

NEW AGE

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WAVE OF ANGER AT VERWOERD METHODS

JOHANNESBURG.—A wave of anger at the Nationalist Government, and in particular at Dictator Verwoerd's methods, was fanned among Africans on the Reef last week when it was announced that:—

- About 4,000 school children would be deprived of education at Reef and Johannesburg Government schools;
- about 100 teachers would be dismissed from the service;
- drastic action—banishment from their homes to remote spots in the country—would be taken against the boycott leaders.

It was reported that local authorities—and here as many United Party as Nationalist municipalities are involved—would recommend action against the men they earmarked. At the time of going to press no details of this contemplated Government move were known, but the Johannesburg City Council denied that it had applied for any deportation orders.

There had also not yet been any official expulsions of children from the schools, but children refused re-admission after the expiry of April 25, the date of the Verwoerd ultimatum, and are being told to report daily to their former schools, where principals are awaiting their orders from the Government.

In its strongly-warded protest at the Verwoerd reprisals the African National Congress says these are the outrageous acts of tyrants. It finds it sinister that in the same week as these measures were an-

nounced there was a "leakage" of N.A.D. plans for a "labour camp for agitators," or, its more familiar name, a concentration camp.

LATE NEWS.—The dismissals of African teachers by the Government has actually started. In one Western Native Township school four of six teachers have been notified that their services will be terminated at the end of May. Policemen are being used to deliver these dismissal notices to the teachers instead of using the post, as is normal. P. 3: COD Condemns Intimidation

Will To Fight Strengthened

—A.N.C. Statement

JOHANNESBURG.—The actions of the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd, in ordering the expulsion of 4,000 children from the schools and the dismissal of teachers, as well as the threat to banish African leaders from their homes, are the reprisals which we cannot too strongly condemn, said the African National Congress last week. No democrat in South Africa can permit these things to go unchallenged.

To attempt to penalise children for a life-time—for that is what this action is intended to achieve—is the outrageous act of tyrants.

The Bantu Education Act was imposed on the African people without their having a say in their own future, and in the face of their deep opposition. "Then, when the people take one of the few means of protest they have against this education for servitude, the Minister hits back with savage fury."

These acts, far from breaking the determination of the people to resist Bantu Education with all the means in their power, serve only to strengthen their will to fight.

TEACHERS VICTIMISED
 The Government has clearly failed in its attempts to get the

teachers to act as the agents for Bantu Education. Now that it is apparent that the teachers could not, even at the insistence of the Native Affairs Department, persuade parents to send their children to school in the areas where the boycott was carried out, they are to be the victims.

African teachers must see themselves as part of the African liberation movement, and we call on them not to capitulate to the principles of Bantu Education but to place service to their community and allegiance to the common cause of defeating the 'Nationalists' first.

AN INSPIRATION
 The boycott struggle waged will serve as an example and an inspiration to the African people throughout the country, and we have confidence that, far from being intimidated by Dr. Verwoerd, the struggle against Bantu Education will be intensified.

We do not regard it as accidental that the news of the contemplated concentration camp—though not out now. These are familiar methods—camps surrounded by barbed wire, reprisals against whole communities, mass victimisation, Government action even against children . . . but as fascist governments have in the past been defeated by the actions of their leadership, the Nationalists will in time share the same fate.

The struggle against Bantu Education has only just begun, and Dr. Verwoerd must now reckon with the intensified anger and opposition of the African people.

There are few threats the Nationalist has not used, but even the banishment and deportation of leaders will not break the struggle. New leaders are springing from the people when they are needed, and the very conditions of oppression of the people create their organisations and their leadership. Those who are not deterred, even by the methods of the Nationalists. Each new repression is a measure of the Government sharpens the conflict with the people and brings nearer the break in their tyrannical hold.



Parents interrupt their work on building their children a school to pose for the New Age camera.

ALEXANDRA BUILDS ITS OWN SCHOOL

JOHANNESBURG.—In Alexandra Township the first courageous attempt at organising alternative education for the children, in protest at Bantu Education, was inaugurated last week.

In a few days about 350 pupils were enrolled; some the children of parents who had volunteered at a mass meeting in the Township to send their children to non-Bantu Education schools; and others children who had taken part in the boycott, and been turned away from the schools on Verwoerd's order to the principals not to re-admit those who had joined the protest.

The school also absorbs those children who were part of the overflow from one of the Township's Ethiopian schools.

The school was started entirely on the initiative of the local community, with volunteer teachers from the African National Congress.

The school has classes for children from the sub-standards, up to standard six.

Residents in the township have donated blackboards, tables and benches and chairs. Others are assisting the school by helping to

The Congress flag flies from one of the makeshift school buildings, and in the classrooms and the vicinity of the new school there is a mood of jubilation and excitement at this new people's venture.

UNITED TOBACCO SACKS 700 WORKERS Great Hardship to Families

CAPE TOWN.—Seven hundred Cape Town workers will shortly be thrown out of work when the United Tobacco Company factory in Observatory closes down. Some of the workers have had 25 to 40 years' service with the firm, the majority at least 12 years, but the first time the workers were informed of the closing was on April 22—only three weeks before the first dismissals.

The workers will be dismissed in batches, the first batch of about 100 on May 11, a second big batch on May 18, and then in smaller groups until the final dismissals on July 27. The large majority of the workers are women. Of the 700, about 200 are European, the rest Coloured. The average wage is about £5 a week.

"The news of the closing came as a terrific shock to the workers," Mr. A. Colmeys, general secretary of the Cigarette and Tobacco Workers' Union, told New Age. "There was no prior hint or warning."

About 95% of the workers at the factory are union members and the union is very busy trying to find alternative employment for them. Together with the Company, the union representatives have approached the Cape Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Labour Department and other employers in order to find jobs for the workers. The union has also arranged a meeting with secretaries of other trade unions for the same purpose.

"I want to make a strong appeal to other trade unions and to employers to assist in trying to place our workers in employment," Mr. Colmeys said. "Any further information they require may be obtained from our office at 302 Albert Road Salt River, phone 5-5838."

Workers who are nearing pensionable age will receive pensions from the Pension Fund, while all workers will receive a gratuity from the company, of an extra week's pay for every five years of service. With the coming of winter, the sudden closing of this factory, one of the biggest in Cape Town, is sure to bring terrific hardships and suffering to hundreds of families whose breadwinners had thought that their jobs were secure.

FRANCE REVERSES ATOM DECISION

PARIS.—The French Government has reversed a previous decision to make the hydrogen bomb. The French Premier, M. Faure, told a Press conference recently that France would limit her atomic research to peaceful and industrial purposes.

"My Government has decided to eliminate research for military uses of atomic power," he said.

Asked if this meant that France had abandoned the idea of producing a hydrogen bomb, M. Faure replied—"We do not propose to produce any atom bombs, hydrogen or otherwise."



NEW AGE LETTER BOX

Bantu World and the Boycott

THROUGH the withdrawal of children from Dr. Verwoerd's slave incubators, which began on the 12th April, 1955, on the Rand thousands of parents and children clearly demonstrated their disgust for Dr. Verwoerd's Slave Education and their unequivocal and determined rejection of that brutal fascist experiment which was being imposed upon them.

Despite malicious rumours about their action, police intimidation under the guise of "protection" and Dr. Verwoerd's threats to close down schools, arrest the pupils and intern them in his slave camps, the people demonstrated their hostility to his schemes in a disciplined and unwavering way.

The daily Press tried in every way possible to sabotage the boycott. And this attitude was not confined to the White Press only. Other elements took upon themselves the task of calling for the withdrawal of children. Notable among these were Dr. Xuma and the Bantu World.

The Bantu World takes upon itself the task of calling on parents to send their children back to school. In one of the most able and unguessed appeals ever made ostensibly in the interests of the people, the Bantu World states that it cannot support "political" action which involves children." The advice it gives to the people is to leave the children in "peace"—obviously in Dr. Verwoerd's loving care.

The Bantu World, without foundation, claims to be a supporter of A.N.C. constitutional leadership and condemns the parents who withdrew their children as defectors of Congress leadership.

This is a clumsy attempt to undermine Congress authority and to isolate the leadership from the masses of the people.

Since when has the Bantu World supported the constitutional leadership of the A.N.C.?

If the Bantu World is such an ardent supporter of the A.N.C., why is it so determined to sabotage the correct decision of the A.N.C. of withdrawing children permanently from Dr. Verwoerd's schools?

Dr. Xuma's call to parents to end the boycott follows that of the Star very closely. He asks for

a "positive" approach, and suggests this could be achieved by the people being the best possible people to go to the school committees, pausing to reflect the repercussions of a boycott, sending the children back to school, and encouraging the teachers, sub-inspectors and supervisors to remain at their Posts.

This is Dr. Xuma's positive action, and the only way to struggle against Bantu Education. Boycott, according to the doctor, "will help to make the system a greater success."

It is important for the people to be vigilant and to distinguish clearly between the voices of opportunists, who pretend to have the interests of the people at heart more than the people themselves, who make their appearance to the people at times of crisis to give wise counsel about the folly of the people and their own wisdom, truth and honesty; who want to learn nothing from the people but arrogantly want to teach the people.

