

SACTU CALLS FOR STRUGGLE AGAINST NATIONALIST LAWS

MILITANT SPIRIT AT HISTORIC CONFERENCE

By NAOMI SHAPIRO

CAPE TOWN.—TRADE UNION HISTORY WAS MADE IN CAPE TOWN LAST WEEK WHEN THE ONLY NON-COLOUR-BAR TRADE UNION FEDERATION IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS, HELD ITS FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN THE SALT RIVER MUNICIPAL HALL FROM MARCH 1 TO 4.

Conference passed resolutions condemning the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill and the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act as devices to split the ranks of the working class and enable the Nationalist Government to exercise fascist control of the trade union movement. Conference urged the workers to engage in militant struggle against these two measures and for the recognition of elementary rights and workers' unity.

In addition conference adopted a clear and unequivocal policy statement (see page 6) and pledged enthusiastic support to the Freedom Charter.

Delegates also had much to say on the pass laws, the question of world peace, Bantu Education, the need to organise the 'unorganised' workers, conditions of farm labourers, housing, cost of living, unemployment insurance.

Conference culminated in a mass rally on the Grand Parade on the Sunday afternoon, which demanded the immediate withdrawal of the I.C. Amendment Bill and the enactment of industrial legislation extending trade union recognition to all working people of South Africa.

Conference was attended by 63 delegates and over 100 observers from 29 trade unions, representing 29,994 workers of all races. Representation at conference therefore exceeded SACTU membership, which at present amounts to 19 trade unions. Delegates came from all parts of South Africa, with large contingents from Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg.

There was a high level of debate and during the three days of its duration, conference maintained the spirit of steady determination and keen interest with which it had begun.

All in all conference demonstrated that SACTU, although established only a year ago in the face of vicious Nationalist attack, is a strong and virile organisation, fully aware of the difficulties that lie in its path, but as fully determined to struggle, until victory, for a truly democratic South Africa.

Members of the Special Branch of the police, white and black, kept watch on the conference from outside, while inside an official of the United States Consulate sat taking notes through all the sessions.

New Executive

"We want to express our appreciation to Mr. Byeleveld for the very good job of work he has done in helping to build up SACTU," Mr. Leon Levy said when he was unanimously elected national president in place of Mr. P. Byeleveld, who did not stand for re-election.

Vice-presidents Mrs. L. Mrebelo and Mr. C. Sibande were unanimously re-elected, as was general secretary Mr. Leslie Massina. Mr. Don Mateman was elected treasurer in place of Mr. Levy.

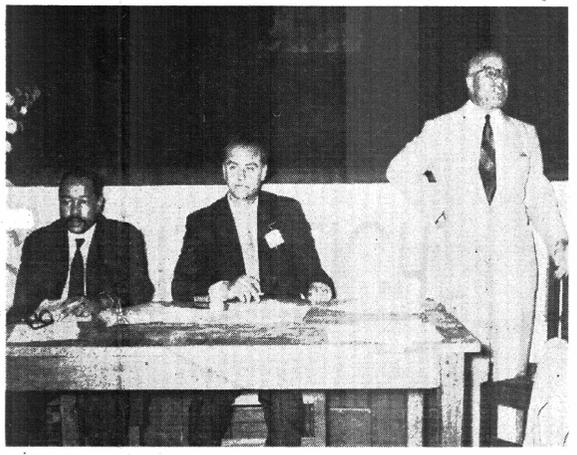
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NEW AGE

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LABOUR M.P. ADDRESSES CONFERENCE



Mr. Alec Hepple (right) Labour M.P. addresses the SACTU conference. With him in the picture are (left) Mr. Leslie Massina, general secretary, and Mr. P. Byeleveld, past-president.

AFRICAN MEETINGS BANNED IN P.E.

PORT ELIZABETH.

In terms of a proclamation in the Government Gazette last week, it is an offence from now on for anyone to hold, preside at or address any meeting of 10 or more Africans in the Port Elizabeth and Humansdorp districts.

The penalty for any contravention of the law is a maximum of 3 years imprisonment or a fine of £300. The proclamation was issued in terms of Government Notice 2017 of 1953, following a request to the Government from the so-called "liberal" Port Elizabeth City Council.

The only exceptions to this blanket prohibition are religious functions, sports and entertainments, meetings to settle domestic affairs, meetings of statutory bodies, weddings, meetings addressed by Senators, M.P.s and M.P.C.s and official and administrative meetings called by the authorities.

SACPO Protest Demonstration On Tuesday

CAPE TOWN.

A mass demonstration in protest against the Nationalist's plan to take away the municipal franchise from the Coloured women and the Indians in the Cape is being held by the South African Coloured People's Organisation on the Grand Parade next Tuesday, March 13, starting at 5.30 p.m.

The decision to call the protest demonstration follows the announcement that the Provincial Executive has approved the draft ordinance to be introduced at the next session of the Provincial Council, starting on March 13, whereby the voters' roll for municipal elections will be based on the Parliamentary roll. This would automatically disfranchise Coloured women and Indians on the present roll, which is based on a property qualification.

GERMISTON WOMEN PROTEST AGAINST PASSES

Triumphant Demonstration to Native Commissioner

From RUTH FIRST

For several days before the women's local demonstration against passes Germiston location seethed with reports spread by the police that the women would be shot if they demonstrated, and that their leader Miss Bertha Mashaba had been arrested; yet on Saturday morning 300 women from Germiston, Natalspruit, Alberton and Elsburg went through with their mass demonstration to the Native Commissioner and from six in the morning till the afternoon they carried all before them.

As a result of police visits to their employers both the chairman and the assistant secretary of the Germiston branch of the ANC Women's League were sacked from their jobs the day before the demonstration. They are Mrs. Nelly Myakeni and Miss Gladys Tladi.

The police watched all entrances to the home of Miss Bertha Mashaba, the League secretary, all Thursday night and most of Friday. They told her mother and father: "Your daughter will be shot. We'll bury her. You'll never see her again. Tell her to tell the women not to go to the Native Commissioner on Saturday."

They pulled a tenant out of his bed, confronted him with Bertha's three sisters and ordered him to point out Bertha to the police. Through the location the police

went in groups showing their guns and telling the people the Native Commissioner had stopped the demonstration, that Bertha was locked up and that the women should stay at home on Saturday.

WOMEN'S REPLY

But on Saturday morning 300 women from the four areas with Bertha Mashaba, Gladys Tladi, Nelly Myakeni and all the other leading women at their head, walked undeterred to the office of the Native Commissioner. Each member of the crowd signed the petition form against passes for women and waited outside while their deputations saw the Native Commissioner. One by one they spoke out their objections and the Native Commissioner listened.

Said one: "We do not want to carry any kind of paper or pass

even if it is written in letters of gold.

The Commissioner told the women he did not make the laws. The women knew that, they said, but when the day came that they were to be issued with passes the Minister would instruct the Native Commissioner to do this. "So we are coming to tell you to tell the Minister that we do not want to carry passes."

PETITION

The women's petition said: We fear for our homes when we too are arrested under the pass laws. We fear for our children who will be left uncared for, helpless. What is to become of our tiny children, our babies dependent on their mother's milk, if we are to be torn from them for failing to produce (Continued on page 7)

SACTU SUPPORT FOR NEW AGE

The first fruits of our National £10,000 Campaign are beginning to come in. Last Saturday, the delegates to the South African Congress of Trade Unions unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Conference instructs the incoming National Executive Committee to take steps to ensure that all local committees undertake the popularising and selling of New Age to all trade unions and workers by means of

- Collecting news of trade union activities and sending it to New Age for publication;
- Organising sales drives among trade unions to ensure that the paper is read by the widest section of the people;
- Fund-raising activities and the obtaining of donations to maintain New Age;
- Full participation in the £10,000 New Age Fund-raising Campaign."

The implementation of this resolution will bring thousands of organised workers into our campaign, strengthen the cause of workers' unity and go a long way towards ensuring that we reach our target. We hope that all other national democratic organisations will follow this inspiring lead and organise their members, too, in this all-out effort to place the future of New Age beyond all doubt.

As you can see from the donations acknowledged this week, the individual contributions range from



£50 to 2/7d. (The 2/7d. was collected in ticskeys and pennies from very poor readers by one of our regular voluntary sellers.) But, whatever the size of your donation, you may rest assured that we shall be just as grateful to you as we are to all those who have contributed towards this week's total of £150.18.8.

HELP OUR LIST GROW LONGER AND LONGER! MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

EVERY PENNY WE RECEIVE BRINGS US NEARER AND NEARER TO OUR TARGET! GIVE—AND GIVE GENEROUSLY!

Our addresses are: Johannesburg: 3, Progress Buildings, 154, Commissioner Street.

Cape Town: Room 20, Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street.

Durban: 6, Pembroke Chambers, 472, West Street.

Port Elizabeth: 9, Court Chambers, 129, Adley Street.

THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS

A.M. 9s.; M.F. £49; A.L. £2; W.H.G. (Collection) £74; Confident £3.10; H. Jacobsz 10s.; Joey £2.2; T.H.S. £10; M.S. £1; E.B. £1; Jumble £15.13.1; Mr. O. 2s. 7d.; Unity £1; Doctor £2; McSwenny £1; A.P.H. 5s.; B.C. £1; A.P. £50; Ivan and Les £25; Anon £5; Anon £2; Willie. 10s.; Anon £5; Well-wisher £10. Total £150.18.8.

test to that of millions of my fellow countrymen.

In the name of common decent humanity I demand that the people concerned be allowed to erect temporary shelters until such time that they are given loans by the National Housing Commission to enable them to build houses."

ARNOLD SELBY
Johannesburg.

No Passes!

The question of passes is of vital importance to the whole liberatory movement.

Congress as the vanguard of the African people has now to show genuine leadership. To fail to give the people a line and to wait for the Government to enforce its pass laws upon our workmenfolk will not be to work for the benefit of the people.

No passes for women!
D. W. KHUNOU

Editorial

Coloureds Under Fire

HAVING deprived the Coloured voters of their Parliamentary franchise rights, the Nationalists are losing no time in pushing ahead with their attacks on the Coloured community as a whole.

Last Friday the Nationalist newspaper Die Burger announced that an ordinance to deprive Coloured women and Indians of their municipal franchise rights had been approved by the Executive Committee and would be introduced at the next sitting of the Cape Provincial Council starting on March 13. The Provincial Council has a Nationalist majority.

On the same day the English press published the text of a letter from the Provincial Secretary to the Cape Town City Council demanding to know what steps the Council proposed taking to enforce apartheid on the beaches and in the provision of municipal amenities. The letter justified the demand for separate facilities by making a number of disgusting and unfounded allegations against Non-Europeans, and by referring vaguely to "complaints" by European residents and visitors to the Peninsula that their "privacy" was being invaded by Non-Europeans.

The Europeans already possess and dominate 90 per cent of the beach space and amenities available in the Cape Town municipal area. Now the Nationalists are trying to squeeze the Non-Europeans out of the remaining 10 per cent. They no longer care how crude their methods are so long as they achieve their object.

The Nationalists who are stirring up all this trouble cannot claim to speak for either the European or the Non-European people of the Peninsula. In fact they are a tiny minority, who are trying to force their racialism on Cape Town against the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the population.

It is to be hoped that the Cape Town City Council will face whatever assault is made on it by the Provincial Council with calmness and courage born of the knowledge that it represents both sections of the population and that the only just policy is one of non-discrimination. The opportunist approach of that minority of Councillors who, whilst proclaiming themselves liberals, are yet prepared to play the Nationalist game, must be rejected. Let the Council go down, if it is forced down, with its flag flying instead of trailing dis honoured in the apartheid dirt.

But there is no reason to lose the coming battle over apartheid if only the citizens of Cape Town, White as well as Non-White, will make a fight for it. In particular it is now the duty of the Coloured people to throw off their apathy, follow the lead of the South African Coloured People's Organisation, and strike a blow for freedom and equality.



Man and Wife Caught in Classification Tangle

I would like to tell you that I am very proud of your New Age paper, as it brings to us the full facts about what the Government is doing to our people. They are trying to break up our happy lives.

A few weeks ago I was classified as a Coloured. But there is still a sad hour to come when they classify my wife, as her father and two brothers have already been told that unless they appeal in 30 days, they will become Africans. So I must prepare myself for the future. Whatever happens I am not going to part from my wife just to please the White gods of South Africa.

I shall appeal to anyone in Rhodesia or overseas for work, because it seems I may have to run away from South Africa, where I was born. To appeal against the classification won't do any good, as all you get is a lot of insults. I also appeal to all other Non-Europeans in South Africa to quit. There are many parts of the world where they will be welcome. Let the White bosses do their own dirty work.

HARRY JANTJIES
Kliptown.

(Every decent South African will sympathise with Mr. Jantjies in his plight, and support him in his decision not to leave his wife, no matter what happens. But we would suggest to him that flight from South Africa is not the answer to his troubles. It is impossible for all 10 million Non-Europeans to leave the country. And why should they? This is their country as well as the Whites'. It is the small minority who are not prepared to live in

equality and friendship with all who should leave this country, not the vast majority. Black as well as White, who are prepared to shake hands together. The only answer to the evils of the colour bar is to wage the freedom struggle until victory is won. The Freedom Charter is made a reality, and all South Africans can enjoy equal rights, live where they like and marry whom they please.

Meanwhile, Mr. Jantjies should approach the South African Coloured People's Organisation in Johannesburg for assistance and advice in connection with his wife's appeal.—Ed.)

Kraaifontein Demolitions Barbaric

I have sent the following letter to the secretary of the Divisional Council in Paarl:

"It was with a feeling of disgust that I read a report of people's homes being pulled down at Kraaifontein. As these deeds are being carried out under the authority of your Council it is to that body that I protest against the gross inhumanity and injustice of these actions.

"The report reads like a story of the barbarous atrocities committed during the middle ages and has made me so violently ill that it will take me a few days to recover. I wonder if these actions will be marked down as sins to be accounted for on the Day of Judgement, but I do know that these sins will have to be accounted for when South Africa becomes a free country. Until such time I add my voice of pro-



The Soviet Consul-General, Mr. Ivanov, and Mrs. Ivanov were seen off by leaders of the Congress and trade union movement when they left Cape Town by boat last week following the decision of the South African Government that the Soviet Consulates should be closed. Here Mr. and Mrs. Ivanov are seen being met on their arrival in Cape Town by the Soviet Consular Agent, Mr. Dordahl, who, together with his wife and new-born baby, is also due to leave South Africa this week.

STUDENT KILLED IN CYPRUS

Archbishop Condemns "Nazi Methods"

CYPRUS.—The people of Cyprus have been further embittered in their fight against British terror on the island by the death of a young student, Petros Yiallouris, who was shot by British troops last week.

A crowd of more than 2,000 gathered for the funeral. Among the wreaths placed in the church during the ceremony was one from the leader of the resistance movement.

The shooting took place shortly after the villagers of Kolossi had successfully defied an order that they should not gather for the funeral of one of their number who had been killed by the occupation army a few days before.

Afraid of a great public burial of the victim, the British ordered that the shot man should be buried quietly at 11 o'clock at night.

PRIEST REFUSED
The villagers and their priest refused to bury their dead at night. The British then ordered that he should be buried at five in the morning. But no burial took place at that time.

Instead, at ten in the morning, with the whole village present, the burial took place. Bishop Athanasius of Kitium, declared at the graveside:

"Your death encourages and strengthens the Cypriot people's fight against slavery. It is also an eternal example of British barbarism."

Thousands of workers at the nearby site of the new British Middle East Land and Air headquarters downed tools in protest against the killing, and the dockers struck and refused to handle war cargo.

VILLAGE BLOCKADED
But they were not permitted to attend the funeral. British troops blockaded Kolossi and let no one enter the village. Thousands who came from nearby places were also turned back by the troops.

In Limassol, six miles away, the girls at the primary school pulled down the British flag and hoisted the Greek one. When the army pulled it down the girls refused to attend classes and went home in protest.

An immediate inquiry into the "cold-blooded killing" of the Cypriot student, and the punishment of those responsible has been demanded by Archbishop Makarios.

BARBARIC METHODS
He denounced the "Barbaric methods worthy of Nazi concentration camps" which British authorities used in questioning Cypriot patriots.

"According to newspapers and other information," said the Archbishop, "Yiallouris was killed in cold blood while walking along a street by a soldier who alighted from his patrol car and shot him dead without warning."

FINLAND'S NEW PRESIDENT is a former premier, Urho Kekkonen, who stood on a platform of firm friendship with the Soviet Union. His election was a great victory for Finnish progressives of a wide range of opinion who backed him in the opposition of the government parties, including the Social Democrats. Kekkonen won by 151 votes to 149, with the support of the 56 Communist votes.

French Local Election Results

PARIS.
The results of the first local elections in France since the general election show that the move towards a popular front is growing stronger, in spite of the opposition of the official Socialist Party leadership.

The elections were held at the Channel port of Le Havre, and the small town of Romans, in the centre of France. In both towns the Socialists came out against a Popular Front government, the Communists in favour. In both the Communists lost, and the Communists gained votes and seats. The Communists gains were more substantial than those made in the general election.

The three weeks which separated the elections were enough to accelerate the movement towards a united left-wing government, and to turn a number of disappointed Socialist voters away from their party, with the result that Le Havre now has a Communist Mayor and City Council.

Greetings to Colonial Youth

JOHANNESBURG.
"We, the young people of South Africa, pledge we will strive for the ideals of the Freedom Charter until they become a reality," said the Colonial Youth Day meeting of youth of all races held here on February 2.

