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S. A. HIT BY STRIKE WAVE

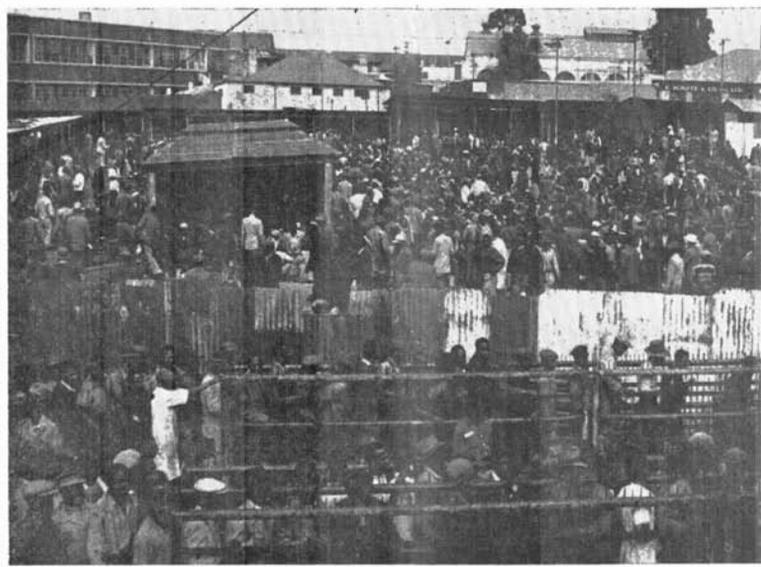
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African Workers Fight For A Living Wage

Must The Beerhalls Be Moved?



This is the Mai Mai beerhall, which the Nats want moved from the centre of Johannesburg because of acts of violence alleged to have been committed against Europeans passing by in recent weeks. The ANC reply is: "Let eating places sell beer. Why herd men into a communal beerhall like cattle driven to drink?" For full story and more pictures, see page 4.

SOUTH AFRICA IS IN THE GRIP OF A STRIKE WAVE.

In four different centres last week, African workers living below the breadline went on strike for higher wages.

In some cases the workers won a victory and wage increases were granted. In other cases disunity in the ranks of the workers brought failure, followed by arrests and prosecutions.

These strikes, following on the recent strikes of canning workers in Johannesburg and African miners in the Free State, highlight the fact that on their present starvation wages, African workers just can't make ends meet.

The Government and the bosses must act to improve wages and working conditions. Strikes, which cause disruption of industry and race tension, can be ended in only one way — by giving the workers a decent living wage NOW.

Strike No. 1

From M. P. Naicker

DURBAN.
A DETACHMENT of armed police, officials of the Department of Labour and representatives of the employers, after hours of threats and appeals, failed to break a strike of 388 African garment workers who walked out of the Hammersdale "factory in the reserves" last week in support of a demand for increased wages.

The workers only returned to work after an agreement had been

(Continued on page 3)

OUTCRY AGAINST DURBAN GROUP AREAS DECISION

DURBAN.
THE Durban City Council, notorious for its neglect of Non-White housing and for its anti-Indian bias, once again showed its disregard for the welfare of the City's Non-White population when its Planning and Development Committee, at a special meeting with the majority of Councilors present, confirmed the Government's Group Area Proclamation declaring Cato Manor, with a population of 40,000 Indians and 90,000 Africans, a future White Group Area.

This meeting, which was called to discuss a resolution passed by the full Council last year rejecting

the Cato Manor proposals contained in the Proclamations, saw fit to reverse their previous decision on the grounds "that a more realistic solution to the race-zoning problems must be found".

Opposition to the new decision has been spontaneous and widespread. Within 24 hours, Archbishop Denis Hurley in a forthright statement to a local daily, said that the time had come to rouse European public opinion in Durban and "confront it with the enormous act of piracy that is about to be perpetrated."

This statement was followed swiftly with statements of condemnation by Miss Hansi Pollak,

Chairman of the Natal Coastal Region of the Institute of Race Relations, Rev. D. R. Briggs, President of the Durban Christian Ministers' Association, Rev. Dr. J. Dalziel, a Presbyterian minister, and the ex-Minister of the Interior, the Hon. Mr. C. F. Clarkson, who pointed out that the City Council had given him an undertaking 30 years ago that Cato Manor would be set aside as an Indian area and houses built for them.

Dr. G. M. Naicker, in a statement to New Age, said that the Council's double talk would inflict untold misery and hardship on the people.

(Continued on page 3)

"MAIL" ASSOCIATE EDITOR RESIGNS OVER MOSLEY

JOHANNESBURG.
A DIRECT result of the visit of Sir Oswald Mosley, the British fascist leader, to South Africa, has been the resignation of the associate editor of Johannesburg's morning paper "The Rand Daily Mail."

This journalist, Mr. L. Benson, is known to be a friend and ally of Mr. Bailey Bekker, the United Party M.P. turned Independent Nationalist.

The crisis in the "Mail" offices was set off by a third leader on January 29 called "Mosley."

Mosley, said the editorial, "is a man with exciting political

associations . . . what he stood for will remain—the strong Right wing in political thought.

In "that puzzling duality of human nature that projects itself as a duality in politics, he stood for one of the twin poles towards which popular thoughts and feelings tend to gravitate. May good luck attend his business in South Africa—provided his business is not politics."

The "Mail" editor was away from Johannesburg at the time this leader was published.

In Cape Town a director of the "Mail", Mr. A. I. D. (Continued on page 5)

"I WAS FRIGHTENED OF THE WOMEN" POLICEMAN TELLS COURT

13 Fined For Illegal Procession

CAPE TOWN. THIRTEEN African women protested loudly last week at the Wynberg Magistrate's Court because the police were trying to put them out of jail.

They had been convicted of participating in an illegal procession protesting against the pass laws and had been fined £1 or seven days.

"We have no money. We would rather work in jail," the women all declared and they were taken to the cells holding their thumbs high in the Afrika salute.

Later from the cells could be heard the sound of cheerful singing in which the other prisoners were also joining.

But the crowd waiting outside the court was not prepared to permit the women to go to jail. A collection was quickly begun to raise the necessary money.

POLICE COMPLAINT

When a policeman was sent to order the release of the women after the arrangements for the fine had been made, he went back planning bitterly: "Now we've done all the work and written them all in and made out the receipts, they should at least stay for the night. Them with their Afrika!"

But when he got to the cells

there was an immense hubbub. The women didn't want to leave, and when they were forced out they were all quite angry about the payment of the fine.

EVIDENCE

The crown evidence at the trial was that the women had marched in an orderly procession through the streets of Langsbaai carrying placards and ANC flags.

One placard said: 'verwoerd! If passes are so good let your wife carry one too!' Another placard demanded the release of the Johannesburg women who had been arrested for protesting against the passes.

The police sergeant who gave evidence admitted that the women had not said or done anything against the law at the meeting, and that when he had finally stopped the procession the women had dispersed in an orderly fashion.

He also admitted that he had done nothing to warn them not to march and had made no attempt to prevent them from marching.

