

SABRA HOLD TALKS WITH AFRICANISTS ON U.S. PREMISES



Vol. 5, No. 15. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
SOUTHERN EDITION Thursday, January 29, 1959

6d.

BA 320, C5 NEW

Verwoerd Angered By Latest Developments

From Ruth First

JOHANNESBURG.

THE SABRA professors who have been holding unofficial talks with leading Afri-

cans in recent weeks have also met Africanists.

That in itself is not unexpected as the professors say they want to hear the full range of African views and, though the Africanists are a lunatic fringe, they do have views.

But what is staggering is the place where the meeting between Africanists and the SABRA men was held: ON THE PREMISES OF THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE IN JOHANNESBURG!

The United States Embassy is these days very conscious of the criticism levelled at them—criticism initiated by New Age articles—that while the United States pays lip-service to the principles of race equality, the Embassy in the Union operates a colour bar.

No Non-Europeans are invited to Embassy functions and it is doubtful if Ambassador Byroade or his predecessors has ever met a Non-European leader—though some U.S. Information Service and Consular officials number among their duties the job of

(Continued on page 6)

289 Canning Workers Arrested

JOHANNESBURG.

AN entire factory was placed under arrest here last week and 289 workers carted off to jail for taking part in an illegal strike.

The 89 men went to prison still wearing their blue boiler suits and gumboots, the 200 women in their green working overalls and white caps.

They spent two nights and two and a half days in the cells till the Food and Canning Workers' Union managed to raise their bail. This, at £10 a worker, came to £2,890.

DISPUTE

The 289 workers are all employed at H. Jones and Company, an Industria canning factory, and have been involved in a dispute over overtime and shifts since the Christmas holidays. After the factory management altered the shift hours the workers handed in a petition with their objections. The dispute came to a head on January 21 at 11 a.m. when the entire factory was placed under arrest.

They spent the first night in police cells and the second in the Johannesburg Fort. Among the

(Continued on page 6)

AFRICAN WOMEN FIGHT PASSES
—page 3



IN THE SPUTNIK AGE: A cardboard box in a bicycle carrier is the best transport that could be managed to get this little Indian girl to school last week. She is one of the Indian tots in the grade classes who has to walk over a mile from her home in Newclare to the school the Indian children have been allocated to in Sophiatown.

Child Victims of Govt's Anti-Indian Campaign

JOHANNESBURG.

ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED INDIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN, SOME ONLY SIX YEARS OLD, ARE BEING USED BY THE AUTHORITIES AS HOSTAGES TO FORCE THE INDIAN PEOPLE TO ACCEPT LENZ AS THEIR GROUP AREA.

Where once there was only one school at Lenz, there are now three, one high school and two primary, and about 1,500 children are being forced to travel as much as 40 miles a day to their classrooms.

NO WARNING

This school year the axe has fallen on Indian children in Johannesburg's Western Areas. Suddenly, without any warning children in standards two to five have been sent to Lenasia, and small grades children from the Newclare Coloured School have been transferred to a Sophiatown school, for some a distance of two miles from their homes.

The moves have been carried out without the knowledge or consent of the Indian parents.

One principal was telephoned (Continued on page 6)

SAIC Condemns Removal of African Reps.

DURBAN.

THE announcement by the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr. De Wet Nel, that legislation would be introduced during the forthcoming session of Parliament to remove the existing African representatives amply justifies our prediction, made soon after the last election, that there would be an annihilation of existing parliamentary rights of the Non-White peoples with the reelection of the Nationalists," said Dr. G. M. Naicker, President of the South African Indian Congress, in an exclusive interview with New Age.

Condemning the move as contrary to all democratic concepts, Dr. Naicker said that even though the nature of the existing representation was limited to the communal roll, the denial of even this limited representation would leave the African people completely voiceless.



Canning workers from H. Jones & Co. after their release from jail.



NEW AGE LETTER BOX

WHY DO THE "PEOPLE'S FRIENDS" ASSAULT US?

When we were arrested last November for holding an illegal meeting we had the pleasure of having another meeting in the cells with a European police sergeant.

He was trying to tell us about the losing battle the ANC was fighting, why our demand for £1 a day was foolish since we were all paying lower rents than the Whites, buying vegetables in Payneville Market at cheaper prices, and that our taxes were only a lousy £1.15 per annum compared to theirs of anything from £20 to £60 a year.

This government was the best, he thought, and we have the S.A.P. to look after us. The police were our friends and not our enemies as we think.

So we asked the sergeant to explain why is it that if the government wasn't afraid of the ANC there was no freedom of speech. The cheaper vegetables at Payneville Market were rejects from the European market and therefore 4th grade. And if the government allowed us to have the same jobs, and the same pay as the whites, they could abolish the poll-tax and we would pay the "high" income tax.

As for the police being our friends I related to him an incident in which I was involved when I was 17 years old, and had the foolish idea that the white man was superior.

A young policeman who also

had the same foolish idea asked me: "Waar werk jy, kaffer?" I answered: "Ek werk nie, meneer."

Policeman: "Waar is jou pas, jong, kaffer?"

Me: "Hier is die pas, meneer."

After careful checking and re-checking he handed it back to me and looked furious.

"Jy het my nou kwaad gemaak, kaffer."

Me: "Hoe nou, meneer?"

Constable: "Lyk ek aan jou soos meneer of baas?"

Me: "Sorry, my baas."

Constable (giving me a good smack): "Weet jy dat jy swart is kaffer? Swart soos die duiwel self?"

Me: "Ja, meneer." Another smack from this friend of the people until I didn't forget to say "baas." So because I thought a white man boss, I couldn't report this young hooligan.

The police sergeant said, "Oh well, you know how young children are. They get angry over nothing and do foolish things."

I ask you, can a young child be given such a responsible job? A policeman is supposed to protect the people, both white and black.

Z. K. STOFIE.

Payneville, Springs.

DAVID NEEDS STONES FOR HIS SLING

THE opening ceremonies over, the Nationalists in Parliament will now settle down to serious business. So must we.

Their business is to make laws to oppress, insult and humiliate the people of South Africa. Our business is to expose the full implications of such laws, and to arouse the maximum opposition to them.

They have the colossal financial resources of the State to depend on. We have nothing but the loyalty and understanding of our readers; the knowledge that history and truth are on our side.

Goliath facing David! With this difference, that David needs not one, but many stones; for his sling. And each stone in hard cash! And with this further difference, that David cannot stand alone.

New Age needs your support and needs it urgently. If the gap between our donations and expenditure continues at the present rate WE SHALL BE OUT OF ACTION WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

Think that statement over carefully, because we mean it seriously. We are not trying to frighten you unnecessarily. We are stating a fact.

Some of our readers play the game regularly. If, each week, we could acknowledge what we are pleased to ac-

knowledge this week, our troubles would be over.

But many of our readers, who can give and who should know better, are shirking their responsibilities.

It is to those readers that we appeal: GIVE US THE MONEY WE NEED. GIVE IT NOW AND GIVE IT REGULARLY.

Last Week's Donations:

Special thanks to that grand old fighter, Rebecca, for the £25 given on the occasion of her birthday. Many happy returns, Rebecca, and may you long be with us to set an example of faith and courage in the struggle.

Johannesburg:

Friend £5, J. £15, B and M £10, D. £2, R.R. £4, Monthly £5, Collections £4.5, Greenside £2, Spring Cleaning £1.2, Vic (monthly) £5, Issy £12.10, Cecil £60, Friend £100, I.J. £4, M and M £5, Optician £1, Sally £5, Hopeful £3, Cake Sale £1, N. £1.10, Rebecca £25.

Cape Town:

A.Tr 19s., V.P. 3.6d., Jewel £2.2, L.L. £1, Unity £5, R and M £5, A.B. £25, B.H. £5, I.C. £2, N.M. £1.

Durban:

M and M £5.
Grand Total: £323 11s. 6d.

Africanists Are Too Late

I sincerely and honestly agree with Mr. K. of Natalpruit when saying (New Age, December 25) that those Africans who want to put the Congress down are too late.

The ANC is not a party but a national organisation.

The aims of the A.N.C. are broad enough to include every African, simply because the A.N.C. seeks to unite all the Africans of every tribe and of all levels of education and degrees of culture in the gigantic task of winning their freedom as a people.

Hence, the A.N.C. claims to speak for every African whether Christian or Atheist, Fascist or Communist, Nationalist or Liberalist. Among its members, are included all these categories mentioned above.

We need the unity of all Africans to destroy the dragon of oppression. It is, therefore, a duty to ourselves and to posterity, to gird our loins, to stand up like men and women of Africa and to oppose this ugly thing that is happening in South Africa.

In the name of Africa!

LUCAS BOTOLO.

Benoni.

