

TO  
THE MEDICAL AID COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY.

ADDENDUM

By

Dr. A. B. Xuma,

Johannesburg.

I have carefully considered all the observations and suggestions made by the various members of your Committee and still remain unimpressed by the need of a special Native Medical Aid, whether he is a graduate or what not, for the following reasons:-

- (1) Health is health and disease is the same whether it affects European or African. It is amenable to the same management and treatment. Men who have been trained abroad are able to render eminent and effective service to Africans without special training. They are able to apply preventive schemes successfully proved among other racial groups with the same success among Africans, provided the environment and economic requirements are similar for the groups concerned.
- (2) Doctors, Nurses, and Health Inspectors can meet all our Health requirements from the preventive point of view. Their value has been proved elsewhere and they can be more effectively coordinated in any area than embarking on doubtful experiments which might have to be abandoned, as the present Medical Aid, after a lot of good human material has been lost and much precious time for service wasted.
- (3) The Graduate Medical Aid is not essential to any preventive Health Scheme.
  - (a) If you have Health and Sanitary Inspectors trained after matriculation they can do any health propaganda one may wish for and can advise successfully on housing, preventive health measures, water, food etc., if they are given a health visitor's and health propaganda course.
  - (b) Nurses with health visitor's special training can attend to patients, advise mothers throughout on all stages of motherhood and on babycraft, and on food - balanced diet.
  - (c) The Doctors who must be well trained <sup>buying and preparing</sup> must directly supervise both nurses, health visitors and health Inspectors ~~propagandists~~ without an intermediary graduate Medical Aid. Such would only make for laxity on the part of the doctor, and lead ~~to~~ a lot of red tape in attending to conditions and patients' requirements. A course for the Degree ~~in~~ Social Science for the University of South Africa at Fort Hare is urgently needed. Graduates from this course may be used for social survey and direction of social welfare schemes but should not pretend to take the place of the doctor who must be in close touch with his work and workers.
  - (d) We want no more experiments with African Youth. We want no Departmental degrees under the present  
 2. conditions/....

conditions and attitudes in South Africa. We would rather see more fail to meet the required national standards than to flood the country with half-baked, untried, types of workers.

In any experiment it is not the experimenter, but the experimental animals and materials, that suffer in the process. Africans cannot afford another experiment especially if the experiment is to be carried out to meet what is considered an urgent need.

Much valuable African material for medical training have been wasted and are of doubtful value to themselves and to the African community because of the present medical aid experiment.

(e) One well trained African Doctor is worth a dozen or more medical aids at any time and if one such is employed on professional rates and standards he can do more than quite as many medical aids. What is required is to increase the Scholarships and train more African doctors using some of the money that has been used for medical aids. The present medical aids in training can be given the choice of taking their B.Sc. degree, University of South Africa. They should also be eligible for South African Native new State scholarships in addition to the present Trust Scholarships.

(f) Tuberculosis, Slums, Environment, Starvation, and general morbidity among Africans will not be prevented by any amount of lectures or propaganda unless the people have the means to satisfy their health requirements and intelligence through a liberal public school system of education to receive, understand, and apply the lessons of such propaganda. We must help remove the preventable causes of ill-health among the Africans. More land and economic wages therefore better houses, better food, better education and finally better health are essential. After a number of years of experience of supervising the Public Health side in a Non-European area, I find myself out of sympathy with arm-chair schemes of fine lectures that leave the people still starved and unable to pay for the application of the simple but expensive, yet essential advice given.

(g) To train people specially for the present state African development is to fight against progress. The African like all races is acquiring new outlooks and new standards and, above all, whatever his background his health demands the same efficient care, protection, and environment. He might live in the hut but his physiological and health requirements are the same.

This was proved by suggestions made by one member of your Committee who suggested that the present witness was not a 'native'; did not think like a 'native'. Given opportunities for advancement the few apparent exceptions would be the rule among the African people. The masses that are now considered the rule, or show the inherent backwardness of Africans are merely good hereditaries

lost for want of good environment economically and educationally.

