

"We Don't Want Guinean Exploiters to Replace Colonial Exploiters"

WORLD STAGE by Spectator

TOURE EXPLAINS "DE-COLONISATION"

The President of the Republic of Guinea, Mr. Sekou Toure, has just completed a triumphant world-wide tour on behalf of his country.

Handsome, young (37) and a forceful speaker who did not mince his words, his journey was a great personal success.

Everywhere he went the red carpet was rolled out for him. The leaders of the U.S.A. who had cold-shouldered him only a year ago, went out of their way to be photographed with him.

And in the Soviet Union ("I am particularly pleased to be here in Moscow," he quipped "because I am supposed to have spent my youth here studying Marxism!") he was given the warm welcome which all visiting statesmen, particularly those from Africa and Asia, have come to expect these days.

"The attitude of Africa towards the Eastern and Western systems in the world today depends on their answer to the question: 'Are you ready to help the peoples of Africa to break the chains which bind them and prevent them from playing their role as free peoples?'"

As anti-colonialism formed the keynote of his addresses while abroad, so his speech made in September to the Guinea Democratic Party dwelt constantly on the need for "de-colonisation" in Guinea itself.

He will honour the contracts we have with the countries that have trusted us.

"We intend to modify the old colonial structures and replace them with new structures perfectly adapted to a constant economic evolution."

The evolution will not be made for the benefit of the tradesman and to the detriment of the farmer, but for the benefit of the whole population.

Toure emphasises that co-operatives must replace merchants as the means of distribution of products, thus stamping out speculation and ensuring fair prices.

The individual and society: Ways of thinking inherited from colonialism die hard, maintained Toure, but they must be completely eradicated.

Thieves, embezzlers, murderers and reckless drivers will be punished with the utmost severity, because they constitute a social danger.

Individuals must not put themselves first and the people second. It is bad that everybody wants to get into the civil service when they could do more productive work.

On education: Education must be reformed so as to make it fit in with African traditions and African aspirations. It must no longer be detached from the problems of the people, its struggles and cares.

While French regrettably remains the official language, and study of French and English is compulsory, instruction must be given where possible in one of the four main African languages.

Private schools will be subsidised for three years, but no new pupils may be registered by them.

The judiciary: Both the substance and the spirit of justice must be reformed, so that the judiciary truly represents the conscience of the people.

Emancipation of women: Toure insists that Guinean women take their rightful place in Guinean society.

The youth: The youth must be drawn into the struggle for a better life. The former tribal youth movements have been replaced by a national one stamped with an African personality.

The economic aspect: Despite France's boycott threats, the demand for Guinean produce far exceeds the supply.

France was now overbidding in order to get Guinea to break contracts with E. Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

"Decolonisation" is essential for the progress of Guinea. "Decolonisation means that we want to destroy the habits, conceptions and ways of conduct of colonialism.

"Decolonisation must put an end to the exploitation, the robberies, put an end to injustice and ensure the transformation of these various evils, of these diverse practices of division and opposition, into practices of unity and co-operation."

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African, Coloured and Indian students have lived and studied happily together for more than 40 years at Fort Hare. Mixed gatherings of students, such as seen here during a tea break, will no longer be a feature on the campus when the University is transferred to the Bantu Education Department in 1960.

ALL-WHITE ALL-BLACKS TOUR PROTEST

JOHANNESBURG.

THE African National Congress is to petition the Prime Minister of New Zealand asking him to use his influence to get the New Zealand Rugby Union to abandon its colour bar, and to 'uphold principles of equality, justice and sportsmanship.'

The ANC says it is most perturbed by the decision of the New Zealand Rugby Union to exclude Maoris from the All Blacks team due to tour the Union in 1960.

JOINT PROTEST

A large number of organisations in the Union have been asked to join in a protest by South Africans against this colour bar.

The ANC letter says: "We are encouraged by the news that thousands of New Zealanders, as well as the Right Honourable the Prime Minister himself, Mr. Walter Nash, endorse our opinion in this matter. Petitions have been circulated engendering wide support in that country, and arousing great interest among people all over the world who share our antagonism to the colour bar."