Asked by the defence why he had not done his duty and thus prevented the commission of an offence, the sergeant answered: "I was frightened of the women." There was laughter in the court.

CAPE TOWN ANC MEETING

Cape Town. There was no truth in the rumour that the A.N.C. was breaking up, said Mr. T. Nqwana, speaking at a meeting of the Cape Town Branch of the A.N.C. on the Grand Parade last Sunday.

There might be a few people who were dissatisfied, but they were an insignificant number, he said.

"There is nothing wrong in advocating a broad nationalism in South Africa, embracing all who accept A.N.C. policy. We are not anti-India or anti-White or anti-Coloured, but we demand an equal status with the rest of the people and to be respected as a people."

The meeting was attended by about 500 people and resolutions were adopted supporting the struggle of the A.N.C., and rejecting Bantu Authorities, the Bantu Development Corporation, and demanding the repeal of the Urban Areas Act.

THAILAND, like Pakistan is now inflamed with a U.S.-backed military dictatorship. Some 70 Thai and Chinese progressives have been arrested in terms of the Internal Suppression of Communist Act. "Western observers are frankly sceptical whether there was in fact a plot," commented the London Times last week.

CHINA will start turning all its deserts, with a total acreage accounting for 11% of the total area of the country, into oases, forests and grazing grounds next year.

EDITORIAL AFRICAN WORKERS FIGHT TO LIVE

WHILE Cabinet Ministers prate of "industrial peace" in order to attract overseas investment, hundreds of miserably paid workers have been brought before the courts in all four provinces of the Union in recent weeks because they dared to go on strike for higher wages.

In most cases the pattern has been the same. The bosses turn a deaf ear to the workers' complaints; in desperation the workers refuse to work; the bosses call in the officials of the Native Labour Board; the men are ordered to return to work without any promise of an increase, and if they refuse they are arrested.

In not a single case in the strikes of the last few weeks have the Native Labour Board officials succeeded in settling a dispute peacefully.

It is Government policy to keep wages low, to smash African unions, to punish strikers—in other words, to make life easy for the bosses. By means of influx control and the labour bureau system, the free flow of labour is impeded. In each main centre there is a pool of unemployed workers. Men who strike may not only face dismissal and prosecution; they may also be endorsed out of the area, from the unemployed pool scramble to take their places.

The Native Labour Board must be exposed for what it is—a strike-breaking agent of the bosses. In the last two years, according to figures given by the Minister of Labour, Senator de Klerk, there have been 173 strikes in which a total of over 13,000 African workers have taken part.

In only 9 cases were the disputes settled by the granting of increased wages or improved working conditions—9 cases out of 173 in two years!

On the other hand, in 1958 alone prosecutions were instituted on 23 occasions and a total of 453 workers were convicted.

That is the Government's way to "industrial peace"—beat and bludgeon, prosecute, fine and imprison.

As for the Wage Board—while the African people starve, only 7 determinations have been made in the last two years (1957 and 1958), and in vital industries the Board has recommended wages lower than those prevailing at the moment. Meanwhile the bosses are making bigger profits than ever before.

African workers, know your enemies! The bosses and the Government are in league against you! Strengthen your organisations, the trade unions and the African National Congress! Fight for your rights, for better wages and working conditions! Fight for £1 a day!

Away with the Native Labour Board and the Government's anti-labour laws!

The Freedom Charter says: "There shall be work and security. All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers... Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work... There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage... Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished."

FORWARD TO FREEDOM IN OUR LIFETIME!

ARRESTED IN A RESERVE

Last year I was at Kimberley and met headman Cidraas of Schmidt's Drift Reserve. After discussing about the terrible conditions the people in the area were living under, he invited me to attend a meeting of the Kgella where I could express my views to the people.

My colleagues and I, six of us altogether, arrived at headman Pheko's place at No. 4 Reserve. People arrived in numbers while we waited at a Mr. Sebeela's house. At 10.30 a.m. the chief headman arrived and we received a message from him, instructing us to remain where we were. We complied with this order.

A half hour later the European caretaker of the reserve came in his van together with the chief headman and they called us to come over. The European asked us where we came from and one of us replied that we were from Kimberley. He was asked whether we lived at Schmidt's Drift and he replied that he was a bona fide resident.

The European then drove away to the Schmidt's Drift police station and we returned to Mr. Sebeela's house. After three hours two vans and a car arrived, including the caretaker's van. The car was driven by the Kimberley police commandant.

We were called out by the police and the owner of our car was questioned by the officers from Kimberley.

They then demanded our passes. They found that I possessed an exemption pass, but immediately arrested me. I was taken to Schmidt's Drift police station. At the station I found the police force armed with rifles and machine-guns and was greatly surprised to see this terrible scene.

The next Saturday four detectives arrived from Kimberley and demanded a statement from me. I refused, saying I was not leaving a charge against anybody. I told them I was being treated like a convict, I had been kept in custody for five days and refused bail. The next Wednesday I was removed to Douglas. Here I witnessed very fantastic treatment.

In the Douglas court an accused is not allowed to appear fully dressed. Before the accused gets into the dock he has to leave his shoes, belt or braces and hat in a bag which is kept for him.

I don't know whether this is known or done anywhere in the country in all courts of law.

J. G. MODISE
Johannesburg.

Readers, Take Part In This New Competition

WE are sure that almost every week, on reading our appeal, each and every one of you decides that you had "better do something about it." But the weeks and months slip by and very few of you really do get round to doing "something about it."

In the meantime, our cash help gets lower and more desperate, and for a very good reason. UNLESS NEW AGE CAN GET IN A SUBSTANTIAL SUM OF MONEY WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, WE SHALL BE FORCED TO CONSIDER CLOSING DOWN.

We must survive, and we can survive. But only if every politically conscious and active Congressman and democrat gets stuck in and helps us. Money from the masses, and masses of money, is what we now need. It is up to you to see that we get it.

WE GIVE YOU TWO MONTHS—FROM THE 1st MARCH TO THE 30th APRIL—IN WHICH TO SHOW WHAT YOU CAN DO.

THE PRIZE

A friend has donated a large and beautiful Dinner Service as a prize in a competition in which we now invite you to participate.

You can work as individuals, organisations, branches and by getting together and forming small committees. The competition is open to everyone.

The prize will be awarded according to the greatest effort put in, and the Judges' decision will be final. In other words, it is not the amount raised that

will matter, but the amount of work you have done to get it.

If you decide to enter for the competition you must please fill in the form printed below. We shall send you collection lists, receipt stamps etc.

We would like you to come in, or send in, reports of your activities and plans.

- Door to door collection drives.
- Donations from your friends.
- Jumble Sales : Parties Film Shows : Concerts— and every other method you can think of.

There is nothing much more we on New Age staff can do. The future of New Age is now literally in your hands.

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO.

The Editor, New Age, 18, Chalmers Buildings, 6, Barrack Street, CAPE TOWN.

Dear Sir,

I/we would like to take part in the New Age Fund Raising Competition.

I/we would like you to send me/us _____ Collection Lists, which I/we undertake to return on demand.