Finally, if African Doctors are employed in State service the conditions of employment and salaries should be on a professional basis instead of a racial basis, if we want efficient service and maintenance of the dignity and the ethics of this noble profession. I am emphasizing this point with due regard to the statement of the Chairman who said we must not start discussing salaries because he had been informed by another member of your Committee that the University was paying their lecturers a certain amount in salaries.

It must be realised that outside practice is more exacting than lecturership. Anyway, if a man is well qualified to render the service, his colour or nationality should be no factor in the equation.

I therefore reaffirm my recommendations

- (1) Do away with all unnecessary experiments in African Medical Training and in education in general.
- (2) Train doctors, nurses and Health and Sanitary Inspectors for the best qualifications in these various professions and provide facilities for further special facilities for those who want to follow the preventive aspect of medicine as a career, with attractive emoluments.

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VICTORY CONGRESS CONFERENCE.

Bloemfontein Dec. 14-16th. 1941.

A.N.C.  
14/12/41

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Great interest has been shown about the coming conference of African National Congress at Bloemfontein during December 14-16th 1941.

Both the Secretary-General and I have been receiving many inquiries from all classes and organisations about it.

With the important agenda for discussion we expect all shades of opinion representing chiefs, teachers, trade unions and so on. We need the best brains for this Conference as well as all people who have problems of national concern. There will never be a better opportunity for Africans to review their status and disabilities and formulate a policy of action for improving their status and removing their disabilities.

Guided by the questions that have been brought to the attention of the President by chiefs and various organisations, I am in a position to state that

- (1) The Presidential address will raise many matters of policy and action.
- (2) There will be papers leading discussion on
  - (a) Native Land problems - rural and urban.
  - (b) Native Education - Finance, Control, and status of African Teachers.
  - (c) Recognition and Registration of African Trade Unions under the Industrial Conciliation Acts.
  - (d) Wages of the African.
  - (e) The African and Defence Service.
  - (f) Native Representation.
  - (g) Disabilities under the Native Administration Act 1927.
  - (h) Special Native Statutory Restrictions - Pass Laws, Native Taxation, Masters' and Servants' Act, Native Service Contract Act, etc.

It may be clear that we shall be concerned with only urgent questions. The coming election under the Representation of Natives' Act will not be the main issue as we realise that no real progress can be accomplished by the African people until the African's own organisations, apart from statutory institutions, are strong, united and speaking with one voice.

We expect and invite all to come and give us of their best for the advancement of our people.

I hope in this way I have answered many of the questions addressed to me.

Working together we can do a great deal not only for our people; but for South Africa as a whole.

Yours for African Freedom,

(Sgd.) A.B.XUMA.

PRESIDENT-GENERAL,  
AFRICAN NATIONAL

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14/12/41

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS // 2/1

DRAFT AGENDA: ANNUAL CONFERENCE-1941.

Bloemfontein - 14th - 15th December, 1941

SUNDAY 14th Dec.:

11.a.m.-12.30 p.m. (1) Preliminaries,  
(2) Credentials.

3 p.m.-3.45 p.m. NATIONAL SERVICE

Appointment of Committees.

8.00 p.m. Executive Meeting.

MONDAY 15th Dec.:

9.30a.m.-12.30 p.m.

- (1) OFFICIAL OPENING,
- (2) PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS,
- (3) PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

2.30 p.m.-5.45 p.m. ....SPECIAL PAPERS AND ADDRESSES ON:

- (a) Education,
- (b) Trade Unions,
- (c) Land,
- (d) Native Administration Act.
- (e) Army Service and Africans.

8.00 p.m.-12.30 p.m. RECEPTION OF PAPERS.

TUESDAY 16th Dec.:

9.30a.m.-12.30 p.m.

- (1) Executive Report,
- (2) Financial Report,
- (3) Addresses by Parliamentary Representatives and M.R.C.'s.

2.30 p.m.-5.45 p.m.

- (1) RESOLUTIONS.
- (2) GENERAL QUESTIONS.

