

FEBRUARY 26, 1948.

MAKING THE VOLK JEW CONSCIOUS

JOHANNESBURG.—To celebrate his silver wedding, Louis T. Weichardt, leader of the Greyshirts, now the White Workers' Party, made a speech appealing to people to cling to "race—the anchor"; and announced he stood closer to Colonel Stallard, "who, in his old age, is endeavouring to rectify what he has been doing wrong all his life, than I ever can to a race-renege with the name of Steyn."

Commandant Anton Marais proposed the toast to "Mr. Weichardt and his Greyshirts" at the celebrations. He honoured Weichardt as the leader who made "ons volk" conscious of their race and of the Jews.

Weichardt said the idea of race purity as expounded by Adolph Hitler had his full support. Wars between European powers were conducted "only and always to benefit Jewry."

"I wish to say to-night: white man, do not feel inferior. You come from the best blood in the world. Only when the nations of Europe allowed the Asiatic Jew to undermine their beliefs, ways of life, morals and culture, did the Europeans forfeit their leadership. . . . You have only to ride on the Blue Train and you see that there are but a few white people; the remainder are Jews."

Weichardt said the "creative brains" belong to the Germanic people. The Jew has a "copying brain."

He concluded: "I myself am not prepared to disappear from the political scene until the struggle has been won. Let it never be said of the Greyshirts, if the Non-Europeans achieve a victory, that we have retreated as cowards. Let us rather die as heroes of the European race, and again lay the foundations for the future generations."

Protocols of Zion in Afrikaans

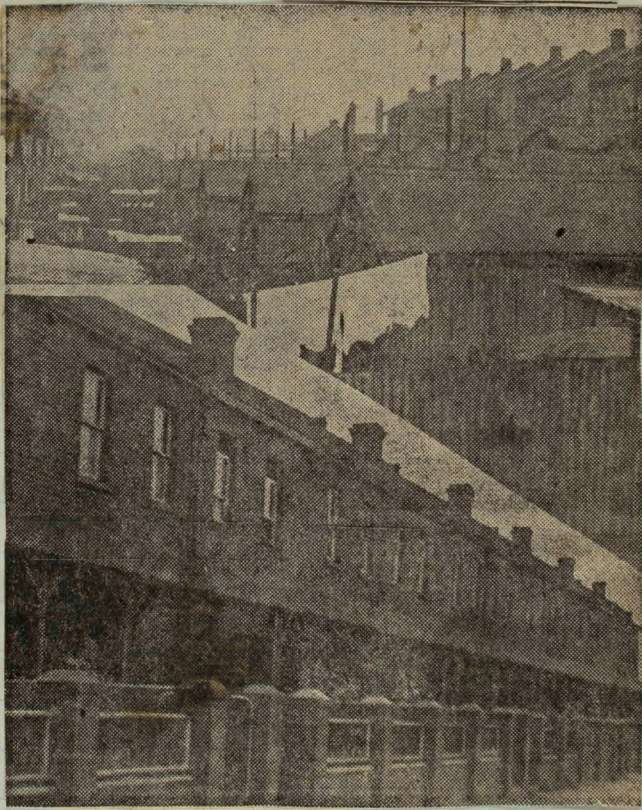
JOHANNESBURG.—R. K. Rudman, the arch-anti-Semite, who operates from Pietermaritzburg, has bought a printing press. One of its first jobs will be to produce an Afrikaans edition of the so-called "Protocols of the Elders of Zion." It will appear towards the end of March.

Rudman now admits he is the leader of the "Boerenasie," the one-time sister organisation of Elrow's "Nuwe Orde," founded by Manie Maritz in 1940.

In his latest leaflet, Rudman uses the slogan: "Every vote for the United Party is a Jewish victory." The leaflet, called "Smuts backs Jews!" is openly anti-Government. "Both English and Afrikaans citizens are determined to vote against Smuts, his party and the Jewish confederacy," it says.

The Jews are then denounced as "war criminals." Statements said to have been made by Jewish rabbis that "we shall drive the Christians into war . . . thus making room for our own people . . ." are quoted.

In another cyclostyled publication, Rudman claims that free-masonry is also Jewish-inspired. "It was instituted by the Jews for Jewish purposes and ends, and for the main purpose of protecting Jews. . . ."



Many European railway workers still live in houses such as those in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, pictured above. They are grimy, black, double-storey tenements over which hangs a pall of heavy smoke. The walls and ceilings are crumbling and full of holes. It is impossible to keep these houses clean, and the health of the residents suffers as a result.



NUSAS TRANSKEI SURVEY

An exhibition now showing at the University of the Witwatersrand records pictorially the work of the N.U.S.A.S. research expedition to the Transkei a few months ago.

This was the first occasion on which the National Union of South African Students organised an expedition of students from different South African colleges and universities to spend part of their vacation on a survey of all aspects of African life in a Reserve.

The survey was conducted in a rural African location at Ndobakazi in the

Butterworth district. Students studied the agriculture, housing, education, health, sociological and other conditions of this African community.

Tone of the exhibition and the field survey that gave birth to it, is the conclusion recorded towards its end: "If the people of the Transkei are to live, their land must be saved, its productivity increased, industries established. The problems involved are immense. But they are the problems of the Transkei, the Union's problems; our problems. They must be solved."

"STRUGGLE AGAINST WAR"

International Women's Day

JOHANNESBURG. — International Women's Day was celebrated in Johannesburg this year by a meeting of women of all races, called by the Transvaal All-Women's Union.

Mrs. Dora Roberts, who presided, outlined the origin and history of this day, celebrated by women all over the world.

Mrs. Martha Xaba spoke of the many disabilities of African women, and appealed to European women to unite with them in finding a way out of these difficulties.

"I am proud to sit on this platform with women of all South African races," said Miss Hilda Watts. "The things we women have to do cannot be done by one section alone. There can be no successful struggle against war and for peace and security unless women play their rightful role."

Mrs. J. B. Robertson, of the National Council of Women, brought a brief message to the meeting.

"I am glad to see," she said, "that you women are working for better conditions. I am very sympathetic to that, and so is the National Council of Women."

Mrs. Surakala Patel said her presence at the celebration, and that of other Indian women at similar gatherings was a sign that Indian women were emerging from the barriers behind which they had been secluded for so long. "This year on International Women's Day I am proud to say Indian women have made great advances since last year. From the beginning of the Passive Resistance movement, Indian women from all walks of life have added a glorious chapter to the history of women's achievements in South Africa. Even as we meet here, another batch of Indian resisters is preparing to cross the border from Natal into Transvaal, and leading that batch will be the Indian woman leader, Dr. Grooman.

"On this day we salute women leaders from all over the world — Galant Mrs. Pandit, and Passionaria of

Spain, whose name has become a symbol of resistance against oppression."

The meeting passed a resolution pledging to work for equal rights for women; homes and food for all; schools and nursery schools for all children; health services; and the unity of women of the world for peace.

Du PLESSIS AND HARMEL CHALLENGE GOVT.

JOHANNESBURG.—In an election statement, the Johannesburg District Committee of the Communist Party, announcing the candidature of Danie du Plessis and Michael Harmel refers to the intention of these Communist candidates "to challenge the present policy of the Government, both at home and in foreign affairs."

The statement reads:—

"At home we see a mounting offensive against the living standards and liberties of the people, particularly the Non-European. In foreign affairs the Government's defiance of U.N.O. is followed by increasing subservience to the aggressive activities of American and British imperialism, which contain the seeds of war.

radical improvements in living conditions, standards of health, housing and education for workers of all races and the extension to African and other Non-European peoples of full citizenship rights, including the democratic right to participate fully and equally in the country's law-making bodies."

"In practice the United Party has virtually adopted the policy of the Opposition and capitulated to the pro-fascist Nationalist Party which yesterday was sabotaging the war effort and applauding Hitler.

"In opposition to these disastrous policies, the Communist candidates stand resolutely for peace; the strengthening of U.M.O. and a stop to the activities of warmongers.

"They demand, as the only salvation of our country, an immediate and

MARCH 20 1948

"DADOO FOR PARLIAMENT— NOT PRISON"

Indians Plan Election Campaign

JOHANNESBURG.— With the slogan of "Votes for all in South Africa," the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council will launch its election campaign while parliamentary parties conduct their own election-campaigning.

This was decided by the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council, in its discussions on the impending general elections. In a statement just issued the Council records that it was formed to oppose the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act, the second part of which deals with the communal franchise offered the Indian community. "The Transvaal Council is strongly of the opinion it cannot remain silent on the question of elections. One of its main activities was to rally the Indian community against enrolment on the communal roll. It now appears that such a voters roll will not be ready by the time the elections are held."

FOR FRANCHISE EQUALITY

The statement points out that the Council agreed that during the period of election campaigning it should put forward the policy of the Indian community on the question of the vote. The Indian people have already completely rejected communal franchise and demand equality of the franchise with the rest of the enfranchised population.

Plans are being made for a Transvaal tour in this new campaign, which is expected to merge with a broader movement for the vote for all Non-Europeans. Similar campaigns will be launched by the Resistance Councils of the other provinces.

"With the election in the air," says the Council, "there is much talk of defeating the racist fascist forces. It is the boulder duty of every South African to understand that the most potent force against fascism in this country is the Non-European people... Dr. Dadoo is the president of the Transvaal Indian Congress, elected to this post by 12,000 votes, a number of votes which very few members of Parliament will get in the coming elections. Such men who have greater support among the citizens of the Union

than even the Prime Minister himself, are denied the right to enter our Parliament, thus making a mockery of so-called South African democracy.

"The Indian people, and for that matter, all the Non-European people, and European democrats are united on the slogan 'Dadoo should be in Parliament, not in prison.'"

MOBILISE FOR PEACE

—says F.S.U. Secretary

JOHANNESBURG.—"I feel the time has come when the labour movement and progressive organisations and individuals should publicly disclaim any support of a policy of warmongering," Mr. E. J. Burford, secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union told the Guardian last week.

Mr. Burford said the recent remarks in Parliament by Smuts and Malan, leaders of the two main political parties in the country, appeared to have the undisguised intention of involving South Africa in war against the Soviet Union in its own right.

"I feel we must make our voice heard in favour of peace and friendship with the U.S.S.R. and support of the United Nations. This would rally and hearten those who must be bewildered at this sudden spate of war threats against the Soviet Union, our wartime partner."

Mr. Burford stressed that anti-Communism is always a prelude to the smashing of democratic movements. The attacks on the Springbok Legion and the Friends of the Soviet Union during the debate on Communism in the House of Assembly were a sign of this.

He added that talk in South Africa about the next war was sheer irresponsibility. "South Africa is never involved directly in such a prosperous in a time of war scarred other countries give their blood, sweat, toil and suffering."

The Friends of the Soviet Union has addressed letters to the South

African Labour Party, the Trades and Labour Council, the National Council of Women, the Springbok Legion and numerous trade unions urging that the democratic and labour movement make clear its strong stand against irresponsible war-mongering.

ELECTION PROSPECTS IN THE TRANSVAAL

JOHANNESBURG.—By calmly collaring the dividends from their anti-Communist campaign, Smuts and the United Party have taken the wind completely out of the sails of the Nationalists' election propaganda.

Their Communist bogey scare swiped, the Nats. have little else left to say. Even the traditionally aggressive and blustering tone of "Die Transvaler" has quietened down considerably. The Nationalists may still be counting on one or two more instalments of their much publicised bombshell; they are still campaigning on the high cost of living and the missing budget; and they are still attacking the United Party agreement with "Labour" (always in quotations and always referred to as really a hidden Communist Party). But they are saying little else.

Their election agreement with the Afrikaner Party, the latter backed by the Ossewa-Brandwag, seems very uneasy. It is reported that Mr. Havenga has at last been found a seat in the safe Nationalist constituency of Ladysbrand in the Free State, but apart from this one, all the other seats allocated to the junior party in this alliance are by no means "safe." The Afrikaner Party has been given the very worst part of the deal. And "Die O.B." has not hesitated to say so.

"WISE" OR "UNHOLY"

The Labour-United Party election arrangement is referred to by the "Rand Daily Mail" as a "wise agreement" but by "Die Transvaler" as "the unholy alliance." Mr. Colin Legum, general secretary of the South African Labour Party told the "Guardian" that there is no truth in the state-

ment that a part of this pact is that none of the more "left" candidates Labour has to offer be put up. "There is no truth at all in that," he said. But, nevertheless, it is strongly rumored that the U.P. refused to accept the nomination of Alex Wainies for Rosettenville where the "astor" Mr. Hepple is now candidate.

The Labour Party has now announced its candidates for seven of the eight constituencies allocated to it.

(Continued on Page Five.)

Election Prospects

(Continued from Page One.)

MANIE CILLIERS

Mr. Manie Cilliers, the man who looked as though he were about to cross the floor of the House several times during the last session of Parliament, has apparently been sacrificed this time. It is worth noting that Mayfair, a safe seat for a well-chosen Labour candidate, does not form part of the United Party-Labour election agreement. Perhaps there was too great a risk that during the next session that Cilliers might decide to take the plunge into the Opposition, and so sacrifice one of the precious eight seats attained by Labour on the basis of its opportunistic election agreement. The risk of this is apparently too great.

In the 34 Rand constituencies the Nationalist Party is understood to be nominating candidates for about 24. Roodenrys and Brakpan have been allocated to the Afrikaner Party.

NAT. CANDIDATES

Cabinet Ministers Hofmeyr, Sturrock and Strauss may be opposed by Nationalist candidates. Nationalist candidates for the Rand include Dr. N. Diedericks (Randfontein) prominent in the Reddingsdaalboord, a director of companies, and as anti-progressive as they come. Dr. G. E. N. Ross, leader of the Nationalist group in the Johannesburg City Council who will contest in Johannesburg West, an area similar to that represented by him within the Johannesburg municipality; "Die Transvaler" editor, Dr. H. F. Verwoerd who will stand in

CHURCH TO DEMAND BANNING OF COMMUNISM

JOHANNESBURG.—At the Synodal gathering of the Nederlandse Hervormde of Oerformeerde Kerk of the Transvaal to be held in Pretoria on March 21, the Lydenburg Circle will ask that Communism be banned in South Africa and that "agitators for this ideology" be deported.

FLYING SQUADS FOR RAND POLICE

Police Reorganisation on the Rand—Riot Squads

JOHANNESBURG.— Flying squads of special patrol cars fitted with two-way radio, able to concentrate in any area within a matter of minutes, are part of a considerable reorganisation plan of the Witwatersrand police.

The building of a new police station in Orlando is being started. Patrolling strength of police in Alexandra Township is also being increased.

These special flying squads are in addition to the normal police van patrols which have operated for many years.

FEW UP. SURPRISES

The United Party nominations have held few surprises. The old team of Tothill, Trollip (both share the honours for unpopular candidates) Strauss, Friedman, Barlow, Bertha Solomon, Tighe, Waring, Kentridge, Industrialist Hood and Gluckman, among others, will contest again.

Seats causing anxiety to both Nationalists and the United Party are on the platteland. Wakkerstroom, Groblersburg, Ventersdorp and Pietersburg, as well as Pretoria district. Among the urban seats, sharp contests will probably be seen in Randfontein, Germiston and Joppe and in Pretoria Central and Wonderboom.

The nominations of the Party leader Mr. John Christie for Johannesburg City; Dr. T. W. B. Osborne for Benoni, his present constituency; and Mr. Albert Fayus for Germiston were quite expected. Mr. Alex Hepple will stand in Rosettenville. Mrs. Jessie McPherson, it is reported, declined to stand on account of ill-health. Mr. H. Davidoff, M.P.C., is to try the new Edenburg constituency—a far-flung area with a very mixed collection of voters, but including also the ex-soldiers' quarter, Sandringham.

Dr. Ind Cor the

RUTH FIRST REPORTS ON

HARRISMITH Why Trouble Is Brewing There

JOHANNESBURG.—The town was almost deserted. Everybody was at the Harrismith agricultural show. Everybody, that is, except the few important people who could not desert their official duties—and the thousands of Africans who live in the Harrismith location, and are seething and troubled about many things to-day.

Though the Council is doing its best to see it, trouble is brewing in the little town of Sir Harry Smith in the Free State. The people are seething about the decision regarding the municipal quarry, several construction works, even a dairy and several small stores, and opposition to the proposed municipal water delimitation measure give the first clues to the unrest.

The press disposed of these events by blaming the town's trouble on the agitators. Their headlines said: "Police Smith Natives in Ugly Mood"; "Police Blame Agitators".

WILL O' THE WISPS

But the agitators have been as willful as the wisp. The Council has no official spokesman, and the form of shape they took. And he goes even further and says he has no doubts as to the newspaper scooper must have got that information from the Council representatives, the police and important employers in the town, and that the Council has no official spokesman. Their headlines said: "Police Blame Agitators".

way, while a different story emerged. Compared with rates paid elsewhere in the town and district, Council wages are high. The Council's policy is to pay Africans as high as possible. It appears to be more too savory. The location has been outright condemned by the Council. The Council's policy is to pay Africans as high as possible. It appears to be more too savory. The location has been outright condemned by the Council.

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"JUST A DREAM"

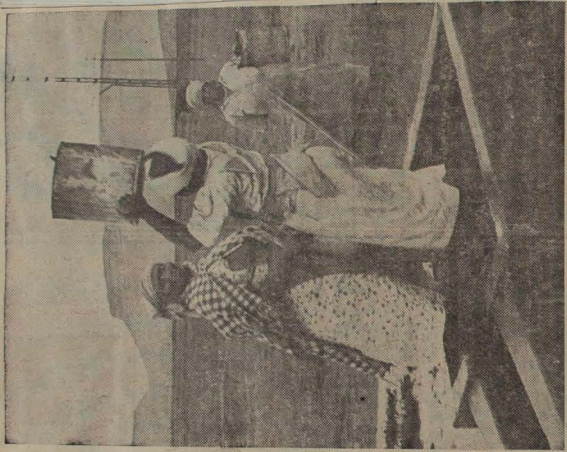
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Biggest agitator in Harrismith, if it is not the Council, is its own wage policy. As long as municipal workers are earning 3s. 6d. a day, and domestic workers 2s. 6d. a day, it is not surprising to reach the wage level paid in the local textile industry where Africans get 2s. 6d. a day. The Council's policy is to pay Africans as high as possible. It appears to be more too savory. The location has been outright condemned by the Council.

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A DIFFERENT STORY

Let us try, especially after a visit to the muddy location just below the sub-



Women from one of the nine taps in the Free State fetching water from one of the nine taps that must serve over 600 stands.

and is ordering them to dispose of their cattle. To the people who own cattle, it will be a great relief to get rid of some. Their cattle is their wealth. However, and carriage men, are faced with dire poverty and an end to these ways of making a livelihood.

PREPARED TO PAY

Apart from the hopelessly over-crowded Witzenbosch Reserve in the Free State, the Harrismith Council has to pay for the cattle in the entire province. They would have to sell their cattle. "How can a man who insures his cattle for 10 to 15 in the case of a fire, be asked to pay for his stock? How will he then earn?" the people are asking. They are prepared to pay for grading and fencing, but not for the grazing camp promised them. But as with everything else promised, they are not getting it. The Council has been playing the fool with us.

STOCK REDUCTION

But even this is not the main source of trouble in Harrismith. Agitating the people in Harrismith is the Council's policy for stock reduction. The Harrismith Council has to pay for the cattle in the entire province. They would have to sell their cattle. "How can a man who insures his cattle for 10 to 15 in the case of a fire, be asked to pay for his stock? How will he then earn?" the people are asking. They are prepared to pay for grading and fencing, but not for the grazing camp promised them. But as with everything else promised, they are not getting it. The Council has been playing the fool with us.

S.A. Indian Congress to Meet Soon?

JOHANNESBURG.—The results of the South African Indian Congress election will be the final step towards the South African Indian Congress being elected with the voice of the Indian people of South Africa. Mr. S. M. Dadoo, secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress told The Guardian when the results of the appeal in this case were announced.

The case, heard first in Cape Town and later taken to the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein centres around the insistence of the South African Indian Congress officials, led by Councillor Ahmed Ismail, that the last elections in the Transvaal Indian Congress were irregular. These elections brought Dr. Dadoo and his cabinet into power, but the S.A.I.C. officials maintained that Dr. Dadoo and his supporters should not take their seats on the S.A.I.C. executive, which should be retained by those who had been defeated in the election.

Mr. Cachalia said that this former executive, which believed in compromise and whose activities ended with petitions to the Government and seeking small concessions, had been attacked in both the Transvaal and Natal. It was eventually overthrown by some of the largest mass meetings in the history of the Congress.

Defeated in Natal and the Transvaal, the old leadership tried finally to entrench itself in the South African Indian Congress, the national body to which each province (except for the Free State) is affiliated; and to whose conferences each province sends thirty delegates.

"The highest court in the land" said Mr. Cachalia. This vindicated the Transvaal Indian Congress, and agreed that its present executive was properly elected, according to the wishes of the community.

The Guardian understands that the Transvaal Congress executive will meet shortly to review the situation. It is expected that the S.A.I.C. executive will now be forced to call an executive meeting. The Indian community is wondering whether the old leaders will resign rather than do so.

This victory is regarded as doubly important in the light of the Round Table Conference that may take place in the near future. It is certain that the South African Indian Congress will now speak in line with the leaders of the Passive Resistance Movement.

S.A. DELEGATES TO PRESS FREEDOM CONFERENCE Journalists Ignored

JOHANNESBURG.—The National Council of the South African Society of Journalists has protested to the Prime Minister at the refusal of the Department of External Affairs to include a representative of the society in the Government's delegation attending the United Nations Conference on the Freedom of the Press at Geneva.

Mr. O'Brien Keese, the Society's general secretary, states that journalists felt the Society had specific claims for inclusion in the delegation in an advisory capacity, instead of being merely asked to forward a memorandum.

The delegation from South Africa is composed of a soldier now holding a diplomatic position in a foreign country, two Government officials, the Public Relations Officer at South Africa House, and the acting Director of the State Information Office in the Union.

Two advisers are attached to the delegation, one the editor of a Cape combine newspaper, and the other an associate editor of a news agency. Both are nominees of the newspaper owners.

The Secretary for External Affairs told the Society of Journalists the delegation had to be limited to keep expenditure low.

In their letter to the Prime Minister the Society of Journalists complains at the organised journalists of the country being ignored. They point out this is the most important international convention yet held in the history of newspaper journalism.

Chamber of Mines "Can't Afford Higher Wages".

JOHANNESBURG.—The Chamber of Mines cannot afford to increase wages. The retiring president of the Chamber, Mr. F. A. Unger, said so in his presidential address at the Chamber's annual meeting last week.

"The gold mines receive a fixed price for their product, whereas other industries are in position to pass wages increases on to the consumer. Under present-day conditions we could not successfully compete with these other industries in a contest of spiralling wages," he said.

He said the mining unions continue to press for wage increases, but... "the problem is insoluble except at the expense of the nation."

Dividends to shareholders during 1947 amounted to £11,268,022.

Referring to the shortage of African labour, Mr. Unger said: "Our native labour strength from the Union and High Commission territories has again fallen considerably and the shortage creates serious misgivings, particularly as the demands of the Free State fields will progressively increase... We must visualize increasing our native labour force more and more from sources outside the Union and High Commission territories. Our native labour organisations have already done a great deal in this direction... However, great agricultural and other developments are visualised for the Central African territories which will greatly reduce the surplus African labour up there we had hoped to tap."

GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1948

VOTES FOR ALL Dr. Xuma Calls People's Assembly

JOHANNESBURG.

WITHIN 24 hours of Dr. Xuma's call for an effective answer

to the colour-bar franchise, which excludes the vast majority of the population from voting, leaders among the African, Indian and Coloured communities announced that they are prepared to sponsor a Transvaal-Orange Free State People's Assembly for Votes for All. The assembly will aim to rally delegates "from the two provinces who will represent more citizens than those voting in the general elections." Delegates will be invited from factories and workshops, townships, hostels, advisory boards and vigilance committees, farm settlements and country towns in all corners of the province.

It challenges the election of the new Parliament by a minority of the people.

"The Assembly will launch a campaign for the democratic principles of the United Nations Charter by promoting and encouraging... respect for human rights and for fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

PRESS CONFERENCE

Dr. Xuma, president general of the African National Congress, told a Press conference held here on Monday he believed the Non-European people must make a move for common franchise. His congress believed in co-operation with other national groups on matters of common interest. The franchise was one of these issues and a common basis for action. Dr. Xuma said action along these lines could be expected.

"judged by world standards, there is no democracy in South Africa," he said. "The 'apartheid' policy of the Nationalist Party is nothing new and should be nothing surprising to any honest student of colour relations. It is a hardy election bogey with a new name. It is old wine in new bottles."

Dr. Xuma said the existence of political 'apartheid' or segregation between Europeans and Africans during the past 12 years has widened the gap between Africans and Europeans.

"Apartheid" segregation or separation on colour basis is a political fraud. It is a mere euphemism for exploitation."

Dr. Xuma concluded with a call to Indians, Coloureds and Africans to play their full part in the interests of future generations.

"They must realise democratic rights are not a free gift. They are to be earned. They must organise their respective communities for this campaign of right and justice."

"Already sponsors for the gigantic 'Votes for All' Assembly at the end of May are coming forward from all communities."

The sponsors at this stage include Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, C. S. Ramabano, Victor Mboob, James Phillips, J. G. Mwebe, Yusuf Cachalia, Dan Thoombe, T. N. Naidoo, M. A. Dinath, J. B. Marks, D. Gosani, E. T. Mofutsanyana, Herry du Preez, S. Nkomo, J. J. Majoro, S. Mogomotsi, P. Q. Vundla, D. W. Bopape, Maluli Salsjee, and many more are coming in daily.

"FORWARD FOR LASTING PEACE" WORLD YOUTH WEEK

JOHANNESBURG.—World Youth Week will be celebrated in Johannesburg by a mass youth rally at the Trades Hall on Friday, April 2, at 7.30 p.m. This is the third occasion on which World Youth Week is to be celebrated in South Africa.

Speakers will include Dr. A. Sader, who was a member of the Council of the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Union of Students; Victor Mboob, who represented the African National Congress Youth

League at the recent World Youth Festival; and Myrtle Canin, who worked on the Yugoslav Railway as a South African member of an International Working Brigade.

The programme will include a radio play on youth, the film "The Bridge", and songs by an African choir. There will also be a display of photographs of the activities of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, and of youth movements in this country.

The end of March is the traditional week of the youth of the world. This year the World Federation of Democratic Youth calls upon the youth of all countries to carry out activities in support of the struggles of the youth of Greece,

Spain and China, and against the Imperialist British and American activities in Vietnam, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and other colonial countries.

During this week the youth will also intensify its work in preparation for the International Conference of Working Youth to be held in Warsaw during April, 1949.

The slogan for World Youth Week this year is: "Youth Unite! Forward for your rights and needs. Youth Unite! Forward for lasting peace."

WEMMER COMPOUND RAIDED

JOHANNESBURG.—Three hundred and fifty police, 12 of them mounted, raided the Wemmer Municipal Compound early one morning last week. The raid started at 4 a.m. and lasted two hours. Three hundred and twenty Africans were arrested and taken away by the police for further checking.

COUNCILLOR O'CONNOR ON RUSSIAN AGENTS

JOHANNESBURG.

RED-BAITING Councillor J. J. O'Connor hit on a novel idea for his publicity stunt at the last monthly meeting of the City Council. He would expose the RED menace.

Where? At the University of the Witwatersrand. Councillor O'Connor rose to speak on a resolution that university scholarships be increased per capita statement here today in the hope that something can be done to counter this propaganda and the use of the University as a centre of propagation.

He alleged that a circle of students at the university was diligently studying and propagating the principles of Communism. If these influences were not stamped out, the Council should withdraw its grants.

"I don't say that what is being done by this circle of students

is known to the Principal," said Mr. O'Connor, "but I make this statement here today in the hope that something can be done to counter this propaganda and the use of the University as a centre of propagation."

Russian agents, he said, were busy in Johannesburg as in other centres of the Union, and recent events in Czechoslovakia were a sample of what one might expect.

The recommendation for increased scholarships was passed.

MALAN AND THE TIDE OF HISTORY

JOHANNESBURG. —

In the history of mankind the document of Dr. Malan may find a place in the archives as a declaration of a group of people swimming against the tide of history. It is the comment of the "Passive Resister", official organ of the Indian resistance movement on the "apartheid" plan of the Nationalists just published.

"The non-Europeans, with the Indian community as the vanguard, are on the march for full democratic rights in South Africa. Nothing will stop this march, not even Dr. Malan's policy of 'apartheid'. He will not succeed where Hitler failed."

WERE S.A. NAVAL UNITS USED ON GOLD COAST?

WEST AFRICANS PROTEST TO ATILEE

JOHANNESBURG.

WERE two naval units sent from South Africa during the Gold Coast disturbances to intimidate the people of the Gold Coast? This is the claim made by West African organisations in Great Britain, who have made representations to Premier Attlee and the British Labour Government on the disturbances.

These organisations, the West African Students' Union, Gold Coast Students' Union and West African National Secretariat, claimed further that the Governor of the Gold Coast raised a special constabulary of Europeans in Accra against the Africans. Nigerian troops, they claim, were imported to "murder their fellow Africans".

They condemn the statement made by the Under-Secretary for the State for the Colonies in the House of Commons, attributing the demonstration of African ex-servicemen to Communist incitement.

"It begs the issue and misleads the British public and the world."

The facts, claim these organisations, are quite different. Gold Coast ex-servicemen who fought in Abyssinia, Eritrea, Somaliland, North Africa and the Middle East, in Italy and in Burma had fine promises held out to them by the British Government. But since they were demobilised, many African servicemen have been unemployed. Increased cost, especially of imported goods reduced them to the verge of starvation.

Throughout the country the people decided on a boycott of all imported goods because, although prices of locally produced goods are controlled by the Government, European merchants were permitted to establish their own prices for imported goods.

The Ex-Servicemen's Union requested an interview with the Governor of the Gold Coast to present a petition of grievances. The request was granted, and the appointment fixed for February 28.

It was during the peaceful and orderly march of these unarmed and defenceless men that the police fired on them. Several were killed and many wounded. West Africans today demand immediate self-government, and the convening of a Constituent Assembly to formulate plans for a transfer of power. They want the immediate recall of the Gov-

Transvaal Resisters Make History

JOHANNESBURG.

FOR the first time in the history of South Africa a group of Indians will cross from the Transvaal into Natal in a planned defiance of the immigration laws. Previous crossings in this resistance campaign and in Gandhi's earlier one were all in the opposite direction.

On April 11 when Manilal Gandhi leads his Gandhi Memorial Batch into this province, Mr. G. Sooboo, who comes from a well-known resistance family in the Transvaal will lead his batch from Volksrust into Natal. They will announce the exact time of the crossing to the Minister of Justice, and their intention to break the 1913 Act, and suffer the penalties for doing so.

error, the prosecution and punishment of the police officers who ordered the shooting, and the release of Ben Tamakloe, general secretary of the Ex-Servicemen's Union.

They demand also that an independent body be sent from the United Kingdom to hold a public enquiry into the whole incident.

SPRINGBOK LEGION'S ELECTION POLICY

JOHANNESBURG.

— "Even though others may speak of war, let the ex-servicemen stand firm for peace. And let our word be backed by the determination that world peace must and will be maintained," said Mr. Jock Isaacowitz, National President of the Springbok Legion, in opening the Legion's annual conference.

Mr. Isaacowitz announced that the Legion will be one of the sponsors of an international ex-servicemen's conference to be held in Paris in September, at the same time as the meeting of the United Nations. The conference will provide an opportunity for ex-servicemen of all nations to mobilise their energies and resources towards the maintenance of world peace.

Included in the list of parties to be opposed by the Legion during the general elections are now the South African Party (ex-Dominion Party), Miles-Cadman's Central Group and the United Labour Party.

Outlining the Legion's plans for implementing the election decision taken last September, the chairman indicated that detailed schemes had been drawn up by which the Legion would do its utmost to influence ex-servicemen to vote against Nationalist candidates.

At the Bethel meeting a leader of the Bethel Agricultural Workers' Union spoke on the conditions of African labourers in Bethel.

"Our conditions have definitely not improved," he said. "In fact conditions have worsened. Although we are oppressed to within a no chance to breathe, we support your cause. We are deeply inspired by the sacrifices of the Indian community."

dates. In no less than fifty selected constituencies special tactics would be adopted.

Mr. J. Isaacowitz was re-elected national chairman for the ensuing year, and Mr. P. J. Hodgson, national secretary.

INDIAN CAMPAIGN FOR FRANCHISE

JOHANNESBURG.

Bethel, Standerton, Ermelo and Middelburg are among the Eastern Transvaal towns already visited by leaders of the Transvaal Indian Congress and Resistance movement in their latest, bill-campaign in the new phase of the resistance struggle.

At many meetings the gatherings were not confined to the Indian community, and Africans and Coloureds from the district attended to hear Manilal Sobodjee, Messrs. Y. Cachalia, G. Pahad, E. Vanis and other speakers from resistance headquarters discuss the campaign for the franchise and the attitude of Congress to the proposed round table conference.

At Standerton the chairman of the meeting said it was not true the Transvaal Indian Organisation had succeeded in forming a branch in Standerton.

At the Bethel meeting a leader of the Bethel Agricultural Workers' Union spoke on the conditions of African labourers in Bethel.

"Our conditions have definitely not improved," he said. "In fact conditions have worsened. Although we are oppressed to within a no chance to breathe, we support your cause. We are deeply inspired by the sacrifices of the Indian community."

WAR MEASURE STILL OPERATES

JOHANNESBURG. — Officials and organisers of the African Mineworkers' Union "have had to face beating up, arrests, expulsion from mine compounds, and many other dangers. We must pay tribute, too, to the miners themselves who are often discharged and victimised for union activities".

This the annual report of the African Mineworkers' Union Organising Fund Committee records some of the tremendous difficulties in the work of the African miners' trade union.

The annual meeting of the Fund Committee was held on April 5, when the Reverend D. C. Thompson, chairman of the committee, Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the Union, and Mr. Cecil Williams spoke on "the importance to democracy in South Africa of helping to preserve a free democratic trade union the African miners".

The Fund Committee was formed over three years ago when, because of the effect of Proclamation No. 1425, union organisers found it increasingly difficult to meet the miners and collect their subscriptions from them. Outside financial support became necessary to help the union to survive.

The union, a legal body, is prevented by the War Measure from carrying out its normal functions, says the report. "Every possible obstacle has been and is being put in the union's way by the mine owners and the State—the most severe and undemocratic restriction being the abolition of the right of free assembly."

YOUTH WEEK CELEBRATED

JOHANNESBURG.

— "While Europe is being divided into two camps and there is talk of the 'Cold War' and the next war, the youth of the United States and the Soviet Union, Britain and India, France and Viet-Nam, Holland and Indonesia are working together in the World Federation of Democratic Youth. This friendship and spirit of understanding will go a long way towards clearing the air of the war-mongering atmosphere." This was said by Victor Mboob, who attended last year's festival at Prague, at the World Youth Week celebrations here.

