

# COLOURED PEOPLE HIT BACK

By NAOMI SHAPIRO

## CAPE TOWN.

With the opening of one of the most fateful sessions of Parliament, in which the Coloured vote and the remaining vestiges of the rule of law are threatened, the Coloured people of Cape Town hit back in two demonstrations last week.

As the Governor-General rode down Parliament Street he was greeted with banners held aloft by members of the Cape Congress of Coloured Youth. Two are shown in the picture on the right.

"No passes for women," said one. "Special Branch and Swart-Gezappo and Himmler," said another. "The Nais are doomed," said a third.

On the same morning, the slogan: "Strijdom, Pasop (Beware) Afrika!" was seen painted high up on the slopes of the Signal Hill Quarry, near Strand Street.

## COUNCIL APARTHEID

The day following, the South African Coloured People's Organisation organised a protest outside Electricity House (picture, page 7) where the Cape Town Municipality suddenly introduced apartheid in the section where electrical and other municipal accounts are paid. Boards saving "Europeans" and "Non-Europeans" have been erected above the counters.

SACPO members paraded outside Electricity House with banners saying: "We don't want Council Apartheid," "Equal facilities for all" and "Stop Council Apartheid now!"

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Demonstrators hold up placards as the Governor-General drives by to the opening of Parliament.

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# NEW AGE

## NON-EUROPEAN SOCCER LEADERS TAKE A FIRM STAND

JOHANNESBURG.—On the eve of the arrival in South Africa of the four-man commission from the Federation of International Football Associations to investigate racialism in South African soccer and the demand of the South African Soccer Federation that the colour-bar Football Association be expelled and the Federation affiliated instead, the South African Soccer Federation met in full Council in Johannesburg and once more reiterated its stand.

All units affiliated to the Federation were represented, namely, the African Football Association, the Coloured and also the Indian Football Association. Delegates came from all parts of the country.

The President, Mr. S. I. Singh, said the Federation had been unanimous in reiterating its application for F.I.F.A. membership. He hoped the investigations by the four-man delegation would lead to recognition of the Federation's claim for affiliation to the world body.

In terms of F.I.F.A.'s own statutes it had no other alternative. The Federation was the most representative club-body in the country and with its open-door policy it was entitled to international recognition.

### NO RIGHT

Mr. George Singh, the Federation Secretary, told New Age that F.I.F.A. had had no right in 1952 to accept the Association's affiliation, knowing it had a colour-bar restriction in its constitution and that it could not therefore be a nationally representative body.

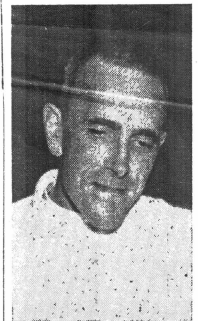
The only solution he saw, said Mr. Singh, was for F.I.F.A. to disaffiliate the Association and affiliate the Federation, which the Association could join.

Mr. Singh said it had been hinted the visiting commission might interview the Government authorities on this issue. This had nothing to do with the South African Government, said Mr. Singh. F.I.F.A. should be concerned only with its own statutes and constitution.

Soon after their arrival at the opening of this week, the four-man commission were due to meet both the Association and Federation committees.

## SIGN FREEDOM CHARTER

—says Huddleston



"The hopes and aspirations of people have from time to time found expression in the form of a Charter. Its purpose is to set forth clearly and unmistakably a goal."

"In the Freedom Charter this goal is self-evident in the title itself."

"The clauses embodied in the Charter are based upon those Human Rights which should be the possession of all free men and women."

"In adding your signature you will be bringing that much nearer the realisation of a society in which those rights are recognised for all South Africans."

"As a South African citizen myself, I urge you to sign this Charter."

(Signed) Trevor Huddleston, C.R.

# PASS LAWS WILL BRING HARDSHIPS TO WOMEN

From RUTH FIRST

JOHANNESBURG.—The issuing of passes to African women, threatened for this month and probably in the Free State first, has not yet started. But the Government is by no means marking time. Apart from getting its administrative arrangements well in hand, the Native Affairs Department is hard at work trying to bluff Africans into believing that the Government is interested only in bringing "benefits" to African women, that the pass books to be issued to them will not really be pass books; and that there will be no curtailment of any existing rights.

One statement after another to this effect comes from the Native Affairs Department, backed generously by the Nationalist press.

This propaganda takes various forms:

1. As all South Africans will have to carry identity books under the Population Registration Act, this is no discriminatory measure against African women, says the N.A.D.

2. True, books will soon be issued to African women, but there is really no need to worry, because, says the N.A.D. it will be years before African women are required to produce the books.

3. The books can only be of benefit to African women in helping them to prove their identity if, for example, they are involved in accidents.

4. African women will not be harassed and arrested by the police

as African men are. The police will only ask to see the women's cards "under certain circumstances."

### GOVT. INTERVIEW

In an interview with New Age, Dr. T. S. Van Rooyen, press officer of the N.A.D. Information Section, repeated some of these statements. "There will be no infringements of existing rights of the women," he said. "There will be no extension of control, and no new control."

When I asked him whether African women would be affected by influx control regulations (under section 10 of the Urban Areas Act) which was amended in 1952 to apply to African women as well as men), Dr. van Rooyen said that this was a matter for the local authorities (the different municipalities) to decide. Similarly, prosecutions of African women for infringements of the curfew regulations (night specials) was a matter

for the municipalities.

With these arguments the Government tries to pose as the innocent and well-meaning "protector" and "benefactor" of the African women. If there are any victims under the identity book system, that will be the fault of the municipalities administering the system, not of the Government which introduced it, the Government is arguing.

### UNTRUTHS

But what truth is there in all these re-assurances about the benefits of passes for African women? Not a scrap!

These are the facts:

1. The pass books for African women will not be the same as the identity books that Europeans will be required to carry. For one, they will be issued under the so-called Abolition of Passes Act, as Dr. Van Rooyen himself told New Age,

and not under the Population Registration Act. The regulations for the issue of the books to African women must be read together with the restrictions of the Urban Areas Act which apply to them.

Apart from details of name, identity number, sex, ethnic group or tribe, photograph and birth date and place, the pass books for African women will also have space for employment entries. These, says the Native Affairs Department, are voluntary; in Dr. Van Rooyen's words, "for convenience sake," so that the two parties to the employment contract can understand the terms of the contract. (Yes, voluntary today, but compulsory tomorrow.) Under the Population Registration Act such employment entries, whether voluntary or compulsory, are not permitted by law, so clearly these are not identity cards but Pass Reference books for women.

### SECTION 10

3. Tackled about the extension of influx control to African women, Dr. Van Rooyen explained as follows. Section 10 of the Urban Areas Act (the influx control section) has been law since 1952. The local authorities could have imposed it even without reference

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## CONGRESS HARMED BY BANTU WORLD BAN

Freedom of the press is a fundamental aim of progressive movements everywhere, and it is one of the rights guaranteed in the Freedom Charter. But in the flurry that has arisen as a result of the exclusion of the Bantu World by the ANC conference there is a danger that certain fundamental truths are being overlooked.