* * *

A.A.C. Conference

When I read the letter printed in "New Age" (January 15th issue) signed "Ex-Secretary Sons of Young Africa Branch" I thought at first that there must have been a printer's error. For S.O.Y.A. stands for the "Society of Young Africa."

After having perused the contents of the letter, however, I realised that the printer might not be at fault. The "Ex-Secretary Sons of Young Africa Branch" does not or cannot give a true account of the discussions that took place at the A.A.C. conference.

It is also obvious that he is incapable of discussing the ideas of the organisation to which he once belonged and has to resort to swearing at it.

JAMES MABUYA.

Orlando.

["Ex-Secretary" wrote: "Not a single word was uttered as a directive to launch the AAC into mass activity in the future." Is that not true?—Ed.]

* * *

IS "GOLDEN CITY POST" SCARED OF THE TRUTH?

IS "Golden City Post" scared to let its readers know that it is not financed and controlled by Non-Europeans, and therefore has no right to call itself a Non-European newspaper?

Is "Golden City Post" scared to tell its readers that its proprietor is Mr. J. R. A. Bailey, heir to the Abe Bailey fortune and a mining magnate in his own right? That Post is an organ of big business and not the voice of the people?

When I wrote my recent articles in New Age on the Non-European press, the "Golden City Post" columnist "Mr. Low-down" criticised them in his column under the heading "Come off it, Brian." Mr. Low-down maintained that my remarks on "Post" were inaccurate.

I sent the following letter to "Post" in reply:

"Dear Sir,
"In your issue of December 5, you allege that I have 'started a one-man war against the Non-White press.'"

"You allege (I quote): 'He takes the line in 'New Age'

EDITORIAL

DEFEND THE AFRICAN VOTE!

THE proposed abolition of the Africans' representatives in Parliament and the Provincial Council means simply this: that the African people are to be deprived of any say whatsoever in the Government of the country.

There are many critics of the present form of African representation who say it was useless anyway, that it achieved nothing for the African people, and that its abolition will, for all practical purposes, make no difference.

These critics miss the point. The purpose of the Government's legislation is, not to take from the African people something which they prize and value, but to indicate to them that from now on they have no rights or representatives in Parliament, they have no right to vote for or sit in Parliament—in fact, that Parliament is elected by and for Europeans only and the Africans must not think any part of it is for them. In Verwoerd's view, the White man must rule, the African obey.

In defending the right of the Africans' representatives to remain in Parliament, one is not defending the present form of representation or even the rights or policies of the present incumbents of the African seats; one is defending the principle that Parliament should be representative of all the peoples of this country, and that Africans should enjoy, on the same basis as anybody else, the right to vote for and to sit in Parliament.

Those who say, as some boycotters are already saying: "Let them take this dummy representation away," are today playing the Government's game. They are surrendering the principle of no taxation without representation; they are surrendering the right to direct participation in Government. For however inadequate the present form of representation is, it at least embodies the principle that the African has the right to vote for and be represented in Parliament. The way to get more is not to surrender the little we have, but rather to cling tenaciously to it and fight all the time for the reforms or extensions we want.

At this time all anti-Nationalists—from the Unity Movement to the United Party—should be able to agree that the Government's Bill must be opposed. All who stand for an integrated society in which White and Black must share, in some measure, the same rights and opportunities, must join hands to oppose the apartheidists, who hold that the Blacks have no place in White society and must be completely segregated—politically, economically, socially and territorially.

We can argue about our different conceptions of democracy later; at present we must unite to fight for the very right to democracy itself.

that only newspapers which (a) have to appeal for funds to keep going; and (b) print whatever political organisations tell them to print . . . are the true voice of the people."

"Finally, you say: 'I content myself with gently admonishing him to keep his fact separated from his fiction if he has to write about us.'"

"Allow me to reply:
"1. I have not started a one-man war against the Non-White press. In my articles in New Age I merely pointed out that there is no Non-White press to speak of in South Africa, and that those papers like Post which call themselves Non-White papers are really the organs of big business and are not run (i.e. financed and controlled) by Non-Whites at all.

"2. Your statement about the line I take in New Age is fiction, not fact. I never said anything of the sort.

"3. Could you please inform me, and your readers, of the fictions I perpetrated about Post? I would be glad to make any corrections if you would point

them out to me."

My letter was dated December 5, 1958. When by the middle of January it had not been published in "Post," I approached the Cape Town office of "Post" for an explanation. I was told it had been decided in the Johannesburg office that my letter should not be published. No explanation was given.

Is "Post" afraid of the truth? If not, why have they refused to publish my letter? Or even to send a formal acknowledgment of its receipt? What ethical standards does "Post" use when, after printing a garbled version of what I said, it accuses me of inaccuracy and then refuses to print my reply?

I challenge "Post" to publish my letter, or an explanation of why it refuses to publish my letter. If "Post" continues to keep silent on this point, it can be taken as proof that it has no defence to the charges I originally brought against it.

BRIAN BUNTING

Cape Town.

AFRICAN WOMEN FIGHT PASSES

1,000 At Rand Conference Denounce Government Tactics

JOHANNESBURG. **GOVERNMENT orders to the African women of Johannesburg to register at Labour Bureaux and the attempt to stampede them into taking out passes have got their blood up.**

This stuck out a mile at last Sunday's conference of the Transvaal region of the Federation of South African women, at which over 1,000 gathered.

Men at the conference had first to give up their seats to the women and then even their standing room, and still contingents of women kept coming from every Johannesburg and most Reef townships and from Standerton, Ermelo, Morgenson, Bethal, Volksrust, Pretoria, Zeerust and Lichtenburg, many carrying Congress flags and colours.

Roodepoort alone mustered 150 delegates.

A van from Jabavu did four trips backwards and forwards to get their women to the conference. Pretoria sent two bus-loads, the Alexandra bus looked as though it would burst at the seams.

GAVE UP

By 11 a.m. the crowd was so vast that the credentials committee

Library Apartheid in City Store Under Fire

CAPE TOWN.

A number of Cape Town organisations, including the Congresses, are contemplating making representations to Garlick's, a big department store here, against a huge "Europeans Only" notice in the store's library.

Approached by New Age, Mr. Neil Garlick, a director, said he had no comments to make, but added that the sign had been there "since before the war, and nobody has objected."

What is new, however, is a further sign reading: "We regret library books may not be handed to Non-European messengers." An attendant at the library told New Age that this was in the interest of the Europeans who belonged to the library.

"You might send a boy for a book," she said, "and he might lose it. Or he might work for you for many years and then leave your employ without our knowing it; if he walks off with a book, you will again be responsible. You see, it's for your own protection."

A number of readers have complained to New Age about the existence of apartheid in the library. "It is the only store in Cape Town where such discrimination is practised," said one reader.

MRA Man Is Pirow's Aid

JOHANNESBURG.

The Moral Re-Armament Movement held a South African Assembly earlier this month at Moravian Hill, between Johannesburg and Pretoria. One of the speakers at the Assembly was Mr. John Trengove, described in the MRA literature as "an Advocate of Pretoria."

Mr. Trengove is a senior member of the prosecution team in the treason trial.

tee gave up: continuing to take credentials would have held up the conference for hours.

Special Branch detectives squeezed themselves into the hall and when asked to leave produced a warrant entitling them to be there. Their presence did not frighten the women. Their resolution on the anti-pass campaign, Issue Number One everywhere, denounced the extension of passes to women and the Government tricks to make women take passes, but proclaimed there are still more than one million African women who have not taken passes and pledged every effort to get the last bulwark of the freedom of African women to stand firm.

YEAR OF STRUGGLE

This year will be made a year of struggle against passes, said the resolution, and work will go on among those who have not taken passes as well as those who have.

A call went out to African men to join in the campaign.

Two dates for mighty protests were fixed in addition to general organising plans. These are June 26 and August 9, South African Women's Day.

As always, Father Martin Jarrett-Kerr hit several nails hard on the head with his opening address to conference.

The women were showing South Africa they were not afraid, he said. They did not fear what the Government was doing to them. Soon the Bantu Affairs Department would control everything in our lives.

"One day you will have to go to the pass office to get a permit to blow your nose."

On the threatened ban against mixed gatherings, he said not even the Prime Minister was going to tell him who he was going to shake hands with.

STIRRING TALES

There were stirring peaks during the afternoon session when women spoke their hearts out on passes.

A domestic servant: "We took passes without knowing what we were doing. The Government GG lorries are running through all the suburbs to issue passes. First they issue papers to our employers to force us. Give us time, we are not sitting, we are organising. We know we have a bad name."

A Lichtenburg speaker: "In Lichtenburg women were frightened Johannesburg women would not stand with them. But when you were arrested in thousands we were satisfied. Our message is 'stand firm and fight passes even when we are locked in jail.'"

A Standerton woman: "I would die rather than take a pass."

