

# JO'BURG WOMEN OUTWIT THE POLICE

BA. 320.05 NEW



Arrested in Tanganyika

## Will "Hutch" be sent back to South Africa?

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
It seems highly unlikely that the Union Government will succeed in any attempt to have treason trialist Alfred "Tough" Hutchinson extradited from Tanganyika. "Hutch" was arrested at Dar Es Salaam for entering Tanganyika without a passport. His case was remanded to Tuesday of this week and he was being kept in custody.

He left South Africa some weeks ago and was on his way to Accra in Ghana.

The British Act governing extradition from British territories is a law dating from 1870. Section three of this British Extradition Act prohibits the surrender of a fugitive criminal if his alleged offence of a political character or if the accused can prove to the governor of the court or magistrate that his surrender is asked for with a view to punishing him for an offence of that character.

The list of extraditable offences covered by various treaties (for extradition proceedings are governed by treaty) does not include high treason.

The African National Congress wired Mr. Fenner Brockway and Mrs. Barbara Castle on Mr. Hutchinson's arrest. Mr. Brockway contacted the British Colonial Office urging that Mr. Hutchinson be treated as a political refugee.

The Colonial Office last week-end said it was not aware of any attempt to have Mr. Hutchinson deported back to South Africa.

The Congress of Democrats wired the Colonial Secretary this week urging the Colonial Office to insist that the Tanganyika authorities grant Mr. Hutchinson freedom of movement.

## Thousands take part in All-Day Anti-Pass Protest

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
THIS city has grown used to the police scares and threats before every mass protest or demonstration, but last week's intimidation against the women's mass anti-pass protest fizzled out like a wet cracker. Safe inside the City Hall are

the 2,350 signed protest forms handed in by the women.

Demonstrations, meetings and processions were banned and the police stood by in large numbers ready to crack down on any slight contravention of a bye-law. There were none, but the protest went on all the same. The women completely outwitted the police.

### POLICE TACTICS

Police press statements and a broadcast over the SABC's Orlando Re-Diffusion Service warned women to cold shoulder the call of protest.

Police stood on duty at bus and train termini and warned women not to travel to town last Thursday if they would be arrested. On the Sophiatown route uniformed police boarded buses at the Britton stop and told the women they would be arrested if they went to the City Hall.

Some women were searched for protest forms.

Groups of police were posted at city street corners and at an early stage of the protest at the City Hall steps there seemed to be two Special Branch men or police for every bystander, and more than that for every demonstrator.

### DISCIPLINE

The demonstrators was a model of orderly and disciplined planning.

On the highest rung of the steps stood a few women ready to receive the protest forms. Half way up stood 12 women of all races carrying posters "PASSES MEAN PRISON" "WOMEN DONT WANT PASSES".

At all points along the City Hall stood Congress women volunteers who handed protest forms and pencils to women protesters as they arrived. The forms were signed and then, one by one throughout the day, the women walked slowly and silently to the entrance of the City Hall to hand in their forms.

There was no illegal gathering, no procession for the police to disperse—but a protest, an effective one at that.

The police officers and Special Branch held frequent and earnest consultations but the only thing they could do was prod spectators and warn passers-by not to loiter.

The police seem conscious they (Continued on page 5)



Vol. 5, No. 7. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

SOUTHERN EDITION Thursday, December 4, 1958

6d.



To avoid police interference, there were no processions or demonstrations in last week's anti-pass protest. The women of Jo'burg walked up the City Hall steps one by one to hand in their signed protest forms.

# Sacpo Leads Coloured Fight to Save Municipal Vote

### CAPE TOWN.

THE Mayor of Cape Town, Col. J. W. O. Billingham, will call a special meeting of the City Council to prepare for a mass protest by citizens against the proposed removal of Coloured voters from the common municipal roll.

A deputation of well-known Coloured voters and citizens organised by SACPO and led by its president, Mr. Jimmy La Guma, and vice-president, Mr. Barney Desai, was received by the Mayor on Monday afternoon.

The deputation presented Col. Billingham with a petition signed by 40 prominent municipal voters requesting that he convene the meeting of citizens. The deputation, which was sympathetically received by the Mayor and other councillors, was told that in view of an earlier petition for a similar meeting organised by former Chief-Justice Centlivres and signed by many citizens

of all races, it might be advisable to have a mass meeting sponsored by both groups.

The mass meeting of citizens will take place on or about December 9. Other members of the SACPO-sponsored deputation included Dr. M. A. Ebrahim, Mr. S. Abdullah, Mr. M. A. Gierdien, and Dr. V. K. Moodaley. Councillor H. E. Parker introduced the deputation to the Mayor.

The deputation also presented a memorandum stating the attitude of the Coloured voters to the threat of disfranchisement.

### ANOTHER THREAT

"The Coloured people see in this

threat another step towards their further humiliation at the hands of the protagonists of apartheid," the memorandum stated. "Having learned from their own bitter experience and the experience of others that apartheid, in spite of the rosy promises of its perpetrators, can never uplift or benefit them in any way, but only relegate them to an inferior status."

It was an insult which the Coloured people would not leave unchallenged, and an intolerable interference in the affairs of local authorities which, if allowed to proceed, could have dire results for all.

Any further inroads into the (Continued on page 5)

## A.N.C. Memo to Accra Conference

# PEOPLES OF AFRICA ARE COMING INTO THEIR OWN

### JOHANNESBURG.

AFTER centuries of foreign domination, humiliation and ruthless exploitation, the peoples of Africa are at last coming into their own or finding ways to their political freedom and social and economic progress. This gives special importance to the All African Peoples' Conference in Accra, says the African National Congress memorandum to conference delegates.

Having lost Asia as a field of investment and colonial exploitation, the imperialist powers of Europe and America have now turned their attention to Africa. The former "Dark Continent" is to become the main area of capital investment,

economic exploitation and military bases. "Africa must not be allowed to become a battlefield for the interests of foreign powers," says Congress.

The Congress memorandum records the deep appreciation of the oppressed people of South Africa that those who have already achieved their independence and freedom have not forgotten their duties and responsibilities to those still in chains, and to the cause of African freedom and independence.

The memorandum traces briefly the chain of injustices and disabilities suffered by the Non-White people of South Africa at the hands of the (Continued on page 5)



# NEW AGE IN THE BOX

## WHO ARE THE AFRICANISTS, WHAT DO THEY STAND FOR?

THE so-called "Africanists" seem to have attracted a great deal of attention particularly amongst those sections that are normally hostile to the African National Congress and its allies in the Congress Movement.

It might be worthwhile examining soberly a number of aspects of the campaign carried on by the "Africanists" against the people in the last year or two.

### SMALL FRY

Every political schoolboy knows that none of the leaders of the "Africanist" faction have ever been more than very limited local leaders. But the fact is that simultaneously with theirs there has been a sustained attack on the liberatory movement on a very wide front. That front consists of government forces, various newspapers, sections of the Liberal Party, Africanists etc.

The front is composed of a somewhat motley crowd but essentially the aims are the same: (i) The destruction of the Congress Alliance; (ii) Divisions within the ANC; (iii) Denigrating the leaders of the Congress Movement; (iv) Diverting attention from the demands of the people as enshrined in the Freedom Charter; (v) Diverting attention from the dangers of War and Imperialism in Africa by raising the myth of a so-called "Communist" danger in Africa.

## KEEP DEATH FROM OUR DOOR!

THE experts are all agreed that December is a dangerous month. The roads are jammed with traffic, the streets are alive with shoppers and not a few drivers are apt to have a drop too much of the Christmas spirit. Fatalities are a certainty.

December is a dangerous month for New Age as well. Our readers are prone to overlook us in the holiday rush, forgetting that we have to pay our printer just as promptly, Christmas or no Christmas. The same rule applies at the end of the year as at the beginning—no pay, no print.

We were £250 short of our requirements last month. You gave us only £76 instead of the £1,000 we needed. And two-fifty in the red spells D-A-N-G-E-R for New Age. Remember that you are at the wheel as far as we are concerned. Don't make us a Christmas fatality. It would be a very unhappy New Year without New Age.

Give us your donation NOW. BEFORE YOU FORGET.

