

NO COMPROMISE ON FOOTBALL FRONT

World Body Must Outlaw Racism

DURBAN.—A special committee appointed by F.I.F.A. (Federation of International Football Associations) will arrive in Johannesburg on January 17 to investigate racialism in South African soccer and the demand of the Non-Europeans that the European South African Football Association be expelled from the world soccer federation and the non-colour-bar South African Soccer Federation be affiliated instead.

Members of the Committee are A. E. Salem (Egypt), K. J. Lotsy (Holland), senior vice-president of F.I.F.A., J. McGuire (United States) and K. Gossman, F.I.F.A. secretary.

Soccer Federation officials here fear the special committee may seek a compromise solution unfavourable to the Non-Europeans and are suspicious of the committee's intended consultations with Govern-

ment authorities. They consider such consultations unnecessary, as the matter is not a concern of the Government.

Consultations with the Government, they maintain, might result in the use of intimidation and pressure to achieve a compromise which will enable the colour bar to remain in South African soccer.

The Soccer Federation officials warn against such tactics by the

special committee, and point out that the committee will have to report back to a full F.I.F.A. congress in Spain in June, where it is certain the overwhelming majority of F.I.F.A. members will support the just claims of the South African Soccer Federation.

In an interview with New Age, Mr. George Singh, S.A. Soccer Federation secretary, said the only solution to the problem was the full recognition of the Soccer Federation by F.I.F.A.

The South African Football Association, Mr. Singh added, must join the Soccer Federation, which in terms of the F.I.F.A. constitution is the only South African body entitled to full membership of the world soccer federation.

"The Soccer Federation is undoubtedly the most representative and highest soccer body in South Africa for it caters for more than four-fifths of the country's population and its doors are open to all races, whereas the Football Association represents only a small minority of White players and refuses to co-operate with the Non-Europeans," said Mr. Singh.

"If only the Football Association would place the interests of soccer above racial prejudice, South Africa would rank high in world soccer, for the Non-European people possess inspiring talent, and no one has the right to deny them full expression in world sport."

STAND FIRM

Officials of the Soccer Federation here wish to impress upon their members that when they meet in Johannesburg next Sunday, January 15, to discuss the special committee, all Federation members must not forget that they represent many thousands in this country whom they must not let down by accepting any compromise which will destroy the S.A. Soccer Federation.

Members are asked to remain firm at the discussions and to insist that race and colour barriers must go from South African sport. They must insist that even if the special F.I.F.A. committee reaches no solution, F.I.F.A. must inevitably provide the only solution by expelling from the world organisation the body that recognises a colour bar in sport.

Matthews Wins His Case

CAPE TOWN.

An application by Mr. J. G. Matthews of Port Elizabeth for an order directing the Incorporated Law Society to register his articles of clerkship to a Port Elizabeth attorney was granted in the Cape Town Supreme Court last week.

The Law Society had refused to register the articles of clerkship because Mr. Matthews had taken part in the resistance campaign against unjust laws and had encouraged others to break the law. The Law Society maintained, therefore, that Mr. Matthews was not a fit person to become an officer of the Supreme Court.

The Cape Town judges disagreed with the Transvaal judgement in the Mandela case that participation in the defiance campaign and conviction under the Suppression of Communism Act was no reflection upon Mandela's professional character as an attorney. They held, however, that since Matthews had not been articulated when he committed the offences, it could not be said that he was not a fit and proper person to become an attorney.



Organisers of the Iron and Steel Workers' Union, John Nkdimeng and Nimrod Sejake (left) hold a meeting among engineering workers in Benoni. The workers are discussing their demands for the recognition of their union and their factory committees (though not under the Native Settlement of Disputes Act); for a stop order system and wage increases.

EUROPE MAKES A LEFT TURN

HIGHLIGHT of last week's international news has been the result of the French general elections. The Communist Party with just under 5 1/2 million votes gained half a million votes and 56 seats (26 more than the number predicted by Communist leader Maurice Thorez on election eve), to emerge as the largest group in parliament, with 150 seats. The Socialists (93 seats) were the second-largest party. Together the two working-class parties now control 42 per cent of the parliamentary votes and 40 per cent of the seats.

When the results were announced the Paris Stock Exchange prices dropped 10 points—a sure barometer of a progressive victory. Just as was the case in the last elections, in 1951, one voter out of every four voted Communist. This is all the more remarkable when one remembers that the four years since the last election have included the worst period of the cold war during which the whole fury of the French state, backed by the United States, has been thrown into the battle to destroy the Communist Party.

The entire press of France, with the exception of L'Humanite, has done all in its power to vilify the Communists and distort their policies. The police have smashed Communist demonstrations with the utmost brutality. Time and again issues of the Communist Party newspaper have been seized and destroyed. Communist leaders, including Duclos and Stil, have been arrested and "treason" frame-ups concocted. The weight of the Catholic Church has been thrown against the party. Communists have been victimised and even such outstanding scientists as Joliot-Curie have been thrown out of their jobs.

THEY FAILED
The election results show clearly that the capitalists have lost the battle to destroy the French Communist Party—that they have failed even to weaken it. (Deplait, the Minister of Justice who ordered the arrest of Duclos lost

his seat, as did Le Tourneau, War Minister who confiscated L'Humanite during the war in Vietnam.) They show even more than that—that the reactionary parties have broken their own heads butting them against the solid wall of working-class and progressive support for the policies advocated by the French Communists—world peace, an end to France's "dirty war" against the people of North Africa, the improvement of the living conditions of the people.