Every freedom is limited by the proviso that there cannot be freedom to harm one's fellow-freedom. Freedom of movement does not mean I can move my fist into my neighbour's eye; freedom of speech does not mean I can hit the people to murder freedom of the press does not mean that I can

### 'Bantu World' Opposed To A.N.C.

There is a great talk about the "undemocratic" action which was carried on by the ANC at Bloemfontein by expelling the "Bantu World" reporter. It is true that many press reporters stood with the "Bantu World" and did not mislead those who believe in the ANC. The "Bantu World" has an outstanding record in its attempt to disrupt the ANC—the vanguard of the African people. It has not only encouraged the pro-parties but has itself misinformed the African public on the policies of the ANC. The "Bantu World" is worse than the maintainer of the White Supremacists because it claims to be working for the interests of the African people. It criticises the ANC but does not suggest alternative policies. The "Bantu World" has long portrayed people who are leaders of the masses if they are not politically mature. We should remember that in our country we are oppressed also to safeguard the freedom of the Africaner folk. It is also important to examine critically what the "Bantu World" and its allies mean by freedom of the press and of speech. They should realise that what the "Bantu World" seeks is to be free to disrupt the ANC by spreading propaganda against it, to be free to make the people submissive to the Nationalist policies; to be free to influence African minds by its policies which are carried out by collaboration with the oppressors. These are the freedoms that the "Bantu World" asks the ANC to have given to it. We should warn the "Bantu World" that by freedom we mean freedom to do what is right; and in my opinion disruption and misrepresentation is far from being right; and therefore cannot be called freedom at all.

Let every African not be misled by such false accusations and let the African public through experience start reading what is helpful to the cause of its freedom and discard useless propaganda.

A. ZWANE,

Johannesburg.

print malicious lies, spread racial hatred or foment war. These are not the exercise of freedom but the abuse of it.

It must be borne in mind that the editorial staff of Bantu World enjoy no semblance of freedom of the press—they are there not in order to publish their own ideas but to further the policies dictated by their employers, who are connected with big mining interests. Press freedom in South Africa is for the most part freedom only for the mine owners, industrialists and big farmers, to spread the poison of racialism and the maintenance of the power of the capitalists. Papers which reflect the genuine aspirations of the people for freedom are victimised by big business, impoverished for lack of advertising and even banned outright.

Few would deny that the capitalist press, including the sponsored "Bantu" papers, abuses press freedom by its sins of commission and omission in connection with the progressive movement. In one sense then, the ANC conference decision shows that the African people have no illusions about the role of this type of paper, and the fact that the Bantu World is singled out, and not say Die Transvaler or the Cape Times, shows the special dislike which the people rightly feel for a paper which furthers the interests of their enemies while misrepresenting the African people. For, of course, the Transvaler is quite ineffective in sabotaging Congress while the Bantu World is a constant source of confusion.

But while all these factors must not be lost sight of, I do not think the conference decision was a correct one. It gave our enemies the opportunity to spread the false idea that the Congress do not support press freedom and aroused doubts even in the minds of Congress members themselves. In addition, the decision was quite ineffective. A simple resolution deploring the stand taken by Bantu World and other reactionary papers would have been far more useful. It would have placed the Bantu World on the defensive and forced it to try to justify itself. As it was, the exclusion was an empty gesture which gave Bantu World the golden opportunity of avoiding the true issues and going on the attack (and winning sympathy) as the victim of dictatorial methods. Congress was harmed, not the anti-Congress press.

Most important of all, the time which should have been spent discussing the great Freedom Charter was spent discussing the Bantu World.

ABRAHAM COHEN.

Cape Town.

### Greetings From Abroad

It makes me very happy to receive "New Age" and see its splendid fighting spirit and its constant struggle for peace.

With my thanks I also send you my warm wishes for its further development and for your personal happiness in 1956.

CLARA PORSET,

(A friend from Helsinki), Mexico City, Mexico.

### Not Allowed To Attend A.N.C. Conference

I want to complain about the undemocratic treatment which was given to the Cape Western delegation to the 45th annual conference of the ANC in Bloemfontein last month. The delegates were qualified to represent their branches and had every right to take part in the discussions on how to build a strong ANC. Yet they were shut out of the conference and not allowed to take part.

We fight against discrimination, yet we still have to fight against Nationalist ideas in our own organisation. The shutting out of our delegates from the conference is just what the Nationalists are doing to our leaders. These people were sent to the conference by ANC members, and spent £130 to get there, which was wasted.

Fellow citizens, there is still a long struggle ahead. In the ANC we must have progress and be democratic minded. In the Freedom Charter it is stated: "No one shall be imprisoned, deported or restricted without a fair trial. No one shall be condemned by the order of any Government official." But the Cape Western delegates were restricted without a fair trial by their own officials in Bloemfontein.

MEMBER OF THE ANC, Cape Town.

### LET THE WORLD KNOW

New Age and other newspapers have given us nerve-grabbing news of the treatment of prisoners of the farm, the village, the Bethal area. No civilized government would tolerate this sort of thing.

Africans receive floggings and beatings at the hands of the farmers who always talk about upholding Western and Christian civilization. Thousands of Africans are driven to jail for petty offences in order to supply cheap farm labour. They are hired out to prospective employers at 9d a day.

Road gangs labour hard under the summer sun until exhausted and just drag themselves after a day's work back to prison, bereft of any strength. The food they eat is pig's food—boiled mealies.

White jail birds look after black prisoners and the superintendents call it rehabilitation and reform at its best. African prisoners on their bare feet, in short pants, without any protection whatsoever from bitter cold can be seen working all day in the worst weather. Their health counts for nothing. They are prisoners, and are denied the facilities that are available to prisoners of other races.

An ex-prisoner and victim of the vicious pass laws, Mr. Wiseman Memani, appeals to New Age to let the world know what is happening in South Africa's jails.

C. DANIBE.

Johannesburg.

### Make A Stand

The Government policy that Africans must carry passes means slavery, and the Native Act and the Disputes Act is only a plan of the Government to starve the people and prevent them from getting work.

The Government has gone far enough. I appeal to the Church and to fair-minded people of all races to take a stand about the laws affecting Africans and Coloureds in South Africa.

H. MARAWU.

Vasco, Cape.

### Editorial

## Dice Loaded Against Nats

SURVEYING the situation in the colonial and semi-colonial territories of Asia and Africa at the SABRA conference last week, Dr. A. L. Geyer, former High Commissioner for the Union in London, came to the conclusion that "the dice are heavily loaded against democracy."

Being a Nationalist, Dr. Geyer, of course, doesn't mean by "democracy" what you or I understand the word to mean. Why are the dice loaded against democracy in Asia? Because, says Dr. Geyer, "the main enemy of practically all Asia was abject poverty and extreme economic backwardness. Resurgent Asia was determined to bring about a change. Hence the strong temptation to accept whatever ideology promised to improve the standards of living and raise the people out of their state of near-famine."

Thus in Dr. Geyer's eyes "democracy" would suffer if the people of Asia were to have decent living conditions and enough food to eat. "A rapid and considerable drop in the high death rate might well have calamitous consequences." According to this argument, it would be bad for "democracy" if the Asian peoples were to stop dying like flies because of the "abject poverty and extreme economic backwardness" to which they have been reduced by imperialistic domination.

It is becoming a little clearer what Dr. Geyer means by "democracy." He is not in the least concerned about the welfare of the Asian and African millions who are struggling to improve their living standards. On the contrary, the prospect of Asians and Africans living on the same level as their imperialist masters fills him with dismay. Why? Because it means the day of imperialist domination is over, because it means the exploitation of one nation by another is coming to an end. Because it means Dr. Geyer's "democrats" (who, you can now see, are merely imperialist exploiters and bloodsuckers in disguise) will no longer be able to live on the backs of the colonial peoples, amassing huge profits from their labour.

And, to bring the argument nearer home, because every blow struck against imperialism abroad is a blow struck against white domination in South Africa. The less the imperialists are able to lord it in Asia and Africa, the less Dr. Geyer's and Mr. Strijdom's Nationalists will be able to lord it in South Africa. The hotter the world becomes for the supremacists abroad, the more difficult it will become for the Nationalists to perpetuate white supremacy at home. The apartheid state is only able to survive because it is sheltered from the anger of the world's peoples behind the iron curtain maintained by British arms and American dollars in countries like Kenya and Malaya, Cyprus and the other outposts of Western "democracy" (a la Geyer).