Last Week's Donations:  
Cape Town:  
Anon £25, Lesal £10, Windermere £15.11, L.1.W £4, M.S. £2.10, Ben Den £1, N.H. £1, Bernie £1, Jack and Naomi £6.7.6, Barney £10, Ben £13, Crookery £2, W.F. £2.2, Furniture £5.5, £2, Hot Box £2.2, Shop £2, S.M. £5, J.N. 5s., H.M. 5s., P.R. 1s., D.G. 10s.

Total for the Week: £100 18s. 0d.

## AFRICAN POLITICAL HISTORY

I AM preparing a Ph.D. thesis on the History of African Political Movements between 1870 and 1948 under the supervision of the Department of History at the University of Cape Town.

Noch history exists at the moment and the longer the work is delayed the greater is the danger of the irrecoverable loss of important information. I would very much appreciate the assistance of readers of New Age in gathering the material.

Information is required on the early years of the ANC and the ICU, on the organisations existing prior to the formation, such as the 'Dumba Xama Afrika' and on such great pioneers in African political history as Makwana, Zibova, Rubusana, Nembema Tle, Seme, Dube, Ploaite, Kadalie to name only some of those who are no longer with us. Material is also needed on the less well-known men and women who made up the movement, and those who, like Gandhi and Abdurhaman, were linked with its development.

Any documentary material left will be handled with the greatest care and returned and all assistance will of course be rendered. If the work is finally published, any one who can be of assistance or who wishes further information is requested to write to me at 8 Park Ave., Camps Bay, Cape Town.

LIONEL FORMAN  
Cape Town.

## POLICE TERROR IN SEKHUKHUNELAND

A recent revival of the dreadful Bantu Authorities Act has once more caused panic among the Sekhukhuneland people. The police, or better still, the Special Branch, are roaming the area trying to interrogate those suspected of having been "agitators" during the previous disturbances. This has been done either by fair or foul means.

When arriving at the home of a suspected person they surround it and threaten to beat up whoever they find inside, should they not find the person they want.

A week ago they attacked the house of a sub-chief Maita Maitane. Unfortunately he happened to be absent, but the police, suspecting that he had locked himself in, broke down the door.

The questioning of people whom they take to the police station at Schoonoord is very queer. They require one to state his position in the reserve, existing relationship with the Paramount Chief, and offer him a job if he will forget about opposing Bantu Authorities, and finally offer a bottle of brandy if he will sign a blank form.

READER  
Sekhukhuneland.

## Congressmen Appeal

JOHANNESBURG.

The fate of 19 Congressmen and women in the first incitement trial arising out of the April 14 stay-at-home campaign, and of 20 others convicted of incitement in four other trials, hangs on the appeal against the conviction argued in the Supreme Court for three days last week.

The appeal was argued by Mr. J. Wolpe before Mr. Justice Roper and Mr. Justice Botha. Judgment was reserved.

## EDITORIAL

# THE TASK OF THE COLOURED PEOPLE

THE Nationalist Deputy Minister of the Interior, Mr. Botha, appeals for closer co-operation between the Coloured people and the Europeans—on the basis of apartheid.

And as a contribution towards that co-operation, his colleague, the Nationalist Administrator of the Cape Province, Dr. Otto du Plessis, announces that his executive committee is to discuss plans for the abolition of the Coloured municipal franchise and the establishment of advisory boards in the Coloured townships.

And the latter's namesake, the Commissioner for Coloured Affairs, Dr. I. D. du Plessis, announces that: "It is true we cannot help those (Coloured children) who want to be engineers, scientists and mechanics, but we can offer work which in no sense can be classed as dead-end jobs."

The Nationalist plan for the Coloured people becomes plain: they must accept the status of second-grade citizenship—no votes, none of the best jobs. Leave the policy and profit-making to the Europeans.

No Coloured man worth his salt is going to co-operate with the Government to bring about the enslavement of his people.

But non-co-operation is not enough. The Government will go ahead with its plans, with or without the assistance of its stooges, UNLESS THE COLOURED PEOPLE TAKE ACTION TO DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS AND STOP THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS TRACKS.

For too long have the Coloured people hesitated about what to do. Too many of them have held aloof from the struggle of the Africans, and hoped for acceptance within the European community.

But now it is becoming crystal clear there is no future for the Coloured people under the Nationalist Government. Their fate will be the same as that of all other Non-White groups, voiceless, voiceless and jobless. The only difference will be that they will live in a different ghetto.

The only counter to the Nationalist Government is the organised strength of the Non-White peoples and their White allies, as expressed through the Congress movement. SACPO is showing the way to the Coloured people to cast aside their prejudices, join hands with their Black brothers and help build a united front against apartheid.

## NOTHING NOBLE ABOUT ZHIVAGO'S LIFE

In spite of all that's been written by highly-paid but mentally hard-up reviewers in the big dailies and the little weeklies, I'm certain that readers of New Age will not fail to realise that the awarding of a Nobel Prize to Pasternak was an act calculated to assist the smear campaign that capitalism and its white-washers have been waging against socialism and the socialist outlook for years.

Between articles excusing the butchering of Cypriots, the torturing of Algerians and the clubbing of African women, these high-priced courtisans of the paid press accuse socialism and socialists of being "anti-human," and they weep for that abstract concept, the now famous Dr. Zhivago.

Some of the drivel they write is so good you could almost forget—for a second or two—that you live in the "free world," where the employer, the factory owner, the boss, respect your individual liberty and your value as a human being for not even one or two seconds; where, in fact, you are seen only as a source of profit.

In this "free world," this "human" world, the conditions do not even exist for the real free-

dom of any individual who is not an exploiter, a moneybags or a capitalist. All that the others have is a market value as creators of profit. The conditions for individual liberty will exist in the "free world" only when all forms of exploitation and discrimination have disappeared and all resources are used to satisfy the material and spiritual needs of all people. To help bring those conditions into existence, those who enjoy very little or no individual liberty and have no value other than as sources of profit, can maintain their human dignity by hating the exploiters, their agents who split the socialist movement and their servants who scribble apologies for them, so bitterly and so utterly that the light to destroy them will never slacken.

No one can be blamed for being born a slave, but those who do not fight against it are disgusting, like the Zhivagos and their sty-mates. Only in his struggle for liberty does a man acquire nobility, and only when the material conditions exist for every individual to enjoy the achievements of culture can every man know freedom.

JOHN COOPER  
Cape Town.

# 445 WOMEN ARE SENT TO JAIL

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
A TOTAL of 445 women went to jail last week when Alexandra Township women in the largest hatch yet tried together, were convicted of contravening the municipal by-laws and committing an offence by way of protest against the pass laws.

Three of the women, Mesdames Muriel Sodina, Catherine Magwai and Florence Mposho, were also found guilty of organising an illegal procession, and were each sentenced to £50 fine or three months imprisonment with hard labour.

All the women, except 13 who were ill or in advanced stages of pregnancy and were sentenced to £3 fine or seven days, were sentenced to three weeks imprisonment or £10 fine.

Passing sentence and insisting that bail for the women be lodged in cash and not securities, the magistrate referred to the women's actions as "subversive."

So though an appeal was immediately noted and bail had been granted, the women went to jail. If they are to be bailed out \$4,479 in hard cash must be found—as much as the total amount of their fines.

The day after their sentence about 80 of the 445 women had been bailed out by husbands and relatives but the rest were still in the Fort.

One of them had a miscarriage the night of her arrival in jail, another was found to have heart trouble, and a third woman to be

deaf and dumb. Congress was taking steps to bail these women out immediately.

Apart from these 445 women 198 others also from Alexandra Township who had been absent from court proceedings and had therefore to face a new trial were still to appear in court.

Seventeen other women tried last week were sentenced to two months imprisonment or fines of £20 each. Bail at £10 each was allowed.

Minutes after judgment and sentence had been passed in the mass trial of the 445 Alexandra women, one of them, in the throes of labour, was rushed by ambulance from the basement cell to a hospital ward to be delivered of a baby. Four other babies were born to accused women during this trial, and two children died.