Myrtle Cainin, who worked on the Yugoslav Youth Railway as a member of an International Brigade, described the work on the railway and how its slogan was carried out: "We build the Railway and the Railway builds us."

Mr. H. Dreyer spoke for the Zionist-Socialist Youth Party. Mr. H. Wolpe also spoke, and Mr. V. Pillay presided.

Moroka Sentences

JOHANNESBURG.

Sentences ranging from ten years to six months' hard labour were passed at the Rand Criminal Sessions on the 13 Africans found guilty of public violence in the disturbances at Moroka Township in August last year, when three European policemen were killed.

STOCK REDUCTION AT HARRISMITH

JOHANNESBURG.—Three Africans were arrested in Harrismith

location following opposition of residents to the Council's plan for stock reduction.

The arrests took place a week after a deputation from the Advisory Board had met the Magistrate, Town Clerk, Chief of Police and location superintendent, and been promised its case would be put before the Town Council. The Advisory Board received no reply to its suggestions, and some time later a pick-up van and police arrived to impound the peoples' stock. Three men were placed under arrest as they stood by to see what was happening. They were later released on bail of £15 each.

This week a member of the Advisory Board saw the Native Commissioner in Pretoria on behalf of the location. He was promised that the Department of Native Affairs in Pretoria would make representations for the release of the arrested men, and the withdrawal of the charge against them.

The Advisory Board was told the department in Pretoria "was not aware of the limitation of cattle in Harrismith to one beast".

TRANSKEI VOTERS MAINTAIN BOYCOTT

JOHANNESBURG.—The Transkei Organised Bodies and Transkei Voters' Association in a joint resolution repudiates the authority of the new Native Representative Council to "speak on behalf of the people who have on several occasions declared they do not wish to participate in any elections under the 1958 Act".

Their resolution expels from the Transkei Voters' Association, Messrs. Jeremiah Moshesh, C. K. Sakwe, Saul Mafude, E. Qomata, G. Dana, Thos. Foswayo and Theo. Nintill. The allegation against them is that by seeking election to the council they flouted the decision of every meeting held in the Transkei on the boycott question.

These associations urge Africans to intensify the campaign to implement the boycott resolution. The decisions were taken during a joint session of the two bodies at a meeting at Bolewe, in the Tlotywa district.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

JOHANNESBURG.

Regional conferences of the African National Congress are to be held throughout the Transvaal, starting at Randfontein on the West Rand and in Benoni's Nobadula Hall on the East Rand, on April 18 at 10 a.m.

Prominent Congress leaders will address the conferences. Later meetings are planned for Rooopoot, Venterspost, Krugersdorp, Lewisham, Brakpan, Springs, Germiston, Boksburg, Nigel and Heidelberg.

COVT. GETS COLD FEET?

Manilal Gandhi Not Arrested

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. MANILAL GANDHI, leader of ten Natal resistors who crossed the border on Sunday, was the only member of the group allowed to enter the Transvaal unhindered.

The police at the Volkstrust charge office, to which Mr. Gandhi proceeded, said they had "received no orders." They could not say why he, leader of the group, had not been arrested.

Immediately afterwards Mr. Gandhi made a statement in which he said that when he made known his intention to lead a group, he invited others to join him. "As leader of the group I take full responsibility for the action which we took in contravening the Immigrants Regulations Act of 1913."

"WILL NOT GIVE UP"

"Presumably the police did not arrest me because I have Transvaal domicile rights, but I had expected to be arrested on a charge of aiding and abetting the resistors to cross the border." Mr. Gandhi added that a charge against him for aiding and abetting was still pending.

As the Volkstrust border Mr. Gandhi told the Guardian he might well lead the next batch of Resistors, he might even further aid and abet. "I will not give up," he said.

HE WAS PROUD

First to cross the border were the five Transvaal resistors led by Mr. C. Sooboo. They were Suliman Avasi, R. Naidoo, D. P. Desai, E. M. Dadoo, Mr. Sooboo, who led the first Transvaal resistors into Natal in 1946, said he was very proud once again to lead an important group in the struggle.

The Volkstrust police and surrounding districts had a busy day. All cars on the main road were stopped and scrutinised. As supporters coming to witness the border-crossing drew up their cars alongside the border, police constables took down their numbers, the number of people in each car and the names and addresses of the drivers. Carloads of supporters arrived to

witness the crossing from centres throughout the Transvaal. Even certain members of the so-called Transvaal Indian Organisation were there.

UNIQUE OCCASION

Many prominent Indians have expressed their strong support for this Resistance phase.

Said Mr. P. S. Joshi: "This occasion is unique in that it is the first time the border has been crossed from both sides simultaneously."

Mr. C. E. Bhagata, chairman of the Ermelo Congress branch, said that, despite police intimidation, Congress supporters had rallied from far to show their support. Mr. Jasmat Nanabhai, who served a term of two years' imprisonment in India during the 1930-32 struggle, said: "This is a wise and necessary move. I am particularly glad to see Mr. Manilal Gandhi leading this batch."

Among other leading Indians who expressed full support for the struggle were Messrs. E. M. Dadoo, Mr. Manilal Gandhi referred to the work of Communists within the Congress. He said: "I am not a Communist. I am a great critic of Communism. But I believe the Communists have given leaders to this struggle and are fighting in it, and as such I support them wholeheartedly. There was no life in the community, and the Communists have given it life. The whole community is thankful to them for leading the struggle. I hope the community will continue the struggle to the end—irrespective of sacrifice."

GANDHI'S VIEW

Speaking in Volkstrust, immediately after he had entered the Province, Mr. Manilal Gandhi referred to the work of Communists within the Congress. He said: "I am not a Communist. I am a great critic of Communism. But I believe the Communists have given leaders to this struggle and are fighting in it, and as such I support them wholeheartedly. There was no life in the community, and the Communists have given it life. The whole community is thankful to them for leading the struggle. I hope the community will continue the struggle to the end—irrespective of sacrifice."

ORDERS DIRECT FROM GREECE

A high-up official in Athens, working for the present Greek Government, has disclosed in a letter to a friend in South Africa that the Greek Government has ordered consulates and legislations in other countries to use all possible means to put a stop to the "anti-national" work of Greeks supporting a democratic regime in Greece.

Among the measures they are authorised to take is the cancellation of the Greek nationality of such people.

The letter states: "Especially for you in South Africa it will be found that every step taken by Greek officials will have the support of the local Government. The fact is that Tomazos (one of the heads of the Greek Legation in this country) can recommend and secure the expulsion of a certain number of people without having to give reasons"—to the South African Government.

He can, says the letter, write a note to Government officials to say that he recommends certain individuals for deportation for their anti-Greek Government work.

The writer of the letter states that Mr. Tomazos has gained commendation from the Greek Government for his work in this respect. The letter adds that fifty Greeks at present in South Africa are under threat of deportation, and that this fact has already been printed in an Athens newspaper.

THE ELECTION STRUGGLE

THE NATS. IN THE TRANSVAAL

JOHANNESBURG.

WITH May 26 now officially confirmed as General Election Day, all parties have begun high-pressure propaganda campaigns.

Dr. Malan is going to lose the election. He knows it by how, as must his followers. It must also have dawned on his campaign allies—Havenaga and the Afrikaner Party and Ossewa-Brandwag he carries with him, and his only slightly less close allies, Colonel Stallard and the Miles-Cadman clique.

But what's important is that the Nationalist defeat should be conclusive enough to bound Malan and his bankrupt racialism from public life. To that end, EVERY VOICE COUNTS.

When did their imminent defeat first dawn on the Nationalists? It is difficult to say. They have recovered from the outcome of the war. Then they hoped for an early election, and in preparation for it, whipped their campaign to a peak. The longer it did not last, the more rapidly it slipped. By now it has almost faded out, and can't gather momentum again. The effort has left "Die Transvaler" and the Nationalist Party here flat.

RACE BARRIER Part of this premature campaign was the usual racial-bait technique. The boycott of Indian traders was thought to be an inspired medium. The whole movement is now as dead as a dodo, and long past reviving.

Industrialisation is proceeding at too fast a pace for the Nationalist Party. Farmers in their Free State stronghold are experiencing a great wave of prosperity. Good was discovered just in time; their land values are shooting up; and many farmers are riding on the crest of a prosperity wave.

The Malan-Havenaga coalition is not going at all well. Malan and Havenaga personally don't "hit it off." This lack of friendliness extends right through the ranks of both parties. But the source of the trouble lies deeper. Certain Nationalist circles, not yet reconciled to the idea of the coalition, feel the agreement is helping to make the Ossewa-Brandwag a force again, and has to climb back to the political bandwagon. A rival it has long been. One does not help a rival to get seats it would never win by itself.

The agreement was difficult to conclude. It is rumored that Havenaga stalked out of one Cape Town session with Malan, and had to be persuaded to join the discussions again.

Trouble has now flared up around the veto question. In its election talks with the Labour Party, the United Party tried to impose a veto on Labour Party candidates. The Labour Party resisted this to an extent, although not entirely. The Afrikaner Party's resistance was not successful.

"Apartheid" Is Not God's Word

JOHANNESBURG.—The Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church, at present in session in Pretoria, has rejected a report from a special committee of the church seeking to prove that the policy of "apartheid" is according to the Scriptures and God's word.

The Rev. Ben Marais declared that all members of the church felt seriously in favour of "apartheid." But the report suffered from fundamental contradictions. The Assessor of the Church, Domine P. J. Viljoen, said: "We have attempted to prove on the basis of the Word something which cannot be proved. . . . In the history of the Christian churches we have never justified or proved 'apartheid' on the basis of the Word."

He added he believed it was possible to justify "apartheid," but he must stop seeking grounds which we cannot find. The Synod of the Church is to go further into the matter of "apartheid," and the discussions will be held behind closed doors, reported "Die Transvaler."

No Houses For Jo'burg's Workers

JOHANNESBURG. — The Manager of the Johannesburg Non-European Affairs Department, Mr. Venables, has drawn attention to the chronic shortage of hostel accommodation for single Africans working in the city.

Existing hostels are hopelessly overcrowded, he said. Plans were being prepared for four more hostels, but in the meantime the Council was considering approaching the Government for former military hutments to be erected near Eastern Native Township and Denver.

Mr. Venables also proposes that certain mines whose compounds are not full should be asked to house single Africans as an emergency measure.

The day following this statement, Labour Councillor Reg Smith, who represents Malvern, told the Press: "The whole of my area is full of Natives who have no right to be there. I think it is a wrong policy to strain the patience of residents in my area by proposing to erect further hostels. I, and other Labour councillors, will fight this proposal tooth and nail." (Mr. Smith's ward adjoins the Denver area).

TO SPLIT OR NOT TO SPLIT MCCORMICK'S VIEW VS. E. S. SACHS

JOHANNESBURG.

JUST returned from the annual conference of the South African Trades and Labour Council, Mr. George McCormick's spokesman for the reactionaries, hastened to give interviews to a number of newspapers that have long fostered the idea of a cleavage between "Left and Right" in the Council.

Mr. McCormick complained that since the "militant wing" had now taken control, a number of unions were merely waiting for the result of a plebiscite on the affiliation of African trade unions. Should this go in favour of affiliation, as did the vote of conference, a number of "moderate" unions would secede from the Council and form their own co-ordinating body, said Mr. McCormick.

Mr. E. S. Sachs, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, said all the talk about "left" and "right" in the Trades and Labour Council was grossly exaggerated. There was no substance in the statement that the Council was threatened by an impending split, and that its fate hung in the balance.

For the first time in the history of the Council a democratic method of electing the national executive had been adopted.

"APARTHEID" POLICY

"A small group of delegates led by Mr. McCormick tried to impose a policy of 'apartheid' on the Council, but just as such a policy cannot work in the economic and industrial life of the country, so it cannot be applied within the trade union movement," said Mr. Sachs.

"Very wisely, this pernicious policy was turned down by an overwhelming majority at the Conference, and it will be turned down by probably an even greater majority in any plebiscite."

O'Connor's Witch-Hunt

JOHANNESBURG.

THIS week Councillor O'Connor, the Independent who specialises in red-baiting, is off on another witch-hunt.

He will suggest that the Johannesburg City Council begin a "purge" of suspected Communists from all Council departments. His motion calls for an instruction to heads of all departments that they report any indication of Communist activities among Europeans or non-Europeans, and that in the event of such activities being reported, immediate steps be taken to have the offending employees summarily dismissed from the council's service.

April 1948

"We can cry no more" —Say The People Of Alberton

JOHANNESBURG.

It is very difficult to get into the Alberton Location. The Superintendent has his African constables posted at the gate so that they may immediately stop any stranger who may try to enter. The Alberton Town Council has lots to hide from the outside world.



A backyard in Alberton location where people live in filthy and squalor and, on the right, a Municipal "house" — surely a disgrace to any municipality.



Conditions are such that one of the Africans living there was prompted to write to the "Guardian": "The Holy Scriptures tell us we are brothers. Are we really brothers? Or is the Bible telling us a lie? Or is it an ordinary document like the Sunday Times which is being printed by a man? There is only slavery in Alberton. Africans here have no right to have children. They must divorce their wives. We have no right of movement, no right to talk.

Living conditions in the location are dreadful. No streets, just muddy ditches, sub-tenants clustered round backyards, garbage cans overflowing, hardly any taps, most primitive sanitary arrangements. And municipal "houses" that must be the most economic and shameful project any town council in the country has ever thought up. They are square, box-like tin shanties with flat pieces of corrugated iron held down by stones in many cases, as roofs, altogether about 15 feet square. But that is not the worst thing about Alberton.

This is a location in a tiny town, sandwiched in between the industrial centres of Germiston and Johannesburg, and which inevitably acts as an overflow reserve for the thousands of workers who can find no homes in the overcrowded locations of the two towns, but live in Alberton and travel in to work every day. But they live in Alberton quite illegally because the Town Council regulations say only men and women who work in Alberton may live there, and all others are interlopers, trespassers, and not wanted. So the people of Alberton are hounded like dogs.

Police raids take place every week, often more than once. Always, in the early hours of the morning. And the interlopers are collected together and pushed into the pick-up vans. They plead guilty. They pay fines of 5 shillings or more. Some men and women have been known to have been

arrested three or four times in one week, and each time to have paid heavy fines. They pay rent to live in the location, and periodically they swell the coffers of the Town Council by paying for breaches of this regulation. They go on breaking it, and paying, month after month. There is nothing else they can do. They have nowhere else to live.

Not only must the head of the family work in Alberton it is to have the right to live there, but so too must his wife. If she works anywhere else she may not live with her husband and family. The sanctity of the family is precious, say the town's lawmakers.

How many white people live in Pretoria, Springs and Germiston and yet work in Johannesburg, the Africans of Alberton ask bitterly. "We have cried about these things in our lives until we can cry no more."

"FORCED UPON THE INDIAN COMMUNITY"

Protest From Council For Asiatic Rights

JOHANNESBURG.

The deliberate breaking of the provincial barriers is a move forced upon the Indian community because it has no other means of voicing its deep grievances, says the Council for Asiatic Rights in a statement that issued on the prosecutors of Drs. Dadoo and Nalekar and the Indian community.

"People cannot be bound by laws in which they have no say. This is a principle established in Britain and elsewhere as far back as the time of King John," says the Council. "When all other avenues of redress are denied to them by their rulers, a people is compelled to take political measures to enforce the changing of laws which oppress them."

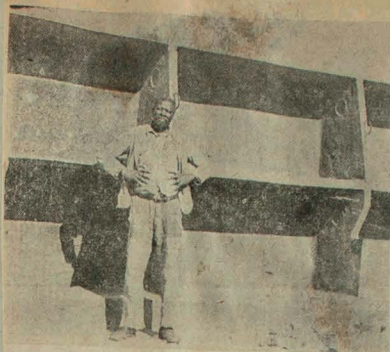
Three Candidates For Native Senate Seat

JOHANNESBURG. — To date, three candidates have announced their intention of standing for the Transvaal-Free State Senator's seat, under the 1936 Native Representation Act.

They are the Rev. A. W. Bixall, Chairman of the National Council for the Deaf and an executive member of the National Council for the Blind, Mr. William Ballinger, of the Friends of Africa Society, and Col. H. O. Sayer, who was Deputy Director of Non-European Army Services.

Senator H. M. Basner is not seeking re-election.

AN AFRICAN MINER'S "HOME"



This is a concrete bunk, on which an African miner has to sleep.

This picture was taken at the Croesus Compound on the Main Reef road, just outside Orlando, where the compound is being dismantled as the shaft it served only a short while ago is now broken out, and being closed down.

Normally, bunks are enclosed in long rows of compounds, themselves enclosed by a high wall and quite inaccessible except by the main entrance to the compound. The outer walls have now been knocked down and the long rows of bunks are visible.

REDCOL SCHEME CRITICISED

Trade Unionists' Views

JOHANNESBURG.

FIRST goods for sale under the official Redcol scheme are likely to be in Johannesburg and Reef shops within a matter of days.

The public awaits this scheme, already characterised as one for the "lower-income groups", with more than a little doubt. Trade unionists describe Redcol, bluntly as "eye-wash", "an electioneering stunt" and a "phony" method of trying to bring down the cost of living.

Mr. E. S. Sachs, of the Garment Workers' Union, said it was an entirely voluntary scheme left to the morality and decency of the profiteers. It amounted to Mr. Mubet pleading with rapacious manufacturers and merchants: "Please, boys, do something about it. . . only a little."

MR. GELB'S VIEW

Mr. A. Gelb, national secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Union, said that if Mr. Mubet really wanted to reduce the cost of living, he would have to give instructions to his price controllers to reduce profits on numerous commodities.

It was absolutely ridiculous to appeal to people running their businesses for profit to cut their profits themselves.

"I, for one," he said, "cannot visualise any manufacturer deliberately reducing his profits out of the goodness of his heart."



Mr. E. S. Sachs, general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union.

Mr. Gelb thought Redcol would develop into a stunt whereby manufacturers would sell goods they could not get rid of at current prices.

Mr. Gelb drew the attention of The Guardian to the fact that on

Indians In Rhodesia

JOHANNESBURG. — Indians in the Rhodesias fully realise their own status is largely dependent on the outcome of the struggle of Indians in the Union against the Ghetto Act and similar laws.

This was told to the "Guardian" by Mr. Nana Sita, who together with Maulvi I. A. Cachalia and Messrs. A. H. Bhat and K. Pillay has spent the last three months on a friendship mission to Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Portuguese East Africa.

Mr. Nana Sita said that although in many parts there was no legal colour bar, it operated in practice. In Salisbury, Indians were prevented from acquiring property in so-called European areas.

A bill sponsored by private members in the councils of Salisbury and Bulawayo aims to establish separate areas for Indians on the lines of the South African Ghetto Act.

Mr. Nana Sita was confident any such move would meet with strong opposition from the Indian people of the Rhodesias.

April 1 the cannot sub-committee on cost of living agreed to an increase in the price of petrol of 2d. a gallon. "South Africa," he said, "uses £300 million worth of petrol a year. I wonder what enormous profits the oil companies must have made on their reserve stocks, all of which suddenly had their value increased by 2d. a gallon."

REAL RACKETS

Mr. Gelb told The Guardian of some of the real cost-of-living rackets which no Redcol scheme will ever touch.

He gave the example of men's clothing produced in South African factories at the cost, say of £100. By the time these garments reach the consumer he is paying £210 for them—an increase of 110 per cent. This is in spite of the price-control regulations, which are supposed to limit the manufacturer's profits to 22½ per cent, plus 2½ per cent for advertising and 7½ per cent, for selling—a total of 32½ per cent.

TEA RACKET

Then the tea racket. In February, 1947, as a result of the decision of the tea planters not to renew their contract with the British Government, control on tea was lifted overnight, the price shot up 2s. a pound and tea packers in South Africa made a fortune on their reserve stocks.

When coffee packers anticipate a rise in prices in Brazil or Kenya, they immediately increase the price of coffee already in stock, although the new scale of prices will only become operative many months later.

These are some of the clues to the steady rise in the cost of living, said Mr. Gelb. "The Redcol scheme can do absolutely nothing about them."

BITTER ELECTION CONTESTS

Close Thing In Some Transvaal Seats

JOHANNESBURG.

THIS general election is plainly only the first hurdle in a long and bitter fight between political groups in the country. A new framework of political parties may well emerge after the election; and few observers these days doubt that there will be some new reorientation of policy and resorting of support.

The issues and methods on which parties may enter a new cycle are being made clear in this pre-election campaign. The Nationalists are going all-out in an effort to split the United Party on the colour question. The United Party is striving to drive a wedge between the Transvaal "extremists" of the Nationalist Party—the Eric Louw-Strijdom group—and the Cape Malan, Bremer and Bruckner de Villiers group.

The recent O.B. pamphlet has been seen by many as a crisis in the relations between the Ossewabrandwag and the Nationalist Party which may jeopardise effective co-operation of the Nationalist-Afrikaner party alliance.

The pamphlet from Van Rensburg to members of the O.B. was interpreted by the "Transvaal" as discouraging O.B. followers from voting for Nationalist candidates. It dealt with the vetoing by Dr. Malan of the Afrikaner Party's candidates at Brakpan and Rooiemoort, on the grounds that these candidates were O.B. members. The pamphlet called this vetoing "an unparalleled lust for revenge" directed not only against the O.B., but also finally against the Afrikaner Party.

It is difficult to find fundamental differences between the Nationalists and Ossewabrandwag. No great cleavage of principles is evident. It is rather a conflict of personalities between Malan and Van Rensburg, both of whom aspire to the leadership of Nationalist-Afrikanerdom. While both these leaders are intransigent, a reconciliation between their groups is impossible.

U.P. AND MALAN

The United Party has not yet found a candidate for Ploegberg to oppose Dr. Malan. According to the general secretary of the United Party, Mr. Oosthuizen, two suggested nominations are still in the hands of the Ploegberg branch of the United Party.

At Ladysburg, Mr. Havenza will be opposed by a local United Party man, Mr. J. J. Fourie.

The United Party is also still looking for an opponent for Mr. P. J. van Nuyrop in the Mosses Bas constituency.

Issues which serve as petty annoyances among the electorate and which might influence their

OTHER CONTESTS

Another stiff contest is likely to take place in Pietersburg where Mr. Tom Naude, Nationalist director of the Alpha companies, is fighting Mr. M. A. C. Donovan of the United Party. This is a tough and go constituency.

In Krugersdorp the Labour renegade Mr. M. J. van den Berg is fighting United Party man Mr. A. H. Malan. Krugersdorp Mr. West is the decisive factor. Will the workers who voted Mr. Van den Berg into the House desert him now that he has turned from Labour?

Another constituency where it will be a close thing is Johannesburg West where S. J. Thyby and Dr. C. E. N. Ross, leader of the Nationalist group in the Johannesburg City Council, are fighting it out.

(News by Ruth First, 420, Empire Buildings, Johannesburg.)

temper at the polls are such things as the increase of 2d. a gallon on the price of petrol; and particularly in working-class areas, the present shortage of bread in many centres. The price of meat is also likely to go up by 1d. a pound shortly.

STIFF FIGHT

In a number of Transvaal constituencies some important election fights are developing.

Probably one of the stiffest will be at Alberton where Marais Steyn, assistant general secretary of the United Party, is fighting the editor of "Die Transvaal", Dr. Verwoerd. Mr. Steyn was previously connected with public relations work for the Chamber of Mines. His opponent is one of the ablest Nationalist Party members here, with a profound influence in policy-making circles. He represents the more extreme group. The Nationalist Party is likely to back him with most of the organisational strength and assistance that can muster in the province.

In Mayfair, where the Labour vote is of importance, Henry Tucker is fighting Nationalist J. H. Brill. It is noteworthy that here the Nationalist Party is settling down to bread and butter politics and propaganda instead of, as is usual, beating the colour drum. The result in this constituency will serve as an interesting barometer to the support the United Party can muster among the workers on these economic issues.

The Afrikaner Party counts as one of its "safe" seats, Vryheid in Natal. Here its candidate, Mr. G. J. Fullard, is fighting Dr. S. Steenkamp (United Party). From the point of view of Afrikaner Party support this is a unique constituency in Natal, and it would be a big psychological victory for the Afrikaner Party if it could win the seat. In this constituency the coalworkers play an important role. This fight will be a test of the strength and meaning of the United-Labour Party alliance, if the coalworkers supporting the Labour Party throw their weight behind Dr. Steenkamp.

PIROW'S PLAN FOR MALAN

JOHANNESBURG.

Pirow advises the Nationalist Party to stop attempting to define "apartheid" and using it as an election cry. Instead they should substitute for it the war against Communism. This he regards as the Nationalist Party's "last chance to win the elections."

This is the policy Pirow proposes in "Die Nuwe Orde". He goes on to say that the sympathies which the left-wing of Smuts' party revealed during World War II throw suspicion on his party. In the struggle against Bolshevism nobody who has not wholeheartedly and in good time chosen sides against the enemy can be left in a high position. "Can we trust General Smuts to remove such people from his Cabinet and his administration?" asks Pirow.

SENATE CANDIDATES UNDER 1936 ACT

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. WILLIAM BALINGER, one of the three announced candidates for the Transvaal-Free State Senate seat under the 1936 Natives' Representation Act, has declared that he is opposed to this Act as "being not in accord with the four freedoms promised to those who halted the surge forward of Fascism during the fateful years of 1939 to 1946."

He will stand for election, he said, on the aims and objects of the Society of the Friends of Africa, of which he has been secretary since 1934. In brief these aims are "the abolition of discrimination on race and colour; the application of principles of political and civil liberty enjoyed by Europeans to all races; the strengthening of the political economic and social organisation of the Africans, Coloureds and Asiatic races in South Africa."

Mr. Ballinger told the Guardian that he wished to see substituted for the 1936 Act, "Something akin to the old Cape Native franchise." But this limited franchise should be extended to all the four provinces. The terms of a new act should be worked out in consultation with African leaders.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

Asked whether he supported the Transvaal-Free State People's Assembly for Votes for All, Mr. Ballinger said the Friends of Africa would be represented at the Assembly, and his candidature for the Senate would be guided by the findings of that Assembly.

Mr. Ballinger has announced that he made sure before offering himself as a candidate in the Senate elections, that Mr. H. M. Basner would not be seeking re-election. "If he had agreed to stand for re-election, I would not have opposed him."

He has said that he is not a member of any political party in South Africa. While in Britain he was a member of the British Labour Party. Mr. Ballinger came to the Union as an adviser on trade unions and co-operative organisations of Africans and other non-Europeans.

ARMY RECORD

Another candidate for this Senate seat, Colonel H. O. Sayer, is reported to be already touring the Transvaal. During the war he was Deputy-Director of non-European Army Services, and was later connected with non-European demobilisation.

Prior to his army post, Colonel Sayer is believed to have been connected with the Native Recruiting Corporation.

BARBED WIRE FENCE BETWEEN MICHAEL SCOTT AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICANS

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Reverend Michael Scott travelled 15,000 miles from South Africa to Lake Success and back to attend the U.N.O. sessions on South-West Africa. He has been camped in South-West Africa for the last two months, with a barbed wire fence and permit restrictions preventing him from reporting on the United Nations' decisions to the African chiefs and people who elected him to plead their case.

In South-West Africa, an irate farmer wrote to a local paper threatening to shoot Michael Scott. He said he would resort to violence to get Mr. Scott out of the way, even if it meant he might be put in a concentration camp.

Questions were asked in the South-West Assembly about the Reverend Scott's presence in the territory. His application for a permit to enter the African reserves and locations is still "in abeyance", according to the authorities.

He was refused permission to show the official United Nations documentary film, "The People's Charter", which stresses the need for all nations and races to work together. For four hours only he was allowed to enter the Gobabis Reserve to talk to a senior Herero chief.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT

He has now returned to the Union to try to make another attempt to get a permit to enter

the South-West African reserves. He told the "Guardian" that the people on whose behalf he had been sent to the United Nations appeared to know nothing of the South-West Africa debate last year, and nothing of the fate of their petition against their territory's incorporation into the Union.

"There is something quite sinister and ludicrous about all these attempts to stop from being heard the voices of these Africans, as well as my voice and those of millions of people overseas, white and black, who are becoming conscious of our dark stark in South Africa," said the Reverend Scott.

"Thank God the Africans can still laugh as well as weep over some of the things being done to them," he continued. "I was good to hear them laugh after having travelled some 30,000 miles across Africa, Europe and the Atlantic and back again, then to find oneself camping in a thorn bush three feet on the other side of a rickety wire fence not un-symbolic of our racial policies."

Reverend Scott said the threat to shoot him was only one of the many attempts at intimidation made while he was camping in South-West.

He said he would continue to urge that the Africans of South-West should be given the opportunity to go overseas to state their own case before the United Nations, as the Herero chief he saw told him they still wished to be allowed to do.

BIG SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

Election Of Delegates

JOHANNESBURG.

FROM all sections of the Non-European people of the Transvaal, and Free State sponsors for the People's Assembly for Votes for All are coming forward. Conferences of sporting, religious, political and other organisations are being held prior to the Assembly to elect delegates.

Assembly organisers have this week appealed to churchmen to observe Sunday, May 17, as a "Votes for All" Day by preaching to their congregations on the vote and democratic liberties.

School-teachers and principals have been asked to co-operate in a special "Letters to Home" Week from May 4 to 11 when scholars and students in all parts of the two provinces will be asked to write letters home as part of their school work, telling of the Assembly and explaining to people in their home towns why they should send delegates to Johannesburg the week-end before the general election. Prizes will be presented to the best letter-writers.

Meanwhile, the headquarters of the Assembly is arranging to send teams of volunteers touring the two provinces next week, holding meetings on the Assembly and explaining its significance.

FULL SUPPORT

In one week the Transvaal African National Congress, the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, the Transvaal Indian Congress and Passive Resistance Council pledged full support to the Assembly.

On April 25 the Transvaal Indian Congress will hold a special conference of its branches. Among the matters to be discussed will be the People's Assembly. Congress delegates to the Assembly have already been announced. They are Advocate D. U. Mistry

and Mr. J. Nananah. Delegates of the Passive Resistance Council will be Mauri Cachalia and Mr. Nana Sita.

The Garment Workers' Union number two Branch is to convene a conference of all Coloured organisations in the Transvaal within the next fortnight to rally support for the Assembly.

The Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions pledges "full moral, financial and practical" support to the Assembly. This resolution was adopted this week, and is preliminary to a campaign among trade unions and at factories for the election of workers' delegates.

Advisory Boards in both provinces have been asked to call meetings of residents to elect delegates.

Assembly organisers, Mr. P. Q. Vundla, has issued an appeal for the prompt election of delegates, and the sending of their names to the central Assembly office.

SPONSORS FOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. Paul Mosaka, Native Representative Councilor for the urban areas of the Transvaal and Free State, tells "The Guardian" he fully agrees that this is the time to launch a campaign for full citizenship rights, since the whole question of rights for the Non-Europeans has become so pronounced with the publication of the Nationalist "apartheid" plan. He thought such a campaign was also necessary in answer to the Fagan Commission which had laid emphasis on the direct representation of Africans on town councils, a matter of great importance to Africans in urban areas.

Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, in a personal message on the Assembly said: "The People's Assembly should open a new era of struggle for full franchise for the millions of Non-Europeans in this country. It must be supported by every Non-European and European progressive throughout the land."

MORE SPONSORS

New sponsors for the People's Assembly who have come forward in the past week include Councilor H. Phooko of the Ciskei

Bunga, M. Dipheko-of-the-African Building Workers' Union, J. N. Butelei of the Eastern Native Township Advisory Board, S. K. Skenjana, J. M. Kunnalo of the Western Native Township Advisory Board, A. Mahala of the African Tin Workers' Union, G. Makabeni of the African Clothing Workers' Union, Ronald Kweyama, E. P. Moretsele, A. Mtshana, Dan Twala of the Bantu Sports Club, and T. J. J. Ntwasa.

From the Coloured community sponsors include Messrs. E. R. Kelly, H. J. Willenfeldt, T. Hendricks, S. McBride and R. C. Haupt of the Coloured section of the B.E.S.A., A. L. Klink, chairman of the Coloured and Indian Blind and Deaf Association; Mrs. E. Pieterse and H. Baker of the Coloured Women's Association, Mr. T. Allie, secretary of the Cape Malay Association; J. Klink, treasurer of the Transvaal Rugby Football Union, and S. Niken, secretary of the African People's Organisation.

Further Indian sponsors include Mrs. Suriakala Patel and Mr. S. Jooma, secretary of the Middleburg branch of the Transvaal Indian Congress.

UNO Association Not Allowed In Togoland

JOHANNESBURG. — Mr. D. Awuma, an African working in the office of a Togoland District Commissioner, who tried to form a local United Nations Association, was summoned by the acting Senior Commissioner and told: "You've got to choose between working for the United Nations and remaining in my office."

When Mr. Awuma refused to cease publicity work on behalf of the United Nations he was dismissed from his post. He was told by the Commissioner that nobody working in his (the Commissioner's) office would be allowed to work for the United Nations.

Mr. Awuma writes that in spite of this dismissal and the financial hardships imposed on him, he is continuing to work on behalf of the United Nations. "I have to walk many hard miles often, and sometimes I carry my own luggage while tramping to meet chiefs and people and lecture.

"I have even already crossed (from British Togoland) to French Togoland, where I contacted the Governor and his high officials who received me and enthusiastically welcomed the idea of extending the association to French Togoland."

Rev. D. C. Thompson Re-elected

The Reverend D. C. Thompson was recently unanimously re-elected chairman of the African Mine Workers' Union Organising Fund Committee, on which he has been active since its inception.



The committee's annual general meeting, protested against the continued use of War Measure 142B, which deprives African miners of the right to organise, and against the proposed introduction of the Industrial Conciliation (Natives) Bill, which will virtually outlaw the African Mine Workers' Union.

The Reverend Thompson is also a director of the "Guardian."



A general view of the crowd of Indians and Europeans on the Natal-Transvaal border, just before the batch of registered by Mr. Manilal Gandhi (fourth from the left in picture below) crossed into the Transvaal on April 11.



No Confidence In Springs Advisory Board

SPRINGS. — The residents of Payneville location have passed a vote of no confidence in their Advisory Board.

This follows the resignation of the Board chairman in protest against the Board's persistent violation of the resident's decisions.

The residents have elected a deputation to interview the Native Commissioner and Council officials in connection with the carrying out of resolutions passed by the people.

FIRST AFRICAN PROSECUTOR

JOHANNESBURG. — The first African assistant public prosecutor in the Union has been appointed in the Umata Magistrate's Court, in the Transkei. He is Mr. M. Mbuli.

This appointment was announced by the assistant chief magistrate, opening the 18th session of the Transkei Bunge.

REDCOL LABELS

JOHANNESBURG. — Redcol labels at 6s. 6d. a 1000 and printed by the Government Printer are now being issued by the price controller. Observers are asking whether the prices of these official labels will help to reduce or increase the cost of articles to which they will have to be attached.