To quote Dr. Geyer again, if Communist China were to lead the peoples of Asia out of their age-old poverty into a new life, "I need not emphasise how exceedingly grave the situation would be for the West," i.e. "for, amongst others, us Nationalists in South Africa."

This disgraceful attitude towards human beings merely because they are of a different race or colour was displayed by all the speakers at the SABRA conference. There was the delegate who remarked that if you couldn't see the Indians in South Africa, you could always smell them. There were the delegates who said that if it was not possible to repatriate all the Indians, who then at least the Group Areas Act should be applied in such a way as to "break the commercial stronghold which Indians seem to have on some towns and districts" and "convert a parasitic element of the population into a productive one."

Apparently, in the eyes of the SABRA delegates, the only stronghold which is going to be allowed in South Africa is a Nationalist one, and only Africaners will be allowed to be parasites. The Nationalists are not against exploitation as such. They merely want all the plums for themselves, and are reluctant to allow anyone else to share the harvest.

Why does one waste time discussing this congress of racialists in Port Elizabeth? Because here is the intellectual cream of Nationalist South Africa. Here are the ideological defenders of "Western civilisation." Dr. Geyer's "democrats." Here is the rotten heart of the Western way of life.

It is a spectacle so disgusting that all true South African democrats must react in the same way as those who, at the close of the last war, first entered the Nazi horror-camps of Buchenwald, Belsen and Auschwitz—with indignation that such things are possible and determination to wipe their memory from the face of the earth.

In the new South Africa which will be built on the basis of the Freedom Charter, those who foment racialism, like the SABRA delegates, will offend against the constitution of their country and render themselves liable to the severest penalties of the law.

# WAR CRIMINALS CONTROL ATOM POWER NEHRU TO EMBARRASSED!

BONN.—The West German Government has established a "German Atomic Commission" which is dominated by war criminals, war profiteers, and

The new commission, which is officially charged with the task of supervising "the peaceful use of atomic energy," is holding its constituent meeting in Bonn this week.

Among its members is Hermann Abs, a 55-year-old banker who was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in absentia for war crimes by a Yugoslav court in Zagreb in 1945. During the war Abs was director of 40 companies, including many looted by the nazis in occupied Europe. He drew direct profits from the production of "Zyklon" gas used to murder millions in nazi concentration camps.

In 1945 the U.S. Department of the Army, in Orientation Pamphlet No. 31/110, listed Hermann Abs as "one of the leading German financiers, who has amassed huge sums under National Socialism."

**"CRIMINAL POLICIES"**

The Bulletin of the U.S. Office of Military Government in Germany, November, 1946, stated "key" was the guiding spirit of the villainous Deutsche Bank, which combined an unusual concentration of economic power with active collaboration in the criminal policies of the nazi regime. Hermann Abs' Deutsche Bank acted as top-rank agent of the German Government and served the economic penetration of the satellite states and the occupied countries of Europe. Abs repaid the advances granted to him and led to his bank by playing an active role in the various organisations and economic committees organised by the German Government. The department of the Deutsche Bank rested in the hands of four men who worked under the supervision of Hermann Abs. He devoted his entire attention to extending the German domination through Europe."

Today, Hermann Abs is once again director of the Deutsche Bank, director of 40 key industrial enterprises in West Germany, and member of the powerful "Atomic Commission."

**PREFER HIM? . . .**

Another notable member is 60-year old industrialist Hermann Reusch, who is managing director of the Gutehoffnung Foundry complex in the Ruhr, an enormous trust with over 100,000 employees. Reusch was one of the biggest war profiteers in nazi Germany, profiting not only from his Ruhr factories, which were turning out war material, but also from the booty of nazi-occupied Europe. Hitler appointed him as one of his "War Economy Leaders" and charged him with the particular task of incorporating the mines of Yugoslavia and Greece in the war production of the Third Reich.

After the war, Ruhr workers refused to work under the nazi. When, in April 1948, the western occupation powers named him as chief of the "Control Commission for Steel Production" they threatened a general strike until his name was withdrawn.

Today, Reusch is on the board of 11 important West German industrial undertakings, including ship-yards, engineering factories and cable works.

**OR HIM? . . .**

Dr. Alfred Petersen is chairman of the board of the Verein der Metallgesellschaft, Frankfurt, which has control of a major part of the West German production and profits of non-ferrous metal. He has held this post as chairman of the board without interruption since 1917, and participated in the war profits from both World Wars. The annual report of the company, which appeared over Dr. Petersen's name in 1938, one year before the outbreak of World War Two, stated "The (nazi) Four-Year Plan,

the expansion of the Wehrmacht, and the incorporation of Austria have brought us new tasks. There is scarcely one of our works which has not expanded in the course of the year, and started or continued new building."

After the Second World War, Dr. Petersen remained chairman of the board of the mother company, and is on the board of directors of many other big industrial firms, including the great electrical firm of Siemens.

**WAR PROFITEER**

Dr. Hans C. Boden, aged 63, war profiteer, was deputy chairman of the great AEG electrical trust, an affiliate of the American Electric Corp. From 1925 to 1929 he was general secretary of the German Young Plan delegation, which ob-

tained from America the capital necessary for reconstructing German industry in preparation for World War Two. Member of the board of directors of about ten other important banks and industrial undertakings.

Other big businessmen on the West German Atomic Commission include the following: Gerhard Geyer, member of the board of directors of ESSO, a Standard Oil affiliate; Dr. Goudelroy, director of the Allianz Insurance Company; Dr. Knott, a director of Siemens-Schuckert; Dr. Deuter, director of the Duisburg Apparatus Works; and Professor Wanneker and Alexander Menne from the board of directors of the Hoechst Chemical Works, a successor company of I.G. Farben.

**THESE ARE THE MEN WHO NOW CONTROL ATOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST GERMANY.**

## ANOTHER STEP TO FRENCH POPULAR FRONT

PARIS.—The French Communist Party has lost any time in formally putting to both M. Edouard Herriot, president of the Radical Party, of which M. Mendes-France is a prominent member, and M. Guy Mollet, secretary-general of the Socialist Party, its proposals for the formation of a Popular Front Government with the following programme:

- Peace in Algeria, by negotiation with the liberatory movement.
- The raising of the living conditions of towns and country workers in France.
- A policy of international friendship leading to disarmament.

There can be no doubt that the Communist Party's campaign for a Popular Front is the most significant recent development in European politics, and it is discussed at length this week by commentators in almost all of Europe's newspapers. Writers in the capitalist press seem, in general, to be depressed by the prospect that the campaign based on this programme must ultimately succeed.

"There is nothing wrong with the programme from the point of view of many a Socialist voter," notes the correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" (Jan. 9). "The programme of a Republican Front Government would not, reduced to its simplest elements, sound so very different from the Communist one . . ."

And that is the hardest fact that the Socialists and Radicals have to face. In order to win votes, they went to the polls on a policy "not so very different" from that of the Communists because they knew that the Communist policy reflected the wishes of the people and had their support. It was on the basis of these promises that the Socialists and Mendes-France supporters shared in the million and a half votes which swung to the left. And now they are going to get into greater and greater difficulties explaining to the electorate why it is they stand for a policy similar to that of the Communists, but refuse to work with that party to implement those promises.

As the correspondent for the London "Observer" wrote (Jan. 8): "France cannot go on indefinitely voting Left, and being governed from the Right, by the expert of pretending that five million Communist voters do not count."

INDIA'S ARMY no longer includes any foreign personnel, the Indian Defence Minister announced recently.

**NEW DELHI.**

Indian Prime Minister Nehru gave short shrift to those Western correspondents who have been writing that Nehru was "embarrassed" by the outspoken statements made by the Soviet leaders. Bulganin and Krushchov about imperialism and the Goa and Kashmir issues, during their tour of India.