## Threatened by Group Areas

# Indian Traders Lose Credit Facilities

**PRETORIA.**  
INDIAN traders in the Transvaal are up in arms at reports that shopkeepers and merchants in Pretoria North, an area that falls under the Group Areas Act next June, have had credit facilities and supplies of goods cut, despite accounts and business dealings with large wholesalers that date back very many years.

Areas covered by the Pretoria Group Areas proclamation, which give Indians one year to quit their businesses and homes, include Pretoria North, Walmer, Gesima, Villieria, Rietfontein, Silverton, Dwarpspoort, Hercules and a few shops in Pretoria West.

Many of the Indian traders in these areas are small shopkeepers but they have had steady accounts over long periods with certain grocery and hardware wholesale merchants in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

**STOPPED CALLING**  
As soon as the June 1958 Group Areas proclamation was published travellers representing certain of these wholesale firms abruptly stopped calling on these shops. Then traders were asked to liquidate their accounts with the

One Indian shopkeeper who had done business with the same Pretoria wholesale firm for 22 years was notified he would be given no further credit. Others had the same experience.

Another man was notified by his bank that his overdraft was to be restricted and when he queried this he was told that the bank's head office had instructed that the bank be very strict with all Indian accounts because of the proclamation coming into effect so soon.

Hardest hit are the smallest shops on the outskirts of Pretoria. Sev-

eral have already had to close down. Those given this shabby treatment by wholesalers they have dealt with for so long find it virtually impossible to get goods from other wholesalers.

**APPEALS IGNORED**  
Pretoria's Indian Commercial Association appealed on behalf of these Indian traders to the Pretoria, Johannesburg and Associated Chambers of Commerce.

For the most part their appeal was ignored. The Johannesburg Chamber said the matter was one to be dealt with by the Pretoria Chamber, though it was pointed out that Pretoria firms deal extensively with Johannesburg wholesalers. Then this Chamber agreed to place this firm on its agenda. That was six weeks ago and the Commercial Association has heard nothing since.

The Commercial Association circulated 170 leading wholesalers direct. Only three of these firms acknowledged the circular.

Another New Age whether the Chamber was prepared to take up this matter, a spokesman of the Associated Chambers of Commerce said: "No comment."

## Best Speakers' Contest

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
The annual Best Speakers' Debate organised by the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress will be held on Monday December 5 at 7.30 p.m. at Macos House, Bezuidenhout Street, Johannesburg.

Three prominent educationists will act as judges and the contest is open to all young people under 30.

Last year the trophy was awarded to two students of the Central Indian High School, E. Pahad and A. S. Suliman.

# But the Women Reply: "WE SHALL NOT TAKE PASSES"

From Arthur Danane

THERE was an oppressive silence in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court as the voice from the bench rumbled, in a level, expressionless tone, its summary of the 11-day long case against nearly 500 Alexandra Township women. The sprawling underground hall was packed from wall to wall with the accused and the thirty spectators who were lucky to be admitted were herded into a corner to the left of the magistrate.

The women with babies were seated at the far back. And it was from this quarter that came a constant hum of unintelligible baby chatter or an occasional sharp protesting scream which ended up against a mother's breast. This was the

end of one of the biggest mass trials since the history of Johannesburg.

### AN END TO WAITING

It was with relief that the women awaited this moment. It meant an end to sitting on the hard backless benches for eight hours a day, eleven days running. It meant an end to the tedious roll call in the morning; sitting, sitting, sitting through the tea half-hour and lunch hour because there would not be enough time for another roll call after lunch. It meant an end to the frequent prodding by petulant White police youths when the congested air made you nod... The travelling and to and from the court, the monotonous quoting and talk about laws which were of the White man's making and which made no mention of the sufferings which would be brought upon them by the passes... "We are sick and tired of this trial," old Father had told me a couple of days ago. Her complaint was echoed by all the women I talked to. "Why should they make all this fuss? We said we don't want passes and we still don't want passes. Let them pass their sentence and be finished with it!"

The magistrate sat there, a big pile of thick legal volumes on his right; now filling his glass with water, now taking off his spectacles and holding them in one hand, but there was no change in the inflection of his voice. The hundreds of attentive faces under the many-colored beards were expectant but not anxious.

"The Court finds them guilty," the fateful words came forth at last. The magistrate speculated African interpreter at once comes to life and shouts his Sesuto version of the words into the hall; the bearded youthful interpreter perched on a high stool in the middle of the court relays the words which are echoed by the wizened old interpreter at the back of the hall.

**THE SENTENCES**  
The magistrate comes brusque and business-like. "£50 or 3 months for accused Nos. 9, 583 and 584." A spontaneous, angry murmur rises from the crowd of women. The interpreters clap their hands and "ah, no! no!" the police glare obtrusively.

The voice from the bench is now rapid. "£3 or 7 days for the thirteen women!" "£10 or 3 weeks for 23." "The police wear a cordon to cut off the

women from the exit. The Magistrate rises. No, He has forgotten something. He sits abruptly and gives a warning of severer sentences in future.

As he marches out, pandemonium breaks out as hundreds of voices begin to talk all at once. The police refuse to let the women hand over parcels, money and messages to the spectators in the court. When we go out, a woman bitterly complains that the police would not let her pick up some coins which were knocked out of her hand as she received them from her arrested sister.

After the door has closed behind us, cutting us off from the women, the basement below "C" court has again become one huge cell.

## NAD Promises Land to Informers

**PORT ELIZABETH.**  
A charge set out in unprintable language in Xhosa and English has been laid in summation against Mr. Mponzi Tyeku and eight others who are alleged to have broken up a meeting at which Kaiser Matanzima should have spoken at Mxhe Location in the Cala district. The summonses state that as a result of the threatening attitude of the accused Kaiser was obliged to abandon the meeting.

The case arises out of the events of August last when the people of Cala rejected Matanzima and refused to accept the Bantu Authorities. Reports from the area state that since then the NAD has been using all conceivable means to compel the people to submit to a Government-appointed headman who was foisted on the people against their will has been completely ostracised. His meetings are not attended by the people and the machinery of the NAD has come to a standstill.

As the latest shift the NAD is promising land to the informers provided they are willing to inform on others.

## Black Sash Condemn Pass Books

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
Have you considered the full implications of reference books for African women? The hardships they will undergo? How many children will go hungry because money for food must become money for fines? This is part of the Black Sash leaflet against passes for women widely distributed here despite the ban on the Sash meeting on the City Hall steps.

# £1 A Day will come but the Wage Board must go

From our Industrial Correspondent

**WHILE** Congress men and women from all over South Africa are brought to trial and sentenced for their actions in the campaign for £1 a day it is becoming clear that the great bus boycott, June 26th and the April 14th demonstrations are bearing good fruit.

Last month the Chambers of Commerce recommended wage increases which were implemented by several employers, including the largest retail chain store in Southern Africa. Recently, the Chamber of Industry at its Cape Town Conference followed Commerce's lead. Meanwhile the daily Press continually quotes statements from big industrialists. "Wages paid by African workers," they say, "are damnable," "a threat to South Africa's economy," "a hindrance to productivity," and so on.

There is nothing new in these statements; in fact they are as old as South Africa's cheap labour policies. But in 1957 and 1958 the unity and action of the workers staggered the employers who had lulled themselves into the belief that their workers would always remain unorganised and obedient.

They know now that if they increase, they expect more trouble. They also know that their cheap labour policy has

boomerged and there are not enough people to absorb its by-products.

**SABOTAGE**  
As in the case of the bus boycott, when employers were forced to act to stave off growing unrest among the workers, because the Government refused to meet the workers' demands, now, too, the employers will have to take their own steps to boost wages.

The Government's attitude in this case is even more scandalous than it was in the bus boycott. It is deliberately sabotaging all moves to raise wages and is, in fact, cutting wages.

Eighteen months ago the Minister of Labour made an announcement in Parliament which was intended for the ears of hundreds of thousands of voteless boycotters that 45 "priority" wage investigations into various industries and undertakings would take place. This announcement did not bluff the workers for they are used to unfulfilled promises. But they did not dream that in face of the cry of starvation and poverty the Government, through the Wage Board, would cut wages.