Addressing sent warm greetings and support in their struggle to the youth of the colonies.

Jordan Frees Herself From Britain: Glubb Blubs

LONDON.
Glubb Pasha wept in a Cyprus hotel last week after he had been ignominiously sacked from what he had thought was his own private army in Jordan.

The sacking of the British "uncrowned king of Jordan" came as a complete shock in Britain, where the hostility aroused throughout the Jordan against the British-sponsored Bagdad war pact has been hopelessly underestimated.

The Middle East press has highlighted the assertion by Jordan of her independence and compares the exile of Glubb with that of the dislodge and discredited Farouk of Egypt.

Thousands of demonstrators thronged the streets of all the major cities in Jordan, welcoming the sacking of the Pasha, and it is quite clear that had King Hussein not carried out the sacking he would not have retained power.

The assertion by Jordan of her independence, and her alliance with the Syrian and Jordanian Middle East countries which have come out firmly with a policy of neutrality and determination to be drawn into any anti-Soviet bloc, is one of the biggest blows to imperialism in the Middle East in recent times.



NEGRO GIRL BRAVES MOB TERROR

Fights Against U.S. Apartheid

NEW YORK.—World attention has been focused for the past weeks on the courageous part being played by a young Negro woman student, Miss Autherine Lucy, in the fight against apartheid in the United States.

Autherine has thrown out a challenge to white supremacy by insisting on her right to attend the colour-bar University of Alabama, in the face of mob violence and threats of lynching.

She is the youngest of nine children of a poor tenant farmer. After a hard battle to obtain her education, she obtained the degree of Bachelor of Science and a teaching certificate at a Negro Methodist College.

It was as long ago as 1952 that she first applied for admission to the University of Alabama and was refused. Backed by the National Association for the Advancement of the Coloured People (N.A.A.C.P.) she went to the Supreme Court and obtained a court judgment ordering the university to admit her.

The court battle lasted three long years, and when she won, the university tried to delay the matter further and wear her down, by applying for a new trial. But the Supreme Court refused and ordered that there should be no further delay.

The Governor of the State of Alabama, William Folsom, hurried to the university for a three-hour discussion. A statement was issued that they were faced with "a very serious matter." The plans the Governor and the authorities made during those three hours were not announced.

"JUST AS I HOPE"

The newspapers of Alabama predicted that the students would not put up with Autherine's presence. But to their dismay her attendance among the 12,000 white students attracted very little attention. The chief editor of the Negro paper, the Afro-American, who was present to report events, wrote that most of the students were "actually indifferent" or "preferred to create the impression that they considered her no different from the others." At the end of the day, Miss Lucy told him she felt everything had gone off "naturally, just as I believed and hoped it would."

Mackay wrote: "One teacher, she said, whispered, 'I admire your courage and I am sure you will win.' A male student passed her a folded note which read, 'There are more of us cheering for you than you think.'"

But three days later a mob of about 500 hoodlums gathered in the grounds of the university shouting anti-Negro slogans and chanting: "To hell with Autherine." The press and the univer-

sity authorities made out that the mob was made up of angry students, but the president of the Students' Representative Council issued a denial, pointing out that the cars which brought the mob were not students' cars and that they were "loaded with grown men."

POLICE EXCUSE

When Miss Lucy arrived on the next Monday the mob was waiting and they stoned the car in which Miss Lucy and a member of the university staff arrived. Asked by the NAACP why they had not been in the car to protect the woman student, the police replied that they might have been killed by the heavy stones which smashed the rear windows!

The same night, the authorities suspended Miss Lucy.

Backed by support from as far afield as Denmark's Copenhagen University, Canada's MacGill, and the Moscow University, Autherine went to court again. And to show that she had not been one whit intimidated, she added a new claim to her demand—the right to live in the university residence and eat at the residence dining-hall.

COURT ORDER

Last week, to the horror of the university authorities, the court not only ordered the authorities to readmit and properly protect Autherine (or be prosecuted for contempt of court), but also that she be allowed to live at the residence.

Instead of complying the university authorities held a "disciplinary meeting" and expelled Miss Lucy from the university on the ground that she had made "false allegations" to the court that the authorities had connived at the riots, and used them as an excuse for excluding her.

With supreme arrogance four of the rioters then issued summons against Miss Lucy, the NAACP and their lawyers claiming over a million pounds for their "bills."

Faced all over the world have not failed to note the irony of the fact that while Eisenhower talks of America's fight for world human rights, he is not able to ensure that one American girl is protected from trying to exercise her right to university education.

POPULAR FRONT MOVEMENT SPREADS TO SPAIN

LONDON.—The demonstrations in Spanish Morocco against Spanish domination which have followed the winning by the people of French Morocco of their independence may mark a turning-point in the struggle against Spain's fascist Franco dictatorship.

France's army is fully occupied keeping by support from the underground movement from coming out in open revolt and he dare not send more troops to Morocco.

Anti-fascist demonstrations, beginning with student riots, have rocked Madrid, Seville and other cities in the past few weeks, and the underground Spanish Communist Party has issued a statement declaring that a new situation now exists making it possible for a national anti-Franco front, uniting all liberal, republican and democratic forces to win freedom in Spain.

The crisis is considered so serious by the Falange—the only political party permitted by Franco—that the party's general secretary and deputy secretary have cut short an official tour of Latin America and rushed home.

DEMAND GRANTED

At Madrid University the students demanded free elections for the student council instead of the lists imposed by the Falange. So great was their pressure that the university authorities—intimidated by the fact that the students are drawn from the wealthiest and most influential Spanish families—granted the demand.

The Falange put up an official list of candidates, but first-year students elected only one of these compared with nineteen opposition candidates of all parties; the second-year students elected eighteen anti-Falangists and only two Falangists.

Before the third-year students voted the elections were officially cancelled.

To support its decision to cancel the elections the Falangists brought to the university a bodyguard of five hundred ruffians, armed with truncheons, bicycle chains and revolvers, but the infuriated students seized any weapon at hand and drove the thugs out into the streets of Madrid, where the people of the city swarmed into the streets to help them.

The army was called out and as

WORLD INTEREST IN SOVIET CONGRESS

The world press has been giving extensive coverage to the twentieth Congress of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. which ended last week. It has been very widely suggested in the anti-Soviet press that the whole of Soviet policy has been changed. As Pieter Lessing, Cape Times correspondent pointed out (March 2), U.S. Secretary of State Dulles has forecast this view because "it is convenient to claim in an election year that his foreign policy has been so successful that it has forced the Soviet leaders to think again."

Lessing comes to the conclusion, "It is understandable that Mr. Dulles should claim, for the benefit of the American electorate, that he has almost brought the men in the Kremlin to their knees, but unfortunately nothing could be further from the truth."

It is natural that there should be so great an interest in the Congress, and in particular in the opening report of the first secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Nikita Khrushchev.

Main Feature

"The emergence of Socialism from within the bounds of a single country, and its transformation into a world system, is the main feature of our era," he said. The final Congress resolution, as reported by the Cape Times, endorsed this view: "The main feature of our epoch has been the emergence of Socialism from the bounds of one country and its transformation into a world system, while capitalism has been unable to impede this historic process. The capitalist world has shrunk considerably and the general crisis of its system continues to worsen."

Khrushchev went on: "The simultaneous existence of two opposite systems—capitalist and Socialist—developing according to different laws and in opposite directions, has become an indisputable fact."
Figures show, he said, that in 26 years the Soviet Union, in spite of tremendous damage done to the national economy by war, increased its industrial output more than tenfold, while the U.S., which enjoyed exceptionally favourable circumstances, was able only to increase its production by slightly more than two-fold.

'Substantial Recessions'

Since the war the United States had experienced three substantial recessions in production, while a serious economic crisis which began at the end of 1948 was only stopped by an intensified arms drive arising from the Korean war.

The United States, he claimed, is losing the monopoly position it held after the war, and the economic struggle between Western countries is developing all the time.

Competition

This situation has become especially aggravated since the reappearance of Western Germany and Japan, who, like Britain and France, had practically regained their pre-war positions in world markets.

They disliked each other, but all had more than sufficient reason to be dissatisfied with the United States.

"As before," he maintained, "the main conflict is that between the United States and Britain. Anglo-American antagonism embraces a wide range of questions."

Grab, Smother

"Under the slogan of 'Atlantic co-operation' the transatlantic combinations are grabbing the principal economic positions of the British Empire, and they are working to obtain a footing on imperial lines of communication, smothering the system of preferential tariffs and get control of the sterling area."

"It is not surprising, therefore, that in Britain and France there is a growing desire to put an end to the situation in which Atlantic co-operation is being adapted only to one partner."

Mr. Khrushchev then referred to "the growth of the peace forces."
"A vast zone of peace," he said, "including peaceloving states both Socialist and non-Socialist, has emerged in the world. This zone embraces vast areas inhabited by nearly 1,500 million people—that is the majority of the population of our planet."