Yours sincerely,

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

If you are accepting on behalf of an Organisation, Branch or Committee, please fill in the following in addition to the above:

NAME OF ORGANISATION _____

NAME OF BRANCH _____

OR COMMITTEE _____

Last Week's Donations:

Cape Town: Diamond £12.10, Buko £5, J.C. £1, S.P.M. 9s., SACF 10s., E.M.B. 5s., R and J £5, M.M. 3s., L.L. 10s., Bernice £1, L.L.W. £10, J and N £3.

Johannesburg:

Harry £3, S. £1, Jumble Sale £28, Mr. El. Barker £5, Ticeys £1.10, M.M. £2, W. £2, B. £5, M and B £85, Stocks £25, Doctor £5, Doctor £5, Friend £4, Mr. P. £2, Max £2, Doc £5, February £5, Gardener £2, Walter 7s., Parkview £1, Collections £75, Mrs. F. £5, Collections £22, Lawyer £33, Star £2.

Port Elizabeth:

Aunt Katie Bennie 76d., Friend £1, Doc £1, Babs £1.1. TOTAL: £247 2s. 6d.

Cradock Inquest

ANC Leaders Arrested on Perjury Charge

PORT ELIZABETH. In the small frontier town of Cradock, not far from Slaughter's Nek, there has been growing tension during the last three weeks.

On January 12, 1959, a farmer, Mr. P. W. Roux, aged 76, was found battered to death in his bed. Police and detectives started at 8 p.m. on a night under cross-examination by the police he died, and the police buried his body even though his relatives wanted to go and bury it themselves.

In the course of the inquiry into the cause of the death of Moyisi Sikaka the police stated that he might have died as a result of injuries received from falling while his hands were handcuffed behind his back after he had attempted to run away. The magistrate ruled that the cause of death was sub-arachnoid haemorrhage probably caused by falling.

In answer to a question by an attorney, Mr. Venter, who held a watching brief for the relatives of Moyisi, the District Surgeon said the haemorrhage might have been caused by the head against a heavy object.

CLAIMS BEATING

In her evidence Mrs. Angelina Sikaka, the widow of the late Mr. Moyisi Sikaka, told the court that she and her late husband had been beaten by the police. She said she was beaten while she was carrying a baby on her back. Her husband had had his head bashed against a door while he was being taken out. At the same time he had been hit several times. She also heard his groans as he was beaten in another room. When last she saw him blood was oozing from the ear.

When she was asked why she departed from a sworn statement that her husband had not been beaten, she told the court that an African detective who interested her had deliberately refused to interpret correctly what she said. When she drew his attention to the misrepresentation he told her he was interpreting.

ANC MEMBERS ARRESTED

Some members of the local Branch of the ANC, which has launched an appeal for funds to meet the expenses of having the case re-opened, have been arrested and charged with persuading some of the people who have been accused of perjury, including Mrs. Sikaka, to commit perjury. Mr. Richard Vara is one of them.

New Age learns that an application for the re-opening of the inquest has been made and that the Attorney-General is at present studying the relevant documents.

DURBAN OUTCRY

(Continued from page 1)

"It constitutes a grave attack upon a defenceless people and is a classical example of what can happen to people who are given neither a voice in making laws, nor a say in the application of those laws," he said.

The Natal Indian Congress cannot accept the Group Areas Act as a whole or in part. We do not want to see an area deprecarated at the expense of another. Our demand is for the repeal of the Group Areas Act and for complete freedom for all people, no matter to which racial group they belong, to purchase and occupy wherever they please," he concluded.

Vote Conference

CAPE TOWN.

The Committee for the Safeguarding of the Non-racial Franchise will call a conference in the Library, City Hall, on Monday, March 2, at 8 p.m.

The Committee, which consists of representatives of numerous local organisations, was responsible for the recent deputation to the Administrator which protested against the threat to remove the Coloured voters from the common municipal roll, and was a co-sponsor of the mass meeting called by the Mayor on the question of job-reservation and the franchise.

The conference is being called for the purpose of broadening and strengthening the committee.

S. A. HIT

(Continued from page 1)

concluded between the employers and their representatives for an immediate increase of from 5/- to 7/6 per week.

A significant feature of this strike was that the whole African population of the area turned up in support of the strikers. At one of the many meetings where the employer addressed the workers, people other than the workers concerned demanded a settlement and warned the employers that if the workers were intimidated into going back to work the factory would not be allowed to operate in their area.

"This is our land and you have come here with your factory. Therefore you must pay our people a better wage than they are now receiving," declared one such supporter to the employer who addressed the workers.

EQUAL WAGES

The settlement that was finally reached ensures that both male and female workers will receive the same starting wage of £1 5. 0 per week. Previously the wages paid to workers were 17/6 for the women and £1 per week for men.

This is in contrast to the agreement concluded by Bolton's Garment Workers' Union early last year, according to which only the male workers were to be paid an increase of 10/- per week. As a result hundreds of male garment workers were on the streets looking for jobs.

This strike at Hammersdale is a sharp lesson in organisation and determination for the workers. Even though this Union has the closed shop principle embodied in its agreement with the employers, every day new workers are brought into the industry, in spite of the ever-growing number of unemployed garment workers.

The total number of experienced garment workers out of employment is in the region of 3,500. The strike at Hammersdale also shows that the African worker is ready for trade unionism. Their quick, short strike for higher wages has met with success and it is clear that the workers have learnt an important lesson from their victory.

FURTHER DEMANDS

Mr. Moses Mabhida, Chairman of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, and Mr. George Mbele, Organiser of the Natal African Congress, who were on the scene of the strike the day it began, told New Age that the workers were not wholly satisfied with their victory. There were still further de-



VICTORY FOR CANNING WORKERS: Two fingers in the air means "two shillings an hour overtime pay."

BY STRIKE WAVE

mands outstanding.

"During the course of this short strike a trade union has been born," said Mr. Mabhida. "Already the workers have elected a ten-man committee to act as their spokesmen on all issues affecting the workers. What is more the employers have agreed to recognise this committee."

Asked why the police had not arrested these workers under the Native Labour (Settlements of Disputes) Act or the Master and Servants Act, Mr. Mabhida said that it was obviously the unity of the workers and the militant attitude adopted by the people of the area.

"It was obvious from what I heard at a meeting with the people in this area that they were determined to take an active part in the strike if the workers were arrested."

What angered the workers and people more than anything else, according to Mr. Mabhida, was the knowledge which was conveyed to them just prior to the strike that the present owners had closed down their factories in Foodburg and Durban and come to Hammersdale where they knew they could get labour at a much lower rate of pay than in the urban areas.

Strike No. 2

In Parys another blackleg factory that had fled to the country where it can pay starvation wages had 150 African workers walk out last week in protest against the methods of a new foreman. These workers get a starting wage of 15s.

Two country strikes in one week have turned the spotlight on the hunger wages being paid by the factories that have set up near African reserves and away from the Reef where controlled wages are three times higher than the rates those factories are paying.