The most honest and calmest reflection will indicate that the decision of the people to withdraw their children from the Verwoerd schools is the most correct reply and the only correct reply to Dr. Verwoerd's fascist experiment, not only to destroy education for the Africans but to put in its place a poisonous process designed to stamp on the African child the inferiority of his people in order to perpetuate his exploitation and oppression.

DUMA NOKWE.
African National Congress
Youth League, Johannesburg.

Education Fund?

All the Africans are against Bantu Education. I suggest that an educational fund be established. Every able-bodied man and woman should pay a levy to it for the education of the children on a sound basis.

C. VILAKAZI.
Cape Town.

Poison Rejected

The people of Newclare do not want Bantu Education. Parents are determined to battle to the last, not with arms, like the Government, but through courage and love of their children.

The Minister of Native Affairs is unable to intimidate the people. The parents say with one voice—"Away with Bantu Education and its fascist aims." They are busy digging a hole to bury this rotten dogma. The people are well organised. They know all the bad implications associated with this mysterious title given to our education—Bantu.

Why do other sections of the community not add titles to their education? Is an African M.A. going to be B.M.A.? L.L.B. going to be Bantu L.L.B.?

Education is the one world over—education is not based on nationality, race or creed but is universal.

Verwoerd has discovered that even little children recognise his poison; they do not want to drink that poison.

D. W. KHUNOU.
Newclare.

Land of Fear

The Nationalist Party claims to know what we need better than we Africans do.

If we say anything against the Government then we are Communists or agitators, or even up to treason!

For this we are banned, interned. We live in the land of fear. If we want to be safe we do not say what worries us. We live in a land where we do not trust one another, as your fellows may be a Native Nationalist or a member of the police Special Branch, who all hate the truth.

We live in a country where jail is every Non-White's goal. We live in a country where there is nothing to see an African being insulted, assaulted and even murdered in the strongholds of the Nationalist Party, e.g., Bethal and Rustenburg.

We live in a country where it is common to see young Europeans enjoying themselves by gassing using Afrikaans language to an African in the cities, while it is worse on the farms. And these people are religious—they belong to the state Church.

ENOCH S. NAIKANA.
Johannesburg.

Spread Truth

The word struggle is often used in the vocabulary of the various national laboratory organisations, but perhaps there is not a clear idea or definition of it.

What is the essence of the word "struggle"?

Surely the essence, the heart of the matter, is knowledge. It is knowing that the misery and sorrow which so besets a large part of the world's population is not necessary and can be overcome.

"Struggle" should be another way of saying "spread the truth."

Let each and everyone spread the truth as best he can in however small a way and help sweep away the reactionary filth that is blocking progress and that is the father of apartheid in its hideous and nonsensical form.

X. Y. Z.
East Griqualand.

Organise Chiefs!

The Nationalist Government is busy manipulating our kings (degenerately called chiefs) into policemen to carry out their destructive, oppressive principles. Africans should not forget to organise effectively these kings by consulting them and inculcating the constructive spirit of African unity.

The Nats, ingrate themselves with our kings through bribery and make them impulsive to this one-sided oppression, and also to hate us more and like them. After this, the more ungratefully, they call our kings "down men."

In the beginning the attempt to organise the kings will seem difficult, but because they are our kinsmen and kinswomen belonging genuinely to our blood they will eventually understand.

M. C. BOSHILO.
Brakpan.

"Ethnic" Grouping

In spite of the protests of the people of Benoni against "ethnic" grouping, the apartheidists are introducing this system. It is already sowing the seeds of hatred among the African people. It is an attempt to drive the Africans back to the days of tribalism, the days of Paul Kruger and of barbarism.

C. P. PIETERSON.
Benoni.

EDITORIAL

CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE . . .

SIX WEEKS TO GO

WITH less than two months to go before the Congress of the People opens on June 25th, elections of delegates are now taking place and there is a renewed wave of enthusiasm for the drawing of a Freedom Charter.

Events of the past weeks have brought home to ever wider sections of the people the urgent need for the Charter.

● The parents and children who are so determinedly fighting the Bantu Education Act will see the recent events as a further incentive towards making the Congress a success so that the right of all to true education can be embodied in the charter.

● And Verwoerd's tyrannical action in closing the schools to children who started away will strengthen the conviction of all that the Charter of Freedom must contain the provision that the ministers of the government of the Republic of Africa must be elected by all the people, so that it will be impossible for tyrants to rule.

● The terrible conditions under which many farm workers exist were once again emphasised in the recent case resulting from the beating to death of a Coloured farm labourer.

● It was the normal treatment to whip farm labourers who stole wine, the accused said in their defence.

● Coming after the Rustenburg trial and the Bethal disclosures, it is clear to all that farm labourers on many farms live under conditions of the worst feudalism.

● Farm workers will certainly be represented at the Congress of the People to put forward there the demands that they have the right to a better life.

● By formulating these demands and coming together with other freed-

lovers, they will be able to take an important step forward in the organisation of farm workers, as that by their own unity, they will be able to win improvements in their conditions and participate in the struggle for freedom for all.

● Teachers faced with the new Education regulations which are designed to make them unthinking, obedient serfs will rally to the Congress of the People so that the demand may be embodied in the charter that the teachers shall be free men, whose duty lies to the children and not to the tyrants.

● African city workers harassed by Section 10 are demanding that all should have the right to live where they choose.

● Trade unionists, faced with the threat of muzzling by the Scheeman I.C. Bill, are demanding that they have the right to organise their unions free of interference.

● Mothers call for parks and recreation grounds for the children, decent houses for the families, cheaper food on the tables.

● The police campaign of intimidation in a futile attempt to sabotage and prevent the Congress of the People has never abated. It can be expected to reach even greater fury in the coming weeks as the date of the Congress draws nearer.

● But no intimidation can hope to prevent this great rally of the people of all races and all walks of life.

● The call to action is gone out. There is no standing still. All who support the demand for a better life for all South Africans must work for the success of the Congress of the People!

● Forward to the Congress of the People!

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C.O.D. CONDEMNS INTIMIDATION

JOHANNESBURG.—To oppose the Minister of Native Affairs is becoming a punishable offence, comments the Congress of Democrats in a statement protesting at the post-boycott actions of Dr. Verwoerd.

The Congress condemns the punitive retaliatory methods of the Nationalist Government against the African people for their education and their complete rejection of Bantu Education, and supports fully the intensification of the campaign announced by the African National Congress.

Affairs is a punishable offence.

The South African Congress of Democrats supports the demand of the African people for true education and their complete rejection of Bantu Education, and supports fully the intensification of the campaign announced by the African National Congress.

"HEIGHT OF DICTATORSHIP"

—ANGLICAN LEADER

"There is no law that an African child must attend school. To threaten children for staying away when they have a perfect right to do so is the height of dictatorship," was the comment of the Rev. John Shand, director of Anglican schools.

"If African parents don't want Bantu Education there is no legal or moral obligation to force them to send their children to school," he said. "They must be free to choose."

Rev. Shand added that the boycott was being run by "isotists" was ludicrous. It was an attempt to pull down the standing of the movement. Anyone who knew conditions in the locations recognised that feeling against Bantu Education was very high among parents.

FLU

is serious

For each hour you walk about and work with an attack of Flu on you, at least an extra day will be spent either in bed or in a state of half health. Flu damages and weakens the system—don't under-estimate or try to ignore Flu.

What to do

Go to bed, take a Mag-Aspirin Powder and a hot drink. The Mag-Aspirin does just what you need. The Nervous System, it reduces the temperature, it stops both the headache and body pains.

Mag-Aspirin's many benefits save you loss of time and health—possibly in future years as who knows what mark a severe attack of Flu may have on one's constitution.

MAG-ASPIRIN

Powders 2/- and Mag-Aspirin Tablets 2/6 everywhere. 7891

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WRITING ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE ASIAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE

MOSES MOSES REPORTS FROM INDONESIA



THE Republic of Indonesia consists of six main islands and more than 3,000 small ones. Indonesia knows no winter, no spring and no autumn. Its climate is tropical and has only a wet and a dry season, but it is one of the richest areas of the earth. It has a population of 81,000,000. Its capital is Djakarta.

Bandung, the capital of Western Java, lies about 120 miles south-east of Djakarta. It has a population of 802,104—750,865 Indonesian nationals and 51,239 nationals of foreign states. Built on a plain 2,100 feet above sea level and surrounded by mountains, Bandung is blessed with a fine mild climate. It is for this reason it was chosen as the venue of the historic and world-inspiring Asian-African Conference.

Their Purpose

The purpose of the conference is to:—

1. Promote goodwill and co-operation among the nations of Asia and Africa, to explore and advance their mutual as well as common interests and to establish and further friendliness and neighbourly relations;
2. Consider social, economic and cultural problems and relations of the countries represented;
3. Consider problems of special interest to Asian and African peoples, such as problems affecting national sovereignty and of racialism and colonialism;
4. View the position of Asia and Africa and their peoples in the world of to-day and the contribution they can make to the promotion of world peace and co-operation.