8.00 p.m.

RECEPTION.

SECRETARY GENERAL.

Undated.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS  
Bloemfontein 14-16th Dec. 1941? - Attached Minutes  
Draft Agenda. are 1940

Sunday 14th Dec:

- 11a.m. - 12.30p.m.  
Official opening  
Welcome Addresses
- 3p.m. - 5.45p.m.  
National Service  
Appointment of Committees.
- 8p.m. - 10p.m.  
Executive Meeting.

Monday 15th Dec:

- 9.30a.m. - 12.30p.m.  
  
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS  
PROVINCIAL REPORTS.
- 2.30 - 5.45p.m.  
Special papers and addresses on Education  
Trade Unions  
Land.  
Native Administration Act  
Army Service and Africans.
- 8p.m. - 10p.m.  
Continue discussion on Papers.

Tuesday 16th Dec:

- 9.30 - 12.30p.m.  
Executive Report  
Financial Report  
Addresses by Parliamentary Representatives, and  
M.R. Councillors.
- 2.30 - 5.45p.m.  
Resolutions  
GENERAL QUESTIONS.
- 8p.m. RECEPTION.

*James abalala*  
SECRETARY - GENERAL



At its meeting held on Sunday 14th December 1941 the Executive decided upon the following recommendations:

I. Membership Cards:

That it should be the practice of Congress to issue tickets on cash only. Provinces should send cash with order to the Treasurer General.

2. REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION:

That a Committee consisting of the President General, Secretary General, and Professor Matthews be authorised to proceed with the Revision of the Constitution.

3. THE A.N.C. & A.A.C.

That the recommendations submitted by the Joint Committee of the A.N.C. and A.A.C. be received and considered but no reply to them could be made at this stage.

4. THE MENDI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE :

The Executive can not see its way to nominate delegates to represent ~~by~~ them in this committee because the Congress as a Body was not consulted before the Fund was transferred to the control of the Native Affairs Department.

5. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE SENATE, PARLIAMENT, & PROVINCIAL AND REPRESENTATIVE COUNCILS:

The Executive feels that in view of the organisational state of the Congress at the present time, Congress is not in a ~~post~~ position to sponsor any Candidates for the forthcoming Elections.

A. M. C. 15/12/41 ABX. 411215a  
THE EXECUTIVE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Presented and passed by the Conference.

15th December 1941

Until the Provinces send in their statistics showing their numerical and their financial strength the Executive Report will always be found wanting. No Province has been able to fulfil this obligation as yet. Acting on the information received from the Cape African Congress conference last June I report six branches which ~~fulfilled their~~ fulfilled their status by having at least 25 fully paid members for the year.

I know that some centres had double the number but as I have not got the statistics with me I shall say the Cape has about 200 members.

The Cape Western Province blame the Treasurer-General for not sending the tickets to them.

I have had no reply from the other Provinces. I know however that they have been working hard, organising themselves, and that Provincial conferences have been held.

The President General Dr. A. B. Xuma has exerted himself almost to breaking point in assisting Congress to organise in various ways.

His Memorandum containing the Platform and Policy of the Congress has been very useful to many organisers, for it placed the point of view and the aims and objects of the Congress in a short form, and made it easier for people to join. The President has followed up the memorandum by a personal

visit to centres such as Kimberley, Cradock, East London, and Port Elizabeth, and addressing meetings and interviewing groups of local leaders.

The President General has spoken on important social and political questions as a true leader. He has submitted evidence to the Beer Commission and to the Commission which enquired into the life and conditions of our people. His memoranda fully represented the African's point of view.

The President-General has taken up certain matters with the Government Officials and members of the Cabinet. He has approached the Department of Justice for instance and interviewed the Minister in connection with the treatment meted out to our people by the police. He has come to the assistance of the Workers and helped them to present their case to the Department of Labour.

The Secretary General also visited the Transvaal in January and attended and took part in the opening of the Conference which was held in Alexandra Township. He accompanied Dr. Xuma throughout his tour in the Cape Province.

