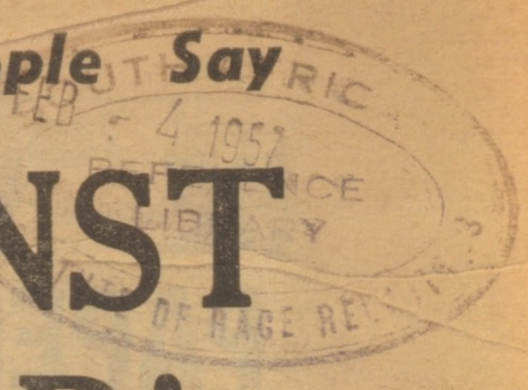


Swart Is Asking For More Powers For His Police, But The People Say

POLICE VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PEOPLE MUST STOP!



Ferocious Assaults On Newclare Residents

From Ruth First

JOHANNESBURG.

WHAT ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN AGAINST POLICEMEN WHO GO OUT ON PRIVATE WARS OF VENGEANCE AGAINST THE PEOPLE? AGAINST POLICE WHO BEAT UP AND INJURE INNOCENT AFRICANS? WHO COMB THROUGH A TOWNSHIP AND FEROCIOUSLY ATTACK MEN AND WOMEN SITTING PEACEABLY IN THEIR HOMES: NOT JUST A FEW, OR A DOZEN, BUT SCORES, ON ONE AFTERNOON?

These are the questions the police heads and the Government must answer about the police action in Newclare on the Sunday afternoon of February 10.

POLICE RAIDS HIT AFRICAN TOWNSHIPS EVERY DAY, BUT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANYTHING LIKE THE MASSACRE OF NEWCLARE THAT AFTERNOON.

Last week Newclare looked like a battlefield. Men and women with bandaged heads and limbs were to be seen on every side.

On the evening of the police action, 70 people were treated at Coro-

nation Hospital for their injuries.

Four days after, 13 men were still in hospital. Two had not yet regained consciousness. A third man had lost an eye. Others had scalp lacerations, severe concussion, fractured arms and other injuries.

In the streets of Newclare one could meet on every hand people who had been injured, people who had been witnesses to assaults all around them, women who had seen their husbands and sons dragged out of their homes and assaulted.

In less than an hour New Age had interviewed more than a dozen victims, and more were to be found in every street.

But even more horrifying—and as yet unreported in the press—is the account of how men who had been chased to the edge of the storm water drain that runs through Newclare were lifted up by groups of police and thrown into the rushing water.

Two bodies were recovered the following day.

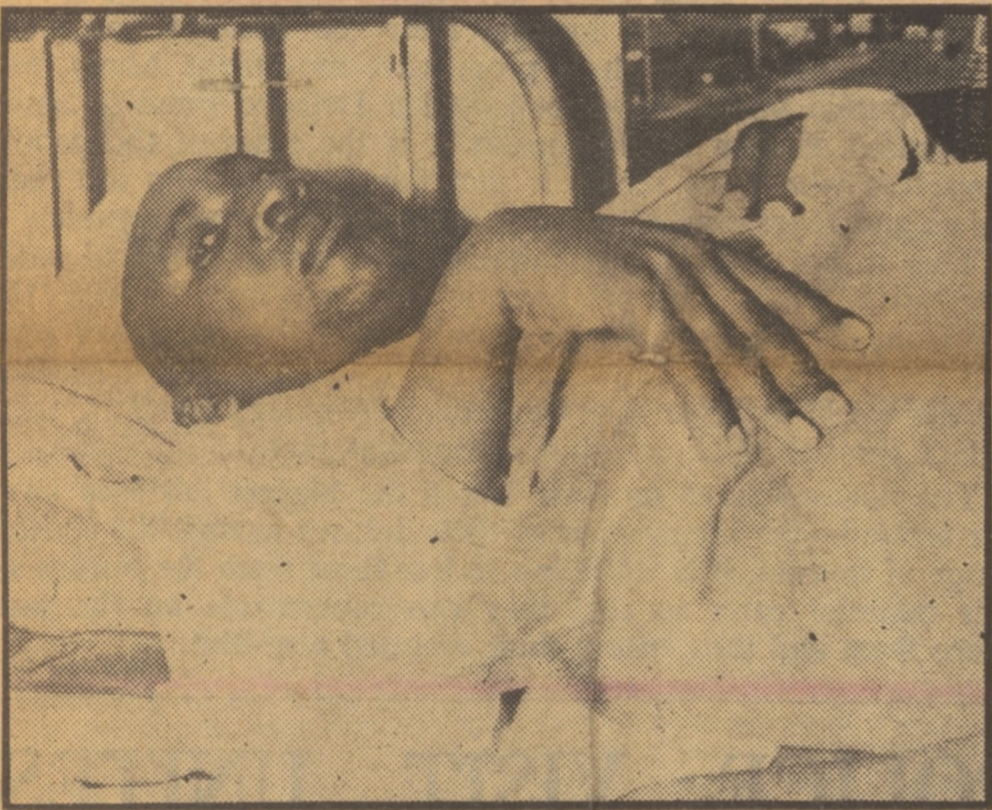
The widow of one of these men saw her husband's death with her own eyes.