Not Invited

Thirty Asian and African states were invited to the conference. All of them except one accepted the invitation and are represented. The Central African Federation of Dr. Godfrey Huggins declined the invitation.

South Africa was disqualified by her racial and discrimination policies. So she was not invited and she is not represented here.

Similarly, the imperialistic countries such as Britain, France, Portugal, Spain and Belgium, which try to dominate vast territories and millions of people in the African continent, were not invited.

At 3.30 a.m. on Monday, 18th April, 1955, the epoch-making conference was officially opened by the president of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Sukarno. Long before the time the conference was scheduled to start crowds lined the streets leading to and in front of the conference hall.

The delegates were standing when the official party entered. The party was led by President Sukarno and his Vice-president, Dr. Hatta, and their wives, and then followed the representatives of 1,422,414,485 peoples of Asia and Africa, the Prime Ministers of five sponsoring powers—Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia and Pakistan—and the heads of the various delegations.

Six of the 29 countries attending the conference are African countries, representing 55,752,000

people. These are Egypt, Ethiopia, Gold Coast, Liberia, Libya and Sudan.

Spirit of Peace

The prevailing spirit and atmosphere is peace, preservation and promotion of world peace and understanding, and peaceful co-existence. Even elements which belong to warlike constellations or blocs were loud in voicing this. The opening addresses of President Sukarno and of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, centred on this theme. Here are some words from President Sukarno's address:—

"I know that in Asia and Africa there is greater diversity of religions, faiths and beliefs than in the other continents of the world. But that is only natural! Asia and Africa are the classic birthplaces of faiths and ideas, which have spread all over the world. . . .

"Yes, there is diversity among us. Who denies it? Small and great nations are represented here, with people professing various, every religion under the sun—Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, Shintoism, and others. Almost every political faith we encounter here—Democracy, Monarchism, Theocracy, with innumerable variants. And practically every economic doctrine has its representative in this hall—innumerable ideas, in all their manifold variations and combinations.

Brotherhood

"But what harm is in diversity when there is unity in desire? This conference is not to oppose each other, it is a conference of brotherhood. It is not an arm conference nor a Christian conference, nor a Buddhist conference. It is not a meeting of Malaysians, nor one of Arabs, nor one of Indo-Aryan stock. It is not an exclusive club either, not a bloc which seeks to oppose any other bloc. Rather it is a body of enlightened, tolerant opinion which seeks to impress on the world that all men and all countries, by their place under the sun—to impress on the world that it is possible to live together, meet together, speak to each other, without losing one's individual identity, and yet to contribute to the general understanding of matters of common concern and to develop a true consciousness of the inter-dependence of man and nations for their wellbeing and survival on earth."

Speaking about peace and preservation of peace, President Sukarno concluded his preparations and asked the question—"How can any of us be disinterested about peace?"

He went on to say:

"And do not think the oceans and the seas will protect us from the water that we drink—we, even the very air that we breathe can be contaminated by poisons originating thousands of miles away. And it could be that, even if we ourselves escaped lightly, the unborn generations of our children would bear on their distorted bodies the marks

of our failure to control the forces which have been released on the world."

Urgent Task

"No task is more urgent than that of preserving peace. Without peace our independence means little. The rehabilitation and up-building of our countries will have little meaning. Our revolutions will not be allowed to run their course."

He ended this section of his address with the following statement:

"What can we do? We can do much! We can inject the voice of reason into world affairs. We can mobilise all the spiritual, all the moral, all the political strength of

Asia and Africa on the side of peace. Yes, we! We, the peoples of Asia and Africa, 1,400,000,000 strong, far more than half the human population of the world, we can mobilise what I have called the moral violence of nations in favour of peace.

"We can demonstrate to the minority of the world which lives on the other continents that we, the majority, are for peace, not for war, and that whatever strength we have will always be thrown on to the side of peace."

Those are some of the wise words said by President Sukarno in his address to the conference. The sentiments expressed in Dr. Sukarno's address were echoed by every delegation, even though

some of the members of the Arab states were bitter about Palestine, and the Philippines and Thailand were very strong in their denunciation of Communism and in their indirect attacks upon the People's Republic of China and its representatives at this conference.

Colonialism in its old and modern forms has so far been denounced by all who spoke. A few said something about racialism, and they were pretty strong in their words.

DEMAND FOR REGIONAL AUTONOMY IN GOLD COAST

Growing Opposition to Nkrumah Red-Baiting

LONDON.—Faced with growing discontent against the rule of his Convention People's Party, the Prime Minister of the Gold Coast, Dr. Nkrumah, has tried to head off his main political opponents by appointing a Select Committee to examine the question of a federal form of government for the country.

The appointment of the commission represents a tactical defeat for Nkrumah, who from the outset has ridiculed the demand of his opponents, the National Liberation Movement, for regional autonomy within a Gold Coast Federation. The Gold Coast was a unitary state, Nkrumah maintained.

But the demand for a federal system continued to grow and gain support among the people, particularly in the Ashanti region, which is the main source of the Gold Coast's cocoa and also has gold and diamond deposits. The origin of the friction between the Ashanti people and Nkrumah was the Premier's refusal last year to pay more than £134 per ton of cocoa at a time when the world price of cocoa was about £400 a ton, thus assisting in the outrageous exploitation of the Ashanti people by the U.S. cocoa monopoly.

CORRUPTION

But other grievances have been added to the list. There have been allegations of corruption and nepotism against the Nkrumah Administration. Above all, Nkrumah has been unable to do much to raise significantly the living standards of his people, and the long-awaited independence of the Gold Coast seems as far off as ever as Nkrumah marks time.

There has been rising unemployment in the Gold Coast, reaching a total of 45,000 in 1953, nearly double the 1951 figure. Wages are low—the latest figure of the Gold Coast Labour Department (1952-53) says the minimum daily wage in agriculture and forestry is 3s. 3d. for surface mining, 4s. 3d. for underground mining. In most industries only a small minority get more than 6s. a day.

In protest against bad wages and conditions workers have more and more taken recourse to strike action—31,639 were on strike during 1952-53, twice as many as the previous year.

DARE NOT VISIT

A British newspaper correspondent in Ashanti recently reported—"No Cabinet Minister of Dr. Nkrumah's Gold Coast Government dare to-day visit the cocoa and diamond territory of Ashanti . . . one-third of the Gold Coast brings to Nkrumah the biggest surplus . . . and the biggest crisis of his fast-moving career."

The National Liberation Movement is led largely by men who were formerly loyal supporters of Nkrumah, but who have been driven away from the Convention People's Party by his dictatorial methods. Instead of demoralising his regime, Nkrumah has tried to maintain his position by indulging in the Red-baiting tactics he has learned from his imperialist masters.

While full scope is given to the pro-American imperialists anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to carry on its work in the Gold Coast (it maintains a regional office in Accra), official steps are taken to deny the World Federation of Trade Unions access to the workers. Two trade union pioneers, Anthony Wood and Pobby Biney, were expelled from the

C.P.P. for attending a W.F.T.U. conference.

PASSPORTS REFUSED

All anti-imperialist and Communist literature is banned in the Gold Coast, and passports are refused to all delegates wishing to visit any of the socialist countries or even to attend international festivals and conferences held under auspices of which Nkrumah disapproves. In this he shows himself no different from South Africa's Premier, Strijdom.

But in his anxiety to convince the imperialists that he is not tainted Nkrumah has got himself out of step with his fellow Africans, not only in the Gold Coast but throughout West Africa. The West African Pilot, published in Lagos, Nigeria, commented recently:

"We know no more about Communism than what its American and British detractors have pushed across to us as propaganda. But judging from what we see and experience from day to day, we feel that all this talk of the so-called 'free world' and 'iron curtain' is a camouflage to fool and bamboozle colonial peoples. It is part and parcel of power politics, into which we refuse to be drawn until we are free to choose which ideology suits us best."

"For the time being, we shall judge every nation strictly on the merits of the attitude of that nation towards our national aspirations. We have every cause to be grateful to the Communists for their active interest in the fate of colonial peoples and for their constant denunciation of the evils of imperialism. It is then left to the so-called 'free' nations to convince us that they are more concerned about our welfare than the Communists, and in this regard we believe more in action than in mere words."

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR THE WAR-MAKERS

ONCE again the United States, hell-bent for war, has been turned back on the very brink of disaster. For the third time in the space of one year pressure of public opinion both inside and outside the United States has forced President Eisenhower to veto plans to launch atomic war.

It happened the first time in Indo-China last April. U.S. warships armed with atomic weapons were already steaming for the battle-zone—the Geneva Conference had just started—when Eisenhower, bombarded with protests from Eden and Nehru, reluctantly said "No."

It happened again last September, when the island of Quemoy first loomed up on the international horizon.

It happened again last week. Admiral Radford and Assistant Secretary of State Robertson were already in Formosa to alert the Nationalists for atomic war when the master-diplomacy of Chinese Premier Chou En-lai at the Bandung conference spiked their guns.

Wrong Expectations

The U.S. had all along been nervous of the Bandung conference; but for the wrong reasons. They had expected Chou En-lai to use Bandung as a "platform for Communist propaganda," to play on the anti-imperialist sentiments of the Asian Governments in order to win them to his side in the Formosa dispute.

