was uncertain and the future unthinkable, but one thing seemed impossible in any circumstances; that one day men should be made to scream by those acting in our name.

"There is no such word as impossible: in Algeria people are tortured regularly and systematically. Everyone, from M. Lacoste (Minister Resident for Algeria) to the farmers in Avenir, knows this is so, but almost no one talks of it. At most a few thin voices trickle through the silence. France is almost as mute as during the Occupation, but then she had the excuse of being gagged."

Pan-African Conference Follow-Up

ACCRA.
It is planned to follow up the Pan-African Conference due to be held here on April 15, with a conference of representatives of the liberatory organizations of Africa.

The April conference will be essentially a conference of heads of state. But the organizers believe that there is a need also for a meeting of African leaders in countries where independence has not yet been achieved.

Representatives of liberatory organizations in several such countries are expected to be in Accra during this month's conference to make the necessary preparatory arrangements.

Unemployment is Main U.S. Worry —Gallup

NEW YORK.

Although Eisenhower still pretends that there is nothing to worry about the latest test Gallup poll results show that the slump and the fear of unemployment have become the problem causing the most concern in the United States.

One Gallup survey reported, 30% had listed the danger of war as the nation's top problem, against 7% who listed unemployment.

Last week's figures showed that a startling 40% now consider unemployment the top problem, against 17% for the danger of war.

This was the first time since the year of the depression—1937—that unemployment had been listed by the American citizen as his main worry.

In the past, depressions have at least been accompanied by a fall in prices, but in monopoly-ridden America the difficulties of the unemployed are aggravated by the fact that the cost-of-living continues to increase. Official statistics last week showed that the price index had gone up .2% in February to a new record of 122.5—that is, 22.5% above the 1947-49 average.

Women Support £1 A Day Demand

CAPE TOWN. RESOLUTIONS condemning passes for women and supporting the decisions of the National Workers' Conference were adopted at a conference of the Cape Western A.N.C. Women's League held at Kensington last Sunday.

Members of the Special Branch attended the conference, but left after they had been challenged by the chairman, Mr. B. Huna. They returned afterwards quoting the Criminal Procedure Act as authority to attend. Two of the conference delegates were sent to obtain legal advice, but when they returned the police had again left.

Reports by officials were discussed and adopted and a new committee was elected. They are: Mrs. Siliga, President; Vice-President, Mrs. Mapeca, Mesdames Skamutu and Hollo were elected secretary and assistant secretary respectively. Others on the committee are Mrs. Mpetha, Mrs. Pharela, Mrs. Ngose and Mrs. Nyeki.



Mrs. Elsie Mgwanga, one of the women who attended the Kensington conference.

Medical Aid Fund For Algeria Started

CAPE TOWN. A FUND to collect money for medical supplies for Algerians engaged in the liberatory struggle against the French imperialists was established at a meeting on the Grand Parade last Sunday.

A crowd of over 400 people attended the meeting which was held by the South African Coloured People's Organisation to commemorate Algerian Independence Day.

Mr. Barney Desai, vice-president of SACP/O, appealed for donations toward the fund and Mr. H. Naude, executive member, said that more than 100 years of oppression had stirred the Algerian people into mass resistance to foreign domination which all the might of the French military forces could not stop.

The oppressed of South Africa should show their solidarity with the Algerians who were being killed and tortured daily.

Other speakers were Messrs. J. Mosiano, R. Visser, B. Gosschalk, Mr. J. A. la Guma, president, SACP/O donated 10 guineas to the fund. Dr. K. Moolady and Mr. E. Abetatus have been appointed trustees of the fund.

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POLICE DRAW CROWD TO LANGA MEETING

CAPE TOWN. THE presence of the police at a meeting attracted a big audience at Bhunga Square, Langa, last Sunday. The meeting had been called to hear reports on the National Workers' Conference for £1 a day held in Johannesburg last month. At the commencement only a small crowd had gathered, but as soon as members of the Special Branch and a number of uniformed police arrived on the scene, people gathered from all sides to attend.

At the end of the meeting the chairman, Mr. T. S. Manfanya, moved a vote of "thanks" to the police for assisting to ensure a good attendance at the meeting.

Other speakers were Messrs. J. Mphemba, E. Rululu, L. Kukulula, S. Mpingose and M. Magopheni.

24 WOMEN IN COURT ON PERMIT CHARGE

CAPE TOWN. THE arrests by the police of Africans visiting Langa on charges that they have not got entry permits were not carried out at the request of the local authorities, Mr. L. A. Booth, assistant to the Superintendent, Langa, told the court last week when 24 women were charged with being in Langa without permission.

"This is a Native township, Natives are entitled to be here," said Mr. Booth. Asked when the permit law had first been enforced he said: "We never enforced permits. The Natives were never disturbed. They came on Sundays to church or to visit their friends. But in September last year a woman on her way to church was arrested by the police, quite unknown to us."

The church made representations to the Langa authorities and then, to protect the people against such police action, it was decided to provide the machinery for issuing permits. The clerks were giving standing instructions that they must not refuse "permits." Any African who applied was given one.

