



After the shooting at Sharpeville, corpses littered the ground, two in the foreground, others near the ambulances in the background.

# MASS SLAUGHTER BY POLICE

## Bloody Reprisals Against Anti-Pass Demonstrators

THE NEW AGE

Vol. 6, No. 23. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper  
NORTHERN EDITION Thursday, March 24, 1960 6d.

News and Pictures By Joe Gahbi

**THE FIRST DAY OF THE PAN AFRICANIST CAMPAIGN AGAINST PASSES BROUGHT FRIGHTFUL REPRISALS FROM THE POLICE IN THE AREAS WHERE THE PEOPLE CAME OUT EN MASSE IN ANSWER TO THE CALL TO STAY HOME FROM WORK AND HAND IN THEIR PASSES AT THE POLICE STATION.**

At Sharpeville Township and at Langa a total of 70 were killed and several hundreds wounded.

Sharpeville Township (Ver-vening) saw one of the ugliest bloodbaths ever. At one stage we counted 34 bodies (including those of at least eight women) lying about the ground in front of the Sharpeville police station as though on a battleground.

They seemed all dead, many with bullet head wounds. Some of the injured were shot in the back, some had more than one bullet wound.

Verencing Hospital was deluged with ambulance loads of wounded who had to be treated on the lawns outside the hospital, so many were there crowding the casualty room and wards.

The police firing was without any warning, some told New Age. Saracens were on the scene and some said the firing had been from them, though we have not confirmed this and the police denied it.

This murderous shooting was done from behind a wire fence into the centre of the crowds standing about the police station.

**THE POLICE SAID, AS JUSTIFICATION, THAT THEY WERE BEING STONED AND FIRED UPON, BUT ON THEIR OWN ADMISSION ONLY THREE POLICE WERE INJURED ON MONDAY.**

A police official pointed to scratched paintwork as evidence of stoning. Their attitude seemed to be: "Demonstrate or throw stones at even our Saracens and we will teach you a lesson."

**PITIFUL SCENES**  
There were tragically pitiful

scenes after the shooting. Women waited and sobbed over the dead (Continued on page 4)

# LANGA'S NIGHT OF TERROR

From Fred Carneson and Alex La Guma

CAPE TOWN.

**AT least five people were killed and an unknown number injured during a night of clashes between the people and the police at Langa last Monday.**

The trouble started when police

arrived at a peaceful mass meeting called by the Pan Africanists at the New Flats at 6 p.m. The people were unarmed, as they had been specially asked not to bring any weapons. About 6,000 people were present at the meeting.

As all meetings had been banned under the Riotous Assemblies Act, the police tried to break up the meeting. Members of the crowd told New Age they heard no order to disperse, and they deny emphatically police reports that firing first came from the crowd.

### ATTACK LAUNCHED

The police launched an attack with batons and shortly afterwards started firing on the crowd.

As darkness fell, the incensed people hit back. Police were stoned and buildings were set on fire. The labour bureau, administrative offices, library, market hall and schools were gutted.

Saracens and armoured cars were operating in the township throughout the night, and bursts of firing were heard. Army units were called in to help the police.

On Tuesday morning a tense atmosphere persisted in the township. The police were going from door to door ordering the people to work and beating those who refused. There were reports of people being lined up and herded to the station like cattle.

We ourselves saw a man whose face was streaming with blood after being beaten by a policeman.

Sporadic bursts of shooting continued to take place.

Soldiers in the township made no secret of the fact that they were ready to "shoot kaffins." We heard

a number of disgusting remarks from them.

One soldier said to us as we went (Continued on page 4)

## ANC STATEMENT ON AFRICANIST CAMPAIGN

JOHANNESBURG.

An ANC statement issued on Monday night expressed severe shock at brutal police violence which serves only to incense and inflame the people. Could not methods be used to disperse crowds without killing and maiming people?, asks the statement.

The authorities are keen to use any excuse to shoot fear into the hearts of the people, concludes the ANC.

The ANC says its national anti-pass campaign is aimed to prepare the people for a powerful, united national action which alone can destroy the pass law system which is at the root of oppression. This cannot be done by ill-defined forms of action, less still by action in isolated areas.

While the ANC cannot oppose any people's spontaneous demonstrations, it is convinced that ill-organised, ill-defined action can cause harm and reduce the struggle's effectiveness. The ANC feels it cannot call on or encourage people to participate in the ill-defined PAC campaign.



The injured crowded on the lawn in front of the Verencing hospital.



A queue of African demonstrators who have left their passes at home surrender themselves to the police in Philippi near Cape Town.



Guarded by a policeman armed with a sten gun, another large crowd of demonstrators wait their turn to surrender themselves to the police.

# SOBUKWE STATES HIS CASE

JOHANNESBURG. PAN AFRICANIST executive Mr. Mangaliso R. Sobukwe announced at a press conference held last Friday that his congress would start a "sustained, disciplined non-violent campaign against the pass laws on Monday March 21." Mr. Sobukwe told newspaper reporters "as long as the campaign is on, nobody will go to work." Africans would leave their passes at home, and would surrender themselves at chosen police stations under the leadership of local Pan Africanist Congresses. The leaders would tell the police: "We do not have passes. We will not carry passes again. Millions of our people are arrested under the pass laws so you had better arrest us all, now."

"These are my orders," said Mr. Sobukwe, "and if we must win these orders must be faithfully carried out."

Asked how long the campaign would last, Mr. Sobukwe said "till our demands are met." Nobody would call off the campaign except the national president himself who would do so at public meetings of the people.

Mr. Sobukwe said if passes were left at home this would mean the people had divorced themselves mentally from the passes.

**DEMANDS**  
Africanist demands were for the total abolition of the pass laws, a minimum wage of £35 a month or £83.4d. a week throughout the country, a guarantee that no worker would be dismissed as a result of this campaign, and an assurance that leaders would not be victimised as the result of the positive action by the African people.

As a change from their former policies of "so it alone" and not being interested in fighting "isolated issues" the Africans have sent letters to the African National Congress and to the Liberal Party inviting them to create history by taking part in the campaign.

Mr. Sobukwe said he offered an opportunity to all those "non-African individuals and groups who have expressed themselves to be bitterly opposed to the pass laws to participate in this noble campaign."

A letter to the Commissioner of police from Mr. Sobukwe announced the start of this campaign and asked for instructions to the police to do nothing that would lead to violence, and not to give "impossible" commands to the people.

"The usual muzzling by a police officer of an order requiring the people to disperse within three minutes, and almost immediately after a baton charge, deceives nobody and shows the police up as sadistic bullies."

The police should have no diffi-

culty, says the letter. "We will surrender ourselves to the police for arrest . . ." The letter ends: "Hoping you will co-operate to try and make this a most peaceful and disciplined campaign."