Nothing of the sort happened. The London Times' special correspondent at the conference reported on April 20 that "the guns which had been trained ready to oppose the expected Communist manoeuvres have somewhat misfired against the blunt refusal of Mr. Chou En-lai to invoke any Communist line as such. He had come . . .

WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

only to seek common ground, and in this company at least he has posed as more neutralist even than Mr. Nehru."

Patience and Tolerance

The same correspondent added the next day: "It is generally agreed that the Chinese are showing great patience and tolerance. . . . The Chinese are fully patient; the general wish is to be compromising and agreeable; they appear at times to be accepting Mr. Nehru's advice, and they are happy to meet everybody."

Formosa itself was not formally discussed at the conference, but behind the scenes Chou and the other Asian delegates thrashed the matter out in an atmosphere of complete frankness. The outcome of it all was Chou's offer, issued on the eve of the final session of the conference:

"The Chinese people are friendly to the American people. The Chinese people do not want to have a war with the United States. The Chinese Government is willing to sit down and enter into negotiations with the U.S. Government to discuss the question of relaxing tension in the Far East and especially the question of relaxing tension in the Formosa area."

"Not an Inch"

Earlier Chou had assured the conference that China would not transgress against the territorial integrity of any country—"not by one inch."

Compare Chou's approach with that of U.S. Admiral Carney, reported in this column last week: "I think we should try to bloody the Chinese nose on a local basis."

Not surprisingly, Chou's offer found an echo in the hearts of peace-loving people throughout the world.

But what was the American response? An immediate attempt to ridicule the offer and make peaceful negotiations impossible.

A statement issued by the U.S. State Department demanded "evidence of China's good intentions" on the basis of the following conditions:

1. A cease-fire in the Formosa area (where the U.S. is the aggressor);
2. The release of the U.S. airmen imprisoned in China for spying (this has nothing to do with the dispute over Formosa);
3. China to accept the Security Council invitation to attend a discussion on Formosa (this when China is not even allowed to become a member of the United Nations);

4. Admission of Chiang Kai-shek to the talks (Chiang himself stated he was not prepared to have talks with the Communists).

Shocked Them

The United States reply—understood by the whole world as a rejection of Chou's offer—shocked not only the delegates to the Bandung conference, but America's allies everywhere.

The Manchester Guardian's Washington correspondent reported on April 26: "American reporters at the Bandung conference have been sending critical dispatches about its impact."

Mr. Keyes Beech, the Chicago "Daily News" correspondent, cabled from Bandung that the State Department's announcement was considered "inept, ill-matured and ill-timed" and had "left a sour taste in the mouths of practically everybody."

Disgusted Them

America's own stooges at the Bandung conference were disgusted. The Pakistan Premier, Mr. Mohammed Ali, said he thought Mr. Chou En-lai had proposed a "quite reasonable solution" of the Formosa question. The Ceylon Premier Sir John Kotelawala said he thought the U.S. reaction had been "too hasty" and had made things more difficult.

In Ottawa on April 22 Mr. Lester Pearson, the Minister of External Affairs, told the House of Commons that Canada would not automatically support the United States in any war, in China or anywhere else. His statement was applauded.

Divided Them

Inside the United States, the reaction was divided. The right-wing Republicans like Senators Knowland and McCarthy, and several members of the House, insisted that the presence of Chiang Kai-shek should be a precondition for any talks.

But Senator Walter George, Democratic Party Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the U.S. should be "big enough and great enough" to accept Chou's offer, even if Chiang Kai-shek shunned the conference. He said each side could reserve its rights in the dispute, but it was important to find out whether there was any chance of settling matters peacefully.

Adlai Stevenson, former Democratic candidate for President in 1952, was in Uganda at the time, said said Chou's statement was "very heartening."

And the Democrats are the majority party in the United States Congress.

The Cape Argus reported on April 27 that "President Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles are under intense newspaper pressure to accept the new Formosa proposal of Mr. Chou En-lai. Even the Right-wing Hearst group swung round to say: 'A great deal might be gained in direct talks, and they ought seriously to be considered.'"

"The Wall Street Journal states: 'Mr. Chou's statement could be the first big break in this deadlocked and heretofore seemingly unbreakable deadlock.'"

A Retreat

Thus once again the United States Government, finding itself isolated at home and abroad, was compelled to beat a retreat. On April 26 Secretary of State Dulles announced that the United States was ready to negotiate a cease-fire in the Formosa area with People's China, directly or through the United Nations or by other means, even if Nationalist China stood aloof from the negotiations. He had to admit that the U.S. Government and Chiang Kai-shek no longer saw eye to eye on this matter, but said the U.S. "had no alternative but to explore the sincerity of Communist China's present offer and to work for an abatement of tension in the Far East."

No wonder it was reported from Formosa that day that American Radford, the chief architect of the "war with China now" policy, was "indisposed" and unable to talk to reporters.

Diplomatic Defeats

Diplomatically, the Americans have been completely outmanoeuvred in the post-war period. They have suffered diplomatic defeats over the Korea and Indo-China armistice agreements. They have lost the initiative over Austria. They are well on the way to a further diplomatic defeat over Formosa, where their position is steadily becoming untenable.

On the one hand this series of defeats can lead the American people to see the error of their ways in the hope of rescuing their sagging prestige.

On the other hand, if the Americans seriously want to achieve a solution, let them abandon the path of war and follow the example of Mr. Chou En-lai in waging an all-out struggle for peace.



(N.Y. Herald Tribune) "Yalta schmaltza, Potsdam schmotzdam . . . the question—what do we do now?"

USE ELECTIONS TO PUBLICISE CONGRESS OF PEOPLE'S

JOHANNESBURG.—Election meetings now being called for the Congress of the People should be used to the greatest extent to advertise the Congress and the Freedom Charter, said C.O.P. headquarters this week.

DELEGATES SHOULD BE ELECTED AT EVERY MEETING WHICH IS HELD, BIG OR SMALL.

C.O.P. meeting organisers are urged to intensify the drive to collect freedom demands. Here are some demands recently sent in:

TIMBER WORKERS IN BENONI: We want a multi-racial government; high wages and equal pay for the workers. There must be tea intervals for the workers; also better homes, better, paved streets, and more schools. Workers should be treated decently at work. We want to see where our tax money goes. Apartheid should be a crime and all permits abolished. All should have the right to organise in trade unions.

A KOELENHOF WORKER: When I got married the law of the Government told me to lock after my wife like a piece of gold. Now they tell me I must send her away. I demand that I be allowed to look after and protect my wife like the Government said I should when I married her.

CHURCH MEETING IN WILLOWFONTEIN, NATAL: We demand civic and political rights. We want basic human rights.

MEETING IN THE PIETER-MARITZBURG DISTRICT: We demand water sanitation and storm water drains. We want a school in our area. We pay rates and taxes but have no civic amenities. Our area is threatened under the Group Areas Act.

Dangerous Criminal at Large!

JOHANNESBURG. THERE was a commotion outside the Central Indian High School in Lillian Road, Fordsburg, one school break last week when two European policemen and an African constable tried to arrest one of the school pupils.

The boy was being held by the shoulder by one of the European constables while the African prepared to handcuff him when the principal of the school arrived on the scene.

He asked for an explanation. The boy was being arrested, said one of the constables, because he was playing with a ball in the street. That was an offence in terms of the municipal bye-laws.

The principal suggested that even if that was so, it was hardly necessary to take the boy to the police station. "You can take his name and address and serve a summons on him," he suggested.

The European constable insisted on handcuffing the matter drop at that stage, but the African started putting handcuffs on the youngster. The school children standing there immediately started a loud protest, but the African constable took no notice and started marching his prisoner off to the police station.

The European constable finally agreed to discuss the matter in the principal's office. The handcuffs were removed and later, in the office, the police agreed to call the arrest off. The paring shot of the constable, as he left the school, was to say to the boy: "The principal will give you a hiding!"

REPORT TO OUR READERS

Have you ever written a short story? Something from your own life—some incident in the struggle for freedom in South Africa which you have witnessed—would probably make good material for a short story.

PREPARING YOUR STORY NOW! (Length 2,000 to 3,000 words.) Last week was a fairly good week—a number of old friends let us have their contributions to the New Age Freedom Fund.

We need that regular donation, so KEEP IT UP!

WATCH FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT WEEK OF THE NEW AGE SHORT STORY COMPETITION, AND BEGIN

MANNIE MONEY.

SUCCESSFUL MAY DAY RALLIES

THE largest number of people to celebrate May Day in Cape Town during recent years gathered on the Grand Parade last Sunday afternoon to greet workers throughout the world.

"We salute those workers who have won the fight for freedom in their countries and we pledge solidarity in the struggle to those workers who are still oppressed," leads a resolution adopted amidst applause.

"We look forward to the working class of South Africa leading us in our struggle for equal rights, a better life and friendship between all peoples."

In another resolution, the people ratified the stand taken "by our representatives Moses Kotane and Maulvi Cachalia at Bandung."

"We stand for world peace and condemn the war-mongering of the American imperialists," said the resolution.

