

NEW AGE

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JO'BURG SUSPENDS MEETING BAN

Public Outcry Forces Council To Withdraw

JOHANNESBURG.—The ban on meetings of more than ten Africans was suspended in this city last week as a result of public outcry. This was less than a fortnight after the City Council adopted the amended location regulations.

The Non-European Affairs Committee of the Council is to review the regulations and consider amended ones, the chairman of the committee, Dr. B. Wilson, announced to the press.

The regulations were put through the Council ostensibly as amendments to the traffic by-laws, but instead of banning meetings on public property only, as claimed, they were a blanket ban on all African gatherings of more than ten, with the exception of weddings, funerals, religious services and so on.

Twelve organisations met together to plan a campaign for the rescinding of the ban. Initiated by a leading Johannesburg liberal, the organisations included the Liberal Party, the Labour Party, the group of Independent Councillors, the African National Congress and the Congress of Democrats.

Led by the Bishop of Johannesburg, prominent citizens were preparing a protest to the Council when the rescinding announcement was made.

New regulations are to be adopted by the Council but their content is not yet known.

New Threat In Ermelo

Meanwhile the ban on African meetings is now spreading to Ermelo. Regulations for "the control of public meetings and assemblies of Natives" have been prepared for this town.

They give the Council power to prohibit any meeting which may "provoke or tend to a breach of the peace." The Council has the right to control, supervise, restrict

or prohibit all meetings within the urban area, and the special approval of the magistrate and the manager of the Non-European Affairs Committee must be obtained.

Applications to hold meetings must be lodged not less than 72 hours before the meeting time.

No one may collect monies other than for church purposes, without the written permission of the manager, says another clause in these regulations.

The only gatherings exempted from the regulations are weddings, funerals, religious services, advisory board meetings, sports gatherings, concerts and entertainments.

Evaton Bus Boycott To Continue

JOHANNESBURG. A mass meeting of Evaton bus boycotters decided to continue the boycott and not accept the company's offer to revert to the old fares.

The Africans said that they wanted to have nothing to do with this bus company.

Special Police Keep Watch At Rugby Tournament

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Transvaal Congress leaders photographed in Cape Town last week. From the left: Mrs. Helen Joseph, Mr. Robert Resha, Mr. Norman Levy and Miss Bertha Mashaba.

CAPE ROUSED AGAINST PASSES FOR WOMEN

Inspiring Visit By Congress Leaders

CAPE TOWN.

Congress activity on a scale equal to the great Defiance and Congress of the People Campaigns took place in Cape Town and the Western Cape during the past week with the visit here of four national leaders of the Congress movement from the Transvaal.

In Langa, two of the biggest mass meetings ever were held last Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon. 52 delegates attended a special A.N.C. conference in Kensington on Sunday morning; there was a well attended lunch-hour meeting on the Grande Parade, in addition to numerous house and committee meetings.

Congress visitors were: Mr. Robert Resha, member of the national executive committee of the A.N.C., Mrs. Helen Joseph, Transvaal Secretary of the Federation of S.A. Women, Miss Bertha Mashaba, vice-president of the A.N.C. Women's League, and Mr. Norman Levy, n.e.c. member of the Congress of Democrats.

The Langa Market Hall was crowded to the doors on the Wednesday evening when a big welcome was given to the visitors.

Equal enthusiasm greeted their announcement of the mass demonstration of women of all races to Prime Minister Strijdom in Pretoria on August 9 to protest against passes for African women.

To meetings all over the Peninsula and in Worcester and Paarl, Mrs. Joseph and Miss Mashaba brought the message of August 9.

"What affects one woman affects all women," said Mrs. Joseph. "If an African woman carries a pass, that is my business, because I am a woman. It is my duty to stand beside her."

"The Coloured women of the Cape must realise that the first day the African woman carries the reference book pass, is the day the first Coloured woman will have to face reclassification, with all the indignities, suffering and hardships of the African women."

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GROUP AREAS BOARD SITTINGS ON AUGUST 2

4,500 MAY BE DENIED A HEARING

From NAOMI SHAPIRO

CAPE TOWN.

Over 4,500 people of Cape Town and the Peninsula who are totally opposed to group areas zoning may not be allowed to make personal representations before the Cape Western Committee of the Group Areas Board when it sits here on August 2 to decide the fate of thousands of Coloured, Indian, Malay, European and African families who live between Observatory and Muizenberg.

These are all people who, under the auspices of the Group Areas Co-ordinating Committee, signed numerous letters of protest to the Board in March of last year, when representations were first called for.

So strong was the feeling against group areas that halls throughout the Peninsula were packed for scores of protest meetings, and the Group Areas Co-ordinating Committee, which sprang up at the time, had no difficulty in obtaining 4,500 signatures to a protest against

the proposed zoning of the Peninsula. In addition, over 30 organisations endorsed a memorandum submitted by the Co-ordinating Committee, which declared:

"We who have lived all or most of our lives in the Peninsula know that it is simply not true that the different races cannot live together peaceably. . . White, Coloured, Malay, Indian and African have lived in the same areas, traded and shopped together, worked and travelled together and shared the

facilities of religion and higher education."

The memorandum also outlined the untold suffering and hardships the proposed mass removals would entail.

Now all these people and organisations are in grave danger of being ignored entirely, their protests pigeonholed and perhaps forgotten, because they are not being invited directly to give evidence. If they want to be heard, they must make

(Continued on page 6)

THE FUTURE OF COLOURED EDUCATION

THIS year the Conferences of the Coloured teachers assumed an importance far greater than usual.

After three years of "investigation" the oft-postponed and long-awaited report of the Coloured Education Commission was released and it was to be expected, therefore, that the Conferences would be largely devoted to an analysis of the report and the formulation of the teachers' attitude to the recommendations.

The Commission had been appointed against a very definite political background. The Eiseles Commission had done its work and formulated its plans for "Bantu Education" and devised the school system which would provide the Herrenvolk with its type of "Native" by 1970. After that, according to the well-known pattern, it was obviously the turn of the Coloured section.

Nationalist politicians were campaigning for the removal of the Coloured voters from the Common Voters' Roll and no small part of their propaganda was based upon the half-truth that there were actually more Coloured children than White children in school in the Cape.

They conveniently forgot, of course, that 50 per cent of the Coloured children in schools never passed beyond the infant school stage.

So many Coloured people, they alleged, would acquire the educational qualifications for the vote that the Coloured vote would soon swamp the White vote. Apart from this piece of special pleading to serve particular political interests, the farmers were complaining, as usual, of the shortage of cheap labour which resulted from sending the Coloured children to school and the consequent drift to the towns.

Ideology

On the ideological side the Herrenvolk was perturbed because Coloured education was too "academic" and led to "a feeling of frustration".

In other words, they feared that the Coloured children were being given an education which was not their desire things which were not for them, i.e. the schools made them dissatisfied with the colour bar and with their position in the

BY PETER JACKSON

Herrenvolk social system. As African education had been "banished" so Coloured education had to be "Colouredised" to fit the Non-European groups into their allotted niche in the Herrenvolk society.

In the Nationalist-dominated Provincial Council a full-scale campaign had been launched against the Coloured schools and teachers. Coloured education was a "financial burden" to the Province which it could no longer carry. The cost of Coloured education was "enormous" but, above all, the salaries of Coloured teachers (just over half that of the white teachers!) swallowed up 80 per cent of the money spent on Coloured education. The children were not getting their fair share because the teachers were getting the lion's share. And these same teachers were often found guilty of misconduct and malpractices. The white salary should not be called upon to pay for all this. Coloured education should be transferred to the Central Government, i.e. to the Coloured Affairs Department.

Suspicion

Against this setting the Coloured people, to say the least, regarded the De Vos Malan Commission with the greatest suspicion. They fully realised the purpose of the Commission and voiced their opposition in no uncertain manner. They refused to be party to any change in the educational system which would provide a special type of "Colouredised" education for Coloured children and were unequivocally opposed to any move to transfer Coloured schools to the Coloured Affairs Department. Throughout the country they made their views known and the Commission carried on its work in an atmosphere of hostile antagonism and stubborn non-cooperation.

The Teachers' League of South Africa met in conference recently in Kimberley. In its Presidential Address, the President, Mr. W. P. van Schoor, elected to office for the fifth time, referred to the action taken by the Cape Education Department against the Teachers' League during the last year. Having already refused some years ago to recognise the Teachers' League the Department had now banned the League from the schools and had dismissed two of its officials and taken action against three other members in terms of the political sections of the misconduct ordinance.