At a mass meeting organised by the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee, Nehru (whose speech has not been reported in the Western press) declared: "They said some very good things. I never asked them to do that. But they said the correct things. We are actually pleased."

"Our friends living in other countries did not like these speeches. They have said and written in

newspapers that the statements made by Bulganin and Krushchov did not please even Nehru. The Soviet leaders, however, have expressed their opinion after due consideration and great deliberation. It is foolish to think that I or any of us did not like those statements."

### New Independent African State Welcomed

LONDON.

The birth of the new independent African Republic of the Sudan has been welcomed by all the powers represented at the Asia-African Conference and by democrats everywhere.

"Both the Chinese and Sudanese peoples regained their independence after long colonial oppression by the imperialists. Our common experiences and our victories should result in good relations," was Chinese Premier, Chou En Lai's message of greeting. China, the Soviet Union and India were among the first nations to recognise the new republic.

Progressives everywhere, who are well aware that the imperialists will not be content to permit Sudan to move unhindered to complete freedom from outside interference, welcomed the declaration by Sudanese Premier, the Azhari, shortly after the declaration of independence, that the Sudan would not participate in any military alliances or tolerate any outside attempts to control Sudanese affairs. Comments the Chinese newspaper "People's Daily": "These proud expressions are full of the dignity of a new state. They strike a warm responsive chord in the hearts of all who favour independence."

"On behalf of the African National Congress and millions of South Africans we congratulate the people of the Sudan who have attained their independence," says a cable sent by the ANC from Johannesburg. "Oppressed millions look to you for encouragement and inspiration."

### "GO HOME AM!" Say Japanese

TOYO.

The Japanese Socialist Party has demanded that the Japanese Government stop the U.S. military authorities from carrying out atomic rocket-firing exercises at Hokkaido in Japan. They point out that the exercises threaten the lives and security of the inhabitants of the towns and villages in the vicinity. The protest was backed by Hokkaido Governor, Tanaka.

At the same time, the three million-strong General Council of Trade Unions has demanded that the Japanese Government should close its bases in Japan and withdraw all its troops.

ATOMIC ENERGY'S peaceful uses in the Soviet Union were the subject of an exhibition opened in Delhi recently by India's Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, Mr. K. D. Malaviya. Opening the exhibition the minister expressed India's appreciation of the Soviet offer to share her knowledge of nuclear energy with the people of India.

## BRITAIN'S VOTE FRAUD IN KENYA

LONDON.—In a vain attempt to appease the growing world indignation at the continuing slaughter and repression in Kenya, the British Government has announced with a fanfare of trumpets that it is going to allow the Africans themselves to elect the six "African representatives" in the Kenya Legislature. They are at present nominated by the Government without regard for the wishes of the people.

The bluff has deceived nobody. In the first place the concession is a small one. Even if the Africans were to be allowed free elections for these seats it would mean that over four million Africans would elect six members as against eleven elected by the 42,000 white settlers. The European can always count, in addition, on the backing of the 20 members of the Legislature nominated by the Governor.

In the second place the concession, small as it is, is almost completely nullified by the conditions which must be fulfilled before an African is given the vote. To get the vote the African must have one of the following qualifications:

- A proved income of £120 during the previous twelve months, or property worth £500.

In Nairobi, where wages are the highest, a report of the East African Royal Commission revealed last year that half the workers earn less than £60 per year. Cash earnings, throughout the country as a whole, average only £3 3s. a year, per head, for Africans. It is only a small minority, therefore, who will be able to qualify for the vote under this provision.

- Five years service in the army, police or prison service, or seven years continuously for the government in commerce, industry or agriculture.

- Completion of an intermediate school course.

- Attainment of the tribal grade of Elder, or the age of 45 years.

- A higher education diploma or professional qualification.

- One-time membership of the Legislative Council or three years' service in a legislative body.

- A civil or military medal.

Over-ridden all this, members who have been jailed on Embu tribes, who constitute the majority of the population, will not be allowed to vote, even if they fulfill all seven conditions, unless they can show that they have given ACTIVE SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT in the present war against their own people.

Restrictions on candidates are even more severe than those on voters. No one may stand who has ever been to prison—a proviso obviously designed to exclude the hundreds of thousands of militants who have been jailed on one pretext or another in the past years. Even the "Manchester Guardian" (Jan. 11) is moved to exclaim: "But good gracious! Where should we be without Mr. de Valera, Mr. Nehru, Dr. Krumhal—no! to speak of Mr. Herbert Morrison?" (all men who have served sentences in British gaols for their opposition to British government action).



Many stories submitted to the New Age Short Story Competition last year, although they did not win prizes, were considered by the judges to be worthy of reproduction. This week New Age presents

# Countdown to Decision



In every factory and every bus queue people were talking about the one-day protest against the Suppression of Communism and the Group Areas Bill. The African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress and the Communist Party had decided on a one-day protest against these two Nationalist Bills.

In Pietermaritzburg the local African Congress branch leadership had gone into hiding in fear of imprisonment. Philomen Hatshaw, a factory worker, came to the Congress office on a Monday afternoon. His clothes were greasy and in the standard white-collar boys he was a person of a lower class. But he worked a very high regard for him because he had always taken a leading part in the working-class struggle and was the ablest speaker on the working-class platform in the whole of Pietermaritzburg, the intellectuals included.

With his pipe in his mouth and puffing leisurely he asked the chairman, "The workers want to know why Congress is doing about this June 26."

"We have not received a directive," the chairman replied. Philomen was somewhat puzzled. "He could not understand what directive the chairman was referring to as all the branches were organising the protest. He kept quiet and looked at the chairman who was absorbed in his figures for the day's takings in the shop. He slowly took his pipe out of his mouth, tapped it on the heel of his disheated boot and re-loaded it. He had one or two puffs and then went on. "The workers want to know if your branch is carrying out the instructions of Dr. Moroka to have a one-day protest."

"Branches have not been informed about it."

"But in other centres branches are organising the people for this protest day."

"I don't know anything about that, but..." Philomen cut him short. "You debate these formalities and the people are waiting for your lead." He suddenly became annoyed with this bickering as he felt that there was no time to waste. He picked up his great tattered coat and looked round for his hat. When he saw it he went towards the door the chairman called to him, "Look here Hatshaw, you and I are Zulus living in Natal. There are more important things than this one-day protest. The Nationalists are not only in power but are now the government of the country and you know the laws of the government have to be obeyed. Why must we allow ourselves to be misled by these bastards who live in the Free State and Johannesburg and know nothing about our problems in Natal? Why must we slip ourselves into the hands of Communists? The Group Areas Bill is aimed at the Indians. Look, we are being fooled by Communists to fight their own battles. What has the Suppression of Communism Bill to do with you? If you are dismissed from work these Communists and Dr. Moroka with all his millions of pounds will never assist you. Moroka will lose nothing by this protest day, but your children will starve, must think of my people

first and refuse to be carried away by the tyranny of the media! I, am pleased you came to see me. We shall probably understand each other better. You may take me for a coward. Far from it. Just a little before you came in a member of the Political Branch was here. Do you think I let out? No fear. But from my explanations he went away convinced that he had to stand with his own people in their just struggle."

All this having been said with all sound and fury, Philomen Hatshaw, a factory worker, came and paced the room. He imagined himself addressing a church audience where no questions are asked. Philomen stood at the door for a long time, shook his head and remarked, "Thanks for the outburst. I leave you better informed. The workers will now go into their struggle fully knowing that in you there is no leadership."

He joined the queue at the bus stop with a heavy head. He expected that if the Congress would give the workers a lead and the maximum co-operation, He could not understand why people occupied positions to sit on them. In the queue were some people with books and newspapers under their arms. They were in hot debate with others. The debate was quite general. Everyone appeared to be animated. One tall spectacled chap in an American suit appeared to be laying the upper hand. He cracked his peanuts and laughed, "Look at these poor stay away from work. Who will support them when they have lost their jobs?"