Meanwhile the Redcol is barely limping along. Few official Redcol goods are on sale in Johannesburg shops. Many shops do not yet know how the scheme is to be applied, and how the profits they are allowed to make will be fixed.

D.R.C. Is Against Baby Shows

JOHANNESBURG. — The Dutch Reformed Church now wants direct representation on the South African Broadcasting Corporation. This will be taken up with the S.A.B.C. by a special commission appointed by the Natal Synod of the Church.

Another resolution passed by this Synod deprecated the growing tendency of holding beauty competitions and baby shows.

BARDPOULOS TO BE DEPORTED

Minister of Justice Changes His Mind

JOHANNESBURG.—Last Wednesday night the house of Mr. P. Bardopoulos, the Greek anti-fascist threatened with deportation to Greece, was raided by the South African Police. The Minister of Justice, Mr. H. G. Lawrence, has since stated that Mr. Bardopoulos must leave South Africa immediately.

In a letter to Mr. Bardopoulos, dated February 18, the Minister stated that the deportation order will not be reversed and must be carried out. The Greek Minister has refused to make Mr. Bardopoulos' passport valid for any country in Europe other than Greece.

Two weeks ago Minister Lawrence promised a deputation of the Springbok Legion and the Trades and Labour Council that all action against Bardopoulos would be stayed until a full investigation had been conducted. Presumably that "investigation" has now been completed.

The Southern Transvaal local committee of the Trades and Labour Council wired the Minister immediately after the raid, to express its amazement at this police action and urge the Minister to stay all action against Bardopoulos. It is understood that Mr. Bardopoulos will apply to the courts for an injunction preventing the Government from deporting him until his case has been heard.

Among Greek anti-Fascists here there is growing concern at the seemingly close liaison between Greek Royalist circles in Pretoria and the South African Government's Immigration authorities. There is little doubt that a "black list" of Greek anti-Fascists has been prepared and is in use.

The Greek Consul, M. Phrantzes, is alleged to have told Mr. Bardopoulos only a few weeks ago: "Anybody who is a Communist is not a Greek."

LIST GROWING

The list of Greek democrats to be deported back to Greece, where they face certain imprisonment if not death, is growing. Growing, too, is the number of Greeks with dubious political records who are coming to South Africa. Large numbers have visas enabling them to spend temporary "holidays" in the Union. But after some time they are still to be found here, and no one makes much fuss about their right to remain.

Not a Crime To Kill Partisan P.O.W.s

—U.S. Tribunal

JOHANNESBURG.—The decision by an American war crimes tribunal in Nuremberg that the killing of captured members of partisan bands was not a war crime is described by Mr. E. J. Burford, secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union, as a "travesty of justice and one which legalises the murder of patriots engaged in defending their country against a bestial and hated invader."

The tribunal in its judgement said that Balkan partisans could not be generally regarded as qualified for belligerent status under international law. Members of these bands had no right to be treated as prisoners of war.

Interviewed by the "Guardian," Mr. Burford commented that this precedent would undoubtedly have wide repercussions later. "It is yet another manifestation of the utter unreality of present day United States politicians, for it is obvious that the decision was made by men who could not imagine the depths of suffering of the victims, and the heights of viciousness reached by the Nazi invaders. The German officers accused of killing partisans should be handed over to the Yugoslav authorities."

"It is certain the verdict will be greeted in the Balkans as yet another manifestation of the tenderness to Nazi war criminals which is fast becoming the hallmark of the Western Powers. It is trust it will confirm their misapprehension of their war-time allies' bona fides."

Govt. Official Told to Squash Claims For Unemployment Pay

JOHANNESBURG.—An official of the Department of Labour's unemployment section is alleged to have stated in the office of the Leather Workers' Union: "I have been instructed by the Johannesburg Labour Department's Unemployment Insurance Fund to squash as many claims for unemployment as possible."

This allegation is contained in two signed sworn affidavits submitted to the Trades and Labour Council local committee by two women employees of the Leather Workers' Union, who say they heard him make this statement in their presence.

He was in their office to investigate certain claims for unemployment insurance submitted by African members of their union. He is alleged to have added that the Department in Johannesburg was so slow in assessing the claims of workers that most times it took at least ten weeks to return the assessment form to his office. This was the main cause for the delay in paying workers their unemployment pay.

The local committee of the Trades and Labour Council has protested to

the Minister, on the basis of these affidavits, and has demanded to know the official policy of his department.

W.F.T.U. TRADE DEPARTMENTS

JOHANNESBURG.—The World Federation of Trade Unions has submitted to the S.A. Trades and Labour Council the text of its draft regulations for its trade departments, to be established in the near future.

These trade departments will be international committees which will organise specific industries and deal with all matters affecting them.

Any trade union affiliating to the W.F.T.U. will be allocated to the relevant trade department, and this will entitle the trade union to participation in international conferences of its own department.

MINISTER OF LABOUR CRITICISED

JOHANNESBURG.—At the annual general meeting of their union garment workers protested against interference by the Minister of Labour and his department in collective agreements reached between workers and employers.

A resolution called on trade unions to take energetic steps to ensure freedom of organisation and collective bargaining for all workers.

Discussing the Geneva Tariff Agreement, maximum protection for South African manufacturing industries was demanded, "to help industrial development, increase employment and improve the standards of all workers." The Government was asked not to ratify the Geneva Tariff Agreement.

Miss Anna Scheepers was unanimously re-elected president of the union. Vice-president is Mr. G. van der Walt. A central executive committee of 20 members was elected. It will hold office for the next three years.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF WORKING YOUTH

JOHANNESBURG.—An International Young Workers' Conference will be held in August by the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

The conference will discuss conditions of young workers and peasants, legislation concerning young people, problems of apprenticeship, education, and democratic rights.

It will adopt a "Charter for the Rights of Youth" which will be addressed to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and will be used by youth movements all over the world as a guide in their work for the rights of youth.

The S.A. Trades and Labour Council received an invitation to participate. All affiliated unions are being asked whether they support the sending of a trade union delegation to the conference, and to state what financial assistance they are prepared to give.



Not permitted to do trade union work on the premises of certain large firms in Johannesburg, organisers of the National Union of Distributive Workers address workers coming out for lunch through a

microphone operating from a car just outside in the street. Here Katie Kagn and Beula Page, national and Johannesburg secretaries, address the workers and appeal to them to join their union.

"ANTI-COMMUNISM ONLY HELPS THE FASCISTS," SAYS DANIE DU PLESSIS

JOHANNESBURG.

"AN anti-Communist campaign by United Party leaders in this election can have only one effect: to prepare the ground for Malan, Pirow and Van Rensburg to cash in on that very campaign," said Mr. Danie du Plessis, Communist candidate in the Troyeville constituency, in an interview with The Guardian.

Mr. du Plessis said the voters wanted to know why prices were so high and the cost of living mounting upwards, and why there were no houses for the workers. These were the issues in which they were interested, and the issues on which to go to them in this election.

"No warmongering policy can sweep up support for any political party in this country," he said. "Those who have been to war have seen the terrible devastation it brings. Those who did not go to war did not support it in any case. The people do not want war."

"All this talk of the third war in this generation is an effort to make them believe war cannot be averted or avoided. This is a lie. If every nation carried out the decision of the United Nations, instead of flouting them, that would be the first sound basis for peace."

Mr. Du Plessis said it was popular today to talk of a struggle between Western "democracy" or "civilisation" and Communism. "These high-sounding phrases cannot hide the real struggle which is between imperialism and Communism."

The people had expected strong action against Fascist groups which sought to undermine democracy in this country. No such action was taken against them. "Dadoo and Naicker were once refused permits to go to India. Pirow was not refused permission to leave the Union, although he went to Britain with the proclaimed purpose of meeting and discussing the Fascist movement with Oswald Mosley."

The time had come, said Mr. du Plessis, for the workers and all progressives to unite for peace, and for an end to warmongering as an election platform.

DEADLOCK CONTINUES

JOHANNESBURG.

On the question of the relationship between the Union and India and Pakistan, the secretarial report to the provincial conference of the Transvaal Indian Congress records that the deadlock resulting from the passing of the Ghetto Act still continues.

Both India and Pakistan are rigidly enforcing the economic sanctions and have no High Commission in the Union. The reciprocity act against South African Europeans is in force in the two dominions.

"Twenty-two months of passive resistance have, however, brought about one significant change. The Union Government and particularly its Prime Minister do not say any longer that a Round Table Conference on a Governmental basis will amount to interference in the domestic affairs of the Union."

"We welcome this change and will support the calling of a Round Table Conference without delay. If General Smuts is really sincere there is nothing to prevent him making a direct approach to the government of India and Pakistan through the usual channels open to him."

HARMEI LAUNCHES BLITZ CAMPAIGN IN HILLBROW

JOHANNESBURG.

"THROUGHOUT the world, and in this election too, the people are being called upon to choose between progress and reaction, peace and war, and Socialism and Capitalism. More and more they are turning to Socialism," said Michael Harmel, Communist candidate in the Hillbrow constituency, speaking at an election meeting.

This meeting, held on a street corner with a loudspeaker, was one of a blitz campaign of area meetings with which the Communist candidate and his supporters are storming Hillbrow.

"Big Business is getting very scared, hence all the war talk in our papers, but it doesn't realise that the march of history cannot be stopped."

"Even in the Italian elections, in the face of intimidation by American bombers and battleships, threats of starvation for the Italian people, the bribe of Trieste and the intervention by the Vatican, the Popular Front still maintained its position and scored 39 per cent. of the entire vote."

"In South Africa domination by the same Big Business means ever-rising costs, poverty, slums, disease. People living on fixed incomes are finding it daily more difficult to make ends meet. The cheap-labour policy of the Chamber of Mines and the Government spells poverty for the majority of the people."

ANTI-MALAN

Dealing with his own election contest, Mr. Harmel said in his constituency there was no Nationalist candidate, but a straight choice between the United Party and Communist candidates. "The way to strike a blow against

the Nationalist Party is to vote for the most anti-Malan candidate."

"However progressive Dr. Friedman may be as an individual," he added, "he is bound by his Party and tied by the United Party caucus. As such he must share responsibility for the reactionary policy of the United Party on so many questions."

NAT. VICTORY WOULD BRING HITLERISM TO S.A. - TVL INDIANS

JOHANNESBURG.

"A VICTORY for the Nationalist Party at the polls would definitely put the clock back. What Germany experienced under the Hitler regime would be experienced by the South African people under Malan's regime should such a regime ever be established here." Thus comments the report of the joint secretaries of the Transvaal Indian Congress, presented to the provincial conference of Congress branches held in Johannesburg last weekend.

The report adds that as far as the non-European people are concerned, the Nationalists promise what would amount to a slave state.

"But," the report goes on, "the talk of stamping out racialism in South Africa so vigorously put forward by the United Party has little meaning for us in actual practice. Only recently the Prime Minister spoke in Bloemfontein of the need to maintain white supremacy in the Union, and he joined the warmongers of the world in trying to stamper the country into a war panic to assist him and his party to win the election."

"We want to make it clear that fascism could come from the United Party itself and that the only safeguard against this creed is the extension of democratic rights to the South African people as a whole."

The secretarial report states that the Indian people will not allow their names to go forward on to a communal roll, but that they will launch a positive campaign for full franchise rights.

"We are pleased that we are not alone in this demand. The Non-European South Africa are united on the question of the vote."

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

The report then refers to the calling of the first Transvaal-Free State People's Assembly for Votes for All, and states that the Congress executive has pledged full support to the Assembly. This conference of the Transvaal

Indian Congress was opened by Dr. A. B. Xuma, president-general of the African National Congress.

WAR-MONGERS CONDEMNED BY T.L.C. COMMITTEE

JOHANNESBURG.—In a special resolution against war-mongering, the Southern Transvaal local committee of the South African Trades and Labour Council expresses strong condemnation of recent utterances by prominent statesmen that war, and particularly with the Soviet Union, is inevitable and imminent.

The committee says that it is now barely three years since the end of the War II in which the working class were the main sufferers, and they would be in any future war.

"We firmly regard the statements of war-mongers as being deliberate attempts to stimulate the idea of war in the minds of the people and to foster hatred among the nations of the world."

"With the atrocities and suffering of the people still fresh in our minds we condemn these actions as being damaging to the interests and welfare of the people of South Africa and of the world."

The Southern Transvaal committee represents 90,000 organised workers.

MANILAL GANDHI TO RECRUIT RESISTERS

JOHANNESBURG.—The Joint Passive Resistance Council of Natal and the Transvaal met over the week-end and resolved to continue with the struggle against the provincial barriers.

Mr. Manilal Gandhi has been appointed as recruiting officer of the Natal Council in place of Mr. S. V. Reddy, who has been summoned to face a charge of aiding and abetting the resisters.

PAYNEVILLE WOMEN'S FEARS

JOHANNESBURG.

Women in the Payneville location, Springs, are alarmed that from the beginning of May the pass system may be extended to them.

These rumours have been denied by the superintendent of the location who told "The Guardian" that the Springs Municipality is taking over the registration of passes from the Government in May. This will not mean that women will have to carry passes. It will only mean that the Springs Native Revenue Account will derive money from the passes and not the Government.

MINEWORKERS' UNION CONDEMNED FOR LEAVING T.L.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

"THERE can be only one trade union co-ordinating body if there is to be such a body at all. We can never support parallelism in the trade union movement." This was the comment of Mr. C. H. Crompton of the Iron Moulders' Society on the decision of the Mineworkers' Union last week to leave the South African Trades and Labour Council, and try to call a conference of "conservative" unions to discuss forming a new trade union body open only to registered unions.

This "bomb" which the Mineworkers' Union has thrown into the trade union movement has turned out a damp squib. Far from shaking the Trades and Labour Council, it has merely exposed the tactics of the Mineworkers' Union in withdrawing from the Council in order to exert pressure in connection with the plebiscite on African trade unions. In effect, the Mineworkers' Union is saying, "We are leaving unless you vote the way we want in the plebiscite." (The plebiscite decided upon by the last annual conference of the Council, is on the question of whether or not African (unregistered) unions should be allowed to affiliate to the Council.)

"If the African is going to come into industry, as he evidently is, he must come in on the same basis as all workers," said Mr. Crompton, adding that as far as he was aware the Society of Iron Moulders would remain within the present Council.

Mr. A. Merkel, of the Furniture Workers' Industrial Union, said this breakaway was the wrong step to take. He saw no reason why the new set-up in the Trades and Labour Council should not function very successfully.

NOT THE FIRST TIME

Mr. I. Wolfson of the Tailoring Workers' Industrial Union said this was not the first time the Mineworkers had broken away. "We are losing count of the number of times this union has walked out and then come back again."

"He thought that rather than fight on the colour issue the Mineworkers' Union should put up a fight for better wages and conditions. "This will earn it a place in the trade union movement. At the present time it is the most backward, reactionary and conservative miners' union in the whole world."

Mr. Wolfson said it was obvious the last Trades and Labour Council conference that the great majority of delegates wanted a united trade union movement representing all workers.

"If African trade unions are to be 'krafted off', employers will be able to make separate agreements with the African workers to the detriment of the skilled workers in registered trade unions. That is why the Trades and Labour Council has always allowed an open door to all bona fide trade unions, although the African unions have not always taken advantage of this policy."

STOOD FOR UNITY

Interviewed by The Guardian in Cape Town, Mr. W. H. Andrews, one of the foundation members of the S.A.T.L.C. said that for many years now, the reactionaries had been trying to force non-Europeans also, as far as possible, leftists, out of the Council. The Communist Party had always stood for unity in the trade union movement even when its members were in a hopeless minority.

"This policy has proved to be the correct one," said Mr. Andrews. "And while we don't rejoice in the breakaway, the Trades and Labour Council will go on."

Discussing the "conservative" unions' proposal to form another national trade union body, Mr. Andrews outlined the difficulties such a body would encounter in the international field.

"The Trades and Labour Council is recognised by the International Labour Office and the World Federation of Trade Unions, organisations which have no colour bar in their constitution," said Mr. Andrews. "Further, the I.L.O. also lays down that it will accept only those national organisations which not only have the greatest number of members, but which are the most representative of workers in the country."

"I think an organisation which will exclude African workers will find it extremely difficult to have its delegates accepted at I.L.O. conferences," he said.

NON-EUROPEAN COMMISSIONERS OF OATHS

JOHANNESBURG.—An African and a Coloured resident of Alexandra Township have been appointed Commissioners of Oaths by the Department of Justice. This is one of the first African appointments of this kind in the Transvaal, and one of the very few Coloured appointments. The new commissioners are Mr. T. D. Nel, who has been a teacher for the last 29 years and is now the vice-principal of the Alexandra Government Coloured School, and Mr. Dan W. B. Gumedé. Both are members of the Alexandra Health Committee and serve on the board of the Alexandra Health Centre and University Clinic.

Move to Summon S.A. Indian Congress

JOHANNESBURG.—Officials of the South African Indian Congress have been sent a letter by the secretaries of the Transvaal Indian Congress asking them to convene a meeting of the South African Indian Congress immediately with a view to fixing a date for a conference of the S.A.I.C.

The letter draws attention to the decision of the Cape and Supreme courts that the Transvaal councillors have not been validly elected, and goes on to say that "the political situation in the country demands the immediate convening of a South African Indian Congress Conference." It is suggested that notice convening the conference be given within 14 days of the date of this Transvaal letter.

People's Assembly

"OUR ONLY AIM IS THE FRANCHISE," SAY SPONSORS

JOHANNESBURG.

"IT is not our aim to compete in any way with, or to take over the functions of the great national organisations of the African, Coloured and Indian people," says a statement issued by the joint secretaries of the Transvaal-Free State People's Assembly for Votes for All.

"It is our aim to secure friendly co-operation and mutual assistance of the South African people in championing the great democratic cause of the franchise," the statement goes on. "In doing this we feel confident that we will have the support of all national organisations, despite their separate programmes and policies. We have no other object."

This statement repudiates the contention appearing in certain newspapers to the effect that in sponsoring the Assembly the organisers hope to create a "Non-European Unity" movement.

INITIAL PURPOSE

"We wish to make it clear that there is no intention on our part that the People's Assembly should have any purpose other than those stated initially in the Assembly manifesto. These aims are to rally to the Assembly delegates irrespective of race and colour from the Transvaal and Free State who will represent more citizens than vote in the General Elections; to demand for all South Africans . . . the democratic right to vote and be elected to the governing bodies of the country; to challenge the election of a new parliament by a minority of the people; to launch a campaign for the democratic principles of the United Nations Charter by promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedom for all without

distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."

WIDE SUPPORT

The statement from the Assembly secretaries, Messrs. Dan Tiomee, Y. A. Cachalla and James Phillips, adds that the list of sponsors of the Assembly conclusively goes to show that it is receiving support from all sections of the South African people.

"It is composed of people truly representative of all sections of the Non-European people, believing in different policies, but solidly co-operating on the question of the franchise," adds the statement.

N.R.C. Asked To Reject Slave Labour Bill

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Native Representative Council is asked by the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions to reject the Industrial Conciliation (Natives) Bill when it is placed before it.

The Council emphasises that the separate registration of African workers will result in separate bargaining with employers, which will mean undercutting standards already attained by the trade union movement, instead of raising the level of the African workers.

"This is the policy of cheap labour that must be opposed with the united strength of all progressive forces in South Africa."

Signed by J. B. Marks, Dan Tiomee and S. E. Mogoje, president, vice-president and secretary of the trade union council respectively, the memorandum describes in detail the present position of the African worker, and the effect which the Bill would have on the African worker and trade union movement as a whole.

BAD POINTS

"The Bill takes over all the bad points of the 1937 Industrial Conciliation Act, and none of the good ones," says the memorandum. Among the Bill's most objectionable features are the outlawing of strikes and the provision of heavy penalties for striking workers; the power of the Minister to exclude from an agreement or award reserves and urban African locations; the power of the

Minister to make agreements reached binding even on non-African workers—a clause which "can be used to defeat agreements under the 1937 Act or Wage Act determinations"; the outlawing of unions of African miners, farm workers and domestic workers; the heavy punishment of anyone organising trade unions of both African and non-Africans; and the mediation board machinery proposed under the bill.

GUARDIAN

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"A FISHING EXPEDITION"

—ALLEGES DR. LOWEN

SEDITION CASE REOPENS

JOHANNESBURG.

TWENTY-ONE months after the strike of African miners on the Rand the trial opened in Johannesburg Special Criminal Court this week on a charge of sedition of eight leaders of the Communist Party and one other.

Members of the Communist Party Central Committee charged are Moses M. Kotane, Harry Smitcher, Lucas Phillips, Fred Carmichael, H. A. Ndlovu, I. O. Horvitch and H. J. Simons. Also

charged are W. J. Roberts, a member of the Johannesburg District Committee of the C.P., and L. C. Joffe, stated to be a member of the African Mine Workers' Union Organising Fund Committee.

On the bench are Mr. Justice Ramabotom and Mr. Justice de Villiers.

Mr. F. E. Lutge, K.C., Attorney General for the Transvaal, with him Dr. P. Yutar and Mr. W. S. O'Brien, are appearing for the Crown.

Mr. A. Shaeknovic, K.C., with Mr. M. H. Festenstein (instructed by Messrs. Smitcher, Kahn and Company, Cape Town, and Messrs. Berrange and Wasserrug, Johannesburg) are appearing for the members of the Central Committee.

Mr. F. Zwarenstein (instructed by Messrs. Berrange and Wasserrug) is appearing for Roberts and Dr. G. Lowen (instructed by Messrs. Hoffman and Levitan) for Joffe, W. H. Andrews, whose name appeared on the indictment, was unable to attend on medical grounds, and the charge against him has been withdrawn.

THE INDICTMENT

The prosecution suggested to the court that certain amendments to the indictment be made, to which the defence objected on the ground the changes were so drastic as to amount to a new indictment altogether.

Applying for the indictment to be quashed, Mr. Shaeknovic said it did not give sufficient information on the nature of the charge and did not disclose the manner in which the offence was committed. "It is a somewhat more than confusing document," he said.

Dr. Lowen said the indictment did not disclose an offence on Joffe's part and the facts alleged did not disclose sedition or an offence cognisable by a special court. "The prosecution has no

Aid To Democratic Greece

JOHANNESBURG. — The Greek-South African Committee for National Unity here has sent a message of support to the International Conference for Aid to Democratic Greece in Paris.

It urges the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops and missions from Greek soil, and the right of the people to re-establish a democratic system.

right to present a charge of which we are given no particulars and no right to bring the accused into court on a fishing expedition, and also no right to withhold particulars from the accused."

MR. LUTGE ALLEGES

Replying, the Attorney-General, Mr. Lutge, said the seditious element flowed very largely from the basic principles of Communism. He maintained the strike was "pulled" by the Johannesburg District Committee of the Party, and that complete and detailed plans were submitted to the Central Executive Committee, the plenary authority. The African Mine Workers' Union, he said, was nothing but a camouflage wing of the Communist Party and dominated by the Party. He claimed the case was closely akin to the Leibbrandt case.

The accused interested themselves in the strike, not to assist the miners, but to advance their own cause, he said.

Replying, Dr. Lowen said the Crown was basing its case on the allegation that the Communist Party itself was a seditious conspiracy.

Argument continued on Tuesday.

RED-BAITING IN TRADE UNIONS DEPLORED

JOHANNESBURG.

THERE is no truth in the allegation that the national executive of the South African Trades and Labour Council is dominated by the members of any particular political party. We are satisfied it is fully and fairly representative of all industrial groups in the trade union movement." This declaration is contained in a statement issued by the National Union of Commercial Travellers, which goes on to say that the union's national secretariat "strongly opposes the suggestion that members of any particular political party be debarred from holding office in the union."

This statement of the union secretariat follows statements issued to the Press in Natal and Cape Town by some members of the Natal and Cape branches, who claimed that the Communist Party had gained a majority on the Trades and Labour Council executive.

The union secretariat points out that under the present system of elections for the Trades Council executive, the Commercial Travellers' Union has for the first time succeeded in gaining direct representation on the governing body of the workers' parliament.

"The people who are attacking the present executive of the Trades Council are therefore acting contrary to the best interests of commercial travellers."

The members of the Natal branch who made these statements following the Cape Town conference further propose that "Communists and Communist sympathisers" be debarred from holding political posts in the trade union.

ON THEIR MERITS

This is strongly opposed by the national secretariat of the Commercial Travellers' Union. "Members of the union should be elected to official posts on the merits of their work for the union, on their standing as fighters for the rights of commercial travellers, and not on the basis of their political beliefs."

"What is there in the future to stop any other section from reversing this ban and from imposing it on some other group of members holding some other political views? It is a most dangerous principle and no democrat would consciously accept it."

The statement adds that the union is one composed of members holding all kinds of political views. "They have joined together for the purpose of protecting their interests as commercial travellers, and have agreed to leave their political differences outside the

Indian Call For Round Table Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal Indian Congress has written to General Smuts stating that it favours the calling of an immediate round-table conference between the governments of the Union and India and Pakistan to solve the deadlock resulting from the Ghetto Act.

To the United and Nationalist Parties the Congress has sent letters saying that it rejects communal representation as provided by the Act, and that full franchise rights are the only effective way of stemming colour prejudice in the Union.



Michael Harmel, Communist candidate for Hillbrow on the steps of the Magistrate's Court on nomination day. Behind him are Messrs. S. Miller and S. Buirski, who nominated him.

HILLBROW FAMILIES EJECTED

Michael Harmel's Complaint

JOHANNESBURG.
In the midst of the general election campaign in Hillbrow, a number of families living in one of the largest boarding-houses in the area have been ejected. Their the area have been ejected. Their the area have been ejected. Their the area being converted into a luxury hotel.

"This is just another example of the way the ruling class and Government place private profits before the needs of the people," said Michael Harmel, Communist candidate for Hillbrow, interviewed by The Guardian on the day of the ejections.

In times of housing shortage like the present, in which the lower and middle income groups are most hard hit, priority number one must be to do everything possible to provide the people with adequate housing, said Mr. Harmel. "Surely homes must come before luxury hotels!"

RENT RACKET
Mr. Harmel said that time and time again in his area he had come across cases of people being forced to pay grossly inflated rents. "This rent control business is really becoming a farce," he said. He quoted the case of one block of flats in the area where people are paying £25 a month for a two-roomed flat. To wriggle around the rent regulations, "breakfasts" were added to the tariff, but the "breakfasts" were never served.

More Delegates For People's Assembly

JOHANNESBURG.
The People's Assembly Offices, at Barkley Arcade, in Johannesburg, are being inundated with delegate forms from places throughout the Transvaal, wanting to be represented at the Votes-for-All Assembly on May 22 and the days following.

Twenty-four delegates from 12 Rand flour mills will speak for African milling workers. They were elected at a meeting of workers, shop stewards and union committees amidst great enthusiasm. The lineworkers will be represented, also the African building workers, clothing workers, African miners and African office workers. Delegates will attend from centres as far afield as Ventersburg, Welmaranstad, Kinross, Bronkhorstpruit and Boksburg. Last week-end Assembly "teams" from Johannesburg met yesterday. Non-European leaders in various country towns and enlisted their support for the Assembly.

NAT. HOOLIGANS USE VIOLENCE IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

JOHANNESBURG.
IN two weeks of election activity on the Highveld Nationalist hooligans have broken up a number of meetings of the United Party, and assaulted six men of a team of 12 Springbok Legion volunteers out on a sticker commando raid in the Reef town of Nigel.

More than one Cabinet minister had his meeting invaded by the Opposition, led in some cases by the Nationalist candidate himself. A number of United Party candidates were subjected to votes of

no confidence when their meetings were taken over by the Opposition side. The morale of "Die Transvaler" mounted daily as the week progressed.

In Vereeniging a public meeting in support of Colonel K. Rood, the United Party candidate, and addressed by Senator Conroy, the Minister of Lands, was broken up by Nationalist supporters, who were afterwards addressed by their candidate, Dr. J. H. Looek. (Dr. Looek, notorious for his work in the anti-Indian boycott movement, is parading under the election cry of "Vote for the New Looek candidate!")

A Pretoria United Party meeting at which Mr. S. J. Tigny and Mr. Frank Hopf were to have spoken, broke up in disorder after sections of the audience rushed the microphone and seized it several times. Nationalist organisers, armed with stacks of documents and Hanbards, addressed their sections of the audience from the table on the platform.

"KEEP THE NATS OUT"
In Nigel a team of ex-volunteers from Johannesburg, Nigel and other Reef towns, on one of the Springbok Legion's sticker raids, started to plaster the main street with stickers: "Keep the Nats Out."

The 12 men were scattered in small groups when they were attacked by Nationalists, who, in a matter of minutes, had rallied a large band of their supporters to beat up the ex-volunteers. The group of 12 suffered six casualties.

The next day the Springbok Legion announced that though unable to finish the job in Nigel that night, a second team of volunteers would visit Nigel again to do so.

Mr. Cecil Williams, general secretary of the Legion, said that it had long been expected, especially after the Fochville incident, that the Nationalists would resort to violent tactics in this election. These attacks on the Springbok Legion team fitted in with the behaviour of Nationalists at the Pretoria and Vereeniging meetings.

F.S.U. TAKES NEW NAME

Need For Peace and Friendship with U.S.S.R.

JOHANNESBURG.
The annual general meeting of the Friends of the Soviet Union last week called for a concerted effort by democrats and friends of peace to see that normal diplomatic and trade relations are established between South Africa and the Soviet Union. "Only through negotiation and closer understanding of our mutual problems can the misunderstandings engendered by ignorance and prejudice be dispelled," said the resolution on peace.

In the belief that "peace is the greatest blessing for mankind and that friendship with the Soviet Union is the key to the maintenance of world peace", the F.S.U. called for "an end to all warmongering talk and incitement, veiled or open, against the U.S.S.R." It was decided at this meeting that the name of the organisation become the "South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the U.S.S.R."

The new name, said the secretary, Mr. E. J. Barford, more correctly corresponded with the changed international relationships of the present day. "People must be made aware of the fact that the Soviet Union stands for peace, and that her actions are directed to seeing that others keep the peace, too."

The chairman of the meeting was the Rev. Douglas C. Thompson.

May Day Call For Workers' Unity

JOHANNESBURG.

JOHANNESBURG'S traditional May Day celebrations took place on the City Hall Steps on Saturday morning, when Betty du Toit, Lucas Barnard, Johanna Cornelius, Eli Weinberg, J. B. Marks, Danie du Plessis and the Reverend D. C. Thompson spoke on the demands of the workers on this day of International Labour.

Lucas Barnard, organiser of the Furniture Workers' Union, received tremendous applause from the crowd when he spoke in Afrikaans: "I speak now in Afrikaans. But what I say is in the minds and hearts of every worker whether he speaks English, French, German, Italian, or any Bantu language."

"As a working man and son of the land I appeal for greater unity among the workers."

J. B. Marks dealt forcefully with the demands of African workers. "Help us to see that the Slave Labour Bill will never see the light of day again," he appealed.

Johanna Cornelius spoke on the Unemployment Insurance Act, and also demanded that May Day be made a statutory holiday. On the 40-hour week she said: "As long as the men are workers out of jobs and standing in unemployed queues, there is no justice in denying to the worker a shorter working week in South Africa."

RED HERRING

Eli Weinberg, of the National Union of Commercial Travellers, said: "Mr. Muihse's scheme is not a Redcol scheme: it is a red herring drawn across your path."

Rev. D. C. Thompson, speaking in a behalf of the Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union, said a new civilisation had been built in the U.S.S.R. Above all, it desired peace.

Danie du Plessis spoke on the housing problems of the workers.

Govt. Aids and Abets Law-Breaking -Gandhi

JOHANNESBURG.

Manilal Gandhi has now for the third time deliberately committed the offence of aiding and abetting Indians to violate the Immigrants Regulations Act of 1913. He has still not been arrested.

Following his third act of defiance in leading a batch of six Natal Indians into the Transvaal, he issued a statement in which he said that although he holds domestic rights in the Transvaal, no one has the right to aid and abet people to do anything which constitutes an offence under the law of the State.

The Government appears, however, to have granted me that special privilege for, while action is taken against persons who have committed a lesser crime than I, I have deliberately committed, no action has been taken against me.

"Does this action on the part of the Government not amount to aiding and abetting me to violate the law of the land?"

"MEET DANIE DU PLESSIS"

Communist's Appeal To Troyeville Voters

JOHANNESBURG.

"DANIE does not promise to perform any miracles." With this as the words a pamphlet called "Meet the Candidate" introduces Danie du Plessis to the voters of Troyeville, where he is standing as a Communist candidate in the elections, and exposing to the working-class the dangers that lay behind the anti-Semitic lies of the fascists and their allies.

In 1940 he joined the Communist Party. Last year he represented it at the Conference in London of Communist Parties of the British Empire.

Today Danie du Plessis is secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party.

BORN IN BELFAST

He was born in Belfast 41 years ago, the son of working-class Afrikaners. He became active in the trade union movement as a member of the Building Workers' Industrial Union. His work as a trade unionist soon got him into trouble with the bosses. In 1938 he was victimised for his trade union activities and was out of work for 15 months. In 1940 he was elected East Rand organiser of his union and two years later became Transvaal organiser for the building workers.

During 1938 and 1939, as organiser of the League for Maintenance of Democracy, he toured the Free State, Transvaal and Natal, rallying anti-fascist forces

JO'BURG COUNCIL ON COMMUNISM

CLLR. WEINBREN CONDEMN'S O'CONNOR'S WITCH HUNT

JOHANNESBURG.

"AMONG the immigrants filtering into this country are Communist agents from Moscow and Czechoslovakia. They are coming here not to make their living, but to engender evil and hatred."

This was only one of Councillor J. J. O'Connor's startling revelations at the last meeting of the City Council, when that august body spent almost two hours debating Councillor O'Connor's resolution on the dismissal from the Council's service of employees indulging in Communist activity.

Councillor O'Connor was concerned about "the security of our city"; the Communist "in our midst, at our very door" who "incite Non-Europeans" and "break down democracy". Follow in the footsteps of Canada and Kenya, in the way Communists were dealt with there, he advised. "Be prepared; don't let us be caught napping as they were in Canada."

Finally, Councillor O'Connor recommended his fellow-councillors to read the report on the Canadian "spy" trials.

Then Councillor A. E. P. Robinson, leader of the United Party group and parliamentary candidate for Langlaage, jumped to his feet. Three times, at the beginning, in the middle and towards the end of his speech he stated his party's "unreserved opposition to Communism". The Council, he thought, should take action against Communists in its employ only on the basis of evidence. He could not support Councillor O'Connor's resolution on these grounds. "But we are unreservedly opposed to the Communist way of life," he repeated again for the benefit of the voters and the Press.

Nationalist Councillor G. E. N. Ross, also a general election candidate, took his cue from Councillor Robinson, as did the other three Nationalists who spoke. "Communism is the new imperialism," they said. They were in favour of the resolution, but it implied an indictment on Council officials not present to defend themselves, so, very reluctantly, they would not support the United Party amendment which stipulated that Communist activity should first be

proved before any action was taken.