THE START

How did all this start?

Police raiding parties were always busy in Newclare, one of the last freehold areas and a Congress

(Continued on page 3)



Following police assaults in Newclare last week, Mr. Ephraim Mangjane lies in a hospital bed with a fractured arm and multiple lacerations.

BRITISH SAILORS WARNED AGAINST NON-EUROPEANS

SACPO Protests To Admiralty

CAPE TOWN.

BRITISH sailors who arrive at Union ports are advised by their superior officers to have nothing to do with the Non-European people.

A notice circulated among the crew of the British cruiser Superb, which docked here last week, contained, amongst other instructions, the following paragraph:

"Association with Non-Europeans.

"Europeans in South Africa do not consort (or associate) with Non-Europeans and this 'apartheid' is very strictly enforced by the police in accordance with the laws of the country. These make it a criminal offence, punishable by a maximum of five years imprisonment for a European to have sexual intercourse with a Non-European woman. In addition, any rating who merely speaks to, or is in the company of, any Non-European woman lays

himself open to a charge of soliciting, which is also a criminal offence. The fact that a Coloured girl may have made the first advances will cut no ice with the Magistrate and is no consolation when sitting in gaol.

"Association with Non-Europeans can lead not only to imprisonment, but exposes a man to venereal disease and tuberculosis, both of which are rife among the Coloured population; the sensible thing therefore is to have nothing whatsoever to do with Non-Europeans.

"By law a Non-European means a person who is such by appearance or by general acceptance or repute, and this term therefore includes ALL Coloured people and Natives.

"Marriage with a Non-European is forbidden by law in South Africa."

The notice was signed by Vice-

Admiral Geoffrey Robson, Commander in Chief South Atlantic and South America.

British servicemen interviewed by New Age said that at all times they were warned about prostitution, but in South African ports they were briefed very thoroughly about South African laws on the colour-bar.

PROTEST LETTERS

A letter of protest against this insulting notice has been sent by SACPO to the Admiralty, the daily press, Members of Parliament, and to the United Nations Organisation.

Mr. Henry Naude, acting chairman of SACPO, said that the Non-White people would not tolerate this insult to their womenfolk. They demand a public apology and the complete withdrawal of all these notices from Her Majesty's ships.

NEW AGE

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NORTHERN EDITION Thursday, February 21, 1957 PRICE 3d.

WHILE SCHOEMAN SITS DUMB

BUS BOYCOTT IS SPREADING

JOHANNESBURG.

AS the great Rand-Pretoria bus boycott enters its seventh week, the tens of thousands who have borne the burden up till now are heartened by the news that the workers of Bloemfontein and East London, following the example of Port Elizabeth, have decided to join them in the struggle.

The Government's "war" against the law-abiding boycotters has become more widespread and vicious. To mass intimidation and victimisation have been added fantastic police raids in which thousands of people have been arrested and fined for petty pass offences.