SCHOOLS BOYCOTT

Condemning the Bantu Education Act, the meeting called on all African parents to boycott themselves ready for the complete boycott of schools.



"Afrika!" shout these enthusiastic Alexandra Township children at the announcement that their parents are building them their own school to protect them from Bantu Education poison. (See front page.)

In the fight against pernicious Bantu Education and for free education for all children.

"We salute the struggle of the parents and children who carried out the boycott recently in the face of mass arrests and police intimidation," resolved the meeting. It further pledged itself to stand behind the Congress of the People and help make it a great success. "We pledge to stand firm in the fight for peace and freedom in our time."

"CHINESE PRODUCTS are up to British standards and specifications," said Bo Min-Gang, the Burmese Minister of Public Works, who led the Burmese delegation in negotiations with China for the exchange of Burmese rice for Chinese industrial products. A barter agreement for £6,000,000 was announced.

THE GOLD COAST, the first all-African government, will spend £63 million in its first year. The sum of £13 million comes from export duties on cocoa.

COLOUREDS ANGERED BY ARROGANT GROUP AREAS "PROPOSALS"

CAPE TOWN.—The proposals by the Land Tenure Board and the representations made to it last week regarding the racial zoning of Woodstock, Brooklyn, Maitland and Kensington have angered Non-Europeans all over the Peninsula," Mr. R. September, secretary of the South African Coloured People's Organisation, said in an interview with New Age this week.

In these proposals, which were first advertised on the 11th August, 1954, Brooklyn, Woodstock and Maitland are set down as white areas.

In these three areas, according to a report by the City Engineer, there are altogether 25,505 Europeans, 12,110 Coloureds and 1,021 Africans in the area will have to move if the proposals become law.

In Kensington, which is proposed as a Coloured area, there are 14,151 Coloured people. Those who will have to move, if this proposal is accepted, include 842 Europeans, 772 Malays, 538 Asiatics and 7,532 Africans.

NOT SATISFIED

Representations made to the Board last week show that the generous allotment to the Europeans has still not satisfied many of them.

Thus Dr. J. C. G. Kotze of the Dutch Reformed Church, Woodstock, wants the entire area from De Waal Drive to the railway line in Woodstock to be declared a white area. This includes Walmer Estate, a predominantly Coloured suburb.

Also wrangling for bits and pieces before the Board were a number of City Councillors who were ticked off by the chairman for "coming late," since the Cape Town City Council had in the past refused to have anything to do with the Group Areas Act. Councillor G. E. Ferry wants Albert Road to be the dividing line between the European and Non-Europeans of Woodstock, leaving the Non-Europeans with little more than the railway line between themselves and the sea.

Councillor W. H. Ross admitted that there was no comparison between the number of Europeans and Coloureds who would have to be moved.

A WARNING

"The proceedings at the hearings of the Land Tenure Board during the past week are a warning to people all over the Peninsula," said Mr. September.

THE STUFFY ROOM

In his book "Beware of Africa!" based on his travels in Egypt and the Sudan, Uganda, Tanganyika, Kenya, the Central African Federation and the Union of South Africa, the British author, Reginald Reynolds, tells the following story:

"A certain man came into a room where a number of people had been sitting for a number of hours, and remarked that the atmosphere was stuffy."

"The people sitting there were very annoyed at this remark. 'How can you presume to judge,' asked one man, 'when you have only this minute come in?'"

Another said: "It is always these people from outside who make this ill-informed criticism. Only those who have sat here for hours can possibly know whether the air is fresh or foul."

"It is just to keep out ignorant critics like you," said a third, "that we keep all the doors and windows shut."

So they threw the intruder out and bolted the door.

Reasons For Breaking Off Talks With India 'Trifling'

— Says Dr. Moosa

JOHANNESBURG.—The reason advanced by the Union Government for breaking off the negotiations for Round-Table discussions between India and South Africa are trifling ones indeed, Dr. H. Moosa, joint secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, commented to New Age in an exclusive interview.

The Union Government has obviously all along looked for an excuse to avoid the Round-Table discussions. Attempts to hold these talks, in terms of the United Nations resolutions, have now been going on for over five years.

"The Government has been very quick to place the blame for the breakdown in the negotiations on the shoulders of Mr. Nehru," said Dr. Moosa. The charge is that he outraged the rules of diplomacy by attacking the Union in public speeches. But, continued Dr. Moosa, the Union is guilty of far more serious obstruction in these negotiations. When they were already under way the Union Government

insisted on pushing through Parliament an amending bill for the Group Areas Act, despite requests to stay the passage of this measure, as it would prejudice the discussions. "This was obstruction of the most extreme kind, and strong provocation into the bargain." The request to proceed with the Group Areas Act in the interests of reaching a solution in the dispute was totally ignored.

"This latest decision of the Union Government confirms suspicions that the Union Government was never genuine about trying to reach agreement through these talks and that it has jumped at this trifling excuse to call the discussions off."

T.U.C. LETS DOWN WORKERS AND BURIES ITS HEAD

IN THE SAND BY RAY ALEXANDER



"I Put My Hand Out"



Mr. McDermott.

CAPE TOWN.

THE S.A. Trade Union Coloured-brade union centre, led by cautious and respectable trade union officials who have adopted a policy of appeasement of the Nationalists, holds its first annual conference this week.

Few workers or members of the public have reason to know of the existence of the S.A. Trade Union Council (S.A.T.U.C.), although they were formed six months ago.

Their much-advertised "opposition" to Ben Schoeman's Industrial Conciliation Bill (Trade Union Destructing Bill) amounted to nothing more than the submission of two memoranda to the Bill Select Committee on the Bill. Hardly an attempt was made to inform the workers and the general public of this grave threat to the very existence of the trade union movement.

REMAINED DUMB

They have failed completely to give a lead to the workers either on the economic front or in defence against the continuous attacks on workers' rights. Inflation has been going on all the time, reducing the value of the workers' pay packet, but the T.U.C. leadership has remained dumb as regards either the question of an increased cost-of-living allowance or a general forward movement in wages.

It is a feature of the present situation that in one industry after another wage agreements are extended without any improvement in wage rates. Contrast with this retrogression, the forward movement of workers in other countries like Great Britain and the United States of America where dockers, railway, engineering, electricians and typewriters have in the past few months improved their position in some cases after lengthy strikes.

NO PROTEST

What could be more futile than a trade union movement which allows organisers and secretaries to be muzzled by Minister Swart without a protest by the trade union leadership?

The truth is that the leaders have now at last got their way and are "keeping politics out of the trade union movement." (That, of course, means keeping progressive working class politics out, and keeping apartheid politics in.)

THEIR AGENDA

The effect can be seen in the report and the agenda for this week's first Annual Conference of the S.A. Trade Union Council.

One is gratified to see resolutions calling for an increase in the cost-of-living allowance and for the repeal of the Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act.

There is nothing else, though, which could be said to constitute a policy for the working class.

There is no assessment of the position of the trade union and cost-of-living class struggle in terms that would give a perspective of their problem and of the tasks that lie ahead.

NOT A WORD

Not a word is said to the Group Areas Act, the packing of the courts, the attack on the Coloured Vote, the Passports (Denial) Bill, the Bantu (Deprivation of Education Act, or any of the other monstrous invasions of the peoples' rights and liberties.

Not a word about the long-con-

tinued campaign of the Nationalist Government against the independent trade union movement. There is not a word said about the expulsion of veteran trade union leaders, colleagues of these people that are sitting in leadership.

There is no reference at all to the dominating issue of war and the threat of extermination by atomic and hydrogen bombs.

BURIES HEAD

The S.A.T.U.C. prefers to bury its head in a mass of files. But these are the real issues, they concern the homes, the freedom, the living standards and the future of hundreds of thousands of workers, members of unions affiliated to the T.U.C.

THE TIME IS SURE TO COME WHEN THESE WORKERS WILL REPUDIATE SO SPINELESS AND INEFFECTUAL A LEADERSHIP.

It should be clear that this policy of "keeping politics out of trade unions" means that the trade unions are left with ineffective and feeble instruments of petty officials who are not defending nor advancing the workers' interests.

TIME TO WAKE UP!

It is time for the rank and file to wake up and realise what is happening to their organisations which they built up with much suffering and great sacrifice.

The recent conference of the S.A. Council of Transport Workers held last week in Cape Town was an indication of the way things are going.

COLOURED DELEGATE INSULTED

Let those Indian and Coloured workers who supported the expulsion of African trade unions from the S.A.T.U.C. take note of what happened to Mr. Manho, Secretary of the Trawlermen's and Line Fishermen's Union, the only Coloured delegate at the conference. Objection was taken to his presence by Mr. van Wyk, from the Pretoria Transport Workers' Union, and a fervent supporter of Ben Schoeman.

Mr. Manho withdrew from the conference leaving the field clear for the racials.

Clearly, as was predicted, attempts are being made to exclude every Non-European from attending a conference with Europeans.

It is important to note of what transport industry is a field of employment in which the number of Non-European workers is considerable and increasing.

WOULD MEAN DISASTER

The splitting of the workers into separate racial camps would bring disaster to the working class.