He visited Bloemfontein in May and had a series of meetings in preparation for this conference.

The Secretary also visited Grahamstown/ Capetown and there also attended a series of meetings held by adherents of both Provinces of the Congress in the Cape.

The Question of Farm Labourers and that of the recent appointment of Advisory Boards on Farm Labour has been delegated to Advocate Molteno M.P. and he is carrying on negotiations with Government Officials with good results in certain centres. At Cradock for instance, Mr Akena has been invited by this Board to give evidence and also to visit certain farms in the district with a view to presenting the facts to the Congress Branch as well as help to create a better understanding between the Farmers and the Africans in general.

Some 20 families of people ejected from the farms and squatting on the Cradock Commonage have been arrested by the Council and sentenced to a month's imprisonment or 2 pounds fine to take effect as from the first day of January 1942. The matter has been referred to Senator Malcomess who is interviewing the Native Affairs Department on it.

The Executive owes a very deep debt of gratitude to the African Representatives in the Senate, House of Assembly, Provincial Council, for the indefatigable way in which they have co-operated with the Congress in fighting against injustice and Colour prejudice and class discriminations against our people.

The members of the Representative Council also deserve our full appreciation for bringing before the Government questions that might in the ordinary course have been treated as mere conference resolutions and put away in Government shelves.

The following is the reply of the Secretary for Native Affairs to our resolutions on the War:

15/12/41

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESSDELIVEREDAT  
THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.ATBLOEMFONTEINONMONDAY, DECEMBER 15th., 1941.BYDR. A. B. XUMA.

Fellow Countrymen:

If you may ever need comfort, courage and inspiration for the difficult yet manly task I am going to urge you to assume, I advise you to pin on the walls of your hearts the wise words of our Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Field-Marshal J.C. Smuts who said recently, "Do not mind being called agitators. Let them call you any names they like but get on with the job and see that matters that vitally require attention, Native Health, Native Food, the treatment of Native Children and all those cognate questions that are basic to the Welfare of South Africa are attended to."

In the founding of the African National Congress in 1912, African leaders of that day displayed a great vision and laid a broad and deep foundation upon which to build the superstructure for African freedom and liberty in the land of their forefathers. They proclaimed through the organization they set up and the efforts they made, that, only through unity and concerted action of all leaders from our various races and classes may we hope to achieve our freedom and obtain justice and a fair-play in South Africa. They made sacrifices and suffered privations in the cause of African freedom. Some went to gaol and became unpopular with power and influence but remained loyal and true to the cause of their people. Thus they were architects of our salvation. Thus they pointed the way for us. They showed that freedom is precious and a heavy price must be paid to obtain it.

With our State Native policy and the racial attitude in general, to serve your people honestly and sincerely; to take an uncompromising stand on their behalf, is to become unpopular in certain high and influential quarters.

You and I are inheritors of these great traditions. We are debtors to their fine examples. We are called upon to copy their fine example of sacrifice. We are urged not only to build upon the foundation they laid but also to improve and modernise the plan of their structure. To do this it requires the best African brains, and I believe we have them at this Conference. It calls for the greatest effort and sacrifice from every man and woman of our race. It means for all of us wherever we are and whoever we are to do our duty. Congress claims us. Congress demands our best service for our people.

Since Congress was founded and made its initial spectacular success it has experienced periods of inactivity because you and I thought and believed that organizations lead by non-Africans were more dignified than African organizations and thus we abandoned our organizations and surrendered our leadership to others. We, especially the intellectuals, so-called, have been more loyal to this new leadership. We are better trained than the founders of Congress

but we do not seem willing to think and act for ourselves as did these old stalwarts.