The theme of the League's Conference was **The Challenge to the Education of the Coloured People**, as presented by the report of the Coloured Education Commission. Its analysis revealed that the Commission consciously and explicitly supported the colour bar in education and the system of educational segregation with its provision of separate schools for White, Coloured, African and Indian pupils, and further, that the Commission sought to gear the Coloured schools to the machinery of the Population Registration Act by recommending special schools for different groups of Coloured people.

Existing Powers

In fact, of course, the recent Constitution Amendment Ordinance already empowers the Administrator to establish special schools for specific groups of Coloured people. In addition, the Commission accepted the apartheid social and political system which it prefers to call "parallel development" and envisages a system of separate Coloured schools which will prepare pupils for their particular life in the apartheid society.

To all this the Teachers' League was totally opposed and demanded an equal, free, com-

pulsory educational system which would equip all children for a full life in a democratic society, free of all discrimination.

In the separate Coloured schools, the Conference found the Commission recommended special machinery to provide a special type of education for Coloured children according to their alleged particular needs.

The Commission purported to recommend that the Coloured schools continue to use the same syllabus as the white schools, but was so insistent upon modifying these syllabuses, training the teachers in the techniques of modification, emphasising handwork and manual training in the curricula and instructing principals to modify the syllabuses according to the needs of the pupils, that it was in fact recommending the means by which a special "Colouredised" syllabus could be achieved.

This was fully appreciated by all the delegates to Conference and all teachers were warned of their responsibility to ensure that

DURING the July school holidays, a number of teachers' organisations held their annual conference in various parts of the country. In this article, specially written for New Age, a Coloured teacher discusses these conferences, with special reference to the report of the Coloured Education Commission.

the curricula and syllabuses are not modified to provide a special "Colouredised" schooling which would satisfy the labour demands of the ruling class and lead the children to accept an inferior position in the system of "parallel development".

The teachers, and indeed, the whole of the Coloured people, were totally opposed to the transfer of the schools to the control of the Coloured Affairs Department—a question upon which the Commission refused to commit itself and preferred to shift the responsibility to the Provincial Council and the Central Government.

The Conference also carefully analysed the details of the plan for compulsory school attendance for Coloured children which had been so hypocritically hailed in the press as a new deal for the Coloured people. The discussion showed quite clearly that the system recommended by the Commission was a far cry from the system of compulsory education as applicable to White pupils between the ages of 5 and 16 and itself even as a gradual system of compelling groups of Coloured children to attend school between the ages of 7 and 14, there were so many conditions attached that it would be as ineffective as the 1945 scheme.

Ten years ago, it may be recalled, a scheme was formulated to spend £1 million on building schools to introduce compulsory attendance for Coloured children and today there are only six centres where it has been introduced. The Commission called the 1945 legislation "extremely conservative" but its own recommendations certainly fall into the same category.

The Cape African Teachers' Association, 29 of whose mem-

bers have already been dismissed from the teaching profession because of their opposition to Bantu Education, was present at the Cape from holding its annual Conference in Port Elizabeth.

In Cape Town, the main feature of the Conference of the Teachers' Educational and Professional Association (T.E.P.A.) was the stern warning issued by them by the Superintendent, Chief of Education, Dr. Meiring, that during last year they had said things at their Conference which were "utterly irresponsible and unfounded and which were calculated to confuse the relationship between the Association and the Education Department". From their discussions it seems apparent that the Association has accepted the recommendations of the Coloured Education Commission.

The South African Teachers' Association (the English-speaking White teachers' organisation) also met in Kimberley. The Association decided rather belatedly to vote its opposition to the political sections of the misconduct ordinance which control the teachers' right of free speech and criticism. Although it is more than a year since this ordinance was incorporated into the service conduct code of teachers, it is nevertheless pleasing to note that some of the white teachers are becoming concerned about the democratic rights of teachers, and that their consciences are not set at ease by official assurances that the Ordinance is intended, not for the voice of opposition, but for "certain Coloured teachers".

Cape Roused Against Passes For Women

(Continued from page 1)

"With her African sister in chains, not even the white women is free," Mrs. Joseph and Miss Mashaba also made special appeals to the menfolk to make it possible for the women to be free on August 9, by releasing them from housework for the few days of their absence.

The proposal that there should be local demonstrations throughout the Western Cape to the Native Commissioner on that day by all those women unable to go to Pretoria, was also met with enthusiasm.

FINE RESPONSE

"The response of the people of the Western Cape has been magnificent and a very great inspiration to us," Mrs. Joseph and Miss Mashaba told New Age.

Commenting further on their visit, Mrs. Joseph said: "We have been absolutely appalled at the permit system for African women operating here. We are shocked at the way the women of Cape Town are suffering."

Miss Mashaba, who spent a morning talking to women queuing up for renewal of permits, said: "It was pitiful. There were old women in the queue and young girls of about 15. There were mothers with babies and small children, many of whom were crying. After waiting for hours, some women were sent back to get their birth certificates. "It brought home to me once more the horrors of the pass laws."

The fight against passes for women was also one of the main subjects in the address made to the women of M.G. conference by Mr. Robert Resha in Kensington on Sunday morning.

Mr. D. Mgunyeka presided at the conference which was attended by 52 delegates from the Cape Peninsula, Paarl, Koenhof and Stellenbosch.

Delegates from the so-called "African" branches, who were also invited, failed to attend. "The passes the African people have to carry are keys to the cells of hell," said Mr. Resha. "Any piece of paper, be it a permit, or a special pass, or a reference book—as long as you have to produce it to the police—is a pass."

TRANSVAAL INDIANS GIVE BACKING TO NEW AGE

The Transvaal Indian Congress has donated £150 to New Age! We hope this is but the beginning of similar amounts and want to express our appreciation for this fine start.

A sacrifice worthy of special mention is that of Leslie White. He is not yet five, but he saved up seven shillings in his penny money box and gave it all towards our £10,000 Campaign. Thank you, Leslie.

Enclosed with a very appreciative letter came 16/10d. from members of the Overport Social Colours in Durban. Members of this club already donate about 15s. each month.

Some Cape Town students arranged a party and collected 18 for us.

Yes, there are some indications that people realise the sincerity and

urgency of our appeals. But still they are not enough. The fulfilment of our target by the end of August is an absolute essential if we are to continue publication. Not only have we the printers' bill to meet in addition to running expenses, but in August we have to pay for our newspaper supplies once more. So, even those of you who have helped us so magnificently, do not relax your efforts!

If New Age is to continue publication, each and every one of us must redouble our efforts. There has never been occasion for complacency, but believe us, never has our need been more urgent.

Every lover of freedom must make it his personal task to collect something, however small, each month. Wherever we work, in sports clubs, social clubs, national organisations, trade unions, we must try to show the importance of New Age to the people.

BECOME A NEW AGE ACTIVIST TODAY! BRING FREE-

DOM TO SOUTH AFRICA SOONER!

THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS:
 Capie 5s; Visitor 5s; R.O. £11.35; Tommy 2/6; Biscuit Workers (Collection list) 12/9; Billy 2/6; A.O.S. 5s; A.R. 10s; K.M. 5s; W.B. 5s; Overport Social Club 16/10; Birthday greetings 7/8; Reader 10s; Mast L. White 7s; G.K.W. 45s; N.T. University Congress Branch 18; B. 15s; Reader 1; Reader 9s; Books 2; Warming 17/14;6; Athol and Bubbles 15; J.S. 10s; S.O. 10s; K.J. 10s; Transvaal Indian Congress £150; Old socialist 25s; Jabavu ANC £21.2; Sympathiser £15; Friend 7s; G.W. 45s; N.T. £10; P.G. 25s; Good Luck 25s; M.S. 15s; J.S.F. 25s; K.H. 25s.

Previously acknowledged	£3,183 19 6
Total this week	482 0 8
TOTAL TO DATE	£3,666 0 2

"Cleaning Up" Western Areas

Slums Act Enforced

JOHANNESBURG.

The authorities have tried all the dodges to get the people of the Western Areas to move to Meadowlands.

Droves of officials have visited the people's houses, getting them to fill in census and removal forms, and these days the removal lorries are as familiar a sight in Sophiatown as the rubble where houses once stood before demolition.

The Urban Areas Act (section 10) has been used against leading members of the African National Congress and long-established residents in the area.

