

END SLAVE LABOUR ON THE MINES!

JOHANNESBURG.
ABOUT 400,000 men come to South Africa's wealthy gold mines every year to earn the beggarly sum of R8 a month for 12 to 18 months before they return to the hungry reserves. Thousands of them are housed like animals in squalid compounds like that shown in the photograph on this page.

It is their back-breaking labour which makes the enormous profits of the gold mines possible. Both the mining magnates and the Government get the benefits.

But THE WAGES OF THE AFRICAN MINERS HAVE GONE UP BARELY R2 IN THE LAST 70 YEARS.

The mines allow no competition when labour is required and do their best to stamp out any trade union organisation. Meetings of more than five people on mine property are forbidden and strikes are illegal.

The system of migrant labour means that normal family life is disrupted, the men are crowded together in compounds in conditions of great squalor and poverty, and are isolated from any contact with the people of the area where the mine is situated.

It is time South Africa put an end to the ordeal of these forgotten men.

● All miners must be paid a living wage;

● Miners must be housed in decent dwellings and allowed to have their families with them;

● Food must be improved;

● Adequate compensation must be paid for accidents, dangerous work, sickness;

● Miners on retirement must receive adequate pensions;

● Miners must be allowed full rights of assembly and trade union organisation.

The Freedom Charter, adopted at the Congress of the People at Kliptown in 1955, says: "The National wealth of our country, the heritage of all South Africans, shall be restored to the people. The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the Banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole."

IT IS THE TASK OF THE WHOLE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT TO HELP MAKE THE MINES FIT FOR A MAN TO WORK IN.

(More pictures on pages 4 and 5.)

Kathrada Arrested Again

JOHANNESBURG

Mr. A. M. Kathrada, formerly a leading executive member of the Transvaal Indian Congress, was arrested at his flat in Market Street early on Saturday morning.

It is alleged that a document relating to S.W.A. and issued by the N.C. was found in his possession several months ago. He was released on R50 bail.

Mr. Kathrada was only recently detained under the 12-day no bail act and then charged with breaking his confining order when he visited his ailing mother in Schweizer Reineke. He was acquitted.

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5c.

THIS IS "HOME" FOR AFRICAN MINERS



These are the overcrowded, inhuman living conditions of African mineworkers on a mine on the West Rand whose profits run into millions of rands. The men sleep on concrete bunks and are jammed in one on top of the other like sardines.

500 AT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE DEMAND BILL OF RIGHTS

JOHANNESBURG

OVER 500 men and women of all races packed the Patidar Hall here to capacity last Sunday when the Transvaal region of the S.A. Women's Federation held their all day organising conference towards drawing up a women's bill of rights and to reiterate their demand for a National Convention.

In her opening speech Mrs. Ruth Matseoane crystallised the deep anger of all those present at the vicious confining ban placed recently on the Federation's President, Mrs. Lilian Ngoyi.

Mrs. Matseoane said: "By banning the people's leaders the Government thinks it can banish the ideals and convictions for which they stand. How wrong they are. Our just struggle and the fine ideas which shape it will never be hindered because people like our be-

loved President cannot be here with us today.

"Mrs. Ngoyi's ban is the most savage ever imposed in this country. Her confinement to Orlando is like that of the banished men. How will she eat?"

Mrs. Matseoane said that the women's profound anger at this act would only strengthen them in the struggle for freedom, the freedom that was vital if our children were to grow up in peace and security.

The chairman at the afternoon

session of conference, Mrs. Winnie Mandela, proposed an all-in resolution that was met with acclamation and cheers. She said: "It is our duty to bring a new awareness to the women of South Africa, to highlight their difficulties and disabilities and to help organise them. We must harness the full strength of the women of South Africa to end racial discrimination, poverty, backwardness, apartheid and all its evils.