A Roodepoort speaker: "Women who have taken passes are throwing them on the streets."

A Springs woman: "We who are married are being forced now to marry passes. At the end of February in Springs we will be forced at Payneville to carry passes. I told them to go to hell."

A woman from Zeerust: "We have been murdered because of passes. Machine guns have been used against the people. I have seen people being shot. Men have been handcuffed hands and feet. I have escaped from hell at Zeerust. But there are still those in this hell who stand firm against passes."

Tears came to the eyes of some women in the hall when a small schoolgirl stood up to say her

grandmother had been to draw her old age pension and been told to take a pass or forego her pension.

Finally conference elected Mrs. Marcelle Goldberg Federation President and as the committee Mesdames Bertha Mashaba, Edna Polo, Ruth Moatsoeane, Virginia Mgoma, Hilda Walaza, Magdeline Resha, Katie Mxakato, Violet Weinberg, Helen Joseph, Mary Moodley, Rahima Moosa and Mrs. Naidoo.

3 MASS TRIALS ON 1 DAY

JOHANNESBURG.

Monday, February 2, is Mass Trial Day with a vengeance.

On that day 520 South Africans will appear in court in Ventersburg in the Free State, Johannesburg and Pretoria in three different mass trials.

TRIAL No. 1: The resumed hearing of the Treason Trial in which 30 Congress leaders are charged.

TRIAL No. 2: 200 African miners from Virginia mine are charged with public violence arising out of the disturbances there on January 6. Of the 200 miners, 29 were granted bail of £30 each but all the rest remain in jail.

TRIAL No. 3: 289 canning workers, of whom 200 are women, will appear in C court, Johannesburg charged with taking part in an illegal strike at H. Jones and Co.

UP MY ALLEY

THE other night I had occasion to find myself in the company of several local celebrities, in the lantern-lit lounge of a nearby nightery. All this was in aid of listening to Negro journalist, **Bill Gordon**, deliver himself of his impressions of the dark continent.

Flanked by an eagle-eyed **hombre from the State Department** and a gent described as a "political officer of the U.S. Embassy" **Billy boy** sailed very carefully in the middle and refused to get his feet wet.

"I am not here to say what is right and what is wrong," quoth he.

The evening went off with everything hunky-dory as far as the Westerners were concerned. The jazz played by combos headed by Messrs **George Cussel** and **Morris Goldberg** and assisted by trumpet-man **Banzi Bangani** was supposed to have been jazz as played in S.A. Instead it sounded just like jazz as it is played "back home" in the U.S.A.

Which probably proved to the happy Americans that, apart from **Coca Cola**, they have got some foothold here.

SEVERAL numbers were rendered—render meaning to tear apart.

EVEN penny-whistler **Frank Sitole** forgot that his instrument had become practically hundred-percent African, and gave with a strictly down South blues number—very beautifully played.

Music maestro **Dan Ulster's**

single item, **Liebestraum**, was **wunderbar**. It had everybody listening.

AFRICAN nationalism, said **Bill Gordon**, was running over this continent like a burst dam. The mighty flood needed to be directed into the right channels.

Warning: The Non-Whites

By **ALEX**

LA GUMA



should be careful to choose the right leaders.

He didn't mention what the right channels or leaders were.

HAVING expressed in the press his due shock at the Windermere slums, this gentleman, who is the editor of an all-Negro daily paper, left for Pretoria, where he promised he would visit that greatest tourist attraction of all—the treason trial.

Crack of the evening: **Mr. Gordon** was introduced by **Dr. van der Ross** (rhymes with bras) as "the editor of the **Atlanta Daily Worker**."

Pleasant journey, tovarisch!

Rand Bus Boycott Now In 4th Week

JOHANNESBURG.

THE protest by residents of the South West townships against paying increased bus and train fares since the opening of the new rail lines to Naledi is now in its fourth week.

Workers are still slogging it out twice a day because they cannot pay the higher fares.

As they walk representations are being made to **PUTCO**, the Mayor of Johannesburg, the Council's Non-European Affairs Department, the Transportation Board and the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

South West residents are ● Protesting against the higher train and bus fares. ● Demanding lower fares. ● Demanding that the feeder bus service from their townships to Nancefield Station be put back. **PUTCO's** licence to operate on this route was refused by the Transportation Board this year.

COSTS TOO MUCH

The trouble has come about as a result of the opening of the new rail line to Naledi and the other far out townships.

Those people living near the new rail have better transport than before but they cannot afford to pay for it. Not only are rail fares higher but people living some distance from the new stations have also to pay higher fares on new feeder bus routes.

Some workers have to pay as much as 16/2d. increase a month on combined bus and train travel. Others living nearer the station are paying an extra 8s. a month. The amounts vary, depending on the distance to be travelled.

To save precious shillings workers and washerwomen are walking between the townships of White City Jabavu, Mofolo South, Dlamini, Chiawalo and Senoane to Nancefield Station.

Feeder buses running on new routes to the new rail line are carrying only people who live close to the railway and whose fares are not so high.

'Contact' Resignations

CAPE TOWN.

Four members of the board of "Contact," the fortnightly magazine which supports Liberal Party policy, resigned their positions recently.

They are Mr. John Wilson who was chairman of the board, Mr. Jordan Ngubane and Mr. Alan Paton of Natal, and Mr. Walter Stanford M.P. of Cape Town. All are members of the Liberal Party.

The magazine is at present controlled by Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Duncan, the two remaining directors.

The reason given for the resignations was that the board was unable to function properly with so many members living far away from the head office of "Contact" in Cape Town.

A number of residents' protest meetings are being held and the South West townships are now awaiting the report of their five man deputation elected to see the authorities and carry to them the people's grievances and demands. A three-man committee of the ANC, South West region, has been elected to stand by the Committee of Five.

BASUTOLAND CONFERENCE: CORRECTION

In our report of the recent conference of the Basutoland African Congress (New Age, January 8), we stated that a resolution was passed calling for the boycott of the paper "Lentsoe la Basotho." We are advised that the conference did not call for a boycott, but passed a resolution reading as follows:

"This conference seriously objects to the £2,000 annual subsidy made by the Basutoland Government to a certain newspaper called 'Lentsoe la Basotho.' The principle of subsidising a non-Basotho private enterprise for the exploitation of the Basotho is abhorred and detested by this conference. The Government is therefore called upon to withdraw the subsidy immediately and unconditionally."



TREASON TRIAL: NEXT SESSION

"Quash Indictment," Defence Will Ask

JOHANNESBURG.

WHEN the trial of the 30 charged with High Treason resumes in Pretoria on February 2, the Defence will argue for the quashing of the indictment on the grounds that parts of it disclose no offence.

Mr. A. I. Maisels Q.C., leader of the Defence team, gave notice of this during the day and a half proceedings in Pretoria last week, after an unsuccessful application for the trial to be shifted to Johannesburg.

The judges' reasons for the refusal of the application for a change of venue are to be given later.

WORLD TRADE UNIONS PROTEST

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has written to the Prime Minister, Dr. Verwoerd, urging that he withdraw the charges against those under arrest for Treason.

The ICFTU has two reasons for its appeal: its belief in harmonious race relations; and the fact that several trade unionists are among the defendants.

After the Crown had withdrawn first against 61 accused and later its indictment against all the remaining accused, the ICFTU hoped the case was finally closed, it wrote Dr. Verwoerd. The re-opening of the case against the 30 is described as "very deplorable."

The Federation writes that it has no doubt that the case has, over the last two years, embittered a large part of public opinion outside and within South Africa and is calculated to further aggravate existing tension.

HELP SELL NEW AGE

Above: Some of the 30 treason accused arrive for the re-opening of the trial in Pretoria. From left to right: Mr. P. Selepe, Mrs. Helen Joseph, Messrs E. Tshunungwa, L. Massina, G. Sibande, J. Molefi, M. Moolala, D. Nokwe, E. P. Moretsele and R. Resha.

Below: The only two European accused in the trial of the thirty: Mrs. Helen Joseph and Mr. Leon Levy.



500 Durban Nurses Boycott Meals

DURBAN.

OVER 500 nurses employed at the King Edward Hospital have boycotted the dining hall since lunch time last Wednesday, in protest against the poor quality of food supplied to them.

Nurses interviewed by New Age stated that for some time they have been complaining to the authorities about the quality of the food supplied to them, but no heed was taken of these complaints.

Last week a group formed themselves into a campaign committee and on Tuesday hand-printed leaflets were found on all tables, dormitories and window sills, urging the nurses to boycott the dining halls. The leaflets stated that the food was "fit only for pigs."

MEMORANDUM

In a memorandum to the Hospital authorities the nurses set out the following complaints, apart from the poor quality of the food supplied:

● Galvanised cups and plates are used by the nurses. The memorandum, pointing out that these utensils are not conducive to good health, requests that they be replaced by china cups and plates already in stock.