Leaflets issued by the Pan Africanists say "If ONE man is arrested for not having a pass, you will stop there and then and tell the people

you do not have passes either. Demand that they arrest you all.

At this stage of the campaign "All men will go to jail under the slogan NO BAIL NO DEFENCE NO FINE. The women will be assigned their historic role.

In the first phase of the struggle they must see it that ALL MEN GO TO JAIL."

## EDITORIAL THE ARLOW SCANDAL

TO WHAT DEPTHS HAS MORALITY SUNK IN SOUTH AFRICA THAT A KILLER CAN BE TREATED AS A PUBLIC HERO?

Last week Sgt. Arlow and Constable Hattingh were convicted in court of the unlawful killing of an African, Fothane, whom they alleged to be the Pretoria "panga" man. Arlow was fined £75 and given a sentence of a year's imprisonment suspended for three years; Hattingh was fined £25.

To judge by the press reports, there are some people who feel Arlow and Hattingh have done no wrong—and there may even be a few newspapers among the number of their admirers. To these people, Arlow and Hattingh were doing a wonderful job in the first line of internal defence "to maintain baasskap or leadership," to quote the words used by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Erasmus, only the week before.

In the eyes of these white Supremacists, the only mistake Arlow and Hattingh made was to get caught. At worst they regard their offence as a technicality, and they probably wish there were more like them in the police force who could be relied upon to hunt down passless "kaffirs" with relentless efficiency.

### A CRIMINAL

Let us express here and now our disgust at the way in which some sections of press and public have treated Arlow since his conviction and sentence last week. Here is a man condemned in court by a judge as a criminal and found to be a liar, but who yet is given a reception to rival that accorded to public favourites like Princess Margaret and Mr. Jones. His photograph is plastered over the front pages of newspapers, and his views have been quoted as though they were worthy of consideration by decent people. We are told he has hopes of remaining in the police force, and his only fear is that his suspended sentence will prevent him from taking a shot at the next "dangerous criminal" he happens to tangle with.

This from a man who has only just been convicted of culpable homicide and who still faces other charges connected with the death of an African in the police cells at Brooklyn is extraordinary enough. It would appear that Arlow has been sufficiently encouraged by the public reception accorded to him to believe that there is no call upon him to mend his ways. Neither he nor Hattingh have shown the slightest remorse at the fact that the African Fothane lost his life, that a wife lost her husband and a

child his father, as a result of their illegal action.

In all the circumstances we can only express our regret that both the tone of the judgment and the sentence in this case may have left the public, however erroneously, with the feeling that the bench takes a lenient view of their offence.

### GOVT. TO BLAME

There are too many trigger-happy policemen in South Africa today, and they have been encouraged to go too far by Mr. Swart's notorious instruction to "shoot first and ask questions afterwards." Arlow himself is reported to have shot dead 13 people during his 12 years in the police force. In evidence he was alleged to have said: "I speak once to a kaffir and then shoot," "I only speak once to a Native and then my revolver speaks." Defence counsel asked another police witness: "Isn't it an average sort of joke among young constables in the barracks to say that they want to shoot a kaffir?" To which the answer was "Yes."

Speaking of the contradictions in the police evidence, the Attorney General himself, in argument, said: "Twenty years ago when a policeman went into the witness-box, one could stake one's reputation on his telling the truth. Unfortunately that is not so today. There is a minority who will commit perjury in order to get a colleague off."

Thus in the eyes of the general public, it was not merely Arlow and Hattingh who were on trial. The conduct of the whole police force and the administration of justice were involved in their case and must share, equally with the two men, the responsibility for their crime. In the last resort it is the Nationalist Government itself which, by fostering an attitude of contempt and even hatred towards the Non-White peoples, has created the mental climate in which the crime of an Arlow and a Hattingh becomes possible.

At the present time, therefore, when relations between the people and the police could hardly be worse, it would not have been out of place for Mr. Justice Ludorf to make it abundantly clear that the sort of crime for which Arlow and Hattingh were convicted simply cannot be tolerated in South Africa today.

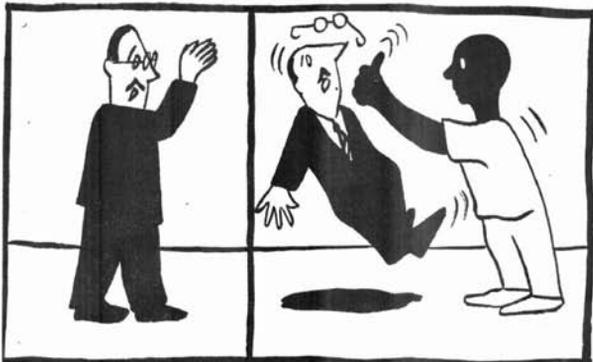
If it is too much to expect that the Minister of Justice himself will now take action on his own initiative, then it is obviously up to the people to intervene and insist that steps be taken to put an end to these continuing scandals of violence and illegality in the police force.



On Monday morning the road from Nyanga Location was thronged with groups of Africans heading for the Philippi Police Station. Our picture shows a group on their way to surrender themselves in answer to the Pan-Africanist Congress anti-pass call.

# COALBROOK LOSES ITS LABOUR FORCE

## European Mineworkers Agree To Talks With SACTU



MOLO!

MAYIBUYE!

**JOHANNESBURG.**  
**IN** a matter of three days, almost the entire labour force of African miners at the Coalbrook mine—scene of the tragic disaster in January when over 400 were entombed underground—left the mine last week to go to their homes.

At first the mine was shut down by order of the Government Engineer, but later permission was given for it to reopen in certain shafts, following an appeal by the mine management to an appeal board.

The African miners, however, refused to go underground. They were afraid of gas and another underground disaster, they said. Their determination not to go underground again had been strengthened when they saw pit ponies and horses brought above ground after the first shutdown order.

So the miners were paid off. They handed in their tin hats, packed their trunks and bundles, parted company with miner friends from other parts of southern Africa, and left Coalbrook. The mine is now trying to resume work using mechanised mining machines.

**TRADE UNION NEEDED**  
 Now is the time for a trade union of African miners, says the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions this week.

It announces also that it has approached the White Mineworkers' Union to form a committee to discuss safety measures on the mines. Ellis' union has agreed to this.

The Clydesdale Colliery disaster, says SACTU, and the refusal of African miners to go underground may bring home to the Chamber of Mines the imperative need for African miners to be permitted to organise themselves into a trade union. If there existed a properly constituted trade union for African miners with officials in whom the workers had confidence, all the confusion and suspicion as to the safety of working at Clydesdale could have been avoided.