The effect of these big-stick tactics has been to make the boycotters more determined and solid than ever, to bring out thousands of sympathy boycotters in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage, with new bus boycotts looming this week in Bloemfontein and East London.

The Witwatersrand and Pretoria (Continued on page 7)

And Now East London

PORT ELIZABETH.

AFTER a series of meetings over the week-end the ANC in Duncan Village, East London, decided unanimously to embark on a boycott of buses and trains as from dawn on Wednesday, February 20.

It was expected that the people (Continued on page 7)

NO TEMPTATION FOR THEM



Two bus boycotters in Port Elizabeth pay no attention to an empty double-decker bus which stops next to them.

HE WHO PAYS FOR THE PAPER CALLS THE TUNE

VERY soon we will be needing newsprint again. Without it New Age cannot be printed. The bill for this amounts to almost £1,000, which has to be paid in advance.

The only source which we have for collecting money is from you—the readers and supporters of New Age. It is now up to you. The ship bringing the newsprint is about to leave for South Africa. So unless we have the money to pay for it, this newsprint won't reach us at all as there are many other customers only too willing to snap up this valuable commodity when it arrives.

This is therefore a matter of urgency.

It would be a tragedy if at this stage of affairs we were to close up shop for lack of newsprint. It must not happen.

If everybody makes a really big effort right now, then for the next few months at least we can be sure that New Age will appear on the streets of South Africa fighting the good fight against the fast developing fascism which the Government is so blatantly displaying.

This week's donations have fallen far below the previous few weeks. A dance organised in Cape Town

brought us in over £25. If every centre organised a dance before the end of the month, then the last week in February could at least still bring in double the amount sent this week.

WE NEED MONEY DESPERATELY AS YOU CAN SEE. PLEASE LET US HAVE IT.

Last week's donations:

Cape Town £39.41; Pretoria readers £8; Fordsburg 17s. 6d.; Roodepoort Youth £2.2; Manufacturer £78.15; Krugersdorp £1.8; Collections £11.

Total for the week—£141 6s. 7d.

EDITORIAL

THE DEFENCE FUND NEEDS YOUR HELP

IT is already over six weeks since the preparatory examination into an allegation of treason reopened in the Drill Hall, Johannesburg. As the wearisome proceedings drag on, no one can say what the outcome will be, nor even how long the present stage of the hearing will last.

The drama of the dawn arrests on December 5 last year and the magnificent demonstrations of public support for the accused in the early days of the trial are beginning to fade from the public mind. The real significance of the trial is being submerged under the welter of documents which has been poured into the court. The trial rates barely a few lines of routine reporting in the daily press.

Yet 156 men and women are compelled to endure this ordeal, day after day, irrespective of what goes on in the outside world. Many a breadwinner has been deprived of his income, many a family broken up, many a mother separated from her children by this trial. It is as if the lives of 156 men and women had been brought to a dead stop by their arrest. Their future is a question mark.

Yet the accused must continue to live, they must eat and sleep, have a roof over their heads, clothes to wear, be able to provide for their children. Though they are forced to sit day after day listening to the evidence in the case, as if in a state of suspended animation, life must go on, and life's needs must be met.

The responsibility of looking after the accused and their families belongs to the whole progressive movement. Many prominent public figures have sponsored a Defence Fund to assist the accused. But in the last resort it is the mass of the people themselves who must see to it that the accused, who are their leaders and representatives, suffer as little distress as possible.

This is not only a humanitarian but also a political task. Progressive South Africans have a duty, not only to keep the wolf from the accused's door, not only to see that the heavy legal costs are met, but also to make it plain to the accused themselves and the world at large that the people do indeed stand by their leaders, through thick and thin, come what may.

The accused have on their hands the biggest job they have ever tackled—the preparation of their defence against the sinister charge of treason. It is OUR job to free them from the burden of their material cares so that they can concentrate on the task before them and thus ensure their eventual acquittal.