● Nurses are not told in advance of any changes that are to be introduced in the administration of the hospital.

● The visitor's lounge is closed for the greater part of the day and a request is made for it to be opened for the whole day so that off-duty nurses can meet their friends.

The African National Congress and the Natal Indian Congress have set up a committee which is supplying food to the nurses.

UNITY

In an interview with New Age, Mr. G. M. Mbele, organiser of the African National Congress, said that he was very impressed with the unity of the nurses. Only one nurse out of over 500 had refused to join in the boycott, he added.

U.S. TAKES A NEW LOOK AT RUSSIA

U.S. political commentators, summing up the effect of Mr. Mikoyan's tour of America, are almost unanimous in agreeing that it demonstrated an intense desire among the great majority of the U.S. citizens—with the exception of the lunatic fringe of anti-communists and the U.S. Administration—for better relations with the Soviet Union.

Even 'Time' (Jan. 19) sadly reported the visit's "proof that Russia and the U.S. people could come to terms, even if the Administration could not."

Not very long ago the U.S. reception would have been far less friendly; the attempts of provocateurs to bring out street mobs would have been more successful. What are the factors which have changed the picture so dramatically?

NEW REPORTS

In two articles in recent issues of the U.S. Magazine "Political Affairs," Dr. Herbert Aptheker has listed some of the recent developments which have brought about a complete alteration in the American view of the Soviet Union. Here are some extracts from Aptheker's study:

Recently an American professor, addressing a gathering of his colleagues, said: "In just forty years of communist system they (the Soviet peoples) have literally harnessed technology to a star and galloped clear off the globe! Tell this to the starving masses who are hungry for industrialisation. Evidently communism does not stifle all that is creative. We are caught with our propaganda pants down preaching a story which the simple 'beep beep' of Sputnik so eloquently denies." (Urban Whitaker, of San Francisco State College, in 'The Western Political Quarterly', June, 1958, p. 202.)

To what measure were these 'propaganda pants' cut? By and large, they were cut in such a manner that most Americans first visiting the USSR expect to find, wrote Professor Harold J. Berman of the Harvard Law School, "barbed wire in the streets and people walking around with their heads hanging and their bodies bent." (The American Scholar, Spring 1958.)

THEY CAN'T BE

Professor Berman went on to tell of an American correspondent in Moscow in 1956 who described in a dispatch to his paper a May Day parade with the "people singing and dancing in the streets and enjoying themselves thoroughly." The editor of this paper, on the other hand, from his American office told his readers of "an embittered Russian people forced by their hated government to demonstrate in favour of a revolution which they did not want."

When the correspondent re-monstrated, and told his editor, "I was there—I saw it—they were not bitter, THEY WERE HAPPY, THEY WERE HAVING A GOOD TIME," the editor replied in effect that the Russians may have appeared happy, "but that actually they could not have been happy, in view of the evils of the system under which they live."

Adlai Stevenson, who might have been expected to be well informed about conditions, reported that his visit to the Soviet Union had "shattered his preconceptions of Soviet life."

NEW LOOK

What is the main substance of

the Sputnik-inspired "new look" by the U.S. at Soviet reality? Overall, it is one which reports the Soviet Union not as an "experiment," with all the connotations of wobbliness and impermanence that word conveys, but as a firmly established and clearly viable social order.

In addition, and this is a more recent development, there is recurring use of the Soviet Union, by American observers, as a standard against which may be measured American accomplishment! As Mrs. Roosevelt expresses it, in terms of her own enormous range of experience: "It seems inevitable in any meeting nowadays that someone will compare what is being done in the Soviet Union in any area of discussion." (New York Post, Oct. 23, 1958.)

THE ECONOMY

The influential syndicated columnist Walter Lippman reported: "The growth of the Soviet economy has been amazing." The New York Post columnist, Marquis Child wrote from Moscow. "It could well be that nothing on such a scale and so

WORLD STAGE

By Spectator

concentrated in time has occurred before."

The Christian Science Monitor reminded its readers "that thirty years ago, when pre-World War I levels had been essentially restored, the Soviet Republic ranked among the backward countries of the world, ahead of China and India, but on a level lower than any other major European nation." Then, with the era of the Five-Year Plans, began a collective effort "which has skyrocketed Russia from one of the most backward of countries to the number two industrial giant of the world."

Representatives of the U.S. steel industry, then the aluminium industry came back surprised. So did a uranium expert. An official of the U.S. Department of Forestry came back to report that even in growing trees the Soviet was ahead.

Most astonishing, Chester Bowles reported that: "Since 1953 the Soviet Union has even provided more capital than we have to assist the economic development of Asia and Africa, not including Soviet aid to China."

Soviet loans on generous terms have been flowing into Afghanistan, India, Egypt, Syria, Burma, Indonesia, and elsewhere and trade is being rapidly expanded with these and many other countries. The Soviet economic assistance programme to Syria, negotiated in 1957, was larger than the current American-aid programme for the whole Middle East put together.

WELL AHEAD

Edward L. Allen, economic adviser of the Central Intelligence Agency, in a "confidential briefing session" of leading American capitalists (later made public) told his worried audience that in certain significant items—such as machine tools and cement—Soviet production was already well ahead of American.

In an address delivered at West Point last November, William C. Foster, formerly Deputy Secretary of Defence, said: "A comparison of the rate of indus-

trial growth of the Soviet Union over the last 25 years shows it to have been about twice our own rate over the same period."

EDUCATION

Mrs. Agnes E. Meyer, testifying before the House Education and Labour Committee in April, stated that the "true reason" for the sweep forward of the USSR, was the Communists' "faith that cultivation of the human mind is the greatest single source of power."

She pointed out that while "to be sure the Russians emphasise science," they did so "against a background of history, literature, language and geography" that was quite as thorough. (Mrs. Meyer's quite remarkable testimony is printed in The Congressional Record, April 29.)

SCIENCE

The change in the U.S. picture of Soviet Science since the launching of Sputnik is not necessary to document. Here there has been the most dramatic revolution in U.S. thought. The swing is almost to the other extreme—the people are willing to believe Soviet science capable of almost anything.

MEDICINE

The U.S. people now know from their press that in the mortality rate the USSR stands superior to the United States; in longevity it has caught up with the United States; in the number of doctors in proportion to the population it is now far ahead of the United States.

Similar revelations have been made about Soviet housing, clothing and food.

Aptheker thinks that Soviet prowess in sport "has probably had as much impact on American public opinion as have the revelations concerning science, technique and education." Sports Illustrated, owned by Time magazine, devoted almost a whole issue to Soviet sport, coming to the conclusion that the reason for the great achievements of Soviet sportsmen was that there is "a considerable amount of leisure time resulting from the eight-hour day, (he neglects to mention that the seven-hour day is being introduced very widely, and that even the six-hour day, as at the Lenin Steel Mills in Uzbekistan, has begun to appear), a passion for mass activity, and excellent facilities available at no cost."

CHILDREN

Even the Soviet children are reported to be better than their U.S. counterparts. Dr. Milton J. E. Senn, director of the Child Study Centre at Yale University, who went to the Soviet Union "expecting the worst" and who turned extremely sceptical eyes on everything he was shown, finally had to report that the children "seem to fear no one." They are "good-humoured, easy-going, carefree and friendly." They are "remarkably well behaved," they play together very well, "they never seem to whine; they cry only when they hurt themselves, and then only briefly." They are warm, spontaneous, polite and generous.

He quotes with manifest approval the remark made to him by a Soviet journalist: "It is not true that we are a classless society. We have a privileged class—the children."

The Yale professor in his own words states: "There can be no doubt that the Russians cherish and pamper their children. . . . In the State nursery schools, in the orphan homes, the babies are surrounded by warmth, affection, (Continued in next column)



THE THAW. Glan Williams in the News Chronicle.

Arrested Women Shorn Of All Their Hair

Growing Volume of Complaints From Natal Reserves

DURBAN.

THE sufferings of the people in the reserves were intolerable and conditions were daily getting worse, speakers told a mass meeting organised by the Natal African National Congress Youth League last week. About 600 people attended.

A ricksha puller brought tears into the eyes of many when he spoke of the hardships undergone by his people.

UNBELIEVABLE

"I have just returned from home

and what I have to say to you may be unbelievable," he said. "The people are starving. The government and its police are attacking our people with a viciousness that they have never experienced before."

"Women arrested for trivial offences are shorn of all their hair and conditions are becoming worse each day," he said.

Appealing to the African National Congress to give urgent attention to organising the people in the reserves, he said:

"Unless something is done very soon there can quite easily be a bloodbath in some areas."

"Nobody wants this, but the Government is forcing it on the people by their harsh actions," he concluded.