Labour Councillor B. Weinbren made a fighting speech attacking this anti-Communist propaganda. "O'Connor's little game of attacking the working class was started first by Hitler and Mussolini," he said. "Who is to judge who is a Communist?" he asked. "According to O'Connor Communists are members of the Springbok Legion and Labour Party. All Non-Europeans are Communists in his eyes. And so are all women who don't bear 13 children, and won't sit at home in the kitchen all day."

He said this heresy hunt was ridiculous.

"You start by attacking Communists, and end up by attacking democracy. Only the Prowites and racists will applaud stuff such as this."

A Nationalist Councillor attacked Dr. Colin Steyn who he said was the honorary president of the Communist Party. He was made to retract this. He then said Dr. Colin Steyn was the "honorary president of the Soviet Union."

This, too, he had to withdraw! The debate ended when the meeting terminated automatically. No vote was taken.

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Sedition Case Collapses Again

JOHANNESBURG.

THERE was yet another dramatic turn in the long-drawn-out trial of Communist Party Central Committee members on a charge of sedition when the Special Criminal Court here last week quashed the Attorney-General's indictment.

"We are satisfied the indictment as framed is embarrassing to all the persons charged. They are entitled to know in what way they are alleged to have taken part in the gatherings where sedition is alleged to have been committed," said the judges.

Mr. A. Shacknovis, K.C., for the defence, submitted that if in the future the jurisdiction of the Court was sought, the question whether it was competent to admit fresh indictment should be considered.

The quashing of the indictment by Mr. Justice van der Vliet and Mr. Justice Amsbottom followed almost three full days of legal argument. Crown proposals to amend the indictment were dismissed.

Members of the Communist Party Central Committee charged are: its general secretary, Moses M. Kotane, Harry Smitzer, Lucas Phillips, Fred Carsson, I. O. Horvitch, H. A. Naidoo and H. J. Simons. Also charged are W. J. Roberts, a member of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, and L. O. Joffe, a member of the African Mine Workers' Union Organising Fund Committee.

NOT CLEAR

The judges said: "There is force in the argument that it is not clear from the indictment that they (the accused) are being charged with the offence of conspiring to promote an unlawful strike." The Attorney-General's reply to their request for further particulars, referring them to the record of the preparatory examination—a document of about 184 pages.

It was further alleged that in pursuance of this some tens of thousands of African mine employees stopped work, gathered together for unlawful purposes in defiance of the authorities, and resorted to violent and forcible conduct against the authority of the State.

It was alleged finally that public peace and order were imperilled.

(Continued on page 3)

Sedition Case Collapses

(Continued from page 1)

and the power of the established authority and of the officials of the State assailed, and that in the strike, gathering, or conduct of the strike or its continuation, the accused unlawfully, maliciously and seditiously took part.

DEFENCE ARGUMENT

During the argument, Mr. Shacknovis said the proposed amendments to the indictment should not be allowed. The proper procedure was to quash the indictment, as the defence requested, and for the Crown to submit another. The Crown was confronting the defence with a new case, he said. The change was a drastic one and the defence could not be expected to meet an indictment which was bad in the first place, and then almost completely amended at the last moment.

In attacking the arguments of the Crown, Mr. Shacknovis said it was asking the Court to find the indictment of sedition good on the grounds that any strike among Africans must necessarily lead to sedition. The Crown's second submission, he said, was to allege that the Communist Party as such was a seditious conspiracy.

"We can't leave anything to be inferred by my learned friend from his general knowledge of the temperament of the African worker, or the constitution of the Communist Party."

Arguing that the amendment should not be allowed, Mr. Shacknovis said the original indictment was "so ambiguous . . . we were not really told what the case against us was."

Scott Reports To Bechuanaled

JOHANNESBURG.

The Rev. Michael Scott met chiefs and elders of the Herero tribe in Bechuanaled recently to report on I.N.O.'s General Assembly debate on South-West Africa and the proceedings of the Trusteeship Council.

The tribesmen came from all parts of the country to hear the report. The gathering was presided over by Paramount Chief Frederick Maharero.

There are about 15,000 Hereros still living in exile with their Paramount Chief in

Bechuanaled. They have among them about 10,000 head of cattle. The ambition is to trek back to South-West Africa with their cattle, so that the whole tribe can be re-united on their own lands and with their own tribal organisation.

Racialism Endangers Democracy

—Says Du Plessis

JOHANNESBURG.

"Among certain nations in the world today there is a conspiracy against peace," said Danie du Plessis, Communist candidate for Troyeville, addressing an election meeting in the Doornfontein Jewish Workers' Club last week.

He added that the United Party, through the South African Government, had played a leading role in undermining the progress of the United Nations. The Union Government had flatly refused to carry out the United Nations decisions on South African questions. "This is the foreign policy the United Party is asking you to support in this election," he said.

"Not well that in countries over which the Union Jack or Stars and Stripes fly there are no attempts to stem fascism." Turning to South African affairs Mr. du Plessis said racialism was a vicious thing. Once directed against the Non-European it did not stop at that but endangered the position of all groups in the country.

The fascists, far from having been put on trial, were left alone by the Government.

SIMILAR POLICY

On far too many questions the policy of the United Party was hardly dissimilar from that of the Nationalists. Not only was there often political agreement, but also economic alliance. A number of United Party members of Parliament served on the boards of the same companies as prominent Nationalist leaders.

The present persecution of the Communist Party, Mr. du Plessis said, was an attempt to deny this party the right to exist as a political movement. It alone demanded the extension of democracy and citizens' rights to all.

Mr. Fred Carneson, Communist candidate for the Cape Flats constituency, who was in Johannesburg last week, also spoke from this platform. The United Party, he said, was not a reliable bulwark against fascism.

"For the great majority of workers today there is no security. Wages are too low and the worker cannot afford to buy the ordinary things that are needed to make life worth while. He lives in perpetual fear of war, of old age, of unemployment."

Advocate A. Fischer also spoke and Mr. Leon Berman presided.

PENTECOST ARMISTICE WAS A CLEVER RUSE

JOHANNESBURG.

ONE of the trump cards of the Nationalists has been the suspension of all election activity during the ten days of Pentecost, at the request of the Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church of the Free State, writes Guardian reporter Ruth First, from Johannesburg.

The Nationalists are taking every advantage of this. Last week saw a few more United Party meetings taken over by them. Biggest meeting yet held in the Transvaal was that of Malan at Germiston on May Day. The Afrikaans Press fixed the crowd at 6,000, the English Press said 7,000 to 8,000.

On public platforms the Nationalists have been on top all along the line. Their followers have been specially briefed to invade meetings of United Party candidates and then ask them tricky questions. This must have meant elaborate preparations from party headquarters, but has repaid them well.

CLEVER RUSE

The election "armistice" was a clever ruse. Observers here consider the Nationalists might well carry off one or two more tricks before election day to swing votes in their

favour. They do not put it past the Nats to try to provoke some sort of race riot or other form of racial tension, which they could exploit as part of their colour-bogy platform.

The Nationalists even believe they have a good chance of ousting General Smuts from his Standerton constituency.

Standerton has always been a closely fought constituency, the last majority being in the neighbourhood of 1,000 votes. The Nats say their canvass shows they can beat the Prime Minister. Then, they say, he will make way for Hofmeyr as South Africa's Prime

Minister. And so they elaborate on the Hofmeyr bogy.

The Opposition Group are also going all-out to win the English-speaking vote. Willem van Heerden, political commentator of "Dagbreek", says Nationalist efforts to win the confidence of the English voter are "titanic".

NATS' BOOMERANG

The Communist menace is featuring largely in all Nationalist election speeches. The Nationalist Press is also using as propaganda the fact that The Guardian is being printed by Unie-Volkspers Beperk, Cape Town.

The Opposition Press is protesting, too, against the registration of Coloured voters.

But, United Party candidates on the Rand claim apathy as their biggest enemy; and the tactics and ravings of the Nationalists are the best aid to the U.P. in overcoming that danger.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SCANDAL

JOHANNESBURG. — Four hundred and fifty African labourers registered under the Unemployment Insurance Fund were told by a Fund Claims Officer they would be given employment by the Roberts Construction Company in Vereeniging at £2.5s. per week.

They were loaded on to lorries and taken to Vereeniging; but when they arrived there were offered £1 15s. a week.

The workers refused to accept employment on these terms. They were removed from the list for benefits.

This episode has been reported to the South Transvaal Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council, which is raising this matter and the grievances of African farm workers in connection with the fund, with the relevant authorities.

BROOM AND BRUSH WORKERS

JOHANNESBURG. The Department of Labour refused to register an individual council in the broom and brush trade although both employers and workers have agreed that one should be formed.

At present the broom and brush workers are covered by an arbitration award under a war measure. All war measures are to be repealed towards the end of June, according to a statement in the House by the Prime Minister, and this means the arbitration award will automatically fall away.

Open-Air Meetings At Hillbrow

JOHANNESBURG. — "The record of the Communist Party on all questions from overseas events to the position of the Non-Europeans in South Africa, shows it to be a far more consistent opponent of the Maininities than the United Party," said Advocate Franz Boshoff, chairman at one of the many open-air meetings held in Hillbrow by the Communist candidate, Michael Harmel.

Advocate Boshoff said that where voters were faced with the choice of the United Party or the Nationalist Party, however little they liked the United Party, they would have to vote for it in preference to the Nationalist, the party of the ultra-reactionaries.

But in Hillbrow there was no Nationalist candidate, and it was up to progressives to vote for the most anti-Malan candidate — Harmel.

TWO FUTURES

Michael Harmel said two kinds of future could face South Africa. The one was the Communist Party vision of a better South Africa in

FRIENDS OF THE ENEMY



KEEP THE NATS OUT

...the Nats out of the country...

which everybody had enough to eat, a decent job, a weatherproof roof over his head, schools for his children and the democratic right to share in the government of the country.

The alternative was deepening economic crisis and intensified racial antagonisms leading to fascism.

"There is no middle road," stated Mr. Harmel. "The policy of the Nationalists would get us to fascism more quickly, but a continuation of the present United Party policy would also sooner or later reduce the country to upheaval and fascism."

MASS RALLY

JOHANNESBURG. The People's Assembly Mass Rally will take place on Sunday, May 23, at 2.30 p.m. (and not on the Monday afternoon, as previously stated).

Organisations in locations and townships are arranging to march to the Market Square in Johannesburg and groups. Transport is being arranged for the more distant areas.

It is anticipated this rally will be the largest gathering of Non-Europeans ever to take place on the Reef.

WORLD SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

JOHANNESBURG.

MESSAGES of support for the People's Assembly are pouring in from organisations and individuals in the United States, France, Great Britain, India, Australia, Czechoslovakia and other countries.

Among the World Members of Parliament who have sent messages to the Assembly is Communist M.P. William Gallagher. He writes: "With all my heart I support the demands for the application of fundamental human rights for the Non-European people. Freedom to vote should be the guiding principle of the elections and if democracy has any meaning at all, there can be no people more in need of and more deserving of with greater rights to vote in the affairs of Africa than the Native peoples of Africa themselves."

The National Lawyers' Guild of America sends full support. "We pledge that we will support your demand for equality in every possible practical manner. Our first effort in this direction will be to bring the matter to the attention of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, with which we are affiliated, and which enjoys consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations."

Messages have also come from the All-Indian Trade Union Congress, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the Workers' Circle Friendly Society in Great Britain, an organisation of Protestant Czechs, and many others.

The Orange Free State Council of Non-European Trade Unions has recently declared support for the Assembly, as has the "B" Branch of the Garment Workers' Union.

Centres visited by Assembly organisers include Bloemfontein, Pietersburg, Wolmaranstad, Schweizer-Doornette and other towns in the Western Transvaal, Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom; Meyerton, Vereeniging, Ficksburg and the East and West Rand.

Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, M.P., has announced she will attend sessions of the Assembly.

Apart from branches of the African National Congress, Transvaal Indian Congress and African People's Organisation to be represented at the Assembly, there will be delegates from the Society of the Friends of Africa, Springbok Legion Non-European Branches, the Bethlehem Bantu United School, the African Cultural and Domestic Workers' Club, Transvaal Coloured Lawn Tennis Union, Orange Free State African Teachers' Association, the East Rand District of the Communist Party and many others.



Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, M.P., who will attend sessions of the People's Assembly.

Squatters Again

JOHANNESBURG. — A special conference convened by the Secretary for Native Affairs at Pretoria will discuss the African squatting problem in the peri-urban areas around Johannesburg. The conference will open on May 14. The manager of the Non-European Affairs Department here is stated to have said in a recent report that a substantial number — if not the majority — of Africans living in the peri-urban areas employed in this city "It will no doubt be argued that the City Council should accept responsibility for housing such Africans," he stated.

The Pretoria conference is expected to discuss the responsibilities of the Government and municipal authorities.

Unskilled Wage Investigation

JOHANNESBURG. — The Southern Transvaal Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council will submit evidence on the wages of unskilled workers to the Wage Board investigation shortly to begin.

"The Local Committee's evidence will also be on behalf of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions and a number of African trade unions in Johannesburg.

The investigation will cover a large number of unskilled workers in such industries as civil engineering, building, milling and shipping agencies.

"I MAKE THIS CALL"

— C. S. RAMAHANOE

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY NEWS

JOHANNESBURG.

NEGOTIATIONS to place the sponsorship of the People's Assembly for Votes for All in the hands of the three national organisations—The African National Congress, the Indian Congress and the African People's Organisation—have been frustrated by diehards of the Transvaal branch of the African National Congress.

Despite the fact that the A.N.C. President, Mr. C. S. Ramahanoe and the secretary, Mr. Bopape, are already sponsors of the Assembly, and two executive members, Messrs. Tlomee and Mtsweni, are serving on the Assembly Working Committee, there has been a concerted drive by certain individuals to prevent all co-operation on this question of the franchise.

They have published in the Bantu World a resolution slandering the People's Assembly, although this resolution was to form the basis of talks between the three organisations and it was agreed should receive no publicity. A deadlock was reached in these talks when the A.N.C. deputation refused to withdraw its attack on the Assembly, or to appoint official delegates to the working committee.

On Tuesday, however, Mr. Ramahanoe issued a statement declaring the only proper course for him to follow as chairman of the A.N.C. (Transvaal) was to give his wholehearted support to the Assembly.

"I believe that the fundamental question of the franchise for all people in South Africa is vitally important and that all Africans should give their unreserved support to this cause," he said. "I accordingly make this call to the African people of the Transvaal to take an active part in making the Assembly a huge success."

Mr. P. Q. Vundla, interviewed by The Guardian, said this response from Africans throughout the Transvaal and Orange Free State had been enthusiastic. Congress branches in the Transvaal had already nominated their delegates.

Comrade R. Ginsberg

JOHANNESBURG.

Comrade R. Ginsberg, one of the first members of the South African Communist Party, who died on June 10, 1944, left £100 to the Party. The Johannesburg District Secretary has just learnt. The district wishes to place on record its tribute to Comrade Ginsberg, a loyal and enthusiastic member of the Party.

At the A.N.C. regional conference at Springs on Sunday, delegates complained that some of their most prominent leaders had not been prepared to take any action on the boycott, and the same performance was being repeated now.

The Transvaal Indian Congress and the African People's Organisation are prepared to nominate the Indian and Coloured representatives on the Assembly Working Committee as their official delegates. Both are fully supporting the campaign for "Votes for All."

"HISTORIC DAYS FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE"

Michael Harmel Interviewed

JOHANNESBURG.

"THESE have been great and historic days for the Jewish people," said Michael Harmel, Communist candidate for Hillbrow, interviewed by The Guardian. "Millions rejoice at the fulfilment of a deep aspiration, sharpened by the suffering of the war years."

"It is tragic," he added, "that the establishment of the Jewish State has taken place in sad circumstances—with the invasion of Palestine, and the Arab countries and Egypt mobilising for war. But we see hope in the recognition of the new State by the two greatest powers in the world—the Soviet Union and the United States of America."

America cannot evade responsibility for the tragic circumstances in which this State has been born."

The events in Palestine cannot be looked at in isolation, said Mr. Harmel. "As in Greece and China, the Western imperialist powers have shown they are concerned only with entrenching profits and not with the rights and aspirations of the people."

"And as for our own Government, it has supported the policy of warmongering. It, too, shares responsibility for the present bloodshed."

Mr. Harmel added: "I hope that progressive voters in Hillbrow will register their protest against this dangerous policy by voting for the Communist candidate next week—remembering that I stand for the enforcement of the United Nations decisions, for the independence and peace of Israel, and for friendship and peace between all nations of the world."

"Secondly," went on Mr. Harmel, "America is culpable for its vacillation in having at first supported partition and then having betrayed its word."

"In spite of having now recognised the Jewish State,

COMMUNIST CANDIDATES NEED HELPERS

JOHANNESBURG.

Cars, pilots, technical workers and other election help are needed by Communist candidates Michael Harmel and Danie du Plessis. All willing to assist should call at the offices of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, 65, Proseger Buildings, 156, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, or phone 22-1687.

Greek Govt.'s Mass Murders Condemned By S.A. Workers

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Trades and Labour Council has protested to the Prime Minister of Greece against the " wholesale execution of political prisoners."

The protest says: "Such unprovoked actions will cause perturbation amongst all civilised people and bring lasting discredit."

To the Greek Chargé d'Affaires in Pretoria, the council has written asking that the resentment and indignation of the South African trade union movement at the mass executions of political prisoners, "hundreds of whom have been subjected to untold cruelty and mental anguish by being kept under the sentence of death for many years," be conveyed to the Greek Government.

"My council is convinced," says the secretary, Mr. A. G. Forsyth, in his letter, "that the interests of your Government and of your country will best be served and that the people which all people abroad have for the Greek people will be enhanced by your Government pursuing a policy based on human feelings and respect for human decency, rather than one based on ruthless terror."

General Smuts is asked to intercede with the Greek Government with a view to ending the wholesale execution of defenceless political prisoners.

WAGES FAR BEHIND LIVING COSTS

—Says Trades and Labour Council

JOHANNESBURG.

THERE will be widespread industrial strife if effective remedial measures are not taken immediately to end the bitter dissatisfaction among all sections of workers. This sharp warning is contained in the memorandum which a deputation of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council is to submit to the Prime Minister, when it meets him to discuss the rising cost of living, industrial laws and their administration, and other matters.

The Council says war-time promises made to the workers have not been fulfilled. "South Africa emerged prosperous from the war, and industrial development is proceeding on an extensive scale. The profits of manufacturers and merchants have risen considerably, in many instances exorbitantly."

"But the standards of living of the better-paid workers are rapidly declining; and the lower-paid workers are not even in a position to secure for themselves and their dependants the ordinary amenities of life."

FICTITIOUS PROSPERITY

"We submit all this talk about South Africa being a high-wage country is based on fiction, not on facts. Instead of the Government

MINISTER'S INTERFERENCE

"What the trade union movement finds most unwarranted, is the interference of the Minister of Labour, his Department officials and the Cabinet sub-committee with the right of collective bargaining of workers. Once trade unions and employers have reached agreement, fixing wages and conditions of work, that agreement should be published."

"We must emphasise that the trade union movement will not tolerate any interference with the rights of collective bargaining with their employers."

The Council feels that a commission to inquire into industrial legislation is essential, but such a commission should be composed not of professional politicians, farmers and lawyers, but of representatives of the workers, employers and the Government. The Commission should be vested with the powers and prestige of a Royal Commission, as the public has lost confidence in Government-appointed commissions.

Among its recommendations the Council suggests an immediate increase of the cost-of-living allowance to not less than 45 per cent of the approximate figure of cost of the Department of Census and Statistics.

F.S.U. And Dr. Colin Steyn

JOHANNESBURG.

Commenting on the report that appeared in Die Vaderland that it was on instructions of Dr. Colin Steyn and for election purposes that the South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union changed its name, Mr. E. J. Burford, secretary of the society, says the story is "a complete fabrication and contains no vestige of truth."

The change of name, Mr. Burford says, has been under consideration for more than a year as being a more accurate interpretation of the society's aims and objects as laid down in its constitution.

Mr. Burford denies the report in Die Vaderland that Dr. Steyn is a patron of the society. "Dr. Steyn is not nor has he ever been a patron of this society. We have no contact with him, directly or indirectly."

TWO CZECHS IN A TATRA

Round-the-World Tour

JOHANNESBURG.

AFTER a 22,000 mile journey in a Tatra motor-car, Jiri Hanzelka and Miroslav Zikmund, two young Czech journalists and one-time leaders of the Czech student movement, have reached the Rand.

Beset by newspapermen and Czech compatriots in South Africa, mobbed by people interested in the mechanics of their car, trying to snatch time off to prepare broadcasts, write articles and process their films, these two young Czechs yet have time to talk soberly about the problems of the countries through which they have passed and events in their own land.

WERE ON THE ROAD

During the recent Czech "crisis" of February, Jiri and Miroslav were on the road. During those days they had no direct contact with, or news from Czechoslovakia, but heard only British and American broadcasts. They were cautious about expressing their views on the details of these events.

But they were emphatic that Czechoslovakia is no satellite state of the Soviet Union but a truly independent democracy.

They showed the only signs of anger during the interview when they replied to the oft-repeated accusation that Czechoslovakia is hidden behind "an iron curtain".

"What do people mean by this 'iron curtain'?" Jiri demanded. "There is no such thing hanging over our part of Europe," substantiated Miroslav.

They added that they had been to about 15 countries already where they had been asked how many Russians were still occupying Czechoslovakia.

"There is not a single Russian soldier in Czechoslovakia," they emphasized, "as there is not a single American soldier. The Russians moved out in October and November of 1945."

These Czechs speak enthusiastically of the recovery of their country after the devastation of the war. It was a recovery effort of the Czech people themselves. "What made it possible on such a huge scale and so rapidly? An effort of all Czechs, and the spirit of the May, 1945, days which lives on."

This round-the-world trip was planned nine years ago when Jiri and Miroslav met at Prague University. Their plans were interrupted by the war. With the Nazi closing of the University on November 17, 1939, and the persecution of Czech students, both escaped to hide for months in a forest in Bohemia.

Miroslav left his home for the last time just one hour before the Gestapo came to arrest him. He managed later to work unknown for months in a butcher shop; although Jiri Hanzelka was caught and sent to a forced labour camp, he eventually managed to escape.

Later both joined the Czech resistance movement and helped finally to liberate their city in May, 1945.

MAIN IDEA

Main idea of the trip is to make educational films for Czech schools; provide material for broadcasts; and to exhibit their Tatra car, which is rear-engined and air-cooled.

From this country they go to South America, then through Mexico to the United States and Canada, then across the Pacific to Japan and Korea, over to Burma and Indonesia, then India and Afghanistan. Their plans sound like a recital of the world's countries and a geography lesson.

Unemployment Insurance

JOHANNESBURG.

The Johannesburg committee for Unemployment Insurance Fund Benefits decided to re-insist on the list for benefits the 450 African labourers offered employment in Vereeniging at a wage lower than they had been led to expect.

However, as several weeks have elapsed since this incident, these workers have scattered in search of new employment, and cannot now be traced by the fund to receive the benefits due to them.

Tin Workers

JOHANNESBURG.

Several informal meetings of the National Tin Workers' Union and employers in the industry have been held recently to consider the formation of a national industrial council.

It is understood that the employers agreed to raise the wages of Johannesburg workers to the levels at present obtaining in Durban and Cape Town; but a deadlock in the negotiations was reached when the employers refused to grant the workers' request for a stop-order system.

The workers are now organising for a national conciliation board and, should this break down, for direct action.

N.U.D.W. National Secretary

JOHANNESBURG.

Miss Billa Page has been appointed acting national secretary of the National Union of Distributive Workers until the next meeting of the union's national executive committee in July.

This appointment was made by the national president in consultation with the national secretariat.

No Colour Bar At Wits. Rag

STUDENTS DEFY PRINCIPAL

JOHANNESBURG.

STUDENTS of the University of the Witwatersrand, by an overwhelming majority, decided at a general meeting to defy the instruction of the principal, Mr. H. R. Radice, that Non-European students should not take part in the University Rag this year.

The long and gay procession of floats depicting "Scenes from the Novels", which was loudly acclaimed by the public, was once again this year, as in every previous year since 1945, a non-colour-bar affair.

On the Tuesday evening before the Rag, The Guardian is informed, the Principal notified the Rag Committee that no Non-European could take part in any activities except collecting money in Non-European areas.

The Principal refused to discuss the matter with representatives of the Students' Council, but referred them to the Acting Registrar, who explained that the ban was in pursuance of the University's policy of social segregation.

On the Friday a general meeting of all students was called. On the recommendation of the Students' Representative Council, resolutions were passed protesting against the ban, against the lateness of the decision and the indirect manner in which the student body had been informed of it.

It was resolved that, as from 1949, no further Rags would be organised unless the ban were lifted, and that the University authorities should bear the responsibility for the resulting loss to Rag beneficiaries.

S.R.C. AGREEMENT

The Students' Representative Council met again later in the day. After several hours of discussion, it was decided that Non-European students be authorised to take part in the procession, in spite of the ban. This resolution was passed by 18 votes to nil, with two abstentions.

Boycott Campaign Is A Failure

(Continued from page 1)

fashion. Reports from other centres in the Western Province indicate that Messrs. Gool and Viljoen are not making much headway anywhere.

Even in Athlone, the headquarters of the boycott movement, only a handful of dissident Coloured intellectuals have shown any enthusiasm for the boycott campaign. Canvasers for Mr. F. van der Merwe, the Communist Party candidate for the Cape Flats, state they meet very few voters who refuse to vote.

The overwhelming majority of the Coloured people recognise that the boycott policy is one which can be of advantage only to the Nationalists; and that is why the overwhelming majority of Coloured voters are determined to vote on May 28.

Trade Unionist Charged JO'BURG CITY HALL STEPS CASE

JOHANNESBURG.

Incidents at City Hall steps meetings of the Communist Party were recalled in the Magistrate's Court here last week when trade unionist Abe Mamala appeared on a charge of having thrown a piece of concrete at a European constable during one of the meetings. Mamala pleaded not guilty.

A number of constables who were present at the meeting in civilian clothes, some on duty and others not, gave evidence for the Crown.

Constable J. H. Duvenage told the Court he had seen Mamala take a piece of concrete out of his pocket, take aim, and then throw it at Constable Kruger.

Constable Kruger said he had been off duty that night. As he had walked past the City Hall he had seen the meeting in progress, and went up to it because he thought there might be "trouble". He went to stand with constables, also in plain clothing, who had formed a cordon between the Communists holding their meeting on the steps and the hecklers standing in front of the meeting. Later a stone was thrown at his head. He did not know who threw it.

Cross-examined by Advocate Franz Boshoff, Constable Kruger said none of the constables in plain clothes heckled and shouted. He said members of the force on duty at the steps meeting had been given instructions to go on duty in plain clothes.

Advocate Boshoff said the defence argument was that "certain police were placed at the meeting in plain clothes to help break them up on Sunday evenings." On this occasion, he said, a policeman had thrown the piece of concrete, and had by mistake hit another policeman standing among the crowd. Defence witnesses would later testify that they had pointed this out to constables, just after the incident.

The case was adjourned to May

REV. MICHAEL SCOTT'S "POLICE RECORD"

JOHANNESBURG.

AN American journalist who approached the South African Government delegation at the last session of the United Nations for information regarding the Reverend Michael Scott was told he was at Lake Success "only in search of personal publicity"; that he belonged "to all left-wing groups in the Union"; and that he had a police record here.

In a sworn statement this American journalist records: "If I was only after I insisted on getting the exact facts that I found out that the left-wing organisations were the Council for Human Rights and the Council for Asiatic Rights; that the 'police record' was largely an enumeration of speeches made by him, plus a conviction for taking part in the Passive Resistance movement, and a charge pending appeal for having lived and worked in the shanty-town of 'Tobruk' without obtaining permission to do so. Also, that he had come to New York to present the case of the Hereros against the incorporation of South-West Africa into the Union."

The Reverend Michael Scott also has in his possession a copy of the "dossier" which it seems was sent by a police official in Pretoria to a certain attaché of the United States Legation. According to another affidavit from the United States, this was issued to the U.S. Press and shown by a certain member of the South African delegation to the United Nations Press correspondents and others. (This document was printed in The Guardian of January 8 of this year.)

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GREAT PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

Campaign for the Franchise

JOHANNESBURG.

MORE South Africans than have voted in the general election were represented here last week-end in the greatest assembly ever seen in the Union. The elected representatives of 706,930 people from the Transvaal and Orange Free State, in adopting the People's Charter, pledged not to rest "until all adult men and women of all races in South Africa have the right to stand for, vote for, and be elected to all the representative bodies which rule over our people."

This assembly for "Votes for All", which was opened by the Rev. Michael Scott, was the first to bring together African, Indian and Coloured delegates from their various organisations. "Co-operation talks" between Non-European leaders have been held before; this was the first move towards co-operation of the rank and file memberships of the national organisations.

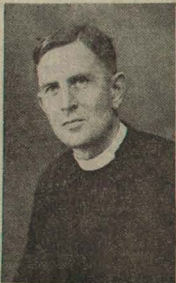
With only three dissentients, the Assembly adopted a resolution asking for a National Assembly of the South African peoples where the People's Charter for Votes for All could be democratically discussed by delegates representing the entire nation, and where plans could be made to secure the amendment of the South Africa

Act to extend to all adult South Africans the elementary rights of voting, standing for and being elected to all governing bodies in the country.

A FURTHER ASSEMBLY

The resolution instructed the Assembly working committee to take all necessary steps to convene this further Assembly. In particular it was instructed to convene a joint meeting of the national executive committees of the African National Congress, South African Indian Congress, and African People's Organisation, and at which these three bodies would be informed that it is the desire of the representatives of the Transvaal and Orange Free State peoples here assembled that the sponsorship, direction and responsibility for the National Assembly be assumed jointly by them, and that the convening call for the National Assembly be issued under their joint signatures.

Addressing the Assembly, Mr. Dan Thorne, one of the three secretaries of the working committee, said:



REV. MICHAEL SCOTT

the negro delegates represent the millions of South African citizens who are without the vote. This Assembly is held in the belief we all have the right to freedom."

"TRUE WAYS"

The Reverend D. C. Thompson, a delegate from the African Mine Workers' Union Organising Fund Committee, said this Assembly was a rallying point whose repercussions would be felt throughout South Africa. He was glad to see a People's Charter framed on such an occasion. "We live in a white caste society here," he said. "I am one of those South Africans who believe in upholding the true ways of life for all people."

Mr. P. S. Joshi said: "Our representatives in Parliament may be our friends and sympathisers, but we want to represent ourselves there."

Mr. Lucas Barnard, of the Furniture Workers' Industrial Union, created a stir among delegates when, in a forceful speech, he said: "To the delegates from Free State I say you have

tried among you myself."
(Continued on page 5)

Amongst you I do not feel a stranger. I grew up among you in Bloemfontein. . . He who to-day does not preach a sermon such as Christ did 1,900 years ago, as Gandhi did, as Michael Scott does to-day, has no place among honest men. . .

"If in this election people are elected to form a government to make the laws of the land and specify what taxes we must pay, then we should all have the right to say who those people should be."

A delegate from the countryside of the Transvaal said he had been arrested the week before the Assembly for working for it among his people. Many African chiefs were being bought by the native commissioners; he had been arrested by a black chief. "When I see us here among Indian delegates too," he said, "then I feel God will help lead us to freedom."

OTHER SUPPORTERS

Mr. S. Niken said: "It is time we were on the move. . . We still have on our national executives leaders who think they can play ducks and drakes with the people. You to-day the Transvaal executive of the African People's Organisation will work to carry out this Assembly resolution." A woman delegate brought the support of the Transvaal All-Women's Union. Mr. G. Radebe said he would like to see a clear statement from the African National Congress on whether or not it was prepared to take part in this campaign.

Mr. L. Ngakane, representing the Federation of Progressive Students, said: "I feel very sore about the resolution of the Transvaal African National Congress which condemns the Assembly. It means our Congress is the stumbling block. Which will come first: our rights or our leaders?"

Also present were Mrs. Ballinger, M.P., and Mr. Ballinger during the second session and the Reverend A. W. Blaxall.

"Racial Oppression Must Be Challenged"

—says Rev. Scott

JOHANNESBURG.

FEAR, on the faces of your people in the streets and shops and factories and farms; the fear of the rule of force, is evidence of the false foundation upon which our South African society rests." These were the words of the Reverend Michael Scott, as, in a deeply moving address, he declared open the first Transvaal-Orange Free State Assembly for "Votes for All."

"I have felt something of the horror of this fear down there in the shacks where a hundred thousand Africans are condemned to live in a shantytown made of sackcloth and old tin cans outside this, the wealthiest city in all Africa," went on Mr. Scott.

"I have experienced something of the weight of the oppression that is upon you when I was asked to carry that Petition of the South-West African tribesmen to the United Nations. You know something of the obstacles that were placed in the way of the voices of these African people being heard at the United Nations."

"But you should know that in the resistance to oppression which you are today offering you have the sympathy and encouragement of many nations, great and small."

"All over the world the peoples of every race and nation are wanting peace and friendship with one another."

CLAMOURING FOR BLOOD

"But there are statesmen and politicians who are shouting hatred and war. There are the old men who are clamouring for more blood while the children of Europe are starving and the youth of the nations have been twice crucified. Attempts are again being made to range the peoples of the world against one another with the most hideous weapons of destruction."

"Peace is not something which has only to be arranged by the United Nations, nor is it something which can be bargained for by scheming politicians. Peace is something for which we must struggle."

Turning to discuss race discriminations and the denial of civil liberties to vast sections of the people, the Rev. M. Scott said: "In South Africa racial oppression must be challenged by the oppressed. It is the historic task of the Non-European people of South Africa to establish their

rights and thereby to restore the balance of her economy."

"It seems to many of us Christians in many parts of the world that any race which tries to preserve itself by the doctrine or practice of oppression is thereby condemning itself to death. In the very act of seeking to save its life it will lose it."

OUR GREATEST DANGER

The regimentation of cheap Native labour, the uprooting and pauperisation of the African people, their concentration all around our cities as an uneducated, landless, homeless, culture-

(Continued on page 5)

Challenge To Racial Oppression

(Continued from page 1)
less mass in enforced servitude to a race blinded by prejudice, was today our greatest danger, said the Rev. M. Scott.

"It is time that this great South African hypocrisy of colour superiority should be challenged. It has obstructed the development of this country long enough. It is poisoning race relationships and has pauperised a quarter of our white population."

"It is no wonder we have been forced into the humiliating position of having twice to refuse the request of a two-thirds majority of other civilised nations of the world to submit a trusteeship agreement for the territory of South-West Africa, entrusted to us as a mandate."

"Nevertheless I am convinced that the will come when we in South Africa will be proud to submit a trusteeship agreement for South-West Africa, when we have put our house in order and have worked out the problems of a black and white civilisation."