Why Bloemfontein Africans Are Boycotting The Buses

The African National Congress has decided to organise a boycott of the Municipal buses operating in the villages and in town. The people have been told to wait for the day when they will not board buses. A letter has been written to the Mayor to this effect and the Manager of Transport has also been informed. The ANC has made several appeals to the City Council to remove the African bus commissioners; but the City Council has not complied with the wishes of the people.

The so-called African bus commissioners must be removed. The people can behave even if they are not present with knobkerries, sjamboks and handcuffs. They cause many disputes at bus ranks and inside buses. Some of them strangle people (including women), push them about, knock them with knobkerries and lash them with sjamboks, passing indecent words to them.

We reported an incident to the Manager of Transport and he told us, to our disappointment, that we had no right to obstruct the commissioners in their duty. The very same Manager told us last year to report any incident to him in which the commissioners are involved.

We still maintain that it is a duty of every responsible citizen to see to it that justice is served. We Africans can no longer be treated as animals.

Furthermore, we wish that Africans must serve Africans. The City Council banned Africans from the newly-built stadium—why can't it ban Europeans from driving our buses? It is absurd to think that we Africans are not capable of driving our own buses. We want African bus drivers immediately.

When we appealed to the City Council about this matter we were despised and told that we were not capable and that we were slow to think and act. We hope this time we shall think a little too fast for the City Council. The City Council must change its unrealistic attitude that we Bloemfontein Africans are imbeciles. The European drivers treat African passengers most unkindly. A certain driver got out of his driving cabin and slapped an old woman.

The profits of the buses must be used for Non-Europeans. We want houses, street lights, proper street repairs, higher pensions. The City Council has been unfair to use the profits from our buses to

subsidise the European buses. All our money must be used for us, not for the privileged Europeans.

We also sympathise with our Pretoria and Johannesburg boycotters in their gallant struggle against exploitation.

BILLY MOKHONOANA

Secretary People's Transport Council, Bloemfontein.

Tyranny Must Fall Back

If we act with wisdom, we can guide the yearning of the people for the better things of life through democratic channels.

We must present democracy as a force holding within itself the seeds of unlimited progress for the human race. We should make it clear that it is the means to a better way of life within nations, and to a better understanding among nations.

Tyranny must inevitably fall back before the tremendous moral strength of the gospel of freedom and self-respect for the individual, both black and white in this country.

NANCY P. MALAPANE

Dube Village, Johannesburg.

Courageous Leaders

The Nationalists think that they are heroes, but they are cowards. By their actions they produce courageous leaders for us. Now the people in our country are more united.

The doors of freedom are waiting to be opened. The Government cannot hope to succeed while it is busy with inhuman deeds and insults. But the present oppression, persecution, and suffering will make a good home for us. We shall not rest till the doors are opened.

Our oppressors are the people who brought the Bible. May I ask why they do not read it?

United democratic forces are the only way which will bring our country peace and prosperity.

R. J. MBANE

Cape Town.

Baton Charges No Solution

I read in the Star dated 29 January, 1957, that a crowd of about 1,000 Africans, who had gathered for a meeting in Lady Selborne, were intimidated by the police and sixteen Africans were injured, one fatally, during the baton-charge that night.

1. The people of Lady Selborne were refused admission to the trains by the SAR officials.

2. 110 Africans were arrested for Poll Tax, and 30 for being in the location so-called illegally.

3. The police and their baton charge injured innocent people.

This is proof that there is no justice in South Africa for the African people.

If a man says, "I am hungry," and that he can't afford the increase in fares, then the answer is baton charges and bullet-wounds in the head. That is never the right answer from a Government to the people. To take such action proves that the Government has failed to solve the problem.

But this, fellow comrades, will not stop the forward march of the people in their just struggle, and will neither stop nor destroy their courage in their fight for freedom, but will strengthen the forces of freedom till the bitter end.

Mayebuye!

FREDDIE MORRIS

Johannesburg.

The International Situation

If Mr. Lipman were a sincere friend of socialism, as he implied in his letter, he would have noticed that one of the first actions of the Hungarian rebels was to invite capitalist armies to Hungary. A friend of socialism would have understood that as long as the capitalist governments do not accept the Russian offer on atomic bombs and general disarmament, Russia has no moral right, from the point of view of the progressive movement, to give the U.S.A. a chance to build in Hungary yet another air base for attack against the socialist countries.