Mr. Moses Mabhida, the Chairman of the meeting, said that the A.N.C. was paying urgent attention to the problems that were raised at the meeting and that special rural committees had been set up to go fully into the complaints of the people in the reserves.

CINEMA BAN

Speakers also strongly condemned the Government's ban on Africans attending cinemas.

Mr. A. Janyile, a member of the Youth League, told the meeting that certain individuals were spreading a rumour that the Indian cinema owners were responsible for the ban imposed by the Government.

"This is a base lie," he said. "Why should the owners want to bar Africans from attending the cinemas when such a large proportion of their income is derived from the African cinema-goer?" he asked.

"Obviously the people responsible for this rumour want to divert the attention of the people affected from the real culprits who are responsible for the ban. Who else is responsible but the Nationalist Government which has imposed such hardships on our people as Bantu Authorities, passes, Bantu Education and a host of other apartheid laws," he said.

TAX DEFIANCE

Many speakers suggested that rather than pay the increase in taxes the Africans would go to jail. Several speakers also condemned those who had already paid such increased taxes.

(Continued from previous col.) school buildings maintenance tax, a threatened tax to erect Bantu Authorities offices, and then the usual heavy fines for stock trespass on the pasturage.

"Ten goats of mine went through the fence there," said an old man pointing, "and for that I got back 1/6 change from £4."

HEAVY HAND

Public meetings are now unknown except those convened by the Native Commissioner or his petty official. If anybody should ask a question, the Native Commissioner clamps down on him with a heavy hand and demands to know if he is a headman. He orders him to sit down and to put his question through the headman.

Then a sullen stooge rises to sing the praises of the Native Commissioner to hasten the closing of the meeting and the issuing of liquor permits.

'THE PEOPLE ARE DYING'

Land, Stock Taken From Transkei Peasants

From Govan Mbeki PORT ELIZABETH.

IN the Transkei today from some the land is taken away; from others it is their stock. On all are imposed new, intolerable and unexplained taxes. There is a complete denial of the right to meet and to speak even at meetings convened by the Government officials. Power, brutal naked power, is being used by the officials of the BAD to compel peasant women and disabled men to implement the Bantu Authorities Act.

With fiendish thoroughness the Nationalist Government is carrying out the process of dispossession and is compelling more and more people to look to work on the farms as the only means of making a livelihood. Recently an order has been issued in the Transkei that people who have arable allotments but have no stock are to forfeit such allotments. On the other hand those who own stock and have no arable allotment are to be denied the privilege to graze such stock

(Continued from previous col.)

and the most patient and kindly attention. In the individual family the child gets an even more personal brand of tender, loving care."

And in spite of the ardour with which the press still talks of the prevalence of a juvenile delinquent problem in the USSR, the U.S. experts were unable to detect it. The U.S. Commission of Education reported "there does not seem to be much juvenile delinquency," while prostitution has been wiped out almost completely.

The development of Soviet cultural activities is another factor which has been an eye-opener to the Americans.

COLD WAR

But although the U.S. public has now been given a new picture of the Soviet Union and is ready for friendship and co-operation, American leaders have not yet changed their approach. They still talk in the terms of the cold war.

Here lies the magnificent timing of Mr. Mikoyan's visit. It has focused attention on the rift between the people of America and the people who rule America. And it may have done so early enough to make those rulers think twice before they take a stride over the brink of sanity into war.

on the communal pasturage. In the past these landless people have always supplemented their meagre wages by ploughing the lands of those who have no stock. In payment they have always been allowed the use of a portion of the allotment for themselves.

MIDDLE CLASS

In the Ciskei the land that is taken away from the poorer peasants is given to the more well-to-do. Thus as in the case of the traders whom they plan to compromise with loans from the Bantu Investment Corporation, the Nats are hoping to create a middle class that benefits from the insulation of the Africans in the reserves.

At the same time they are creating a ruling aristocracy of corrupt appointed chiefs to whom the middle class of traders and professional men on the one hand, and the downright poor peasants and the downcast on the other, are to be subjected.

To ensure that even those who have arable land are not altogether independent, about half of the arable allotment averaging 8 acres is not to be used.

DISPOSSESSED SETTLEMENTS

In anticipation of the large numbers who are to be rendered completely dependent on wages the BAD is establishing settlements for the dispossessed on some of the Trust farms. On these settlements none will be allowed to keep even a milk cow. The families will depend entirely on wages from their menfolk who are to be the chief source of mine and farm labour. The land-holding peasants are told that these settlements are going to be the market for the disposal of their surplus produce.

One of these settlements is being established about ten miles out of Kingwilliamstown, while others are taking shape on Trust farms around Umtata. Also the first work colony has been established in the Kingwilliamstown district. Here boys drawn from the urban locations are being trained to take up work on the farms.

Since a pre-requisite for the execution of this plan is the implementation of the Betterment Areas Scheme, the agricultural wing of the BAD is working overtime to bludgeon the unwilling peasants into approving their fencing schemes. Locations that

"BLOOD SUCKER" TAX

In order to know the amount of dissatisfaction among the peasants and the misery that accompanies the cruel implementation of the Nationalist decrees one has only to ask: "how are you?" Then the tale begins:

"We are going through a difficult time . . . we go to sleep without a meal . . . the people are dying at an unprecedented rate . . . the whites demand taxes . . . among the latest the heaviest is Impundulu (Blood Sucker) . . . the white man's Government!"

Impundulu is supposed to be a witch's big bird that kills its victim by sucking its blood. The loss of weight and anaemic condition of TB cases is usually attributed to the invisible activities of this fearful bird.

So aptly have the people named the 10/- Tax which is described in official documents as a General Levy. The people do not know its purpose, but the officials use all sorts of methods to compel the people to pay it, and, as with other taxes, failure to pay it on time involves the payment of 2/6 Messenger's fees. Men are granted permits to buy liquor on condition the Blood Sucker Tax has been paid. Before a man can be attended to at the Native Commissioner's Offices he must produce a receipt. One official told New Age that the purpose of the tax was to raise funds for the payment of the salaries of the large army of Bantu Authorities officials.

OTHER TAXES

Of the smaller taxes there is the 2/9 tax levied to raise funds for the erection of an orthopaedic hospital near Umtata. There are in addition to these and the poll tax of £1 15s. 0d., the hut tax 10/-, or quitrent, minimum 15/-, stock rates averaging 2/- per herd, (Continued in next column)



Trade unionist Mr. John Gaetsiwe urges young people to join trade unions.

POLICE SEIZE SPEECH AT YOUTH RALLY

JOHANNESBURG. SPECIAL Branch men caused a commotion at the Newclare rally of the African National Congress Youth League last Sunday when they seized the written copy of the speech by Mr. Vic Goldberg.

The Transvaal Youth League president, Mr. S. Segale, made a strong appeal for calm.

Speakers at the rally warned the Minister of Justice and his police to accede to the popular demand for the dropping of the treason case.

Dr. D. Munga said to continue with the case was to carry the blundering even further. Not only should the case be dropped "but the gossily incompetent so-called Minister of Justice should go with it... not only the Minister, but the whole Nationalist Party must go with him."

Mr. Goldberg made a fiery attack on the threatened ban on mixed gatherings.

The rally passed resolutions that

● Congratulated the African women in their struggle against passes.

● Saluted the democratic gains of the people of Basutoland as a step forward to the defeat of imperialist reaction.

● Condemned the brutal way in which Congo Africans had been treated by the police.

Workers Arrested

(Continued from page 1)

289 workers are some husbands with their wives, and mothers with their daughters.

Their first night in custody the workers spent singing Congress and union songs.

ENTHUSIASM

The road in front of the Fort was the scene of high enthusiasm when the workers were eventually bailed out late on Friday afternoon. The men were released first but merged with the crowd of women as they came out of the doors of the Women's Jail and the workers blocked the street as they greeted or another watched by passers by and workers on the hospital rooftops.

Many of the workers live in Newclare and the Newclare branch of the African National Congress had a lorry waiting outside the Fort to take the workers home. The rest marched singing to the station.

The workers are being prosecuted under the Native Settlement of Dispute Act for taking part in an illegal strike. The case will begin on February 2 in C Court.

● Condemned the threatened ban on mixed gatherings and the exclusion of Africans from Non-European cinemas.

● Called for full support of the Congress campaign to recruit 20,000 trade unionists this year, and to back the workers' demand for £1 a day.

● Condemned the racialism of the Africanists and pledged full support to the policy of the ANC under the leadership of Chief Lutuli.

CHILD VICTIMS

(Continued from page 1)

the evening before the removal was due to come into effect and told that all his grades and standard one pupils were to move the following morning from the school they attended in Newclare to one in Sophiatown.