The introduction of a permit system (see below) and the grillings given residents from the Western Areas in Room 47 of the Pass office, where men and women have to satisfy the officials of the Natives Resettlement Board that they are "bona fide" residents of the area—all these are aimed at whittling down the population of the Western Areas.

Now, a Slugs property owners, the Slums Act is being used to clear the properties whose owners have not agreed voluntarily to sell out to the Resettlement Board.

Mr. D. Maduna told New Age that his two properties have been declared slums and he has been ordered to demolish them.

An African company which owns Sophiatown properties has been ordered to demolish one of its buildings. One of the company directors, Mr. L. Mokgatle, said that the Health Committee of the Council had given them six months to repair the property, but before the six months had expired the demolition order was issued.

Mr. Mokgatle maintained that this was "an indirect way of forcing property owners to sell their properties. It is part of the removal scheme. We are losing our right to accept municipal houses," he said.

Night Protest At

Permits

JOHANNESBURG.

On the night of Freedom Day, June 26, a loud banging and beating of lamp poles and telephone posts stirred Newclare from its beds, and led by the youth, the residents took part in a night procession to the police station commandant to protest against the application of the permit system to Newclare.

The police are said to have decided that a permit system now operates in Newclare, yet arrests for permits are becoming the daily experience of the people.

From among the men arrested in the daily hauls a number have been endorsed out of the Western Areas, though they have lived there for over 15 years.

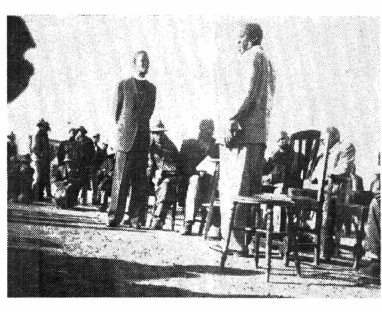
A recent meeting of the residents decided to send a deputation to the Natives Resettlement Board demanding an explanation of the position.

Dube Condemns

Meeting Ban

JOHANNESBURG.

The Dube advisory board last week condemned the ban on meetings of more than ten Africans passed by the Council. The Board decided to rescind its resolution of March 1, 1956, which accepted the amended location regulations banning gatherings. Last week the Board demanded the abolition of all restrictions on the holding of meetings in Johannesburg.



BANTU APARTHEID BODY GETS STORMY RECEPTION

(From our correspondent)

BLOEMFONTEIN.—A meeting of the Bantu Apartheid Organisation—small but noisy—was held here on Freedom Square on June 10.

The founder of this new body is Mr. W. S. Motlatsi (standing on the left of the picture) and with him on the platform was the Rev. M. M. S. Poisoane of the Bantu Dependent Church.

The aims of the organisation are to oppose the African National Congress. Some Europeans were invited to this first meeting but only three came, and all were Government officials.

Mr. Motlatsi, the founder and president, welcomed the Government officials. The Nationalists were doing the right things for the African people, he said. The proof was that people from Basutoland came from there to work in the Union and to carry the passes which give men freedom of movement.

The ANC provincial secretary of the Free State, Mr. Monnanyane, asked several questions. "Where were you elected as president?" he asked Mr. Motlatsi. "Who is the

secretary-treasurer?" "Who are the local officials?" "What is the joining fee?" "Where are those 2,000 members, in Bloemfontein, the Free State or the Union?"

Mr. Motlatsi answered all the questions with one sentence: "Go to my office, which is my house."

African National Congress members were refused permission to speak at this meeting. A Mr. Meyer and a Dr. Havenga spoke on the Tomlinson Commission report and Bantu Education. Then, because the meeting was noisy, it was closed almost an hour before time.

DEATH OF JOE NDAMOYI ROBS WORCESTER WORKERS OF A GREAT LEADER

CAPE TOWN.—The death last week of Joe Ndamoyi, militant trade unionist and one of Worcester's leading ANC members, came as a great shock to the progressive and trade union movement.

About 600 people of all races attended his funeral last Saturday, where telegrams of sympathy from all over the Union were read. On Sunday, delegates to the special ANC conference in Cape Town stood in two minutes silence in memory of their dead comrade.

Miss Nancy Dick, banned secretary of the Textile Workers' Industrial Union, has written the following tribute to Joe.

All of us who came into close association with JOE NDAMOYI will feel our lives the poorer for his death, for his was a strong, lovable and enthusiastic personality; a true leader of oppressed people. Joe was always ready to sacrifice his time, his wages, his personal comforts and even his health in their interests. Whether he was facing the boss with the complaints of his fellow-workers, leading a deputation to the Worcester Council on the grievances of the Sakkiesdorp residents, or speaking out to the authorities against some injustice to his people, Joe had no thought for the consequences to his own security.

In giving evidence to the Industrial Legislation Commission in 1954, Joe shocked its members by boldly stating his conviction that there was no single job today done by Europeans, that the African had the opportunity, if the opportunity could not and would not successfully perform. Joe's inspiration came from the belief that the day would come when there would be equality of opportunity for all and racial differences would be forgotten. He believed it was his role to help bring this about.

UNION RECORD

Joe was a member of the African

SPECIAL BRANCH SPIED ON RUGBY PLAYERS

P.E. Tournament Disrupted By The Pass Laws

From GOVAN MBEKI

PORT ELIZABETH.—Three hundred ruggerites who gathered in Port Elizabeth during this week for the great annual event—the National Tourney—were reminded of their station in society.

On their arrival the Johannesburg players reported that they travelled with three members of the Special Branch who were booked in the same compartment as three rugby officials. The Eastern Transvaal players also reported the same thing.

Six Special Branch men accompany two rugby teams! Yet Premier Strijdom assured his London audience recently that in South Africa nobody is trailed by the police.

On the playing ground the local Special Branch joined the Transvaal ones to watch the matches. Looks as though the Special Branch have become awfully sport-minded, or may be the African rugby players are possessed of the Communist demon and must therefore be kept under the watchful eye of the specially trained League (white doctors) who smelt out the Communist demon before it has spoilt "our Natives—no, Bantu."

PASS LAWS

On the third day, the Tournament was disrupted because the 300

players had to straighten out their passes under the provisions of Section 10—in spite of the fact that the passes were "abolished" under the Natives Abolition of Passes and Co-ordination of Documents Act.

"It is just a formality to comply with the regulations," declared an official of the Native Affairs Department. "Let them forget that they are 'Bantu' the sportsmen had to comply with the regulations. Special arrangements would be made to save inconvenience, to facilitate the issue of the permits to be in the proclaimed urban area of P.E., declared responsible Council office this outrage. There wouldn't be much time lost after all; thus they dismissed this as a small incident.

The tournament schedule was upset by a day. Maybe the players felt that their vanity had been hurt and with a sigh said: "All we are in South Africa," but the people are indignant at this, another act of humiliation born of South African racial laws.

Joe Ndamoyi.

Textile Workers' Industrial Union since July 1949, when a branch was formed at Worcester. He was vice-president of the National Union and chairman of the Cape Area Branch. Though denied the legal right of being a full representative of the Industrial Council (by virtue of his being an African) he was by mutual consent of employer and trade union representatives the unofficial representative of the African textile workers at all Council meetings. He was well known at public meetings as a militant, moving speaker and a fluent linguist.

His death on July 5th, after a brief illness, followed shortly after his release from the Worcester gaol where he had been kept on a charge of incitement to strike. The charge failed.

His funeral on Saturday, 7th July was attended by approximately 600 people of all races, including members of the ANC, from both Worcester and Cape Town, representatives of the Textile Workers' Union and other trade unions, the United Action Council, his fellow workers from Hex River Textile Mills where he worked, and friends from far and near.

Messages and telegrams were read from organisations and individuals, many being from Johannesburg where he was well known for his attendance at conferences. Mr. Mtswa officiated. Speakers at the grave were Mr. W. Mangalile of the Textile Workers' Union, Mr. March of Worcester ANC, Mr. Robert Resha of the national executive committee of the ANC, and Mr. Lee Wardman, M.P.

An appeal was made to the people of Worcester that they should redouble their efforts in the struggle for freedom, justice and equal opportunity for all so as to ensure that their comrade had not sacrificed for these ideals in vain.

Reception For John Alwyn

CAPE TOWN.

SACPO is organising a welcome-back reception for John Alwyn, Worcester leader who recently completed an 18-month prison sentence under the Suppression of Communism Act.

The reception will take place in the Fidelity Hall, Primrose Street, Cape Town, on Sunday, 15th July, at 2.30 p.m., and all members and supporters of the Council or organisations are invited to attend.