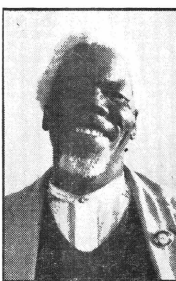
COURT CASE
Mrs. Eleanor Matoto, one of the accused women, told the court that she, together with about 24 other women had come to Langa to attend a court case. They had applied for permits and had been told by the clerk that permits were not needed for visits to court.

"The court was full, and some of us had babies on our backs, so we went to sit down in the shade opposite the court. Then a policeman came and asked us for our permits. We explained that the

clerk had said that we do not need permits, but we were arrested," she said.

APPLICATION REFUSED
A defence application for the discharge of the accused was refused. The women are being charged separately and another defence application that to save time and expense they be tried jointly, or that the case be treated as a test case, was also refused.

The trial is continuing.



69-year-old Mr. Jibooi of Langa was last week charged with interfering with prisoners and spent the night in the cells at Langa police station before being released on £5 bail. Mr. Jibooi spoke to women prisoners through the window of their cell at the court after they had been arrested for being in the proclaimed area without permission.

Except where otherwise stated all political news and comment in this issue by Lionel Forman, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town. Cape Town news by A. La Guma, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town. Johannesburg news by Ruth First and Tennyson Makwane, 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner St., Durban news by M. P. Naicker, 703 London House, 118 Grey St., Port Elizabeth news by Govan Mbeki, 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley St., Capetown by A. Mcreedy, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town.

SPORTLIGHT



by
"DULEEP"

S.A. Cricket Trials

THERE is difference of opinion whether trials for the selection of the S.A. team to tour Kenya in August should be held or not.

The one school of thought is that the selectors, after seeing the cream of the country's cricketers in Cape Town during the National Tournament in January, should immediately be able to select 15 or 16 players who could worthily represent South Africa.

On the other hand, trials have never been held, yardstick of a player's true ability. In addition, many players may not be able to get the necessary time off from employment now, after having taken leave in January, with the prospect of another couple of months to go on tour if selected. Another factor against the holding of trials is that none of the Malay players will be participating, owing to the Fast.

The three national selectors, Messrs. M. R. Varachia, J. Kemm and Baatjies, cannot select a S.A. team by trial, although the former and the latter were in Cape Town for the tournament, they hardly saw anything of the matches, being fully occupied with the administrative side of things, while Mr. Kemm was not even present.

Dual Job

From this arises the important question—why should officials, who have a fulltime task in looking after the administration, also be selectors? They could never do justice to both positions. In other words, the selectors will be starting at the beginning, in order to select a national side, whereas they should have done their duty fully at the tournament.

If selectors cannot attend tournaments, then they must relinquish their position. Further, if they cannot witness matches from beginning to end, even in relay of one or two a match, I am afraid they will not be doing justice to those players who are striving for national honours.

To sum up, the selectors now can only select a team either on past performances or by figures from scorebooks, which in my opinion is going to be a great blunder and a greater injustice to our players.

As one who has seen most of the tournament matches, the players I selected in my introductory columns will be going to the side, but to select the remainder of the contingent will require some head-scratching.

Nevertheless, I would not hesitate to include the following, although a couple did not participate in the tournament, namely Cecil Abrahamson, Ben Malamba, J. Mahanjana, Ntikina and A. I. Doodat. My side, previously published, is as follows:

B. D'Oliveira (c.), T. Abed (w.c.), S. Solomons, Raziet, A. I. Doodat, Behardien, Witlen, S. Abed, Petersen, Neethling and O. Williams.

S.A. Manager

Now that the tour to Kenya is more or less in the offing, speculation is rife as to who should be the manager to accompany the team to East Africa.

I would without any hesitation emphasize that this position should be allocated to a Western Province man. During the Kenya tour, Transvaal provided the S.A. manager in Mr. A. H. Jassat, and all executive positions and selectors are held by persons outside this province.

Surely some recognition could be given to our very many able administrators. I wish to appeal to those officials representing this province on the national body, that a candidate be supplied, and not only supplied but demanded, for very little recognition has been given to our men in the past who, I can vouch for it, would do quite as well as our northern brethren.

To mention but a few names, the following would do credit to this province in managing the first-ever cricket team to cross the borders, viz.: Messrs. A. J. Freeman, H. E. Parker, J. S. van Harte, M. E. Segers and H. Edross. If unanimity of appointment cannot be reached, I would suggest joint managers, but whatever happens, if we fail to gain any of these positions, then many harsh words will be said of our administrators for failing to demand their legitimate rights.

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CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS

PUBLIC MEETING

"THE CONGRESS ROAD AHEAD"

on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1958, 8.15 p.m.

ROBING ROO

E TOWN

Issued by B. Gosscha

road, Newlands

Published by Real Printing & printed by Pioneer Press (G member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation) 207, 4 Barr Johannesburg; 302 Progress 1 Durban; 703 London House, 118 Grey St. 9 Court Cham

ack Street, Capetown, Jk. This newspaper is. Phone 22-4625. 7999.