These are the facts:  
● The "priority" investigation of 45 industries has not taken place.  
● Not more than six industries have been investigated and

these investigations took nearly a year to complete.

● The Wage Board award for the Milling Industry granted lower wages than those which the workers were already receiving.

● In the Canning and Laundry Industries the Wage Board actually cut wages. In the case of the Laundry Industry, the Wage Board recommended lower wages than those laid down in the Johannesburg wage agreement. This wage cut did not discriminate on the grounds of colour, for it also lowered the wages of European dry-cleaning depot attendants by £1 a week.

### MONUMENT OF OPPRESSION

It is urgent that this sabotage by the Government must be stopped at once and that the Wage Board must go. The Government and unscrupulous employers are hiding behind it to perpetuate low wages. The result has become a hindrance to employers who are confronted with ever-increasing employee pressure, and to the workers it serves as a monument of oppression.

Whether the Government likes it or not it will have to give in to the growing demand for a national minimum wage for all workers in South Africa.

# SOVIET UNIO REVISES HER EDUCATION THEORIES

By ELMER BENDINER

AFTER Sputnik-I went into orbit, U.S. educational experts acclaimed the Soviet school system. It was probably no more than coincidental that shortly after such envious praise poured from the U.S., the Soviets reappraised their schools to see what was wrong with them.

They are now engaged in thoroughly re-examining the school, weighing a new departure in Soviet educational theory and offering a controversial answer to those educators in the U.S. who approach the problem with the question: What do we want to educate our children for?

### DISSATISFIED

The dissatisfaction with the school began to take shape shortly after the 20th Congress of the Communist Party. As with all other aspects of Soviet life, schools too came up for close inspection. Educators conferred, wrote letters. The talk grew more excited and more urgent until early this year it achieved the proportions of a nationwide discussion. *Izvestia's* letter columns were filled with blasts and new approaches.

The trend of the discussion was clear from the start: Soviet schools were "removed from life". Secondary schools were turning out students who were fit only to go on to college. Colleges had no room for them. Those who couldn't make college were unfit for work in the factories or farms and took such work as a let-down, a disappointment. Schools had better train students for the work they would do and teach them respect for it.

### HALF SCHOOL, HALF WORK

Workshops were set up in some schools. Students spent some hours during the week at factories which, in some cases at least, drew protests from managers that the kids were getting in the way.

In 1957 some 50 schools worked out a joint school-work programme and, beginning this year, ninth and tenth grade students in 200 schools in the Russian Republic spent only half their time at school, the rest of their time at production jobs.

In rural experimental schools the seniors spent most of their school weeks in the autumn, spring and summer on collective farms. During the winter months they would be in school four or five days. (All Soviet schools are on a six-day week.)

At a conference in Moscow last July, some educators thought that academic subjects were being neglected but the pendulum was clearly and inevitably swinging toward a severely practical education given to all students for work in factories or farms.

Premier and CP Chairman Nikita Khrushchev summed up the criticism and gave it an official blessing in a speech to a Young Communist League convention in April. He outlined the new approach to education in a memorandum last September entitled:

"Strengthening the Ties of the School with Life and Further Developing the System of Public Education." It was approved by the President of the CP's Central Committee and the discussion has turned to ways of implementing it.

### INTELLECTUAL SNOBBERY

Khrushchev assailed the schools as hangovers from "pre-revolutionary gymnasia", said the attitude they developed toward manual labour was "lordly and scornful and wrong" and "an insult to the working people of a socialist society." Those who went on to college, he said, felt that work was "below their dignity". Those who had to go to work with their hands felt they had not "made the grade". College entrance was achieved in many cases through pull. After the students take their college entrance exams "a contest among the parents begins and this often decides the whole matter".

The picture was given partly in statistics. There are over 28,000,000 students in Soviet general education schools. Some 80% graduate from the seventh grade. But the colleges can take in only 450,000 and even then half of them must go to evening schools. It is therefore "absurd", said Khrushchev, for the secondary schools to prepare all students for college entrance, leaving most of them "unprepared for life".

The class distribution of the colleges disturbed him, too. As an example of the power of family influence, he said, only 40% of the students in Moscow colleges come from worker or farmer families. The rest are children of "office workers and intellectuals".

He proposed an educational system dedicated to training "well-prepared, full-fledged workers of communist society" under the slogan: "Any honest, useful work for society is sacred work."

### NEW EMPHASIS

The present law provides the compulsory education for all through the tenth grade. Khrushchev would reduce that compulsory requirement to seven or eight years. The curriculum would consist of "fundamentals of knowledge", polytechnical training (industrial and agricultural production), teaching of "work habits", "Communist ethics", physical development and "good aesthetic taste".

There seemed little room for much of the present Soviet elementary and high school curriculum which includes literature, foreign languages, history, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, Darwinism, geography, anatomy.

### GIRLS

Girls are to be given a slightly different course. Though men and women get equal pay for equal work in the Soviet Union and all fields are open to a woman, said Khrushchev, "the men has many other duties which are, moreover, quite inevitable". Therefore girls would learn how to nurse a child, keep house and cook.

There would be courses in dress-making, needlework "and other female occupations". He predicted that public catering would be more extensive in the future

"but it appears that even in this field the woman's work will predominate".

After the eighth grade everybody but the most gifted will either go directly into factories or collective farm work or special vocational schools. The only exceptions would be those who demonstrate special talents for mathematics, music or the arts. These will go on to special courses which will prepare them for college.

### GIFTED STUDENTS

In the interim period while the schools are reorganized some ten-year schools would be kept going to accommodate selected gifted students in physics, mathematics, biology and drafting so that there will be "no gap in the training of the necessary contingents for filling up the higher educational establishments".

When the eight-year system is fully developed, colleges will draw students preferably from those actively engaged in production who have demonstrated their real "thirst" for education by taking evening or correspondence courses, who have worked in production for two years and passed an entrance examination.

They will be selected by the trade unions and the Young Communist League who will make sure the candidate "will justify the expense he incurs, that he can really be a useful director of production".

### "LIFE-ADJUSTMENT"

College too will be geared to practical production work so that only in his last two years will a student spend more than half his week in a classroom or lecture hall.

The sweeping change now in prospect echoes similar trends in the U.S. toward "life-adjustment courses". The difference is that U.S. courses—car driving, fly-casting, hair-dressing—adjust the children to middle-class life. The Khrushchev approach seeks an adjustment to working-class life.

# THE WOMEN TELL THEIR STORY TO THE MAYOR

JOHANNESBURG. Within 24 hours of the women's mass anti-pass protest which the Mayor, under orders from the Left Party Council, had refused to meet, the Mayor's Parlour talking their hearts out against the pass laws.

During the talks the Mayor pulled out his own identity card and waived it before the deputation. He carried one, he said. If passes and identity cards were issued under the same law that might be a different matter one of the women on the deputation retorted.

### PASSING THE BUCK?

The Mayor gave the deputation a sympathetic reception though all along the impression was given that the Council was passing the buck to the Government. "This is their law," was the attitude.

Earlier in the day the women's deputation members, the Council's Non-European Affairs Committee and officials of the Non-



THREAT FROM THE COLONEL: Col. Spengler, head of the Witwatersrand Special Branch, strode on to the steps at the entrance to the City Hall to say to Mrs. Marcell Goldberg, one of the women collecting signed petitions for the Government to stop the pass laws. "I shall hold you personally responsible for any procession or disturbances that take place here today!"



A row of women carrying anti-pass billboards lined the front of the City Hall throughout the day's protest.

# JO'BURG WOMEN OUTWIT THE POLICE

(Continued from page 1) were being outwitted, outwitted and out-generaled by the women in the eyes of the whole city.

### IN SOPHIATOWN

Their protest handed in, the women moved off to Sophiatown where they unfurled their umbrellas and settled down to hold their meeting in the sweltering sun.

Harrist Ra Mothibe told the crowd how she threatened to withdraw her money from the bank when a cashier demanded a pass from her. Hetty Du Preez asked: "Is it correct for us to be subjected to unscrupulous abuse because of our colour? I am one of those respectable women who are going to give the Government a hell of a lot of trouble in order to uphold my responsibility as a mother."