The petition is as follows:

"We respectfully submit the following petition. The petitioners are South Africans of all colours, creeds, religions and social classes—sportsmen and others.

"The petitioners are gratified by your criticism of the New Zealand Rugby Union's exclusion of Maoris from the All Black team to tour South Africa next year.

"We are among the many thousands of South Africans who disapprove most strongly of a colour bar in sport.

"We humbly petition you to urge the New Zealand Rugby Union to put aside colour considerations and to uphold the world-wide principles of sport when the All Black Rugby team is chosen."

AUSTRALIA TALKS OF BOYCOTT

RESPONSE is already being received to the world-wide campaign launched by the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions in protest against the banishment of Mrs. Elizabeth Mafekeng.

Two state labour councils in Australia have called on the Australian Council of Trade Unions to protest to the South African Government against the life exile imposed on Mrs. Mafekeng, president of the Food and Canning Workers' Union.

"People could be asked to boycott South African goods," Mr. J. V. Stout, secretary of the Melbourne Trades Hall Council suggested at a meeting of his executive.

In the Labour Council of New South Wales, Miss Flo Davis, secretary of the Hotel Club and Restaurant Employees' Union, criticised the "sorry role of the Australian Government" in the United Nations debate on South African apartheid. The Australian delegate, Hood, refrained from voting

PEACE COUNCIL PROTEST TO SPAIN

JOHANNESBURG In a message to the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain, in Pretoria, the S.A. Peace Council says:

"We have learned with horror about the mass arrests of workers, peasants, professors, students and intellectuals in Spain in connection with the national peaceful 24-hour strike on June 18 of this year.

"Foreign war bases in different countries are a great danger to peace, and therefore we, the peace-loving people of South Africa, support the demands of the fighters for peace in Spain. We call upon the Government of Spain to release the arrested in connection with the strike; to proclaim a general amnesty for Spanish political prisoners; to stop the trial of Simon Sanchez Montero, the well-known fighter for peace, by a special military court."

A Public Debate What should ANC Policy be? Write YOUR Views in

FACTS ABOUT THE POST OFFICE

In 1956 the total Post Office balance due to depositors was £81,794,000, of which £75,415,000 was in Savings Bank certificates. The comparable figure for commercial banks was £464,517,000, and for building societies £218,870,000.

FOR By Congressman No. 1

THE question of the withdrawal of money from the Post Office savings bank is a subject of discussion in Congress circles. Those who say such a decision would be unwise advance three main reasons, namely:

- 1. That it would inconvenience thousands of African depositors especially in the reserves.
2. That the Post Office is not a Nationalist institution.
3. That such an action would have no economic value.

Every boycott causes great inconvenience to those who undertake it, whether it is a boycott of cigarettes, potatoes, coffee, tea, fish, etc. It does not appear that the Africans in the reserves would sacrifice anything by withdrawing the Post Office savings.

DISGUSTING "South African racial policy is the most disgusting and filthy ever perpetrated on a people," declared Mr. J. Halliday, secretary of the Food Preservers' Union at the Melbourne Trades Hall Council meeting.

SURELY OTHER FORMS OF BOYCOTT have involved more hardship to the people than this? In fact the humiliation by the Government officials in the Post Offices, the demand for the production of one's pass and the taking of fingerprints are themselves inconveniences to the depositors.

MORE USEFUL The large commercial banks and building societies have branches in various districts in the reserves. Savings accounts in these institutions in the end would prove more useful as the rate of interest is higher than in the Post Office.

As to the second point—whether the Post Office is a Nationalist institution—the point is that the boycott is directed against the Nationalist apartheid policy implemented by the Government. If there were more Government institutions suitable for boycott, so much the better for us.

Alexandra All-in Conference

JOHANNESBURG. THE All-in regional conference held in Alexandra Township elected a deputation of ten residents to go to the Peri-Urban Areas Board controlling the township to place the people's grievances before it.

The All-in conference was attended by over four hundred residents who condemned the evils brought about by the permit system which was introduced by the Government's Peri-Urban Areas Board last year.

The conference arose out of a resolution passed by the annual conference of the Transvaal African National Congress calling for a series of all-in regional conferences to be held before the end of the year to discuss burning local issues.