The Wage Board agreement for the reserve areas is now before the Minister of Labour for his approval. This agreement recommends £1 5. 9. as a starting wage for women workers (this is a wage of 15s a week plus 10s. 9d. cost of living allowance). After four years the wage for a qualified worker is recommended at £2 15s. On the Reef the starting wage is £2 3. 9 a week, rising to £3 3. 3 after three years.

The recommended wage is thus just over half the Rand level, but even as these recommendations were made, factories near the Reserves are today paying even lower wages.

SOME FACTORIES ARE PAYING WOMEN WORKERS AS LITTLE AS 10s. 9d. A WEEK—LESS EVEN THAN FARM WORKERS GET!

Strike No. 3

CAPE TOWN.

OVER 2,000 African workers at the dynamite factory at Somerset West came out on strike for higher wages last week.

The workers say a notice promising them higher wages in January was posted up by the management last year. On pay day at the end of January, however, only the higher-paid workers—indians, hospital workers, watchmen, clerks etc.—received increases, while the majority of workers received no increase at all.

The higher paid workers now receive between £17 and £25 a month. The lowest paid workers, however, receive only £7 a month, and they were enraged when they discovered that they were to receive no increase after all.

MEETING

On the first Saturday after payday they had a meeting with a representative of the management, who said he had no power to do anything, but would have to write to the head office of the company in Johannesburg. He refused to give the workers any undertaking that there would be an increase.

The next day, Sunday, the workers held a meeting in their quarters and decided that nobody should go to work on Monday. The stay at home was solid, even the higher-paid workers taking part.

At 11 a.m. on Monday morning, officials of the company came to the compound, together with labour and officials of the Native Labour Board, who addressed the workers and told them they should go back to work.

The workers asked: "Are you men from the Government?"

The Native Labour Board official replied: "Yes."

The workers: "You increased our poll tax this year and you expect us to pay without any increase in wages."

The Native Labour Board officials said they would investigate the situation, but could make no promises. The workers refused to go back to work.

INTIMIDATION

The workers were then threatened with dismissal and endorsement out. (Continued on page 5)

280 Canning Workers Found Not Guilty

JOHANNESBURG.

THE 280 workers of H. Jones and Co. were found not guilty of taking part in an illegal strike last Friday and streamed out of court after the verdict in great spirits. There was hand-shaking all round, shouts of "Maybudy" and the workers' two-fingers sign which symbolises their demand for two shillings an hour overtime.

Their union immediately started negotiations with their employer for all the workers to be taken back. The magistrate, Mr. P. J. van Heerden, giving judgment, said that in view of the circumstances the employers were partly to blame for the cessation of work. He said that the important question was who initiated the dispute and right from the beginning the employers were to blame over the Christmas pay. The employers were also to be blamed for the introduction of a change in condition of work. That was the spark which led to the complete cessation of work, he said.

On the argument of Mr. J. Slovo, who appeared for the 280, the magistrate said: "This may have been a lock-out, and not a strike." Asked to comment on their victory, one of the workers said: "This is not only our victory but the victory of all workers in South Africa who are not permitted to use the weapon of 'tools down'."

103 African Miners Discharged

VENTERSBURG.

One hundred and three of the 212 African miners of Virginia who were arrested on a charge of public violence following a disturbance on the mine were found not guilty and discharged at the end of the Crown case last week.

This is the mass trial being held in the Ventersburg jail.

ISRAEL has appointed a special committee to find out why so many Jews are leaving the country. 63,000 have left during the past ten years according to official figures, but it is estimated that a considerable number more who originally left as tourists did not return.

EXTRACTS FROM AN ARTICLE WRITTEN IN INDIA BY U.S. NATIONAL GUARDIAN EDITOR

CEDRIC BELFRAGE

WHO WILL SUCCEED NEHRU?

CONGRESSMAN, SOCIALIST OR COMMUNIST?

AFTER Nehru what? In India the question is raised more than ever since the new round of military coups in Asia...

Possible Successors

Finance Minister Morarji Desai, the "private sector's" dictator...

CONGO LEADERS DENIED OWN LAWYERS

Three Belgian lawyers, briefed for the defence of Mr. Arthur Puzi and Mr. Gaston Diomi, the mayors of two Leopoldville African suburbs...

Washington is said to be hedging on the more popular Jayaprakash Narain, mystical "socialist" and would-be inheritor of Gandhi's mantle.

Home Minister Pant has the dubious advantage of lauding backing. Popular respect for Krishna Menon, Defence Minister and Nehru's foreign policy spokesman...

The Praja Socialists (social democrats) are divided even on communism, and recent comments Delhi's weekly Link...

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Peasant Movement

The Kishan Sabha, CP-led peasant organisation, has swelled to 300,000 members on the basis of a down-to-earth programme.

The Communists

Thus the CP is the only organised party seriously challenging Congress. Many of its leaders, especially in Kerala, are former Congress cadres with honourable jail records in the independence struggle.

Kerala in Spotlight

The eyes of all India today are on Kerala, where the Communists hold power un-alloyed with any other party ("we don't like that," says Ghosh).

Future

Whatever happens politically, an army coup after the Pakistani model seems unlikely, India is too large and diverse, and the armed forces contain substantial democratic elements and have a tradition of non-meddling in politics.

In the hills above Bombay a long-haired "holy man" prophesied to me the break-up of India, and a period of "terrible bloodshed" under competing warlords.

It could come true, "After Nehru" — but this is India, the land of fantastic contradictions in which nothing goes quite according to anybody's book.

ONCE — "Yizani Nipuze Madoda!" (Come And Drink Men!) was the appeal of Joburg's Manager of the Non-European Affairs Department



Must the Beerhalls be Moved?

"NO!" SAYS ANC:

Men Must Drink When They Are Thirsty

TODAY — Close the Beerhalls. Men must drink somewhere else!



NOT so long ago, in 1957, when there was a brief boycott of the municipal beer halls in Johannesburg, officials turned out with loud-speakers to urge Africans to drink at the beerhall.

Council revenues from beer were dropping, so here the Manager of the Non-European Affairs Department, Mr. W. J. CARL, his deputy manager, and the then chairman of the Council's Non-European Affairs Committee, Mr. Hymie Miller, now a Member of Parliament, urged Africans to drink and drink some more.

Now the tune has changed. "Go and drink in the locations! Away from here!" say the authorities.

This week the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development (B.A.D.) Mr. De Wet Nel, has two plans under consideration to shut the beerhalls. The Nat's Mentz Watchdog Committee has produced plan number 1, which calls for the closing of the Central, Mai Mai and Denver beerhalls and the building of beerhalls in the townships.

The City Council provides for the closing of other beerhalls in the townships, but also beerhalls in "secluded" spots in the industrial areas of the city.

The African National Congress of the Transvaal is opposed to the moving of the beerhalls out to the townships. They cater for the city's workers, says Congress, and "men must drink when and where they get thirsty."

But selling beer should not be the monopoly of the municipality, says Congress. Eating houses and canteens should have licences to sell beer, says Congress. Beer is more than a drink, it is the workers' food too.

LONG QUEUES Johannesburg's beerhalls smell beer and drip beer, all humanity seems to be queuing for a "scale" of beer. There's not much time to rush to the beerhall, queue for some ticket, and then your scale, find somewhere to drink it with your friends, and then down it and get back to work in time.

round to the plan to move the beerhalls.