ISRAEL'S exports to the Soviet Union are rising rapidly. The USSR is now Israel's second biggest customer for citrus fruits. (Britain is the biggest.)

SOVIET REPLY TO CRITICISMS

WORLD STAGE by Spector

DESPITE the violations committed under Stalin, the Soviet Union was—and is—a genuinely democratic country with full power in the hands of the people, the Soviet Communist Party declared in a 10,000-word analysis published in Pravda last week.

It called on Soviet Communists to see that the principles of Soviet democracy laid down in the constitution of 1936 are fully restored and that violations of Soviet law are completely corrected.

In the period of capitalist encirclement which existed before the war, intensified by the advent of fascism in Germany, says the statement, the Soviet Union had to accept some limitations of democracy . . . but even at that time the party and the people regarded these limitations as temporary.

Vital Questions Answered

Two vital questions are asked and answered:
How was it possible for the Stalin cult with all its terrible consequences to appear at all under the conditions of a Soviet Socialist system?

And why did not the present leadership of the Soviet Communist Party come out openly against Stalin at the time and remove him from leadership?
While welcoming the rebuff given by foreign progressives to the enemies of socialism, the statement comments that "some of our friends abroad are still not quite clear on the cult of the individual and its consequences and are sometimes giving incorrect interpretations on some points."

Disagreement With Togliatti

It declares its disagreement with the statement of the general secretary of the Italian Communist Party, Palmiro Togliatti (World Stage, two weeks ago), when he raised the question of whether Soviet society had not reached "degeneration."

"There are no grounds for raising such a question and this is even less understandable in view of the fact that the Comrade Togliatti quite correctly says:

"It is necessary to draw the conclusion that the essence of the Socialist system is not to be found in a single one of the previous gains and, above all, the support of the system by the masses of the workers, peasants and intellectuals who form Soviet society was not lost."

"This very support shows that, notwithstanding everything, this society has preserved its basic democratic nature."

Making Most Of It

"Why are the enemies of Socialism and Communism making the most of the attacks on the shortcomings about which the central committee of our party told the 20th Congress?" the statement asks.

"To divert the attention of the working-class and its parties from the MAIN issues which were raised at the Congress and which were meant to clear the way to further progress being made in the

cause of peace, socialism and working-class unity," it replies.
Since the death of Stalin the party had fought consistently to eliminate the results of the Stalin cult because it "contradicted the very essence of the Socialist system and was becoming a brake on the progress of Soviet democracy and the advance of Soviet society."

In speaking out at the 20th Congress "the central committee realised that the frank admission of the errors made would give rise to certain negative features and excesses which could be used by enemies."

"Evidence Of Strength"

"But the C.P.S.U. has spoken the whole truth, however bitter it might have been," says the statement. "The party took this step on its own initiative, being guided by considerations of principle, for it believed that even if its action against the Stalin cult caused some temporary difficulties, it would be of enormous value in the long run from the point of view of the basic interests and ultimate aims of the working class."

"Sure guarantees are thereby created against things like the cult of the individual reappearing in our party or in our country ever again."

How The Cult Arose

From 1917 onwards large numbers of wreckers had been sent into the country by the enemies of socialism. The cult caused some temporary difficulties, it would be of enormous value in the long run from the point of view of the basic interests and ultimate aims of the working class.

"But even at that time the party and the people regarded them as temporary, to be removed as the strength of the Soviet state grew and the forces of democracy and peace developed throughout the world."

Lenin's Criticisms

Stalin had gained great authority and popularity in the fights against the Trotskyists and for the consolidation of Soviet power. As early as 1922 Lenin had pointed to defects in Stalin's character and at the beginning Stalin had paid attention to these criticisms. But later he "came to believe in his own infallibility."

A special statement then criticises Stalin's style according to which the class struggle would grow sharper with the advancement of the Soviet Union and the country says that this incorrect theory was used to justify gross violations of Socialist law and mass repression.

"A special status was created for the security organs, which enjoyed tremendous confidence "because they had rendered undoubted services to the struggle to Socialism, and the country defending the gains of the revolution."

"Then it became possible for Stalin gradually to substitute personal control over the security organs "and the usual exercise of judicial standards was not infrequently replaced by his individual decisions."

"Serious violations of Soviet law were committed and mass repres-

sions carried out, many honest Communist and non-party people were slandered and suffered, although completely innocent."

Stalin's Actions Restricted

It would be wrong to assume that nothing was done to try to halt the disastrous consequences of Stalin's actions, the statement said. "There were definite periods during the war, for example, when Stalin's individual actions were sharply restricted, when the negative consequences of the lawlessness, arbitrary action, etc., were substantially reduced."

"Members of the central committee, as well as outstanding Soviet military leaders, took control of definite sectors of activity in the rear and at the front, took independent decisions, and by their organisational, political, economic and military work, together with local party and government organisations, secured the victory of the Soviet people in the war."

Why No Open Opposition

In the prevailing conditions these leaders could not, however, come out openly against Stalin and remove him from leadership. Although Stalin was guilty of many unlawful acts, the Soviet people knew him as a man who always acted in defence of the Soviet Union. Any opposition to him under these circumstances would not have been understood by the people. It was not at all a matter of personal courage, the statement says.

"It is clear that anyone who in these circumstances would have come out against Stalin, would have got no support from the people."

"What is more, such opposition would have been considered in those circumstances as being against the cause of building socialism and as an extremely dangerous threat to the unity of the party and the whole state in the conditions of capitalist encirclement."

The statement also declares that many of the facts about Stalin's unlawful actions only became known after his death, in connection with the exposure of Beria and his accomplices.

Not Inherent In System

It would be a great mistake to consider that the Stalin cult was something inherent in the nature of the Soviet social system or that the social system had in some way changed because of the Stalin cult. "No cult of the individual could change the nature of the Socialist state which is based on social ownership of the means of production, the alliance of the working class and the peasantry and friendship between the peoples" through this cult did cause serious harm to the development of Socialist democracy and the promotion of the creative initiative of millions of people.

"The supreme aim and daily endeavour of the Soviet state is the utmost advancement of the living standards of the population, ensuring peaceful existence for its people."

THE DEAD MAN HAD NO PASS

JOHANNESBURG.

A green flying squad car lurched to a sudden halt outside a nearly completed 11-storey building in Hillbrow. Before the dust had settled, its doors had opened, disgorging its uniformed African and European policemen.

The concrete mixer stopped its grating song. Tools were laid down.

Reluctantly, resentfully, the workers on the building stood around and one by one they produced their passes.

All the workers, that is, except one.

He slipped away and disappeared from view. But a policeman saw him, and followed.

Two minutes later the people below saw him lying on a ledge on the top floor.

A barrage of abuse commanded him to come down.

The squad car's hoooter belloyed its impatience.

With a slight, nervous movement, the worker rolled over and dropped ten stories.

He fell like a bag of concrete, and landed on his face on the pavement with no sound, apart from the dull thud of his contact with the ground.

They picked up the body. It was cold.

Then the gears scraped. And with a roar the green flying squad car lurched away from that nearly completed 11-storey flat building in Hillbrow.

Some say the dead man had family trouble. Others, that he was in financial difficulty.

And that he had no pass.

C.B.

KIMBERLEY PROTEST AGAINST PASSES FOR WOMEN

KIMBERLEY.

Over 300 African women demonstrated outside the local Native Commissioner's Office, in protest against the threat to introduce passes for African women.

The demonstrators who were led by Mrs. A. E. Letele, Mrs. Louw and Mrs. Mosa of the African National Congress Women's League, presented a memorandum to the Native Commissioner declaring the reason for the widespread protests against what they termed this pernicious measure.

Mrs. Letele, in an interview with New Age said that African women could not and will not accept the humiliation which would have to undergo as a result of this threat to extend the pass laws.

"We believe that the pass laws are unjust and undemocratic and demand the abolition of all pass laws which are responsible for thousands of our menfolk being sentenced to various terms of imprisonment."

FREEDOM DAY IN KIMBERLEY

KIMBERLEY.

What would otherwise have been a very big meeting on the evening of June 26, failed to come off because the local Native Commissioner refused permission. Kimberley and Port Elizabeth are the only two cities where it is illegal for a gathering of more than ten people to take place without the permission of the Native Commissioner. All ANC gatherings have hitherto been possible only after the consent of the Commissioner.

After the crowds had returned home, they gathered in groups of ten; with bowed heads, and holding lit candles in their hands, they prayed and reiterated their firm support of the Freedom Charter whose anniversary they were celebrating. The guest speaker, Mrs. Mhlokoana of Bloemfontein, told them that no amount of banning could ever extinguish the flame of hope for ultimate freedom, once it glowed in the heart of every African.