Fiery speeches came mostly from the women residents and the youth. Even young children of ten were interested in the discussions. Speakers exposed the evils behind this permit system in Alexandra. To force residents to move to Meadowlands and Diepkloof the Board has intensified the permit system. Every day hundreds of residents are arrested and prosecuted for failing to produce permits on demand.

BOYCOTT THE POST OFFICE? AGAINST

By Congressman No. 2

FOR the boycott to be an effective political weapon it must fulfil two essential requirements.

- It must affect those against whom it is directed, or it must be capable of influencing public opinion.

It is my contention that a boycott of the Post Office Savings Bank can do neither of these. I cannot affect the Government, because money obtained by the Government through the Public Debt Commissioner comes from all savings institutions, including private banks and building societies, and not only from the Post Office Savings Bank.

There is also the principle involved that the Post Office Savings Bank is a public service and does not belong to the government of the day. The fact that it may be badly run by that government does not alter the principle.

World Pays Damages to Ex-Photographer

JOHANNESBURG A former WORLD photographer was awarded damages against the Bantu Press in a court action recently. The court found that the summary dismissal of Mr. Cullingworth S. Mathibela had not been justified and awarded him £135 in lieu of three months notice due him under his contract.

Recently the Government appointed 15 members in addition to the 12 nominated to the Council. In a statement to New Age, the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation reiterated its rejection of the Council of Coloured Affairs.

Death of a Freedom Fighter

Over 2,000 people, many of them from Port Elizabeth, attended the funeral of Chief Alfred Cetywayo Msutu of Tyefu's Location, Peddie, who passed away last month at the age of 90.

Although he was deposed by the Hertzog Nationalist Government in 1932, his people have never accepted the Government stooges who have been imposed on them. In the struggle against the introduction of the "Betterment Scheme" in his area, he has stood solidly with the people. In 1957 the Government deported the old and sick Chief to a Trust farm in the Kingwilliamstown district.

His people, however, took him away from his exile and for several months they kept him in hiding.

ARNOLD'S XMAS HAMPERS

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'Blackie' Swart, S.A.'s New Governor General

needs no introduction, but we recount here the highlights of his career.

Charles Robberts Swart is 6' 7" in his socks. Born on December 5, 1894, near Winburg, he matriculated at the age of 13 and took his law Degree at Grey University College, Bloemfontein. Until 1919 when he became organising secretary of the Free State Nationalist Party he had had a varied career as lawyer, farmer, journalist, university lecturer and Hollywood extra in cowboy roles.

From 1919 to 1928 he was organising Secretary of the Free State Nationalist Party and stood for Parliament in the elections of 1938 and was defeated. He organised the Republican Rally in Bloemfontein in 1939 which ousted his old leader General Hertzog and in 1941 became M.P. for Winburg, which constituency he represented until now.

He remained a member of the Supreme Council of the Ossewabrandwag until August 1941 and on becoming Minister of Justice in 1948, his first

act was to release Robey Leibrandt, the convicted traitor,



and to sign a proclamation lifting restrictions on various subversive organisations such as the Ossewabrandwag and

the Broederbond.

Also as Minister of Justice he:— Enforced the law banning Sunday sport, introduced the Suppression of Communism Act, insisted that the police had the right to shoot first and ask questions after;

introduced his "compulsory Flogging Act" as a result of which the number of strokes given to prisoners increased from 28,152 in 1951 to 85,015 in 1955.

He presided at the opening of the first Farm Prison in 1952 and remarked then that farm prisons were his special baby and that he hoped to open many more. He kept his promise.

On December 6, 1956 (his birthday) "Blackie" Swart arrested 156 people on charges of High Treason. 30 of them are still on trial today.

On December 7, 1959 he became Governor-General of South Africa.

UP MY ALLEY

OOPS! Here I am right next to the new G.G. Being so close to him reminds me of the time he just couldn't bear not having my charming company. So he had to send for me at four o'clock in the morning to help celebrate his birthday. Only he wasn't around when I showed up at the Fort

donation to the Treason Trial Defence Fund right away.