TIME OVERDUE

Wallace Supports Votes For All In South Africa

IN a message to the People's Assembly in Johannesburg last weekend Mr. Henry Wallace, Third Party candidate for the Presidency in the United States elections this year, says:

"My heartfelt greetings. May you succeed in your efforts to end the inhuman and unchristian denial of the franchise to the Africans, Indians and Coloureds in South Africa."

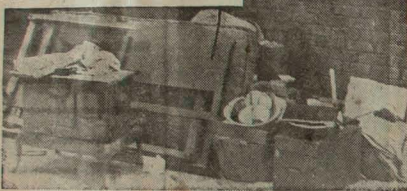
"We of the new party in the United States have common cause with you, and we too organise and fight the same enemy—racial discrimination."

LIFE ISN'T EASY AT ALEXANDRA

JOHANNESBURG.—The vast majority of the 70,000-odd people living in Alexandra Township are sub-tenants. They live in mud-walled houses with flat, corrugated iron roofs, or rows of rooms clustered around the back yards of houses owned by the stand-holders of the township.

The stand holders are few, and the more privileged sections. To-day their sub-tenants are more often than not paying exorbitantly high rents, and living in houses or rooms that should long ago have been condemned as unfit for human habitation.

In a township like Alexandra where the Rent Board hardly operates, and provisions of the Rent Act protecting the rights of tenants are unknown or ignored, the sub-tenant is at the mercy of the landlord.



The household effects of Isaac Mumakhe which were left lying in the yard when he was evicted for refusing to pay his landlord an extra amount for water each month.

Water taps are generally locked by the landlord who opens them only at set times during the day when tenants may queue up with their tins and buckets to collect their ration of water.

For this they must pay an amount additional to their rent each month. Sometimes all the families living in one yard are lucky enough to have a tap to themselves. In other yards there are no taps, and tenants must walk several blocks to use a street corner or a neighbouring yard tap.

It is a not uncommon practice for a landlord to evict a tenant who complains against high rent, or protests at having to pay extra for water, or at the bad condition of his house.

Such a case was that of Isaac Mumakhe one of the organisers of the African Tenants' Association in Alexandra.

Isaac and his family lived in a room at the back of a house in 16th Avenue. His landlord charged a 6d. extra for water each month, in addition to the rent charge of 21 1/2s. 6d. a month for only one room. When Isaac and his family refused to pay the extra amount, the landlord cut off their water supply on December 6. Since that date they have had no water at all from their yard. The matter was reported to the Rent Board on December 16, and although an investigation was promised, it has not taken place.

On January 12 the landlord locked Isaac's room, after having thrown all his goods out into the yard, and then refused to hand the key to him.

Isaac has since been living "in the streets." His furniture, left out in a heavy thunderstorm, and exposed to the weather for several days, has been ruined.

DIE NUWE ORDE AND THE ANTI-INDIAN BOYCOTT

JOHANNESBURG.—An article in the February issue of "Die Nuwe Orde" analyses whether it is permissible before the law to carry on a boycott against Indian traders. After presenting alternative interpretations of existing laws, the article concludes: "This matter can be endlessly discussed, and no one would like to prophesy what a court would decide. The result can only be that the Indian who goes to court is conducting a gamble, and whether he wins or loses, such an action can only profit the Indian boycott, as a result of the publicity which it will be given."

NATAL RESISTERS SENTENCED

JOHANNESBURG.—The first batch of Natal resisters who were arrested in Volksrust after crossing the border into the Transvaal for the second time during the present campaign against the 1913 Immigration Act, were each sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

The sentence was passed on February 18, by a Volksrust magistrate. One month is the suspended sentence passed on this batch by a Johannesburg magistrate a few days before they were deported to Natal, and the other three months' imprisonment is for the second offence, this being the maximum sentence for a direct infringement of the 1913 Act.

The batch was led by Mr. R. A. Pillay. Many of its members served terms of imprisonment in the first phase of the struggle.

The fourth batch which crossed into the Transvaal on February 15 has been remanded in the Volksrust cells until February 25. By the time sentence is passed on these resisters, they will have spent ten days in jail.

ASSAULTED WHILE UNDER ARREST

JOHANNESBURG.—Reports alleging ill-treatment of Pimville residents by police during the mass raid on the township a few weeks ago are still coming in to the "Guardian" office.

The ex-editor of "Umtetel was Bantu," Mr. Nxumalo, describes being intercepted on the way from Klipfontein to catch a train in Pimville that morning. He was accompanied by some Indian friends, who were also stopped by the police. He was asked to produce his pass six times before he finally reached his train. He heard the police addressing Africans as "kaffirs."

Mr. B. G. Bendile was arrested during the raid. He was arrested as a pass offender, though he had his exemption pass with him, and was released by the police the following day. He alleges he was assaulted five times by various policemen, but when he went to Marshall Square to make a statement he was not attended to. He later made a sworn statement to the Native Commissioner, and at this stage Marshall Square authorities contacted him and asked him to make a statement to them. He told them he had already signed a sworn statement before the Native Commissioner. It was to the effect he had been assaulted five times while under arrest.

WHY GARMENT WORKERS WENT TO COURT

JOHANNESBURG.—The Garment Workers' Union has issued a statement to all trade unions explaining why it went to court to prevent the election of Mr. J. de Vries as secretary of the Trades and Labour Council. It states that although the constitution was flagrantly violated in the conduct of the ballot, a number of members of the Council's National

Executive ignored the representations on this question made by the Garment Workers' Union.

When we indicated that we intended applying to court, the Executive decided to take counsel's opinion. This, according to the Garment workers, indicated clearly that the ballot would have to be set aside. But in spite of that, certain Executive members persisted in upholding the irregularities.

"There was no choice left for us but to make application to the Supreme Court to obtain an order compelling the members of the Executive to carry out the provisions of the constitution."

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

The Garment Workers' Union says that one of its complaints is that the Mine Workers' Union voted on the basis of 20,000, as they "are reliably informed that the paid affiliation fees on that basis. Effective membership of the union does not exceed 6,000 at present."

The Garment Workers' Union would like to see a powerful national trade union.

"There will never be democracy in the Council unless the Executive Committee is elected on a democratic basis by secret ballot and is representative of all sections of workers. As long as the method of electing the Executive by means of the card vote remains, there will be cliques, endless division and friction."

PRETORIA.—During January alone, Africans in the Pretoria district paid £2,016 in fines for being in possession of illicit liquor.

CAMPAIGN FOR LOWER TRAM FARES

JOHANNESBURG.—Launching a campaign in their areas for a return to the 8d. maximum tram fare, the Yeoville and Hillbrow-Berea branches of the Communist Party point out that the City Council could easily afford to restore the old scale of fares.

It was once possible to travel from town to the Yeoville and Observatory termini for 8d. Now passengers must pay 6d. for the same journey.

"During the last council elections the United Party attacked the Labour Party for putting up tram fares," says a leaflet issued in this campaign. "Now they have done the same themselves."

A public meeting to demand the return to the old fares will be held at the Berea Park (corner of Harrow and Abel Roads), on Sunday, February 23, at 3 p.m. Hilda Waitts and Issie Wolfson will speak.

THREAT TO JO'BURG FLOWER SELLERS



The livelihood of this and many other flower sellers in Johannesburg will be jeopardised if the City Council and provincial authorities put into effect a new set of bye-laws and regulations restricting street flower selling in the centre of the city.

PROPOSAL TO FORM NEW T.U. CENTRE

JOHANNESBURG.

THE South African Iron and Steel Trade Association with its head office in Pretoria, has written to the mining, engineering and transport trade unions, suggesting a meeting of representatives of these unions to discuss the formation of a new trade union

co-ordinating

body. The aim of this is to "get together all unions opposed to Native unions affiliated to the same cause." No details are given of the arrangements for such a meeting or conference.

The letter was signed by Mr. L. J. van den Berg, one of the Pretoria trade unionists who walked out of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council conference in Fort Elizabeth in 1947, and whose union subsequently disaffiliated from the S.A.T.L.C.

Talk of a new trade union council comes also from another direction. On April 23, just after this year's S.A.T.L.C. conference, Mr. J. L. P. (Bassie) Botha, acting general secretary of the Mine Workers' Union, said his union would call a conference of "conservative trade unions to discuss the advisability of forming a new council not open to non-registered unions."

Asked by The Guardian what his plans were, Mr. Botha said only recent pressure of work had prevented their furtherance. He had every intention of proceeding with this move. He knew of the Pretoria move, but the mine workers' plan was independent of this. The Pretoria group, said Botha.

"were too extreme side." He could mine workers' any Pretoria might be held.

Hereros Protest Against F Intimidation CONFIRM MICHAEL SCOTT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE

JOHANN

"It should be known that it is not right in a territory that people should be called to the Criminal Investigation Department because they voices heard by the members of the United Nations, they are suspected to have had discussions with our five, the Reverend Michael Scott."

Thus declared Chief Hosea Kutako and headman of the reserves in South-West Africa at a recent meeting in the Aminius Reserve where these chiefs, headmen and leading members of the Herero community publicly stated that the Rev. M. Scott was sent to Lake Success to act as their representative.

The Union Government, in documents submitted to the United Nations, questioned the validity of the petition from South-West Africans. These chiefs and Herero representatives confirmed that Mr. Scott spoke in their name, and expressed their views. "We contend that as the Rev. Michael Scott was appointed by us, the Herero nation, he should be given permission to visit the reserves as well as the areas inhabited by our people known as locations."

"Is this intimidation and victimisation the right procedure in a so-called democratic country? Is this democracy? This country is a mandate and it was given to the administering authority by the League of Nations for the well-being of the African inhabitants. (This we have just learned with the birth of the United Nations.) We also learned that it was given to the South African Government in order that the inhabitants may be educated and developed."

POOR EDUCATION

"Can Standard II or III in education in Africans only by teachers with Standard VI certificates help a nation to advance further and become useful people to themselves, to their fellow-men and to their government? No. They can only become good boys, girls and servants, and also good 'Jims' and 'Johns'."

Laundry Workers' New Branch

PRETORIA.—Laundry workers here have organised into a branch of the National Laundering and Dry Cleaning Workers' Union. Branch officials are: Chairman, Mr. A. Mone; secretary, Mr. C. C. Moelo; treasurer, Mr. A. Ntombela.

The branch was established after the recent strike at one of the laundries over the dismissal of one of the workers. The national union negotiated his reinstatement.



Wits
Students'
Rag

Scenes from the annual Rag of the students of the University of the Witwatersrand, held in Johannesburg recently. Non-European students took part, despite a ban on their participation imposed at the last minute by the principal. The student body decided by an overwhelming majority to defy the ban.



MIROSLAV ZIKMUND AND JIRI HANZELKA, the two Czech journalists who are on a three-and-a-half-year journey around the world in a Czech Tatra motor car, photographed last week in Johannesburg.

Trade Union News

PROGRESS OF AFRICAN TRADE UNIONS' TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JOHANNESBURG—During the first year of its existence the African Trade Unions' Technical Advisory Committee has assisted 16 trade unions, some with financial, legal and technical aid, others by helping to make representations on behalf of the workers.

One training course for trade union leaders has been completed, and a further course is to commence shortly. A pamphlet explaining trade unionism to African workers is being prepared in Bantu languages.

The Committee is now negotiating with the Medical Association regarding a medical benefit scheme for African trade union members not covered by existing funds. The Committee has also assembled a panel of experienced trade unionists to act as negotiators, and to prepare an analysis of existing wage regulating measures.

As a long range objective the Committee plans a building of its own with offices, class rooms, and additional offices which can be rented to African unions; but such a building would require a capital fund of at least £100,000.

The Committee includes the Rev. A. W. Blaxall as chairman; Dr. Ray E. Phillips and Mr. G. Carr, vice-chairman; Mr. E. S. Sachs, secretary; Mr. H. L. Rutter, M.P.C. treasurer. The Committee's organiser is Mr. Mike Muller.

Messrs. J. Briggs and I. Wolfson serve as official representatives of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council.

The Committee appeals for funds towards its building project. Donations should be sent to P.O. Box 5244, Johannesburg.

year in recognition of every year of service after the qualifying period.

MILLINERS AND BUILDERS

JOHANNESBURG.—The Government cost of living index for April in the nine principal areas of the Union has risen to 145.1.

About five hundred millinery workers in the Transvaal are to receive an increase of five per cent. of their basic wage. This will be added to the cost of living allowance paid them, and is provided for in the millinery industry agreement which stipulates that when the official retail price index reaches this figure, this increase be paid to the workers.

Building labourers in the Transvaal are also affected by the official cost of living index. They will receive an increase of 1d. an hour.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

BENEFITS

JOHANNESBURG.—The claims officer of the Unemployment Insurance Benefits Committee has informed The Guardian that the African workers who refused to accept employment at the Roberts Construction Company have been re-instated for benefits.

One hundred and fifty Africans volunteered for work at this company, at a basic wage of 45s. per week. On their arrival there they found that there was some misunderstanding about the wage offered, the employer telling them the wage was 35s. per week. The workers then declined to accept the employment.

When this work was originally offered, approximately 150 additional workers refused to accept it. They were re-instated for benefits, after the matter had been referred to the Benefits Committee.

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“THOSE WHO VALUE LIBERTY”

VIEWS ON THE ELECTIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

“ALL those who value liberty and the democratic way of life will have to rally their forces in order to stem the growing tide of reaction, particularly in the case of another election soon,” said Mr. Alec Hepple, newly elected Labour M.P. for Rosetownville, in an interview with The Guardian.

Mr. Hepple stated the election results were disappointing but not entirely unexpected.

“The issues during the election were confused and the ground was prepared for the Nationalists to cash in on their propaganda. The result shows that anti-democratic appeals have wide support in the country.”

“I believe that if anti-Nationalist forces in the country were organised along practical lines and if abstract issues and bogeys were eliminated, the Nationalists should be defeated.”

The Reverend Michael Scott said: “We must remain true to our convictions and duties. Elections come and go. What our country needs is a movement aimed at building up a more stable economy and one in which all members of the community can give and take their full share.”

MADE A START

“The Non-European people have made a start by holding the People's Assembly for votes for all. The thoughts and prayers of many of us in the country and overseas will be with them in the difficult times that lie ahead. “Our foundations rest upon something stronger and infinitely more enduring than the vagaries of election campaigns. The foundation of a more free and happy future for our country can be built.”

FINE OPPORTUNITY

The Rev. Arthur Blaxall: “Seldom has a country had such a fine opportunity as that confronting South Africa today to discover who are its real leaders and statesmen. The lack of courage on the part of the Union Party leaders, its continual procrastination in carrying out the findings of its own commissions has brought the inevitable nemesis.”

workers! You are not alone in the struggle against oppression. Progressive and liberal groups and individuals are with you, and our relationship to the one and yet divided world is a guarantee that the day of emancipation cannot be postponed indefinitely.”

Mr. Edwin Mofutsanyana, editor of Inkululeko: “All sections of the South African people, irrespective of colour, are terribly shaken. They are waiting to see what the Nationalist Party will do. That is the way of despair. The only way out for the progressive and democratic movement is to come together and rally against fascism.”

“To the vast majority of voiceless people the situation created at the polls last Wednesday constitutes a fine and unique challenge. There is a breathing space before any drastic changes can be effected, time for those who are called the leaders of the people to show the staff of which they are made.

“No doubt, there will be those who will drown the secret fear in their heart by going with the tide. Others will resort to shouting and screaming, but out of all this will emerge those who have the character and the power to lead the people during the days (they may be years) of frustration and injustice, preparing themselves and the people for the day that must dawn when the powers of reaction in South Africa find that the forces of democracy and social righteousness cannot be crushed.”

STAND FIRM

The Rev. D. C. Thompson, chairman of the Mineworkers' Union Organising Fund Committee: “Take courage and stand firm, all

DANGERS OF T.U. SPLIT

JOHANNESBURG.—Mr. Lucas Barnard, secretary of the Furniture Workers' Industrial Union, thinks the move to set up a separate white trade union council is “sinister”.

In an interview with The Guardian he said: “The fact is known to us from the last two conferences of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council that certain groups have set out to break up organised labour in this country.”

“The time must come when all will realise the extreme foolishness of having more than one trade union council in this country. My union will not have anything to do with these new centres. Since it was established in 1925 its aim has always been to organise all labour.”

Barnard said the activities of the Pretoria unions and Mr. Basie Botha (of the Mine Workers' Union) was on the same lines as the Blankewerkersbeskermingsbond.

322 DELEGATES

JOHANNESBURG.—At the People's Assembly for “Votes for All”, 322 delegates from the Transvaal and Orange Free State represented 708,290 people. Seventy-four of the delegates were from the Free State.

Seventeen advisory boards sent delegates.

Forty-three delegates from 27 branches of the African National Congress were present.

There were 48 delegates from 33 trade unions.

Fifty-three delegates, of whom 14 were from the Free State, spoke on behalf of residents' associations.

Eight delegates came from peasant organisations.

Four African chiefs represented 10,000 people from their four tribes.

Twelve factories and three mines sent delegates; there were delegates from religious, student and youth, sporting and cultural organisations.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

A procession of Indians, Africans and Coloureds marched through the streets of Johannesburg after the People's Assembly Votes for All rally. Below is a section of the crowd while left are Mr. Y. A. Cachalia, Mr. D. W. Bopape, Mrs. Hetty du Preez, Mr. James Phillips, Mr. J. B. Marks, and Maulvi I. A. Cachalia, all sponsors and leading individuals associated with the Assembly, who marched at the head of the demonstration.



The Working Committee of the People's Assembly will shortly discuss the next moves in the campaign. The Guardian understands that a joint meeting of the three national organisations will be held to organise the country for a national assembly to support the campaign for full franchise for all.



"YOUR FUTURE IS AT STAKE"

—Jo'burg Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

SIMULTANEOUS anti-Nationalist demonstrations organised by the students of the University of the Witwatersrand and the Springbok Legion took place on Tuesday in front of the University and on the City Hall steps.

Seventeen students signed the leaflet "Your future is at stake," summoning the meeting. It referred to the triumphal processions of the students of Stellenbosch and Pretoria universities following the Nationalist victory and urged a demonstration of solidarity for freedom and that the meeting should consider plans for future action.

The students' meeting was punctuated by a few ineffectual shouts from Nationalist supporters. It passed by an overwhelming Christiane pledging support in the struggle for democratic liberties and condemning the Nationalist policy of racial prejudice and sectionalism, and promising vigilance in the upholding of democratic values.

Student speakers were Sidney Brenner and John Coaker. President of the Students' Representative Council, George Clayton, presided.

Jack Isaacowitz, national chairman of the Springbok Legion, who spoke at both meetings, said: "We have lost an important battle but we have by no means lost the war. To us democracy is a living, vital fact. It must not be allowed to die off by a process of piecemeal erosion." Democracy was indivisible. An attack on any individual, any group, any important, any

community however unpopular, Jew or Gentile, European or Non-European should be resisted from the outset, he said.

"The Nationalists will do only as much as we will let them do."

From the platform of the Springbok Legion Mr. Isaacowitz announced that representations were being made to General Smuts to take the lead in this crisis. Padre du Manoir presided. Mr. Cecil Williams also spoke.

Ban On Teachers

JOHANNESBURG.

A few days before the opening of the People's Assembly, it is reported, a ukase went out from the Transvaal Education Department prohibiting all African teachers from taking part in the movement for "Votes for All."

Resistance Anniversary

JOHANNESBURG. — June 13 this year will mark the second anniversary of the Passive Resistance struggle of the Indian people against the Ghetto Act.

Arrangements are being made in Natal and the Transvaal for the celebration of this anniversary. Certificates of Merit will be presented to passive resisters who have courted imprisonment.

NAT. WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT

THE NATIONALIST PARTY IS NOT A WORKERS' PARTY

JOHANNESBURG.

A PART from their little "Kaffer-Boetie Hofmeyr," the favourite cartoon character of the Nationalists is Hoggelheimer, the symbol of foreign-Jewish Capitalism.

Nationalist Party propagandists have never had much difficulty in finding vote-catching slogans. They are anti-Non-European, anti-Communist, anti-British, anti-immigrant, and anti-Semitic (these when it suits them) all in turn. And, on occasions they are even anti-Capitalist, and claim to be the "real workers' party!"

Among the leaders of the Nationalist Party and its candidates in last week's election there are few workers. But there is a good collection of directors of insurance companies and banks like Eric Louw, former M.P., Dr. Karl Bremer, Dr. Stals, and Albert Hertzog; co-directors like Dr. Ross and Mr. Tom Naudé; businessmen like Vereninging's Dr. Look; landowners and speculators like many of the Free State and Cape candidates; lawyers and professional men, and full-time politicians.

THE REDDINGSDAADBOND

The myth of the Nationalist Party as the saviours of the Afrikaans workers began to be cultivated in the middle '30s, particularly on the Witwatersrand, to

which the Nationalists were turning their attention at this time. Centre of the plot was the Reddingsdaadbond. This movement was conceived originally by J. D. Kestell as a plan for the betterment of the conditions of the poor whites.

In a few years the Reddingsdaadbond became one of the largest capitalist organisations in South Africa.

By 1941, Dr. Diedrich, chief organiser of the Bond, was saying in speeches: "If the Reddingsdaadbond dies, so, too, will the Volk."

ECONOMIC BOYCOTT

The tactic of the economic boycott was used. Loyal members and supporters of the Bond would not deal with non-Afrikaans—or non-Nationalist—firms. Violent propaganda in the Afrikaans Press furthered the movement. Contributions in peace and shillings from the people filled the Bond coffers.

But by 1943 statements such as one contained in a letter to Die Burger were becoming quite frequent. A Reverend J. W. Coetsee wrote that the Reddingsdaadbond was "descending from a motive of service to that of profit."

THE signs were obvious. Armed with its subscribed funds, the Reddingsdaadbond was helping to open companies and shops, retail and wholesale businesses, financial houses — and fighting existing businesses speedily in the interests of Afrikaanderdom, but really to remove competitors.

By the beginning of 1944 the Bond had helped to establish 400 businesses, and was claiming that Afrikaners had withdrawn £2,000,000 of their capital from "foreigners" and invested it in their own enterprises.

South Africa's poor whites had already faded out of the picture.

PEOPLE'S BANKS

The Afrikaans "People's Banks" have much the same history.

Volkskas was started in February, 1935, as a people's savings bank and small loans bank. In 1941 the bank services were extended to include ordinary commercial banking. Now it has 80 branches in the Union and a capital of £1,500,000 in one pound shares.

It does not even restrict its services to Afrikaanderdom — as do all the other "volk" businesses! Professor J. L. du Piessis declared in 1942: "Although our bank maintains its character as a 'volk' bank in the national sense, it is increasingly becoming an establishment serving the whole community."

In 1936 the combined capital of Sashbank, Volkskas and Spoorbondkas was 550,000. In a few years this capital had grown to £2,000,000.

Profits of Volkskas increased from £15,000 in 1944 to £33,855 in 1945 and then 565,542 in 1947.

The Federal Volksbedryfsins, established in 1945 (compared to £11,000 in 1943), was established. Also the Kopersbond, controlling a series of retail businesses, and Afrikaans enterprises in the spheres of wholesale trade, tobacco, wool, cement, salt-works, cold storage, clothing, furniture, insurance, the film industry and many others.

(To be continued.)



DEAD END KIDS.—Youngsters from the Western Areas, Sophiatown and Newclare, who grow up in the gutters and learn to use a dice-board before they can read a book.

Some Johannesburg citizens with Mr. Ivor Apple and the Rev. Trevor Huddleston in the lead, are planning to convert 300 acres of barren land into a recreation centre and sports stadium, which will do away with scenes such as the one pictured above. The whole scheme, which will include an artificial lake, miniature zoo, swimming baths, botanical garden, sports fields, and club rooms, will cost a lot, but plans are going ahead. Architects, builders and engineers will be asked to volunteer their technical skill and the aid of the people living in the Western Areas will also be enlisted.



Several thousand students of the University of the Witwatersrand at a meeting last week condemned the Nationalist Party policy of racial prejudice and sectionalism and promised vigilance in the upholding of democratic principles. Top (inset) Mr. John Coaker and (right) Mr. George Clayton, president of the Students' Representative Council, address the students.

NATS WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT

THE first half of this article, which appeared in last week's *Guardian*, traced the development of the Beddingsdaadbond, the Afrikaans People's Banks, and various Afrikaans and Nationalist-inspired enterprises in the wholesale and retail trade in South Africa.

The figureheads of this economic development, the men who serve as directors of the companies, are in many cases Nationalist Party leaders. And some of these leaders are directors not only of the "volk" companies but of others, too.

So, for example, Eric Louw, Member of Parliament for Beaufort West, is a director of both Sanlam and Santam, the insurance companies; and also of the Bonus Investment Corporation of South

Africa, which has a capital of £2,000,000. Dr. A. J. Stals, M.P. for Ceres, is a director of Volkskas, together with Dr. Albert Hertog; and also serves on the board of Klipfontein Consolidated Collieries.

Dr. Kaal Bremer, former M.P. for Stellenbosch, is a director of South African Mutual Life Assurance. His co-directors are Braucher de Villiers, also of his party, and Major Piet van der Byl, former Minister of Native Affairs. Mr. Tom Naudé, of Pietersburg, is a director of Alpha Consolidated Witbank Collieries and Alpha Free State Holdings. A co-director of the latter is United Party member Morris Kentridge.

The Ossewa-Brandwag leader Dr. J. F. J. van Rensburg, is a director of both Sanlam and Santam.

AFRIKANER PARTY

And leaders of the Afrikaner Party are not left out in the cold either. Mr. Havenga is a director of the Ace Cycle and Engineering Company, the Capital Match Corporation and Pan-African Tanneries, as well as of his own Press. Mr. Harm Oost, of the same party, is a director of Continental Timbers (together with United Party member Karel Rood), of Porterfield Estates and Marble, Lime and Associated Industries.

To balance this assortment of company directors and big farmers there are very few workers among the big guns of the Nationalist Party.

The Nationalist Party must represent the poor or the rich. It can obviously not represent both. Under the guise of saving Afrikanerdom in the economic sphere a small group of business men have managed to entrench themselves. There is no reason to believe that the poor worker will receive better treatment as a worker whether employed by an Afrikaans-speaking employer or a non-Afrikaans employer.

Economic interests are more powerful than any racial myth even if the Nationalist Party will not admit this. And even the demagoguery of the Nationalists can not resolve these economic conflicts or turn the party of Afrikaans industrialists and landowners into a party of the workers.

RESISTERS' TRUCE Approaches To New Government

JOHANNESBURG.

INDIAN Passive Resistance has been suspended temporarily, pending a statement on the Government's Indian policy by Dr. Malan. At the same time, according to their announcement, the Indians will continue to oppose all segregation policies and to co-operate with all freedom-loving sections of the South African people.

The suspension of resistance is apparently a temporary truce and whether the campaign against segregation will be renewed—possibly in a new and more definite form—will now depend on the policy adopted by the Government.

The Joint Council asks for a clear pronouncement from the new Government on its policy towards the Indian people, and "considers it necessary that a delegation from the Natal and Transvaal Indian Congresses should have an interview with the new Government forthwith for the purpose of discussing ways and means to solve the existing deadlock.

The Joint Council states that, "following the tenets of satyagraha, as enunciated by the late Mahatma Gandhi," it wants any discussions to be held in an atmosphere removed from strained conditions and without prejudice.

See editorial on Dr. Malan and the Indians on page four.

The Joint Council is aware, it states, that the Nationalist Party believes in the policy of "apartheid." This policy is repugnant to the Indian people. The Joint Council is determined to continue its opposition to injustice and oppression, and reiterates its desire to co-operate with all other freedom-loving sections of the South African population.

The policy of racial segregation and political disfranchisement of the Indian people is rejected, and the Indian community is pledged to the attainment of full citizenship rights.

DETERMINED OPPOSITION

Impressions gained in talks with prominent Resistance leaders from both provinces show they are determined as ever to oppose oppressive laws, writes The Guardian's Johannesburg correspondent.

They are well aware that the Nationalists are not exactly well disposed towards the Indians. Indeed, before the elections on May 28 the Transvaal Indian Congress in a provincial conference resolution said a victory for the Nationalist Party would "definitely put the clock back on the Indian people."

Indian leaders are aware, too, that part of the Nationalist Party's "apartheid" plan requires the registration of the Indian people as an "alien element."

Port Elizabeth Transport Workers

JOHANNESBURG.

Owing largely to the assistance of the South African Trades and Labour Council, the Port Elizabeth Road Passenger Transport Union has received an assurance from the Department of Labour that an agreement concluded with employers, which began to operate unofficially from February 1, will be recommended for acceptance to the Minister of Labour, and will be extended to cover other employers who are not yet members of the Industrial Council.

This was the result of a deputation to the Labour Department consisting of Mr. Mann, a vice-president of the Trades and Labour Council, Mr. I. Wolfson, and Messrs. E. F. Farquhar and Coupe, of the Passenger Transport Union.

Originally the Department of Labour notified the union and the employers that it objected to certain portions of the agreement.

Officials of the union wished their appreciation of the assistance of Mr. Forsyth, secretary of the Trades and Labour Council, and that of other officials, to be placed on record.

Springbok Legion's Warning Words

Statement On The Elections

JOHANNESBURG.

The pattern of events in Germany after 1933 is likely to be the pattern of development in this country under the new Government, says the Springbok Legion in a statement issued this week.

The statement adds that Dr. Malan's recent broadcast speech was obviously designed to satisfy his own people and allay the fears of other sections of the community.

"We must persistently warn the people of this country against the fatal mistake of believing that the present moderate tone of the Nationalist Government represents its permanent policy. This moderation will be superseded by the true repressive policy of the Nationalist Party once it has served its purpose of enabling the Nationalists to achieve a firm majority."

ONE BY ONE

The Legion states that the Nationalists attack their enemies one by one. They will start by attacking the weakest and most extreme sections while placating others.

"The Democratic Parliamentary Front" of the United Party and the Labour Party, the statement adds, "must defend its weakest members the most vigorously, because each defeat of the component part is a defeat for the whole group."

Reference to the coming Provincial Council elections, the Legion calls for the continuation of the U.P.-Labour electoral agreement and the rejection of all independents.

Communist Candido

JOHANNESBURG.

Michael Harmel and Danie Plessis, Communist candidates in the general election, wish to thank all supporters and help in the constituencies they tested—Hillbrow and Troy

The Guardian Investigates the

SUGAR RACKET

S.A.'S BIGGEST BLACK-MARKET

JOHANNESBURG.

HOW many people, after they have bought 25, 40 or 60 worth of sugar from their grocer, bother to find a scale and weigh their packet? Not many, I guess. Many in the poorer areas probably know already that their packets are hopelessly underweight . . . and they have become used to the cut-throat robbery in the sugar business.

Probably the biggest black-market in South Africa at the moment is in sugar. Many small shopkeepers in Johannesburg are making 150 per cent. profit and more on their sugar sales.

Last week three African members of The Guardian staff in Johannesburg, armed with small change and pencils and paper, went to buy sugar from grocery shops in Jeppe and Woluter, City and Suburban, Newtown, Fordsburg and Ferretersdorp, Dornfontein, Hillbrow and Sophiatown.

— They were "casual customers" — like the thousands of workers, European and Non-European, who do not have accounts with regular grocers.

In two days they visited 35 shops in those suburbs. At 21 out of these 35 shops they got no sugar. Sometimes there was just "No sugar, sorry." At other shops they were told they had to buy tea and coffee as well if they wanted sugar.

PACKETS AND PROFITS
All in all, they emerged with 14 little packets of sugar. The packets were weighed on an accurate scale.

The result? At three different shops they got three different-sized packets — one pound 12 ounces, one pound 6 ounces, and one pound 4 ounces. Each cost 1s.

Remember the present price of sugar? 4½d a pound! There were nine 4d. packets of sugar. They weighed one pound 5 ounces, one pound 2 ounces, three weighed one pound each, then 15½ ounces, 15 ounces, 14½ ounces, and 12½ ounces.

A 4d. packet weighed 10 ounces, and one for 2d. 7 ounces. An interesting haul!

The average worker thus often has to pay two or three times the controlled price for sugar.

He often pays black market prices not only for sugar but also for mealie meal, and 3d. for five slices of bread with a thin covering of jam.

WANTS TO KNOW
Seething with resentment, he wants many questions answered.

Is the sugar quota system to stores an equitable one? Does the shopkeeper in a working-class area get anything like enough pockets of sugar each month to serve the needs of his customers? Is the price controller working hard enough to trap black marketeers? Does the Government know the

sugar needs of the people and is the sugar industry organised to meet these needs? How is it that a sugar-producing company such as the Dornkop Sugar Estates made a profit of £2,000 in 1946 with an output of about 13,000 tons of sugar, while a year later, in 1947, its profits soar to £10,800 with a reduced output of 9,900 tons of sugar?

African Church Burned Down

JOHANNESBURG.

On the farm of Rooiplatz, in the Premier Mine District near Pretoria, a farmer objected to the African A.M.E. Church standing on his land. He objected, also, to the fact that the church building was used as a school for the children of the African labour tenants in the district.

So on April 23, in broad daylight and in full view of members of the congregation, the farmer's son set fire to the thatched roof of the church. Soon the structure of thatch and burnt brick was razed to the ground.

The matter was reported to the police, but so far they have taken no action.

And this after Die Kruthoring, Nationalist organ, made its readers' flesh creep just before the General Election with stories of how "Red Bolshevism" burnt thousands of churches and "changed churches into cowsheds."

Eric Louw Didn't Know

JOHANNESBURG.

Eric Louw, M.P. and member of Malan's Cabinet, is well-known for his obsession with the Jewish menace.

Remember his performance in November, 1944, when, as a member of the House Public Accounts Committee he announced he had information showing that the housing shortage was due to the fact that the cement not exported for war purposes "was being stored by the Jews?"

Mr. J. W. Mabele, chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, subsequently stated: "I can only say I know of no such information given to the Public Accounts Committee."

So Eric Louw didn't really know the cause of the housing shortage!

Trade Union Split Would Play Into Employers' Hands

JOHANNESBURG.

"Any idea of forming separate trade union co-ordinating councils will play into the hands of the employers. Now, more than ever, is the time for all workers to stand together."

This is the opinion of Mr. L. Wolfson, secretary of the Tailoring Workers' Industrial Union, and a member of the national executive of the South African Trades and Labour Council, on the proposed new white workers' trade union centre.

The suggestion that white workers should break away from the Council to form a new colour-bar trade union council comes from the Pretoria Iron and Steel Trades Association. Mr. Van den Berg, secretary of this union, told The Guardian that letters inviting trade unions to participate in discussions on this new body have been sent to "all those unions in favour of a separate council at one time or another." Mr. Van den Berg said hardly any unions had yet responded to the circular letter.

Mr. J. J. VENTER

Mr. Wolfson said the Trades and Labour Council should be strengthened and all workers rallied around it to fight for a lower cost of living, improved wages, better working conditions and housing. These were the issues that mattered and on which the workers should stand united.