NEW AGE LETTER BOX

In Memory of Joe Mdamoyi
We, the workers of the Hex River Textile Mills, sincerely wish to sympathise with the family of our late beloved Comrade Joe Mdamoyi, who had always proved to be a staunch leader to all workers in the textile industry, irrespective of race.

All sections at Hextex deeply feel the sad loss, because we have no one to replace him. Ever since our union was formed in Worcester, he has been of great help to us. For the last nine years, he was a shop steward. He gave of his best to the workers, forgetting his own personal needs. As branch secretary of the Textile Union, I have no words to say how deeply I was struck by the sad news when I was told in hospital that my right hand had passed away. W. MANGALIE for all the workers at Hextex, Worcester.

Coloureds And Indians Arrested in Location

Apartheid is being applied in Third Street, Benoni Location. Coloureds and Indians are arrested when walking in this street because only Africans must use it. The police are not prepared to admit this openly, and yet they arrest Coloureds and Indians who walk in this street. This happens nearly every week-end.

One Friday, Coloured workers coming from work at 4.30 p.m. walked through Wattville location. For the last two years these workers have walked through Wattville location and were never molested by the police nor did they have any trouble. But all of a sudden they are arrested for walking in this street. The police that they had applied for permits and the Superintendent had said that it would only be a

ALEXANDRA — WHERE THE PASS LAWS BREED MURDER

By RUTH FIRST

THE youngsters stood on the street corner in an untidy, shabby huddle. They were intent on the throw of the dice and seemed to see nothing else around them. Some looked no more than 17 or 18 years old, a few even younger.

"Tsoitsi!" Most likely, for Alexandra Township swarms with young Africans whose dead-end future has swept them into petty gangsterism.

THERE CAN BE FEW PLACES WHERE THE PASS LAWS AND CRIME HAVE SUCH A STARK CAUSE-AND-EFFECT CONNECTION.

It's really very simple to see—and quite frightening.

Alexandra is the township thrust upon its own desperate devices.

Men needing to work must run the gauntlet of township control as well as Johannesburg influx control regulations. Township men find jobs in Johannesburg—good jobs—only to be refused registration and told Johannesburg jobs are for Johannesburg Africans. They are directed to find work in Alexandra Township, nine miles from Johannesburg's centre.

But the township has only a sprinkling of small factories and barely any other openings, for though the pass law regulations may say it is a separate local authority for employment purposes, everyone knows that Alexandra grew up to house Johannesburg's workers.

Uglier Each Year

Each year the picture gets uglier, new batches of school leavers strike out to find their first

Polish Pen-Friend
I live in Krakow, Poland, am 27 years old. I work in a state company and study in the university. I would like to correspond with young men and women living in South Africa, but I have not any addresses of them. Can you help me to make pen-friends?

R. KACZYNSKI
Florianska 20/6,
Krakow,
POLAND.

SAR Facilities Inadequate

JOHANNESBURG.

The African National Congress on July 1, 1956, convened a well-attended public meeting at Mzimlopho (Orlando West). Speakers viewed with alarm the oppressive laws imposed on the people by the authorities.

The SAR system was condemned as inadequate, and the proposal that new passenger coaches without seats be put into use was rejected. How could old people and expectant mothers be expected to endure the long journey to and from town by having to stand all the way in these crowded trains? The meeting felt this would not ease the congestion in trains. The complaint was also made that the time-table was in a completely chaotic state.

The issue of passes to African women was unanimously condemned. Various oppressive laws were discussed such as the I.C. Act and the Prohibition of Interdicts Act, and finally the Minister of Justice was called upon to withdraw his uncalculated for threat of persecuting 200 people for alleged subversive movements.

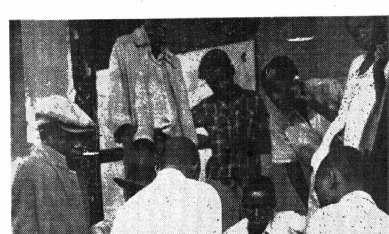
Benoni Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

Three hundred people of all races attended a meeting called by the South African Coloured People's Organisation held on the Indian Sports Ground in Benoni. The meeting discussed the pass laws, the permit system, housing and preparations for the women's march to the Union Buildings in August.

Jobs—No Gangs

There is the case of the 12th street gang. Its members found jobs in a local factory and the gang's activities faded out. But there is the story also of the school-leaver who found a job with one of the largest Johannesburg record-manufacturing firms but who was refused permission to enter Johannesburg. Today he carries knuckledusters and hangs out with the local gangsters. It doesn't take very long to turn a



recruits are put through a training course in a house in the township known as the "Rough House." The Spoilers ride in cars. They "dress like Oppenheims" one man said. Their game is the protection racket, well-planned robberies, house and safe-breaking, the liquor racket. (There is the time they tell of in the township when whiskey was going at 15s. a bottle after a big whiskey haul.)

The gang operates Chicago-style. The protection racket was carried not only into the taxi ranks (each taxi operating on the route was levied so much each week) but among the passengers who use the taxis.

Unchallenged By Law

The gang makes little attempt to work under cover. Assaults and robberies are carried out in broad daylight. The names of the leading gangsters are known by most in the Township, yet the criminals go free for the most part, quite unchallenged by the law.

People have become afraid to report crimes to the police: there are the cases where charges were laid and yet no prosecutions followed. There are the instances where the gang members took reprisals against those who reported them to the police.

This is the township where some years ago the people were driven to organise their own Civic Guard to protect them from the gangs. Crime figures dropped impressively: even the police admitted that. Then the Government banned the Civic Guard organisations in Alexandra and everywhere.

The people are not only the victims of persistent attempts on their lives and property, but they are paralysed, by the law, to do the thing that must best counter the work of the gangs. So the robberies become more frequent and the gangsters bolder and more brazen and the crime wave in Johannesburg's suburbs that the daily press is daily so shrill about, is slight compared to the terror of the gangs in the African areas.

YOU SHOULD REPEAL OF GHETTO ACT

—Indian Congress Tells Ghetto Act!
JOHANNESBURG.—The Indian people cannot co-operate in a scheme designed to eliminate them, said Mr. Nana Sita when he appeared before the Group Areas Board in Pretoria last week.

Mr. Nana Sita's attack on the Group Areas Act, apartheid and the Government's anti-Indian policy was met by interjections by the Board Chairman to "Stop that!"

Indians are opposed to the removal of any group, whether White or Non-White from their present sites, said Mr. Nana Sita.

HARMONIOUS
Indians have lived in Pretoria for 75 years and during this time their relations with other sections of the population have been harmonious. The Indian population is only 1 per cent of the total population of the Transvaal and the fact that this small community has not been ousted is proof that Europeans in general are not a party to the violent anti-Indian outbreaks which

have characterised South African politics.

Mr. Nana Sita concluded that the Act, by branding Asiatics inferior, was a calculated affront to the peoples of China, India and Pakistan and could endanger the peace of the world.

Mr. A. Gani represented the Transvaal Indian Congress before the Board.

Only if a case had been made out for the desirability of Group Areas should the Board recommend their establishment, he said.

"No such case has been put, and the City Council is itself not convinced of the practicability of the scheme. For real security for all the people the Board should recommend the repeal of the Group Areas Act."

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

You have only TWO MORE WEEKS to submit your entries in the
NEW AGE SHORT STORY COMPETITION
THE CLOSING DATE IS JULY 31

Don't delay any longer! Send your story in as soon as possible! All stories should be written in English and should be between 2,000 and 3,000 words long, with a South African background.

1st PRIZE — £10 2nd PRIZE — £7 10s. 3rd PRIZE — £5

THE PASS IS THE FOUNDATION STONE OF OPPRESSION

THE old Government pass office in Ferrisfontwa is no longer for business with Africans alone. In Room 47 Africans are dealt with: Sophiatown residents, de-bashed, humiliated and insulted. Men and women, boys and girls are asked which Chinese shop in Sophiatown is the biggest; how many Dutch Reformed Churches there are; the title of Dr. Nyenber. Pity the man or woman who says he is a Sophiatown resident yet does not know the answer to these and similar questions.

Meanwhile in Room 49, two doors up the passage, a string of Coloured people enter and crowd the room. But in a few minutes they might walk out no longer Coloured as they know themselves to be, but Africans, "reclassified." For this is where the Race Appeal Board sits in Johannesburg. Now they will have to carry reference books. They know they are Coloured but the law of the country says they are not. Where do human beings get the power to re-classify other human beings?