### RUMOUR RIFE

As in all democratic countries, the trade union would have called in expert opinion and the union members would have been guided by this. Now, with over 400 of their fellow workers dead, with rumour rife and contradictory opinions ex-

pressed by the Government, the mining company and the White Mineworkers' Union, with the closing of the mine one day and its reopening two days later, the miners have quite rightly refused to go underground.

African miners may be numbers



With all his possessions carried in his two hands, an African miner leaves Coalbrook on the long journey home.

and digests to some, but each miner is a human being who values his life.

SACTU states that it will continue its efforts to organise African miners whatever obstacles are placed in its path, and is calling for support from miners' organisations throughout the world to bring pressure on the mine owners to abandon their short-sighted policy of debarring African miners from forming a trade union.

## UP MY ALLEY

**THE** Unity Movement has been pouring heavy fire on the Eoan Group for the last few weeks. The reason? The Group's opera and ballet season is included in the City Council's brochure advertising events taking place in Cape Town during the period of the Union Festival.

In spite of the Group's explanation that they had nothing to do with the Festival and that they were not responsible for the inclusion of their name in the brochure, the Torch has been going to town about them.

**BUT!** It looks as if the Torch boys could not have read the Festival Brochure very carefully. Because what do we find on page 61?

A grand bazaar to be held in May by the Teachers' League of South Africa!

Okay boys, let's see you start bombing your own troops.

★

**A** JUDGE in the States trying Negro demonstrators for breaking apartheid laws seems to

have treated a national emergency rather lightly.

He postponed the proceeding to attend a beauty contest.

★

**NEWSPAPERS** have been straining themselves to show



By **ALEX LA GUMA**

★

how unsuccessful is the overseas boycott of South African goods. But apart from that there has been a consistent grumble against people boycotting South Africa when there are other governments

just as lousy as ours. Take the United States, for example, they say. And in Scandinavia (whose trade unions support the boycott) they have apartheid between the royalty and the common folk because there they only allow intermarriage between members of royal houses. "Why aren't those countries boycotted?" they ask.

Get it into your thick skulls, chaps. The African people here **ASKED** for the boycott. People in other countries can do the same if they think fit.

★

**WISE** words by King Farouk, when he prophesied that very soon there would be only five royal houses left in the world. One would be in England, and the other in a deck of cards.

★

**AT** the Pan-Africanist anti-pass demonstration in Cape Town cheering participants gave the Afrika salute. Trying to separate demonstrators from onlookers a cop announced: "All those of you who are for Afrika stand one side. The rest clear off."



With blood spattered all over his chest and still dripping from a wound on his head, this man had just been beaten up by the police at Langa last Tuesday morning. The police had burst into the house where he was staying and tried to force all the inmates to go to work.



This was all that remained of the Langa labour bureau after last Monday night's rioting.

# MASS SLAUGHTER BY POLICE

(Continued from page 1)  
and some bodies were identified by horrified relatives on the spot. Women covered their heads with their arms and wailed and their cries could be heard from far off.

Police closed off the area, kept reporters out and refused to allow photographers to take pictures.

Tension was building up again after the shooting and as the shock of the news spread. As we left the area more Saracens were rolling in.

The firing with such shockingly heavy casualties was the second time that day the police had opened fire at Sharpeville. The first and smaller incident had been during the morning.

Bophelong location of Vanderbijl Park did not go to work on Monday either and a huge crowd of men, women and even children converged on the police station. They stood there for some time.

The police gave the crowd an order to disperse in five minutes. It is not clear if the five minutes elapsed, but the police launched a full-scale baton and rifle-but charge and threw tear gas. The police pursued the people right back into the township. At a crossroads a fruit truck was stopped by a section of the crowd which grabbed the fruit and vegetables and pelted passing traffic. A police van arrived on the scene and shot into the crowd killing one 19-year-old. His body was left lying there. Several others are reported to have been wounded there.

Three Saracens then moved into

Bophelong and four bombers flew overhead. A large crowd coming from Itirela township, also of Vanderbijl Park, turned back at the news of the baton charge of the Bophelong people.

Squad commands including at least one woman in a lace blouse, were out around the Vanderbijl Park area and police reinforcements were rushed in and top police officers took command.

## GENERAL STRIKE

Monday's events marked virtually a general strike in the Vereeniging and Vanderbijl Park area, Iscor suspended operations due to the absence of its African labour force.

Evaton township too did not go to work. No buses ran and many thousands gathered outside the police station. The crowd dispersed only in the afternoon.

In Johannesburg a score or so of PAC leaders, Sobukwe among them, marched to the police stations in the morning to announce they had left their passes behind. The PAC leadership was arrested later in the

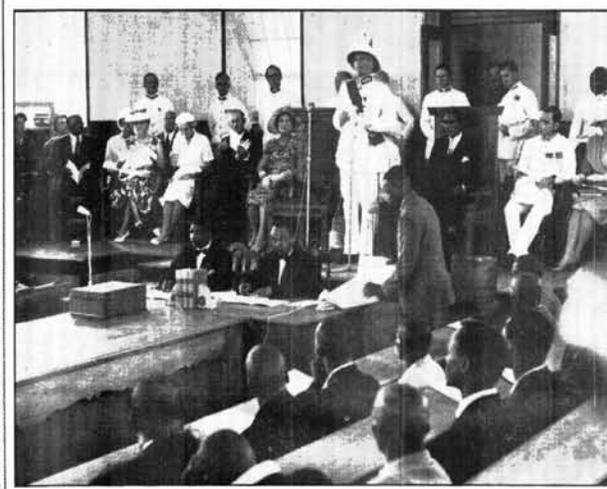
day and by nightfall was in the prison cells.

## PAC RACIALISM

Monday's tragic events were preceded on Sunday afternoon by a PAC attempt to break up an ANC meeting in Mafolo Village, one of Johannesburg's south-west townships. At times police firing from a Saracen at the ready nearby seemed imminent in view of ANC-PAC friction. The ANC meeting, which was on local issues, was furiously heckled and interfered with by a PAC group led by R. Ndaba and M. Mafate. PAC men actively interfered with the meeting and shouted threats of violence.

The ANC acted to avert trouble by moving the crowd across the street to an open space while the Africanists then went into a huddle to decide on their next action.

PAC heckling included shouts: "To hell with Lutuli. He's a sell-out." Also "Down with the ANC. They are Communists," and "Away with the Indians and away with the Jews."



In Maseru recently, the whole Basuto nation rejoiced at the installation of Bereng Seiso as Paramount Chief and the swearing-in of the new Legislative Council as the first step on the country's road to self-government.