Mrs. Mafuta from Braikpan: "We shall never carry passes. Let the Government kill us if it will."

Mrs. Molapo (Kwa-Thema): "A blind old man has been refused a pension because his wife has refused to carry a pass. Let the pensions are our money but let them keep the pensions to themselves. We shall rather die than carry a pass."

Amidst great enthusiasm a witch-

doctor from Germiston, Mrs. Siwela said: "A woman's pass is the nine months. Let us unite and fight."

A domestic servant from Yeoville, Miss Mpulo, deplored the weakness of those women who agree to take passes. "I was not born by my employer. I have told him to fire me if he wants me to take a pass. Those who have taken passes shall burn them."

### DETERMINATION

And so the speakers continued to voice their determination to resist passes to the very end. Speakers from every Reef town.

A woman from Evaton deplored the action of the police who stopped and threatened many women who wanted to come to the protest.

A speaker from Alexandra Township told the meeting that the women were undaunted by the arrests and severe penalties.

This was indeed a fine demonstration of high spirit and courage. The police remained idling in four trucks and several cars. They were bored in the hot sun. They cut off the loudspeaker.

An act of frustration after a heavy beating!

# Sophiatown Meeting



Women can always find plenty to say against a pass and at the Sophiatown meeting they spoke hard and fast.

# ANC MEMO TO ACCRA

(Continued from page 1)

rule by a minority, detailing how apartheid works in the fields of education and culture, political and economic rights, the land hunger among the African people, denial of free speech and assembly, and repressive attacks on the political movements of the people.

It outlines too some of the political campaigns of the Congress movement since the end of the war. The memorandum then deals with some aspects of the agenda for the Accra conference. The Conference is a meeting of representatives of national liberation movements and movements which hold diverse political and social theories and principles, says the A.N.C. To try to get them to adopt a common ideology and philosophy will only lead the conference into difficulties. Congress suggests this should not be attempted.

The ANC says it finds it difficult to agree with the statement contained in the Call to Independence issued by the Conference organisers: "This Conference will formulate and proclaim our African Personality based on the Philosophy of Pan-African Socialism as the ideology of the African Non-Violent revolution."

Conference, suggests the ANC, will have to analyse what it meant by "African personality" and "Pan-African Socialism" before agreeing on any formulation.

The ANC's own aim is a democratic South Africa, one in which, regardless of colour or race, who owe undivided allegiance to South Africa.

Africa and Africa, and Congress is progressively developing the concept of an all-embracing "Africanism".

The ANC comments further on the agenda of the Accra conference that "Confidence should be confined to self formulating broad principles of fighting imperialism, colonialism and race discrimination in Africa". Questions of local issues, detailed programmes, policies and tactics are matters best left to organisations in each country to be dealt with in accordance with the peculiar political situation.

Finally, the memorandum suggests a greater measure of co-operation between the forces of freedom in Asia and Africa, on the basis of the Bandung Conference. The Accra conference, apart from laying down general principles in the fight against colonialism, should work out concrete methods of co-ordination and co-operation of the struggles for freedom in Africa, says Congress.

Footnote: Applications by Brian Bunting in Cape Town and Govan Mbeki in Port Elizabeth for passports to attend the Ghana conference as representatives of New Age have been referred to Pretoria. Up to the time of going to press, reply-paid telegrams requesting information from the Secretary of the Interior as to the fate of the applications had not been answered.

Conference begins on Friday, December 5.

M. Patrick Duncan, editor of "Contact" has been granted a passport (facilities and has already left South Africa to attend the Accra conference.

# SACPO Leads Fight

(Continued from page 1)

rights of the Coloured people will only lead to bitterness and frustration, and bring to an end their tolerance, resulting in the further deterioration of racial goodwill and harmony.

SACPO invited a number of people to attend a special meeting at the Sabbing Rooms in Hill on Wednesday night, December 3, in order to establish a committee to fight any attempt to remove the electoral system from the municipal voters' roll.

Approached by New Age, the National Secretary of the Anti-C.A.D. Dr. N. Murrison said he had no statement to make on this issue.

# Liberation Struggle — as Pirow Sees it

JOHANNESBURG.

ONE of the articles quoted in Schedule D of the indictment in the treason trial is by Mr. Helen Joseph, who is alleged to have written in "Women Against Passes" as follows:

"The struggle against the pass laws is not a matter for African women alone, not a matter for the African people alone. It is a part of the struggle for liberation."

At this point the Crown introduces an explanatory note: "The whole paragraph covered by the indictment there was in existence an international movement, supported by known persons, known as the Liberation Movement, the avowed object of which was the so-called 'liberation of the oppressed people' in the so-called 'colonial' or 'semi-colonial' states throughout the world, which was to be achieved by the overthrow of the said states by violence on the part of the said 'oppressed people'." In the above passage, the author is referring to the struggle for liberation intended to refer and did in fact refer to the Liberation Movement, which is hereinbefore described."

The struggle against the pass laws is not a matter for African women alone, not a matter for the African people alone. It is a part of the struggle for liberation."

A number of female students who had not taken part in the first demonstration said that they had only remained because they wanted to complete their examinations, but, as one of them put it, "not at any cost."

"The authorities want to treat us like servants and we most definitely refuse to put up with any such nonsense."

The demonstrations by the students are by no means at an end. After the expulsions, a thick steel wire was taut to be stretched windscreen-high, across the main road leading to the school. A teacher who found the wire said he had seen five students who he could identify, but the students refused to attend an identification parade.

Two days after these incidents, three mattresses were found burnt in one of the dormitories.



One by one the women who had travelled in from the townships and suburbs, mothers and domestic workers, signed the protest forms.



When the women had handed in their protests they went to Sophiatown to hold a meeting to gather in their grievances which were presented to the Mayor and Councillors and officials of the Non-European Affairs Department the following day.

# OVER 200 STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM ADAM'S COLLEGE

DURBAN. Two hundred and four students, both male and female, who were in the midst of writing their examinations, were summarily expelled from the Amanzimtoti Zulu Training College (formerly Adam's College) last week, as a result of further demonstrations against the School Principal, Mr. C. van Heerden.

It will be recalled that last month 245 male students staged a mass walk-out of their classes because of alleged insults by the school authorities. (New Age, Nov. 6.)

Many of these students had returned to write their examinations and although a section had been barred from taking part in the examinations, the remainder had consented, under protest, to remain in school until the end of the term.

### PRINCIPAL'S MOVE

The uneasy peace that had been enforced was suddenly broken when



The police and Special Branch are out in full force but they spent a tedious day in the broiling sun watching the women outwit them as they swept on with the anti-pass protest despite the ban on meetings, and processions, threats and intimidation.

The deputation protested too the Council demanding reference books before permits are issued in terms of the Urban Areas Act.

### COUNCIL CIRCULAR

The deputation was told a circular from the Council's Non-European Affairs Department was being pre-

# THE WOMEN TELL THEIR STORY TO THE MAYOR

European Affairs Department. What did the women want instead of reference books? they were asked. Nothing at all, they replied. They wanted the pass laws abolished.

Which part of the reference book was so distasteful to them? was another question. All of it, they said.

Their rejection of pass books and of identity cards too was described as "unreasonable" by Cllr. H. Goldberg, whose manner throughout was described as abrupt and truculent.

To the Council assertion that the issue of pass books was a Government matter and not the responsibility of the Council the women wanted to know why the Council's location superintendents had helped the police by interrogating women anti-pass protesters.

At this stage Cllr. Goldberg said he was not there to be "cross-questioned by the deputation."

## SURVEY OF THE NON-WHITE PRESS

By BRIAN BUNTING

## THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE AFRICAN PRESS

When we survey the field, then, it comes as something of a shock to realise that in South Africa today there is not a single daily or weekly newspaper wholly owned and produced by Africans and which can claim to voice the national aspirations of the African people. It is not as though such publications have never existed. Many of the publications of the Basuto Press were formerly independent, like *Imvo and Lange*. Until some years ago the publication *Inkuluwa ya Basuto* could make the claim that it was the only African-owned and staffed newspaper in South Africa, but it was forced to close for financial reasons. The early years of the African National Congress were enlivened by the vigorous and militant *Abantu Batho*.