In Rooms 50, 51, 52 and 53 Africans are being told they are "Foreign Natives." They are deported. Some are sent to the mines, others to farms.

If they come back one day they will say they worked for next to nothing; they were tied in sacks; locked into compounds. They will say they were sjamboked. Some will say they fed on mealie stalks. But what crime did they commit?

From Outside One Cannot See

There is a new municipal pass office in Johannesburg in Albert Street. This is the centre of Johannesburg's own pass office. This new building is huge. From the outside one cannot see queues and it might seem empty. But inside the walls is so much that cannot be seen from the street. And there are the long queues, every day.

There are about 16 counters, each for a different purpose (infant, registration and so on) and here men spend the whole day, and then leave towards evening without having been attended to.

The pass works in many different ways. It is known as a "permit" when the African enters a location; as a special pass when an African seeks work; as a night pass when an African moves about in the night.

What happens when a man has a pass and wants to leave one province to visit relatives in another? First, his relatives must get him a permit from their location superintendent. Forms must be filled in. A permission is granted, the visitor's pass book number must be entered, and the forms sent to his home pass office. Then the man can start on his journey to visit his relatives for a

The final sketch in a series by M. K. MPHO

specified time. But he must report to the pass office on arrival.

There was the case of a man permitted to leave Cape Town for the Transvaal to visit relatives, but when he got to Johannesburg all his papers were ignored and he was told to leave the Union. He spent a day in the pass office and left at 5.15 p.m.—declared a "Foreign Native." This was despite the written permission of the superintendent from his home location.

It Was Said ...

It was said when pass books were introduced that African men would leave and enter any province or town without difficulty, and need only report to the location superintendent within 72 hours. But men are arrested when they have been in a township for only a few hours; and visiting friends carries the penalty of prison; and men have to report immediately, to be on the safe side, even before they enter a province, or location or town.

What happens when a municipal office clerk tells you, "I dislike to you?" A man once refused a permit because he entered the municipal office with his hat on. It was in the night and there was no transport back to the town. The man gave the African clerk his name and the number of the hotel in Nyassaland or Bechuanaland, and he entered the location. The next morning he was arrested for entering without a permit.

Is this all one can say about these pass laws?

Anything can happen under the pass laws.

Such Are The Laws

A man may serve a firm for 20 or 30 years and then be told to go back to where his ancestors were born, in Nyassaland or Bechuanaland. Or he may be ordered to the mines or farms, an old man who has worked long years. Some men are told they will be sent to work in factories just outside the city and they find themselves on farms. Men will have their pass books endorsed out of the city and then a new nightmare starts. Men will be arrested as they leave the jails in which they have just served sentences under the pass laws.

Meanwhile their families are going from pass office to pass office, from one police station to the next, from jail to hospital and then to the mortuaries—in vain.

IS IT NOT TRUE THAT THE PASS LAWS ARE THE FOUNDATION IN FACT OF ALL THE OPPRESSIVE LAWS OF OUR COUNTRY? WITH A PASS THE AFRICAN REMAINS FOREVER A JAIL-GOER. WITH A PASS THE AFRICAN IS TO REMAIN FOREVER A "BOY." SUCH ARE THE LAWS OF OUR COUNTRY THAT AFRICANS MUST "RESPECT" AND "OBEY!"

4,500 May Be Denied A Hearing

(Continued from page 1)

legal representations" before the Board on August 2 on why they wish to be heard—but even then there is no guarantee that the Board will decide to hear them.

ON PRINCIPLE

New Age telephoned Mr. Prins, secretary of the Cape Western Committee of the Board, for clarification on the question of the 4,500.

"All these people objected in principle to the Group Areas Act," said Mr. Prins. "We can't take that into consideration. The Act is there and the Committee is there to make recommendations on it. The Committee has its terms of reference. The Committee will only ask those to give evidence where it thinks it necessary and where it thinks that the person or organisation has something more to add."

"The Committee can't sit in Cape Town from August of this year to August of next," Mr. Prins added. (The sittings have been scheduled to last from August 2 to August 24.)

S.A.C.P.O. PROTEST

"The decision of the Group Areas Board not to invite the 4,500 residents of the Southern Suburbs to give evidence before it is a vicious flouting of the right of the people to raise their voices in defence of their homes," Mr. A. la Gumbe, secretary of the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, said in a statement to New Age.

"It is clear that the authorities are not concerned with the widespread condemnation of the Group Areas Act, and are prepared to operate its pernicious machinery in the face of mounting opposition." Calling upon the people of the Southern suburbs to prepare to defend their homes by every possible means, S.A.C.P.O. states that meetings in preparation for a mass demonstration will be held throughout the suburbs. "No one who values home, security and freedom should fail to enter into the struggle against the impending danger," says S.A.C.P.O.

LAW AND THE LAYMAN

By JURIST

THE RIGHT TO STRIKE

Like so many other rights, the right of a South African worker to strike depends on the colour of his skin.

The rights of European, Coloured and Asiatic workers are governed by the Industrial Conciliation Act. This Act allows the right to strike, though subject to certain limitations. The main limitations are as follows:

1. Workers in essential services, such as water, light and public transport undertakings, must refer their disputes to arbitration and are not allowed to strike.

2. Workers may not strike over a question which is directly covered by a valid industrial agreement or Wage Board determination. Thus, for instance, if an agreement has been negotiated covering wages, there can be no strikes about wages until the agreement expires. If a dispute arises on some subject which is not covered by the agreement, however, the existence of the agreement will not prevent a strike.

3. When a dispute arises at a point not covered by an agreement, the workers must first refer the dispute to the industrial council, if there is one, or in the absence of such a council they must apply to the Minister of Labour for a conciliation board. A period of 30 days must then be allowed for these matters to be taken effect. If at the end of 30 days the industrial council or conciliation board has failed to conciliate the dispute or if no conciliation board has been appointed, or if negotiations have taken place but have failed, the workers are free to strike.

4. No trade union may instigate or organise a strike unless strike action has been approved by a majority of the members concerned, in a secret ballot.

INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS

Industrial councils and conciliation boards consist of representatives of both employers and employees. Their function is to hear both sides of a dispute which arises and to endeavour to reach an agreement. If an agreement is reached, it may with the approval of the Minister of Labour be declared binding on those employers and employees who are parties to it, or on the industry as a whole. The agreement then has the force of law, and any employer who fails to abide by its terms can be prosecuted.

AFRICAN WORKERS

Although African workers are excluded from the operation of the Industrial Conciliation Act and can have no representation on an industrial council or conciliation board, their conditions of work may nevertheless be improved by an industrial agreement. A mixed trade union may therefore negotiate on behalf of its African members, provided it does not take the course of negotiations involving its European members as well.

An exclusively European trade union may also put forward demands relating to the conditions of work of Africans in its industry. Though African workers have often been excluded from positions, it is hardly necessary to point out the injustices which might result from the determination of African workers' conditions by whites, in which the Africans have no vote.

The Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act governs the question of strikes from industries disputes involving Africans. The Act contains a total prohibition on strikes. No matter how strong the reasons, an African worker may be, and no matter what efforts may have been made to settle the dispute, it is a criminal offence in preparation to strike. The maximum penalty is a fine of fifty pounds or six months imprisonment.

NOT ALL STRIKES

A strike requires the participation of more than one person,

according to the definition in the Act. A refusal to work by a single person does not amount to a strike. Nor does it amount to a strike if workers simply refuse to do something which is not required by their contracts or an industrial agreement, they are not obliged to do. For instance, if workers are entitled to knock off at 5 p.m. and their employer tells them to remain at work until 5, they would not be striking if they ignored his order and stopped at 5 p.m.

Similarly, it would not be a strike if workers refused to enter a workshop in which safety measures required by law had not been adopted.

A "go-slow" movement, if organised for the purpose of enforcing demands, is a strike in terms of the Act. And, though an individual worker may be perfectly entitled to leave his job on a week's notice, a mass movement to give notice, organised for the purpose of enforcing demands, is a strike.

The Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act provides for the setting up of various bodies, the function of which is to investigate and endeavour to settle labour disputes involving Africans. These are "works committees," consisting of workers in a particular industry; "regional committees" consisting of Africans with a European chairman, all nominated by the Minister; and a "Central Native Labour Board" consisting exclusively of Europeans nominated by the Minister.