A labourer in an engineering firm said: "Beer is our strength. We lift heavy steel all day. We come to pick up strength during lunch. If they move the beerhall, where will we get our strength?"

Across the way a group of Zulu taxi workers in their blue get-up said: "We stay in town. We have no friends in the townships. If the beerhall is shifted we will have no beer. We aren't all rowdy. It's the job of the police to stop those who make trouble from coming in. But why stop us from drinking?"

"Where will we go at lunch time?" asked a group of factory workers. Truck drivers in dust coats were getting a little heated: "Why must we be stopped from drinking because of a few people? Let the police keep the peace and order instead of moving the beerhall."

And an office worker carrying his scale walked over and chipped in: "Whenever people are crowded together there are likely to be fights. Move the beerhalls somewhere else and you might still have a fight there from time to time."

Midnight Police Terror Spreads to Newclare

JOHANNESBURG.

THE horror of the nightly police raids and arrests has moved across the tram lines from Sophiatown to Newclare. The Resettlement Board is now going full tilt at this area, which has been declared a Coloured Group Area, and all Newclare Africans, many of whom have lived all their lives in the place are under orders to go.

Some have been moved to Meadowlands, others have found homes in municipal townships, but a large number do not qualify for houses and have nowhere to go. Their permits to live in Newclare are now being cancelled, and police methods perfected in Sophiatown over the years the Resettlement Board has been clearing that area, are in full swing in Newclare.

Mother of 12 Punched

A WOMAN with eleven children was hit on the jaw by a policeman in Newclare, when she asked if she could return into the house to collect her five month old baby before going to the police station. She is still receiving hospital treatment for the injury.

Mrs. Thapele Molobela, who has lived for many years in Newclare, said that on the night of February 9 the police arrested her husband for living illegally in Newclare. When she asked the policeman

which station he was being taken to he answered her.

She asked if she could take her small baby with her, in reply to which the constable hit her on the side of her face.

Along with many others arrested for having no permits, she waited at Newlands police station with her husband and daughter. At 11 p.m. the police brought her baby to her and at 1 a.m. she was allowed to go home. As soon as she could that morning she went to Governmentville hospital for treatment.

A Meeting Arrested

THE police raiders go from door to door knocking people up, but at the heart of the raids last week, a police van was backed up to the door of Newclare's International Hall where a meeting was in progress, and everyone at the meeting was arrested and piled into the van.

This took place some time after the meeting had started. The entire meeting was driven off to the police station, where permits were demanded. Those who had permits saw them cancelled before their eyes.

A Coloured woman was found among those arrested, but she was released. One old man, Peter Molubi, was at the meeting but escaped arrest on

that occasion. The previous week-end however, he had been arrested by the police in the middle of the night, together with his wife, who was ill, and his brother. His daughter, who was staying with them from Meadowlands, was also arrested.

Five days later officials of the Resettlement Board called on him saying that he must move by the week-end or he would be arrested. He has been refused a house in Meadowlands, although his daughter would like her mother to come there and live with her.

LIKE A HURRICANE

These are but a few examples of the increasing terror that reigns for Africans in Newclare.

Even those who have permits are not sleeping at home because they fear the police raids. "We go into the veld at night" more than one commented. "The police come down just like a hurricane on one inhabitant of 'tin town'" said. "They go down the lanes collecting money." Another man pointed out whole rows of cottages empty because the occupants had been taken away on permit raids.

One old woman shrugged her shoulders and said: "It is their world. And what is your world then?" she was asked. "Ours is the jail," she answered.

Coming To New Age Soon



This is Liberation Chahala—LITTLE LIBBY to you. He will be appearing in New Age soon, in our own brand new comic section. Be sure to buy your New Age regularly and follow LITTLE LIBBY on his adventures every week with Kasper Katchum, the horrible Recruiting Agent, Oom Veldkoon van der Meullem, Sergeant Shark of the Special Branch, Meet also Libby's pals Frikadel and Mustapha Moonsammy, and a host of other characters.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The Guardian Newspaper was born in Cape Town 22 Years ago this week

"Mail" Associate Editor Resigns Over Mosley

(Continued from page 1)

Brown, M.P., United Party member for North East Rand, was asking in the House how a permit of permanent residence came to be issued to Mr. Derek Alexander, the former school teacher who is Mosley's chief deputy in this country.

Shortly after the return of the "Mail" editor, Mr. L. O. V. Gandar, Mr. Benson resigned, and nine days after the first leader another, with a very different tone, appeared in the "Mail."

S.A. HIT BY STRIKE WAVE

(Continued from page 3)

of town, and eventually some of them agreed to go back to work. This was the signal for the police to move and two of the men were arrested and charged with incitement to strike. Their case comes off on February 25.

And on the night of February 9 the police arrested her husband for living illegally in Newclare. When she asked the policeman

dated profits have ranged between £1,500,000 and £3,500,000 a year.

Strike No. 4

Cape Town

TWENTY-TWO workers appeared in the Bellville Magistrate's Court last week on a charge of taking part in an illegal strike at the Atlantic Organic Fertilizers, Fisankraal, near Durbanville.

The factory employs about 50 workers, most of whom earn only £2 a week. The men are housed in a compound, sleeping on double bunks, ten to a room about 12' x 12'.

About three weeks ago the men went on a deputation to the works manager and asked for higher wages. He said he had no power to deal with the matter himself, and asked them to wait until the managing director arrived from town.

That was on a Thursday. When by Monday the managing director had failed to put in an appearance, the men went to the works manager again and demanded a wage of 10s. a day. Again they were asked to wait for the managing director, who was due to arrive at 1 p.m. that day. The men replied that if he did not turn up, they would not go to work the next day.

The managing director did not turn up. So on Tuesday the men did go to work. That brought the managing director post haste from town, together with officials of the Native Labour Board, who said they would raise the men's complaints with the managing director, but that meanwhile they must return to work.

Some men then returned to work, but 22 held out for an increase first. At this stage the police were called in and all 22 were arrested. Their case has been adjourned to March 3.

Superintendent Acquitted on Morals Charge

Uitenhage ANC Launches Economic Boycott

A case under the Immorality Act in which Mr. Ford, the location Superintendent, of Uitenhage, was alleged to have had intimate relations with a teenage Coloured girl, has had other repercussions.

Soon after he was found not guilty, the ANC announced the boycott of one of the oldest established businesses in the township, whose owner is reputed to be a friend of the Superintendent.

The boycott, which has gained the support and sympathy of the entire township, has already led to the arrest of some people and the deportation of others. The arrests of the women, mostly under the pass laws, have incensed the people.

In addition to the boycott of this shop there has been a tightening up of the management (after much internal discussion and telephoning of the Native Labour Board officials). Sorry, we have been ordered by the Native Labour Board to make no statement to the press.