"But even Smuts is against the Nationalists," one worker observed.

"My dear man, it is because you are not educated. This paper here is Smuts' paper but it clearly says that he who stay away will lose their jobs."

"But we are not fighting the bosses," another worker said, "we are merely protesting against the bad laws."

"Yes, bad laws. Against whom are they aimed? Indians and Communists, and you are merely their tools."

There was now a general murmur. Even those who were supporting the protest found themselves in doubt. The tall gentleman was becoming more verbose. He chewed his nuts and shouted, "This Group Areas Bill is a blessing from heaven. Soon we shall have no Indians in this country and all their properties shall come to us."

Philomen found himself, not knowing how, involved in the debate. "What do you mean by us?" he asked.

"Well, my man, may be you are a Communist. But it should be clear to you that Indians are running away with our girls."

"What do you mean by my question. What do you mean by us?"

"The African people, of course. The Zulus. All these Indians, Basutos and Xosas, they are bastards."

"You mean the Indian land will come to us without paying for it?"

"Well probably pay. But the Government is not as bad as to make us pay a lot." At this stage he was becoming nervous, took off his spectacles and wiped them with his breath and wiped them, put them on and then off and fidgeted about.

"Is it we can't pay for our groceries, let alone furniture. How then can we pay for land?"

"Those who can will. Besides, you seem to forget that it is their black-marketing and oppose

By T. H. GWALA

us whenever we apply for trading licences."

"But Indians don't sit on the licensing boards."

"But laws are made to favour them."

"Hal! hal! that's just it. Who makes those laws to divide and rule?"

An elderly man who had not uttered a word throughout the debate but appeared more concerned in admiring his Billy-can intervened.

"I know that all of you, my sons, are discussing a very important matter. My brother has a shop. When his neighbour applied for a business licence he opposed him because he was afraid that he would take away his customers. Khanyile, my shopkeeper sells a pound of butter at four shillings. I don't know about Indians and Europeans. But all I know is that if you are fighting a common enemy you need the alliance of all your friends. I fought in the Bambata rebellion because I was convinced the poll tax was a bad thing. I burnt my pass in 1930 because I knew that passes sent thousands of us to jail. This young man, pointing with his shaky shrinked forefinger at the dandy gentleman, "is opposed to the protest because he thinks with his property at Edenburg he is safe. But I can assure him that oppression is becoming worse and worse every day. Old as I am I shall defend the rights I have. I support the day of protest because I want to choose my own leaders and remain where I please." The whole queue resounded with "he!" In the course of cheering, the dandy boy with some of his friends vanished in the crowd when the dandy began to speak in favour of the protest. "Even if we lose our jobs we shall have registered our strongest protest against tyranny!" One worker called out. "Another one pitched up the tune: He's a labour agitator And his life's not worth a dime."

The European bus conductor stood and just smiled and smiled. When Philomen got off the bus he plodded wearily his way home. He passed a house where some people were drinking shimeyana and playing cards. They were singing "Nkosi sikelel' iSizwe" discordantly. One man whose brains were muddled up with liquor, drank and put down his pipe and wiped his mouth and shouted, "I would finish off all the Coloureds. When you are organising a booze they are not to be invited. When you are driving off Malan's attack you can never find them." One gambler groused, "No Jack, you have a marked ten. Where is my big casino?" In a nearby house, Ludo, an old weary hound, kept sentinal at the gate and gave one or two howls at a solitary passing drunkard who was singing, "Mayi buye, Mayi buye," in a flat tenor voice.

At home Philomen could hardly sleep. My ideas came and were replaced by others in his mind. The Communist Party with all its talented leadership had dismissed him and fallen off the protest committee. The local branch of the African Congress had scuttled. Only the Indian Congress was left in the field. The workers had to be done and done quickly. As he lay on his bed gazing on the blank roof he recalled those days when he used to be a member of the I.C.U. when they were

burning their passes at Cartwright Flats and were assaulted by the police. He recalled the day when they went to the management in 1942 to demand more pay and more work from a sjobomb and from then he had remained a marked bird in the factory. In the next room children were playing soldiers and his little boy was a hand leader. In the kitchen, Betty, his big grey cat was lying on the warm stove and purring contentedly. He finally pronounced aloud, "There is no going back. The battle has to be faced. Tomorrow the workers will form an action committee to co-operate with the Indian Congress."

In the City Hall that night the leader of the Nationalist Party was belowing at the top of his voice and stamping the floor to an audience of ten people, consisting of three press reporters, the chairman, two other speakers, a member of parliament and three Nationalist followers. "Unless this thing, this viper called Communism is crushed we shall soon have the citizenship of Moses and Kaizer in this country; I tell you, Indians do not want a vote, they want a boat back to India." He stopped, but his feet with his right hand while the left hand caressed his huge belly. Looking right and left he continued standing tip-toe.

Already in Pretoria the door to the Communist in the Russian consulate. What more evidence of Communism, my fellow countrymen. He said that the agents of Stalin and Trotsky right in our midst." He sat down fuming while the three press reporters and the two followers themselves deaf. The watchman turned round and looked surprised while the three press reporters sucked their chocolates and smiled.

When an action committee was formed hundreds of volunteers came from factories and other places to give assistance in the distribution of leaflets and organising of meetings. Batches of volunteers got up at 4 o'clock in the morning to distribute leaflets and started again at 5 o'clock in the afternoon until about 11 o'clock in the dead of night. Every factory compound and village was covered. Slogans were chalked all over. "We prefer Dadoo and Moroka to Malan and Swart." At the Men's Hotel where a massive meeting was held, the Native Affairs loud-speaker which tried to broadcast Pika's go-to-work call was booted down and immediately stopped. Some people began to think the revolution was just round the corner. One short bulky man sat at the office the whole day turning the telephone into his toy and imagined himself the directing commander of the whole country.

On Friday, June 23, the manager in Philomen's factory called all the workers together and told them on Monday. But the cause demands every man to do his bit. It remains for you to be

resolved whether we shall oppose fascism or die on our heels. Those in favour of the protest!" There was some hesitation. Some workers stood up, sat on one side expressing their approval and the rest followed. He again shouted, "Those in favour of the protest?"

There was a resounding cry, "Elihu!" (It is ours). After this meeting each worker started to search himself. Others thought of long distances from home. He finally had a thought of their little children at home, the sick wives and a long day without a piece of bread. The army of the unemployed was at the gate eager to take over their jobs. Others would be driven away from the compound immediately they were dismissed and they would have no accommodation. Philomen was no exception. He felt a heavy beating heart because he felt like a lone soldier before the attack he had a beating heart. He laughed aloud and said, "We are many and they are few."

On Tuesday, June 27, he returned to work. He was met at the gate by the compound manager who told him to report at the manager's office. He could now realise that there was something amiss. The eyes of other workers could not meet his. When he tried to find out who they spent their money on he became evasive. He went slowly to the manager's office. On entering he took off his hat and stood facing him. "I am sorry for your absence," the manager, "after working here for so long there is no more employment for you. I hope those Communist workers on the table told you where you can talk the whole day. I understand you are a fine speaker." He pointed at his pipe. Philomen told him to take it away. Philomen took it, looked at it and walked towards the door. He did not ask for forgiveness nor did he feel sorry. Just before he went out the manager called him back. He turned, looked at him and lit his pipe. The manager felt very annoyed but did not know what to do. "Look, you have forgotten your reference," he said angrily, pushing it at him. Philomen collected it and walked out.