To-day you and I, the better trained we are, seem more disposed to work under orders and direction of others against and away from African organizations. Someone said to me one day, with some degree of truth, "We uneducated Africans feel that the educated African is lost to us. He is afraid to identify himself with his own people. When crisis arises, he is either silent or joins the forces against his own people. We do not know whether the education you get puts fear in you." I was dumbfounded; but was somewhat ashamed because you and I, outside our jobs for which we are paid, have not done the best we can to assist our people. Fellow countrymen, this is a challenge. Shall we not pick up the gauntlet? South Africa, white and black, needs us. We must pull our full weight; we must make our real contribution to the building and the progress of South Africa to the full benefit, mutual helpfulness and happiness of all sections, white and black.

Let us stand for, and with, our people as long, as we are in the right.

Our position and our place is what it is in South Africa and will remain what it is until you and I realise that no race can save another. Each people must rise through the efforts and leadership of its own members. Others can and must help.

In spite of this I am very much encouraged to find that during the past year Congress has received the support and co-operation of all African groups and organizations. The representations that Congress made before Government Commissions have been supported and adopted by most responsible groups. We are, therefore, proud and happy at the evidence of this unity which means strength and hope for our people.

It will not be amiss here to remind you of the aims and objects of the Congress as enunciated by its founders.

Congress aims

- (1) To work and unite Africans for common action.
- (2) "To educate Bantu people on their rights, duties and obligations to the State and to themselves individually and collectively; and to promote mutual help, feeling of fellowship and a spirit of brotherhood among them."
- (3) "To encourage mutual understanding and to bring together into common action as one political people all, tribes and clans of various tribes or races and by means of combined effort and united political organisation to defend their freedom, rights and privileges."
- (4) "To discourage and contend against racialism and tribal feuds or to secure the elimination of racialism and tribal feuds; jealousy and petty quarrels by economic combination, education, goodwill and by other means."
- (5) "To be the medium of **expression** of representative opinion and to formulate a standard policy on Native Affairs for the benefit and guidance of the Union Government and Parliament."

3. (6) "To/...."

- (6) "To educate Parliament and Provincial Councils, Municipalities other bodies and the public generally regarding the requirements and aspirations of the native people; and to enlist the sympathy and support of such European Societies, Leagues, or Unions as might be willing to espouse the cause of right and fair treatment of coloured races."

Thus the African National Congress is the mouth-piece of the African people of the Union of South Africa. All its efforts are and must be concentrated upon raising the status of the African people from their semi-serfdom to citizenship. To work for this end and to achieve it, the leaders of Congress cannot hope to be popular with any of those who would exclude the African from citizenship rights.

We cannot go on blindly and hope to achieve our goal. We must have a plan; we must have a programme of action.

#### REPRESENTATION.

In a democratic country all members of the State must be part of the policy moulding machinery. They must have a voice and a vote in the affairs of the State. However, in South Africa the African has no vote and, therefore, no voice in South African affairs. He has ingeniously been disfranchised and put in differentiated pseudo-franchise which disfranchises the most qualified people under any fair, just, and equitable system of franchise. Under the Representation of Natives' Act, the individual educated person is victimized. In rural areas only the Chiefs under the influence of the Native Commissioners are voters. In urban areas, the Advisory Boards, some under the influence of Superintendents are voters. The professional man, the teachers, the ministers, the property owner outside locations, have no vote, and, therefore, cannot choose a representative either to the Native Representative Council, to the House of Assembly, or to the Senate except in the Cape Province. In a country in which two million Europeans are represented in Municipal councils, Provincial Councils besides 150 members in the House of Assembly and 40 in the Senate, there are only three members in the House of Assembly and 4 Senators to represent 6 to 8 million Africans. There are no members in the House of Assembly to represent Africans in the Free State, Transvaal and Natal. The Transvaal and the Free State on the one hand and Natal on the other are represented by one Senator, respectively. In the Native Representative Council there are 12 ~~members~~ elected by Chiefs in rural areas and by Advisory Boards in urban areas, and 4 members nominated by the Government with 5 Chief Native Commissioners and the Chairman representing the Government. The Council has only Advisory functions and no legislative power. The Representation of Natives' Act not only gives inadequate representation but also excludes the best qualified Africans from voters. It may justly be called the Misrepresentation of Natives' Act. We must work for

- (1) Adequate representations and right of franchise for Africans.
- (2) Participation of Africans, as voters and citizens, in the building of a Union Policy acceptable to all sections including the African.
- (3) Representation of Africans in all Government chambers and Government departments.