Our pictures show: Left: The swearing-in ceremony, with Britain's High Commissioner Sir John Maud officiating and Bereng in the seat of the Paramount Chief;

Right: Part of the enormous crowd which gathered at Maseru to witness Bereng's installation; Below: Elizabeth Mafekeng, once a fleeing exile, now an adopted daughter of Basutoland, in full regalia for the installation of Bereng. With her in this picture are Mr. Bob Asmal of Evaton and (far right) Mr. J. Molefe and Mr. J. (Anti-Pass) Kumalo.

# NEW ERA IN BASUTOLAND



First Fruits of Bantu Education

## Shocking Exam Results In African Schools

THE examination results of the first group of scholars to write the Bantu Junior Certificate Exams reveal alarming trends in the development of Verwoerd's Slave Education.

● Fewer candidates wrote the Junior Certificate exams than in the previous year, 1958, when Africans wrote the same examination as other racial groups—the Cape J.C.

● The percentage of first classes was considerably lower than in 1958.

● The percentage of ordinary passes was 20 per cent lower than in 1958.

The results in the Transkei are reported to have been even worse. Schools that had consistently had a good record of passes for years collapsed.

### POLICY FULFILLED

The teachers felt that the bad results reflect a lowering of the standard of education. The enforcement of the vernacular as a medium of instruction coincided with the degrading of English, while hand-work and scripture became examination subjects with high marks, and these subjects were also zealously enforced by the field officers.

As a result teachers paid considerable attention to manual work and the vernacular. Pupils who scored highly in these subjects passed Sid, VI fairly easily.

In the four years since Bantu Education was introduced, the teachers say, the standard of English has declined alarmingly. And the fact that the pupils had to write the J.C. Exams in English must have been the cause of considerable difficulty to the candidates. Added to this was the fact that practically all the schools in the Cape wrote Grade C Afrikaans which carries

lower marks than Grade B which is taken in the northern provinces.

### ENGLISH DOOMED?

The latest step that has been taken to lower further the standard of English is the order which has been given to teachers in the secondary schools to teach at least two subjects in Afrikaans and the rest in vernacular. The teachers are under no obligation to teach any subject in English except, possibly, English itself.

### DISPLACEMENTS

When the government started cutting down on expenses by dismissing male teachers it announced that it wanted to employ more married women as they have a natural sympathy in their dealings with young children. But the truth of the matter was that they were

being used as a stop-gap until the first group of teachers trained in 1959 these schools turned out their first lot of teachers, and the married women were immediately given notice to finish up at the end of this month.

To meet the requirements of secondary schools a special course was opened at Heidelberg Training Institution and those who qualified there were granted a Bantu Education Diploma. This course has now been transferred to Fort Hare. As soon as their numbers increase they will displace the old teachers whom Dr. Eiselein called a "liability" that must be liquidated if Bantu Education was to develop according to plan.

## Fifty Arrested For Crossing Railway Line

From Arthur Damane JOHANNESBURG.

WITHOUT any warning, the S.A.R. police recently made an early morning swoop upon the people who were crossing the line which divides the Benoni and Watville Townships. These two townships are regarded as one for all practical purposes. Over 50 persons were arrested and fined for crossing the line.

The stiles which were previously provided for the people to cross at different points of the line were removed soon after the arrests.

The Watville section of the Benoni townships sprawls along the line for more than a mile. On the other side of the line is the biggest shopping centre of the area. The residents complain that the inconvenience of walking half a mile or more to a point only 100 yards away at suitable points between the two official crossings.

connect the Townships lies at the far end of the line. At the other end of the line a level-crossing is provided but it is as dangerous to cross here as anywhere else and many lives have been lost here over the years. Repeated requests by the residents for the construction of Booms and Stoplights or the employment of signalmen at the crossing have been ignored. This knocks the bottom out of the argument now made by the S.A.R. that the arrests are being made as a safety measure. The people now regard these arrests as another pin-prick and expect continuous arrests as long as there is no suitable provision for crossing the line.

Thousands of pounds are being spent by the S.A.R. on the construction of apartheid bridges at the stations. The people now demand that ladder bridges be constructed at suitable points between the two official crossings.

# LANGA'S NIGHT OF TERROR

(Continued from page 1)  
by: "I hope the kaffirs kill you."

The streets were crowded with tense, sulky and angry people.

## PEACEFUL START

Thousands of African workers began gathering at Langa and Nyanga at dawn on Monday morning in large-scale demonstrations against the pass laws. The demonstrations were preceded by well-attended meetings at both centres on Sunday, where speakers from the Pan African Congress had outlined their plans.

A large group of the demonstrators at Nyanga began the three-mile march to Phillipi police station just after 6 a.m. They walked along silently, in small groups of five or six.

By seven o'clock some 1,500 had gathered outside the police station, several hundred in the grounds and the others closely packed on both sides of the road.

The demonstrators were quiet and well-disciplined. No banners or

badges were displayed. Fifty White and 100 African police, under the command of Major Rheeder, stood by at Phillipi and another large force had been mobilised at Langa.

Many of the police were armed with sten-guns and others carried riot sticks. Two Saracens were parked in the rear court-yard at the Phillipi station.

## NO INCIDENTS

The police, however, confined themselves to keeping the road clear for passing traffic and there were no incidents.

Speakers from the crowd explained that the people had come to be arrested, as they had all left their reference books at home.

The police did nothing until just after 9 a.m., when Major Rheeder announced that all those who had no passes and wished to be arrested should come forward. Those who did not wish to be arrested should go home.

The crowd surged forward.

There were isolated cries of "Mashamba Zonke!"—"Let us all go!"—but for the rest the people pressed forward silently, but determinedly.

Queues were organised quickly and the men waited quietly for their turn to enter the police station.

Large numbers were still awaiting their turn at noon, with hundreds still to be dealt with crowding the inner and outside court-yards.

No arrests were made. The demonstrators had their names and addresses taken and were warned to appear at the Wynberg Magistrate's Court next Tuesday, March 29.

Groups of demonstrators at Phillipi, when asked whether they would go to work on the morrow, answered with a unanimous and resounding "NO! We shall stay away from work for as long as necessary, until we get our demands."

When asked what they intended to do when they appeared before the Magistrate, they replied with the slogan: "No bail; No fines; No defence!"

A spokesman for one group stressed that the struggle was non-violent. "Our struggle is a peaceful one," he said. "We do not want violence."

No workers presented themselves for arrest at the Langa police station, although several thousand gathered early in the morning at the New Flats—the so-called "bachelor quarters."

The crowd dispersed after the police asked a young student leader of the demonstrators to ask them to do so.

## MINOR INCIDENTS

Two minor incidents were reported to have occurred at Nyanga, a bus travelling to the Epping factory area found itself unable to enter Vanguard Drive because of a large crowd of demonstrators blocking the turn-off. The bus took another route.

A small road-block, consisting of a low wall of heaped-up sand and boulders, had been constructed during the night across the road leading to Nyanga from the National Road turn-off. The road-block was removed by the police.