Mr. J. J. Venter, a vice-president of the South African Trades and Labour Council, and secretary of the Municipal Transport Workers' Union, said something had to be done on the vital issues affecting the workers, such as the high cost of living and antiquated labour laws.

"These are always the issues, though governments may change." Powerful trade unions and a strong and united trade union centre were indispensable to fight for the demands, the workers in these spheres.

CALL FOR UNITY

People's Leaders Interviewed

CALL FOR UNITY

"I see the need for the immediate consolidation of the trade unions and national liberation movements. This is the urgent task to-day," commented Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the African Mine Workers' Union, in an interview with our Johannesburg correspondent.

DANGER OF INCITEMENT

Miss Betty du Preez, secretary of the "B" Branch of the Garment Workers' Union (Transvaal) said it was obvious the Nationalist Party policy on trade unions would "incite one section of workers against another".

Their opposition to free workers' trade unions boded ill for the labour movement in this country. "All people must guard against any attack on their civil liberties," said Miss du Preez.

Mr. Norman Calvert, secretary of the Coloured Building Workers' Union, told *The Guardian* he thought General Smuts' policy over many years was largely responsible for Dr. Malan's victory.

"But," he said, "there are too many Coloured people saying to-day that it matters little which government is in power. It certainly does matter. It is my belief that Dr. Malan must carry out a repressive policy against the Non-Europeans if he is to satisfy his white electorate.

"There is a definite threat to the Coloured franchise in the Cape."

"VOTES FOR ALL" ASSEMBLY

Mr. A. I. Meer, a vice-president of the Natal Indian Congress, thought the defeat of General Smuts could have been averted had the United Party followed, instead of a policy of racialism and appeasement, one of racial tolerance and the broadening of democracy.

"I am looking forward eagerly to the National Assembly for 'Votes for All,'" added Mr. Meer. "That is something in the right direction which merits the support of all progressives."

"If ever there was a time when the leaders of the Non-European people should not think of their little kingdoms, but should stake their all in the great struggle that lies ahead, this is the time," said Mr. Dan Tloome, one of the three secretaries of the People's Assembly for Votes for All.

Mr. Tloome said the Working Committee of the Assembly was to discuss shortly the next moves in the campaign. His personal opinion was that the closest co-operation of all Non-European organisations was needed in planning the future programme of the "Votes for All" campaign.

"The demand for the extension of democratic rights to all sections of the Non-Europeans remains still the only solution

if we want a truly representative and democratic Government," Mr. Tloome said.

The first stage in the "Votes for All" campaign had rallied to the Transvaal and Orange Free State Assembly delegates representing more people than had cast their votes in these two provinces, said Mr. Tloome.

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TRADE UNIONS ANGERED

WON'T TOLERATE SCHOEMAN'S PLANS

JOHANNESBURG.

"THE S.A. Trades and Labour Council is opposed to any interference on the part of any Government with trade union organisation, whether by legislation, administrative measures, or by any other method," says a statement of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council issued by its General Secretary, Mr. A. G. Forsyth, following a full meeting of the Council's National Executive held on Tuesday morning to consider recent pronouncements by Labour Minister Schoeman on the Government's future labour policy.

Once again the Council
"REAFFIRMS THE ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES OF ALL CIVILISED COUNTRIES, PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE EMBODIED IN A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS, THAT ALL WORKERS, IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE, COLOUR OR CREED, ARE ENTITLED TO

ABSOLUTE FREEDOM OF ORGANISATION AND THE RIGHT OF BARGAINING COLLECTIVELY WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS THROUGH THEIR TRADE UNION ORGANISATIONS."

The statement adds that workers have the full right to manage their trade unions in terms of their constitutions and are entitled to determine policy and elect officials in accordance with the wishes of the membership.

On the announcement that the training of African artisans would cease, the Council says "the interests of all workers and the country as a whole would be best served by affording all sections of the people the opportunity to become efficient, but the Council is opposed to any attempts to undermine the hard-won standards of the skilled workers by the exploitation of Africans."

"This intricate problem," says the Council, "cannot be solved by Government decrees but only by an understanding between organised employers and the organised trade union movement, based on a policy which will give maximum efficiency and productivity but which will not undermine the standards of the higher-paid workers and will protect workers against exploitation."

"A BETRAYAL OF THE DEAD"

EX-SOLDIERS PROTEST AGAINST RELEASE OF TRAITORS

JOHANNESBURG.

BARELY a few hours after the announcement by Mr. C. R. Swart, Minister of Justice, that Liebrandt and other traitors serving sentences of imprisonment were to be released, there was a great storm of protest from ex-servicemen and anti-fascists alike.

Issuing a statement on behalf of the Springbok Legion, the national secretary, Mr. Jack Hodgson, told The Guardian it was highly significant that one of the first actions of the Malan Government was, not to provide relief from shortages of food and accommodation and similar irritations, but to take political action in keeping with the conduct and avowed policy of the Nationalists during the war years.

Mr. Swart, Minister of Justice, spoke of the "deep desire of the new Government to relieve the people of the Union from the strain of the war years and to endeavour to end all the unpleasantness and rancour which flowed from it."

"Not only does this action do much to revive the distrust and foreboding of those sections of the community which the Nationalists have done their best to reassure," said Mr. Hodgson, "but it will arouse bitterness and rancour in the hearts of those relatives, friends and comrades-in-arms of South Africa's 10,000 war dead."

The Legion viewed this action as "a betrayal of all those things for which we fought, and of those South Africans who died."

In a front page article on Monday, Die Burger, explains away Swart's dictatorial action by saying he was merely completing the task of releasing political prisoners

(Continued in page 2)

Assault On Policeman Alleged

JOHANNESBURG.—The trial of Abe Manala of the Tin Workers' Union and a member of the Communist Party, who is alleged to have assaulted a European policeman during a meeting on the City Hall steps on April 25, is still proceeding.

During the last hearing in the Magistrate's Court, Miss Betty du Toit, secretary of the Laundry and Dry Cleaning Workers' Union, gave evidence to the effect that it was not Manala, but another European policeman who had thrown the stone which struck Constable Kruger. She stated that she turned to Kruger and said: "Look! You see what one of your mates has done to you?" Only later in the trial Miss Du Toit was standing in the foyer at Marshall Square and saw Constable Prinsloo, the man who had thrown the stone, pushing Manala about, did she realise that Prinsloo, who was in civilian clothes, was a member of the police force. She then laid a charge against Constable Prinsloo.

The hearing has been adjourned to June 18. Advocate P. Boshoff is appearing for Manala.

Mineworkers' Elections Invalidated

JOHANNESBURG.—The election of shaft stewards of the Mineworkers' Union, which were held on May 5, have been declared invalid by Mr. Justice Nester in the Pretoria Supreme Court. The union has been interdicted from proceeding with the election of the General Council and other committees.

The Mineworkers' Union has appealed against this decision. The application for the order was brought by a Boksburg miner.

A few days earlier it was announced that the election for shaft-stewards, with the exception of Kimberley where there was a tie in the voting, had resulted in a victory for the present executive, led by Mr. Basie Botha, the union secretary. The executive would have 29 supporters on the general committee, as against 26 supporters for the United Mineworkers' Committee, the body which struck against the leadership of the union in 1947 and received financial aid and publicity from the Nationalists.

Nat. Plot Against Trades Council

JOHANNESBURG.

The Nationalist plan to smash the Trades and Labour Council is now beginning to emerge into the open. A new trade union co-ordinating body to be known as the "Koördinerende Raad van Vakbonde" is now almost officially launched.

But although twelve Pretoria unions are reported to have already approved the draft constitution for the new body and a meeting next month will elect a "council", neither the acting chairman nor the acting secretary of the organisation were prepared to tell The Guardian the names of the unions associated with this move.

The chairman, Mr. L. J. van den Berg, "did not have the names on him." The secretary, a Mr. Bezuidenhout, said nothing was definite yet and he could give no details.

It is understood that the new trade union body will have as its main objects the "protection of the rights of European workers," and the elimination of Communism from the trade union movement.

The new body was to become a home for "all who did not feel happy in the present Trades and Labour Council," said a spokesman of the new Council.

It would also "act in the interests of Bantu workers."

"A DISTINCT ADVANCE"?

African Housing On Free State Gold Mines

JOHANNESBURG.—An experimental village to which African miners would be allowed to bring their families was being planned by the Anglo-American Corporation for its new Free State gold mines, Mr. J. D. Rheinallt Jones told members of Race Relations study circles last week.

The first village would provide for only 500 families. Whether other villages would be built would depend on the success of the experiment.

The houses would be semi-detached and would be situated in a present round a community centre and recreation grounds. Agricultural plots would be provided for those miners who wished to cultivate them.

Single workers were to be housed in double-storey "hostels". Mr. Jones said they were a "distinct advance" on present housing conditions of African miners. They would accommodate 10 men to a room, would be centrally heated, would have separate eating quarters and ante-rooms with steel lockers.

The miners would no longer have to walk across the open veld to the shaft-heads. A tunnel, not exposed to the elements, would lead to the shafts.

Mr. Rheinallt-Jones is adviser on native affairs to the Anglo-American Corporation.

"ONE OF THE MOST FRUSTRATING THINGS"

Designing Houses For Africans

JOHANNESBURG.

THE houses for Africans being built today would be the slums of 1968, an architect, Mr. Watson, told members of Race Relations study circles during a discussion and symposium on African housing last week.

He found designing a house in an African area to-day "one of the most frustrating things" he had ever done. "You end up with a mere shelter—a box that keeps the elements out," said Mr. Watson.

The Africans had to be provided with an urban environment that they "deserved," he thought. "Otherwise there would be 'colossal slums'." Mr. Watson added that "driving through Orlando was a 'most depressing experience'."

The study circles were told that two-thirds of the entire population of Port Elizabeth was housed in sub-economic housing schemes; only one-third could afford to pay economic rentals for their homes.

The conclusion to be drawn was that workers, particularly Africans, were not being paid high enough wages. As a result they could not afford economic rents, and consequently tax- and ratepayers had to subsidise their housing schemes. The solution was a higher wage standard.

Mr. Douglas Cowin told the gathering that the minimum standards for houses fixed by the Slums Act were "far too low". The conditions in which many urban and rural dwellers lived could only be described as "scandalous". A sub-committee of the National Housing and Planning Commission was engaged in working out new housing standards.

T.L.C. TO SEND DEPUTATION TO MALAN

JOHANNESBURG.

The Trades and Labour Council has decided to send a deputation to the Prime Minister, Dr. Malan, to present to him a memorandum setting forth the viewpoint of organised workers on matters such as the cost of living and industrial legislation.

The memorandum to be presented is the one originally prepared for the use of the Council deputation to General Smuts. It is now being translated into Afrikaans and brought up to date.

NATS. WANT AN ENGLISH PAPER

JOHANNESBURG.—There have been many letters in the Nationalist Press suggesting that an English paper should be started without delay. In the meantime, Havena's paper, Die Vaderland, is publishing an English Bulletin twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The bulletin soft-soaps its readers, assuring them in a number of articles in each issue that the Nationalist Government will safeguard the rights of the English-speaking section and all other races, too. "We want harmony and goodwill," is its cry. It appeals to the electorate to give the new Government "a fair chance".

It is understood that the council is preparing a reply on this question.

Smuts On Mass Murder In Greece

JOHANNESBURG.

Both the Greek Minister Plenipotentiary in South Africa and General Smuts, when he was still Prime Minister, replied to the protests of the South African Trades and Labour Council against the mass executions of democrats in Greece.

Both took the line that the council was not in possession of the full "facts".

It is understood that the council is preparing a reply on this question.

Joburg's Housing Target

JOHANNESBURG.—Mr. H. I. Venables, manager of the Non-European Affairs Department of the Johannesburg City Council, said in a report to the Housing Committee that Johannesburg requires a construction target of at least 200 houses a week for five years if it is to solve its African housing problem.

W.F.T.U. Conference In December

JOHANNESBURG.

The conference of all bodies affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions will take place in Brussels in December of this year.

The South African Trades and Labour Council has asked all unions to support the sending of a South African delegation of two members.

Resisters Given Certificates

JOHANNESBURG. One hundred and twelve passive resisters were presented with certificates of merit at the meeting held last Sunday to mark the second anniversary of the struggle. All of them had served terms of imprisonment during the past year.

The meeting passed a resolution paying tribute to Doctors Dadoo, Naidoo and Coomans and the 2,000 resisters who have already been in prison.

The resolution pledged the determination of the Indian people to continue the struggle.

The Rev. D. C. Thompson said: "The struggle will not be easy. No struggle for democracy is. But one day a better state of affairs will emerge. Let us fight, by non-violence or methods of non-co-operation perhaps, but always for the great cause."

Other speakers included Mr. James Phillips, of the A.P.O., Mr. Nana Sita, Dr. Anusyah Singh, of the Natal Indian Congress, and Messrs. Y. Cachalia, T. N. Naidoo and G. H. J. Pahad.

TRADE UNION NEWS

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' CONFERENCE

Johannesburg. — The annual conference of the National Union of Commercial Travellers will take place from June 21 to June 25 in the board room of the Pretoria Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. J. Calder, president of the Trades and Labour Council, will open the conference.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON CLOSING

Johannesburg. — The National Union of Distributive Workers has applied for a Conciliation Board for Saturday afternoon closing.

Notice of this has been served on four employers' organisations and over 1,000 employers in Johannesburg, Pretoria and on the East and West Rand.

GLASS WORKERS

Johannesburg. — Glass workers have submitted proposals for a new agreement to employers in the glass industry.

They have applied for an increase of 25 per cent. on their

basic wage, and a wage of £2 10s. a week for labourers. They ask also for a 40-hour week; six paid holidays a year, including May Day; a closed shop; three weeks' leave of absence on full pay; sick leave and two free overalls a year to each worker.

TRADE UNION HISTORIES

Johannesburg. — The Trades and Labour Council has asked all trade unions to write up the histories of their unions for the benefit of their members and the trade union movement generally.

Railway Workers And The Malan Govt.

Questions That Worry Them

JOHANNESBURG.

WILL the victory of the Malan Government give a fillip to the Spoorbond and its spitting tactics designed to weaken the six railway unions? Does the change of government bring hopes of better pay and working conditions? Is the system of political appointments and promotion likely to be on the up-grade?

These are the questions worrying the worker on the Railways — be he artisan or clerk, fireman or high-up administrative worker.

Mr. Basson of the Artisan Staff Association said he did not think the railway worker looked forward to any Utopia. But all were intent on maintaining their present positions, at the very least. He said the Spoorbond never really affected the Artisans' Association.

In answer to the question: "Are the conditions of artisans likely to improve?" Mr. Basson said: "Well, they will if the Government carries out its election promises; but I don't see how it can."

Mr. Steyn of Salestaff said: "As far as we are concerned Spoorbond never existed." He thought it would be very unfortunate if the existing set-up of the six railway unions coming together to discuss common interests on a joint council were disturbed. He hoped nothing would be done to upset the present conciliation machinery on the railways.

On the question of political appointments and promotions, Mr. Steyn said his association had in the past taken up the issue of

Civil Servants Can Now Join Broederbond and O.B.

JOHANNESBURG.

Civil Servants may now join the Broederbond and Osewabrandwag. A proclamation in the Government Gazette last week, countersigned by the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart, repeals Regulations 6, 7 and 8 of the National Security Regulations of 1941.

It was under these regulations that the previous Government banned membership of the O.B. and Broederbond to State employees. The regulations are concerned with associations to which State employees may not belong and the proceedings in which they may not participate.

Deputation To Minister Of Labour

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Trades and Labour Council has asked the Minister of Labour, Mr. Ben Schoeman, to receive a deputation to discuss the Minister's recent statements on trade union policy and the resolution of policy drafted by the Council in reply to these statements.

The deputation is to consist of the President and Secretary of the Council, Messrs J. Calder and A. G. Forsyth, and also Messrs J. J. Venter, S. Mann, C. H. Crompton, G. McCormick, W. A. Coull, G. C. Storrar, L. Barnard and E. S. Sachs.

THEY BOYCOTT THEIR RATIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

LAST week several hundred clerks and labourers in the compound of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association decided to boycott their compound rations. This is to demonstrate their dissatisfaction with the compound food. It is also in protest against the W.N.L.A.'s ignoring their representations for better wages and conditions, made in September last year.

Two hundred and thirty-five workers are affected.

One of the workers told The Guardian why there was dissatisfaction.

"The meat is worse than dog's meat," he said. "It is the special mixture sold by butchers as 'compound'. The meat ration was cut by six ounces in January, 1946, and has never been restored."

The mealie meal has worms, said this worker. "It has to be washed and sifted three times before we can eat it. When cooked, it turns brown, so bad is it."

"The bread has no flour in it. It is just mealies—bad mealies."

The ration of kaffir beer was cut off in January, 1946, because of a malt shortage. No beer has been served since that date.

Numerous representations have

been made to the compound manager. The reply is always: "We'll see what we can do for you."

Workers who have been on the mines proper (the W.N.L.A. is the reception depot for African miners) allege the food in this compound is worse than they have ever had.

On the first day of the boycott three workers were called to the Compound Manager, but they refused to make a statement. The attitude of the workers is that no individuals must be victimised for the boycott, and the Council of Non-European Trade Unions which has made representation on the workers' behalf, is there to negotiate for them.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ONLY TO "EXTREME" CASES

—Says Minister Of
Native Affairs

JOHANNESBURG.
In, perhaps, the first assault of the Nationalist Government on the Unemployment Benefit Act, the Minister of Native Affairs has sent a telegram to all benefit committees, instructing them on how to administer the Act.

The Minister's telegram sent out at the beginning of June says the amendment of the Act is being considered.

Meanwhile the Minister instructs that the Act shall be "rigidly applied" in respect of "Natives" and benefits granted only in "extreme" cases. Unemployment claims officers must be instructed to give effect to this policy as far as is "practicable under the present law."

On no account must benefits be paid to Africans not entitled to them.



The Rev. D. C. Thompson, speaking at a meeting in Johannesburg to mark the second anniversary of the Indian Passive Resistance Movement. The Rev. Thompson is a director of The Guardian.

Conference Of African Trade Unions

JOHANNESBURG.
A move to end the disunity in the African trade union movement is being made by the African Trade Unions' Technical Advisory Committee. An informal conference of African trade union leaders is to be held on June 27 at the Trades Hall.

All organisations of African workers are invited to send representatives to this conference which is to discuss the problems of trade union organisation of African workers.

The conveners of the conference are the Reverend A. W. Bixall and Messrs. W. G. Ballinger, D. Kooza, E. Mfill, S. E. Mogyoe, E. S. Sachs and Dr. Ray. E. Phillips. It is their belief that "the present state of disunity existing among African trade unionists—both as regards organisation and on matters of policy—is not in the interests of the workers."

Each trade union may send all its executive members.

There are at present two trade union councils of Non-European Workers in the Transvaal—the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions and a body representing only African unions which split from the Transvaal Council in October, 1947.

Against State Interference

JOHANNESBURG.
Distributive workers on the Witwatersrand support the stand taken by the Trades and Labour Council against State interference in trade unions.

A meeting of the "A" branch of the National Union of Distributive Workers held here last week approved and endorsed the statement of policy issued by the Council in response to Minister Schoeman's trade union policy statements.

Katie Kagan Memorial

JOHANNESBURG.
A fund for the memorial of the late National Secretary of the National Union of Distributive Workers, Mrs. Katie Kagan, is to be launched at a meeting to be held in Johannesburg on July 28.

National Assembly For Votes For All

JOHANNESBURG.
The National Movement of the Non-Europeans, the Indian Congress, African Congress and African People's Organisation have been asked to meet and to assume the calling and sponsorship of a National Assembly for Votes for All.

In letters addressed to these three movements, the joint secretaries of the Transvaal-Orange Free State Assembly draw attention to the resolution of that Assembly calling for a national franchise campaign. The letter urges a joint meeting as soon as possible to start discussions on steps to be taken.

SWART PROMISES "DRASTIC ACTION" AGAINST COMMUNISTS

DANIE DU PLESSIS INTERVIEWED

JOHANNESBURG.

FOR the last few weeks the Nationalist Press has turned the spotlight on Communist "fellow-travellers" (and here Malan takes a tip from the American witch-hunters) of the Labour Party, the Springbok Legion, the Trades and Labour Council; and even the United Party and the Sons of England.

Discussing this anti-Left offensive, Danie du Plessis, secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, said this trick of labelling all and sundry "Communists" was an old one. The Communists found it an effective technique to disorganise its opposition and then destroy democracy, "hacking off limb by limb".

"The Government talks of deporting Communists," said Mr. du Plessis. "They try to convey the impression that the Communists are foreigners. The Communist Party of South Africa is a product of the working class of this country." And he added as an afterthought: "Where are they going to deport me? I was born in the Northern Transvaal at Belfast!"

THREAT TO DEMOCRACY

Mr. du Plessis described the anti-Communist propaganda drive as aimed to conceal the activities of the Malan Government and its threat to democracy.

"Why are they so keen to get our Party out of the way?" he asked, and then answered his own question: "Because they know the Communists are in the forefront of the struggles for a better life for the working people and in the oppressed 'nationalities' in this country."

Latest move comes from the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart, who, in an interview exclusive to Die Vaderlant's English Bulletin, assures the country of "ACTION SHORTLY AGAINST COMMUNISTS".

(Continued on page 2)

What Was Smuts' Reply To U.N.O.?

JOHANNESBURG.

Mystery surrounds South Africa's reply to the Trusteeship Council's questions on South-West Africa, prepared and despatched by the Smuts Government before the elections. It appears that not a single copy of the 231-page document can be obtained in the Union. Nobody knows the Union's attitude on South-West Africa, now on record at Lake Success.

The replies to the Trusteeship Council's exhaustive questionnaire on the administration of the mandate were sent from the Union on May 21. The Press said as much. They were circulated at U.N.O. on July 14.

The Secretary for External Affairs told The Guardian no copies of the document were available, and in any case he could not "release it yet".

SWART PROMISES ACTION

(Continued from page 1)

"The steps are likely to be drastic," foreshadows the bulletin. "Naturally the Government cannot commit itself at this stage... but it is learnt on reliable authority that:

"consideration has already been given to a proposal to expel all Communists from any branch of the Public Service..."

"It is possible the entry into this country of all Communists will be stopped..."

"Literature of a Communist nature will be strictly controlled".

"It has even been proposed to the Government that it should immediately consider the dissolution of the Communist Party."

"strong action will definitely be taken against Communist agitators and it is likely that persons who openly spread the Communist doctrine in this country will make themselves liable for deportation."

"Witch-hunts in the civil service, deportations, 'control' of the Press, dissolution of political parties—all these read like the histories of the German Nazi Party and Italy's fascists."

WAGE DISPUTE IN GARMENT INDUSTRY

JOHANNESBURG.

There has been a deadlock between employers and workers in the garment industry over discussions for a new agreement.

The union's general secretary, Mr. E. S. Sachs, told The Guardian: "While the union is anxious to reach an agreement peacefully it cannot recommend that members accept the old agreement, and unless the employers are prepared to make concessions or submit to arbitration, there is a possibility of the workers coming out on strike."

About 12,000 workers in 300 factories in Johannesburg and Germiston are affected.

There have been three meetings of the Industrial Council to discuss the union's proposals for a new agreement. The employers reject all the workers' demands, and their delegates all voted against the union's proposal to go to arbitration.

The union is calling a general meeting for July 15 to discuss the workers' action when the present agreement expires on August 30.

The union asks for an increase of 10 per cent. in the basic wage of all workers. It argues that the cost of living is up by at least 70

per cent. and the workers in this industry get only 40 per cent. cost-of-living allowance.

The basic wage of qualified women workers — 80 per cent. of



Mr. E. S. Sachs, General Secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, who is conducting negotiations with the employers for a new agreement in the garment industry.

the workers — is now only £3 12s. 6d. a week. The union wants an increase to £4 a week.

The union also demands that the 42½-hour working week be reduced to a 40-hour week. It further asks that a provident fund be established to which the workers would contribute 5 per cent. of their wages and the employers an amount equal to his aggregate.

Another demand is for the extension of the agreement to cover African workers. These workers are covered by a wage determination in which the wage rates are only a fraction of those provided by the agreement.

TRADE UNION NEWS

BLOEMFONTEIN GARMENT WORKERS

JOHANNESBURG.

A long-distance dispute in the Bloemfontein garment industry was amicably settled following conciliation board proceedings held there last week. The workers' wages will now be stabilised—for the first time in the Free State—at 22s. 6d. for women workers increasing by six monthly increments to 58s. after three years, plus a 45 per cent. cost-of-living allowance.

The workers gain also a 42½-hour five-day working week, the closed shop, and two weeks leave and employers agreed to the setting up of an industrial council.

SWEET WORKERS DEADLOCK

JOHANNESBURG.

Employers here have rejected all the demands put forward by the workers in the sweet industry for a new agreement.

A general meeting of workers will consider the next step to be taken by the trade union. This is the view of the union secretary, told The Guardian.

Nat. Attempt To Disrupt Garment Workers' Union

JOHANNESBURG.

A Nationalist M.P. and an organiser of the Blankewerkers-beskeringsbond (the Nationalist trade union wing) are trying to disrupt the Garment Workers' Union in Germiston.

Secret house meetings are being held, workers are being "encouraged" to find grievances against the union, and attempts are being made to organise a dissenting group within the union.

"As always, these Nationalist political adventures have selected a most difficult period in which to start their pernicious activities," the union's general secretary, Mr. E. S. Sachs, told The Guardian. "The union is at present negotiating a new agreement with the Transvaal Clothing Manufacturers. Dividing the workers' ranks at this time would undoubtedly weaken the workers' bargaining power."

This is one of the principal unions selected for the Nazis' white-anti tactics. Attempts to smash the union go hand in hand with bitter denunciation of the Trades and Labour Council by the nationalist press, and a crusade against "communism" in the trade union movement.

Trades And Labour Council Cross-examined

JOHANNESBURG.—The Guardian correspondent learns that questions concerning the structure and strength of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council have been called for by the Department of Labour. The request came from Pretoria.

CHIEF SIBASA WINS APPEAL

BLOEMFONTEIN.—Sibasa, chief of a section of the Bavena people in the Northern Transvaal, has been held by the Appeal Court here to be entitled by tribal law and custom to occupy the chief's site. The appeal by the present chief, Lucas Patsibalingwa, and the Chief Native Commissioner for that area was dismissed with costs.

Sibasa was deposed some time ago by the Government. This judgment upholds the recent decision of the Transvaal Supreme Court under which Sibasa is also entitled to certain stock and crops.

Workers Forced To Buy From Company Store

ALLEGATIONS TO COURT

JOHANNESBURG.—African workers employed on the Twentfontein Slate Quarry near Koster are fined if they purchase goods elsewhere than at the company store, according to affidavits collected by the African Stone Crushers' and Quarry Workers' Union.

The affidavits will be presented to the court in a case against the company set down for hearing at Zwartkops.

The workers allege they are compelled to shop at the company store and to buy goods they do not need. Part of their wages are withheld if they cannot show they have made a minimum number of purchases from the shop during the month. And if they buy from other shops in the neighbourhood, £2 10s. 3d. is deducted from their wages until they buy an equivalent amount from the company store.

The union has a list of 15 workers who allege they were treated in this way.

SOVIET WAR ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Mr. Hofmeyr's Message

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. JAN HOFMEYR, former deputy Prime Minister, sent a message of support to the meeting to commemorate the Nazi attack on the Soviet Union, organised by the Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union.

"Hitler's decision to invade Russia was undoubtedly the turning point of the war," Mr. Hofmeyr wrote. "It initiated the series of events which led to his defeat and the rescue of the world from the Nazi menace."

Speaking at this seventh anniversary of the Nazi attack, Mr. D. K. Krige, well-known Afrikaans poet, said he resented being asked to treat Soviet Russia as an obstruction to peace. War hysteria must be fought, he said. "This blaming everything on the Communists is one of the major sicknesses of our time. It is a form of escapism; a symptom of intellectual dishonesty that will not face up to realities."

Mr. Krige said the Socialist state wanted and needed peace. Of late, military men who ought to have known better had been minimising the Soviet war effort. Lieut. George Clayton, president of the Students' Representative Council at the University of the Witwatersrand, said:

"I speak for my generation. We know what we mean. There has scarce been time to bury our dead; our wounds are not yet healed; but already drums of war are heard again." In the chair was the Rev. D. C. Thompson. Other speakers were

Miss Hilda Watts; and Mr. G. H. van der Walt, from the Garment Workers' Union.

Commercial Travellers Reject Red-Baiting

Anti-Communist Motions Withdrawn

JOHANNESBURG.

THIS year's conference of the National Union of Commercial Travellers saw a bitter fight between the left and right, prompted by anti-Communist resolutions introduced mainly by Natal delegates.

A resolution from Natal expressed no confidence in the national secretary and organiser, Messrs. Gelb and Weinberg, because of their Communist affiliations, but was subsequently withdrawn. Also withdrawn was a resolution proposing that Communists and Communist sympathisers should not hold official posts in the union.

A resolution that the commercial travellers disaffiliate from the Trades and Labour Council led to a keen debate. As the voting was even, the resolution failed, and the union remains affiliated to the Council.

PETROL PRICE

The conference protested against the price of petrol and its high inflation rate. On this matter, and also the allocation of new cars, the national committee of the union has been instructed to interview the Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Eric Louw.

The training of commercial travellers will be discussed with employers, with a view to the establishment of some kind of training scheme at technical colleges.

The union will make representations to the Government for a Hotel Bill to regulate hotel conditions.

Mr. C. Tucker was elected president of the union and Mr. T. J. Wilton, vice-president. Elected to the national committee were: Messrs. R. Channin (chairman), A. Gelb (vice-chairman), M. Seligson (treasurer), J. Myerson (secretary), H. R. Rowntree, H. Zeldner, L. Blecher, M. Kaplan,

Starvation Wages Of Iron And Steel Workers

JOHANNESBURG.—Among the lowest paid African workers today are those employed in the iron, steel and metal industries. They are paid at the rate of 28s. 9d. for labourers, and 32s. 5d. for semi-skilled labourers. These are starvation wages, says the Non-European Iron and Steel Workers' Union.

An industrial council agreement in the industry is now expiring, and the union has submitted demands on behalf of its workers. The union wants labourers' basic wages to be £2 12s. a week, and £4 10s. for semi-skilled labourers. Other demands are 'three weeks' paid annual leave, sick leave provisions, overtime pay at time and a half, double time for Sundays and public holidays, employment subject to a week's notice, a five-day working week of 40 hours, and the payment of casual work at the rate of 12s. 6d. a day.

Manala Case

JOHANNESBURG.—Abe Manala, a member of the Communist Party, charged with assaulting a policeman on the City Hall steps on April 25, was found guilty in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court. He was fined £10, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

Manala was charged with having thrown a stone at a constable in plain clothes.

Jo'burg Communists Hold Protest Meetings

JOHANNESBURG.—The Johannesburg District of the Communist Party held a series of meetings in eleven local areas recently, protesting against the release of Leibbrandt and other actions of the Nationalist Government. Strong protests were recorded against the anti-trade union policies announced by Labour Minister Schoeman.

Well-known Communist speakers addressed large crowds in Hillbrow, Doornfontein, Pretoria, Moroka, Alexandra Township and Newclare.

A squad of police went on to the Ferritown meeting just as it ended. There were no incidents.

The speakers stressed that the rights of all sections of the population were threatened by the present Government.

Referring to the plan to form a new parliament army to deal with Communism and other "internal disorders," the speakers said this was a serious threat to form a storm-trooper organisation on Nazi lines.

AFRICAN MEAT STRIKERS FACE BATON CHARGE

JOHANNESBURG.—Seven members of the Wholesale Meat Trade African Workers' Union, five of them ordinary workers, have to appear in a Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on a charge under the Riotous Assemblies Act, arising from a strike of meat workers that took place on February 19.

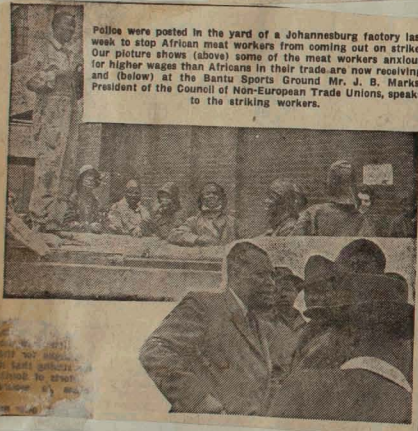
The strike lasted one day. A number of African workers were involved in a clash with the police when pickets tried to call workers at one of the factories out on strike. The police launched a baton charge and several workers were hit on the head. Groups of police were then stationed around the factory and in the yards for the rest of the day, to prevent the strike spreading.

WAGES

Labourers in the wholesale meat trade earn £1 7s. 8d. at present, the

cost of living allowance bringing the amount up to £1 15s. a week. A national wage board investigation for the whole industry is pending.

In negotiations for this investigation, the African workers have been demanding a weekly wage of £2 10s. for labourers and general wage increases for all classes of workers; a 44-hour week instead of the present 46-hour working week; and three instead of two weeks' annual paid leave.



Police were posted in the yard of a Johannesburg factory last week to stop African meat workers from coming out on strike. Our picture shows (above) some of the meat workers anxious for higher wages than Africans in their trade are now receiving and (below) at the Bantu Sports Ground Mr. J. B. Marks, President of the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, speaks to the striking workers.

Giving the Lie to Lawrence

JOHANNESBURG.

"We have met here this afternoon to give the lie to Minister Lawrence's statement in the House of Assembly that the second phase of the passive resistance struggle—the crossing of the Natal-Transvaal border—is not a spontaneous action on the part of the Indian people but an action instigated by a few individuals," said Mr. T. N. Naidoo, vice-president of the Transvaal Indian Congress, in declaring open the mass meeting of solidarity with Dr. Dadoo held on Sunday last at Johannesburg's Gandhi Hall.

The meeting, organised by the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council, was one of the biggest meetings held at the Gandhi Hall. Hundreds who could not get into the hall stood outside listening to Mr. Dadoo's farewell speech, broadcast through loud-speakers.

Hundreds of messages of support from Congress branches throughout the Transvaal, from individuals and from organisations overseas were read to the meeting.

Dr. Dadoo was welcomed by applause lasting for a number of minutes. The whole house rose to greet him with the cry: "We shall resist."

After reviewing the second phase of the struggle leading to the issuing of summonses against Dr. Naicker, Messrs. Manilal Gandhi, Sindra Pillay and himself, Dr. Dadoo declared: "We have dedicated our lives to the great cause of transforming our country, South Africa, into a genuine democratic state in which our multi-racial population will live and work together on a basis of equality in a progressive South Africa. For this cause we will count no sacrifice too great. There can be no defeat for those who struggle for a just cause."