When he had left the office the manager went to the spot where he was standing, aimed a blow at an imaginary Philomen and swore. "I have lost a thousand pounds through these bloody Communists and this bastard white smoke. His pipe smokes his pipe and just smokes. He does not even feel sorry for losing his job. Good Lord, the manager felt very angry. Stalin was called a man of steel. The devil does not even feel sorry for his children." He paced his office up and down lit his cigar and gave one puff and put it off. Opened a window and looked round. He closed it again and picked up his telephone. He wanted to speak to the District Commandant. Very urgent, please. No time to waste. Yes, yes, Mr. Whitehouse, District Commandant? Yes chief, Mr. Whitehouse, the manager. I want to find out what you do with Communists who run rampant organising incendiaries. Yes, yes, I thought the Minister of Justice (Continued on page 7)

# BOYS

## IN TWO CHINAS

**Memoirs of a Diplomat, by K. M. Panikkar, Published by George Allen and Unwin, 15s. 9d.**

A close associate of Nehru, one-time Prime Minister of one of the Indian states, and a noted historian, K. M. Panikkar was India's Ambassador, first to Chiang Kai-shek's government in Nanking and then to the Chinese People's Republic in Peking. He reached his post in Nanking when the collapse of the Nationalist regime was already imminent and he watched Shanghai in the days when "death had begun to cast its shadow in the place. . . . Refugees were dying like rats and no one seemed to care about their fate. All civic sense had departed. . . ."

The diplomatic corps began to leave too, for a brief interlude in India and Burma, but soon he was back again in China, the accredited representative to the new government. He came with not a little apprehension. He knew I was entering a strange and new world. . . . All my training had been in the liberal radicalism of the 'twenties. . . . As against this, he records that he had a deep feeling of sympathy for the Chinese people, a desire to see them "strong, united, free. . . to proclaim the message of Asia reurgent."

**MAN WITH A MISSION**  
Panikkar saw himself as a man with a mission: to prove to Mao Tse Tung, at a neutral position if possible, and that as he was it rather crudely, the world need not be divided into two camps of the "rightful" and the "Kai-fis. He nowhere records the course of this self-chosen mission, but he played an important role in the difficult and prolonged negotiations to bring peace to Korea in the days when events showed the futility of British and United States attempts to settle issues in the Far East without the greatest Far Eastern power of all—China.

At the centre of Korean war developments and negotiations, Panikkar gives an intimate picture of that crisis, including his historic midnight interview with Chou En-Lai which led to his telegram to the United Nations. He says that China would have to intervene if the American troops crossed the 38th parallel.

This was an important role also in the cementing of Indo-Chinese friendship in those early years. . . . Rather strait-laced in the rarefied atmosphere of diplomatic protocol and official receptions, Panikkar's chapters leave one hungry for more of the palpating life outside the embassies and legations in the villages, with its land reformers, among the national minorities.

**THUMBNAIL SKETCHES**  
Between the dull calls on this or that to do a descriptive rather than thumbnail sketches of China's top leaders. He describes also a tour to Yenan ("It was only when we got into the plane that we were told that the airstrip had not been used for many years and had to be specially prepared on instructions of the Tsu Tung to enable our plane to land the night and a visit to the Tunghuang Caves in the Gobi Desert where he got into the diddly paintings and a rich hoard of ancient manuscripts had been discovered, giving evidence of early Indo-Chinese cultural contact.

His was the last post for another in Egypt, Panikkar sums up his impressions of New China. He applauds the release of new energies and the freedom given the old forms of artistic expression, the first unified central government of China; but, lest the preceding 12 chapters should have led any

reader to think that he has abandoned his "liberal radicalism," his final paragraph flies his flag for all to see. Changed by an irresistible desire by the Chinese people to move forward, certainly. But the means to employ these very desirable ends are of a kind which "revolt the free mind." And yet, with the exception of one paragraph just before this, Panikkar the historian has marshalled no evidence to show this and one is left with the impression that Panikkar the diplomat is determined not to be deprived of his own pre-conceived prejudices. R.

## CHINA PHOENIX

**By Peter Townsend. Published by Jonathon Cape, 25s.**

If Panikkar's diplomatic round and round in the East had withdrawn from the life of the people in China, Peter Townsend's work and boundless enthusiasm for the Chinese Communist government has never diminished in it. Townsend went to China in 1941 with a Quaker Ambulance Unit, and he later worked with the Chinese in the People's Republic in all parts of the country.

"Thrown into Chinese society and exposed to the shocks of Chinese life (before the People's Revolution) Townsend early formed the impression that to No Revolution. After Japan's defeat. . . to proclaim the promises by Chiang Kai-shek of democratic assemblies and a constitution. . . . But change did not come. Kuomintang's military carpet baggers flocking east by every available plane and river boat drove home the fact that the Government of the People's Republic was not a mere slogan. It was still this: runaway conscripts pulped with bamboo poles, ashen faces of starving men, the exactions of landlords and officials."

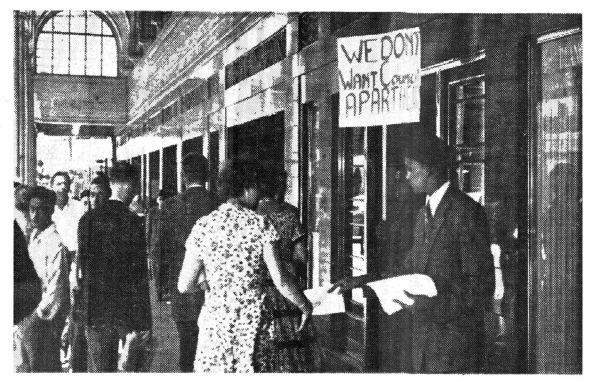
How then was change to come? asks Townsend. Those who talked of change of heart or "step by step" or benevolent dictatorship or foreign capital and supervision, all of which added up to a continuation of the status quo, lived in a warm and relatively safe world. Those who lived in the tumble-down houses chose the other road. It led to Yenan, the centre of the Communist revolution, the capital of the part of China where agrarian reform was the bedrock of a social programme. They did not go because they chose violence and civil war, rather because all other routes were blocked.

Townsend, too, went to Yenan. He also watched the crumbling world of the Kuomintang, the antics of Chiang Kai-shek's government on its first steps on the road to recovery.

**SPLENDID PROSE**  
A stickler for stories of real people, drenched with familiarity with the peasant landscape and the early beginnings of popular government in China, Townsend's splendid prose gives a vibrant, vivid account of the stirring of the new forces.

He omits nothing. There is one well-written chapter after another: the life of the people, the new marriages, the reform of prostitutes; on religion, on secret societies and superstition; on the press and the vivid account of the new industry and the workers; on food control; on municipal government, the civil servant, the village, the peasant mutual-aid teams. Townsend can simply not let go and, if anything, one is left feeling a little sorry for the epic and grand banquet: unequalled food, but one did eat a little too much!

Not since the days of Agnes Smedley has there been the reputation of Jack Beidens ("China Shakes the World") has a book on China as good as this been written. R.



SACPO demonstrators outside Electricity House, Cape Town, last Saturday morning, protested against the introduction of apartheid there.

## COLOURED PEOPLE HIT BACK

(Continued from page 1)

At the same time, leaflets were handed out to passers-by headed "Reject Apartheid Here!"

The leaflet said: "The Electricity Department has introduced apartheid at this office without the matter even having been discussed by the City Council.

"If we allow this to continue, it will be a step towards the introduction of further unjust measures against the Non-European people. . . . Already our people are having to do without parks, pavements, swimming baths, roads and other amenities, and unless we take a firm stand now, we will soon be burdened with apartheid which is insulting and expensive to the citizens of Cape Town.

"Take action now! Phone the Town Clerk! Organise deputations to the Mayor and Council. Demand that these boards be removed immediately.