FOOTNOTE: African Explosives and Chemical Industries Ltd., which dates to the tune of the strike-breaking Native Labour Board, is part of the Oppenheimer empire. It produces explosives, fertilizers, train cyanide for the gold mines, disinfectants and insecticides, leather-cloth and many other articles. The company has an authorised capital of £23 million. In recent years its consol-



American millionaire David Rockefeller, on a visit to South Africa to open a branch of the Chase-Manhattan Bank, told reporters: "We will invest in South Africa provided the atmosphere remains friendly."

AFRICA ON THE MARCH—8

Egypt—Bridge Between Africa and Asia

"PLAY-WHITES" AND "THE FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID"

EGYPT is in Africa, but she is also the most important and populous Arab country, and the bridge between "Black" Africa and the Arab and Asian world. She is also the most influential and exposed of the independent states of Africa.

Egypt has had the longest continuous civilisation in the world, her written records going back 6,000 years. Yet for centuries she was ruled by foreigners, with the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, meddling by modern European powers in Egyptian affairs became continuous and Egypt became a puppet of the imperialists.

Successive struggles against foreign control were led by the Wafd which was militant in its early years but later became moderate. Then came the crumbling of the Farouk regime after the last war and the 1952 seizure of power by a group of young army officers.

DENSELY POPULATED

Egypt's population is over 20 million and growing rapidly. Only a narrow strip of land on the banks of the Nile is irrigated—the rest of the country is barren desert.

The population density in the Nile valley is said to be the highest in the world. Infant mortality is enormous. The average life expectancy of an Egyptian at birth is only about 37 years. The gap between rich and poor is tremendous. 85% of the total population is altogether landless.

On the other hand 36% of all cultivatable land was (in 1955) in the hands of one half of one per cent of the population. It has been calculated that 50% of the Egyptian national income went to 1.5% of the population.

The Nasser regime has made considerable efforts to solve these problems.

The most publicised and important of these projects is the Aswan High Dam. This would cost more than £175,000,000 and take 10 years to build.

When completed it would increase the total arable land in the country from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 acres and increase national production by £150,000,000 per year.

A number of industrial projects have been launched including a £25,000,000 fertiliser plant and a £15,000,000 iron and steel plant. A minimum wage law was passed, a land reform initiated and social services improved.

Internally the Egyptian government is extremely authoritarian. All political parties are suppressed. Left-wing political groups and trade unions are particularly persecuted. Power rests with the army, and the purge of the old corrupt leaders has come not from the people below but from the army above.

Yet despite his reactionary domestic policy world events have forced Nasser to follow a militantly anti-imperialist foreign policy.

NEUTRALITY

At the Bandung Conference, Egypt emerged as one of the main leaders of the line of positive neutrality (as between the great power blocs) and militant anti-colonialism.

As Egypt's anti-colonial activities in Africa and the Middle East increased, so did the hostility of first Britain and France and later the United States.

These factors, together with the

tense situation on the Israeli border, led to the regime laying great emphasis on military training and rearmament.

Following the refusal of the Western powers to sell the required quantities of modern arms at the price of 1955, Egypt purchased large quantities of tanks, jet planes and modern artillery from Czechoslovakia.

On July, 1956, America, Britain and the International Bank announced that they were no longer willing to aid the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

The Egyptian government replied by nationalising the Suez Canal. The intention was to use the £36 million annual revenue of the Canal to finance the building of the dam.

Britain and France tried every possible method of bringing pressure on Egypt. These manoeuvres were opposed by the socialist countries and most Bandung countries. The United States hung back.

INVASION

On October 29, 1956, the Israeli government launched an attack on Egypt backed by British and naval support.

The day after Britain and France addressed a hypocritical ultimatum to Egypt and Israel calling on both to cease fire and withdraw all forces 10 miles from the Suez Canal.

Egypt was rightly rejected by the UN.

After a bombardment of several days by the Anglo-French air forces, British and French troops invaded Egypt on November 5, 1956.

This action was bitterly opposed by the great majority of the world's population. A cease fire was ordered by an emergency session of the United Nations on November 4 and obeyed by all parties concerned by midnight, November 6. On December 3, the British and French forces began to withdraw.

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

Since this time, the Egyptian government has continued to grow in influence. Close links have been maintained with other neutralist nations, especially Yugoslavia and India.

Egypt has united with Syria and the Yemen to form the United Arab Republic in which Syria has become politically assimilated to Egypt, but the Yemen has largely maintained her backward social and political structure.

The Iraq revolution has brought into power groups similar to those operating in Egypt and Syria.

Nationalist forces friendly to Egypt grow continually stronger in Saudi Arabia, Aden, Lebanon and Jordan, despite the presence of British and American troops in the latter areas.

There is a move to revive the Arab League, with the participation of Tunisia and Morocco as well as the Middle Eastern Arab countries. Egyptian influence would undoubtedly be paramount in such a League.

Egypt has stood firm by the Bandung conference declaration and played a leading part at the Cairo Afro-Asian solidarity conference and the Two Accra conferences last year. Nasser has outspoken enemy of the colour bar.

THE FUTURE

Yet there are many question marks hanging over Egypt's development.

While on the one hand she has developed close ties with the socialist countries to help her free herself from dependence on the imperialist countries (and acceptance of Soviet aid for the Aswan Dam was the greatest step in the Western face since Suez), on the other hand a rapprochement has been made with Britain and an agreement signed dealing with the question of compensation to be paid by both sides for losses sustained as a result of war and expropriation. This may lead to improved relations with the Western powers.

While the development of Arab unity is an important factor in prising loose the imperialist grip on the Middle East, yet Egypt has tended to dominate her Arab partners, and relations with Iraq and Syria (the latter a part of the U.A.R.) have been severely strained in recent months.

Internally the first wave of reforms has ended, leaving the Egyptian bourgeoisie firmly in the saddle and the mass of the people not much better off than they were before. Recently Nasser has intensified the attacks on the Communists in both Egypt and Syria.

The future of the Egyptian revolution depends on the extent to which the ordinary Egyptian is allowed to take part in it. If Nasser takes the side of the privileged, Egyptian nationalism must ultimately become a reactionary force in foreign as well as internal affairs.

UPPER MIDDLE

MUCH has been said about the contribution of the post-laws to crime in South Africa. Our jails are filled with a great number of "criminals" whose only misdemeanour was that they didn't have a piece of official paper or a reference book in their possession at the right time. This whole country, in fact, has become a prison for millions of black people who have been condemned to the torture of reference books and passes.

Now the sword of condemnation must be pointed the other way.

I ACCUSE the Government and the whole pass-law system of a monstrous crime.

I ACCUSE them all of having been responsible for the death of those two Africans in Johannesburg who were burnt to death because they ran back into the fire to attempt to rescue their reference books.

I ACCUSE them, because they have been responsible for the life of terror in which an African exists, knowing that without a pass he is doomed to arrests and raids and beatings and imprisonment, separation from his family; a state of terror that made those two innocents regard the possession of those miserable reference books to be a matter of life . . . and death.

★

NEITHER have we time for fascists and white supremacists who try to glorify their intentions with the name of Congress. We don't need a European National Congress, we already have the Nats and the U.P.