In the 1920s, when the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union (I.C.U.) was a power in the land and enjoyed a membership of 100,000, its official newspaper, the *Workers Herald* did much to spread the message of the organisation among the African people. Nor should one overlook the contribution to the freedom struggle of the Communist Party papers, the *S.A. Worker*, *Umsentini* and *Inkululeko* which did so much to spread the doctrine of equal rights among the African people. *Inkululeko* was liquidated in 1950 when the Suppression of Communism Act was passed.

Yet in spite of this tradition of independent journalism amongst the African people, today, when political consciousness is spreading amongst them more than ever before, they have no organ of their own. What's more, most of the papers which are directed towards them are mainly interested in seducing them from the freedom struggle and turning them against their natural friends and allies in this country and abroad. Like wolves in sheep's clothing, they pretend to be the friends of the people, but in reality serve the interests of their enemies and exploiters.

## A.N.C. Paper

At its last national conference in December, 1957, the African National Congress instructed its executive to investigate the possibilities of bringing out its own newspaper, and it is to be hoped that progress in this sphere will be reported before long. In the meantime, for a short period up to the time of the treason arrests in 1956 a journal called *Isizwe* was published in Port Elizabeth in a plain, non-stylised magazine supporting A.N.C. policies. Produced in English and Xosa on a voluntary basis, it proved there was a scope for such a Congress paper on a national scale.

A new effort is *Ikhwelo Lomso*, a paper in English and the vernacular apparently planned by the All-African Convention, the first number of which appeared on July 12, 1958. Published in Johannesburg, three issues have so far been printed and it remains to be seen whether this newcomer to the field of journalism will be able to survive.

## Great Problems

It should be borne in mind, of course, that great difficulties face the African people with regard to the establishment of an independent press. The greatest difficulty is lack of capital. It costs a great

deal of money to start a newspaper and keep it in being until such time as it has established itself and is able to keep going on its own revenue. In addition to capital, the establishment of a press requires the right to own freehold property and to carry out business undertakings with the maximum security—all rights which are denied to the African people, which in consequence has a very small middle class. Any paper which openly voiced the policies of the liberation movement would also find it extremely hard to attract advertising into its pages, as the experience of *New Age* has shown—and advertising is the greatest source of revenue for most papers. Big business will not support policies which are fundamentally opposed to its own interests. An A.N.C. paper, for example, might find it hard not only to get finance, but even a printer willing to handle the job, or adequate supplies of newsprint.

## Deportation Threat

Secondly, a stable Press really needs a stable population to support it, and the African people, in

consequence of the provisions of the Urban Areas Act and other laws, at any time liable to be moved from one area to another, banished or deported, with no right of permanent domicile anywhere in the country. It would, for instance, be extremely difficult for an African paper to keep its staff together: an African journalist who incurred the wrath of the authorities would always be liable to summary arrest and deportation without trial. Finally, the problem of literacy should not be overlooked—the people most ripe for the A.N.C. message are in many cases unable to read.

These are crippling handicaps. Nevertheless, they must be faced and overcome if the African people are to develop their national organisation effectively enough to lead their struggle for emancipation. One only has to read the Basuto *Mohlabani* to realise what a stimulus to political action and thinking would be provided by such a paper in this country.

## The Coloured Press

Though the 1,500,000 Coloured people suffer far less than the Africans from discriminatory laws,

## UP MY ALLEY

CAN it be that justice is really being done? Here in South Africa, I mean. There have been untold complaints among Non-Whites about the differences in sentences meted out to Blacks and Whites for similar crimes. In many cases involving attacks on a member of one of the other race groups.

In such cases justice might be able to argue about extenuating circumstances or the degree of the crime in order to explain away any disparity in punishment.

The case of the White Grahamstown University student who was fined 12 quid for painting "Go Home Swart" on a school building recently seems no different from the one in which two Congressmen, Morrison and Hartzak, were sent up for four months without fines for painting Freedom Charter slogans on walls in Cape Town.

Can we be blamed if we wonder at the differences between these two sentences?

★  
HEARD in a grocery store: Please give me four pounds of Chinese Communist rice.

IT was also said last week that the S.A.P. provides an outstanding career for Coloured youth. They could help rehabilitate their people and guide them in the way of the law.

The trouble is that the way of the law in South Africa has become such that most Non-Whites would rather keep out of it.

★  
THEY tell me that more and more D.R.C. deacons are becoming interested in far-fee these days.

★  
WHICH reminds me that it appears as if that Church is turning against Hoofleer Verwoerd and company. Its synodal commission wants all representatives in the House of Assembly to be men of "unimpeachable Christian character and behaviour."

I GOT hold of one of the local "African" magazines the other day and found that it also featured a black comic page. It's from the States and all the characters are negro and the negroes. Not one white face to be seen anywhere in it.

Like those all-negro films, it gives one the impression that the

★  
By ALEX  
LA GUMA



★  
Blacks have a world of their own, perhaps on another planet, and have no connection whatever with other races.

★  
But comics, like apartheiders, are seldom realistic.

★  
THE Cape Town Nat daily tried hard to catalogue the Edwards Olivier, new Senator to "represent the interests of the Coloured people," but in fact they could find the material. So the final result was saying nothing in a lot of words.

★  
We could not find anybody with any knowledge of his career of service to the Coloured people, great interest and intense idealism. But in our search we did find a slave called Smael Adam who contributed lengthily to Die Burger his appreciation of being set upon by the Nats.

★  
He must be a tough guy if he's willing to carry ball-and-chain around all his life.

★  
AND I've heard a rumour that the D.R.C. is organising a welcome to the D.R.C. Deacons. They're very interested in vital statistics.

nevertheless similar factors have prevented the emergence of a strong national press. There is at present only one weekly paper in existence in South Africa which can be described as owned and controlled by Coloureds, and that is the *Torch*, mouthpiece of the Unity Movement. Its exclusive brand of negative politics, however, has isolated it from the mass of the people and its circulation is very small.

The largest weekly newspaper carrying new items specifically directed towards the Coloured people is the *Golden City Post*, which publishes a Southern Edition specially slanted to Coloured interests. For the rest there are no newspapers of any sort directed exclusively towards the Coloured people, who even now are widely regarded (and many regard themselves) as an "appendage" of the White group rather than as a distinct national entity. In the recent past, however, two weekly newspapers which aimed to be the mouthpiece of the Coloured community—the conservative *Sun* and the more radical *Free State*—have been forced to discontinue publication for financial reasons.

## The Indian Press

Of all the Non-White groups in South Africa, the Indians—who number less than half a million—are the most highly organised and politically conscious, and contain within their ranks the most highly developed Non-White bourgeoisie. In consequence, they are better served with their own press than any other section of the Non-Whites. Their newspapers, however, tend to be restricted in their outlook, and some are purely communal, with little interest to those who do not belong to the community catered for.

The biggest Indian paper is the weekly *Leader*, which was established by an Indian journalist 18 years ago, and is today run by his widow, Mrs. Bramdas, of Maritzburg. The paper concentrates mainly on the affairs of the Indian community, especially news items of personal, social and sporting interest and its attitude towards general events has no set policy apart from a vague liberalism and opposition to the harsher aspects of the colour bar. The *Leader* is supervised by a member of the staff of the *Natal Witness*, and its main political commentator, who styles himself Politicus, speaks in favour of the vernacular policies of the Natal Indian Congress and the Congress movement generally.

The weekly *Opinion*, formerly *Indian Opinion* (the Gujarati edition is still called *Indian Opinion*), was first published by Mahatma Gandhi in 1903 and was edited by the Mahatma's son, Manilal, from 1918 until his death in 1956. It is now published by Mrs. Sukhila Gandhi. It is obtainable by subscription only and has a very small circulation. Politically it serves as a mouthpiece for the anti-Congress Jordon Ngunjiri, who is a member of the Liberal Party.

*Indian Views* is another communal weekly with a small circulation, obtainable by subscription only, directed towards the Moslem community and containing articles written by the vernacular. The English section of this paper, although critical of some aspects

of Congress policy, is on the whole not unfriendly to Congress. The publisher is Mr. M. I. Meer.