These were the only incidents until the rioting broke out at Langa in the evening. Until then the entire scene had been peaceful.



Answer to Police Raids

# 5,000 AT MASS PROTEST IN MARITZBURG

From Mandhla Nkosi DURBAN.

THE three police raids within four days carried out last week on the offices of the Congress at Pietermaritzburg, far from intimidating the people, brought them closer to the national liberation organisations than ever before.

Since the raids, officials of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions in Maritzburg have been hard pressed to meet the demand from an increasing number of workers who want to be organised into trade unions.

At one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in Maritzburg, over 5,000 people packed the "Matsheni Square" and amidst thunderous applause, interspersed with cries of "Afrika! Mayibuyel!", heard representatives of the ANC, SACTU, NIC and the Liberal Party condemn the raids.

Urging the people to strive for greater unity and discipline and calling for an intensification of the recruiting drive initiated by the Congress Alliance, Dr. M. M. Motlala, President of the Pietermaritzburg branch of the NIC, said that this meeting was the answer of the people to the raids by the police.

Mr. Moses Mabhida, popular working-class leader and chairman of the Provincial Working Committee of the ANC, said that whoever thought that he would frighten the workers away from their organisations by a show of force was living in a fool's paradise.

The working class, he continued, would never deviate from its path of fighting for higher wages, better working conditions and freedom in their lifetime.

"This is a new generation; it is a generation which is determined to win freedom now," he said amidst

thunderous applause.

"It is disgusting to see the police, purporting to act in the name of white civilisation, carrying on their raids in the manner they did," said Mr. J. E. Spence, Chairman of the local branch of the Liberal Party, in a speech punctuated with applause.

The Liberal Party was in full accord with the struggle of the South African Congress of Trade Unions for higher wages and better working conditions, said Mr. Spence. Low wages and bad working conditions contributed to racial ill-feeling.

Led by ANC volunteers with the Congress flag flying high, the crowd marched through the streets in a huge procession to the offices of the Congress, singing the popular Congress song: "Wobhasaba indoda emnyama Verwoerd!" ("Watch out for the black man Verwoerd!") The police looked on helplessly.

## Death of Ida Mntwana

New Age regrets to announce the death of Mrs. Ida Mntwana, veteran ANC women's leader and a former treason trialist, at her home in Western Native Township, Johannesburg, following a heart attack.

The entire Congress movement will mourn her passing. To her family and friends New Age conveys its heartfelt condolences.

## MISSING MAN IS FOUND

JOHANNESBURG.  
Mr. Nage Mdani, who disappeared from his home in Zola township and whose picture New Age published, was found in the Pretoria district suffering from loss of memory, and is now back with his family.



Four Pan Africanist leaders—from left to right, Messrs Ndaba, Ngendane, Sobukwe and Nyosae—present themselves at the Orlando police station for arrest.

## TREASON TRIAL

**DR. Wilson Conco, accused of No. 30, spent the whole of last week in the witness box.**

Cross-examined by Mr. J. J. Trengrove (for the Crown), he said that the policy of the African National Congress was that all the people of South Africa, black and white, should be fully represented in all councils of the State. He denied that the policy of the African National Congress was to overthrow the State by violence.

He said that the "murder murder" speech made by Robert Resha at a meeting of volunteers at the Congress premises in November, 1956, was outside the policy of the African National Congress.

### PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY

Dr. Conco said that he understood the phrase "people's democracy" to mean a democracy representative of all the people of South Africa, irrespective of race. Asked whether South Africa was a democracy today, he said it was a democracy of the Europeans only who had the vote. He said the "true democracy" or "people's democracy" were interchangeable, they meant the same thing.

Dealing with the volunteers and their pledge, Dr. Conco recalled that there was a pledge taken by the volunteers but there was no formal ceremony for the taking of the pledge. He said there was an oath "To Kill or Not Kill" taken by volunteers.

Mr. Kentridge (leading evidence for the defence) asked about the pleadings in this case, the policy of the African National Congress was to overthrow the Government by violence.

Dr. Conco: That is not true.

Mr. Kentridge: Did the African National Congress recruit volunteers?—Yes.

Preparing for active violence?—That was not the policy.

Was it a disciplined body?—Yes. Was it a semi-military body?—No.

Dr. Conco, replying to a question, said that volunteers never carried out instructions of violence. He agreed that the methods of the African National Congress were unconditional. He said the methods of non-operation and civil disobedience. He said Congress employed these methods because the African people have no vote. He agreed also that the African National Congress carried out campaigns against laws such as the Native Resettlement Act, Bantu Education and Pass Laws.

### MARXISM

Mr. Kentridge: What is the policy of the African National Congress in regard to the situation in South Africa?—The African National Congress advocates racial harmony.

Dr. Conco said that he had not studied Marxist-Leninist doctrine and that it was never the policy of the ANC to advocate the Marxist-Leninist doctrine.

Mr. Trengrove questioned Dr. Conco about a number of bulletins published by the ANC and the ANC Youth League such as "Mayibuye," "Isizwe," "Inyaniso," "Africa," "Secagaba" and "Lodestar." He knew some of these bulletins but he said he sent others but could not remember whether he read the articles therein. The bulletin "The Youth League" he said he had never seen.

Answering a question he said that the ANC supported other bulletins. He agreed that the ANC had urged its members to read New Age because it published Congress news.

Dr. Conco was asked about three lectures. "The work we live in," "The country we live in" and "Change is needed." He said he had heard of these lectures for the first time in this case. "They might have been found among my documents

but I did not know much about them."

Mr. Trengrove: Did you ask anybody about them?—Yes.

Mr. Trengrove: Who?

Dr. Conco: I asked fellow members but I do not know who I asked.

Mr. Trengrove asked who was responsible for publishing these lectures. Dr. Conco said he happened to have been told that they were published by the National Action Council for the Congress of the People.

Mr. Trengrove: This body, the National Action Council for the Congress of the People, did you know about it?—Yes.

Mr. Trengrove: This is the body in which the African National Congress, South African Indian Congress and South African Congress of Democrats were represented?—Yes.

Mr. Trengrove: Were you ever a member of the National Action Council for the Congress of the People?—No.

Mr. Trengrove: Were you ever a member of the National Action Council for the Congress of the People?—Yes.

Mr. Trengrove: Is it correct to say that the National Action Council for the Congress of the People co-ordinated the activities of its constituent bodies in the struggle for liberator in South Africa?

Dr. Conco: Yes.

Dr. Conco was asked whether the publications "Operation" and "Fighting Talk" were discussed by the National Executive of the African National Congress. He said that to his knowledge these magazines were not discussed.

Mr. Trengrove then gave the witness a copy of the National Executive Report to the national conference in Bloemfontein, 1955.