THE WAGE BOARD

The theory of the Act is that the existence of a dispute should be reported through the works committee to an inspector, who will, together with the regional committee and the employees' representative, endeavour to reach a settlement. If no settlement is reached, the matter is then referred to the Wage Board. This is the only body which has any real powers. It can issue a ruling which the Minister must proclaim and which then becomes binding upon employers.

The Wage Board is a body which has existed for many years for the purpose of determining wages and working conditions in industries which are controlled by industrial councils. It consists of three permanent members nominated by the Governor-General and for the purpose of investigating any particular industry, an additional member may be nominated by the trade union concerned and by the employers' organisation concerned. The trade union representative must be nominated by registered (i.e. European) members. There is no provision for a representative of African workers on the Wage Board.

TRIAL OF 202 TEXTILE WORKERS

BENONI.

Five court days have been set aside for the hearing of the prosecution of 202 Amato textile workers under the Industrial Conciliation Act, 1926, for striking illegally on December 6, 1955. The case will be heard from August 6 to 10. The magistrate commented that the last case of this kind, applying for the workers, indicated that she might call 80 witnesses from among the accused to give evidence on their behalf.

Originally 365 workers were charged. One hundred and thirty-three have been acquitted.

BRITAIN SHOCKED BY KENYA ATROCITIES

"New Villages" Policy Leads to New Horrors

By a Special Correspondent

LONDON.—New disclosures in Parliament of the brutality of Britain's rule of terror in Kenya have aroused widespread indignation here.

Descriptions of the horror of the concentration camps in which "suspects" are kept, and, most dramatically, of the fact that the courts have sentenced young girls of 11 and 12 years to life imprisonment, are now appearing for the first time in the daily press.

One of the worst evils is the policy of destroying the villages of people living in the so-called "Mau Mau areas" and re-housing the people in special barbed-wire enclosed "new villages" which are in effect concentration camps. The alleged purpose of this policy is to prevent the villagers from supplying food to the "Mau Mau."

In the camps the people are required to do forced labour; babies are left without care or food while their mothers are driven out to work; boys of eight years old are beaten or sent out in shackles to the quarries; clothing and blankets are confiscated in mid-winter.

ON AIRPORT

In one camp where 5,300 people are crowded into 19 acres, the inmates' work is excavating and laying stone for a seven-square-mile airport.

In a typical "new village" there are 800 people with no sanitary arrangements at all; "they can make a hole and cover it up" the District Officer told Miss Eileen Fletcher, a British social worker formerly employed by the Kenya Government whose report blew the whole scandal open in the press.

The effect of the mass deportation of people can be seen even in reports from the daily Kenya press. The death of 45 children in one village which "might well have been aggravated by different degrees of malnutrition" was re-



This man was caught by a screening patrol and detained for "questioning."

Brutal torture is the order of the day in Kenya.

ported by the East African Standard recently.

NO MEDICINES

Whooping-cough which is common among African children in Kenya has become epidemic and the incidence of tuberculosis and pneumonia have increased with an exceptionally high mortality. The Africans in the "new villages" have no possessions and can buy no medicines, which are in any case strictly controlled.

In most areas the Kikuyu people are living on sweet potatoes and bananas. The mesic fields have been destroyed on the pretext that they afford hiding places.

In most of the "new villages" three-quarters of the available time is used for forced labour for the government and the other quarter for the "villagers" themselves.

TORTURE

At fixed hours the Africans are driven to work under escort of the so-called home guards. These are Africans who have proclaimed themselves "loyal" and are in fact a bunch of rascals who snatch every possible advantage from their position. Almost always drunk, they rob and rape at will.

The "new villages" are made up of people who simply happen to have lived in a Mau Mau area—the lot of those who happen in addition to fall for any reason under suspicion of having actually assisted the "Mau Mau" is much worse. Torture in order to extract facts and the extermination of others is the order of the day.



"Suffer the little children . . ." —(with acknowledgments to Vicky).

CHINA'S PEACE OFFER TO CHIANG

"All Free To Visit Mainland"

PEKING.—China has held out the hand of friendship to Chiang Kai-shek, the United States and all countries that still refuse to recognise the existence of this great power.

In a major foreign policy speech last week, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai "formally declared" that the Chinese government is willing to negotiate with the Chiang authorities and invited them to send representatives to the mainland for talks.

He said Formosa must be liberated but there were two possible ways. China preferred peaceful means to war and the prospects of a peaceful solution were increasing.

China, he went on, wanted to co-exist with all, including the U.S., and she would make more top-level contacts with other countries regardless of the absence of diplomatic relations.

Chou En-lai said that all Kuomintang military and political personnel on Formosa whose families were on the mainland were free to communicate with them.

"They can also return to the mainland for short visits to their relatives and friends. We are prepared to give them all kinds of facilities and assistance."

FREEDOM GUARANTEED

Officials who have doubts "can send people to the mainland to find out the situation. We guarantee them freedom of coming and going."

They would not be punished for past crimes and misdeeds, provided they now supported peaceful liberation.

He also warned the Chiang authorities that they were at their "dying gasp" and "cannot last for long." He said they should beware of being stabbed in the back and forsaken by their former supporters.

Then, turning to relations with the U.S., he made his most forthright appeal for friendship.

NO OBSTACLE

"It is our view that outstanding disputes between us and the U.S. should not be an obstacle to friendly contacts between the Chinese and American peoples."

"Furthermore, we are deeply convinced that the day will come when the Chinese and American peoples, because of their traditional friendship, will resume their ties through their respective governments."

OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN POLAND

LONDON.—Armed secret agents set up machine guns and, firing on police and soldiers, caused many of the casualties in the Poznan demonstrations last week, said Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz in a broadcast from Warsaw following the demonstration.

And a British reporter on the spot, Gordon Cruickshank, claimed that the armed men were not workers but people brought in from outside.

There was undoubtedly dissatisfaction in a number of factories, said the Prime Minister. This was due to economic difficulties and annoying grievances which would be remedied.

THE OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE WOULD NOT STOP THE GOVERNMENT FROM GOING AHEAD WITH THE DEMOCRATISATION OF THE COUNTRY, HE SAID.

The Polish Prime Minister claimed that the police and army had shown great restraint, and many of them were killed because of their delay in defending themselves.

Cruickshank, a progressive British journalist, reports that the total number of killed was 48, of whom several were workers in the district office of the United Workers' Party which was attacked by the demonstrators. He says that the men arrested for being in possession of

arms not one was a Poznan worker and he notes the "great similarity of technique between the East German disturbances of 1953 and those in Poznan."

As to the participation of workers in the disturbances, the Polish press revealed that there has been genuine discontent in the large 15,000-strong Zisop Locomotive Works for some time, and this mounted when new bonus rates were fixed illegally. In addition some unskilled workers were about to be dismissed as an economy measure.

A delegation of workers went to Warsaw and met members of the government. Their demands, said the Prime Minister, were accepted, but they returned to Poznan too late to stop the demonstrations.

WORKERS' MEETING

Meetings of workers have been held at most Poznan factories to discuss the disturbances and resolu-

tions have been passed condemning those responsible and pledging support for the government. But, says Cruickshank of the meeting he attended, "one cannot say there was great enthusiasm. Women workers in the big Goplana sweet factory were similarly reserved in their statements when I talked to them."

"One woman, a trade union representative, said: 'We were entitled to demonstrate, but they should not have been shooting. When I asked her who she thought started the shooting: 'The government says the hoodlums and provocateurs did. But the people say the security men did.'"

"When I questioned one woman as to what the demonstration was all about in her opinion, she replied: 'I don't know, but I've heard they were calling 'We want bread.'"

"Pressed by me to give a more direct opinion she and other women made no bones about expressing their support for that slogan. 'It is pleasant to work here, but I want more money. We must have more money to feed ourselves and our children.'"

"Referring to the speech made by Prime Minister Joseph Cyrankiewicz, one woman said: 'Mr. Cyrankiewicz is a good man and he said good things, but we want more money.'"

"One other thing must be said clearly. In all this it is difficult to find evidence of the leading role of the local organisations of either the trade unions or the United Workers' Party."

"But it should not be thought that—as some wishful thinking foreigners here would have it—Poland is a powder keg ready to blow up. The essential attitude of the Polish workers was put to me this way:

"We are not interested in capitalism and not all of us are interested in Socialism. What we want is a better standard of living."

"Within the limits of possibility the government has promised them that."