The Transport Workers' Council's Conference further showed that the Nationalist section is now much stronger than before.

Van Wyk succeeded in getting the transport workers to agree to take their problems to the Minister of Transport, Ben Schoeman, the very man who created their problems in the first place. No politics really means accepting the politics of the party in power.

The policy of the T.U.C. and racials can only mean disaster. This must be fought within and without.

FUTURE WITH CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS

The struggle for real working-class unity has to be carried on.

Only through a united working-class movement free of racialism will the workers in South Africa be in a position not only to defend but advance their living standards, win freedom, rights to build a life in which the workers will be able to enjoy the fruits of their labour.

THEREFORE, THE FUTURE

FOOD AND CANNING WORKERS AFFILIATE AT FULL STRENGTH

CAPE TOWN.—Thirty-five representatives of branches of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, from the Western and Eastern Cape Provinces, West Coast and the Transvaal, who attended the union's National Executive Council meeting in Cape Town last week, unanimously resolved to affiliate to the South African Congress of Trade Unions at full strength.

The union greeted the establishment of S.A.C.T.U. with approval and pledged its full support to the building of a truly united and independent trade union movement, free of racialism; "a trade union movement which will be capable of defending the workers and people of South Africa against the persistent attacks by the Nationalist Government upon their civil liberties and rights to advance the interests of the workers."

LIES NOT WITH THE S.A.T.U.C. BUT WITH THE S.A. CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS, THE NATIONAL TRADE UNION BODY THAT UNITES ALL WORKERS, IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE AND COLOUR. LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE WORKING CLASSES AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE!

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In another resolution the union reaffirmed its full confidence in its officials and condemned the Government's attack on the union by the banning of eight of its officials. Six officials have been ordered to resign from the union and two have been prohibited from attending gatherings.

The union resolved to rally its members in the defence of the union and to appeal to all workers to unite in demanding the withdrawal of the Suppression of Communism Act.

The union viewed with great enthusiasm the preparation throughout the country for the Congress of the People as an arena for the voicing of people's demands for rights and civil liberties.

Reaffirming its condemnation of the vicious principle underlying the Bantu Education Act, the union declared it regarded the boycott of the schools as a sincere expression of the deep-seated repugnance with which the Africans view the Act.

Demanding the withdrawal of the Bantu Education Act, the union also demanded the withdrawal of all threats and penalties directed against children, teachers and parents "who have demonstrated their sense of duty towards their people and South Africa as a whole by refusing to be a party to the Act of discrimination and oppression."

Railway Dissatisfaction

JOHANNESBURG.

In the change-over in the railway's pay system this month the wage envelopes of both African and European drivers were short. European drivers at Kazembe staged a brief protest strike, but later returned to work when the administration explained the new system.

African workers were indignant that the new pay system was not properly explained to them. The railway administration refused to recognise the Non-European Railway Workers' Union, but works instead through a company union set up for the Africans.

"This difficulty, for one, could have been avoided if the workers' real union were recognised and involved in the negotiations," commented an official of the union.

2,176 BANKRUPTCIES occurred in Britain last year, compared with 1,816 in 1953.

ATOMIC TECHNIQUES IN SOVIET CANNING INDUSTRY

LONDON.

The food industry of the Soviet Union is using atomic techniques, according to a recent announcement.

Researches with radio-active carbon developed a new process which speeds up yeast more than threefold manufacture of foodstuffs and reduces the sugar requirement.

Radio-active isotopes of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus made possible a thorough study of the biochemical processes taking place in yeast. This task almost instantly. It takes only a few seconds to sterilise meat, fish and vegetables in glass jars or tin cans.

Such preserved foods retain their natural colour and all nutritive properties of the fresh produce and can at the same time be kept under usual conditions for a long time.

A TOTAL OF 649 AFRICANS were arrested in four hours last Friday for pass offences. Marshall Square detectives and N.A.D. officials co-operated in the roundup in the city's central area. Of the 649 arrested, 439 were without passes and were detained for further questioning.

"I AM not concerned with the colour of a delegate's skin. If he is a worker, to me he is a brother, and I am prepared to put my hand out and say, 'Welcome, brother'." Mr. T. McDermott, president of the Durban Municipal Transport Workers' Union, said at the annual conference of the South African Council of Transport Workers in Cape Town last week.

Mr. McDermott was replying to Mr. J. A. van Wyk, Pretoria delegate, who demanded that Mr. A. Manho, of the Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union, be removed from the conference because he is Coloured.

Supporting Mr. McDermott was Mr. B. Ratner of Cape Town who said: "Our membership is 40% Non-European. We cannot discriminate."

The controversy ended, however, when Mr. Manho himself volunteered to withdraw from the conference.

In an interview with New Age subsequently, Mr. McDermott said: "As a fully accredited delegate, Mr. Manho had a perfect right to be at the conference. In fact, there was no justification at all for him not attending. However, on the challenge being raised, he volunteered to leave the conference, and there was very little we could do at that stage."

Mr. McDermott said he hoped that Mr. Manho and his union would not allow this "small but tragic incident" to affect their affiliation to the trade union movement generally, particularly having regard to the struggle we are facing to maintain not only trade union unity, but the democracy of our movement, so many years of struggle to build up, not only in this but in other countries."

No policy has been laid down as a result of this incident to prevent a Coloured delegate from attending future conferences. Mr. McDermott said but no one could speak for the future.

Asked if he considered it a pity that Mr. Manho withdrew, Mr. McDermott said: "It is a pity when any delegate walks out of any conference."

THE U.S. BAN on the circulation in the U.S.A. of the Soviet newspaper Pravda and Izvestia has led to this query by the former U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, Mr. George F. Kennan — "Is our own political philosophy so unconvincing and their side's so logical that we must shield our people physically from every confrontation with Communism though?"

"EVERY TEACHER SHALL PLACE THE WHOLE OF HIS TIME AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE SECRETARY"

NOT TEACHERS, BUT SERFS!

ANY African teacher who "encourages through his acts or behaviour disobedience to the laws of the state" or "actively participates in political affairs" may be dismissed from his post, according to the latest regulations for teachers employed in the "Government Bantu Schools." These are regulations additional to those published some time ago.

The regulations, published in the "Government Gazette," demand absolute obedience to the Native Affairs Department, and are clearly designed to instill the "good boy" mentality into teachers.

Listing thirteen types of "Misconduct," the regulations empower the Secretary of Native Affairs, who appoints and promotes the teachers, also to lay the charge of misconduct and to sit in judgment.

- A teacher may not:
 - be discourtous to an official or member of the public.
 - commit an offence against 'good morals.'
 - encourage disobedience to the state's laws.
 - identify himself actively with a political body, or participate in political affairs.
 - participate in the nomination or election of school boards, Bantu authorities, governing bodies, school committees, Native Local Councils or Advisory Councils without permission.
 - criticise his superior officers or

the policy of the Native Affairs Department in any publication.

- display intemperance by word or conduct, or default in carrying out the order of a superior.
- earn money in any work outside his position as a teacher.
- behave or act, or neglect to act, in a manner which in the Secretary's opinion is deleterious to his position as a teacher.

Commission of any of the above offences renders a teacher liable to be charged with misconduct and tried by a committee of two or more people appointed by the Secretary whose decision shall be final.

In addition, the regulations say that "every teacher shall place the whole of his time at the disposal of the secretary"; he must reside in a recognised hostel attached to the school or a reasonable distance away; after school hours he must

assist in the organisation of school libraries, sport, youth movements, and other activities connected with the school. Leave of absence of any type may not be claimable as of right but may be granted by the Secretary subject to the exigencies of the service.

AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE

"There is an economic side to auto accidents. It's so big that if Americans ever stop smashing their cars into each other, a large adjustment in the economy would be necessary. . . . Accidents provide employment for tens of thousands. If Americans suddenly started to drive carefully and safely, it might become difficult to find new jobs for all those displaced." — Daily Telegraph (U.S.), Mar. 2.

MANY ARRESTS— FEW TRIALS

JOHANNESBURG.—Most of those arrested under various charges during the school boycott on the Reef have not yet been brought to trial.

In Johannesburg's Western Areas eight Africans, including both men and women, were arrested and charged under the 1953 Criminal Laws Amendment Act, one of Minister Swart's martial law measures. But when they were brought to court last week the charges were dropped by the prosecution.

In Benoni the authorities had refused bail to Mr. Elias Monare and kept him in custody until after April 25. But last week there was no opposition to his bail application, and he was released on £50 bail. Monare will appear before the Regional Court charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

Three other Benoni leaders are also to appear before the Regional Court charged, it is believed, with promoting hostility between Black and White.

SCHOOLBOYS

Six youngsters from Benoni, including schoolboys of 16 and 17 years old, are to face charges still of taking part illegally in a procession.

Forty-six other arrested people in Benoni have still not been brought to trial. Their cases have been provisionally remanded to dates at the beginning of this

month, but it is understood there is to be a further remand to a later date. The 46 are charged also with taking part in illegal processions.

The first Nataalspruit trial of 21 women commenced last week. Evidence given by the location superintendent to the effect that the women were chasing children from the school, that when the police appeared on the scene the women gave their "war-cry" and took up a threatening attitude, and that the crowd became menacing.