A comparative newcomer to the field is the *Graskie*, which was established as a magazine in 1950 and transformed into a weekly newspaper a year later. Most of its space is devoted to news from India and Pakistan, but it fronts page deals with South African news, which it presents from the point of view of the Liberal Party, of which it is a contributor until recently was a leading member. The paper is owned by an Indian commercial printer and has a small circulation, mainly in Natal.

When political activity amongst the Indian community was at its height, during the 1946-47 passive resistance campaign, the *Passive Resister* made its appearance—a lively, militant sheet dealing with anti-apartheid propaganda published by the Transvaal and Natal Passive Resistance Council set up by the Indian Congress. It closed down when the campaign came to an end. Another product of this period was the *Searchlight*, financed by Indians and edited by a liberal-minded European. This paper, however, was forced to set up a good circulation as a result of its wholehearted support for the passive resistance campaign. Like most of the other progressive papers however, it eventually forced it to close down.

## The Importance of "New Age"

It is only after one has examined the make-up of the so-called Non-European press, and realised how little it can really claim to represent or serve the interests of the Non-European people of South Africa, that one begins to appreciate the tremendous importance of *New Age*.

*New Age* is not the official organ of the Congress movement, nor is it exclusively directed towards the Non-European community. Nevertheless, it is—

★ The only newspaper in South Africa which consistently, week in and week out, fights for equal rights for all South Africans irrespective of race, creed or colour;

★ The only newspaper with a large national circulation which, while reserving its right to criticise, stands four-square with the Congress movement in the struggle for liberation, basing its arguments on the historic Freedom Charter adopted at the Congress of the People in 1955;

★ The only newspaper on which the Congress can rely for support in their various campaigns; and where, in the person of Chief Lutuli, leaders and supporters of the liberation movement can express their views freely without misinterpretation or distortion;

★ The only paper which supports the liberation movement, not only in this country, but in all the remaining territories, and consistently strives for world peace and friendly relations between all nations, East and West, great and small, on the basis of equality.

*New Age* is able to serve this invaluable function in South Africa because it is not the organ of big business, not out to make profits, not published in the interests of one section only, but intended to promote the true interests of the whole population, Black and White. There are no representatives of the bosses in the *New Age* set-up. The paper has no capital and enjoys no backing from the capitalist class. Our only boss is the people, who supply all our finances and in the last resort dictate all our policies. (Concluded)

# "BE VIGILANT!"

## Call to French Workers

EVERY French Communist has been called upon to heighten his vigilance, to expose the Fascist danger to all who ignored or underestimated it, and to rally all democratic forces against reaction, in an editorial in *L'Humanite* following the electoral victories of the French right-wing (New Age, last week).

The situation was serious, it said. There was a grave danger to democracy. De Gaulle's coming to power opened the doors for a situation.

A characteristic of the voting was the heavy defeat sustained by the non-Communist Left Parties and their leaders. The defeat aggravated the danger of the Republic. The conclusion could be

drawn from the elections that it was useless to criticise Government policy while refusing an alliance with the French Communist Party without which all opposition was fruitless.

### MAIN CAUSE

*L'Humanite* said that the essential cause of the reactionary and Fascist advance had been and still was the anti-Communism of the Socialist leaders which had made the Socialist Party a hostage and puppet of the extremists, colonialists, Fascists and rightists. The role of the Socialist leaders was detestable because they contributed to demoralising and misleading Republican opinion at the height of reactionary strength.

The Communists were proud of their opposition to the Algerian war. The colonial problem should not be solved by an absurd and bloody conquest. The so-called "new men" who had succeeded in misleading part of French opinion would soon appear what they were — of an absolutely condemned past.



Mao Tse-Tung, one of the world's most powerful leaders and among the greatest thinkers of the century, is not too high and mighty to mix with the ordinary people. Here he is seen chatting with old Mother Yvea in the kitchen of her home on a farm co-operative.

### Asia-Africa Economic Conference

Simultaneously with the Pan-Africa conference being held in Ghana, a second conference of very great importance is being held in Cairo from December 8th to the Asia-Africa Economic Conference.

One of the activities stemming from the original Bandung Asia-Africa conference in 1955, the Cairo conference, which will be attended by several hundred delegates, is being sponsored by the Egyptian Chamber of Commerce and backed by economists, commercial enterprises and trading organisations in Asia, Africa and the Socialist countries of Europe.

### PABLO NERUDA ELECTED TO COMMITTEE

AFTER ten years of illegality, the Communist Party of Chile, the ban upon which was lifted in August, held its annual conference in public last week-end, noted *Time Magazine* survey (Dec. 1), the conference "re-sounded with confidence . . . a fanatic crowd of cheering Communists packed every inch of floor and gallery space."

Party membership, which grew steadily during the period of illegality, is now 55,000.

Luis Corvalan was re-elected general secretary, and the re-nowned poet and Stalin prize-winner Pablo Neruda was elected to the central committee.

The Party reaffirmed its popular front alliance with the Socialists and pledged to strengthen still further the socialist unity which has been won.

# 'IMPERIALISTS ARE PAPER TIGERS!'

## New Collection of Mao Tse-Tung's Works Published

THE first part of a new collection of the works of Mao Tse-Tung has been completed in Peking. It will appear under the heading "Imperialists and All Reactionaries are Paper Tigers."

The first of the works in the collection is "On New Democracy" whose theme is that "capitalism has reached a decrepit, moribund stage and communism is sweeping the world with the momentum of a landslide and the power of a thunderbolt and enjoys perpetual youth."

The work is full of the picturesque writing for which Mao is famous. Reactionaries "who pick up a rock to squash the people in

the end squash their own toes," is one typical phrase.

Mao tells this fable: An old man in ancient China, called Yu Kung, had a house the light of which was obstructed by two mountains. With great determination he led his sons to dig up the mountains with pickaxes. Another old man, Chih Shu witnessed their attempts and laughed. "What fools you are," he said, "to try to dig up two huge mountains, a utterly beyond your capacity."

Yu Kung replied, "When I die there are my sons; when they die there will be their sons, and so on to infinity. As to these two mountains, high as they are they cannot become higher. With every bit dug away they become lower and

lower. Why can't we dig them away?"

Thus Yu Kung refuted Chih Shu's wrong view and went on digging at the mountains day after day without intermission. God's heart was touched by such perseverance and he sent two celestial beings down to earth early away the mountains.

Now there are no two big mountains lying like dead weight on the Chinese people; imperialism and feudalism. We must work persistently, work ceaselessly, and we too may be able to touch God's heart.

This God is no other than the masses of the people throughout China, and if they rise and dig together, why can't we dig these two mountains up?

At the time Mao wrote this (1945) anyone who had suggested that backward China held in bondage by British imperialism could in a few short years outstrip Britain in steel and industrial production would have been mocked just as Chih Shu mocked Yu Kung.

But last month the Newsletter of the British Steel industry announced that this miracle had indeed happened.

"China is now ahead of Britain in her current production of coal and steel," it said.

"She overtook Britain in coal production during September, when the output for the month reached 23,640,000 tons . . . Steel output in the third week of October reached 427,000 tons, as against the British week average of 417,000 tons in 1957."

Chinese gross industrial output in the first nine months of 1958 was 57.1 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1957.

### MIDDLE EAST

### IRAQ

## COMMUNISTS STRONG SAYS BRITISH REPORTER

Communism is sweeping Iraq, and the Communist Party of that country, although underground, is "by far the strongest in the Middle East," according to an on-the-spot report by Richard Beeston, correspondent of the *London News Chronicle*.

"The effect of the Communist upsurge in Iraq inevitably threatens only the Iraq Petroleum Company but Britain's vital interests in the Persian Gulf area," Beeston says.

"Bagdad's Press and radio today are like Pravda. Russia's actions in Berlin are championed. America is accused of using poison gas and germ warfare against China. Britain is the bloodsucking imperialist of the Persian Gulf."

"One newspaper proprietor blandly admitted to me that he had hired a Communist editor to

give readers what they want."