"Demand equal rights for all! DON'T LET THE NATS RULE

## "Hour of Decision"

(Continued from page 6)

said something about Communists poisoning wells and all that sort of thing. One has just left my office now. No, no, no, not me, he was found out by my boss-boy. I can't say he was found with any incendiary material. You know what happened yesterday. Surely, I thought you were taking them into custody. Look, hallo! hallo! The phone just gave a buzz. He threw down the receiver and sighed. "Oh! my, my. Even the police have turned red. The only difference between a baboon and a Dutchman is that the Dutchman brings income tax."

Philomen came out of the factory gate, opened his reference card and read, "Bearer has been in our employ for over twelve years. Leaves our employ because of his Communist activities." He stood looking at it for a long time, crumpled it up slowly and briskly, he chuckled it in the gutter, shoved his hands in his pockets and whistled softly. "The Internationale unites the human race," while he quietly walked up the street.

The comment of the judges U. Kries, Jack Cape and Dr. R. E. van der Ross was "Despite faults, Jarry patches and some verbal roughness, this story is excellent. It has a verve and bigness and a natural flair for story-telling that make it outstanding. An ironic humour, though sometimes unsuccessful as in the redundant scene of the City Hall meeting, and a sense of character give this writer an interesting talent."

NEXT WEEK: "An African Affair," by Joan Gifford.

## CAPE TOWN!

UNCALLED FOR

Apartheid at Electricity House was "uncalled for, unnecessary and unwanted," Councillor (Mrs.) Z. Gool told New Age this week.

The matter had never been brought before the Council and the notices had been put up without the whole Council being consulted, Mrs. Gool said.

"I have been told that these notices were introduced by the City Treasurer's department as an experiment and have been sanctioned by the chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. A. Berman. The City Treasurer says they are not intended to be political.

"I object to it, as I object to all apartheid in principle," said Mrs. Gool, "and I dissociate myself entirely from these latest notices."

There has always been a harmonious relationship between people of all races paying accounts at Electricity House, and we have had no indication that the old system did not work to the satisfaction of all. We can only regard the apartheid notices as an insult to the Non-European people.

"It is the duty of local government to try to maintain and to foster good feeling among the different sections of the people. Only on that basis can we have a healthy and prosperous city."

## Afrikaners Really Like The Indians

PORT ELIZABETH.

Why do so many Afrikaners buy at Indian shops? is a question which worried the race-mad delegates to the SABRA conference here last week.

Speakers had called the Indians in South Africa a "parasitic element," an "unassimilable branch of a foreign people," etc. etc. So why did white South Africans support their shops? delegates wanted to know.

Because in many Indian shops the Afrikaans language came into its own, particularly in the Natal countryside. Service was in the customer's own language, display notices were in Afrikaans, said one.

Because many of the poorer people did not feel at home in white shops, said another. There are people who suffer from an inferiority complex, and who can make their impotence felt in an Indian shop, which they could not do in a white shop.

People sometimes leave a white shop because they are not treated well there. The Indian treats them in a friendly manner and gives them much credit. The Indian makes his shop very attractive, and gives Xmas presents, said another.

## CENTRAL INDIAN SCHOOL WILL CARRY ON

**JOHANNESBURG.**—This week the Central Indian High School, which was started by parents who refused to send the children to the Ghetto school at Lenasia, opened for its second year, determined to continue despite all the obstacles placed in its way.

A statement by the school parents committee says that the Transvaal Education Department has refused registration or approval of its principal and some other members of the school staff, and most cases without giving reasons. "This refusal appears to us arbitrary and unjustified."

To issue the continual legal existence of the school, however, the committee has been forced to accept the resignation of its principal, Mr. Michael Harmel. Steps are being taken to replace him in the meantime Mrs. S. J. Fischer will act as principal. Representations concerning other members of the staff will continue to be made, says the school committee.

A further difficulty created for the school has been the refusal of the Department to allow last year's Standard Eight class to enter the Standard Nine class at the Johannesburg Indian High School. This has forced the school to shoulder

the additional burden of organising a Standard Nine class.

"Despite all these handicaps, we are determined to continue in our task of providing alternative education of a high standard for Indian boys and girls, and not submit to the unwarranted scheme of sending our children to Lenasia, a plan which makes education a pawn in the sinister plan to ruin our community through the Group Areas Act."

The committee expresses its appreciation of the way in which the Indian community has rallied to the support of the school during 1955. It was this support which made it possible to maintain the school during its first year. "We have no doubt that the same support, extended in even greater measure, will enable the school to overcome the additional difficulties which now face us, and to maintain and improve the school during the coming year."

# PASSES FOR WOMEN

(Continued from page 1)

books for women. It will still be a matter for the local authorities to decide today.

Originally, before the 1952 amendment, influx control of African women was at the discretion of the municipalities which had to ask the Governor-General to promulgate their right to apply to influx control section of the Urban Areas Act. It was precisely because the Government was dissatisfied because local authorities did not use this right that the Act was amended to make the operation of this control obligatory on the municipalities.

It is no longer at the discretion of the municipalities whether this clause is used or not. It has passed out of the hands of the municipalities. It is now the duty of the policeman, if he suspects that a woman is in the area without permission, to arrest her.

In practice, this clause is not yet in full operation in most parts of the country. But the application of the 1952 amendment by municipalities in the Western Cape, particularly Cape Town, has provided a warning for the rest of the country.

Thousands of African women in the Western Cape have already been arrested and prosecuted under this section of the law, and many have been deported out of the area. Homes have been broken up, husbands separated from wives, parents from children, and leaders like Mrs. Annie Silinga have been victimised.

Similar action has been taken in Krugersdorp in the past few years, with arrests, prosecutions and deportations of women.

Johannesburg decided not to impose the influx control regulations until the pass books had been issued to African women by the Government, and other cities are probably also waiting until the system can be carried out in full with the aid of the reference books.

### WHO CAN STAY?

The effect of the influx control regulations is that only certain categories of women will have a right to be in an urban or proclaimed area.

These are women who were born in the area and are permanently resident there; or women who have lived there continuously for 15 years or been in the same employment for ten years; and women whose husbands satisfy these conditions. In practice it will mean mostly that only women who have been in the city since 1937 will have the right to stay there.

Any other women have to obtain special permission to be in the area.

## Cape Housewives Protest Against New Beef Prices

CAPE TOWN.

The Cape Housewife's League will shortly call a meeting to protest against the increase in the price of meat. Mrs. Gladys Smith, chairman, told New Age this week.

The meeting will elect a deputation to ask the Government to carry out its promises to reduce the cost of living.

With the new price of beef a housewife with a family of six would have to spend about \$7 on meat for one meal alone, said Mrs. Smith. "How can the average working family afford this?"

Pass your copy of  
**NEW AGE**  
to your friends

# WOMEN'S SILENT PLANS FOR 1956 SESSION

### PARLIAMENTARY SURVEY

by Peter Meyer

ings of hostility between the European and Non-European inhabitants of the Union and matters incidental thereto, and the laws relating to certain offences." As if the Suppression of Communism, Public Safety, Criminal Law and Riotous Assemblies Acts were not enough!

The basis of the session is, again, apartheid. And the necessary laws to stop people opposing apartheid will be introduced. But a new emphasis is being thrown on military matters. It is not sufficient to have the police force in tighter control, the Army must also be brought up to scratch.

A Nat M.P., Mr. B. van der Walt, moved a private Member's Motion in the House of Representatives should consider the advisability of introducing a comprehensive and co-ordinated scheme for civil defence in the Union.

### NO MATURITY

The one advantage of the annual opening of Parliament is that it knocks sidewise the pleasant chatter of the Nationalists becoming more "mature" and "moderate." No doubt Opposition businessmen and the Nationalists are being drawn close to each other, and financial difficulties are being smoothed out, but the annual flood of savage apartheid laws and repressive public legislation continues unabated. The 1956 session is a sinister one, indeed.