These tots, some only five years old, have to walk past the Western Areas beerhall, over the dangerous main road and across the busy tram line and then to school. Parents have tried to escort them to school since the move, but even then three small children got lost the first day and were found wandering along the tram lines. Other parents are carrying their children to school in bicycle carriers.

BREACH OF FAITH

The parents have told the West Rand School Board that this shuffling about of their children is a breach of the undertaking given them that the beginners would be permitted to remain at the Newclare Coloured School.

They are pressing that the classes transferred to the Sophiatown Coloured school be moved back to Newclare and a double school session started. Pre-fabricated buildings could be erected and church and other premises built for overflow classes, says the parents' memorandum.

Parents have met several times in the last week to discuss plans for action on this issue, and feeling against the School Board authorities for their callous handling of the matter is running high.

ORDERS FROM ABOVE

The school authorities have let slip that the orders to send Indian school children twenty miles out to Lenz—where there are three schools but only about 75 Indian families, apart from the barracks—come from high-up quarters in the government in Pretoria.

The Indian people have never accepted Lenasia as a group area so the Government is trying to put pressure on them to do so by using their young children.

KING KONG

At Rehearsal With JENNY JOSEPH

WE'VE heard a lot about the story of King Kong. What about the story of the story? Far fetched? Hardly, when you consider what goes into a show like this.

It seems a long while ago now since a group of people listened in a suburban studio to Todd Matshikwi fiddling out tunes on a piano.

"You see, on one side you could have a gym and while this practising was going on—"

"Yes, I see it" Arthur Goldreich's head was bursting with visions; "yes, and a bicycle, like this."

"It grew in those days, about a year ago, ya, just after Harry had left for Cape Town," Todd told me, "just by talking, and feeling the story. We'd talk, piling up the ideas, discussing backwards and forwards, and that's how I wrote the music. Gee, it was great then."

SHEBEEN VISIT

One of the urgent expeditions in those days was to take Pat Williams, the lyric writer, to a shebeen. Even those who knew her talent were amazed the way she caught on to that side.

There were many organisational vicissitudes. More than one person threatened to walk out more than once.

But what's happening to it now?

"I'm more enthusiastic now" Arthur said when I met him at rehearsal the other night. "What I didn't realise then, when we were working out the ideas Todd and Harry Bloom had started up about six months before, is that you can create characters that are not really real until you work with people. I enjoy every single second of the people."

He had never done sets before "but," he emphasised, "I know the townships and the people. I know what a township house is and what it means to the people."

Various off-stage dramas occur with this enormous cast and even greater army of "executive aids." Going home the other night three were arrested for having no night passes—Gwigwi

Mrwebi, in the cast and band, and secretary of the Union of Southern African Artists, Jonas Gwangwa, the trombonist, and a teacher. Gwigwi was pulled out of his car to show his pass. They were in no mood to entertain the Mayfair police with snatches of "King Kong" for the three hours they waited in the cop shop.

Penny whistles have been pinched. Penny whistlers' little feet cut, not in gang warfare, this, but on broken bottles. The sound of soft drink bottles being knocked over on the concrete floor is an accompaniment to any rehearsal.

EXCITING

But what happens off-stage is sometimes as exciting as the words of the show:

"Honey, can you, really get me a special pair of white shoes size 7½?" in a passionate whisper.

Someone is telephoning amid thirty shoulder pads, balls of string and shreds of an old fur: "The record company wants an anthology of the lyrics we have recorded." Spike Glaser, the musical director gets up from the floor: "Nothing as big as this before. We've built it all up round the music. Oh yes, of course there were difficulties, but if I look dead beat it still drives me crazy with pleasure, this show. Yes, mental exhilaration, that's it."

Plaintively, across the silence that Leon Gluckman, the producer, has managed to command, comes the heart cry: "When are you going to tell me about the parasols?"

"Now these blades are bloody lethal so be careful. We're using props to-night. What's happened to the bicycle? Taken away? Now, isn't that charming?" And with barbed patience, Gluckman starts again.

Meanwhile First Night Committees are meeting at rendezvous in town; all sorts of people have been persuading all sorts of factories to give all sorts of things; costume crisis meetings have been survived—"No she's 34." "She's down here as 36." "34. Sure of it."

The Union, with tall efficient

modest men on the "finance side" who have been doing an enormous amount of slogging background work, arranged that the Jazz Dazzlers should be joined by five others to form the band.

Most people have learnt something from "King Kong." For instance Sol Klaaste, the pianist, says he's never had a chance to do anything in the way of scoring before and he hopes to do more in the future.

A STEP FORWARD

And Miriam Makeba, in spite of her long stage experience has never done anything like this before. Miriam has been singing all her life, but from entertaining friends at home to becoming leading lady in "King Kong" is a far stride that took years of hard work as well as a soaring golden voice. "I'm just beginning to feel Joyce," she said, "but I've not become a drinker because she's a Shebeen Queen."

Someone asked me "What do you think?"

"It will be a success." "Yes, but what's the secret?"

"First, the music; second the production—you can't present such an enormously complicated show without really tight producing; third, enthusiasm—look at them."

Sabra Holds Talks

(Continued from page 1)

keeping some contact with Non-White journalists and picked individuals.

The U.S.A. cover up for its colour bar operating in South Africa is that unlike the Russians they don't want to infringe the country's liquor laws and meeting Non-Whites would embarrass them in the light of the Nationalist Government's clearly stated policy.

That sounds like a point, maybe, this anxiety of the U.S. representatives not to get embroiled in local politics.

But then how explain this latest news, that of all political groups the Africanists should be in the position to get facilities for holding highly delicate political talks on the premises of the United States Information Service?

Nothing could embroil the U.S.A. more in local politics and spread the suspicion that far from being disinterested observers, some United States officials are more deeply involved and taking sides than they would like people to know.

ARID DISCUSSION

As for the SABRA meeting with the Africanists, the six men present from that body and the group of professors hived off into a rather arid discussion of who were really indigenous people to South Africa and how the country might be partitioned, and then the discussion seemed to get somewhat bogged down.

Another meeting is said to be in the offing, with the possibility that next time a leading NAD official might be drawn in.

VERWOERD ANGRY

On the other hand, it is rumoured that Premier Verwoerd is highly displeased with the publicity these talks have been getting, and may take drastic steps to curb the initiative of the SABRA professors.

Verwoerd has openly snubbed Prof. L. J. du Plessis, the Potchefstroom professor who has advocated talks with ANC leaders. Now it is believed he may move against other SABRA men who are more closely identified with Nationalist policies.

Non-Whites Shocked by Areas Plan For Simonstown

CAPE TOWN.

PLANS for the division of Simonstown under the Group Areas Act have caused widespread concern among residents there and the Group Areas Action Committee is preparing for organised protests against any proposals of racial separation.

The Group Areas Board intends investigating two main areas for occupation by Europeans only.

The first is the entire section from Seaforth to beyond the Simonstown railway station, including all shops and businesses on the main road. The second is mainly the existing white area at Glencairn.

But the Indian traders in Simonstown will suffer most if the plans are put into effect, for the Board is investigating a proposal that they should be confined to a small area, now vacant land, in Dido Valley. This area is undeveloped and the Indian population sees economic ruin if they are forced to move from their existing premises mostly in the main road and St. George's Street.

Two areas are to be investigated for occupation by White or Coloured people—what is known as the Malay quarter and a

smaller area which includes a Coloured school.

This has caused consternation among the Moslem community who have been living in the Malay quarter for generations.

Interviewed by New Age, Imam Baker, a leader of the community, said that strong protests would be made to the Government against any changes in the areas.

"The Malay people have lived here for many years and it will be a terrible thing if we find that we suddenly have to give up our homes. We intend making strong representations to the Government about this matter."

An Indian shopkeeper in St. George's Street said: "I have been trading here for years without objections from Europeans. In fact most of my customers are Europeans. If I have to move to the tiny area being investigated for Indians it will mean the finish of my business."

The Group Areas Action Committee which has been campaigning against the Act in the Peninsula is making preparations for an intensive campaign in Simonstown in order to muster strong opposition against any plans to carve up the town.



**"Bongo, Bongo, Bongo,
I don't wanna leave the Congo."**
With acknowledgments to Eccles.

After Batista—Will Argentina's Frondizi Be Next?

THE spotlight in South America is shifting from Cuba, where the new government is making the fascist torturers of the Batista regime pay for their bestiality, to Argentina, where the government of Arturo Frondizi faces growing popular opposition as it sells the country once more to U.S. imperialism.

The big businessmen of the U.S. and Western Europe have faith in the Frondizi government, and they are pouring money into the country in the confident hope of drawing out huge profits—but then they had the same confidence in the stability of Batista.

Frondizi was elected last year, with the support of the Peronists and of progressives, on a platform which promised the defence of democracy and independence from U.S. imperialism.