"Iron Curtains" legations, embassies, bookshops are mushrooming all over the country. Western consulates in Mosul, Kirkuk, Basra, have been ordered to close. British and American information offices are forbidden to operate, but pictures of Khrushchov and Mao are best-sellers on Basraid kiosks, he says.

Beeston believes that about 70% of the Basra dockers and oilfield workers, who make up the main body of the country's proletariat, "now openly support the Communist Party."

"The spread of their influence to Persia's Abadan oilfield workers is regarded as inevitable."

The Communists, says Beeston, can fill the streets of both Bagdad and Basra with tens of thousands of supporters at a moment's notice.

### Dangerous U.S. Base in Far East

THE arrival at Singapore of six United States warships, with 2,000 marines on board, has been accompanied, according to *The Times*, by statements that Washington was making "new preparations" in the Far East, and aimed to establish "storage depots" at strategic points round the Indian Ocean.

This has caused alarm in Indonesia, where the recent rebellion with United States aid has left a permanent fear of foreign intervention. Hostile comments have also appeared in the press of India, Burma, Malaya and Thailand, and the *Peking People's Daily* says that the presence of American forces in Singapore is a serious threat to peace and security in South-East Asia. In Singapore itself, the opposition parties are protesting.

### EUROPE 7 LONDON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS JOIN COMMUNISTS

SEVEN members of the St. Pancras Borough Council in London who have been expelled from the Labour Party have decided to join the Communist Party.

The councillors were expelled from the Labour Party because they flew the red flag from the St. Pancras Town Hall during this year's May Day celebrations.

Seven other councillors expelled at the same time for activities "inimicable to the interests of the Labour Party" are expected to join the Communist Party too.

#### DEPUTY-MAJOR

One of the new recruits is Mrs.

H. Lane, the deputy mayor. Of their position on the council she said last night:

"We shall still be known as the Socialist group. There has been no split. All of us believe in and want to fight for Socialism in Britain.

"But some of us have decided the best way to do that is through the Communist Party. We applied for membership individually."

A Communist Party statement described the expulsions from the Labour Party as "a tragedy."

It said: "Together with dozens of others in the borough of St. Pancras they have joined the Communist Party. We are sure many more will follow their example."

# Dockers Hit By Shipping Slump

**CAPE TOWN.** THE bustle of Cape Town's dockyard has diminished considerably as a result of the world-wide slackening in shipping and trade.

All along the wharves there has been an unusual quiet and the men who rely on the flow of shipping to give them work as stevedores, longshoremen, hatchmen and tallymen have found little to do over recent weeks.

"No more overtime," said a ship's guard. "It's not like old times any more."

## LEANEST PERIOD

Dock workers are experiencing

## Nyanga "Drop the Trial" Meeting

"Somebody Blundered" says Special Branch

**CAPE TOWN.** SPECIAL Branch detectives were surprised to discover that visiting speakers at a meeting in Nyanga last Sunday had permission to be in the location and to address the meeting.

"What's more," one of the speakers told them, "We're allowed to be here until 10 p.m."

The meeting was organised by the Congress as part of the Drop The Treason Trial Campaign, and was one of three held in the Western Cape. The others were held in Paarl and Worcester.

Before the meeting in Nyanga a crowd of young Africans marched through the transit camp with banners, and staging freedom songs. They called the residents from their homes to the meeting and a large crowd gathered to hear the Congress speakers, among them SACPO president, Mr. Jimmy La Guma, and Mr. A. J. Storm, of the Congress of Democrats.

Resolutions passed at the meeting also protested against the issue of passes to African women, increases in poll-tax and the price of bread, and the deportation of African leaders.

At the end of the meeting members of the Special Branch of the CID asked Mr. La Guma and Mr. Storm to show their permits to be in the camp.

The permit issued for both speakers stated that they had been allowed into the location "for the purpose of addressing a meeting of the ANC."

"Somebody at the gate must have blundered," said one of the detectives.

their leanest period over years. There are empty spaces along the wharves and even the cargoes of those ships, which are in port are exceptionally small.

"We used to unload 900 tons of cargo, from one ship in the better days," a dock worker told New Age. "Today about the same amount comes from three ships."

Because the wages of casual workers are very small they rely on overtime work to augment their pay, but the recession has reduced those fortunate enough to get a job on the wharves to dire straits.

## 400 TURNED AWAY

Mr. G. Van Rensburg, another stevedore, said: "Many of the men managed to earn about £5 a week by working overtime. Now the casual hands are lucky if they work until 5 o'clock any day. They turn up every morning hoping to get work, and many are turned away."

A watchman in the harbour told New Age that last Friday morning 400 men had been turned away by a stevedoring company because there was no work for them.

## CARGOES SMALLER

The heavy general cargoes which mean most income for these workers have become smaller in recent weeks and some of the regular lines have found it necessary to reduce the frequency of their sailings.

Most striking illustration of the effect of the world shipping situation on Cape Town has been the absence of the hordes of begrimed and coal-blackened dock workers streaming out of the dock gates at five every evening.

The stream has now become a trickle emerging from the shadows of the silent cranes.

## Exhibition in Aid of Defence Fund

CAPE TOWN.

An exhibition of woodcuts and engravings by Albrecht Durer, the famous German artist, will be opened by the Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev. Joost de Blank, at the Modern Homes Gallery, 30 Adderley Street, Cape Town, on Saturday, December 6, at 10.30 a.m.

The exhibition, which is in aid of the Treason Trial Defence Fund, will remain open until December 9. When the show is over, the exhibits will be offered for sale to the public.

# SPORTLIGHT

by  
"DULEEP"

## APARTHEID IN SPORT

There is no doubt that the whole of South Africa, both White and non-White, are agog with excitement and disgust at the latest developments in the fight against discrimination in sport. The daily Press throughout the country is buzzing with reports of support for the elimination of apartheid in sport, and leading sportsmen such as Chris Chataway, British four-minute mile, have strongly advocated that countries should not compete against South African teams which include Africans and coloureds.

A body in England, which consists of leading names in all sports of life, has started a campaign against race discrimination in sport, with special reference to South Africa. Supporters include such personalities as John Arlott, Danny Blanchflower, Johnny Haynes, Derek Ibbotson, Stanley Matthews, Don Revie, Alan Wharton, all of sports fame, and others such as Prof. A. A. Aysc, Bishops of Birmingham, Chester, Liverpool, Sheffield and York, together with a list of impressive figures in the political, social and industrial world. Their aim is to fight discrimination and all interested parties are asked to write to 4 Erskine Hill, London, N.W.1.

All this has recently been revived by the October edition of World Sports in which the editor, Phil Pilley, in an article entitled "For the Barred... A Gleam of Hope?" gives an outline of the colour problem in sports in this country. The article is subdivided into sections such as "The Facts"; "The Case Against"; "The Defence"; "Summing-Up"; and finally "The Solution".

## WHO IS DEWING?

The portion under the sub-title of "The Defence" needs a little elaboration and perhaps criticism, for it gives the name of the writer by the name of Vaughan Dewing, who as far as the Non-Europeans of this country are concerned, is a personality whom nobody has ever heard of. How can such a person express views about what the Whites have done for the Non-Whites in this country?

Dewing says that the Non-European boxing standard is high but cannot compare with that of the Whites, seven of whose ten boxers won medals for their gold. I say that if a non-racial team were selected, practically all ten would have been Non-Whites, for if one were to compare the standard of amateur boxing in this country, that of the Whites is far below the level of the Non-Whites. But because of their limited finances, the Non-Whites are not able to gather their best talent at the annual national tournaments, and that is why we do not really see the best of our country.

But with all that, the standard is definitely higher. This has been proved by the fact that Non-European professionals are on the same up-grade, providing first-class entertainment to the novice public, while European boxing is practically run at a loss each time a promotion is held. One has just to see the talent at the preliminaries on the card of a low standard of boxing the public has to pay for.

## SUPPRESSION

Dewine went was being talking through his ears when he said that Black talent was not being suppressed. Suppressed it is, and

Published by Real Printing & Publishing Co. (Pty) Ltd., 8 Barkway Station, Cape Town and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty) Ltd., 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 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