"Join with us in drawing up our

(Continued on page 5)



PROGRESSIVES' POLICY UNACCEPTABLE TO US

The Progressive Party is respected because it represents a group of Whites who have deviated from the baaskapism of the Nationalists and United Party. They are a reflection of the revolution taking place in the minds of the Whites of this country. But, however progressive they may be, their policy of a qualified vote is not acceptable to us. When they are asked to justify their 'Taxation without representation' policy, they tell one about the illiteracy of the African, yet they have no programme to abolish such illiteracy.

Oppenheimer, a leading Progressive thrives at the expense of those very illiterates whom he underpays in his diamond mines. (Have the Progressives a programme to abolish profits and super-profits which this respectable member appropriates out of the exploitation of his illiterate employees?) A capitalist will always remain one irrespective of the party to which he belongs. Oppenheimer shares the same aims and objects of capitalists in other parties, yet he is the protagonist of multi-racialism when he appears on his party's platform. He is also a member of the South African Foundation—dedicated to popularise the Nationalists' apartheid policy. There he draws up plans for maintaining the system of super-profits with Sir Francis de Guingand—a staunch supporter of apartheid, though he is an Englishman, not a South African. Such is the hypocrisy of the members of the Progressive Party.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JO'BURG OFFICE

CONGRATULATIONS to our Johannesburg New Age office for organising birthday sales to the extent of 9,000 papers. Our other offices all organised special drives, but none so successfully as this office, which also arranged for collection tins to be taken out at the same time. There are still many more weeks available for those who did not take part in our special birthday drive. In Cape Town many new recruits have decided to sell the paper regularly and we hope this will be the position all over the country.

There are too many people to mention individually through this column, but we would like to thank all those who helped with the sales and collections, particularly those men and women who were out in their townships where many thousands of papers were sold and much money collected. Special thanks to the group of young Indians and Whites who went to Pretoria and sold 300 papers and collected R15.75; to Mark who sold 72 papers and Sheila who also sold and collected money; to the Alex Branch of the Federation of S.A. Women who sent in R2.78 and to another group in Alex who sold 144 papers and collected R7.24; to Hosiah and friends who sold 365 papers and collected R5.05; to Muriel in Alex who collected R1.70; to Zola, Naledi and Emdeni who collected R4.46; to Moosy, Zubeida and others who sold 120 papers and collected R8...

No doubt this could go on and on, but space prevents us

Let it be understood by all that there are today two roads open for South Africans—one led by Verwoerd ending in agony and tears and the other led by Mandela—its destination peace and harmony. No amount of armaments will stop the people from attaining their freedom. The instruments of death won't triumph. The people with their freedom, with their spirit of sacrifice for life and justice, will triumph.

Forward comrades! Is it not high time that capitalism was buried, thereby opening the gates of all Africa to follow suit?

SIYABONA NGXOWANKULU

Why Do Politicians Speak English

I was surprised to hear English spoken at the meeting. When I enquired why this was, they said that English was spoken all over the world.

As politicians they must meet uneducated people who cannot speak or understand English. We cannot gain our freedom if we do not speak our mother-tongue. Educated and uneducated must be alike. They must be like the chiefs of the olden days who hungered when the people hungered and were satisfied when the people were satisfied.

P. K. PUDI-EPHATSHOA,
B.P.P.

Johannesburg.

We Want The Other Constitution

The draft constitution for self-government in the Transkei territory is not accepted by the African people; we reject it in toto.

The draft constitution was drawn up by Chief Matanzima with the knowledge of the Government.

1. Why was the alternative constitution, which provided for a multi-racial Transkei not allowed to be discussed? This constitution was drawn up by Paramount Chief Sabata Dalinyebo Mtirara of Tembuland.

2. Why cannot the White, Coloured and Indian people vote in the election of the Transkei parliament although they are all regarded as citizens of the Transkei territory?

South Africa is a multi-racial country. We want freedom not serfdom for all the people.

E. B. MKABILE

Springs.

Biography of Jimmy la Guma

I have been asked by the James La Guma Memorial Fund to write the biography of my late father, Mr. Jimmy La Guma, who was associated with the political and working-class movement in South Africa for over 40 years.