NEW DEAL PROMISED

On May Day last year Frondizi announced a popular programme of industrialisation and the improvement of the conditions of the workers, which met with nationwide enthusiasm.

The two most important planks of Frondizi's programme were the fullest possible exploitation of the nation's natural resources and the collaboration of all sections of the population, regardless of their past political affiliation.

The policy of full industrialisation and the massive economic reconstruction aroused the intense opposition of the so-called GORILLAS, the land-owners who find their main support among the armed forces and the Roman Catholic Church. They are traditionally opposed to the industrialisation of the country which would severely undermine their own social and economic status, based on the export of agricultural raw materials.

INVITED IMPERIALISTS

Instead of mobilising working class support, and pushing forward with an independent policy of industrialisation—a policy far easier of fulfilment than before, with the socialist countries in a position to offer assistance without strings—Frondizi made sweeping concessions to foreign capitalists

at the expense of the Argentine people.

As prices rose and living conditions fell, a wave of discontent swept the country. Workers in industry after industry came out on strike.

Deeply committed to guarding the foreign investments he had encouraged, Frondizi sold out completely.

He launched a fierce attack last November on the Communists and the Peronists who still have considerable support in the trade unions.

"EMERGENCY"

Frondizi ordered a state of national emergency. Thousands of Peronists and Communists were taken into custody all over the country. The days of political prisoners—which the President had sworn were gone forever—are back again.

Strikes are now illegal, the jails are once again filled with political prisoners and the country is in ferment. As his reward Frondizi has won the full support of the armed forces, the landowners, the Church, and the U.S. Government.

But it is the people of Argentina who will decide the issue—and all the indications are that they are preparing to do battle.

AFRICA

CONGO REVOLT WINS QUICK PROMISE OF INDEPENDENCE

But New Constitution Is Designed For Continued Imperialist Control

BELGIUM has announced a programme for the granting of limited democracy in the Belgian Congo following the recent popular revolt there which brought Belgian colonial shares crashing by between 8 per cent and 10 per cent on the stock markets.

Until now the Belgian policy of complete and rigid suppression of political activity has been effective in spite of several carefully hushed-up revolts. Colonial powers have looked with envy on this "oasis of stability in an otherwise disorderly continent" (London Times 7/1/59). But now in the new era of the liberation movement symbolised by the Accra Pan-African Conference, the suppression of African political activity is no longer possible.

EFFECT OF ACCRA

Accra was of more than indirect importance. The Congo was re-

presented there by Mr. Diomi, one of the leaders of the Abako liberatory organisation, and mayor of the Ngiri-Ngiri quarter of Leopoldville, and he placed before the Conference the demand for independence in the Congo. He, with most of the other Abako leaders, is now in prison.

The Africans in the Congo are fortunate in that they face an opponent far weaker than Britain and France.

Belgium is a small country without the military resources to fight a prolonged colonial war in the Belgian Congo. For her, warfare on the scale of that in Algeria or even in Cyprus, is out of the question.

Very swiftly after the Congo revolt—which was temporarily crushed with typical imperialist brutality, paratroopers going into action and taking 400 lives—the Belgian government published plans which it had prepared well in advance. These aimed at retaining Belgian economic power and the huge profits drawn from the Congo, by granting political concessions.

NEW PLAN

Prime Minister Gaston Eyskens, a right-winger of the Social-Christian (Catholic) party, announced that the Congo would become "a democracy capable of deciding its independence," by instituting elections and a "skeleton" Parliament.

Local elections will be held for African councillors in towns and most rural areas by the end of 1959. These will elect in 1960 provincial councils to form the "skeleton" of a Chamber of Representatives.

"Belgium intends to organise in the Congo a democracy capable of exercising the prerogatives of sovereignty and of deciding its independence. The realisation of this final objective will be pursued without stopping and with the collaboration of all the in-

habitants of the Congo. The power of decision will progressively be left to them in ever wider fields," he said.

"BONDS OF ASSOCIATION"

Mr. Eyskens said that after the Congo had developed politically it would be desirable that "bonds of Association" should be maintained between the Congo and Belgium. "Our two countries will decide its form freely at that moment," he said.

The new communal and rural councillors will be elected by universal suffrage, and the inhabitants of the Congo will have equality of rights and duties. These councillors, together with the existing city councillors will elect the majority of the provincial councillors and, later, general councillors.

The Prime Minister said that a "General Council of the Congo," a "skeleton" Chamber of Representatives, would take the place of the present government council. Parallel to the General Council a Legislative Council or "skeleton" Senate, would be created.

This body will be composed partly of members elected by provincial councils and partly by appointees, as in the present colonial council whose place it will take.

From March, 1959, each of the provincial councils will nominate two councillors to sit on the Legislative Council. The General and Legislative Councils will have joint powers of legislation and decision that the law will progressively grant them.

Limited though they are, these reforms are of considerable importance, and show that the Belgian imperialists have learnt a great deal from the disastrous policy followed by their Dutch neighbours in Indonesia, where, by trying greedily to hold everything, they lost everything.

The Belgians have even been astute enough to make no attempt to include in the reforms the entertainment of racial discrimina-

tion. Unlike the British constitution for Kenya, the new Congo Constitution will give the Whites no political privileges.

NO APARTHEID

As the Manchester Guardian (January 14) pointed out: "Apartheid is ruled out; so is 'partnership' in the sense of two racial groups co-operating only as distinct groups. This is stiff medicine for the settlers to take; and it may be largely for this reason that the King, whose authority they are less likely to dispute than the Government's, took his part in the declaration of national policy."

GETS RESULTS

The Belgian Premier was careful to stress that for neighbouring Ruanda-Urundi, also controlled by Belgium the reforms did not apply. There had been no revolt there.

Guinea Moves on French

Forces from the former colony of Guinea invaded a French military camp and the former gendarmes in the Guinea capital of Conakry recently.

They comprised gendarmes and policemen armed with sub-machine guns, and led by a representative of the Minister of the Interior.

They forcibly evicted civilian staff—all of them Africans and nearly all natives of Guinea—in a nine and a half hour operation.

The camp and the former gendarmes building housed French troops who were liquidating French affairs there, and civilian staff of the French mission in Conakry. The civilians evicted were regrouped in other accommodation.

MIDDLE EAST

Syrian Land

Distribution Muddle Illustrates Defect in Egypt-Syria Federal System

THE Syrian Minister of Agrarian Reform, Mustafa Hamdoun, has issued a decree for the distribution among the landless peasantry of about 35,000 acres of land belonging to 39 big landowners. Compensation will be paid to the landowners.

This is the third decree of its kind, and brings the total of land confiscated so far under the Syrian land reform programme to slightly over one million acres, affecting more than 80 landowners.

The first distribution of confiscated land is due to take place on February 1, the anniversary of the declaration of Syrian-Egyptian union.

The plan for redistribution however has been much criticised by all sections of Syrian opinion. It was drawn up by Cairo experts

without adequate consultation with Congress and is based on the Egyptian redistribution programme which was evolved under conditions different from those in Syria.

UNWORKABLE

The criticism comes not only from the right-wingers, who wish to abrogate any redistribution scheme, but also from the left, which claims that in its present form the plan is unworkable, the land allocated being too small to be worked economically.

The conflict which has arisen is an illustration of the shortcomings of the form of unity adopted by Egypt and Syria which, instead of being based on true federal principle, placed all power in Egypt's hands. (See New Age, Jan. 15.)

TOIVO EXILED TO OVAMBOLAND

WINDHOEK.

MR. Herman Toivo Ja Toivo, who was arrested in Tsumeb, S.W.A., earlier this month, has been sent to Ovamboland under police escort and told that he will not be able to leave there again.

A letter written by Mr. Toivo from the Tsumeb jail (New Age January 8) said that he had been arrested for trespassing on nine property and later had been told by the magistrate that he would be removed to Ovamboland under escort.

New Age now learns from a correspondent in South West Africa that Mr. Toivo was hauled on to a bus and taken to Ovamboland by the police. In Ovamboland he was told by the Native Commissioner that he would not be allowed to leave the area again.

TRIED BY CHIEF

The Native Commissioner then sent for the chief to whom Mr. Toivo was handed over for trial as a "troublesome man, a rebel against them who was aiming at taking over the leadership of the tribe."

"At the chief's kraal I was tried," Mr. Toivo told our correspondent, "but it seemed that the Chief found me not guilty. Nevertheless, perhaps to please the authorities, I am not allowed to go to my own kraal and have been placed under the supervision of one Kambuta."

He was supposed to appear before the Native Commissioner on January 15.

APPEAL TO M.P.s

Mr. Toivo has asked the African representatives, Mrs. Bllinger and Mr. L. B. Lee-Warde, to raise the matter in the House of Assembly.