THEATRE

"PLAY-WHITES" AND "THE FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID"

IT is a strange coincidence that I brought two South African plays on the problem of the Coloured who "plays White" to Cape Town at the same time—Basil Warner's "Try For White" and Lewis Sowden's "The Kimberley Train".

Though comparisons between the two may be invidious, one may say honestly that both are welcome contributions to the theatre, well acted, excellently produced by Leonard Schach and Cecil Williams respectively, and that both have certainly shaken up the ideas of their all-White audiences on the question of race relations.

The themes of both plays are strikingly similar. A Coloured woman "plays White", is unmasked and "coloured" the realisation that it is more honest, and less nerve-racking, to stay Coloured and make the best of it.

While both authors skilfully explore the dramatic possibilities of the woman who is leading a double life always threatened by exposure, neither has squarely faced up to the political implications of what he is saying.

RACE DISCRIMINATION

Coloureds who "play White" don't do so merely because they aspire to a higher social status and want to "keep up with the Joneses". They do so mainly because to remain Coloured is to be confined in the prison-house of colour bars, oppression and poverty; while to be accepted as White means to escape to freedom, privilege and opportunity.

For the authors to lecture the "play-Whites" that they must be allowed to remain Coloured is almost an impertinence unless they at the same time denounce the whole system of race discrimination which segregates Coloured (or Black) from White.

THE Pretoria City Council need not be so shaky about granting "King Kong" permission to appear in their halls. After all it has a "Blacks only" cast.

A MAGAZINE for farmers I see will give advice on what to do in the event of an atomic attack. Probably good advice, but will Don Davis get a chance to make use of it?

AN Afrikaans radio discussion on whether or not Whites could do without Non-White labour, revealed very little new in

By ALEX LA GUMA

White attitudes on the subject. Here are matches from a play-back:

Prof. Celliers of Stellenbosch: I am in favour of territorial apartheid. To do away with Non-White labour is not practicable in the foreseeable future. Seeing there are no Europeans to do the work in the meantime, and they will in any case be too expensive. White South Africa will have to make do with the next best thing, the Coloureds. I want to live like King Solomon, if I can afford it. Why should people have to do without Non-White servants?

Dr. Scholtz: Do you think your descendants will always be able to live such a lazy and comfortable life?

Prof. Celliers: Why not? We will always have the servants with us.

Why should Mrs. Matthews (in "Try for White") or Elaine Miller (in "Kimberley Train") be satisfied to accept inferiority?

Play the way of individual escape which they have chosen is, as the authors maintain, the wrong one and now, what with population registration and group areas, dangerous and illusory.

But instead of leaving their heroines crushed and humiliated, even if resigned to their fate, at the end of their plays, should the authors not have indicated to them that there is another way out—the way of mass struggle against race discrimination and colour bars which would lead to the establishment of a non-racial democracy?

Then it would be unnecessary for anybody to "play White" because people of all races would enjoy equal rights and opportunities and there would be no need to be lifted from the Non-White peoples.

POLITICAL

Both South African plays probably reject this solution as political, and maintain that they are dramatists dealing with human relations, not politicians charting the way forward. Possibly they would argue that by merely writing their plays they have effectively challenged the colour bar and exposed the heartache it causes.

True, but they should not be allowed to evade their responsibility as dramatists.

Politics is merely the science of the organisation of human relations, and no good dramatist in South Africa can avoid being a politician, even if he is unaware of it.

The fact is, moreover, that both Mr. Warner and Mr. Sowden have given us political plays and outlined a political solution—only their solution is unacceptable, because it is incomplete.

A Coloured person should be asked to submit to apartheid; yet that is the effect of the dramatists' plea in both plays. No doubt they don't intend it that way, but there it is.

Despite this shortcoming, which detracts from the dramatic as well as the political validity of both plays, it is to be hoped that all who can will see these plays. The stirrings of the artistic conscience will be reflected, though welcomed and encouraged. They will lead to more profound and more satisfying solutions in due course.

A COMPARISON

A word about the plays themselves.

In my opinion, Basil Warner's "Try for White" is far the superior. By presenting his White and Coloured characters on more or less the same social level, he enables us to see their relationship in a new, even natural, and he has handled a difficult theme with real dramatic content and narrative skill.

Lewis Sowden's "Kimberley Train", on the other hand, though it has its moments, is based on improbabilities and improbabilities, not only between White and Coloured, but also between Parktown and Malvern, producing situations which are unbelievable and which become positively unwilling to suspend one's disbelief.

Both authors reveal a lack of real knowledge of the Coloured people from the inside.

A special performance of "Kimberley Train" will be given to a Coloured audience at the Little Theatre tonight (Thursday, February 19) and it will be interesting to note their reaction.

At the present presentation of anti-colour-bar plays to a colour-bar audience it, of course, something else to be pondered on.

Nevertheless, it is to be hoped these plays will do something to break down the attitudes of mind which lead to segregation in the theatre and elsewhere. My assurance is the devout wish of authors, producers and players alike.

B.P.B.

IN THIS FINAL DESPATCH FROM MOSCOW, SAM RUSSELL SUMS UP THE 21st CONGRESS OF THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY

'THE SHAPE OF A COMMUNIST SOCIETY'

THIS Congress, now completed, has shown the shape of things to come in the development of a Communist society.

The past five years have been years of tremendous achievement in strengthening the Soviet State and improving its apparatus, strengthening Socialist legality, further extending democracy in all spheres, and drafting new legislation on civil and criminal law.

Looking another seven years ahead and beyond, the congress has laid down a programme of economic development, breathtaking in its audacity.

It has also provided for public organisations to play an increasing part in the development of Communism, drawing the entire nation into active participation in administering the State.

NEVER BEFORE

Never before have the masses of the people taken such a large part in the political and economic administration of the country.

Real Socialist democracy is illustrated by the congress itself and the nation-wide discussions preceding it in which over 70 million took part.

At the congress 86 speakers contributed to the debate on Khrushchev's report, including many rank-and-file workers and collective farmers, showing the enthusiastic spirit that animates the entire Soviet people.

As Khrushchev said in his closing speech: "It was a joy and pleasure to listen here to the strong and confident voices of people who are in the thick of life, among the popular masses, to the voices of people who know and give utterance to the sentiment, thoughts and feelings of millions."

These speeches express the great enthusiasm of the Soviet people who have set out to fulfil the magnificent tasks of the Seven-Year Plan," he declared.

They described their ambitious plans for the future in the main task of surpassing the most advanced capitalist States and giving the Soviet people the highest living standards in the world with the shortest working day and the shortest working week.

Take, for example, Georgi Deni-

sov, of the Saratov Region. He told how in the past five years many new houses, clubs, theatres and cinemas had been built.

In rural areas in his region the number of savings-bank accounts had increased from 90,000 in 1954 to 180,000 this year, while the total deposits jumped from 46 million to 311 million roubles. Incomes of collective farmers had trebled over the past five years, he said.

Such examples can be repeated all over the Soviet Union. Delegate after delegate stressed that the progress made and planned will decisively prove the superiority of Socialism over capitalism.