Workers Split

"Not a few of the misfortunes in this harassing world today are due to the fact that in many countries the working people have been split for many years, its different groups do not present a united front," he said.

"Today the prospect of changing this situation is opening up. Life has put on the agenda many questions which not only demand rapprochement and

co-operation, but also create possibilities for it. It is," he said, "imperative to find points of contact, and on these grounds lay the foundations for co-operation, sweeping away the mutual recriminations."

Referring to the Labour Parties, he said: "Many Social Democrats stand for active struggle against war danger and militarism. We sincerely greet them and are willing to do everything necessary to unite our efforts in the struggle for peace."

National Liberation

The winning of independence in recent years of a number of formerly colonial countries, was "a post-war development of world historic significance. But a big part of the African continent and other places continued to be in colonial or semi-colonial dependence."

Outlining some of the Soviet activities to maintain world peace he said: "The Soviet Union has done much to bring the positions of the Great Powers closer together. Now it is up to the U.S., Britain and France. This, of course, does not mean that the Soviet Union will refuse to make further efforts to ease international tension and strengthen peace. On the contrary, but equal efforts and reciprocal concessions are absolutely indispensable."

"The method of negotiation must become the sole method of solving international problems."

WORLD STAGE

By Spectator

He said that the principle of peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems had always been, and remained, the general line of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

"Perhaps we don't have enough territory or wealth? No! We have sufficient of both and to spare. 'Why then, should we want war? We don't want it. As a matter of principle we renounce any policy that might lead to millions of people being plunged into war for the sake of the selfish interests of a handful of multi-millionaires.'"

"Do those who shout about the aggressive intentions of the U.S.S.R. know all this? Of course they do. Why, then, do they keep up the old monotonous refrain about some imaginary 'Communist aggression'? Only to stir up mud to conceal their plans for world domination."

Not For Export

To this day the enemies of peace falsely allege that the Soviet Union is out to overthrow other states by 'exporting' revolution."

But the Soviet Union had not interfered and was not planning to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. "It is ridiculous to think that revolutions are made to order," he said.

Is War Inevitable?

Discussing the question of whether another war was inevitable, Khrushchev said that as long as the present situation continued in the West, the reactionary forces representing the interests of big monopolies, would continue to drive towards military gambles and aggression and might try to unleash war.

"But war isn't fatalistically inevitable. Today there are mighty social and political forces which offer formidable means to prevent imperialists from unleashing war, and if they actually try to start it, to give a smashing rebuff to the aggressors and frustrate their adventurous plans."

He said that the pretext that wars are inevitable as long as imperialism exists was evolved at a time when imperialism was all-embracing and when the social and political forces which did not want war with China, the peoples' democracies and unable to compel imperialists to renounce war.

Now the situation had changed radically, he said. The countries which worked for peace had become a mighty force, and in them the world peace movement found not only the moral but also the material means to prevent aggression.

Foreign Policy

Khrushchev then gave the following five-point summary of Soviet foreign policy aims:

1. Pursue vigorously a policy of peaceful co-existence with a view to transforming the relaxation of international tension achieved into a stable peace.
2. Strengthen in every way fraternal relations with China, the peoples' democracies and the fraternal people of Yugoslavia.
3. Consolidate the bonds of friendship with India, Burma, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Egypt, Syria and



The Garment Workers' Union of African Women, Johannesburg, was represented at the SACTU conference by the above delegation. From left to right, Back row: Miriam Pilane, Sarah Masoko (vice-treasurer), Violet Majozo. Centre row: Sylvia Klans, Salphy Mogomosi, Ethel Lubat. Front row: Mariel Nongauza, (vice-charlady) Christina Selemela, Winnie Gule (treasurer) and Thelma Neta. (There will be more conference pictures in next week's New Age.)

I.C. BILL WILL CAUSE RACIAL STRIFE

(Continued from page 1)

After a full discussion on the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, led by Mr. B. January, and in which the need to rally all workers against the Bill was emphasised, conference passed a resolution declaring that it:

1. Confirms its previously affirmed position that the Bill is a fascist-like measure dictated by anti-working class, undemocratic and capitalist interests and aimed at the destruction of free trade unionism.
2. Calls upon the workers of all races to uphold the historic and fundamental principles of the trade union movement which are to establish collective action on the part of wage earners irrespective of race, sex, religion and politics to advance their collective interests and strive for the achievements of a society guaranteeing the right to work, a minimum living wage and adequate social security.
3. Urges all trade unionists and workers to struggle for the defeat of this pernicious, fascist-like measure and in the event of its being adopted by the fake Nationalist majority in the present government to work unceasingly for its repeal and for the enactment of industrial laws that will guarantee workers the right to organise freely.
4. Expresses its strong disapproval of the leaders of the SATU Council who adopted a colour bar constitution in 1954, accepted in principle the segregation provisions

of the Industrial Conciliation Bill, compromised with the Nationalist apartheid Government, identified themselves with White Baasskap and consequently undermined the resistance of the working class.

5. Therefore urges all unions affiliated to the SATUC to move immediately for disaffiliation from this colour bar organisation which has so dismally failed the workers of South Africa and which can only do them untold harm by its continued existence.

6. Appeals to Coloured, Indian African and European workers both men and women to realise their common interests as workers, reject the false and treacherous conceptions of White Baasskap and segregation, and to join together to form independent unions of their own choosing and combine under the banner of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions to build a single trade union centre embracing all sections of the working class for the achievement of complete equality and a workers' charter.

Speakers on the I.C. Bill also stressed that it "will cause nothing else but racial strife in the factories" (Mr. January) and would "develop into a race cancer that would eat into the industrial efficiency and productivity of South Africa" (Mr. R. G. Thomas Reddy, Tin Workers, Durban).

SEGREGATIONISTS

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other countries which stand for peace; support the countries which refuse to be involved in military blocs. Develop and strengthen relations with Finland, Austria and other neutral countries.

4. Pursue a vigorous policy of further improving relations with the U.S., Britain, France, Western Germany, Japan, Italy, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and other countries.

5. Follow vigilantly the intrigues in circles that do not want relaxation of international tension; expose in good time subversive activities of the enemies of peace and security; take all measures necessary to further strengthen the defence potential of the U.S.S.R.

Transformation

Mr. Khrushchev then went on to deal with the new transformation of Soviet society which will result from the five-year plan.

SPECIAL BRANCH ADMINISTERING THE NATIVE LABOUR ACT?

Mr. Leslie Massina, general secretary, leading the discussion at the SACTU conference on the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act, said police and special branch detectives are called into factories where disputes exist. "That is the way the Government promises the people of South Africa to settle disputes."

Workers have no confidence in Native Labour Officers, who appear on the scene of every dispute. They jeer at them and treat them with such contempt, that they are forced to withdraw. The presence of men from special branch of the police, who in Johannesburg appear to be administering the Act, greatly irritates the workers.

"It is clear the Act is unworkable," Mr. Massina went on. "The workers are calling for trade unions and our job is to organise all workers for their protection."

USE THE ACT?

Mr. R. Altman, national president of the National Union of Distributive Workers, who had earlier brought fraternal greetings from his union (in which he had stated that SACTU had "scared off" his union and others by touching on the workers' "dynamic"), now intervened in the debate.

He was as much opposed as anyone in the hall to the Settlement of Disputes Act. "The best way to ignore the Act is to show the Government that it cannot work—we can show that by using the machinery of the Act."

He advised delegates to "show the Labour Department" with so many grievances through the channels of the Act, that they "will throw up the sponge very quickly." Although SACTU was not in favour of establishing factory committees in terms of the Act, he should use such committees to strengthen its own unions and set its own people got on to such committees.

Police surrounded Mr. Sibande, asked him for his permit to be in Cape Town, bundled him into a car in which there were 6 policemen, and took him to the charge office. About 23 hours later Mr. Sibande was released on payment of £5 admission of guilt.

Another SACTU delegate from Johannesburg, Mr. H. Gumede, was also arrested although he produced his exemption certificate. He was later released.

Two African women from Elsie River, Mrs. L. Dyaniti and Mrs. K. Lisedi, were also arrested for pass offences and kept in the cells overnight. The following day they were released on £5 bail each.

A Cape Town Indian was questioned by the police, who thought he had entered the area from Johannesburg without a permit. He was not arrested.

Eye-witnesses commented to New Age on the provocative attitude of the police and also on the contingent of uniformed police that were "standing by" in Parade Street.

DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS

Even if workers' delegates were elected to the factory committees they had to convey their grievances through the Native Labour Officer and, in terms of the Act, would be present at the hearing of their grievances.

"We want to negotiate directly with the employers. We are not prepared to negotiate indirectly and therefore are not prepared to use the Act."