If Mr. Lipman is a sincere friend of socialism he would at least apply the same demands to capitalist governments that he applies to the USSR, i.e. demand the withdrawal of all troops from foreign lands: American troops from Europe, Japan, South Korea, South Vietnam; English troops from Cyprus, Malaya, Kenya; French troops from Algeria and other African colonies.

One really cannot believe in the friendliness to socialism of a person who looks for specks in the eyes of socialist countries, and does not see the beams in the eyes of capitalist countries.

NEIGHBOUR

Port Elizabeth.

POLICE VISIT UNITES CRADOCK

I would like to clarify a few points with regard to the demonstrations that took place in Cradock. There is propaganda that the African National Congress Youth League held these demonstrations on the advice of Rev. Calata, one of the Drill Hall suspects charged with High Treason; and also that the letter written by the ANCYL to the Council was planned by Rev. Calata. Some newspapers, such as Imvo-Zabantsundu even published a photograph of Rev. Calata with an article describing the incident.

In the first place, Rev. Calata is not a coward. The world knows that well. Whenever he saw something wrong and done unlawfully he never failed to contact the wrong-doer personally and express his views. Even the Councillors in Cradock will agree with me.

Secondly, in our local branch, Rev. Calata holds no office. We only take him as a priest of the St. James Church. What we do cannot be connected with him just because he is one of the Treason suspects. We shall not be discouraged by intimidation. We want Freedom, not Strydom.

POLICE AND "NYLON"

When the police that Mr. Swart sent to Cradock failed to do what they were sent for, they persecuted the people, demanding tax and

other passes. People alleged that they were assaulted by the police, and when the officials of the ANCYL contacted the District Commandant of Cradock he stated that he knew nothing about the presence of the police, and that the Cradock Town Council called the police who were present in Cradock.

One African girl was arrested by the police for shouting "NYLON" (a sign to tell people that the police-van is about). She paid £1 admission of guilt. Another two were tried by the magistrate. They were charged for using the same word "Nylon." When the magistrate asked the police what the word "Nylon" meant, they said that it meant that the police were about. "Are you not police?" asked the magistrate. "Yes," was the answer.

Mr. Barker, the Chief Magistrate, said that it was the duty of any person to tell his or her friends about the police so that they must know that the police are about. The two girls were found not guilty.

Mayebuye i-Africa—the presence of the police in Cradock has been a blessing in disguise. It is now that the people are united.

E. L. VARA

Pres. ANCYL, Cradock Branch.



Three victims of the police assault photographed in hospital—Mr. Johannes Lobeko, Mr. Mukiti Kaleli and Mr. Bella Moeketsi.

Police Violence Against The People Must Stop

(Continued from page 1)

stronghold.

On the morning of Sunday 10 a police party arrested a group near the outskirts of Newclare, but then the police were themselves attacked. One African constable was stabbed in the neck. (This man died on the Monday.) The police party made off rapidly.

At about 2 p.m. in the afternoon large forces of police (some say two parties of about 150 each) moved into Newclare from two directions.

Armed with guns, batons, kieres and other weapons, the police rushed from street to street, yard to yard and door to door. In many cases they do not seem even to have demanded passes. But in one instance after another, New Age was told, they piled into the Africans they came across and savagely assaulted them.

Furniture in the houses was smashed. Men who crept under beds for protection were pulled out and dragged into the pouring rain to be assaulted.

Groups of four and five police seized on one victim and belaboured him as he lay on the ground.

Beds, curtains and walls in some rooms still show blood marks.

A Coloured woman living in

Newclare described three separate assaults that took place in front of her door. She told the police: "You are not hitting the people, you are murdering them."

One man decided to accompany two friends to the station. As he came out of his yard he was set upon by a large group of police who asked no questions, but assaulted him. Another man was sitting in his room when police broke in the window and hammered on the door simultaneously and then ordered him out in the storm. His right arm was broken and his head injured.