#### LAND.

The fundamental basis of all wealth and power is the ownership and acquisition of freehold title to land. From land, we derive our existence. We derive our wealth in minerals, food, and other essentials. On land, we build our homes. Without land we cannot exist. To all men of whatever race or colour land, therefore, is essential for their wealth, prosperity, and health. Without land-rights

any race will be doomed to poverty, destitution, ill-health and lack of all life's essentials. In South Africa all our legislation aims at depriving the African of all right and title to land, in both rural and urban areas. He is made a perpetual and eternal tenant of the State and Municipalities so that he may be forever dependent for existence and wages upon Europeans who are, alone, entitled to get as much land as they can use and even more than what they can use but may hold it for future speculation while Africans are landless, homeless, destitute, and starving.

The over-crowding of the reserve is no accident. Generations of young men come of age in many of these areas but no land is available for their occupation so that tens of thousands of them are squatting on their fathers limited areas. As many as 2 to 4 families squat on such little plots in surveyed areas.

Much of this over-crowding of stock we hear so much about is a misrepresentation of the position. Few people have as many as 5 head of cattle or more. The problem is over-population due to limited land space. The solution is not limitation of stock as it is often officially urged even though no one would object to the improvement of the quality of stock. The solution will be the opening up of more land for occupation by Africans through all forms of tenure possible for them, that is, freehold, lease hold, and rental, as the case may be.

The provisions of the Natives' Land Act (1913) and the Natives' Land Trust Act Amendment (1936) do not tend to solve the land problem in the rural areas. They tend to aggravate and confuse the situation. The land is available to be held communally under restricted conditions and rent must be paid in perpetuity. The land, under the conditions of Land and Trust Act is bought at highly inflated prices and thereby increases the rentals. These poor people must carry a heavy financial burden in rents.

Under this Act no land is available for sale to individuals or groups of Africans who wish to buy. Further, no facilities are available to them, such as the Land Bank to assist them to acquire or improve their land.

The whole land policy has been of benefit to European farmers who have made unheard of profits for the sale of farms in their names without any real improvements having been effected by them.

In fact, the over-crowding of the reserves, the lack of facilities to encourage the acquisition of freehold title by Africans are not an accident of an insoluble problem. They are part of a studied land policy which aims at providing an uninterrupted flow of cheaply paid labour and an absence of independent self-sufficient African farmers who would be under no European control.

In urban areas, under the Urban Areas Act, 1923, provisions are only made for accomodation of those Africans who are potential labourers for Europeans. These Africans must be accomodated in locations or hostels. Even though the idea of Native villages is provided for under the Act, it has not been encouraged in practice. No provision is made for the acquisition of freehold titles by Africans generally except in townships that were allowed before the Act came into force. Here, also, over-crowding exists because areas available to Africans and non-Europeans in general are very limited and, therefore, become slums.

In all this land policy the worst and most dangerous clause is the restriction that provides that no native may buy land from a non-native except with the Governor-General's approval to the transaction. The provision is universally acceptable in government and European quarters because the native generally speaking has no land to sell. This ensures that there is little chance for Africans securing more land and, therefore, independence.

Congress must, therefore, work and negotiate for

- (1) Adequate land for Africans and for Africans to acquire freehold title to land in rural and urban areas.
- (2) The right of Africans to secure freehold titles to land individually or collectively or as syndicates inside or outside release areas.
- (3) Right of Africans to purchase land from any seller anywhere in rural and urban areas.
- (4) Land Bank facilities to assist African farmers to purchase land to improve it.

Every effort must be made, now, during the war, to get adequate land for Africans as over-crowding and starvation are undermining the health and physique of our people for generations to come. The present conditions of land occupation and available land for Africans unfits them physically, mentally and even morally for survival.

#### ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL WELFARE.

The African is the worker of South Africa. However, because of his lack of political power and because of the existence of many statutory restrictions against him such as the Pass Laws, the Natives Service Contract Act, the Masters and Servants Act, the Natives' Labour Regulations, the African finds himself debarred from benefits of certain labour awards. For instance, the Pass Laws restrict his freedom of movement, limit his bargaining power, expose him to exploitation by a certain type of employer and exclude him from enjoying benefits to be derived from the Industrial Conciliation Act. The African is paid wages far below the cost of living. He is debarred from skilled trades. He is a pawn between the white worker and the employer. He is forced to live below the bread line. Besides African wages are further depressed by the uneconomic system of recruiting and importation of African labour which exempts the mines from the operation of economic and industrial laws, supply and demand so far as Africans are concerned. He is allowed to trade on sufferance and under great restrictions. The African is a great producer and consumer of goods. He should, therefore, be allowed to trade freely according to his means and ability to help raise his economic status. To achieve our ends in this direction, Congress must work for

- (1) Removal of industrial and commercial restrictions against the African.
- (2) Living wage and better working conditions.
- (3) Right of all classes of African workers to organise into Trade Unions.
- (4) Recognition and Registration of African Trade Unions under African leadership by the Union Labour Department with all the rights, privileges and immunities appertaining to such organizations under the Industrial Conciliation Act.
- (5) Right of Africans to learn skilled trades and engage in them.
- (6) Trading rights for Africans anywhere.
- (7) Abolition of Pass Laws, Natives' Service Contract Act, and the Masters' and Servants' Act, and other Special Disabilities.

6. (8) Abolition/...

- (8) Abolition of Recruiting and Importation of African labour from outside the Union.

All of us, whatever our status or calling, must join hands with all other classes in this fight for existence.

POLICE, CIVIC GUARDS AND THE AFRICAN.

Recently the African has suffered severely at the hands of the police. During police raids not only assaults on Africans have taken place but, in the course of such raids, Africans have been actually shot dead. The situation in cities like Johannesburg has been aggravated by the appearance, as special constables, of the Civic Guards. They are more worry and a greater horror in the already harassed life of the African. Some of them do not seem to use much judgement in carrying out their duties. They seem to have no regard either to time, circumstances or persons.. Some of them search all and sundry. Any questions or reluctance on the part of the African often leads to man-handling of the victim. These high-handed methods of both the police and the "civic guards" do not tend to arouse a spirit of good race relations. One feels that there are many people under these circumstances who are given authority over the African without the necessary discipline and training for the task. The Pass Laws and Police Raids in general must be abolished in justice to the African and as a measure of relief to him.

Those who want to fight should go to the various battlefronts instead of attacking defenceless and unarmed Africans.

SOCIAL WELFARE.

Africans in South Africa are the worst paid and consequently the poorest section of the community. Generally speaking they have no margin from their earnings to set aside for a rainy day; consequently, during old age, disablement and non-employment they find themselves with nothing with which to support themselves. As a group Africans are more in need of benefits from the Social Welfare Departments than any other section in South Africa. The Africans, therefore, should be eligible to receive all benefits from Social Welfare Departments. It should be the task of the African National Congress to work for

- (a) Old age pensions for Africans.
- (b) Disability and Disablement pensions.
- (c) Extension of provisions of the Children's Act to meet social requirements of destitute African children - adequate maintenance grants.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.

Africans in South Africa have the highest Infant Mortality rate, highest mortality and morbidity rates, than any section. The causes are not racial but economic. The people are poverty-stricken with low wages, lack of adequate food, semi-starvation, bad housing and therefore, low resistance to disease and consequent ill-health and premature death.

Adequate hospital accomodation is desirable but hospital accomodation required can be reduced if the people are paid good wages to relieve from poverty in order to buy their health through sufficient food, good housing and other amenities. We must work for

- (1) (Adequate well-equipped and adequately staffed hospitals - *General + Special*)
- (2) Full extension of public health and preventive health measures to Africans.
- (3) The training of Africans in medicine, surgery and  
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