Before being deported to Ovamboland, Mr. Toivo spent several days in jail at Tsumeb. When the time came for his removal to Ovamboland he was asked to sign a receipt for the return of his property taken when he was arrested, but he refused to sign because his pass was not among the articles handed back to him.

CHEEKY

"They then told me that I was cheeky," Mr. Toivo said, and the next day he was brought before the magistrate.

"This time the magistrate ac-

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cusied me of attempting to break jail. The man in charge of the prison supported him, saying that I had spent the night banging the doors of the cell. The magistrate then said I was supposed to be in prison for having left for Cape Town without authority and that he would send me to Grootfontein jail if I did not obey his orders. I said I only wanted my pass back and refused to sign the receipt unless it was returned to me with the rest of my property.

"The magistrate then told me that the pass had been in his possession and he had sent it to the Chief Native Commissioner in

Windhoek because it was not in order.

TOLD TO RECORD

"He added that I should tape-record everything, the treatment I got in Tsumeb, conditions in jail, that there was no justice in Tsumeb and that the people are sometimes sent to jail without trial; and send all this to the United Nations. I was then sent back to prison until January 5 when I was brought to Ovamboland."

Mr. Toivo, acting through friends, has also taken legal opinion on his treatment in South West Africa.

Higher Taxes Mean Starvation and Death

ANC Conference Protests

CAPE TOWN.

THE increase in taxes for Africans and their extension to women would mean an increase in malnutrition and infant mortality, said a resolution adopted at the annual conference of the Cape Western ANC held last Sunday.

The conference was attended by a large number of delegates from all over the western Cape, including Paarl, Worcester and George. 47 observers also attended.

UNITED FRONT

"Let us make 1959 a special anti-apartheid year," said the report by the Executive. "Let us forge a great united front of all enemies of apartheid which will deliver the final knockout blow to oppression."

Resolutions discussed at the conference called on the African people in the Cape to intensify the struggle against the pass laws, condemned the increase in African taxation and the deportation of African leaders, and demanded the dropping of the treason trial.

BOYCOTT

The resolution on the economic boycott reiterated the decision of the national conference in Durban calling for the implementation of the boycott of all Nationalist controlled products and said that "the decision of the Pan-African Conference held in Accra to boycott all South African products indicated that many countries, dependent and independent, the world over are on our side."

The conference was opened by Mr. J. A. La Guma, president of the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, and messages of support were received from the C.O.D., the Black Sash, S.A.C.T.U. and the Civil Rights League.

Mr. Zolly Malindi was re-elected president of the Western Cape, Mr. S. Makheta, secretary, and Mr. A. Sibeko, treasurer.

Other members of the executive are Messrs. B. Huna, and J. Morolong.

Indians and Chinese Banned from Athlone Cinemas

CAPE TOWN.

FOLLOWING Golding's petition to the Group Areas Board asking for the exclusion of Indians and Chinese from an Indian-owned cinema in Athlone, the Board has now applied the ban to all cinemas in that area.

The petition was submitted ostensibly to protect the interests of the owner of the Regent Cinema, but this cinema will also now have to refuse admission to Non-Coloured patrons.

A sign outside this cinema says: "We regret that owing to a Government proclamation we will not be able to issue tickets to our Indian, Chinese and African patrons who have supported us in the past."

Africans have been banned from Coloured cinemas under a previous Group Areas proclamation.

ANC Plans Anti-Pass Campaign

JOHANNESBURG.

The African National Congress announced here last week that it has set up an Anti-Pass Laws Planning Council to direct the struggle against the pass laws and tax increases; and also an Economic Boycott Planning Committee to recommend ways of furthering the economic boycott campaign.

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SPORTS ASSOCIATION

THE South African Sports Association's epoch-making conference which took place in Durban recently was a huge success, except that most of the national bodies were not directly represented. The reason for this may be that many national tournaments were taking place in various parts of the country at the time.

First of all the steering committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. I. Haffeejee, did an excellent job in making all the preliminary arrangements, in addition to submitting a draft constitution and attending to many other duties required of such an undertaking.

Now the Sports Association has become a reality with headquarters in Port Elizabeth for a period of two years. Most gratifying is the fact that Mr. Dennis Brutus is its Secretary, from whom much is expected, for only now does the work begin in the struggle for international recognition and the elimination of race discrimination in sports. And no one knows this task better than Mr. Brutus, who has built up a very big contact overseas with leading personalities, who have thrown in their lot with us in this fight.

RESOLUTIONS

Many resolutions were taken, chief of which were (1) seeking international recognition with full status; (2) deploring the S.A. Bantu Athletic Association's affiliation to the White National body, thus accepting subservient status and harming the cause; (3) condemning tours to and from South Africa on the basis of racial discrimination, such as Worrell's West Indies team which is due here in November, and calling on the S.A. Cricket Board and Mr. Worrell to cancel the tour; (4) noting with satisfaction the refusal of the I.T.T. Federation's refusal to recognise any barriers of race, colour or creed, and congratulating this body for recognising the S.A. Table Tennis Board (non-racial) as truly representative of this country; (5) that S.A.S.A. submits a comprehensive memorandum to the International Olympic Committee, who have asked for a full report on the South African situation. All national bodies were asked to supply relevant data for inclusion in the memorandum; (6) "that this conference believes that it is the inherent right of every South African to compete on merit for the right to represent S.A. in international sport and calls on all organisations controlling international sports to afford representation only to bodies truly representative of all South Africans."

Mr. Brutus further informs me that his body will take active steps to implement the resolutions passed, and already he has contacted the Board of Control and Mr. Worrell to call off the tour of the all-black West Indies team.

This issue has caused an uproar overseas as well, with men like Dr. Cheddi Jagan and MacDonald Bailey campaigning bitterly against the tour.

As "World Sports" in a report from the West Indies states, the team will be expected to acknowledge South Africa's apartheid laws, play "Coloured-only teams" and stay in "Coloured-only" hotels.

Published by Real Printing & Publishing Co. (Pty.) Ltd., 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty.) Ltd., Shelley Road, Salt River. This paper is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations. New Age offices: Cape Town: Room 20, 6 Barrack Street, Phone 2-3787. Johannesburg: 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street, Phone 22-4626. Durban: 703 Lodson House, 118 Grey Street, Phone 6-8897. Port Elizabeth: 8 Court Chambers, 128 Adderley Street, Phone 48617.

HANIF MOHAMMED'S FEAT.

Soon after I announced in this column that Hanif Mohammed, Pakistan's great batting prodigy, holds the world title for the longest innings—973 minutes (see New Age 8.1.59), he turned in another meritorious achievement, breaking Don Bradman's 29-year-old record by scoring 499 run out (not 'not-out' as erroneously reported in some papers).

This world record was achieved in a provincial match between Karachi and Bahawalpur, which is rated as a first class game, just like the county matches in England or the inter-provincial Currie Cup games of this country.

Prior to this, Sir Donald Bradman had held the record with 452 not out in an Inter-State game in 1929.

It was pleasing to note that this self-same player was one of the first to send his congratulations to young 23-year-old Hanif.

With many more years of cricket ahead of him, it is more than likely that we may see Hanif in action against our own players, either here or in Pakistan, for it is mooted that a team from this country will definitely be touring India and Pakistan either in 1961 or 1962.

By the end of the year we shall be seeing in action the other Non-White world test record holder, Garfield Sobers, when he tours South Africa with Worrell's West Indian team. It was against Pakistan that he scored 365 not out, to break Sir Leonard Hutton's record of 364.

With this jubilation at Hanif's record, there is also a sad and tragic note. Abdul Aziz, who partnered him in his record-breaking innings, was struck over the heart by a ball when facing Dildar Ahmed in a match against a Services XI a week later. He collapsed and died before reaching hospital.

Only 17 years of age, Aziz was a promising prospect, capable of perhaps emulating his team-mate Hanif, whom he looked upon as a "guru" in cricket.

WE HEAR IT SAID . . .

● That Joe Ngidi, the South African Welter and Middleweight champion, is back again in Australia in an effort to challenge George Barnes for the Empire Welterweight title.

● That the S.A. Bantu Cricket Tournament held recently in Johannesburg was like every other racial national tournament, a financial "flop." Cut out these racial affairs, and replace them with provincial tournaments, and then see the result.

● That the return clash between the Durban African XI and Johannesburg XI which takes place in Durban this week has aroused great enthusiasm, with the former determined to avenge their earlier defeat. The chances are that Jo'burg will still come out tops, for since Dhlomo left South Africa, leadership and tactics have been lacking in the Durban team.

● That following widespread protest (reported by me in this column last week), the Golden City Post has stated that the trophy for the Sportsman of the Year was announced by them in error to be the Coca Cola Trophy, and is in fact the Golden City Post Floating Trophy for the Sportsman of the Year.