Two municipal policemen also gave evidence for the Crown. This case is proceeding.

The second batch of 21 women, also charged with creating a disturbance, is still to come before court.

TRANSVAAL FOOD and Canning Workers' Union had a very successful dance in aid of the Beeky Lan Defence Fund last week. They raised £50 towards the defence costs of their general secretary, recently on trial for attending a gathering. The Transvaal and Cape Town food and canning workers recently merged, and this was a strong solidarity demonstration of the workers in the north.

YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE IN JO'BURG

By HERBERT PYSHORN, writing in the London Tribune.

THE legend is that when your train pulls into Bulawayo after its journey from Cape Town or Johannesburg, you've crossed the frontier from a miserable South Africa into a happy land where there is hardly a colour problem at all.

What a different atmosphere we have here in the Federation, white Rhodesians tell you. We're solving our colour problem in the fair and British way.

AFRICAN VOTES

It may, of course, be possible that maintaining one Governor-General, three Governors, one Federal Parliament, one Southern Rhodesian Parliament, one Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council and one Nyasaland Legislative Council—all for a total population of approximately 6,800,000 people it may be possible that this is the fair and British way.

But after three years in this Federation I am not so sure. And British readers—fully aware of the plight of the Africans in South Africa—do not know what life is like for the African in the Rhodesias.

Consider this fact first. The June 1953 population figures for the Federation were: 6,394,000 Africans, Asian and Coloured peoples, 213,500 Europeans.

I was in Salisbury, the capital city of the Federation, when the referendum was held, in April, 1953, which decided the Federation by law to vote in that referendum, 47,535 were European. The others voting were 533 Asiatics, 535 Coloured People and 429 Africans.

I was in the same city in December, 1953, when the first Federal Parliament was elected. The same Parliament remains today. The figures here are even more startling.

In that general election, 66,979 inhabitants of the Federation were entitled to vote. Of that number 64,440 were European and 2,539 non-European.

The most farcical aspect was the fact that out of a total population

of 4,380,000 Africans in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, 3% repeat, three—had the vote.

Europeans in Rhodesia, of course, will give endless reasons for this state of affairs. A much-quoted one is that the African isn't fit to vote. And they'll deny that he's in any way interested in voting.

But no one can deny these figures. Nor can anyone deny that in Southern Rhodesia, the senior partner in the Federation, there's a colour bar, social, economic and religious, very little different from that in South Africa.

"The adult male African, working as a house servant running a home for white employers, receives £4 a month. But a sixteen or seventeen year old girl can leave school in December and start work in January, in a bank, for £27 a month. A white girl, naturally.

A qualified African bus driver is permitted to drive a municipal bus, carrying Europeans, but is not permitted to carry passengers, with Europeans in that same bus. If he's allowed on it at all, he sits at the back.

POST OFFICE, TOO

Bulawayo's post office, in imitation of Cape Town's, has separate entrances for Black and white, separate counters, separate telephone booths. The same applies in Salisbury, where business operates a colour bar indistinguishable from Johannesburg's.

The tale is endless—and tragic. The tragedy lies in the fact that the European Federation—with, as in South Africa, a few honest and honourable exceptions—is moving steadily nearer to the South African ideal of the white master.

In spite of their official pronouncements, Rhodesians do not want the African to share the side, if regrettable, but true, that African mineworkers on Northern Rhodesia's Copperbelt have found that out. There could be complete solidarity there if only the European miner could regard the African miner not as a black worker, but as a fellow worker.

EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA "GRAVEST" NOW SEEN

Strong Statement by Federation of Trade Unions

VIENNA.—A resolution expressing the most emphatic violence, barbarous methods and inhuman measures directed trade union movement of South Africa" was passed at the Federation of Trade Unions here.

"The attacks on the trade union and human rights of the workers and on the basic freedoms of the people of South Africa are increasing in number and viciousness," says the resolution.

"The 8,500,000 Africans who make up the majority of the population are being attacked by scoundrels and callous measures involving untold suffering for their victims. Workers of all races and beliefs are subject to fierce repression which is aimed at systematically destroying their rights and liberties.

"The World Federation of Trade Unions" affirm that the events in South Africa are among the gravest now to be seen in the capitalist and colonialist countries. It considers that the anger they have aroused among the workers of the whole world is fully justified.

POLICE TERROR

"In South Africa a regime of racial persecution, of police terror and of arbitrary acts of every kind is in force and is backed by a complete system of legislation which recalls the worst time of colonial slavery."

After detailing the laws and actions of the Government against the people, the resolution says: "It is quite clear that by means of racial discrimination the suppression of trade union rights and democratic liberties and by the division of the workers, the employers and their government want to ensure the complete submission of workers of all races and opinions so as to increase exploitation and pile up their profits. All workers without exception are thus attacked. It is the duty and absolute need of the workers to unite and fight on a single front against these brutal practices."

international solidarity.

"The W.F.T.U. is convinced that the united struggle of the workers, trade unions and the people of South Africa in an active support of the workers of all countries will enable the South African workers, whatever their race, religion or political opinion, to win their trade union and human rights, to improve their living and working conditions and to defend their democratic liberties."

LABOUR PART GREENS INDIAN YOUTH

"THE South African Labour Party sends its warmest greetings to you on the occasion of your tenth annual general meeting," reads a message received by the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress, which will hold its meeting at the Duncan Hall, Johannesburg, on 15th May, 1955, at 9.30 a.m.

The message continues—"We wish you every success in your efforts on behalf of the Indian youth. We trust that your deliberations will be beneficial to all concerned."

Mr. Julius Lewin, lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, says in his message—"A free and independent India has shown the world the quality of Indian statesmanship. I believe that if Indians in South Africa were citizens and not serfs they would help to raise the present low level of politics. I hope that your organisation will prepare its members for the day when they can take an effective and responsible part in the common concerns of all who live in and love South Africa."

Numerous other messages wishing the meeting every success have been received.

GROUP AREAS BOARD will commence fresh hearings in Johannesburg on May 9.

A SOVIET and an American scientist—Dr. Vavilov, of the Institute of Physics of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, and Professor Whitman, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—will cooperate in running the international conference on peaceful use of atomic energy to be held in Geneva in August. Professor Whitman is conference secretary and Dr. Vavilov his deputy.

Continuing his discussion on Section Ten of the Native Urban Areas Act, a former Member of Parliament, writing on Law for Africans, tells of the POLE POWERS OF ARREST

AFRICANS who are prosecuted under Section 10 sometimes take a light view of the case believing that the worst that can happen is a fine of £10 or an alternative of imprisonment. However, they overlook the fact that after they are convicted, like a bolt from the blue comes a warrant under Section 14.

Section 14 provides that when a person has been convicted under Section 10, he may by warrant issued by a Magistrate or Native Commissioner be ordered to be removed by the police from the Urban Area to his home in the country or territory from which he was convicted. (Similarly foreign-born Africans who are convicted can be removed to the country or territory from which they entered the Union.) No conviction not only involves the penalty of the fine or jail but also of banishment. It often happens that a father or mother may be separated from the rest of the family which is broken up by virtue of the Urban Areas Act, which is no respecter of the sanctity of the home.

PROOF NEEDED
How must an African go about proving that he has worked continuously for one employer for ten years or lawfully lived continuously in the area for 15 years during which period he or she was not convicted of crime, etc.? The onus or duty to prove that an African falls under one of these headings lies upon the African himself.

It is not enough for him to show that he has remained continuously in an area for 15 years, he must also show that he has remained there lawfully.

If, when he originally arrived, there were regulations requiring him to report to the town's Location Officials and he failed to do so, or if he failed to report regularly as required by regulations, a policeman may possibly hold that he did not remain there lawfully. This aspect of things is so difficult and technical that anyone in doubt should consult an attorney to advise as to whether his presence in the Urban Area for 15 years has been "lawful" and in accordance with any existing regulations. In giving evidence, however, it is not enough to say "I have lived in this area for 15 years." What must be proved and said by the accused is, "I have remained lawfully and continuously in this area for not less than 15 years."

NOT YET CLEAR
Section 10 was passed in 1952 and it is not clear yet whether a person must prove his 15 years prior to 1952, i.e., he must have been there from at least 1937 to 24th June, 1952, or whether it is sufficient to show that the 15 years

MRS. ANNIE SILINGA, popular A.N.C. leader in Langa, was arrested in terms of section 10 of the Urban Areas Act on Monday. She has been released on £5 bail.

76 CHINESE STUDENTS who have been detained in the United States will now be allowed to go home, the U.S. State Department has announced. Main reason for the decision was that the students had appealed by the students to the United Nations Organisation last December is due to come up for discussion at the next meeting of the Assembly. The action of the United States, said the students, was a violation of the U.N. Declaration of Universal Rights, which states that "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country,"

were, say, from 1940 to 1955. No doubt this point will one day be decided by a Supreme Court, but the better view is that at any period of 15 years' continuous lawful remaining gives an African a right to continue to remain. Section 10 came into force on the 24th June, 1952.