In this connection I wish to appeal for assistance to all readers who might have in any way been associated with my father during his political career. Any personal reminiscences, documents, letters, periodicals etc. and other material concerning his association with such organisations as the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union (ICU), the Liberation League, the trade union movement and any other bodies, will be of great help in the compilation of this biography.

I would appreciate it if any such material could be sent to me at my address—8 Helderweg, Athlone, Cape—or c/o Box 436, Cape Town.

Care will be taken of all material which will be returned to owners after use.

ALEX LA GUMA

Cape Town.

TWO VIEWS ON MR. MOKHEHLE

ALLY OF VERWOERD

With the beginning of the Copen constitution, some thought Basutoland would be better than the Verwoerd apartheid and willingly gave up their jobs when they were told to get out of the Republic. But instead of improving Basutoland is fast meeting the Republic halfway in persecution.

The Basutoland Congress Party, which became a mass party overnight as it were, is rapidly dying out like a paper flame. Mr. Ntsu Mokhehle, whose popularity suddenly imbued many people with fantastic illusions, is now a practical ally of the South African Prime Minister, Dr. Verwoerd, and a political fellow-traveller of the Catholics in Basutoland, whether he knows it or not.

The B.C.P., like the progressive parties of the oppressed, goes down to the masses, but unlike them goes to the masses empty-handed. It gives no lead and has no solution for any problem, but the usual phrasemongering about self rule. The immediate daily burning question of the people is nothing to this party.

Who, then, can be surprised to

EDITORIAL

GOVT. PLANNING ATTACK ON PEOPLE'S ORGANISATIONS

AT a time when the Nationalist Government is making the most intensive assault ever against the civil liberties of the people, when the press is being muzzled, meetings are banned, leaders confined or exiled, when the Minister of Justice is again promising to introduce legislation this session to check "subversive agitation"—at a time like this when the lights are going out one by one, it is distressing to find that the official Opposition in Parliament, where opposition was never more needed than now, has completely capitulated.

Sir de Villiers Graaff's announcement that the United Party agrees in principle with the increased allocation for defence means that the Opposition agrees that South Africa must stand to arms to defend apartheid.

The United Party's only complaint is that South Africa is losing her allies. To which Verwoerd replies that these allies are demanding too high a price for their friendship. "If we accept their demand for one man one vote, then we do not need an ally," he said. "Then White South Africa and the Republic have lost everything." And the United Party is inclined to agree.

The collapse of the United Party should surprise no one, but neither should it be ignored. For what it means is that Verwoerd is largely succeeding in his policy of creating a "White front" against the Non-Whites by stressing the danger of war.

In the present atmosphere, where the Nationalist and United Parties are in agreement that what was once permitted as honest criticism must now be outlawed as sabotage and treason, the danger to the freedom of the press, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly needs no emphasising. It is already practically impossible for the extra-Parliamentary parties to hold a meeting or demonstration without crude and blatant Special Branch interference. Arrests and 12-day detentions are the order of the day. Soon, according to Government pronouncements, multi-racial meetings are to be forbidden, and the so-called "agitators" subjected to house-arrest. On top of everything, the daily press has already censored itself into a condition of petrified mumbling which is the precursor to absolute silence on the vital questions of the day.

The liberation movement is about to face its greatest challenge, for the crisis in which our country is gripped is racing to its climax. Every South African must now answer two questions: "Which side are you on?" and "What are you going to do about it?" In the struggle which is about to come there can be no neutrals. Those who believe in freedom must be prepared to fight for it. The only alternatives are acquiescence, silence and abject surrender to apartheid tyranny.

We are convinced that the forces are available in South Africa to defeat apartheid and any White front which may be forged to maintain it. Power belongs to the people, because they are many and their rulers and exploiters are few. The main need is to unite in one freedom front all anti-apartheid South Africans, who must put aside their differences on minor points and concentrate on their common and urgent task of survival.

learn that the December conference of the B.C.P. decided on three main issues? (1) Declaration of war against communism and the refugees whom Mr. Mokhehle claims to have been helping in the past; (ii) to keep him as a president for five years without being elected, and (iii) to expel from the party whomever he pleases without the party's interference or appeal by the victim. What democracy if this is called democracy!