Who makes it all the more alarming is that the Parliamentary Opposition is doing virtually nothing to focus attention on the advance of fascism. Critics (I admit to being one of them) who have prophesied the rapid decline and fall of the United Party, are being told: But, look, it is still a big party and it is still going strong. It is going to challenge the Senate Act, and fight the Bill. The Opposition is doing so far. The Labour Party has a motion on practical economic issues, and if it lives up to its word at the last session, it will not evade the apartheid debates. The Bekker party has gone over completely to the Nationalists and is literally trying to out-Nat the Nats.

And the U.P.? Thirteen of its members gave notice of private Member's motions on the opening day. Not a single one deals with apartheid. Only in Mr. Strauss's proposal to register the Government's reference to the "hollow propaganda cry of apartheid." Mr. Strauss criticises the Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act, but I'm sure his mind is not on the welfare of the non-White citizens. He dislikes the Population Register Act because it passes; and he dislikes the Group Areas Act because he fears it will interfere with the labour of White employees.

### NOT A WORD

For the rest—not a syllable about apartheid. Mr. Coe was too busy with his motion to amend the Post Office Administration and Shipping Combination Discouragement Act, 1911; Mr. Lawrence wants immigrants; Mr. Russell is worried about delegated legislation (but he voted for the Public Safety and Criminal Law Amendment Acts); Sir de Villiers Graff is looking after the farmers. Mr. Waterston after the

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and without the permission are liable to arrest and deportation. The Government estimates that it will be a matter of some years before all African women are issued with pass books.

Till that is done, influx control and other control measures will possibly be piecemeal and difficult to enforce nationally, but the end effect is certain: African women will taste the bitterness of the pass laws suffered all these years by their menfolk, and they too will experience the raids, the arrests, the police rough-handling and ill-treatment, the imprisonment, and the deportations from the cities that are the lot of the pass-bearer. Under the law as it stands today there must be hundreds of thousands of African women who are in the urban area illegally. As the issue of pass books starts, so too will begin the hunt for the offenders and the start of action against them.

This is what the Government is trying to hide from the African people. But all their comforting and extravagant reassurances are worth nothing. It is the law that counts, and the women can judge by what happens to their menfolk just what is in store for them. That is why they are up in arms, determined to fight passes for women to the bitter end.

## Death of Solly Joema

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal Indian Congress and New Age extend sympathy and deep condolences to the family of Mr. S. I. Joema, whose tragic death took place in Johannesburg last week.

Solly Joema was a member of the working committee of the Transvaal Indian Congress and a well-known Middleburg Congressman. He served a prison sentence as a defier in the Duncan batch. He was also a well-known sportsman.

He leaves a wife and four children.

## Tvl. Peace Council Annual Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

The annual general meeting of the Transvaal Peace Council will take place on Sunday, January 22, at 10 a.m. and will be devoted to a report on the Peace Assembly held last year, and on future campaigns, among them one for disarmament. The meeting will take place at 37 West Street, Johannesburg.

The 14 men from the north have come down to Cape Town again. Six months plotting in Pretoria, six months plotting in Cape Town. This is known as Parliamentary democracy.

Meetings are held in the secrecy of the Cabinet conference room. Racism is brewed and dictatorship fomented. This is known as the volkwijl. For light relief, Mr. Strijdom and Mr. Strauss play a guessing game. Mr. Strijdom won't tell Mr. Strauss what is in his new "sovereignty" Bill, and Mr. Strauss won't tell Mr. Strijdom when or how he is going to challenge the Senate Act. Baby talk.

### THE PATTERN

The Speech from the Throne, as Mr. Strijdom's programme is elaborately named, sets the pattern for the session. It begins by commenting on the grave attempts of the "Western nations" to serve "Western civilisation and it hails the admission of the German Federal Republic to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation as the principal step in this direction.

It deplores the failure of the Foreign Ministers to reach agreement on fundamental issues (and almost adds "We told you so"), it warns that the "dangerous situation" in the Middle East is of the "greatest importance" to the Union, it recalls with a smirk its walk-out from the United Nations, and then it goes on to say how happy and prosperous everyone in South Africa is.

The sting is in the tail. We are going to get a Bill which will rob the Coloureds of their vote and repeal the Entrenched Clauses; another Bill will amend the Arms and Ammunition Acts; the new Official Secrets Bill, published in a Government Gazette last year, will be passed; and the Industrial Conciliation Bill will come back in its full glory.

The Nursing Act will be amended—apartheid for nurses. Applications for the establishment of Bantu authorities "have been received from all the Reserves." Also, "to ensure the better administration of certain laws relating to Natives and to facilitate the application thereof, appropriate amending legislation will be introduced."

That old defender of democratic rights, Mr. Swart, Minister of Justice, gave notice of a Bill "to consolidate the laws relating to riotous assemblies and the prohibition of the engendering of feel-

Public Service (Heaven help them), Mr. Pocock after pensioners; Mr. Durrant is probing into the Unemployment Insurance Fund; Mr. Bowker wants more telephones, and Mrs. Solomon has her motherly eye fixed firmly on women's affairs.

This omission of apartheid is not accidental. It is part of the U.P.'s new policy (yes, another new policy) to "keep the Natives out of politics, for goodness sake."

This is going to be the grand no-apartheid session, as far as the U.P. is concerned. There's the embarrassment of the new Bill dealing with the Coloured vote, but once that is over, Mr. Strauss's stalwart men will get down to a really good job of practical politics, that phrase so popular with business men. The Industrial Conciliation Bill, the other apartheid laws? Strauss will find a way around them. And then back to "practical politics." Strauss must make a point of going to Parliament to hear Mr. Coe move his motion on the Post Office Administration and Shipping Discouragement Act, 1911. Good, constructive stuff, Mr. Coe. The sort of stuff the Rand Club likes to read.

## Racing at Kenilworth

The following are Damon's selections:

- Juvenile Plate, Fillies and Geldings: 1. CHLORIS, Danger, Ben Hur.
- Juvenile Plate, Colic: 1. COMPERE, Danger, Thunder Flash.
- Maiden Plate: 1. ALCAZER, Danger, Hurricane.
- Kenilworth Stakes: 1. BRILLIANT WIT, Danger, Blue Isle.
- Wynberg Handicap: 1. MATA KANI, Danger, Irradiate.
- Dynberg Handicap Bottoms: 1. DUNKLING'S BEST, Danger, Desert Man.
- Kenilworth Mixed Handicap: 1. JARRETT'S SELECTED'S, Danger, Tenlik.

Metropolitan Handicap: 1. H. E. AMOS SELECTED; 2. Casbah; 3. Rivoli.

LAST WEEK DAMON TIPPED 4 WINNERS INCLUDING BOTH DOUBLES.

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## SOME STATISTICS

Figures recently issued show that the Soviet Union is now producing a year on armaments—twenty times as much as was spent before the Soviet state was founded.

A year's production of electricity in 1920 is now produced in one day; pig iron—a day and a half; coal—eight days; oil—twenty days; sugar—thirty days. One single hydro-electric station, that at Kuibyshev, to be opened shortly, will generate 11,400 million kilowatts—six times as much as that produced by the whole of Czarist Russia.

The Soviet Union is today producing three times the quantity of industrial goods that it was in 1940 when the Nazi armies attacked. The real wages of Soviet workers are now double what they were at that date. The North Atlantic Treaty

Organisation countries are now spending about 65,000 million dollars a year on armaments—twenty times as much as was spent before the Second World War.

In the ten years since the war there has been a 200 per cent increase in the U.S. compared with 20,000 strikes in the ten-year period before the war. A total of 1,000,000 workers are unemployed compared with nine million, and 445 million working days were lost, compared with 142 million.

At the end of last year there were 2,320,000 officially registered as totally unemployed in the United States, and according to trade union figures there were over 5 million jobs. In addition, 13,400,000 others were on short-time.