The African accused in court must also be able to give evidence and must state that during the period that he has worked continuously for ten years for one employer or remained (lived) there for 15 years he was not convicted of a crime for which he was sentenced to imprisonment for more than seven days without the option of a fine. Where he was given the option of a fine, the alternative must not have been more than one month's imprisonment. This is an absolute essential to the right to remain in an Urban Area.

POWER OF POLICE

I have promised to deal with the power of the police to arrest an African who has no permit to remain in an area but has in fact the right to remain in the area. (As I explained last week, he or she has this right if he or she was born and is a permanent resident in the area or he or she has worked continuously for one employer for more than ten years without being convicted of a crime or has remained continuously in the area for at least 15 years and also not been convicted of a crime or is the wife of a married daughter or son under the age of 18 years of a father who has the right to be in the area.)

In the first place, before I deal with arrest, let me emphasise that whenever a person is called upon by the police to give his full name and address he should do so whether or not the policeman is in uniform or in plain clothes. The same applies to an Inspector or Natives or Pass Officer or Superintendent of a location or the assistants of the Superintendent. For the purposes of law, all these groups that are called peace officers have the same power as policemen and what I am going to say about the power of arrest applies to such people as well as to policemen.

UNLAWFUL ARREST

As far as Section 10 is concerned, in the first place a policeman or other peace officer (i.e., the other groups mentioned above) can arrest anyone if he has a warrant to do so. In addition these peace officers may without warrant arrest any person who commits an offence in the presence of the officer, an African in fact has the right to be in the area (although he has not a permit), then in the absence of a warrant, the peace officer has no right to arrest him under Section 10 and if Section 10 was the grounds for the arrest then the African concerned has a claim for damages for unlawful arrest.

A policeman when arresting a person must at the time of the arrest state the grounds for the arrest and if this is not done the arrest is unlawful (although often difficult to prove). Later on the policeman may claim that he did state the grounds and his word may be accepted.)

However, it is desirable that an African who has been questioned about his right to be in an Urban Area or is threatened with arrest or has been arrested should at the first opportunity inform the police that although he has no permit he falls under one of the other groups and has the right to remain in the Urban Area.

Actions for damages for unlawful arrest may sometimes be limited to the policeman who makes the unlawful arrest, but sometimes circumstances may also make the Minister of Justice responsible. Such actions, however, have to be brought within a certain period after the unlawful arrest or detention and a lawyer should be consulted at once. I have no doubt that if more actions were brought against the police for making unlawful arrests they would be more cautious and careful before unjustifiably locking an African up overnight and then allowing him to be released next morning without even a word of apology or regrets. (To be continued.)

Teacher's Permit Withdrawn

JOHANNESBURG.
LIKE a bolt from the blue, came the order from the Immigration Department last week to an Indian teacher in Kimberley that his permit was being withdrawn, and he must leave the Transvaal immediately. The teacher was Mr. G. Pakkrisamy. He had been on the staff of the Central Indian High School, established by the Indian community which is boycotting the anti-*Ghettos* School, since the inception of the school.

Mr. Pakkrisamy had to leave immediately for his home in Kimberley.

He has now written to the school saying that on his arrival in Kimberley he saw the local immigration office which told him that under no circumstances would his permit be renewed.

He was refused permission even to visit Johannesburg for ONE DAY to see the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs about his case.

At no stage has any reason for the Government's action been given.

KENILWORTH RACING

Wynberg Autumn Thousand Handicap—ANDY BLAND. Danger, Deep Purple.
Wynberg Mixed Handicap—TORWYND. Danger, Painted.
Wynberg Plate—AMBROSIA. Danger, Kelester.
Kenilworth Mixed Handicap—QUEEN'S G A M B I T. Danger, Fair Maid.
Kenilworth Plate—MISS CONQUEST. Danger, South Devon.
Maiden Stakes—MARNIA. Danger, Tavern.
Juvenile Handicap—DAME QUICKLY. Danger, Yule.
Juvenile Maiden Plate—DELHI. Danger, Marie Helena.

LIBERATION, now on sale after an interval in publication of some months, carries an analysis of the labour policy of the Chamber of Mines by L. Bernstein; an article by Paul Monaghan on Calvinism in South Africa; an article by the novelist R. K. Cope on the use of the terms "Native," "Bantu" and "African"; and an editorial on the forthcoming Congress of the People.

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STRIDDOM SHOOTS HIS MOUTH OFF

By PETER MEYER

WHEN this Parliamentary session is over Mr. Striddom should collect all his speeches and publish them under the title "True Confessions."

Throughout the session he has been leaping to his feet and roaring about this or that. He has been remarkably frank in most of his speeches. Naturally, he has concealed many of his real aims, but on certain fundamental issues he has let not only the cat out of the bag but all its kittens as well.

We are grateful to Mr. Striddom. We appreciate that he feels more sure of himself now that Malan is no longer around (all that one sees of Malan these days is pictures of him brandishing saws). If only Mr. Striddom would go on being honest and speaking his mind a lot of muddled South African politicians would get their throats straightened out.

NOT LEADER—BOSS

We know now that Mr. Striddom is not a leader, but a boss. He told us so himself. We know that he rules by force. We know that it is all along of course, but it is interesting to hear Mr. Striddom admit it. For years he and his colleagues have been denying that they ruled by force. Listen closely to Mr. Striddom, friends, because this mood might not last. That's the trouble with people who confess they close up like clam shells when they get to the interesting bits.

The "liberals" inside and outside the United Party, should pay particular attention to Mr. Striddom. They should watch that fanatical glint in his eyes, and perhaps they might realise what it is they are up against.

They seem to be under the impression that fighting the Nationalists requires only a wee bit more than drinking into their cans and going to cocktail parties. No wonder the Nats, despite them for being so ineffectual.

Just the other day a Nationalist told one of the L.P.'s "liberals" that the only African ever to see is the one who writes checks to her at 6 p.m. in a white jacket bringing a pink slip!

APARTHEID EXPANDS

Another of Mr. Striddom's true confessions was that the only hope for the White man in Africa is apartheid.

Up to now apartheid has been kept south of the Limpopo. Now it moves north. Mr. Striddom is broadening the frontier and putting not only South Africans in their right camps. Whites here and Non-Whites there—but also rearranging the rest of the nations of mankind. There's nothing humble about Hans.

What fantasy is this? Did Hannibal or Napoleon ever dream such dreams? How long will it be before Mr. Striddom tries to put a barrier between day and night, an apartheid partition between the Aryan sun and the obviously Oriental moon? One of those rickety partitions they use in the Post Office.

The latest confession came last week when the Courts Bill was discussed. There was a lot of humming and haaing going on, but the Nationalist stood up. Then we were told exactly what it was all about. You see, said Mr. Striddom, the judgment that invalidated the Colonial Voters Bill three years ago was given by a particular bench of five judges. Well, more legislation is going to come, and I think those same judges can't be allowed to decide the

matter all by themselves again. The new court of 11 judges will decide in future. Simple and perfectly clear. Keep it up, Mr. Striddom.

DESPERATION

It is inevitable that, as fascists are driven into a corner, they become reckless and "shoot their mouths." It is a sign of desperation. It is no accident that Mr. Striddom is being frank.

If you were able to look into his sub-conscious mind (it really would find that it is not so self-assured and arrogant that makes him speak like this. It is fear. He is starting to shout the reasons for his actions because up to now his careful explanations have got him nowhere.)

Mr. Striddom, in fact, is going the way of all unsuccessful prophets. They usually end up on corners beating their breasts and tearing out their hair, exclaiming that no one understands them. Mr. Striddom is a much more dangerous person, though. He is the Prime Minister of South Africa—with a police force and an army to back him. He can cause much more damage before his reign crumbles.

But the people of South Africa can take heart from the fact that Mr. Striddom is not a prophet. People only shout when they are alarmed. Mr. Striddom can see that the people are against him and that they are beating their breasts. He is trying to panic the Whites here, elsewhere in Africa and throughout the world into standing shoulder to shoulder with the prophets of apartheid. What a hope!

There will be a grim and bitter struggle in South Africa while it lasts, but in the end Mr. Striddom will be defeated, and then the compulsory apartheid will flutter no more.

New Fighting Talk

JOHANNESBURG.
The rule of law has become outlawed in Nationalist South Africa, and in the interests of apartheid and forced group areas the traditional rules of equity and justice are being abandoned. It is the basis of an article on the Group Areas Act in the May issue of Fighting Talk, now on sale. The rule of law and the compulsory apartheid provisions of the Nationalists have been proved in practice to be incompatible.

Fighting Talk in this issue publishes a short story—the first step in a new editorial departure to encourage short-story writing and discussion of literary topics. The story printed is "Speed-up," by Michael Harmel.

Other articles discuss the Nationalist attitude on the courts, "Smart and the Judges," and the charting of the course of struggle against Bantu Education. Bernal's book, "Science in History," is reviewed, and extracts of the speeches by Chou En-lai and President Sukarno of Indonesia at the Bandung Afro-Asian Conference are published.

Fighting Talk is on sale at 6d. per copy. The annual subscription to the magazine is 5s. per year, and subscriptions may be sent care of P.O. Box 4088, Johannesburg.

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