The great leader of the B.C.P. has bitten more than he can masticate. He claims to fight the Government, and fights the Chiefs, fights every political party in opposition in Basutoland, and fights even those beyond the Caledon River. It would seem that this political champion of liberation in Basutoland will fight until he breaks his own arm.

CYCLOPS LEIHLONA
Leribe, Basutoland.

DEFENDER OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. Mokhehle's main task is to carry out his party's mandate of

liberatory mission. He cannot waste time on the futile and destructive arguments of a disloyal minority.

The Basotho people have no say in the administration of Basutoland. The British officials are the rulers. They make the laws and force the Basotho to obey those laws.

Sometimes Mr. Mokhehle has sleepless nights trying to think out the best ways of eradicating this undesirable and undemocratic rule. It is this rule which persecutes and expels the refugees and Mr. Mokhehle, whose case has recently thrown many Basotho into jail. The refugees are not expelled by Mr. Mokhehle or the Basotho.

When Mr. Mokhehle gave evidence for Mr. Mosiane, who has been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the Basutoland High Court, he said: "One day the Government of Basutoland will be in the hands of the Basotho, the Basotho will govern."

LIPHAPANG LETLAHA
Johannesburg.

ANOTHER TRIBE MAY BE FORCED TO MOVE

400 Families Fight Govt. Order

MIDDELBURG.

THE 400 families of the Baphedi tribe, who have lived near here since 1905, have told the police that they would rather be killed than be forced to move to new—and unknown—land 84 miles from Middelburg.

When New Age interviewed Chief Godfrey Ramaube and the Baphedi men, women, and children, they were squatting in the shade of their little clay and stone village church. Nearby stood rows of White police armed with stenguns and African police armed with spears.

Across the way 19 lorries waited to be packed with household goods, hut roofing and doors.

CO-OPERATING

The only people putting anything into the lorries were members of the Bakgopa tribe, who are co-operating with the Government's Department of Bantu Affairs. **THE BAPHEDI SAT STILL AND DID NOTHING.**

When police officers tried to address Chief Ramaube and his people they stood up, quietly, and moved out of earshot before sitting down again.

This fierce determination of the Baphedi people has existed since 1956, when the Bantu Commissioner first spoke of their removal from a 'black spot'—good farming country—in the middle of wealthy White farms.

"FORCE IF NECESSARY"

Six months ago they were served with a final removal notice. "We will use force if necessary," the Bantu Commissioner told them.

Chief Ramaube told New Age: "We were never consulted. We were



Chief Godfrey Ramaube (marked with an arrow) asks his people to veto the Government's proposal to remove his tribe to an unknown farm 84 miles away.

TOLD to move. Have Africans no rights at all in the land of their birth?"

He said that the Government had already changed their mind about where to put him and his people—first a place called Biskop had been named, now suddenly another farm, Klipspruit, had been sprung on them.

"We have seen neither place," the Chief said, "But we are not interested. We were all born here and we and our children are determined to die here where the graves of our fathers are."

OFFICIAL VIEW

The Bantu Affairs Commissioner for the Middelburg district, Mr. A. J. Burger, told New Age that the new land of the Baphedis was more fertile than their present farm.

"We have never had any trouble here. This is the work of agitators. I would be glad if anyone could persuade them to go."

Mr. Burger confirmed that if the Baphedi continued to refuse, force might be used to 'persuade' them.

FOOTNOTE: Only last week New Age reported the case of the Mamagamatlale tribe at Brakfontein, also near Middelburg, who were counted at gun-point prior to another enforced removal. **IN THIS CASE THE DEPARTMENT OF**

BANTU AFFAIRS DENIED CATEGORICALLY THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY ARMED POLICE PRESENT.