19-year-old Elias Mohafa was asked for his pass and produced it. The police left. Then a second group of police arrived, didn't ask for his pass, but attacked him.

An aged man wearing tribal beads was attacked and hit with sticks as he stood in the rain.

There seemed to be no end to the assaults.

THROWN IN WATER

Mrs. Alice Lefa and her husband, Tsietsi, of Welman Avenue, had gone visiting that afternoon lower down in Newclare. Police came to the house where they were sitting and Tsietsi was taken out by them and beaten. His wife tried to intervene but was threatened. She then saw the police lift him and throw

him into the storm-water drain swollen by the heavy storm. His body was carried away. The following day Mrs. Lefa was present when it was taken out of the water.

There are at least two witnesses of this incident.

One man whose house overlooks the water watched from his window. Another who lives nearby saw two men carried away by the water.

Three drownings were reported from Newclare on that day. The version which appeared in the daily press was that men pursued by the police had jumped into the water to escape from them. Only two of the three bodies had been recovered by last week.

One man had a very lucky escape. His wife told New Age how he had been beaten and was about to be thrown into the water when she and other bystanders screamed and intervened and he was then left alone.

SKULL INJURIES

Of the men admitted to hospital, the majority have skull injuries and concussion. Mr. Ephraim Mougouane of Watson Street, Newclare, is a tailor. Two European police burst into his room and asked him where he worked. He told the police he was a tailor and pointed to his sewing machine.

One policeman said: 'Take him out', and he was immediately attacked with the butts of their guns. He was forced outside where there was a larger group of police standing. He was assaulted again and then placed in a police van.

He regained consciousness at the Newlands police station. Together with other injured men he was removed to hospital two hours later.

This man alleges that while he was being beaten up one of the policemen was taunting him with the words 'Ayibuye lo Afrika' (meant to be Mayibuye i' Afrika).

Mr. B. Moeketsi who is suffering from lacerations of the scalp said he does not live in Newclare but was visiting there. He was on his

P.E. BOYCOTT GATHERS MOMENTUM

From Govan Mbeki

PORT ELIZABETH.

"FOOT by Foot, Forward to Freedom," said a hoarse voice. It was about sunrise and New Brighton, that vast Labour Camp with its sickening monotony of the location buildings, was being drained of its virile human resources. Like little tributaries the single files from various directions swelled into columns as they got on to the highways that lead to work. The boycott of the buses has gathered momentum over the last few days and it is now on in real earnest.

New Brighton's fleet of dull grey double deckers has thinned down to a few buses that run between town and the township as a reminder that there once was a bus service. At Uitenhage the buses have come to a complete standstill. At the Site and Service Scheme (kwaZakhele), where the fares are to be raised by 1d. according to an announcement by the bus company, the boycott has been complete.

Before the boycott started at the peak hours between 6 and 8 in the morning there was usually a congestion at the terminus at Embizweni Square, and people's patience was tried as they waited because the buses could not cope with the flood of anxious workers. A few days after the boycott started Embizweni looks a haunted place as it has been deserted even by the hawkers and newspaper sellers.

TRICK FAILS TO WORK

At the usual peak hours police, detectives and location police board the buses to give an impression that the boycott is weakening. Behind the bus that carries them follows a riot truck in an attempt to assure the public that those who use the buses will be protected, but the trick has failed to work as the people have spurned the buses.

Look where you will, as far as the eye can see there are the endless columns of determined marchers. Like portions of a conveyer-belt, every individual feels he is part of a living, purposeful human flood. Thousands of hard-working men and women have imposed upon themselves the additional strain of walking miles every day to fight the in-

human policies of the Nationalists.

The trains between New Brighton and Town have been completely boycotted. Seeking revenge for the losses incurred, the Railway Administration is arresting people who cross the railway line at points where they have been accustomed to do so for years. On the second day of the boycott no less than 60 were arrested and released on payment of 5s. admission of guilt.