BACK TO NORMAL

On the day following the disturbances the city returned to normal, and Cruickshank reported, Poznan enjoyed a quiet week-end with crowds in the streets in the bright sunshine.

SPOTLIGHT on SPORT

by
Robert Resha



WHO IS GOING TO WIN THE CRICKET TEST?

This question provoked a long and heated discussion the other day among cricket fans who were standing near the Grand Parade, in Cape Town.

There is no doubt that it is not an easy thing to answer the question, especially as cricket is such an uncertain game. Anything can happen in cricket.

But looking at the teams on paper, if that is any guide at all, I agree with those who think Australia is likely to win. That is, provided the pitch is easy for the batsmen. For in the series Australia has a better team than Britain in so far as the batting is concerned. In McDonald and Burke, Australia has a pair of dependable opening bats. Their bowling attacks also makes the grade. So with more luck on their side, Australia should win.

England will have a chance of winning if the pitch favours the bowlers. Particularly if it responds to spin bowling. Jim Laker and Tony Lock will be a thorn in the flesh of the Austies.

One thing which is difficult to understand is why England has such a great belief in old crocks to the extent of dispensing with young, up and coming players. For the England selectors to consider Washbrook a first-rank player today is something which only the selectors can understand.

And the Rugby Test?

This week-end the first test match between the rugby Springboks and New Zealand is due to take place. While many of you are still reading this piece the result may be out, so I won't make any prophecies.

If I hope New Zealand wins the series, it is because I think South Africa has ruled the roost too long. Our rugby players could do with a good hiding provided they learn the right lessons.

And it would also be nice if there were some Maoris in the team that beat us—just for the

sake of promoting international friendship on the sportsfield.

Wish You Luck

Stephen "Kalamazoo" Mokone, Pretoria's wonder player, made a great name for himself in Cape Town when he played in an exhibition match.

Mokone has been lucky enough to get a passport to England to play professional football. In this match Mokone played like a professional. His positional play was perfect. His graceful moves were a delight to watch. His speed was an object-lesson to footballers.

We take this opportunity of wishing Mokone luck in his new venture.

Boxing

We understand that on medical advice South Africa's giant Ewart Potgieter has been refused a licence to fight. It is perhaps unfortunate that the public has not been taken into the experts' confidence and told exactly what is wrong with Potgieter. For it is not easy for the public to believe in the fact he is big and tall and makes it difficult for his opponents to reach him.

Some boxing fans do not seem to care whether Potgieter gets out of the ring or not. They said he never was a boxer. The only advantage he has over other boxers is the fact he is big and tall and makes it difficult for his opponents to reach him.

My advice would be that Potgieter should take up wrestling, where he will meet his equals.

Group Areas Conference In Transvaal

JOHANNESBURG.

The Executive of the Indian Congress, Transvaal, in response to a call made by Dr. G. M. Naleker, Acting President of the South African Indian Congress, to convene an all-in Group Areas conference, will be holding a conference very soon at which all political, sporting, social and cultural organisations will be invited.

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AFRICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPLIT BY DISPUTES

Members Object To Negotiations With SABRA

JOHANNESBURG.—Sharp rifts are rocking the African Chamber of Commerce which started off so hopefully last year to represent African traders and businessmen. A series of quarrels has broken out between the president, Mr. P. R. Mosaka, and the executive, led by the secretary, Mr. W. S. Pela, and these will have their sequel in two court actions shortly.

A few weeks back the Chamber executive passed a vote of no confidence in Mr. Mosaka and it is now seeking a court order to give effect to this decision and terminate his activities as president.

Mr. P. Leballo, the Africanist and former organiser of the Chamber, is also going to court to sue the Chamber for wrongful dismissal.

COMPLICATIONS

The set-up in the Chamber is by no means simple and all sorts of allegations of "inefficiency," "insubordination" and "dictatorial acts by some officials" are flying back and forth.

Mr. Mosaka told New Age: "There was mounting aggravation. I just couldn't stand. This was a situation where everybody claims he can do what he likes."

Mr. Walter Pela, who enjoys the support of the commonists, said: "The powers and functions of the executive are precisely defined by the constitution. No member has any right to do as he wishes."

Mr. Pela said it was Mr. Mosaka who took powers to which he was not entitled. "He also suspended the secretary, though he has no such powers under the constitution."

Another source of the dispute in the Chamber is that, though the constitution limits membership to traders and businessmen, some of the Africanists, who are not traders, have been taking part in its proceedings. Mr. Mosaka's support comes from this group.

DEALINGS WITH SABRA

The Chamber's dealings with SABRA, which offered financial and other support, have also come under sharp fire.

Dr. T. S. van Rooyen, one of the top men of the Native Affairs Department Information Office, acted as a go-between between SABRA and Mr. Mosaka, and the Transvaal Provincial executive of SABRA addressed a letter to Mr. Mosaka in February of this year expressing their interest in the Chamber and announcing that they had appointed a "small committee of five under the chairmanship of Dr. Van Rooyen to hold informal discussions with yourself."

The Chamber subsequently took part in talks with SABRA. Today, members of the Chamber seem to be going back on these talks with SABRA, but again for different reasons.

Mr. Leballo, putting the case of the Africanists, said he objected to the Chamber discussing matters of policy with SABRA. The latter would help organisations which supported apartheid, and only on that basis. This meant that the African traders should accept the Group Areas Act and the removal of Indian traders.

REFUSAL

"I refused to be a party to such discussions," said Mr. Leballo. "As a member of the Chamber, I object to monies from White groups. We must have self-help." He admitted though that the Chamber took help from the Bantu Welfare Trust.

Mr. Pela told New Age: "Under no circumstances have I ever worked with or had dealings with SABRA, as its viewpoint is directly opposed to my whole political outlook." Mr. Pela maintained that after his negotiations with SABRA, Mr. Mosaka invited its officials to address the Chamber.

Wide circles here have been uneasy about the Chamber's dealings with SABRA and also the activities of the Africanists in that body.

PROPAGANDA BALLOON released from West Africa exploded over the Polish village of Biehow recently, seriously burning three collective farm workers in the face and hand.

INDONESIA'S PARLIAMENT

has appointed a 24-member mission to visit China to discuss methods of increased co-operation between the countries. It will include three representatives of the Indonesian National Party, three each from the Masjumi and the Muslim Priests' Association, two from the Communist Party and one each from the minor parties. Similar 20-member missions will visit the Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Pakistan Backs Algerian Liberation

KARACHI.

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Chaudri has called on the French Government to end military activities in Algeria and to hold immediate negotiations with the Algerian liberatory movement.

Expressing the government's views at a press conference, Chaudri said that it was extremely difficult for Pakistan to view the present situation in Algeria with indifference.

Pakistan had always supported the Asian and African countries in their struggle against colonial powers. Referring to the present situation in Algeria he said that it was a question of satisfying the Algerian people's desire for independence.

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RUMMAGE SALE

A Rummage Sale will be held on Monday, July 23rd at the Sandberg Centre, 25 Breda Street, Gardens, at 2 p.m. sharp.

though recognising the pressing need for an organisation that will advance the cause of African traders.

They Don't Want U.S. Bosses

TRINIDAD.

The sale by the British Government of the Trinidad Oil Company to American big business is a "gross betrayal," the president of the Trinidad Oilfield Workers' Union declared last week.

"The behaviour of Americans during the war, and especially in recent times, on the naval base does not make the people welcome the take-over," the workers' leader added.

"The people here have special cause to fear "trigger-mad Americans." For recently at the nearby U.S. naval base an American sentry fired at two Trinidadians who were walking by.

The sale has also been attacked by the Trinidad and Tobacco Trade Unions, most influential section of the island's workers.

Workers' Strength Only Way To Freedom

—SAYS FORMER SINGAPORE CHIEF MINISTER

SINGAPORE.

Mr. David Marshall, former Chief Minister of Singapore, who resigned in protest against the British refusal to accede to Singapore demands for independence, told an all-Singapore Trade Union Conference last week that he now realised that it was necessary to rely on the strength of the working class to fight for freedom and democracy.

Mr. Marshall had been specially invited to the Conference, which appealed to all Singapore political parties and organisations to establish a united front to fight for the country's independence.

Jamit Singh, secretary of the conference, said that the failure of the London talks on independence had led to the universal realisation that the only way to obtain satisfaction was by means of a united front.

INDIA will import 300,000 tons of steel from the Soviet Union this year. India's Minister of Heavy Industries said recently. In addition 90,000 tons will be imported from Poland and Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union takes Indian tea in partial exchange for the steel.

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