Mr. Trengrove: Do you remember the report?—I saw the report but I was not at the conference; I was banned.

Mr. Trengrove: Do you know whether the report says about publications?—No.

Mr. Trengrove: Do you suffer from a bad memory Doctor?

Dr. Conco: I don't know that. These things happened in 1955, now it's 1960 and that is five years ago.

Mr. Trengrove asked the witness if he had classes for the education of the volunteers and he replied that he did.

You prepared the lectures at your residence, is that correct? That was decided by the committee or the secretary.

"Here I must explain My Lords, I did not attend all the meetings."

Mr. Trengrove: Doctor, did you carry out your duties as a member of the National Action Council for the Congress of the People in Natal, did you carry out your work conscientiously?

Dr. Conco: To the best of my ability.

Asked about a meeting at Fraser Station, Natal, and what the meeting was and who were the people who attended, Dr. Conco said he saw the document and said: "In the first place this document has no date."

Mr. Trengrove: Did you see this document before your examination of this case?—That is used.

Mr. Trengrove: Do you remember a document "Report of the National Volunteers"?—Yes.

Dr. Conco: I think I have seen this document. But I don't remember it was used at this meeting.

Mr. Trengrove: Was there an agenda at this meeting?—I can't remember the agenda of this meeting.

Mr. Trengrove: This document does not refer to the Defence Campaign?

Dr. Conco: No. But I don't know whether there was a volunteers' board. Who was the volunteer-in-chief?—It was Chief Lutuli.

Who were the volunteers-in-chief of the provinces?—Natal it was Yengwa, Transvaal Resha. I don't remember the other provinces.

Mr. Trengrove: Cape was it not Mxaka?—I don't know.

Mr. Trengrove: With whom did

Yengwa work?—I don't know. He did work with me as a member of the Natal Action Council. I don't know who else worked with him.

Mr. Trengrove: Were the volunteers called to take a special pledge according to this document?

Dr. Conco: Let me see the document please. Yes, I see.

Mr. Trengrove: Was there a special pledge taken at a meeting?

Mr. Justice Rumpff: You mean a pledge taken at a special meeting?

Mr. Trengrove: Yes My Lord, according to this document volunteers were to take a pledge at a special meeting and then at a public meeting.

Dr. Conco: I do not know if there was a special meeting but I do know about the public meetings.

Mr. Trengrove asked the witness if the volunteers used to wear armbands, badges and uniforms. Dr. Conco said they did.

They were subject to a code of discipline?—Yes.

They also had to carry out orders from their leaders?—That is so.

Mr. Trengrove: What was the task of the volunteers?—To organise.

Let me explain My Lords, let us take the ANC, their job was to organise the people to enlist as members of the ANC, to organise by popularising the Congress of the People, to set the people to send in their demands for the Congress of the People.

Mr. Trengrove: Were you a unit leader?—In my branch yes.

Mr. Trengrove: Doctor, did you do your work conscientiously?—To the best of my ability.

Dr. Conco said that he gave lectures to volunteers but did not use the three lectures because he could not analyse the situation in this country without using the lectures. He was shown the bulletin "The Call" and it was the lecture "The Country We Live In."

Mr. Trengrove: Did you read this bulletin?—I did not read it.

Did you receive it?—I don't deny that, I might have seen it but I do not remember going through it.

No, you had seen it would you have been interested in reading it?—I would have been but that depends whether I had the time. I received a lot of material from the Congress of the People.

Dr. Conco was shown another document which was seized from his house by the police, a newsletter by the Midlands Region of the Congress of the People.

Mr. Trengrove asked Dr. Conco if he was a party to the decision to issue the newsletter. He said that he was very much interested in the issuing of material for people to read.

Mr. Trengrove: When your idea was realised, did you see the newsletter, were you interested?—I was interested.

Mr. Trengrove: Who decided what material should be put into the newsletter?—I don't understand the question.

Mr. Trengrove: Were you also among those that prepared the material?—I might have been but I do not remember.

Mr. Trengrove: You said that the first time you were aware of the contents of these documents was at the personal examination of this case?—That is so.

Mr. Trengrove: Did you inquire who wrote these lectures, who was the author of these lectures?—They came from the headquarters of the National Action Council.

Mr. Trengrove: Doctor, did three or four of your lectures were prepared?—Yes.

Mr. Trengrove: Doctor, Conco, did you at any stage inquire as to who wrote these lectures?—My Lords, I must explain this. I have already said that I inquired and I found out that it was the National Action Council.

Mr. Trengrove: Did you inquire as to who was the actual author?—I did not.

Mr. Trengrove: Do you agree with these lectures Doctor Conco?—I don't know. I would like to see them.

Mr. Trengrove: Doctor, do not

commit yourself unnecessarily, do you or do you not agree with what is contained in these lectures?—I would like to see them first.

Mr. Trengrove: You will be given an opportunity to see them.

Mr. Trengrove said articles published in "Isizwe" on the riots in Port Elizabeth. Dr. Conco denied that people who died during the riots would be dealing with articles published in the National Congress of himself as heroes of the struggle for liberation. The riots were an outburst and had not been organised. He said that the ANC had asked for a judicial inquiry, but the Government refused.

Mr. Trengrove read portions of an article about a tin of paint. Quoting from the article "This was the tin of paint that enabled fascism to demonstrate its power," Mr. Trengrove asked Dr. Conco, if he agreed with that. Dr. Conco said that the language was strong but he himself had no knowledge of the happenings to say whether the article was just or not. He admitted that this type of article could create racial hatred. He further said he was seeing the article for the first time.

It gave an interpretation of the events which were so serious that an inquiry had been asked for.

Mr. Trengrove said he would show that the ANC was not as innocent as the witness said. He read another article from the "Youth League" bulletin expressing the feelings of the white rioters. Dr. Conco said that the Africans had very strong feelings concerning police methods. He said that the police were giving their treatment to the people and this feeling might have been projected in the article. He said that the ANC policy did not support rioting.

Mr. Trengrove: Dr. Conco, you are not prepared to concede that this article would have a harmful effect on race relations in this country?—No, I am not prepared to concede that. This refers to the police, not to the European as such.

Dr. Conco was then questioned about a memorandum on the draft constitution of the African National Congress which refers to "Seizure of power" by the ANC.

He said that the ANC aimed at seizure of power but explained that the method was to influence the electorate to change the form of government. The seizure of power would be political power, when all the people had the franchise.

From a report of the ANC Mr. Trengrove read: "In a long drawn out battle there will be many minor victories, minor defeats, many advances and retreats but victory means the end of the cheap labour system of South Africa. It can only be achieved by the overthrow of the ruling class and by the winning of the Freedom Charter as the ruling policy of South Africa."