In a resolution, conference reiterated its opposition to the Act. "Practical experience has proved beyond contention that the Act is designed to destroy the freedom of collective bargaining for the workers. The intense opposition

from the workers to this Act clearly shows that SACTU demands for its repeal is justified," says the resolution.

"Conference demands legislation to safeguard the freedom and independence of workers' activities; the right to strike and the freedom of collective bargaining."

Other Resolutions

Resolutions touching all aspects of life were adopted at the conference.

Conference noted with concern that there has been no increase in cost of living allowances for the past 31 years, although the cost of food and transport has mounted. "In addition, further heavy economic burdens are being imposed on the masses of the workers as a result of the present Government's racial and apartheid policies." Conference demanded the immediate revision of, and increase in, cost of living allowances.

Another resolution protested against the CLOSING OF THE SOVIET CONSULATE and demanded that the Government rescind this decision.

In two resolutions conference protested against the use of the Suppression of Communism Act to persecute the workers, demanding the repeal of the Act and the immediate lifting of all bans imposed on workers' leaders.

Resolving to carry on a determined struggle for peace, conference demanded that the Government the reduction of expenditure on defence, suggesting that the

Government should be asked to reduce its military expenditure.

Mr. C. Sibande, SACTU national vice-president, and Mr. Massina were quick to reply to Mr. Altman, who said that the Government wanted to negotiate and air their grievances through their own trade unions, and not through Government officials whom they could never trust, said Mr. Sibande. Moreover, the Government would never allow union leaders to become and remain members of their factory committees, but would endorse them out as it did people's representatives on school boards.

"If we co-operate in the working of the Act, the complaints of the workers will never be settled," said Mr. Sibande. "The only remedy, therefore, is to have nothing to do with the Act."

Mr. Massina also pointed out the danger in the belief that the Act can be fought from within. "Once we accept this policy, trade unionists will be employed by the Government and therefore will not be able to fight the bosses."

Mr. Hepple said that when all day Parliament has been about "preserving white civilisation" he wondered if he were in a madhouse.

"Those methods will not lead to racial peace in South Africa," he said. "The policy of baskkap and apartheid is going to lead to disaster in South Africa, and not the policy of those who seek equal rights and opportunities for all people of all races, irrespective of their colour and religion."

Referring to the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, Mr. Hepple said it would end in the weakening and disruption of the trade

money be spent instead on building houses, schools and hospitals.

"We demand further that the South African Government, together with other governments, outlaw the use of Atomic and H-bombs and seek dialogue by negotiation and not by war."

PASS LAWS

A large number of delegates rose to speak when a resolution concerning the pass laws came up for discussion. Mrs. Frances Beard of Port Elizabeth said: "Once women accept the passes, they will be jailed every day."

A garment worker from Johannesburg told how she went with her young son to the Johannesburg Pass Office to collect his pass. Officials questioned her and the boy separately and refused to believe that she was born in Johannesburg. He was handcuffed and taken away.

Mrs. Grace Johnson, a canning worker and delegate from Paarl, was recently given a permit to work at a particular factory in Paarl only till the end of the month. This in spite of the fact that she had documents to prove to the authorities that she was born in Johannesburg, Cape Town, and had lived in Paarl since 1927.

Conference enthusiastically pledged support to the national anti-pass campaign.

Another resolution demanded homes for the homeless, schools, crèches and proper feeding schemes for young children.

Calling for the revision of the Unemployment Insurance Act to give greater security to the workers,

conference demanded that the Government should be asked to reduce its military expenditure.

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conference demanded that the Act be extended to cover all workers irrespective of race, colour and religion, and also in rural areas.

The incoming executive was instructed to draw up a plan of campaign to organise and educate the African miners, and conference pledged full support to African mine workers in their fight against the migratory labour system.

Conference demanded that immediate legislation be promulgated (a) lay down minimum living wages for all farm workers; and (b) a four-hour maximum working week be introduced.

A resolution condemned the Senate Act as a further step of the present Government towards complete fascism and the elimination of democracy.

Freedom Charter

A special session of the conference, led by Mr. Leon Levy, was devoted to the Freedom Charter, which was unanimously adopted on a resolution moved by Mr. C. Sibande, and seconded by the Garment Workers' Union of African Women.

Conference solemnly pledged: "The freedoms outlined in the Charter will be fought for by side all our lives, until we have won our liberty."

In addition, it was resolved to recommend to the Congress movement to set aside as a Freedom Charter Day on which mass rallies must be organised throughout South Africa to enable people to dedicate themselves anew to the struggle for the realisation of the aims of the Charter.

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Referring to the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, Mr. Hepple said it would end in the weakening and disruption of the trade

conference even worse than those of the Africans today.

"All that is changed. Let it be an inspiration to every one of you. The light is there. It needs leadership to show the workers that light."

Make Freedom Charter ANC Programme

JOHANNESBURG.

A meeting in New Ermelo location of over 500 people called by the Eastern Transvaal region of the ANC last week-end pressed the forthcoming ANC conference to endorse the Freedom Charter and make it the programme of the liberation struggle, as well as intensify opposition to the pass system and its application to African women.

ANC members came to this meeting from as far afield as Standerton, Bethel, Morigoan, Komrad, Amesfort, Trichardt and Bloukop. Mr. G. T. Sibande, known among the people as "The Lion of the East" and a member of the ANC Transvaal Executive was detained by the police after the meeting for allegedly "disobeying a police order" under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

A large number at the meeting signed the Freedom Charter. The meeting pledged opposition to the passes, the I.C. Act, Bantu Education and support for all European, African, Indian and Coloured people in their opposition to the Nationalists and support for the Charter.

"The South African Congress of Trade Unions must be an example and inspiration to the workers and people of South Africa as to what can be achieved by unity, irrespective of race, colour or creed," Mr. P. Byleveld, national president, said at the SACTU conference in Cape Town last week when he introduced the statement of policy drawn up by the national executive committee.

"SACTU intends to be as active in the political field as it will be in the economic sphere, because we realise the living conditions of workers are inextricably bound up with political rights in South Africa," Mr. Byleveld declared.

SACTU UNITES ALL WORKERS

The policy statement, which was adopted unanimously, begins by quoting from a speech made in Parliament in 1942 by Mr. B. J. Schoeman, former Nat. Minister of Labour:

"I want . . . to briefly touch upon a few of the main underlying principles (of the policy of my Party) . . . Firstly, we contended that wage control and wage fixation should be entirely in the hands of the State.

"Secondly, and this is the most important principle—self-government in industry must be eliminated . . .

"In regard to the Non-Europeans . . . (there must be fixed) a definite quota for Europeans and Non-Europeans in unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled occupations in industry."

The SACTU statement continues: As a fascist party the Nationalist Party attempts ruthlessly to force through its programme.

They placed the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act on the Statute Book. "Placing wage fixation" (as far as the African worker is concerned) "entirely in the hands of the State," and denying the African workers all say in their own conditions of work; prohibiting the strike weapon; imposing severe penalties, implements the Government's policy.

They introduced the "Industrial Conciliation Bill" which will give the Government the power to control the trade union movement by dividing the workers on racial lines; undermine and destroy collective bargaining; deprive all workers of the right to deprive trade unions of the right to control their own funds, to elect their own officials, generally to exercise democratic rights within their own unions. Thus the Nationalist Government hopes to translate its fascist policy into the legislation of our country.

Workers Ill-Prepared

The trade union movement was ill-prepared to meet this onslaught on the rights of the workers. Years of Trade Unionism along the lines laid down by the provisions of the Industrial Conciliation Act had softened the backbone of the trade union movement. In the field of trade union organisation the emphasis had gradually shifted from the shop and factory floor to the trade union office. It is the tendency to settle disputes by legal procedure rather than through the militant struggle of the workers. This tendency also spread to those African trade unions to which the provisions of the I.C. Act did not apply. Many trade unionists recognised the necessity to link the militant struggle with legal procedure, but found difficulty to apply it in practice.

Failure to engage in a political struggle for the protection of the rights of the workers further weakened the trade union movement. The cry of "No Politics in the Trade Unions" has for many years been the curse of the trade union movement in South Africa.

The scourge of racialism found its way into the trade union move-

ment with the result that the organised European workers failed to mobilise the African workers, who were fast becoming integrated into the industrial life of South Africa, as the working-class struggle. They fell at easy prey to Nationalist propaganda that their jobs were endangered by this growing number of Africans. Instead of seeing in it the country's greatest asset, namely, expansion of our industries, added prosperity for our economy, and thus greater opportunities for all, Nowadays many European trade union leaders persist in depicting the African workers as rivals to European workers, thus playing into the hands of the Nationalist Party.

These basic weaknesses on the part of the trade union movement left the field wide open for the Nationalist Government to establish what Mr. Schoeman called the "new economic order." The introduction of the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act in place with the unorganised African workers hardly knowing what was going on, and with most European and Coloured trade unionists refusing to concern themselves with an issue which they erroneously believed to affect only the African workers.