Referring to the Immigrants Regulations Act which restricts the freedom of movement of the Indian people from one province to the other and which compels Indians to carry permits, Dr. Dadoo said that the Indian people had broken the pass laws which affect them. "But there are many other pass laws which affect four-fifths of our population—the African people. The

African people have declared their support for our struggle and they too will carry on the fight against racial discrimination and for democratic rights," added Dr. Dadoo.

"I shall go to prison with peace of mind," he said. He was confident the struggle would continue with the support of all sections of the Indian people and of all peoples who believed in democracy.

He announced the Transvaal Council's election of Mr. Nana Sita as acting chairman of the council. Until Mr. Nana Sita returned from his tour of the Rhodesias, Mr. T. N. Naidoo was appointed to take his place.

Other speakers were Mr. D. Bloomer, representing the Council for Non-European Trade Unions, Mr. Michael Harmel, from the Communist Party, Mr. S. Nkomo, from the A.P.O., and Messrs. P. S. Joshi, Ranchod Ravjee, S. Navasagar, Solly Jooma, Monvi Saloojee, R. S. C. Pillay, and Y. A. Cachalia.

A resolution, passed unanimously, declared the passive resistance struggle to have the fullest mandate of the Indian community, and expressed admiration for the leaders against whom action had been taken. It concluded:

"This meeting, on the eve of the impending trials of our leaders, pledges its undivided loyalty to Dr. Dadoo and solemnly undertakes to carry on the great passive resistance struggle with all the men and material at the command of the community. We join together in saluting our national leader with our freedom cry: 'We shall resist!'"

Verneukery Met Suiker

WERKERS UITGEBUIT

HOEVEEL mense, nadat hulle suiker vir 2d., 4d. of 6d. van 'n kruidenter koop het, maak die moedte om 'n skaal te vind om die pakkies te weeg? Seker maar bra min. Bale werkers in die armer woonbuurte weet waarskynlik reeds, wanneer hulle die suiker koop, dat die pakkies hopeeloos onder die gewig is . . . maar hulle het gewoon geraak aan die genadelose rowery in die suikerhandel en staan magtelos daarvoor.

Die grootste swartmark in Suid-Afrika vandag is waarskynlik in suiker. Menigte klein winkeliers in Johannesburg maak deesdae 150 persent en groter winste deur die verkoop van suiker.

Verlede week het drie werkers in Johannesburg, met pen, papier en kleingeld in die hand, suiker gaan koop in kruidenterwinkels in Jeppe, Woluter, City and Suburban, Newtown, Fordsburg, Ferreiradorp, Doornfontein, Hillbrow en Sophiatown.

Hulle was "ongereede kopers" — soos die duisende ander werkers, blank en nie-blank, wat nie rekeningne by winkels het nie. Binne twee dae het hulle 35 winkels in hierdie voorstede besoek. By 21 van die 35 kon hulle geen suiker koop nie. By sommige was dit net: "Geen suiker in hierdie voorstede besoek. Jammer!" Ander wou slegs suiker verkoop as tee en koffie ook gekoop is.

Altesame het hulle met 14 pakkies suiker te voorskyn gekom. Die pakkies is toe op 'n akkurate skaal geweeg.

En die gevolg? By drie verskillende winkels het hulle drie grootte pakkies gekry — een pond, 12 onse, een pond 6 onse, een pond 4 onse. Elkeen het is gekos.

Onthou! Die huidige en vas-

gestelde prys van suiker is 4d. per pond!

Daar was 9 pakkies wat 6d. elk gekos het. Hulle gewig was een pond 5 onse, een pond 2 onse; drie het een pond elk gewee, dan 151 onse, 15 onse, 141 onse en 121 onse.

'n Pakkie van 10 onse het 4d. gekos, en een van 7 onse 2d. 'n Interessante vangs!

Die gemiddelde werker moet dus dikwels twee- of driemaal die voorgestelde prys vir sy suiker betaal.

Bale keer betaal hy swartmark-pryse ook in mielie-meel, asook 3d. vir vyf snye brood met 'n dun laag konfyt daarop.

Woedend en kwaad wil hy die volgende vrae beantwoord hê:

Is die hoefveelheid suiker aan winkels verkaf, redelik uitgevoerd? Ontvang die winkeliers in werkerswoonbuurte genoeg suiker elke maand om in die behoeftes van hulle kliente te voorsien? Werk die pryskontroleur hard genoeg om swartmarkhandelaars te betrap?

Weet die Regering wat die suikerbehoefte van die bevolking is, en is die suikerweryheid voldoende ingerig om in hierdie behoefte te voorsien?

NATS BUSY ON STUDENT FRONT

"Christian-National" Body Now Being Formed

JOHANNESBURG.

IN one week there have been two different threats directed against the rights of students and the national student movement. First, the suggestion in Dagbreek that action could shortly be expected to uphold the colour bar in the universities. And then the announcement that a section of Afrikaans students, prompted by the Students' Representative Council of Pretoria, had decided to form its own national body, in opposition to N.E.S.A.S.

Discussing the suggestion that part of the present Government's "apartheid" policy would probably be to impose a rigid colour bar in the Universities, Mr. George Clayton, president of the Witwatersrand Students' Council, said that he and the bulk of students at his University would oppose by every means in their power any attempt to introduce segregation at Wits.

They would also fight any attempt to deprive Non-European students of the rights they already have at Wits.

Mr. Clayton said he regretted the move to form a new student body; and that the Universities and Colleges taking part in this move had not agreed to join the official organisation, Nusas. The new body claimed to be non-political; yet its aims as published in the Press included those of "combating communism" and being opposed to Nusas' "Liberal Colour policy". Mr. Clayton feared that this new organisation would fall into reactionary political hands.

NOT THE FIRST EFFORT

This new Afrikaans student association is, of course, not by any means the first attempt to split student support from Nusas. The sponsors of the new body admit that two other such organisations still exist today: the Afrikaanse Studietoelstand and the Federasie van Blanke Suid-Afrikaanse Studente, both in the north, and falling to win favour in the south.

"For entirely different reasons" (but what reasons?) says a statement issued after the move to initiate the new organisation, "very little or no co-operation existed between these two organisations, although the object of both was

the same and their constitutions showed little difference."

This failure is now to be pushed into the background.

The draft constitution of the new organisation, to be discussed further at a Bloemfontein conference on August 14, says the organisation will be based on a "Christian-national foundation", and that it has no connection with any political party or organisation. It will aim to unite all Afrikaans students in the institutions for higher education in one organisation; to safeguard and promote their interests; maintain and expand European Christendom and combat communism; and study all national problems academically.

DIE VADERLAND ADMITS

An issue of Die Vaderland English Bulletin frankly admits why the Minister of Native Affairs has sent instructions to Unemployment Insurance Committees that claims be paid out only in cases of the greatest necessity.

"The instruction," says the bulletin, "follows the squalid (sic) policy adopted by the previous Government regarding the allocation of money to unemployed city Natives under the Act."

The instructions will have the effect of depriving Natives who refuse to go as labourers to the farms of unemployment benefit."

Passless Africans To Be Expelled From Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG.

The June meeting of the City Council was probably the shortest in the Council's history. It took exactly 18 minutes to complete its ordinary agenda of "Agreed!"

There was no debate on any item contained in the reports of the Finance, General Purposes, Non-European, Health and Social Welfare or any other Council committee.

Members on the United Party, Labour Party, Nationalist Party and Independent benches were in complete agreement on everything.

Yet, one of the recommendations passed during the 18-minute meeting was for the expulsion from the city of all passless Africans. Any Africans entering the area without proper documentary authority will, in future, be deported to their homes.

The report of the Director of Native Labour said these Africans entered Johannesburg in spite of the provisions of a Government proclamation issued last year. It appeared that passes to industrial centres were being issued by chiefs and headmen, although orders had been issued that unless Africans were to take up specific contracts of employment, no passes were to be given.

There was no discussion on this recommendation, which now comes into operation.

Prosecutions

JOHANNESBURG.—Two Indians living in Evaton have been served with summonses for contraventions of the Ghetto Act.

Their case has been set down for July 7 in Evaton.

June 26, 1948

APARTHEID, A POLITICAL CATCHWORD, SAYS TLOOME

More Views On Stellenbosch Plan

CAPE TOWN.

"APARTHEID is a political catchword designed to appeal to the voter," was the comment of Mr. Dan Tloome, vice-president of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, when he discussed the plan of the Stellenbosch professors.

"I can't see how apartheid can work in a country which relies on African labour," he added. "The plan is in direct contradiction to the present set-up in the country."

"WOULD LEAD TO FRICTION"

Mr. Tloome thought there was no reason why the two races could not live in harmony. "Apartheid plans," he said, "would lead to worse racial friction. It would mean the complete dislocation of the country's economy."

Mr. Victor Mbobo, the African delegate who attended the International Youth Festival in Prague last year, said the plan, "driven to its logical conclusion," could not just be carried out. "There was not sufficient land for it to be workable. He thought the plan a "bluff." It showed also no sincerity for the welfare of the Bantu people.

"Where," he asked, "are they to get the technical knowledge to run their own areas in a separate part of the country?"

Mr. Mbobo added that from the point of view of the Europeans, too, he did not see how the plan could work. "The whites can't have their cake and eat it," he said.

"Whether South Africa likes it or not, she must prepare for greater industrialisation. That means greater urbanisation in which the African worker must take part. It is about time the Nationalists stopped toying with fantastic separation schemes, and got down to working out the economic steps necessary for a greater economic development and prosperity of the country."

"BOUND TO FAIL"

The Rev. A. W. Bixhall said the Stellenbosch professors "are not good psychologists and do not realise that any measure, however good it may be, which relies on legal compulsion to attain its objective is bound to fail."

Human beings, he said, are so

made that when compelled to do anything, they rebel, "whereas the same objectives can be reached by voluntary means if there is complete acknowledgment of basic democratic rights."

"In other words, if Africans are forced they will resent it, whereas if they are treated as ordinary members of society they will naturally seek their social contacts with those who have the same cultural, linguistic and inherited natural appreciation of community living."

"Forced apartheid," he concluded, "can only create bitter resentment and violent opposition, whereas the granting of full citizen rights and privileges will produce contentment and a voluntary grouping which will satisfy the aspirations of all."

Greetings For Drs. Dadoo And Naicker

JOHANNESBURG.

"Remember you can never fail, though victory may seem long in coming," says Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the Indian poetess, in a message to the South African Indian people on the occasion of the release from prison this month of Drs. Dadoo and Naicker.

Mrs. Naidu says in her telegram: "I have always wholeheartedly supported the spirit of defiance and resistance to all measures detrimental to the self-respect and progress of our people."

In a cable of greeting to the Indian leaders, Mr. D. N. Pritt, K.C., says the immediate prospects before South African Indians are not likely to be easy. "Fascism," he continues, "is not as strong as it was the world over, and the cause of progress grows stronger. I am confident you will win, even in the country which has now become the citadel of racial oppression."

Messages to Drs. Dadoo and Naicker have come also from M.P. in Britain, and from the East African Indian National Congress, and other bodies in other countries.

Unemployed Workers

Refused Benefits

JOHANNESBURG.

Following the Minister of Native Affairs' telegram to Unemployment Insurance Committees to pay benefits "only in extreme cases", numerous African workers from different industries are reporting great difficulty in having their unemployment needs justly met.

Three different cases brought to the attention of The Guardian illustrate the position.

Isaac M., who worked as a bus conductor, then a labourer in an office earning £3 a week, became unemployed last week. When he returned himself at the offices of the Unemployment Fund he was offered work at 30s. a week. He refused to accept it. He could not care for his family on such a wage, he said. He was told he could not draw any benefits.

Two semi-skilled workers who had earned £4 a week were offered the same jobs at 30s. a week. When they rejected this, their claims to benefits were also refused.

Miss H. le Roux, secretary of the Southern Transvaal Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council, said the Council was considering taking test cases to court to challenge this stand of the Unemployment Committee. She said that any labourer employed for more than one year at one job or type of job must be given the opportunity during the first 13 weeks of unemployment of taking up the same type of employment. Only after the first 13 weeks was he obliged to accept work the Claims Officer considered "suitable".

Miss le Roux said workers' difficulties in the administration of the Act had become far sharper over the last few weeks.

Dadoo Welcome

Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

A meeting to welcome Dr. Dadoo on his release from prison is being organised by the Passive Resistance Council to take place at the Fordsburg Red Square (corner of Avenue Road and Lovers' Walk) for Sunday, July 11, at 2 p.m.

Dr. Dadoo is expected to arrive in Johannesburg by train at 9 a.m. on July 11.

Union To Lose Soil

Experts

JOHANNESBURG.

South Africa is about to lose the services of nearly 100 potential soil conservation experts — students undergoing training at the University of the Witwatersrand — because the Government's salary scale and conditions of service compare unfavourably with those in other African territories.

African T.U. Unity

JOHANNESBURG.

Sixty-four delegates representing twenty-two trade unions attended an informal conference in Johannesburg on Sunday to discuss the desirability of unity among African trade unions. Trade unions affiliated to the Transvaal Council of African Trade Unions did not accept the invitation of the conveners to be represented.

The conference requested the African Trade Unions Technical Advisory Committee to continue discussions with both the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions and the Transvaal Council of African Trade Unions with a view to attaining greater unity among African trade unions.

Alexandra Standholders Against New Tax

JOHANNESBURG.

The Alexandra Standholders and Tenants' Association has approached the Alexandra Health Committee to receive a deputation to discuss the new 2s. levy for refuse removal in the township, and has requested that the levy should not be imposed before the discussions take place.

A general meeting of standholders, held towards the end of June, protested that the amount of 2s. a tin is far too high.

New Pretoria S.A.T.L.C. Local Committee Being Formed

JOHANNESBURG.

A meeting of executives of Pretoria trade unions is to be convened by the S.A.T.L.C. national executive on July 28, to establish a Pretoria Local Committee of the Council.

A preliminary meeting of representatives of the Baking, Typographical, Cement, Distributive and Iron Moulders' unions was addressed last week by the Council secretary, Mr. A. G. Forsyth, and Mr. F. Kalk.

A previous Pretoria Local Committee was dissolved by the Council when it refused to comply with the S.A.T.L.C. constitution.

Police Question Communists

JOHANNESBURG.

Four members of the Jabavu group of the Communist Party were questioned by police attached to the Klipfontein police station, following a Communist Party meeting in the shantytown, held to protest against the Government's decision to suspend the training of Africans as skilled artisans, and Mr. Ben Schoeman's anti-trade union statements.

One of the Africans was awakened at 4 a.m. by two constables, a European, and an African. He was taken to the police station and asked why the permission of the superintendent had not been obtained for the meeting. This is said to be the first occasion on which Africans have been taken to task for holding meetings in the camp without permission.

This man was then asked to take the police to the homes of certain other Africans, whose addresses he did not know.

Another African was persuaded to go in the pick-up van with the police to the homes of these Africans, who were then also questioned.

Members of the C.I.D. visited the central offices of the Johannesburg Communist Party during the same week to ask for names and addresses of members who had spoken at Communist Party meetings the week-end before.

An African member of Marshall Square's Political Department also checked up on Transvaal African National Congress activities the week before.

Commercial Travellers'

Organiser

JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. Eli Weinberg has accepted his reappointment as national organiser of the National Union of Commercial Travellers. He was elected unanimously to this position at the union's annual conference but did not then indicate whether he was prepared to accept the post.

Ghetto Act Prosecutions

JOHANNESBURG.

A number of prosecutions of Indians under the Ghetto Act are pending in the Western Transvaal, it has been reported to the Transvaal Indian Congress.

Any Indian who moves into a residence not legally occupied by him before 1939 is liable for prosecution, for the 1939 Peggings Act restricted this movement.

One case has been reported of an Indian being fined £10 for two months in which to vacate this property.

Mr. Y. A. Gachalia, Congress secretary, said that only since the new government had such expulsions begun to take place. There had been court cases, but no expulsions.

Forsyth To Assist Brewery Industry

JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. A. G. Forsyth, secretary of the S.A.T.L.C. will arrive in Cape Town towards the middle of July to assist in negotiations for a new agreement in the Brewery industry.

Two Building Unions Amalgamate

JOHANNESBURG.

The Building Workers' Industrial Union and the Amalgamated Bricklayers' Union have amalgamated. The new body will be by far the strongest union in the building industry and will have a membership of more than 12,000 men.

Glass Workers' Demands

PORT ELIZABETH.

The local branch of the Glass Workers' Union has submitted its demand for a 25 per cent. increase in wages for all workers. The workers have also asked for three weeks' sick pay, acceptance of the closed shop principle and a revision of the grades.

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"APARTHEID OVER OUR DEAD BODIES"

Drs. Dadoo And Naicker Call For United Front

JOHANNESBURG.

A call for a democratic people's front of all sections of the population to stem the advance of fascism in South Africa was made by Drs. Y. M. Dadoo and G. M. Naicker, leaders of Transvaal and Natal Indians, after their release from prison last week.

The issue, said Dr. Dadoo at a mass meeting in Johannesburg, was democracy for all, or "apartheid and fascism over our dead bodies". New dangers were facing South Africa. The crisis was deepening. "We will have to act", he said, "We must fight for the preservation of democracy in South Africa, or we are doomed."

Dr. Dadoo said the Malan Government's use of the Communist bogey—and its use in other countries—was one of the biggest political frauds of history.

It was instituted with the intention of destroying democratic principles and the democratic way of life. Under the pretext of fighting Communism, Minister Ben Schoeman would interfere in the internal policies of trade unions. Minister Erasmus spoke of a platteland army to fight Communism. Such an armed force in the country would exist only to destroy the legitimate forces of the people for freedom.

APARTHEID

The policy of apartheid was held out as a panacea for all evils. It would mean only greater repression. It would mean the creation by brute force of a permanent body of cheap labour for mines and the farms. "Call the plan apartheid," said Dr. Dadoo, "call it even segregation. The outcome will be a fascist police state in this country."

Dr. Dadoo said the Nationalists had assumed power as a logical outcome of the rotten reactionary policies pursued by Smuts' United Party. This was the policy of cheap labour, of colour bars and the Ghetto Act, of segregation and partial apartheid. There must be no illusion that democracy could be brought about by the United Party as such.

A democratic front for the franchise for all, for the right of workers' organisations to organise, for freedom of movement—these were the issues on which democracy could be preserved.

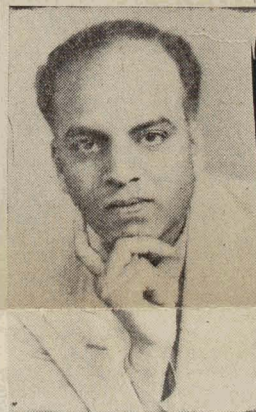
"To the Transvaal and Natal Indian Organisations, whoever they may be," he went on, "I say they must end their activities and come into the fold of the legitimate movement of the Indians, the Congresses." Referring to their letter to Dr. Malan, in which they said they allowed no Communists in their organisations, he said this meant these bodies were saying to Malan: "We are with you. We are also anti-Communist."

FULL CONFIDENCE

Dr. Dadoo said that while he and Dr. Naicker were in jail it had not been possible to consult them on matters of policy. But, he added, "we have the fullest confidence in the leadership of

the Passive Resistance Councils and Congresses." The Passive Resistance Council had acted wisely in temporarily suspending passive resistance.

"But this must not be an excuse for complacency. The actions and policy of the Malan Government on the Indian question have not been at all reassuring. They pose a great danger."



DR. G. M. NAICKER

The Nationalist Party regarded the Indians as an outlandish element that should be repatriated to India. "We are born and bred here," he said. "We are sons of the soil as much as Malan's Afrikaners. South Africa is our home. No one dare put us out. We will stay here to play our part in making South Africa a democratic state."

Among those who spoke at the Red Square meeting and paid tribute to Dr. Dadoo were the Reverend Michael Scott, Hilda Watts, on behalf of the Council for Asiatic Rights, Messrs. S. Niken, D. W. Bopape, James Phillips, and Edwin Mofutsanyana of the A.P.O., African National Congress, Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions and Johannesburg District of the Communist Party respectively. Messrs. D. U. Mistry and Y. A. Cachalia also spoke; and Mr. Nana Sita presided.



DR. Y. M. DADOO

Poor Man's Lawyer "Muzzled"?

NEW STATUS FOR LEGAL AID

JOHANNESBURG.

The Pretoria Legal Aid Bureau—the poor man's lawyer—is about to end its existence as an independent body run by an elected committee. From now onwards it will function under the control of the Transvaal Law Society.

"This is the result of M.P.s not taking sufficient trouble to know what the Welfare Organisation Bill was all about," said Mrs. M. M. M. Pypers, secretary of the Pretoria Bureau. (The new status of Legal Aid is determined by this Act.) As a protest against the Pretoria Bureau Committee's "becoming an entirely futile body," Mrs. Pypers, who has been its secretary ever since its formation five years ago, has resigned.

She told *The Guardian* the Government apparently preferred not to have an independent Legal Aid Bureau helping people to stand up for their rights.

The recently passed Act stipulates that Law Societies in all the provinces shall determine the conditions under which the Bureau may operate. Under the new constitution drawn up for the Pretoria Legal Aid, the elected committee is replaced by one consisting of representatives of various societies, the Government and the Law Society, plus four co-opted members. There are no elected members at all. The Law Society has the final say on all Bureau matters. It has the power to close down the Bureau at any time.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

"Without an elected committee, the Bureau will operate behind closed doors," commented Mrs. Pypers. She added that in the past the Law Society had never taken any interest in the Bureau, and had even refused to appoint representatives to its committee. It considered Legal Aid "a nuisance".

MALAN SEES THE IRON CURTAIN

JOHANNESBURG.

The Union Cabinet last week treated itself to the first showing in South Africa of the anti-Soviet film "The Iron Curtain". The film was shown at the Prime Minister's Pretoria residence, Libertas. Wives of the Cabinet Ministers also attended.

Up to the time of going to press their reactions had not yet been made public, but it is understood Dr. Malan is due to make an anti-Soviet speech soon.

WILL SPOORBOND BE RECOGNISED?

JOHANNESBURG.

The Spoorbond, Nationalist-sponsored organisation of railway employees, has begun to angle for official Government recognition, as was predicted in The Guardian some weeks ago. The Minister of Transport met the executive of the association last week.

The six staff associations on the Railway will probably

HOOOLIGANISM

JOHANNESBURG.

One day last week a news-vendor selling papers outside the Central News Agency in Germiston was attacked by a group of young men. After giving him a blow they seized his papers, tore up copies of English-medium newspapers and scattered them in the street. Then they left. Afrikaans-medium newspapers were not damaged in any way.

strenuously oppose recognition of Spoorbond, which wants recognition as the only trade union of railway workers. Some years ago the Spoorbond refused recognition as the representative of only one group of railworkers within the Federal Consultative Committee, and was then replaced in the railway set-up by another body catering for the unskilled, ungraded railway employees.

AFRICAN MUNICIPAL WORKERS MEET

JOHANNESBURG.

Twenty-four delegates from Reef towns and 146 from Johannesburg compounds, work depots, townships and municipal hostels attended a conference of the Transvaal Municipal African Workers' Union on June 27 to hear the demands submitted to the Wage Board by their trade union.

The meeting resolved to start an intensive membership campaign, and to ask all local authorities to operate the "stop order" system for trade union subscriptions.

TVL. GARMENT STRIKE AVERTED

JOHANNESBURG.

A strike in the garment industry has been averted as a result of an agreement reached between the Garment Workers' Union and the Transvaal Clothing Manufacturers

to submit the dispute over a new agreement to arbitration.

The Arbitration Board's decision will be final and incorporated into the new agreement, to come into force for twelve months from September this year.

Three prominent barristers are to be asked to act as arbitrators.

T.L.C. Protests At Nomination Of De Vries

JOHANNESBURG.

The Trades and Labour Council has wired the conference of the International Labour Organisation in San Francisco protesting against the nomination of Mr. J. de Vries as a member of the governing body. It has suggested Mr. Jerry Calder, president of the Council, as a South African member.

Trade unionists here are asking whom Mr. De Vries represents at the I.L.O. conference. He holds no official post in the South African trade union movement. He is at present a welfare officer for a private firm.

Reports reached Johannesburg this week to the effect that Mr. De Vries was finding his way on to several important I.L.O. committees. He was being nominated by the leader of the South African delegation, Brigadier Buchanan.

Messrs. W. Kalk and Griffiths have lodged objections to these appointments.

AFRICANS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

JOHANNESBURG.

In a memorandum to the Public Services Commission, the Institute of Race Relations urges the employment of more Africans in the public services. In particular it suggests Africans be employed in the Departments of Native Affairs, Posts and Telegraphs, Justice, Social Welfare, Labour, Police and Prisons, Health and Railways.

The latest figures of Non-Europeans in the Public Service—for July 1946—shows there are none in administrative, clerical, professional, or technical divisions. In the General Division, including post offices and the Native Affairs Department, there are 249 Coloureds, 66 Indians and 275 Africans. In the Police there are 334 Coloureds, 136 Indians, and 4,972 Africans. In the Prisons Department there are 21 Coloureds, 4 Indians and 836 Africans.

The Institute urges the appointment of Africans and Coloureds as ticket clerks at railway stations where there is a large Non-European travelling public, and as conductors on African trains.

* CITY COUNCIL NEWS

Jo'burg Council Discusses Newlands, Moroka and Road-making

JOHANNESBURG.—The City Council last week discussed the recent transmuting incident at Newlands, when angry Africans stoned a tram and several cars after an African youth had been knocked down by a car and injured.

United Party Councillor Patmore, who introduced the discussion, proposed the barring of the tram track, and the removal of all stones.

Nationalist Councillors went to the opposite extreme. They re-introduced their standard motion for imposition of a curfew, the detention of "Native leaders", more police for the Johannesburg area, and control of the influx of Africans into the city.

The United Party resolution was adopted.

Councillor G. E. N. Ross, leader of the Nationalist Councillors, vigorously opposed the vote for just over £2,000 for a sportsground in Moroka Township.

Red-baiting Councillor J. J. O'Connor later complained that 40 per cent of municipal employees were inefficient, and should be sacked. The trade unions and Labour Party, he said, were responsible for discontent among municipal employees.

The Labour group in the council opposed strongly the recommendation that eight roads in South Hills Township should be constructed, not by the City Engineer's Department, but by a private firm.

Labour Councillor Reg. Smith said there had never been any suggestion the City Engineer's Department was not doing its job properly. It was as the City Council could be held up by private enterprises and compelled to work on the "huddle"—municipal future date the ruling party would like to hand over the Parks, Electricity, private enterprise.

COST OF LIVING INVESTIGATION

JOHANNESBURG.—Anticipating that it will take part later in Government-initiated discussion on the cost of living, the Trades and Labour Council has asked all affiliated unions to compile information from their own industries on basic wages, increases over the last ten years, present cost-of-living allowances, and the prices of goods manufactured by respective industries.

Jo'burg Mayor's Reply to Dr. Xuma

JOHANNESBURG.—The Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. G. B. Gordon, has suggested to Dr. A. B. Xuma, president-general of the African National Congress, that he look up in a dictionary the meaning of the word "kafir".

This arises from a letter of protest Dr. Xuma sent to the Mayor on behalf of the African community, following Mr. Gordon's recent speech when he referred to Durban as a "Kafir and Indian town" and expressed his opposition to the training of Africans in skilled trades.

Asking the Mayor to withdraw his statement, Dr. Xuma wrote that it has caused deep resentment and disappointment in his community. "The Mayor is the chief representative of all voters and non-voters in the city. The word 'kafir' is now used only by the ignorant and the prejudiced."

Dr. Xuma suggested the Mayor had allowed his lower emotions free range. This was to be expected only from persons of no account. A mayor of a city was not only its first citizen but also the symbol or embodiment of the honour and dignity of its citizens.

The Mayor replied that his statement had been distorted and he and Dr. Xuma "apparently disagree on the meaning of the word 'kafir'."

APPEAL UPHELD

JOHANNESBURG.—William Malefane was among a group of eight men from Bensonvale Location, in Herschel district, Transkei, charged under a Government proclamation for cutting down willow trees near their homes. All appeared in the Magistrate's Court, were found guilty, and sentenced to a fine of £10 each.

William Malefane appealed. He argued his own case before a judge of the Eastern Districts local division of the Supreme Court, and his appeal was upheld.

He had been charged under a section of the Government proclamation forbidding the cutting down or removing of forest property on the Crown to prove the willow trees were part of a forest. As this had not been done, the accused could not be found guilty of the offence.

The conviction and sentence were set aside. It is understood that the other men charged under the same section of the proclamation had already paid their fines.

Message to U.S. Journalists

JOHANNESBURG.—"We wish to bring to your notice that there is not one South Africa, but two." This is the message the Natal Indian Congress conveyed to the American "Journalists" on their blitz tour of South Africa. The message was handed to them as they arrived at the Palmietfontein aerodrome, with a request that they attend a press conference arranged by the Natal Indian Congress to take place later in Durban.

It says the Journalists will no doubt be shown gold and diamond mines, Table Mountain, the Valley of a Thousand Hills, rising industries and flourishing commercial enterprises. "That is the one South Africa."

"You will, however, not be told of the plight of the landless African—the original owner of this land. You will not be told of the stark misery of the 300,000 black workers on the gold mines whose labours make it possible for this country to produce 85 per cent of the world's gold. You will not be told of the slave labour conditions on farms in many districts; that in spite of its healthy climate and abundance of food South Africa's industrial cities have the highest death rate in the world from tuberculosis among their Non-European populations."

"You will not be told that because of the many restrictions placed on the freedom of the individual South Africa has, in proportion to its numbers, the largest gaol population in the world."

The memorandum then traces the history of the struggle of South Africans for domestic rights, detailing the events in the present struggle against the Immigrants regulations Act.

WEICHARDT BANNED FROM BRAKPAN TOWN HALL

JOHANNESBURG.—Weichardt's White Workers' Party, alias the Greyshirts, was refused the use of the Brakpan Town Hall, by the General Purposes Committee of Brakpan's Council.

Weichardt subsequently held a meeting outside the hall, where he announced his party would give its full support to the Nationalist and Afrikaner Parties in the parliamentary elections.

"We are prepared to sacrifice everything for white South Africa," he added.

GARMENT WORKERS v. DE VRIES

JOHANNESBURG.—The Garment Workers' Union is to appeal against the decision given in the Rand Division of the Supreme Court, in the De Vries case.

Mr. Justice Prins dismissed the application of the Garment Workers' Union for an order declaring the election of Mr. De Vries as secretary of the South African Trades and Labour Council in November last as irregular, invalid and not in accordance with the Council's constitution.

U.P. AND LABOUR BY-ELECTION FIGHT

JOHANNESBURG.—A United Party candidate, Mr. George J. Seekis, and Anna Scheepers, the candidate of the African Labour Party, will contest the Transvaal provincial by-election in Turfontein on March 17.

MEAT STRIKE CASES

JOHANNESBURG.—Four African meat workers who appeared in the Magistrate's Court on a charge under the Riotous Assemblies Act for trying to induce workers to strike recently in the wholesale meat industry, were found not guilty and discharged. A fifth worker had been discharged earlier.

The organiser and secretary of the Meat Workers' Union were found guilty of charges of inducing workers to strike, and fined £15 each.

£31,000 FOR NEW MOROKA ROAD

JOHANNESBURG.—The last annual congress of the Municipal Association of the Transvaal received that strong representations be made to the Ministers concerned for the removal of the Middelcamp from the vicinity of the Cape Town-Johannesburg national road.

The Johannesburg City Council has now decided to construct an alternative road at a cost of about £31,000.

The road will be between the Moroka Camp and the Nancefield station.

The letter from the Johannesburg Council adds: "A strong police force is stationed at Moroka, comprising four European non-commissioned officers and 24 Native constables."

TRUMAN, THE SAGE

JOHANNESBURG.—Shortly after the Nazi attack on the Soviet Union, a Missouri Senator said in a speech that the United States ought to help "whichever side seemed to be losing. If we see that Germany is winning, we ought to help Russia; and if Russia is winning, we ought to help Germany, and that way let them kill as many as possible." The name of the Missouri Senator was Harry F. Truman.

MINEWORKERS' MEETING

JOHANNESBURG.—The Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions has called a mass meeting of all workers for Sunday, March 7, at 9 a.m. in the Randfontein Location Hall.

The Council is now informed by the Location Superintendent, the mines notified him that no special passes will be issued to African miners that day. No African miner will therefore be permitted to enter the Location to attend the meeting. The meeting will still go on.

TRADE UNIONS

ACQUIRE PREMISES

JOHANNESBURG.—A number of trade unions, among them the Amalgamated Engineering Union, the Mineworkers' Union, the South African Electrical Workers' Association and the Society of Bank Officials have acquired union premises on their own property in Johannesburg.

This was reported at the annual meeting of the Trades' Hall Society.

Mr. H. P. Tyler was elected president of the society, and Mr. G. McCormick was re-elected secretary.

How To Keep Your Blood Pure — by Dr. Eloff

JOHANNESBURG.

The establishment of a race hygiene bureau to conduct research into "the characteristics of the Coloured people and to trace family trees to ensure that all people were pure-blooded," was advocated by a biologist, Dr. G. Eloff, at the conference of the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap held in Bloemfontein recently.

Dr. Eloff said effective precautions against mixed marriages should be devised and a psychological apartheid inculcated to ensure that every person entering marriage would first make certain that the intended marriage partner was of "pure blood."

Dr. Eloff also said that the intellectual capacity of the African was below that of a European, but because of their greater numbers, the Africans might produce just as many intellectuals as the Europeans, if not more.

In this lay the great danger for the Europeans, and he was, therefore, concerned with the low birth-rate among the upper classes.

Cracks In Nat. Unity?

STRYDOM BOOSTED AS HEIR-APPARENT

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister of Lands, Advocate J. G. Strydom, was hailed at a Pretoria banquet recently as the "First President of the Free Republic".

The editor of Die Transvaler, Dr. Verwoerd said: "He is the third person in the leadership of the men of National Afrikanerdom; the Free State produced its General Hertzog, and the Cape Dr. Malan; Transvaal has produced Advocate Strydom who is going to become the next Prime Minister of South Africa."

Mrs. S. Moerdyk, speaking on behalf of the women of the Nationalist Party of the Transvaal, said: "We, the Nationalists of the Transvaal, assure him of our full support until the day when he becomes first president of our Free Republic." Similar remarks were made by a member of the Nasionale Jeugbond.

The Transvaler splashed this building-up of Strydom over the front and second pages of its issue the following morning. One heading was: "Next Leader of National S.A."

Die Vaderland ignored this aspect of the banquet and contented itself with reporting Strydom's speech on unity. There was no mention of the remarks made by Verwoerd or Mrs. Moerdyk.

This is regarded here as a significant indication of the rivalry between Strydom and Havenga coming to the fore; and as a sign that the unity within the Nationalist Party itself is not as solid

as it is made out to be. Why the talk of the next Prime Minister of South Africa when Dr. Malan has just climbed into office? Is this another sign of the difference of Cape and Transvaal Nationalists represented by Malan and Strydom respectively?