Dr. Conco explained that the ruling class meant the whites who had the vote and the expression "overthrow" meant to overthrow the government which was ruling the state. The policy of the ANC was not to overthrow the state but merely the ruling class.

### EXAMINATION

Re-examining the witness Mr. Kentridge asked whether he thought that if a policeman who shot an African was charged with culpable homicide, would he raise the issue of increase or decrease respect for the law. Dr. Conco said that as far as Africans were concerned they would not raise the issue.

Mr. Trengrove asked Mr. Kentridge to explain and Mr. Kentridge replied that he would explain that in the argument stage. Mr. Justice Rumpff wanted to know what was meant by the law, and Mr. Kentridge replied that he was referring to the administration of the law.

### Book Review

## THE TOKOLOSH

The tokolosh, according to African lore, is essentially a mischievous blighter, with a pronounced sexual side to his character. In Ronald Segal's new book (fantasy? satire? fable?) he is, however, neither.

True, he is mischievous as far as he is merely "concerned" with an fact, any national politician would recognise him instantly as an agitator—but as far as the African people are concerned he is a veritable *deus ex machina*.

He appears at just the right moment, skillfully sowing confusion and ensuring first that a bay boycott is a success, and second that it merges into a general stay-at-home.

All this is very convenient for the struggling Africans. When they are at their wits' end, failing, the tokolosh rescues them. He reveals to them their strength. When they finally fail it is of their own doing.

This could have been the flaw in the fable; that you must seek your salvation in others. With a neat twist, however, the author turns it into the eternal moral: seek ye the tokolosh within thyself! The moral, therefore, is African. White consumption. If this is a fantasy, it is a very hard-headed fantasy.

What appeals to me most in the book is its obvious compassion. It reveals a great love for the African people and a deep understanding of their suffering with their cause. One must pay this tribute to the author: he is genuine in his feelings, even if sometimes the young man whose newspaper the police did not like," he is inclined to lecture the Africans a little earnestly.

Some readers may quarrel over the style. It vaguely resembles the semi-biblical prose of Cry, the

"Beloved Country" (which was appropriate for the occasion, but should be steered clear of in future), and yet it is probably perfectly legitimate for an avowed fable.

Even if the style is a little poetic and sentimental, what it describes is certainly authentic. For example: "Suddenly a high sharp whistled pierced the waiting dark. 'Peter! Peter, little one! Aimi!' And Peter's mother rocked backwards and forwards, her heart beat double under the great grief blowing upon it. And from a shack in the next street came a wailing cry, rising from a man who would not see the father of her children for many days, if ever she saw him again. . . . And from a shack to the left the wailing spread, a fire of pain leaping high in the sky. . . . and so the township cried in its agony, one woman to another."

Straining after effect? Maybe. But that is the effect, and this glosses over the strain.

"The Tokolosh" is not a pretentious book. It runs to less than 200 pages, with a number of first-class cartoons by David Marais, who is easily South Africa's best political cartoonist. Some readers will prefer the book more than others: it is one of those books. I admit that it is not for me, and for that reason I may be attaching more substance to it than it actually possesses, but at least the book's heart is in the right place.

C.P.E.

"The Tokolosh," by Ronald Segal, published by Sheed and Ward, of London and New York, and Africa South Publications (Pty.) Ltd., of Cape Town, priced 8s. 6d.

## EUROPE FRENCH FASCISTS RALLY TO OPPOSE MR. K.

**T**he visit to France of Soviet Premier Khrushchov to have talks with President de Gaulle and to see a bit of France, has not been without repercussions inside the host country.

The French Government has been at pains to prevent the Soviet Premier from having an opportunity to meet the millions of Frenchmen in the streets and at their places of work. Nevertheless, that vast section of the French working class that holds Mr. K. in high esteem will no doubt find ways to demonstrate their affection for him.

Meanwhile Mr. K.'s visit has been used in a new drive to the right wing Catholics, Algerian "ultras," Vichy hangers, Nazi collaborationists and assorted fas-

cists against "satanic communism."

In terms of propaganda, the drive got off the ground with some success in a two-day "study conference" organized in Paris by the "Center of Superior Studies in Social Psychology." More than 1,000 persons attended, filling "just half the available seats" according to a reporter from *L'Express*.

**"THE JEWS"**  
Georges Saur, "apostle of national Catholicism," sounded the call to a "quasi-supernatural" battle against "the Prince of Darkness, the Father of the Lie, the Seducer of Nations."

He said: "We are forming the cadres of a new order, a Christian order; all must be made from the bottom to the top. France will find again in the face of the elder daughter of the Church in the leadership of nations and peoples..."

Fascist leader Pierre Poujade, declaring his movement's support of the drive, cried: "Whose fault is it that we are" and inspired an answering shout from the "students of 'The Jews, the Jews!'"

Pétain's former lawyer Isorni described the Fifth Republic as "the forerunner of communism" and accused de Gaulle of "breaking up NATO." Another speaker demanded a ban on the Communists, who "fought not for France but for Russia."



Stinky in the New Statement

## AFRICA

**"We do not fight for independence to fall under the control of foreign monopoly interests."—Patrice Lumumba, leader of the Congo National Movement.**

**ALTHOUGH THE PEOPLE OF THE CONGO HAVE WON FOR THEMSELVES THE RIGHT TO POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE (JUNE 30th THIS YEAR) THE BATTLE FOR THE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE COUNTRY HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN IN EARNEST.**

The key question facing the country is: who is going to control the mineral-rich Katanga province—all the African people of the Congo, or the Union Minière monopoly and its Katanga stooges?

At the recent Brussels round table conference on the future of the Congo, a draft constitution was drawn up which provided for the creation of a single Congo State to be made up of six provinces with the same geographical boundaries as now.

Under the section "Partition of Authority" the draft provided that the central government would have power over, amongst others, "the nation's finances" and "general economic policy."

Among the powers reserved for the provinces are "Provincial finances and a GRANTING OF MINING CONCESSIONS."

It is not clear what means in effect that whoever controls the legislature of the Katanga province will hold the key to domina-

tion of the Congo's economy.

**CONFERENCE**  
The background to this constitutional provision was referred to in an article in the Belgian newspaper *le Drapeau Rouge*, which declared that Belgian monopoly capitalists were conspiring to have the Congo divided up in order to retain its prerogatives of exploiting the resources there.

The article pointed out that certain Congolese political parties founded by the whites and representing the big Belgian mining interests did not bother to conceal their inclinations for a divided Congo and demanded that the provinces should have the rights over the country's underground resources.

This took place at the time when the round table conference on the future of the Congo was deliberating to whom these resources should belong, Congo's central authorities or the provincial governments.