Employ Non-Whites in Banks, Urges SACTU

DURBAN.

IN a letter sent to 30 banks, building societies, and insurance companies in Natal, the South African Congress of Trade Unions (Natal) states that Non-Whites must be granted skilled jobs and openings in executive positions in building societies, banks, commerce and industry.

The letter points out that at a recent conference held in Cape Town it was officially announced that by 1970 there will be a shortage of between 600,000 to 1 million trained personnel in the building societies.

"This is a startling revelation especially at a time when tens of thousands of Non-Whites are unemployed, with no hope whatever of being absorbed in industry or commerce in the near future," states the letter.

Pointing out that the industrial colour bar, job reservation, and low wages help to stunt economic development, SACTU urges the finance houses to throw open their doors to Non-White workers.

"Stooges Cannot Speak For Us"

400 Indian Women Reject Apartheid

INDIAN women of the Transvaal clearly stated their opposition to apartheid at a meeting on Tuesday, March 27, in the Patidar Hall, Fordsburg.

More than 400 women from all areas—Denver, Lenz, Vrededorp, Newlands, Fordsburg, Krugersdorp, Pretoria and other places attended and gave loud support to the resolutions.

The meeting was called by a group of Indian women to reject apartheid, Group Areas, Indian Affairs and Consultation with the Indian Affairs Minister.

It was presided over by Dr. Zainab Asvat, and other speakers were Mrs. Amina Cachalia, Miss Fatima Dolie and Mr. Lelax Desai.

A poem specially written for the occasion was loudly applauded when it called for the Indian women to resist apartheid with all other groups in the country. It was written by Mrs. Amina Gani in Urdu.

A Steering Committee was elected and it was agreed to call for an All-In Conference to reject apartheid for all sections of the population.

CHALLENGE

A challenge was issued to those

Tembu Leader Arrested

On March 5, 1962, Mr. Timothy Mbuzo, from Xhwili Location, near Bityi in the Transkei, was arrested. At the time of writing no charges were available.

Mr. Mbuzo was detained in 1961 during the Transkei Emergency. He used to run a leather repair and upholstery shop in Umtata but Group Areas restrictions forced him out of the town. At the time of his arrest he was Secretary to the Tembu in the area of Chief Dalindyebo Sabata. In this capacity he had taken a leading part in the Tembu movement voicing the real grievances and aspirations of the people. He was a leading spokesman of the people at the recent meeting held at Bumbane.

His last act was to issue a press statement on behalf of the Tembu, making known the stand of the people in condemnation of government school boards and rejection of the Transkei self-Government plan.

who had gone to meet the Minister at Pretoria on behalf of the Indian Community.

Dr. Zainab Asvat said: "I dare these people to come to a public meeting and claim that they represent the Indian people. They went to meet their baas, Maree, but they did not speak for us. All baas Maree offered them was a slap in the face for he also told them that they did not represent the people."

Mrs. Amina Cachalia stated that they had gone to Pretoria to protect their own selfish interests, because they knew that the Government was trying to hit at people through business. But even in this they were mistaken—they could not protect themselves by accepting apartheid.

Members of the Special Branch were present throughout the meeting.

Vorster Gives The Lie To Vorster

● Asked by Mrs. Helen Suzman on February 13, 1960, whether remissions of sentences had been granted to persons convicted under the Emergency Regulations or for political offences, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, replied: "No; and as I do not understand what is meant by the term 'political offence,' the rest of the question falls away."

● In the Extradition Bill introduced in the House of Assembly this session by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, clause 15 reads:

"The Minister may at any time order the cancellation of any warrant for the arrest of any person issued or endorsed under this Act, or the discharge from custody of any person detained under this Act, if he is satisfied that the offence in respect of which the surrender of such person is or may be sought, is an offence of a political character . . ."

THE WOMEN WAIT, AND WAIT



The women wait quietly next to their church. "We want to be buried here where our fathers lie," they told New Age.

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