The congress showed the way for the transition from Socialism to Communism — that is, from the principle of "From each according to his abilities to each according to his needs" to the principle of "From each according to his abilities to each according to his needs." The productive forces make available an abundance of the necessities of life.

It laid down a challenge to the capitalist world to provide mankind with all it requires for the development of its material and moral welfare on the basis of peaceful co-existence and peaceful competition.

CALL FOR PEACE

The congress made a challenging call to the statesmen of the world to end nuclear tests, to settle outstanding international problems by negotiation and to abolish war for all time.

The final target figures have been slightly altered on the basis of the 1958 plan results.

The State Planning Commission and local economic councils will now study the proposals made in the congress debate and in the nation-wide discussion preceding it.

The final resolution reaffirms the original plan to build about 15 million flats in the towns and about seven million houses in the countryside in the next seven years.

FIRST IN EUROPE

The resolution says: "In the enforcement of the rules of Socialist human relations an ever more important role is to be played by the People's Militia as well as courts of honour and similar voluntary public organisations, which must together

with the State institutions perform the functions of preserving public order, protecting the rights of citizens and preventing acts damaging to society.

"The transfer of some functions from State agencies to public organisations will not weaken the role of the Socialist State in the building of Communism but will rather extend and reinforce the political basis of Socialist society and ensure the further development of Socialist democracy."

On completion of the Seven-Year Plan, says the resolution, Soviet industrial output per head of population will surpass that of Britain and West Germany, and will take first place in Europe.

After this, it says, it will take about five more years to outstrip the United States. This will be "a world historic victory of Socialism in its peaceful competition with capitalism."



"Ready, Steady, it's only a little bit of cheating!"
Glan Williams in the "News Chronicle"

Mac's Moscow Mission May Win Back Voters

THE decision by British Prime Minister MacMillan to "accept an invitation" to visit the Soviet Union has been widely welcomed in the USSR—even though the invitation was extended about three years ago, and not to Mr. MacMillan but to Mr. Anthony Eden.

In Britain, however, although the decision has won equally warm approval, it has been accompanied by a good deal of cynical comment on the connection it may have with Tory preparations for a General Election.

This is not surprising considering that MacMillan's announcement came almost simultaneously with the publication of the Gallup poll which showed that for the first time in many months, the Labour Party is ahead of the Tories.

On January 30, the News Chronicle revealed that the figures were Labour 36½, Tories 35%, Liberals 6½, Others 4% and Don't Knows, 21½%. The Tories were down 2½ on their position only two weeks before, while the Labour figure remains constant. The Tory 2½ simply moved in among the Don't Knows and Macmillan hopes to woo it back with the Moscow visit.

West Germany and France are no means pleased the law is pending trip. United by means of the European Common Market in agreement to adopt an inflexible policy of free relations with the Soviet Union, Adenauer and de Gaulle are fearful that MacMillan may be drawn into a policy of peaceful co-existence.

Sudan Jails WFTU Leaders

THE military dictatorship established in Sudan last week is following a policy of vicious repression of the country's working-class movement.

Seven working-class leaders were sentenced by a military court to terms of imprisonment ranging from one to five years.

Among those jailed for five years was Honorary vice-president of the World Federation of Trade Unions and secretary of the Sudan Workers' Trade Union Federation, Shafiq Ahmed Sheikh.

IN SECRET

The trial was held in secret and the lawyers acting for the accused withdrew in protest because they were not allowed to cross-examine the witnesses.

Fourteen witnesses were on trial, charged with being associated with the World Federation of Trade Unions and holding illegal meetings. Seven were released.

The Minister of Information banned a youth delegation from Sudan from attending the Afro-Asian Youth Conference in Cairo last week and all activities by youth organisations have been suspended.

KENYA TRIAL

WITNESSES ADMIT THEY WERE PAID BY CROWN

JOMO Kenyatta, Kenya people's leader now serving a prison sentence will be called as a witness in the trial which is proving that he was wrongly convicted.

The trial of Mr. Rawson Macharia for perjury after he had admitted to each of the people involved false evidence leading to the imprisonment of Kenyatta, is continuing to draw immense crowds to the court house in Nairobi.

"I will propose to call every witness who can prove the falsity of the stories and also perhaps some witnesses to whom the people involved have since confessed their perjury," said Mr. D. N. Pritt Q.C. who is defending Macharia.

ADJOURNED FOR ROYAL VISIT

The news that Jomo Kenyatta will appear has brought even greater crowds to the court and the prosecution had to ask that the court be adjourned for several days during the Royal visit as the police could not concentrate on the court and the visit and maintain reserves all at the same time.

When Stephen Mwaura, one of the 1952 Kenyatta trial witnesses, was recalled for cross-examination, Mr. Pritt asked him: "Were you so eager to speak against Jomo Kenyatta that you did not want any money?"

Mr. Mwaura replied: "Yes." "Then why did you accept money? Because I had a loss of my property, even up to now I have not recovered."

When Mr. Pritt asked whether anything had been said to him about getting land, the witness replied: "We were told that whoever was afraid would be given land somewhere else to farm until the end of the war."

Mr. Mwaura said that after he had given evidence at the 1952 trial, Suplt. Ian Henderson, then head of Kenya's anti-Mau Mau Bureau, had told him he would get £300.

Mr. Pritt: "Did you ask for more than that at that time?"

Mr. Mwaura: "I told him it was not enough and the Government had not done right."

Questioned about subsistence payments, he agreed they amounted to

£15 a month for 11 months.

PAID HIM £350

Muthondo Nduti, another witness at the Kenyatta trial, told the court his testimony there had been true. He said the Government paid him £350 because he had lost his car and two business houses and his goats had been eaten by soldiers of the King's African Rifles.

The money had not been enough, he added.

Mr. Dingle Foot, Q.C., Labour M.P. for Ipswich, giving evidence, said that Rawson Mbowe Macharia told him last November that he had given false evidence at the 1952 trial of Jomo Kenyatta on charges of running Mau Mau.

Mr. Foot said he had two interviews with Macharia in Nairobi. Macharia told him he had been in Britain and on his return had been employed for only a short time.

He asked if he could sue the Kenya Government for breach of contract.

At the second interview Macharia said that in 1952 an agricultural officer named Brown had told him the Government would be very interested in tracing a connection between the Kenya African Union and Mau Mau.

"MAKE A STORY"

Macharia went on to say that he had seen superintendent Ian Henderson (former head of the Kenya anti-Mau Mau Bureau), who had said the authorities had decided to prosecute Kenyatta and were trying to persuade people to give evidence. Macharia said he was willing to help but was afraid of being killed.

But superintendent Henderson told him Kenyatta would be tried in a northern frontier district and nobody would see Macharia except the magistrate. It was Macharia's reminder seeing Kenyatta anywhere in a group of people they could make a story of it.

WEST GERMANY has virtually declared strikes illegal by a supreme court decision making trade unions liable to pay millions of marks damages to employers as "damages" caused by loss of profits during a strike.

CHINESE BACK AFRICAN STRUGGLE



Rally in Peking called in support of the people of the Belgian Congo and Cuba fighting for freedom. "Victory will be theirs!" shout these workers.