The I.C. Bill

The time was now ripe for the Government to introduce its onslaught on the registered trade unions in the form of the I.C. Act Amendment Bill. Once again the greater majority of these trade unions fell into the trap deliberately set for them by the Government. They completely failed to recognise the necessity to mobilise all workers in the struggle for the survival of the trade union movement. The majority of the trade unions affiliated to the old Trades and Labour Council of S.A. (the only trade union co-ordinating body left to accept the principle of racial equality in the trade union movement) voted for its dissolution, and for the formation of the South African Trade Union Council from which African unions were excluded. A body which further adopted a policy of pleading with the Government, rather than mobilising the workers for a militant struggle.

This situation, however, brought about one ray of hope. It breeds about the formation of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, a body which recognised no colour bar in the working-class struggle. Its task to mobilise the workers of South Africa irrespective of race or colour in the struggle against the fascist labour policies of the Nationalist Government and for the realisation of a better South Africa, rests on the shoulders of this body. It is the duty of SACTU to rectify the mistakes of the past and to lay a sound foundation upon which to build for the future.

Policy for the Future

For the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions to fulfil this task adequately, it will have to educate the workers through the process of struggle. It will have to plan and carry out the organisation of the many thousands of unorganised workers. As this struggle will take place under conditions of severe

rest oppression, it will be the task of the Congress to lead and plan this struggle in a manner most effective in such a situation.

The highly centralised type of trade union machinery is at a great disadvantage in such a situation, and although the necessity of it is recognised and must be maintained, it will be the militant factory unit which will be most effective in the struggle. It is on these factory units that the organisational emphasis must be placed. Workers in the factories must receive the necessary technical education in the working-class struggle to equip them for independent struggle. The emphasis must, further, be on the development of leadership in the factories. Such a policy will in itself supply the movement with leaders.

The Congress must continue to propagate and practice complete racial unity among workers of all races. As an integral part of this aim, SACTU will continue to strive for the achievement of a single trade union co-ordinating body as expressed in our constitution and declared policy. The S.A. Congress of Trade Unions must vigorously pursue a policy of placing the interests of the workers in the forefront of its struggle. We must boldly organise all workers for higher wages, better conditions of life and labour. The elementary human rights of the masses of workers in the factories and workshops must be our foremost concern. Such issues as full and equal benefits for prospective working mothers, guaranteed annual leave on full pay for all workers, full equal workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance for all workers, the right of every worker to engage in skilled occupations and to advancement in industry—these issues are basic demands of the movement. The S.A. Congress of Trade Unions will relentlessly strive to achieve for all workers, irrespective of race, colour or sex.

Freedom Charter

At the same time the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions is conscious of the fact that the organising of the mass of the workers for these demands and the successful struggle for them is inextricably bound up with a determined struggle for political rights and for liberation from all oppressive laws and institutions. Every movement of workers for their basic rights in South Africa is hampered by general legislation affecting their right of movement, their right of domicile, their lack of political representation. Every struggle of the workers for higher wages, for better working conditions, even for the smallest advance in factory conditions or for the re-instatement of an unjustly dismissed workman, is immediately met by the full force of a Police State organised to restrict every civil human right.

It follows that a mere struggle for the economic rights of the workers without participation in the general struggle for political emancipation would condemn the trade union movement to uselessness and to a betrayal of the interests of the workers.

It is for this reason that the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions

allies itself without reservation with the struggle for the Freedom Charter, the great united struggle of the people of South Africa for a new basic constitution, which will guarantee equal rights to all people in South Africa.

Conference pledges Congress to educate and organise all workers for militant and fearless struggle for the protection of their rights, and the achievements of the aims and objects of the Freedom Charter, but just been issued.

Whilst SACTU will thus pursue its own independent struggle for the workers' rights, it pledges full support and co-operation to

all movements and organisations genuinely struggling for the removal of Fascist tyranny, for the elimination of all restrictive and oppressive legislation, for the achievement of complete political liberation. In particular SACTU declares its adherence to and support of the programmes of the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress, the S.A. Congress of Democrats and the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, as the organisations jointly responsible with us to struggle for the achievements of the aims and objectives of the Freedom Charter.

"WAAR'S JOU PAS, KAFFER-MEID?"

These are the opening words of a new pamphlet "Women in Chains" which has just appeared on the question of passes for women.

The issue of the pass books to African women will impose no restrictions on their existing rights . . . The people realise what is beneficial to them," says a statement by the Native Affairs Department in December, 1955. The statement goes on: "How can the issue of reference books to African women be an oppressive measure?"

"Women in Chains" gives the answer to that question. It shows how less misery and suffering will be inflicted on women through the pass laws—and woman means every girl over the age of 15 years. It shows how the most inhuman activities—going to work without bread, visiting a friend—may be turned into a nightmare for those who must carry a pass book and produce it on demand.

It shows how influx control regulations will be used—in fact,

are already being used—to break up families and destroy homes. Hands and wrists are ordered to live in different parts of the country; no home will be secure.

The booklet expresses the women's deep apprehension at the handling they may receive from the police. The new law gives the police greatly-increased powers to stop and arrest women anywhere, at any time.

African women have a long tradition of struggle against the pass laws. They fought them successfully in the past, at great personal sacrifice. Today, the fight will undoubtedly be harder, but today women are better organised and participate more in political affairs.

"Women in Chains" should be read by everyone who hates injustice. It has been issued jointly by the Federation of South African Women, and the African National Congress Women's League. It is attractively produced, with a striking cover, and costs 6d. a copy. If you are unable to obtain a copy, send 7d. in stamps to the Federation of S.A. Women, Box 10876, Johannesburg. H.W.

Role of Capitalism in S.A. History

The latest issue of "Liberation" contains the first of two articles on the role of Capitalism in South African History" by H. Lawson.

"In South Africa," says the author, "the role of Capitalism has long been used as a propaganda weapon by the ruling groups. Oppression is justified by the fact that every man has his myths . . . To counter the propaganda weapons of their rulers it is necessary for the oppressed people to articles on the truth about their own history and to expose the role played by the system which enslaves them.

His own article brings to light many interesting facts to expose the robbers' role of the first Dutch settlers in this country. Other articles in this issue of "Liberation" include a survey by Alan Doyle of the tasks confronting the Special Conference of the A.N.C.; a report on "The Transkei Revolted" by Nelson Mandela; criticism of the journal of the Native Affairs Department, "Banana"; and an editorial "Before the Storm", analysing the failure of the opposition to halt the passage of the Coloured vote bill. The magazine's price is 10s. obtainable from P.O. Box 10220, Johannesburg.

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A large crowd gathers to sign the Freedom Charter at the meeting on the City Hall steps in Johannesburg last week.

ANC Special Conference starts on March 31 in Jo'burg

JOHANNESBURG.—The African National Congress Special Conference—called to discuss the three issues of the Freedom Charter, the fight against passes for women, and constitutional changes—will be held in Johannesburg on March 31 and April 1.

This was announced this week by the Working Committee of the ANC. The conference will take place in the Orlando Communal Hall.

Women Condemn Ethnic Grouping

PORT ELIZABETH. The Government attempt to foster strife and conflict among Africans by means of ethnic grouping and other measures envisaged under the Bantu Authorities Act was doomed to failure, declared the ANC Women's League at a regional conference of the Eastern Cape held at the Thomas Hall, P.E. recently.

Delegates to the conference came from nearly all the branches in the Eastern Cape, some from as far afield as 50 miles.

Concern was shown by delegates at the alarming infant mortality rate as reflected in the notices of deaths posted at the Native Commissioner's Offices at P.E. As a result the conference passed a resolution calling upon African women in particular and democratic-minded people in general to observe the increasing infant mortality among Africans as a result of the social and economic conditions under which they are compelled to live.

Subsequently a leaflet was circulated widely advising mothers that to do as soon as they observed the first signs of gastro-enteritis, the biggest child killer.

The conference expressed horror at the decision of the P.E. Council to impose a Lodger's fee on boys and girls of 18 years who lived with their parents. Speakers deplored the fact that children were being advised to live in single quarters independently of their parents. This move was regarded as another attempt to undermine and disrupt the family life of the African.

The women repeated their determination to oppose the Passes for Women, and called upon women all over the country to step up organisation against the pass laws.

The issue that will probably loom largest at the conference is the growing opposition from all parts of the country to the extension of pass laws to women, and the progress and stepping up of the ANC campaign to organise the people against the pass laws.

The first local demonstration of women against pass laws was seen in Germiston this week and is expected to be repeated in many other centres.

The women will speak forcefully for the intensification of this campaign and will have proposals to raise it to new heights, but men and women alike feel hotly on this issue, and the debate is certain to be very lively.

FREEDOM CHARTER

Observers here feel that the Freedom Charter will be adopted with enthusiasm and by an overwhelming majority. If there is any dissent, it will come from tiny groups like the self-named "Africanists" who count for little in Congress.