The article quoted the leader of the Congolese Union Party as saying: "The colonialists are trying by all means to break the Katanga province break away from the Congo, because it is the richest Congolese province."

It is not clear what means in effect that whoever controls the Congo National Movement Party, had condemned the colonialists for

## BATTLE FOR CONGO RIGHTS

**It is not fight for independence to fall under the control of foreign monopoly interests," Lumumba declared.**

**PROFITS**  
The Katanga United Mining Company formed by Belgian, British and U.S. capital holds concessions over one third of the territory of the province for a period of 99 years.

Its average rate of profit during the six years from 1950 to 1955 was 100 per cent.

The temporarily shelved plot to get the Katanga province to break away from the Congo and join up with the Central African Federation (see New Age last week) was yet another device of the monopolists to ensure their perpetual control of the mineral wealth of the province.

● Meanwhile the fighting between rival political groupings in the Katanga province, which broke out last week when Lumumba addressed a meeting of 10,000 Africans in the heart of Elizabethville, the province's capital, is a further reflection of the bitter battle for the Katanga.

In the long run, the pro-Lumumba faction in the Katanga must win out, but before they do the monopolists can be relied upon to put up a bitter fight.

## AMERICA

### K.K.K. Won't Stop Negro Defiance Campaign

**DESPITE THE terror of** the notorious Ku Klux Klan hoodlums, Negro students, workers and priests in the apartheid-ridden South of the United States are stepping up their massive defiance campaign to secure equal citizenship rights for their people.

● Meanwhile in the U.S. Senate 18 Southern Senators are keeping up their filibuster on legislation designed to assist Negroes in becoming enfranchised. These Senators hope that by marathon speechmaking they will prevent the new Civil Rights Bill from ever coming to a vote.

The main targets of the Negroes have been Whites-only shops and public amenities. Hundreds of Negroes in different Southern States have demanded to be served at Whites-only counters, and to be allowed to read in Whites-only libraries. For these crimes they have been arrested and jailed.

The campaign has already spread to more than 40 cities.

The spirit of the demonstrators was typified by Carl Matthews, leader of the demonstrators at Winston-Salem, in North Carolina, who, on coming out of jail, declared: "My experience of being jailed has made us even more determined than we were at first. We'll be even more forceful."

● In New York, Boston and other towns where the North sympathy demonstrations have started outside stores which showed discrimination in the South.

**IN a desperate attempt to** terrorise the Negroes into dropping their campaign, the vicious Ku Klux Klan has been rearing its ugly head—1960 style.

Instead of careering around the country on horseback, they now tour more luxuriously in swanky motor cars. And instead of lynching defenceless Negroes, they now merely torture them in sadistic Nazi fashion.

Recently masked youths seized a Negro, tied him upside down and carved six K's on his body.

The Negro, Felton Turner, unemployed father of a three-month-old son, is now in hospital.

He told police he was walking home when two white youths carrying clubs, forced him into a car with two other white youths. He was taken to a wooded area, gagged and tied to a tree by his feet and then beaten with chains "for 30 minutes."

He said one of the youths told him they had been hired to do the job because of his "Negro" skin. He said Texas Southern University had received over sitting at a lunch counter in Houston in defiance of a "whites only" rule.

## BABY BORN WITHOUT A BRAIN—Parents Had Been A-Bomb Victims

**T**he Japanese Kyudo news agency reported recently that a baby girl born without a brain survived for 24 hours in Nagasaki before doctors officially declared her dead.

The report was given to the Press after an autopsy, but it was not sanctioned by any recognised medical organisation. Kyudo said the baby's deformation was being blamed on radiation from the atom bomb which shattered Nagasaki in 1945.

Both the child's parents—a 30-year-old office clerk and his 28-year-old wife—then in their teens, were exposed to radiation from the Nagasaki bomb.

Doctors said they had seen 36 babies born without brains since 1945, the agency added, but all had been stillborn, died at birth or miscarried.

The report did not explain how life was apparently maintained even for a short time without a centre for the nervous system.

## ASIA Koreans in Japan Choose North Korea

**T**HERE are some 600,000 to 800,000 Koreans in Japan. This is not surprising when it is remembered that Korea was a Japanese colony for thirty-five years, from 1910 when it was formally annexed.

Most of them want to get back to their own country, even those who were born in Japan. But their own country is divided between Communist North Korea and South Korea which is ruled by America's puppet Syngman Rhee. Japan is only too anxious to get rid of them since she has a big employment problem.

**THE QUESTION IS, TO WHICH PART OF THEIR HOMELAND SHALL THEY GO?**

### THEIR CHOICE

There is little doubt about the answer. Most and all choose North Korea and over 5,000 have already returned there, the answer

is the same whether they originate from the North or the South. The "Economist's" Tokyo correspondent quotes statements made to him by a number of them waiting to embark in the Soviet ship "Tobolsk." A girl says:

"In Communist North Korea life will be more orderly; everything is organised there."

A boy says:

"I look forward to taking part in building up a socialist Korea."

A composer, aged 33, says:

"In North Korea I shall have a house, a piano, a studio and a guaranteed income."

A 36-year-old teacher says:

"My wife and I did not dare to have children, but now we plan to have six, for in North Korea our livelihood is guaranteed."

When the first batch of people arrived in North Korea they were welcomed by Premier Kim Il Sung, who did not

offer them an earthly paradise, he simply told them:

"We were once slaves, but now we have attained the status of poor peasants. We should have welcomed you earlier but because of our poverty it was impossible. We still cannot offer you luxury, but we do offer you food, clothing, shelter and hard work to improve our common lot."

That is honest and straightforward and very attractive to people who had no status and very little income in Japan, and to whom Syngman Rhee can offer only unemployment. In fact, none are going to South Korea. This is a worry to the Americans, since it is at the "Economist's" points out, a poor advertisement for the "free" world.

Syngman Rhee has announced he would accept them provided the North Korean Government will pay £100 per head compensation—the money to be paid, not to the repatriates, of course, but to Syngman Rhee. The Japanese appear to be willing to pay, provided the Americans advanced the money.

But even if that happens it seems very doubtful if any of the Koreans themselves will opt for South Korea.

### 1,000 A WEEK

They are returning to North Korea at the rate of 1,000 a week but efforts are being made to speed up the repatriation.

In Pyongyang new blocks of flats are being built, each housing 300 families. It is reckoned that a new one goes up every forty days. Here the newcomers are quickly absorbed in the process of socialistic construction in contrast to what happens in South Korea, where, their relatives warn them, there is only poverty and unemployment.

Asked if he did not have complaints about the amount of hard work they have to do, a North Korean replied:

"The more we work, the more conspicuous becomes the improvement in our livelihood."

Note: The overwhelming majority of the Koreans in Japan originally came from South Korea.