The rivalry between Havenga and Strydom has long been known to be bitter and this ignoring by the Vaderland of Strydom's followers' hopes for him is regarded here as a sign that these differences are becoming important. The incident is regarded as a significant crack in the whole Nationalist-Afrikaner Party edifice.

AFRICAN MINERS GET 8d. A SHIFT

Government's Admissions To U.N.O.

JOHANNESBURG.

ONE copy of the Union Government's reply to the Trusteeship Council's questionnaire on South-West Africa has now reached this country from Lake Success. It was sent to the Reverend Michael Scott, and is the only copy available in South Africa.

Some of the replies to the Trusteeship Council's 50 questions are very frank and full and this in itself makes the document a very revealing one. Here are a few of the points made:

In the whole period of the mandate only two Africans succeeded in passing their matriculation examination, after taking correspondence courses at their own expense.

The wages of African miners are 8d. a shift. In the Union they are 2s. 5d.

The Union Government, as "supreme chief," determines in what areas the Africans may live, and for what period they may live there.

The Union Government admits it has no plans for the fuller participation of Non-Europeans in the government of the territory, apart, possibly, from extending the powers of advisory boards.

Of the territory's budget, 10.16 per cent. (£246,605) was spent on Non-European administration and welfare.

Just over £16,000 was spent in 1946 on improving conditions in Native reserves.

Asked what conventions of the I.L.O. the Union Government had ratified and applied to the territory, the Government answered: "None."

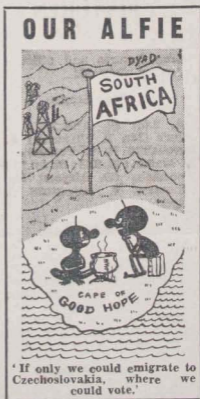
No scales of minimum wages are laid down by law.

The document admits that some

parts of the Reserves now occupied by the Herero tribes are inferior compared with those parts formerly occupied by them.

The law does not provide for the recognition of either European or Non-European trade unions.

There are no old-age provisions for Non-Europeans.





Squatters at Mooiplaatz, Pretoria, removing the remains of their shacks after receiving notice from the City Council to leave the land.

Squatters Given 24 Hours To Quit

JOHANNESBURG.

SQUATTERS at Mooiplaatz, outside Pretoria, were recently given 24 hours in which to pull down their shacks and move off the Council land they were occupying. The Council threatened action against the squatters unless they carried out the ultimatum.

Seventy families were affected. They appealed to the Government and Provincial Native Affairs Department for help. They asked where they could go.

Then, when the 24 hours were up, they began slowly to dismantle their huts, pile mud bricks, straw and wooden poles and their meagre possessions on to donkey carts, and move off.

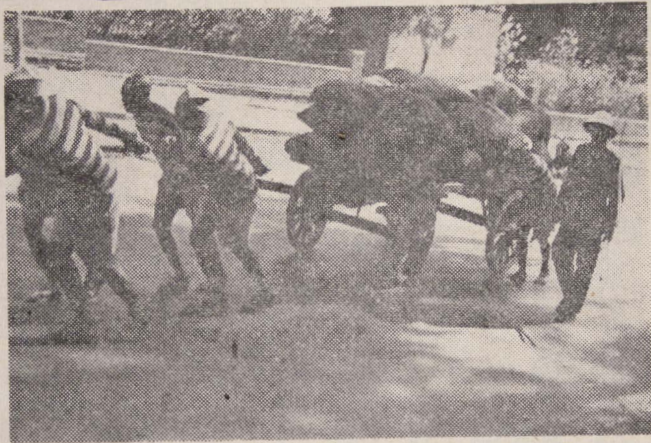
The Guardian reporter visited Mooiplaatz the morning the time limit expired. They were dismantling their homes, but still, as though expecting some last-minute reprieve, produced receipts for amounts of £10, £3 and so on, to show they had paid to lay out their plots, and thought the receipts proof they were entitled to live there.

They were bewildered by the whole turn of events. "Who is going to live on this Council land?" one woman kept asking. She could not understand the explanation that no one would live there when she and the other families had gone. Would the land then lie idle?

Moving her family if another had more right to live there seemed to be a reasonable stand, but to move the squatters off the barren hillside and then leave it there, uninhabited, unused; what sense was there in that?

The next day the plots were deserted. The squatters had gone. No one knew where. Then the Council moved in again and razed to the ground what was left of the huts.

Final communiqué: "It was not necessary to use force at any stage of the move."



This picture of African convicts pushing an over-loaded coal wagon up a hill was taken in Johannesburg. This is typical of the treatment which is meted out to Non-European prisoners in our jails.

"Daylight Robbery" Of African Unemployed

Policy Of New Government

JOHANNESBURG.

"DAYLIGHT ROBBERY" is the term used by one trade unionist here to describe the treatment of Africans under the Unemployment Insurance Act—treatment which is daily getting worse.

Africans who have been paying their contributions for months — some ever since the inception of the Act two years ago—are being turned away from the offices of the fund. The Government has ordered that payments to Non-Europeans must be "drastically reduced."

They are not allowed to sign the register of unemployed, have their cards taken away from them, and are told they will be given no other work if they do not accept work at 30s. a week, or some such paltry sum, far below the rate at which they worked previously.

"These men have contributed to the fund just like anyone else," said this trade unionist. "At least their pro rata contributions should be paid out to them."

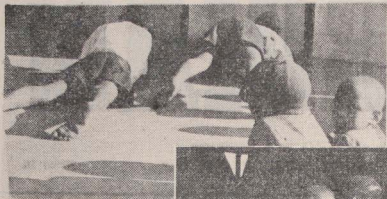
Mr. L. C. Scheepers, organiser of the local committee of the South African Trades and Labour Council, quoted examples to *The Guardian* of African workers in the leather industry who had their claims rejected because they would not take pick-and-shovel jobs. Previously they were operatives earning £3 10s. a week. A Coloured worker in the

industry was recently offered a job on a farm. An African was told he would have to leave the city if he did not find work within a week.

A factory in the leather industry recently closed down, putting 21 African workers off. All had paid their contributions since the inception of the Act. Some had spent years in the industry. They were allowed to sign the unemployed register once or twice and then told to go.

Workers who lodge appeals against decisions of the Claims Officers wait weeks for replies, in the meantime drawing no benefit.

THE FUND IS NOW BEING OPERATED AS THOUGH AFRICANS HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXCLUDED BY LAW FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT.



FAMILY WELFARE CENTRE

The Alexandra Family Welfare Centre celebrated its birthday in the Township recently. Here is a group of young Centre members acting a scene from Noah's Ark (the animals went in two by two), and giving a performance of physical culture.

Financed largely by University students, through their annual RAG, and assisted by the Union of Jewish Women, the centre provides health, recreational, educational and other services for a number of African families in Alexandra. It was described by Dr. C. C. P. Anning as the type of community centre the National War Memorial Health Foundation hoped to establish in many parts of the country.



KEEP THE ALL- BLACKS IN THE RESERVES

JOHANNESBURG.

The following letter recently appeared in the Natal Mercury.

"Sir. I am wondering what the attitude of the Government will be towards the All-Blacks who are to tour the country next year. It will seem desirable for the officials of the Rugby Union to obtain some definite assurance from the appropriate Minister, be he "Blackie" Swart, or someone else, that our visitors will be treated with proper courtesy as visitors from a sister Dominion. It is too awful to think of the "apartheid" policy being applied to them and it being insisted upon that they should only be allowed to play in the Native Reserves. My advice to the Rugby Union is to leave nothing to chance. You never know, in view of what is happening at present."

"Hedley W. Dalton."

"CONVEYER BELT SYSTEM OF JUSTICE"

JOHANNESBURG.

MRS. HIBBERT, the European woman who chose to serve a term of imprisonment for one month after being found guilty of contempt of court for shouting: "You are a lot of brutes; there is no justice in this court," was released from prison after her husband had paid her fine of £15.

Mrs Hibbert alleged that the whole procedure of a case she witnessed had been conducted with "a great deal of feeling of the colour bar which exists in this country."

The Guardian believes that the orderly in the court in which she witnessed this incident has now been changed.

The incident prompted the Rand Daily Mail to publish an account of court procedure in the Magistrate's Court.

"In those Johannesburg Magistrates' Courts where Native cases are heard, the studied and profound atmosphere traditionally associated with courts of law is swept aside in the daily scramble to clear the rolls for the next day," wrote the Mail.

"Hustled up the long stairs from cell to dock and whisked down again by court officials, accused men and women seem part of a 'conveyer belt' system of justice.

"On Monday 444 cases were heard" (by nine magistrates).

"In another court a line of 30 Natives sat patiently on every step of the long stairway leading from the dock to the basement cells. As their names were called they scrambled up the stairs to answer, and then stumbled down again after the verdict had been given, and sentence passed."

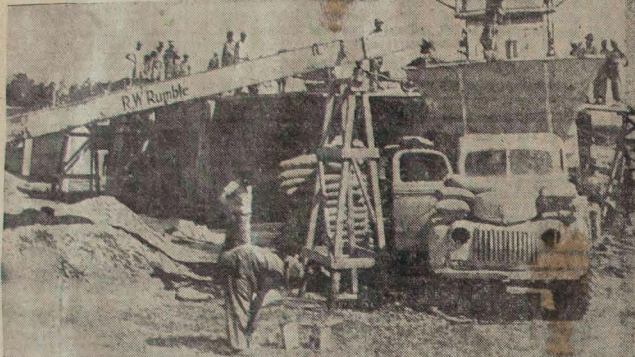
Picture shows Dr. Dadoo addressing a huge crowd at the Red Square, Johannesburg, after his release from jail. On Dr. Dadoo's right are the Rev. Michael Scott and Mr. Jusuf Cachalia, and on his left Messrs. Thandray and Nana Sita.



March 11, 1948

THERE'S STILL A HOUSING CRISIS

Says SPRINGBOK LEGION



The Rumble method of building—pouring concrete into steel shutters. Houses are completed in one day. The picture below shows completed homes for working-class families at Van der Bijl's Park, Vereeniging.

Emergency Powers Needed

JOHANNESBURG.—As part of a more courageous and vigorous housing policy the Government should give the Director of Housing the same wide emergency powers as those enjoyed by Dr. van der Bijl as Director of War Supplies during the war, says an ex-servicemen's organisation, the Springbok Legion.

This is one of the conclusions reached by last week's meeting of the special housing committee of the Legion, together with the chairman of the D.S.D.C. Housing Committee, Mr. H. W. Johns, to which the Press was invited.

Mass resignations threatened by staffs of letting control offices and suggestions that letting control might be abandoned altogether, have alarmed homeless ex-soldiers, said speakers. There was applause

Gist of the discussion was that letting control is in a mess. Fifteen thousand families are queuing up for accommodation in Johannesburg alone. But within the limits of what they can hope to achieve, letting control officials have made the best of a bad job. The essential need to-day is for more letting units. This must be the slogan of an effective housing policy.



for a statement that "letting control has been made the whipping boy of the shortcomings of the Government's housing policy."

STILL DESPERATE

Mr. Johns told the meeting the housing situation was as desperate as two years ago. One third of the families registered for accommodation required housing urgently. The National Housing Plan had promised 6,000 homes within two years. Since 1944 only 2,500 have been built. In Johannesburg the National Housing Commission has erected 61 houses, and 120 have been handed over by private enterprise for letting purposes.

The last time the Springbok Legion went on a housing deputation to the Minister he took them to the site chosen for Crown Gardens and said: "Come here with me in a cage from 14-day and you will see the happy families." That was nine months ago, and only

now is water beginning to be laid on for the new township. Van der Bijl Park, the new township just outside Vereeniging, last year created 800 houses. This year their programme is 1,400.

"If this can be done in a new town," said Mr. Johns, "why can it not also be done in Johannesburg?"

The meeting agreed that the housing problem cannot be met by private enterprise, but only by

National Housing Commission and local authorities. The lower and middle income groups cannot afford to build their own homes.

HIGH COSTS

Land speculation has sent let costs soaring up by 400 to 800 per cent. A workman would have to pay £3,000 to £4,000 for a small cottage.

Mr. Johns said that if the building industry worked at its full productive capacity more houses would be built, and "the costs reduced."

Where was Mr. Mosaka?

JOHANNESBURG.—"Where was Mr. Mosaka" . . . during the strike of African miners, the squatter movements, the anti-pass campaign, and the struggle of Bethal farm labourers? These are questions members of Transvaal and Free State advisory boards are urged to ask themselves before casting their votes in the elections for the Native Representative Council next week.

In a leaflet just issued, the Mofutsanyana Election Committee says the past five weeks have been stormy for the African people.

During the strike of African miners, when Mofutsanyana, Marks and many others went to the help of the miners, Mr. Mosaka was not to be seen.

"During the anti-pass campaign, Mofutsanyana organised and led big demonstrations. Mr. Mosaka was elected a member of the Anti-Pass Committee and never attended one meeting of the committee, yet he speaks of people who killed the anti-pass movement.

"He was not with you when you decided to boycott elections. He was not in Louis Trichardt when there was trouble over the land. He was never near Bethal when the people who had elected him waited eagerly for him during the troubles of the African workers at Bethal.

"Mofutsanyana, the Communist Party candidate, is a man of the people and believes in being with the people in their struggles. As the editor of the fighting African newspaper, 'Inkululeko,' he has been with the people in every struggle. He has never run away or hidden.

"He is the man you should elect to the Native Representative Council."

The meeting concurred that letting control, the National Housing Commission and all Government departments concerned with housing should be co-ordinated, and should work according to a plan. Vested interests would oppose this. Here was the need for a courageous Government policy.

The Government had insufficient figures available to propound an exact housing plan. With co-ordinated action, a Director of Housing with wide powers, assisted by a "Housing Brains Trust," and the country might get a new outlook on housing. More letting units were essentially the key to the solution. It was agreed to initiate the formation of a combined ex-servicemen's team to go to the public and the Government with a housing plan.

MOFUTSANYANA vs. MOSAKA

Election Day Next Week

JOHANNESBURG.—With NRC election day (March 17) barely a week off the fighting between retiring Councillor Paul Mosaka and Communist candidate Edwin Mofutsanyana, both contesting the Transvaal and Orange Free State urban seat, is sharpening.

Mofutsanyana has been touring both provinces extensively. The nomination figures, it is believed, were little indication of the outcome of this struggle. The signs are that there will be a swing over to Mofutsanyana when the people go to the polls on election day.

"How would you sum up the results of your tour?" Mofutsanyana was asked, after his visit to the Free State.

"I found the support for my candidature was enthusiastic. I am most confident," was his reply. Public meetings in both provinces have, almost without exception, declared emphatic support for Mofutsanyana. So, too, have meetings with advisory boards and leading residents. Main fight in this election will probably centre around the Free State, and the Free State's capital, Bloemfontein.

In Eastern Native Township a public conference of Reef Advisory Boards was convened by the Joint Advisory Boards of Johannesburg, to enable candidates Mofutsanyana and Mosaka to appear together on the same platform. Mr. Mosaka did not attend.

Mr. Mofutsanyana received a prolonged oration at the end of his speech. He said he would have liked to appear on the same platform as Mosaka. As a member of the Native Representative Council Mosaka had failed his people lamentably over the last five years. One speaker after another rose to confirm from the experience of their own area that Mosaka had not visited his electorate.

At this election, meeting, only two speakers did not support Mofutsanyana. The delegate from Moroka rose to say he had been



Mr. Mofutsanyana.

sent specially by his people to say they would on no account support Mosaka.

Another delegate expressed strong indignation at Mosaka's suggestion to the City Council during the Shanty Town struggle that Mosaka be deported from Johannesburg. This had come to light during the Fagan Commission.

Mofutsanyana reported that in many places in the Free State he had been followed by members of the All-African Convention, which was touring to propose the complete boycott of the polls during the election. They seemed to have little influence.

LABOUR AND THE ELECTION

JOHANNESBURG.—The South African Labour Party will contest 49 seats in the general election. Twenty-six candidates have already been nominated.

Tentative talks between the United Party and the Labour Party on the desirability of an agreement to avoid three-cornered contests have been renewed, although temporarily suspended.

Nineteen Transvaal candidates have been announced, and six for Natal. A number of nominations for Cape area are being considered although only one has been announced.



Some of the railway employees who live in houses like those described below

RAILWAY WORKERS' HOMES

JOHANNESBURG.—Huddled behind the railway workshops in Braamfontein, just in front of the main line in Germiston, in Pretoria and other parts of the country too, are the unsightly rows of "double-deckers," built way back at the beginning of this century, or before that, in which some railway workers are still living to-day.

In Braamfontein they are two rows of grimy, filthy, black, double-storey tenements. Over them hangs a heavy pall of smoke, making them look like a miniature copy of some decayed, twentieth century industrial slum. Between one row and the next runs a narrow alley, bounded by rickety, corrugated-iron fences behind which can be seen dirty, neglected yards and kitchen entrances.

The walls of the houses, inside and out, are crumbling and potted with holes. It is impossible to keep the rooms in these houses clean. No sooner has one thick layer of black dust been wiped away than another settles down over the furniture.

PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

Mrs. A. was just entering her house with her small daughter as we visited the "double-deckers" one morning. She was bringing her little girl home from school because her teacher had said she was not well enough to attend school and should be kept at

home. Mrs. A.'s little girl suffers from asthma and a bad chest generally. The specialist said it was caused by her living conditions.

Mrs. D., further down the line, was told when she moved into her house that the "double-deckers" were due to be demolished in six months' time. She has been living in her house for eight months already, and the demolition squads have not yet arrived.

There are holes in the ceilings of her bedrooms. When it rains her beds and other furniture are soaked. The hinges on her windows are broken and they don't open properly, have not been done yet.

JUDGMENT RESERVED

JOHANNESBURG.—The appeal against the decision of the Cape Provincial Division in the South African Indian Congress case was heard at Bloemfontein during the week.

Judgment was reserved. The case was an attempt by South African Indian Congress officials to challenge the validity of the last elections of the Transvaal Indian Congress which brought Dr. Dadoo and the progressive group into power. It was heard originally in Cape Town when new officials of the Transvaal Indian Congress won the case with costs.

"GANDHI MEMORIAL" More Resisters To March

JOHANNESBURG.—Dr. K. Goonam and Mr. Manilal Gandhi are each to lead batches of Natal resisters which will cross the provincial border into the Transvaal during the next few weeks. This is announced by the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council.

The Council says in a Press statement just released that the imprisonment of Dr. Dadoo and Naicker has led to even greater activity on the resistance front. "Since the news of the imprisonment of these leaders, many more resisters have enrolled. In the weeks ahead the second phase of the struggle will see more concerted action."

Dr. Goonam will lead a batch into the Transvaal on March 13. She is at present acting chairman of the Natal Indian Congress, in the absence of Dr. Naicker. She served a term of imprisonment lasting four months at the outset of the resistance campaign.

Mr. Manilal Gandhi, son of Mahatma Gandhi, will lead the "Gandhi Memorial Batch." It will cross into the Transvaal in about a fortnight's time as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi who initiated passive resistance in South Africa in 1906. It is expected that by the time the "Gandhi Memorial Batch" enters the Transvaal in defiance of the Immigrants' Regulations Act, the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi will have already been brought to the Union from India.

I.L.O. Delegates

Mr. D. P. Briggs has been elected the delegate of the South African Trades and Labour Council, and Messrs. W. Kalk and R. Griffiths its advisers, to the 31st session of the International Labour Organisation to be held in San Francisco from June 15 this year, reports our Johannesburg correspondent.

The Trades and Labour Council conducted a ballot among all affiliated unions for the election of its representatives.

RESISTANCE LEADERS QUESTIONED BY C.I.D. Gov't New Line Of Attack

JOHANNESBURG.—Mr. T. N. Naidoo, acting chairman of the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council in the absence of Dr. Dadoo, and the council's publicity officer, Mr. A. Kathrada, were last week subjected to questioning by C.I.D. officers.

Messrs. Naidoo and Kathrada were questioned about their relationship to the Passive Resistance movement and warned that the matter is "very serious." They were told that police investigations are still proceeding.

It is considered here that these renewed investigations are preliminary to a new attempt to smash the Passive Resistance movement, by imprisonment and intimidation.

The imprisonment of Dr. Dadoo and Dr. Naicker is taken to be a

warning signal of a new attack by the Department of Justice.

Previous convictions against passive resisters have been for contravention of the Trespass Act, as in Durban, or of the 1913 Immigration Act. But the arrest and imprisonment of the two resistance leaders indicate a new attack. Neither of them had themselves infringed the Immigration Act. They have been imprisoned as leaders of the Passive Resistance movement.

This is a threat to civil liberties which causes great concern in progressive circles here; it is being widely discussed whether there is not immediate need for the formation of a broad democratic front to combat such attacks on civil liberties.

MRS. BARDOPOULOS APPEALS TO SMUTS

JOHANNESBURG.—"General Smuts, I plead with you to intervene on behalf of my husband. He was a supporter of the democratic E.A.M. movement, which was our ally in the fight against the Nazis. He was a hero and a patriot and suffered for his country and also for our country in the common cause. In view of conditions in Greece to-day I am sure he will be imprisoned and most likely killed. . . . You are my last hope."

This is a last-minute appeal as an open letter to the Prime Minister by South African born Despina Bardopoulos, wife of Platon Bardopoulos, the Greek anti-fascist faced with deportation that her husband be permitted to remain in South Africa with her and their baby son.

For weeks past, Mr. Bardopoulos has been hunted by the South African police. An investigation into his case promised by the Minister of the Interior came to nothing. He has now decided to go to court for an injunction restraining the government from deporting him. His papers have already been served on the Supreme Court.

In her letter to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Bardopoulos writes: "My husband was an officer in the Royal Greek Army and was wounded several times fighting the Nazi invaders of Greece. Then he was sent to a Cairo hospital, and later to the

Pretoria hospital by the Union Department of Social Welfare. When he recovered he tried to re-enlist. He was told no further officers were needed, so he went to work making munitions at the Pretoria Mint."

Mr. Bardopoulos was permitted to stay in South Africa provided he did not engage in any occupation other than teaching, although this was not made clear to him until many months later, owing to delays in the Department of Interior. Last year, when his earnings were too low to support his wife and baby son, he wrote asking the authorities for permission to do extra work.

"He wrote five times," says Mrs. Bardopoulos. "He got no answer, and eventually he interviewed the

BARDOPOULOS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

JOHANNESBURG.—A Bardopoulos Emergency Committee has been set up here to aid the fight of the Greek anti-Fascist, Platon Bardopoulos, threatened with deportation to Greece.

Among the leading citizens serving on the committee are: The Reverend T. Huddleston; The Reverend D. C. Thompson; Rabbi M. C. Wexler; Miss Eleanor Hawarden; Mrs. Natalie Lester; Major Michael Silver; Mrs. J. K. Lyda Lindquist; the Reverend u Manor; Mr. Norman L. Hanson; Miss Ellen Hellman; Mr. Moses Kottler; Mr. Edgar Bernstein; Mr. J. J. Venter.



Mrs. Bardopoulos and her son.

Chief Enquiry Officer of the Department in Pretoria, who told him his application was receiving attention, and gave him the impression it was just a routine matter. Now he is told he must be deported to Greece because he has broken the conditions of his permit.

"You will see my husband did nothing underhand, and made every attempt to get permission to do extra work. Surely he was not wrong to think they could have no objection, especially when they did not answer his letters?"

"My husband has committed no crime," Mrs. Bardopoulos said in his last letter. "We don't see our way out for us in South Africa and will not regret this kind action for we would try in every way to conduct ourselves in a worthy way and show gratitude for our country which gave my husband shelter. Please do not reject our plea. You are my last hope."

WHY ARE CYPRIOTS "UNDESIRABLE"?

BY RUTH FIRST

JOHANNESBURG.—Latest national group to be selected as butt of the Union's racial and politically flavoured immigration policy are the Cypriots. Cyprus, a British possession, now falls into the category of "undesirable countries."

Why are Cypriots suddenly undesirable? A prominent United Party member put it this way: "South Africa has already many problems of her own without further complicating the position by facilitating the entry of unassimilable and possibly undesirable persons from Eastern Europe, even though some may be British subjects by birth."

Calling a people "undesirable" and "unassimilable" is no very specific reason for putting them on the "not wanted here" list. Only clue offered so far is the angle

seized upon by the press: twenty per cent. of the population of Cyprus is said to be of Ottoman Turkish origin, and of Moslem religion. And, of course, of the 3,500 Cypriots already in the Union, about twelve are of the Moslem religion. An excellent reason, this one. Or is it?

The group of Cypriots which arrived in that Noah's Ark of nationalities, the Toscana, is supposed to be the last that will be allowed into the Union. During 1947 a total of about 1,000 Cypriots tried to settle in South Africa.

First talk of finding them "undesirable" and repatriating them after they had already arrived was in October of last year when the government tried to send back 30 Cypriots who landed on the Rand by plane. But after it was announced these Cypriots would contest their right to stay here, as they fulfilled the provisions of the Immigration Act, no further action was taken.

In a statement in Parliament, Minister Lawrence said that Cypriots were not aliens, but British subjects, and if they complied with the Immigration Act, they were allowed to enter the Union.

All the Cypriots who have come here have obviously had passports valid for this country, otherwise they could never have arrived in South Africa. Hitherto, visas have been granted by authorities in Cyprus permitted to issue them for this country. In future no visa is to be granted without prior consultation with authorities in the Department of the Interior here. In this way, without declaring all Cypriots, as all Indians, "prohibited immigrants," the notorious "screening process" will ensure that South

Africa can never become a haven for "undesirables."

The only conclusion to be drawn is that South Africa wants immigrants only as she chooses them. Has the undesirability of Cypriots anything to do with the fact that recent municipal election results in Cyprus have shown that large majorities of the people are turning more and more to the left? Four out of the six largest towns elected Socialist and Communist majorities to their town councils. South Africa likes its immigrants to say: "We left our country because it was going too Red." Any other reason for emigration is not good enough.

And then the public must be convinced that it is for their benefit that these people are being excluded, so the propaganda machine starts up again, and we have another minority at which to poke fun. We don't want the Latin races, people from Eastern Europe, foreigners of any sort, No Yugoslavs from behind the iron curtain of the Red Army, unless they are Prince Paul and his relatives. No Greeks or Italians, unless they denounce democratic governments with too-long memories of their war crimes. No Poles, unless they swear allegiance to the fascist General Anders.

South Africa doesn't really object to foreigners—as long as they are not democrats.



ASSAULTED IN JO'BURG STREET

JOHANNESBURG.—This is 22-year-old Percy Denton, in bed in a Johannesburg hospital with a broken nose, following a vicious assault on him in the street by a band of European hooligans.

Percy Denton and a friend were walking along a street on a Sunday evening when they noticed a band of hooligans pushing a few Africans off the pavement into the gutter. They paused to see what was happening, and the band of hooligans then came up to them. "You don't approve of us?" they asked.

"No," came the reply. "You are disgusted with us?"

"Yes." One of the hooligans then asked Denton's friend whether he had

tram terminus corner of Market and Harrison Streets were two Chinese, one of whom had four front teeth knocked out. The second was hit on his cheekbone and the side of his head with a bottle.

joined the Hebrew Legion, and when he said he had not called him a "yellow rat."

Denton then walked over to his friend's side, and the next second was punched in the eyes and his glasses smashed.

The names of the hooligans were taken down by people who came to Denton's assistance. A statement was made to the police. It is understood that no arrest has yet been made. Denton states he could easily identify his assailant.

Other week-end victims of assault by bands of European hooligans who gather about the

O.B. RALLIES ITS FORCES CLAIMS 200 "COMMANDOS"

JOHANNESBURG.—The announcement of the Ossewa-Brandwag that it is preparing anti-Communist guerrilla commandos has been followed up by organising tours in the Free State and the Transvaal, conducted by both the Ossewa-Brandwag and the Greyshirts. It is clear these Fascist organisations have long-range post-election objectives, and will remain dangerous long after elections are over.

Greyshirt leader, Louis T. Welchardt, as much as said so in a recent speech. The Greyshirts, he said, will support the Nationalist parliamentary front in these elections as a first step, but the second step in determining the future of White South Africa will come immediately after the elections.

The "news" about the O.B. commandos was carried by "Dagbreek," which interviewed a Rand leader of the Ossewa Brandwag to ask him what Dr. van Rensburg meant when he spoke at Majuba of a "new organisational form of the O.B."

This Rand leader said that over the past few months the Ossewa Brandwag had formed more than two hundred commandos in mines, factories, and other places of work in order to combat any possible Communist action such as that

which took place in Czechoslovakia! The formation of guerrilla commandos, he said, had not been restricted to urban areas. Several units have been established on the plateland in the Free State and Transvaal. Full-time organisers have been appointed for this work.

Other highly placed members of the Ossewa Brandwag, who were approached said they had received orders some time ago to enrol every O.B. supporter in smaller, active units, under direct jurisdiction of the O.B. Headquarters.

The news of the commandos has not been confirmed by any other paper, but is made at the same time as announcements in "Die O.B." that organising tours in the Free State resulted in 11 commandos being re-formed within two days, and of a "great resurgence of spirit" in the Ossewa-Brandwag.

POLITICIAN'S BUSY WEEK

JOHANNESBURG.—Fresh and sprightly from having interviewed the important personages of the American Newspaper World, when he must have taken pains to publicise to them the beauties of the South African countryside, and whispered to them the great advantages of wise investment here ("Above all, remember our very, very cheap labour," he may have whispered), General Smuts, South Africa's Prime Minister, arrived at the Johannesburg City Hall to crown our Beauty Queen, Miss South Africa.

Miss Macoskill, the Queen, in flowing coronation robe of purple edged with white ermine, was escorted to a RED throne (yes, RED), and then the Prime Minister himself placed in her hand a sceptre.

With his well-advertised love for all Republics, General Smuts then proceeded to address Miss Macoskill as "Your Majesty."

"Your Majesty," he said, "this is surely a unique occasion. When you go abroad you will stand for something very big. You will uphold the honour of our country."

His speech over and job ceremoniously done, General Smuts then proceeded to Fort Elizabeth, where he delivered another inspired address: this time on the Menace of Communism.

From there he flew to Cape Town, no doubt to get busy with the United Party's election campaign.

A busy week for a busy politician, indeed!



DR. YUSUF DADOO, LEADER OF THE TRANSVAAL PASSIVE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT WAS LAST WEEK UNANIMOUSLY, AND amidst great applause, re-elected chairman of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party. Dr. Dadoo, who is at present serving a term of six months imprisonment in the Pietermaritzburg gaol as a leader of the resistance movement, is seen above with his little daughter, Shireen.

JO'BURG COMMUNISTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Du Plessis Re-elected

JOHANNESBURG.—"Imperialism in Africa is on the down grade, even though American Big Business is trying to take over this bankrupt system as a going concern. The people of Africa, from Accra, on the Gold Coast, to South Africa, are waking up."

These were the remarks of trade unionist Issie Wolfson as he opened the annual conference of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party over the week-end of March 6 and 7. Issie Wolfson presided in the absence of the District Chairman, Dr. Yusuf Dadoo, now serving a term of imprisonment as a Resistance leader.

Issie Wolfson went on to say that attacks against the Communist Party and other democratic forces in this country were organised by the South African Government, aided and abetted by its likes in other parts of the world, to try to bring discredit upon these peoples' movements and prevent the natural growth of the democratic forces of South Africa.

Danie du Plessis, in his secretarial report, dealt with the need to strengthen the forces for peace in South Africa.

Attending the conference were 54 delegates from 19 groups and branches including many delegates and observers from the Western Transvaal.

The conference recognised the need to rally anti-imperialist forces at the present time, and to combat the Government's hysterical pro-war and anti-U.S.S.R. propaganda. It pointed to the crucial need for universal adult franchise here and supported the calling of a National Convention as part of a wide movement to demand votes for all.

POLICE RAIDS

Dealing with police raids and brutality, the conference specially deplored such mass police raids as the recent one in Pimville. "These raids, far from being effective methods of rooting out crime, have developed into large-scale punitive expeditions against the African people, and their meagre rights," recorded the resolution. The conference noted also that acts of police terrorism have not ceased, despite a warning by the authorities that such acts of brutality would be dealt with severely.

Fraternal greetings were brought to the conference by the Transvaal Indian Congress, Southern Transvaal local committee of the Trades and Labour Council, Transvaal

African National Congress, Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, East Rand Communist Party, African Peoples' Organisation and the Young Communist League.

Danie du Plessis was unanimously re-elected secretary of the district for the ensuing year. The following were elected to the District Committee:—L. Bernstein, R. First, Advocate A. Fischer, M. Harmel, J. B. Marks, Alphonsus Maud, Edwin Mofutsanyana, W. Roberts, J. Slova, D. Tloome, Hilda Watts, and I. Wolfson.

FREE STATE GETS THE JITTERS Passive Resistance Scare

JOHANNESBURG.—The Indian passive resistance movement is giving the Free State the jitters.

Citizens of Harrismith for instance, have been convinced that their centre has been chosen by the passive resistance movement for the launching of a new resistance front in the Free State.

So the Harrismith Chronicle of March 6 carried an item on its front page headed: "Some more 'Passive Resistances'." It records that: "On Sunday the Police arrested two Indians from Natal, Mahomed Madi and Kistru Vera Pillay who had entered the Free State illegally. They were discovered at the bus-way and arrested there... They were each fined 20 for being instructed to return to Natal immediately."

Coinciding with these instructions Harrismith, the large residence front was regarded as the main source of "foreign political agitation."

It now transpires that these two Indians and others recently fined for

entering the same town illegally had just chosen to cross the Free State on their way home to Natal, from other parts of the country, rather than travel into Natal by the alternative route via Volksrust and Ladysmith. An expensive short-cut, at 22 lbs. a time, for daring to set foot in the prohibited province! Then, according to "Dagbreek," the "independent" Afrikaans Sunday paper on the Rand, farmers from the Heuningpoort district of the Free State sent a telegram to Drs. Dadoo and Naicker just before these two leaders were imprisoned, inviting them to cross the border into the province in their district. These farmers invited the Indians, but asked that they, the farmers, be notified if the "invitation" was accepted.

"I Claim To Be A Union National"

JOHANNESBURG.—Led by Dr. K. Goonam, nine men and two other women, all seasoned Resistance volunteers, last week crossed from Natal into the Transvaal. Some were facing a fourth prison conviction in this struggle.

The Volksrust magistrate, before whom they appeared on Monday, said he had no alternative but to find them all guilty after the usual court procedure had proved they were "undesirable" persons to enter the Transvaal in terms of the Immigration Act.

In a statement to Court, Dr. Goonam referred to this law as "most harsh, most unjust, to a people belonging to this country."

The case has been remanded to March 24.

"HIGH BRANDS US"

In an exclusive message to The Guardian, Dr. Goonam stated: "I am pleading guilty to the charge of entering the Transvaal which in the eyes of the South African law makes me a criminal. I claim to be a union national. I feel I am justified in protesting against this law which brands us on the basis of the colour of our skin."