A new draft constitution will be presented to the delegates but as all amendments have, in terms of the present constitution, to be circulated three months beforehand, the suggested changes can be discussed in principle only in April, and cannot be adopted. Any constitutional amendments will have to wait for the national conference at the end of this year, so that all branches and Congress members will have ample time to debate and discuss the proposed amendments.

ROAD TO RUIN: "The U.S. State Department is so sterile of ideas that the only answer they have to the Russians is to ask for more money. If Kruschov and Bulganin keep on travelling around the world, they may succeed in bankrupting this country."—U.S. Senator Russell, in the budget debate last month.

Another ANC Leader Deported

JOHANNESBURG.

A member of the African National Congress, Mr. Jones G. Kgasoane, was recently arrested in Bloemfontein for not having a lodger's permit, was charged and fined and then deported from that city under section ten of the Urban Areas Act.

He was given only one hour in which to leave Bloemfontein and was seen off by police. His pass was endorsed "not permitted to register or to remain in the proclaimed area of Bloemfontein."

Kgasoane was told his presence there was "disturbing the peace of the people!"

104 Textile Workers Acquitted

PORT ELIZABETH.

The second group of African workers, 104 in all, who were charged at Uitenhage for refusing to work overtime, were recently found not guilty and discharged. In spite of warnings, Africa salutes the Court grounds as hundreds of people learnt of the decision.

Another group of 31 who came before the same Court on the same charge were convicted and sentenced to a fine of £2 or 20 days imprisonment, and a further 30 days imprisonment suspended for one year. In this case an appeal was noted and is still pending.

The outcome of this appeal is awaited with keen interest as it will determine whether or not overtime is compulsory.

JO'BURG CITIZENS PROTEST AT COLOURED VOTE MURDER

JOHANNESBURG.—The original "political sin" in South Africa was the exclusion of the Non-European people from voting rights when the Act of Union was drawn up," said Dr. R. Press, addressing a public meeting on the Johannesburg City Hall steps held in protest against the removal of Coloured voters from the common roll.

This sin was perpetuated through the current idea that the only people who can contribute to South Africa are Whites, he said.

After the meeting a large number of people, European and Non-European, queued to sign the Freedom Charter.

By removing the Coloureds from the roll, the Government was trying to deprive a section which did not support it of the vote. This could mean that the time would come when Englishmen and Jews would also be deprived of the vote.

After summarising the Freedom Charter, Dr. Press said:

"The Freedom Charter is the sort of constitution we want in South Africa. It is the only road forward. Let us stand together for the Freedom Charter which is coming like the rising of the sun!"

The Reverend Jarrett Kerr, of the Community of the Resurrection, compared the Senate Act to a game of musical chairs.

"When the music stops the Nationalists will always have an extra chair to sit on their bottoms."

After the removal of the Coloureds, the Government would probably abolish the Native representation and then drive on to total apartheid which was another step for "wit baasskap" or domination. The population register and the extension of police supervision over the private lives of people were examples of this domination.

"Let us join together with all men of goodwill in protesting at the direction the Government is taking us. Peace and friendship can only arise from the application of justice."

VIGILANCE

Rev. D. C. Thompson, who was in the chair, said that democracy in South Africa depended on eternal vigilance against a Government which was trying to preserve in the twentieth century something that died six centuries ago.

"We all know that life without freedom is not worth living," he said.

The meeting was recorded on television by an overseas company.

"Barbarous Pass Laws" Condemned

JOHANNESBURG. A public meeting of the Moroka West Branch of the A.N.C. last weekend rejected "the extension of the barbarous pass laws to African women and the pass laws in general." It called on the people to oppose "all evils laws" and Bantu Education. It imposed increased fines and condemned the influx control system.

KIMBERLEY LEADERS VICTIMIZED

JOHANNESBURG.

Within one week two leading officials of the ANC Branch in Kimberley were sacked from their employment, and one was deported from the city.

They are Mr. A. Chele, treasurer of the Kimberley ANC and its chairman, Mr. P. Bokanyo.

Both men worked for the same firm and Mr. Chele was given notice after nine years' service as a storeman and Mr. Bokanyo after working there for eight months. They received given no written notice but told to leave immediately.

ANC Conference in Eastern Cape

PORT ELIZABETH.

A regional conference of the ANC (Eastern Cape) was held in Port Elizabeth recently, attended by delegates and observers from as far afield as Peddie, 100 miles away.

In a discussion of the Eastern Cape draft constitution for recommendation to the national conference, the regional conference welcomed the Western Cape amendments which were immediately incorporated into the draft. The fact that the Eastern Cape and the Western Cape saw eye to eye on the matter of the need for a democratic organisational framework for the ANC was acclaimed by the Conference, and confidence was expressed that all progressives would ensure that everything was done to provide the movement with an instrument that would raise the political level of the members.

To round off a busy week-end, a matmutoh open-air meeting was held at Matkley Square. Speaking from the portable platform an old man of about 70 from Peddie addressed the meeting that as Peddie had played and was still continuing to play its role in the fight against Verwoerd's Slave Education, so would it fight relentlessly against the implementation of the Bantu Authorities Act.

The meeting passed a resolution roundly condemning the Government's indifference to the plight of the starving millions in the Reserves and called upon the Government to provide relief to the people.

GERMISTON PROTEST

(Continued from page 1)

a pass? Must we subject our young daughters to intimidation and humiliation at the hands of the police?"

The Minister must withdraw his threat to impose passes on women, said the petition.

The deputation spoke their objections quietly and resolutely, then, after hearing the Native Commissioner say he would forward their objections to the Minister and watching him record their names and addresses, they filed outside again and there, in the Native Commissioner's quadrangle, reported back to the crowd of demonstrators.

Then back marched the 300 to their Germiston Location where they held another meeting. That day 57 women joined the ANC. Once again the women had triumphed, in the best traditions of the Pretoria march, over police intimidation.

A week after his dismissal, Mr. Chele was called to the offices of the Non-European Affairs Department and handed a letter requiring him to quit the town of Kimberley within eight days. His pass was endorsed "not to be employed in the urban area of Kimberley."

With his wife and six children, he had no option but to leave.

The night before his departure the Kimberley ANC held a huge meeting to protest against the deportation. At this meeting the crowd of women present passed a resolution pledging to fight against the pass laws.

CONGRESS WOMEN'S LEADER ACQUITTED

JOHANNESBURG.—Before a large and jubilant crowd of African women, Mrs. Aletta Moeletsi, Congress women's leader from Ventersdorp, was last week found not guilty of assaulting the Location Superintendent and creating a public disturbance, and was acquitted.

The magistrate said he fully accepted the evidence of an Advisory Board member, Mr. E. W. Hlapi, who, in the course of his evidence, said that the superintendent Mr. Harding had been the cause of the fight.

Mr. Hlapi told the court that he and another Advisory Board mem-

Mrs. Moeletsi. Harding walked out and when he returned he said again that he would hit Mrs. Moeletsi. Mrs. Moeletsi said she would hit the superintendent and she took off her shoe. "The accused spoke in a good manner but she appeared to be cross."

When Harding entered the room they "both rushed at each other," Mrs. Moeletsi told under Mr. Harding and she grabbed his tie. The Advisory Board members separated the two and an African municipal policeman was called in to handcuff Mrs. Moeletsi.

Mr. Hlapi had asked that the policeman should not handcuff a woman. Harding had said there were no witnesses about the incident to be handcuffed. Then Harding had gone to phone the police.

Cross-examined by Mr. C. Franks, appearing for Mrs. Moeletsi, Hlapi said the only noise made by Harding. He had been terribly disappointed by the language used by Harding.

Mr. Franks: I put it to you that Mr. Harding by his bad behaviour was the cause of the fight?

Mr. Hlapi: Yes.

Will Go To Court To Win a Home

JOHANNESBURG. Mr. Jonathan Lekgothoane, the man who slept in the back of his motorcar (New Age last week) after his ejection from his home in Meadowlands or in District 10, and the Sophiatown house in which he was living has already been demolished.

Mr. Lekgothoane's lawyer sent the Board an ultimatum, demanding that he be given a house in Meadowlands. The Board replied that he could not claim a house at Meadowlands or in District 10.

The Sophiatown house in which he was living has already been demolished.

THEY THANK GOVERNMENT FOR MR. STRIDJOM!

Looking back on the Joint Sitting, it was a noisy affair with M.P.s and Senators raising their voices and gesticulating. Four Members were expelled by the Speaker, one for the remainder of the debate. The last day was full of excitement and emotion, reaching its peak with the winding-up speech by "the speaker," Mr. Stridjom. Himself no mean mob orator, Mr. Stridjom whipped up feelings even higher, and then suddenly, unexpectedly, dropped his voice and concluded his remarks in a confidential whisper.