★

RETURNING from the Miss World Contest, Miss South Africa remarked huffily that she didn't know whether it had been a beauty contest or a political symposium.

Did some busybody perhaps ask her why she hadn't been called Miss White South Africa?

★

THERE'S no doot many of us black folks are looking forward to seeing the Royal Ballet Company when it visits our sunny land.

I'm not quite sure whether they'll perform for mixed audiences or separate, but at the risk of becoming a coconut shy, I'm prepared to say that whatever the arrangements, the fact that they accept Equity's decision to dance for Non-Whites is a big rent in the cultural colour-bar curtain.

★

THEY tell me that Erasmus went Algerian just to put one over on Blackie's going Saracen.

By ALEX LA GUMA



with the rest of the gang. And this year Blackie's got the Governor Generalship as a birthday present, and I have a feeling Herr Doktor has been pulling his leg. But the best birthday present YOU can give him is to send a

MABIESKRAAL ACCUSED IN DIFFICULTIES

RUSTENBURG.

SIXTY-SEVEN Africans appearing in Rustenburg Magistrate's Court on charges of public violence have been experiencing difficulties with travelling the 48 miles from Mabieskraal to court every day.

The local authorities at the Rustenburg location agreed to house the women accused in a hall and to accommodate the men in hostels for a nominal fee of 1/-. However, following a visit to Rustenburg by the Native Commissioner of Pilansburg, into which district Mabieskraal falls, the charge per day was raised to 5/-, which is out of the reach of the accused. An offer has subsequently come from the Chief at Phokeng, nine miles out of Rustenburg, to accommodate the accused. It is the installation of this chief which, the Crown alleges, sparked off the disturbances owing to the opposition of Chief Mokgatle Mabe to his tribesmen attending the ceremony and feast.

TEN WITNESSES CALLED

Ten witnesses have so far been called by the Crown in the case in which the 67 are appearing, but they have given conflicting versions of the disturbance and have been able to identify very few of the accused. There have been varying versions, too, as to how these people were armed. One witness swore that several of them had axes in their belts which they used to smash down a door of a room in the school where some tribesmen had sought refuge, but this is denied by a carpenter who was working in the school at the time and who witnessed the incident.

A week ago the defence applied for the number of accused to be reduced to the six or seven who had been definitely identified and the prosecutor agreed to put the suggestion before the Attorney-General, but he later announced that the case would be proceeded with against all 67. It now appears that the Crown intends calling another 10 witnesses.

Twenty or more appeals against fines imposed by Chief Mokgatle Mabe are due to be heard before the Native Commissioner at Pilans-

burg later this month. In several cases the Chief summonsed a certain tribesman to appear at his court and, if he delayed, summarily fined him in his absence to amounts ranging from 15/- to £20. One of the women whose appeal is due to be heard was fined £5 by the chief for using abusive language, another fined 2 beasts or £20 for failing to speak at a meeting of the Kgotla, where, as an influential man, he was expected to add the weight of his voice to the Chief's, and his silence was taken to mean dissidence. A third was fined £20 for refusing to erect poles at the kgotla.

WORKERS OBJECT TO ARMBANDS

JOHANNESBURG

Municipal workers in the Maraisberg-Roodepoort district are objecting to wearing armbands of various colours according to their wage levels. According to a spokesman of the Municipality the scheme was adopted in response to complaints from ratepayers that their workers were "just loitering around and not doing any work". It is also intended to assist the paymaster in identifying municipal employees.

"BOSS BOYS"

So far armbands have only been issued to "boss boys" whom, the Council alleges, favoured a scheme to distinguish them from ordinary workers. This was contradicted by interviews which New Age had with workers concerned. Several of them had refused to wear the armbands and were carrying them in their pockets.

Objection to the scheme comes from further afield than the workers themselves. In a letter to the Transvaal, in which the whole issue was first raised, a reader refers to the bands as "slave bands" and deplores the adoption of the scheme by the Municipality.

Make up a Party for our New Age Xmas Eve Dance

Trouble Brewing in Lamontville Women Threatened With Eviction

DURBAN.