Railway workers who carry monthly tickets, and who now decline to work after five as they have to walk long distances home, report that they have been threatened with arrest. But in spite of this, the trains continue to travel empty while the people walk. Ships have been delayed at the harbour as the workers refuse to work overtime, and in the other industries and domestic service workers have not worked overtime since the boycott.

SIS

Along Commercial Road, Grahamstown Road, Walmer Road and various other trunk roads leading out of town to New Brighton, Korsten, Walmer and other places, have been posted police to check passes and tax receipts. Twice daily we go through the screening process. The delays caused by the police at the check points and the arrest of hundreds daily for failure to produce a Reference Book are contributing far more than anything else to the disruption of the economic life of the city.

As one woman passed and saw a policeman arrest a number of men, she remarked:

"They raise bus fares, taxes and the prices of everything and at the same time keep our wages down. Now they arrest our men because we refuse to board the buses. These bugs . . . Sis," she concluded as she ejected spittle from her mouth and contorted her face to show her disgust.

African cyclists are stopped while others are allowed to go past. New Brighton is a besieged township. The entrances at Cadles and off the Grahamstown Road have been sealed off by armed police checking on cars that carry Africans. None other than Africans who re-

side at New Brighton are allowed to enter without a permit.

With a grim determination the people defied last week's foul weather when the city was pounded by a heavy gale and drenched in a rain storm. Down New Brighton's main thoroughfare, Mendi Road, the voices of young workers were carried over a distance by the wind as they sang:

"Thina, Basebenzi, sith' ibasi AZIKHWELWA." (We, the workers, say the buses are not boarded.)

HUGUENOT AFRICANS FORCED TO MOVE

CAPE TOWN.

THE Nationalist Government's removal and site-and-service schemes hound the African people throughout the length and breadth of South Africa.

Africans living in Huguenot (a suburb of Paarl) were told recently to send their wives and children to the Transkei, and move to the bachelor quarters at Umbekweni, on the Wellington Road some four miles out of Paarl.

Mr. Gladstone Skitatie was given 30 days to move to Umbekweni, and told to send his wife to the Transkei with the rest of his family. He has no home in the Transkei to send his family to—his wife and his wife's parents were born in Paarl, and he has cut off all ties with the Transkei.

A laundry worker, he lives near his place of work. From Umbekweni he would have either to take a bus or walk a distance of three miles.

54 YEARS

Mr. Sam Mkhlehle works as a carpenter, and his wife works in a canning factory. He has lived in or near Paarl for 54 years and has no home in the Transkei. He has four children, two boys aged 15 and 7, and two girls, aged 13 and 11. All are at school.

He lives 10 minutes from his place of work, and is faced with

the prospect of the same one-hour walk to and from work from Umbekweni. He has neither the money nor the materials to build on the plot he has been told to move to.

Mr. Walter Jwaye received a notice on the 19th of November last year, telling him to leave for Umbekweni. No specified date was mentioned.

Last week he was summonsed to appear before the magistrate, and fined £12, or two months imprisonment suspended on condition he moves within three weeks.

A textile worker, he lives near his place of work and is also faced with a three-mile trudge from Umbekweni. He has three children—two girls, aged 7 and 5, and a two-year-old son. His wife, a canning worker, was born in Paarl, and he has lived there for 21 years. He has no other home.

None of these people have been offered any compensation for their present homes. They all pay rent to landlords, and will have to pay rent for the barren sites they have been given at Umbekweni.



Mr. Joseph Mika has a broken arm and an injured hand. He was struck by the butt of a gun as he stood in front of a garage in his street. Police approached him from two sides.

way to some friends when he was attacked in the middle of the street. He regained consciousness in hospital.

Mr. M. Kaleli of Pollack Street said he was assaulted in his room. He regained consciousness in hospital.

PEOPLE ANGRY

Many of those assaulted are considering taking legal action against the police.

The area is in a ferment of anger over this ferocious police attack. Nor is the situation improved as day by day the police raids continue. Large numbers of men and women are arrested under section 10 of the Urban Areas Act.

WHEN IS THIS TERROR GOING TO END?, THE PEOPLE ASK.

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