It was like an evening over coffee and liqueurs at the club, with the man at the head of the table quietly but firmly telling all the others that it was time they stood together against the common enemy. The listeners stub out their cigarettes, drain the last drops from their glasses, and sit back, giving the speaker their ear-lobes as the attention of the speaker. It was that kind of atmosphere.

Mr. Stridjom put down his notes, shut out his cuffs and squared his shoulders. It was straight talking as between White man and White man. Outside were the "enemy," millions of black skins, brown in the face, but allied to our little differences, gentlemen, but on the important matters we must stand together. Our common enemy. The listeners stub out their cigarettes, drain the last drops from their glasses, and sit back, giving the speaker their ear-lobes as the attention of the speaker. It was that kind of atmosphere.

DON'T TELL THEM

Mr. Stridjom used different words. He said that the Whites could have their differences of opinion, but that they should never say anything which might lead the Non-White to believe that he was oppressed (does he need to be told?). Nor, in their quarrels, should the Whites bring in the Non-Whites as allies. They must keep the fight "clean," so to speak.

Mr. Stridjom, and many other Nationalists for that matter, have said this sort of thing before. It is apparent to all White men to stand together is nothing new. But this time Mr. Stridjom made it clear

that he was not making an appeal; he was giving an instruction.

As they left the Parliament buildings (the Joint Sitting ended immediately after Mr. Stridjom had spoken and the vote had been taken), the M.P.s and Senators were still under the spell of Mr. Stridjom's warning. They walked quietly out of the front gates—and there, down the road, they

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEY by Peter Meyer

saw a force of policemen, estimated by the newspapers at between 60 and 70, just standing and watching. Lining each side of Parliament Street were between 100 and 200 Black Sash women, making their last, unsuccessful protest against the Joint Sitting. There has been no explanation of the presence of the police, and as yet no Parliamentarian has thought it necessary to ask why they were there. We all know why they were there, but also by refraining from doing anything but keep silent vigils. But Mr. Swart, if he feels they are becoming a danger, will resort to provocation. What will the Black Sash do then? If it decides to fight back, it will need allies; and what better allies could there be than the wives and children of ALL sections of our population? What about it, Black Sash?

A BRIGHT IDEA

After voting for the South African Act Amendment Act, the Nationalist Parliamentarians suddenly had a bright idea: they would go and say "Thank you" to Mr. Stridjom at Groote Schuur. "Die Burger" reported the fantastic episode in full. Mrs. Stridjom ordered the servants to bring large trays of cakes and beer-skuit for all the Parliamentarians (156 of them), and then gazing at Mr. Stridjom with rapture (see "Die Burger" photograph) she sang a hymn, calling upon the Lord to bless Mr. Stridjom. Why? For taking away the votes of the Coloured people.

The South Africa Act Amendment Act was published in a Government Gazette last Friday, and it is now a law of the country. The United Party filed papers on

the same day in the Cape Supreme Court against the vote and the hearing has been set down provisionally for April 24.

During the present Parliamentary session, according to reports in the Government Gazette, the Separate Representation of Voters Act (the Coloured vote measure which is now validated) will be introduced in the House of Assembly amended. One of the amendments, it is stated, will deal with the Coloured Advisory Council. Another amendment will take away a right given to the Coloured people to elect two Coloured persons to the Cape Provincial Council to represent them. These two representatives will now have to be Whites.

THE COLOURED PEOPLE

There is another aspect of the Joint Sitting, which has attracted some attention in the Press, and that is the apparent indifference of a large section of the Coloured people to the loss of their vote. One newspaper has interviewed Mr. Franklin P. Joshua, formerly an associate of George Golding's, who expressed the opinion that the Coloured people feel that it is just as well that they should be driven into the arms of the Africans, because then they will know where they stand. Therefore, according to Mr. Joshua, they are accepting their loss with apparent equanimity, because they realise that any attempt at promising future now lies before them.

Without going into the rights or wrongs of Mr. Joshua's views, it is nevertheless fact that as far as the Government is concerned, the days of the Coloured community's close links with the Whites are over. The separate representation is chopped off. The Nationalist Press has hinted that, just as the Africans have been directed in terms of an apartheid blueprint, so the Coloured community, too, will encounter many new and strange things. In other words, the Coloured vote Act is not the end of a campaign. It is only the beginning.

New struggles lie ahead for the Coloured people, therefore. New laws will be passed to "guide" the Coloured community along the apartheid highways and byways. A new, ugly life is promised for them. But this time they will be standing side by side with the African people, sharing the insults, the ignominies, the blows—and their struggle for a better future. Admittedly, they have lost their vote, but with the African people as their allies they can win it back again—and much more!

SACPO Branch in Pretoria

JOHANNESBURG.

A new branch of the S.A. Coloured Peoples' Organisation has been formed in Pretoria, the city where race classifications are being conducted at great speed.

A public meeting held last week in the Cape Location protested against classification and decided to raise a storm about it.

"Don't say: 'I'm safe. I've passed the test and now I can forget about the test man!'" warned one of the speakers.

The meeting demanded the repeal of the Population Registration Act which "causes us only misery, separates wives from husbands, brothers from sisters and only serves to humiliate," and pledged support for the Freedom Charter.

International Women's Day Meeting

Women of Cape Town will join in the world-wide celebration of International Women's Day when they meet at the Mitra Hall, Mowbray, at 8 p.m. tonight, Thursday, March 8.

Prominent speakers will address the gathering which is under the auspices of the local branch of the Federation of S.A. Women. There will also be an exhibition of women's handicrafts from all parts of the world.

All are welcome. The Mitra Hall is in Mount Street, Mowbray. Take a 10.00 bus stop at the end of International Women's Day has been celebrated by women throughout the world every year since 1910.

CAMBODIA'S PREMIER. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, is in China at the head of a large friendship mission in the People's Republic of China. Chou En-Lai, the Chinese Premier, expressed his appreciation of the fact that Cambodia had decided to adopt a policy of neutrality and refused to allow the establishment of U.S. air bases on her territory.



Mrs. Moeletsi.

ber were called in to Mr. Harding's office. Mrs. Moeletsi was also present. Harding had said that Mrs. Moeletsi was the woman who was collecting money in the location for the purpose of taking legal action against him. The two Advisory Board members agreed that Harding should call his witnesses. Mr. Harding threatened that he would hit

EDUCATIONAL BOARD
The English Association of Accountants and Auditors. The English Association of Estate Agents and Valuers. The English Association of Secretaries. Admission by exemption (state experience) or Examination. Coaching London College of Accountancy and Secretariats, 9 Charles Street, Newport, Mon, England.

Racing at Kenilworth

The following are Damon's selections:
Juvenile Handicap. 1. IMPERIUM. Danger. Hornblower.
Cape of Good Hope Handicap. 1. DE KLERK'S BEST. Danger. Matruway.
Cape of Good Hope Nursery Stakes. 1. RESPONSE. 2. Amber Glow. 3. Omnipotent.
Three-Year-Old Handicap. 1. HIRAJA. Danger. Corewood.
Wynberg Handicap (Tops). 1. JOCKEY'S CHOICE. Danger. Mata Rani.
Wynberg Handicap (Bottoms). 1. THEREFOLD. Danger. Guardsman.
Kenilworth Handicap (First Division). 1. FASHION. Danger. Riverton.
Kenilworth Handicap (Second Division). 1. LORD EBEN. Danger. Skubland.

GOLD COAST MINERS who have been on strike for nearly 1000 days have returned to work after the Government agreed to appoint a board of inquiry into their grievances. The miners were demanding pay increases.
Over 35,000 miners were involved in the strike, which was the longest ever in the Gold Coast and won world-wide support.

What the Joint Sitting Did to the People

CAPE TOWN.—The South Africa Act Amendment Bill which was passed by the Joint Sitting of both Houses of Parliament last week contained two main provisions.

1. It revalidated the Separate Representation of Voters' Act of 1951, which the five judges of the Appellate Division had unanimously declared to be unconstitutional.

2. It removed the franchise clauses of the Act of Union from enactment. In future any Bill altering the franchise will not need a two-thirds majority of both Houses of Parliament sitting together, but may be passed by a simple majority of the House of Assembly and the Senate sitting separately.

In terms of the Separate Representation of Voters' Act of 1951 (which now becomes law):
● The Coloured voters of the Cape, instead of taking part in the election of all 54 Cape M.P.s and all 54 Cape M.P.s as in the past, will be placed on a separate roll and will elect four European M.P.s and two Coloured M.P.s in elections separate from those for European voters. There are about 38,000 Coloured voters on the Parliamentary roll at the present moment.

● The 1,400 Coloured voters of Natal will stay on the common roll until they die, but no new Coloured voters will be registered in Natal.

● The Government will nominate one Senator to "represent" the Coloured people.

● There is to be set up a board on which Coloured people meet on Coloured affairs. This administrative body is

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