SERIOUS trouble is brewing in Lamontville African township as a result of victimisation and threats of eviction against certain women residents who assisted in ousting from office the members of the last Advisory Board.

Mrs. Irene Mtwane, prominent and militant Women's League member who is the first to face eviction, told New Age that she had been informed that she would have to leave the location and that the matter was now going to court.

In a memorandum addressed to the District Commandant, the Town Clerk and the Bantu Administration Department, the women state that the people in the area are frustrated. Every effort to get the Council moving in regard to their grievances, they say, is being thwarted by the Location Superintendent and his senior induna.

Stating that they have followed the lead of their leader Chief Lutuli and have worked for peace and non-violence since the recent disturbances in this area, the women demand that the impending eviction of Mrs. Mtwane be withdrawn and that the Superintendent be asked not to threaten any of the other women with eviction. They express the fear that evictions such as those contemplated could lead to further disturbances.

Nats About To Kill "Poor Man's Lawyer"

From Ruth First JOHANNESBURG.

THE poor man's lawyer—the Legal Aid system—is about to be done to death by the Nats.

A private departmental report on the Bureau is now circulating and though it may still be some time before an official decision is taken, legal aid as the Union now knows it is clearly on the way out.

In its place the Government may install civil servants to help Europeans in need of assistance in civil cases, but what legal aid to Africans will still be permitted will probably be handed over to B.A.D. (The Bantu Administration Department) thus negating the very purposes for which legal aid was started.

The 1958 report of the Minister of Justice prepares the way for government action. It found the legal aid system "defective in several respects". The staff of the existing Legal Aid Bureaux, it found, were not fully qualified in some cases or fully bilingual. "At some centres use is even being made of Bantu clerks for purposes of visiting prisoners before their trial".

NOT NECESSARY

But, most important, is the Department's conclusion that legal aid is not necessary in criminal cases. South Africa's legal system, says the Department is "designed to prevent the conviction of an innocent person whether he is defended or not and it is the duty of judicial officers and the prosecution who are considered quite capable of doing so, to ensure that no miscarriages of justice occur" (sic!)

The Department adds that even if it is deemed that miscarriages of justice may occur the machinery for appeal and review and certain administrative measures are adequate to remedy them.

The Department feels that legal assistance in civil cases is justified "because the conduct of the cases is primarily in the hands of the parties so that the presiding judicial officer can do very little to assist an unrepresented party".

Legal Aid was started originally as a result of representations by the Race Relations Institute and the first subsidy was paid over in 1941.

The Government now pays £5,304 a year towards running the Bureaux in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, Durban and Pretoria. Largest contribution to the

Bureau is shouldered by the Law Societies of the various provinces (the organisations of attorneys), and by the Bar Council.

Negotiations about the future of the legal aid system will take place between government and the law Societies and the Bar Council.

Always in shaky financial position the Legal Aid offices would be badly crippled by any withdrawal of the government subsidy. The Cape Town office has already closed due to financial difficulties.

Or the Government might decide to circumvent the Legal Aid offices by allocating civil servants to advise people in need of help with civil court matters.

WHITES AND NON-WHITES

The poor man lawyer helps Whites and Non-Whites.

Legal Aid's load of cases includes large numbers of European divorces and maintenance and hire purchase cases. These the Government thinks should still get assistance.

But if African cases are handed over to officials of the B.A.D. the whole nature of legal aid will change, and very much for the worse.

The Native Commissioner's offices have always handed a certain number of cases for damages arising out of accident cases, but Legal Aid's successful claims and the amounts they have managed to get for victims have been far greater.

CLASSIFICATION

When the Government first started the race classification of Coloured people the Legal Aid office in Johannesburg handed a large number of appeals of Coloureds against their classification. Which Government department or civil service will appeal strongly against the classification by another branch of the administration?

Numbers of quasi-political cases in which Africans—or Whites—need help is suing the Government for damages for assault by policemen, or appeals against the Government—which could be handled by Legal Aid would have no hope if legal aid in criminal cases were cut off, or legal aid more tightly controlled by the Government.

The poor are less and less able to pay for their defence as legal costs mount and subsidies for legal aid should be increased not cut off, as might soon happen.

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