In 1951 the reactionary parties went to the polls confidently after having designed a fraudulent election system with the undisguised aim of cheating the Communist Party of its seats. This system permitted the anti-Communist parties to form alliances and pool their votes. If the combined total of all the anti-Communist parties in the alliance was more than 50 per cent they took all the seats in a voting district. By this means Communist representation in 1951 was halved, although the Communist vote did not fall significantly.

But this year the contradictions inherent in the French political system emerged to deprive the capitalist parties of their power to use the system they had so cunningly invented.

FAVOURITE DEVICE

The policy of the government was so universally hated by the people that in order to protect themselves the capitalists had to use one of their favourite devices to try and bluff the voters. Some of the government parties pretended to go "into opposition" and, reflecting the feelings of the masses of the people, launched an attack on the government for the very policies which they themselves had sponsored.

But to do this, the "opposition" could hardly enter into an election alliance with the government, and Mendes-France had to pretend that he was an implacable foe of Faure (although they had only a month before been co-leaders of the same party, and Faure was carrying out the very policies Mendes-France had begun when he was Prime Minister!)

As a result there was no anti-Communist alliance strong enough to get the prized 50 per cent of the votes, and the seats in almost

every electoral region went by proportional representation.

FAURE'S PROPOSAL

Faure, with the typical contempt of the capitalist party boss feels for the intelligence of the people, did not even wait 24 hours before exposing the hypocrisy of his shadow-fight with Mendes-France. He proposed to the latter that they form a parliamentary alliance against the Communists.

There can, of course, be no doubt that this is just what Mendes-France would like to do. But it is a little difficult for him. To curry favour with the voters

World Stage
by Spectator

he had to make election promises in keeping with what the people wanted, and to pretend with the utmost vehemence that any alliance with the hated Faure was unthinkable. He knows that if he makes a move in the direction suggested by Faure he will lose much of his support, and he cannot even be sure that he will be able to take his whole party along with him, let alone his Socialist allies.

THEY LIE ABROAD FOR THEIR COUNTRY

Misrepresentations of State Information Office

CAPE TOWN.—The Non-European peoples of South Africa are pictured as primitive barbarians in propaganda material issued abroad by the State Information Office. By contrast, the Whites are described as the standard-bearers of civilisation who brought peace and order to a savage land.

Issued at South Africa House, in London, is a little booklet entitled "Land in the Sun" which contains the most fantastic racist nonsense in defence of the Nationalist Government's apartheid policy. It also contains gross distortions and suppression of the truth, intended to conceal the reality of South African life from the eyes of over-curious foreigners.

"It began in April, 1652," is the first sentence in the booklet.

NO EASY TIME

"On that day they landed, just over three centuries ago, the South African nation was born. But in the beginning the leader of the settlers, whose name was Jan van Riebeeck, and his men had no easy time.

"They had to build an outpost in a strange, savage land 6,000 miles from their home. They were surrounded by agile little Bushmen with bows and poisoned arrows. The cunning Hottentots often stole their cattle. There were lions and leopards and other wild animals to

deal with..."

Note that the Non-Europeans are described as "little", "agile" and "cunning" and are placed on the same level as animals as natural hazards to be dealt with. The European colonists, on the other hand, are described as "tall", "brave" men displaying qualities of "courage and perseverance".

This contrast between White and Black is continued throughout the booklet. Discussing the reasons for the Great Trek the booklet says: "Marauding Black warriors often carried off the White men's livestock, burned down their homes and murdered whole families. The

original Dutch settlers believed they were not being given the protection they deserved and, for this and other reasons, they were dissatisfied with the new British rule. Accordingly they resolved to leave the Cape Colony to seek freedom and independence elsewhere in Africa."

Of course nothing at all is said of the crimes perpetrated by the Whites against the Blacks in the border regions. And perhaps the most staggering omission of all is that of any reference to the abolition of slavery by the British as one of the main causes of the Great Trek.

VOORTREKKER HEROES

The Voortrekkers are naturally the heroes of the ensuing historical episodes, while the Blacks are again the villains. The Voortrekkers "had to rely mainly on the marksmanship of the men for their food; and the women and children, too, had to know how to handle the clumsy muskets so that they could help in the defence against animals and savages" (My emphasis.)

Crossing into Natal, "they found this area partly occupied by the Zulu, a Bantu nation which had been formed by Chaka (they call him the Black Napoleon), into a mighty and merciless fighting machine. The warriors of this proud but cruelly led people either subjected or destroyed all the other tribes about them. Chaka's successor was Dingaan. He was another harsh ruler and, like Chaka, had no compunction, even about slaughtering his own people—if he felt so inclined..." (My emphasis.)

The booklet goes on to give the conventional Voortrekker account of the "treachery" of Dingaan and the murder of Piet Retief and his followers. The Africans somehow, though they fought with assegai and shield against the muskets of the Voortrekkers, are never described as fighting bravely or courageously in defence of their land, but "the Voortrekkers fought with great courage, and in their fight they were strengthened by the knowledge that they were defending not only themselves but Christianity and civilization against barbarism."

ANTI-BRITISH

But let it not be thought that the author is only critical of the Africans. He is also critical of the British and other "foreign" elements who are continually interfering in the affairs of the Boer nation.

In the history of South Africa, as set out in this booklet, the Afrikaner is never at fault. Even in the description of the Anglo-Boer war, it is this time the British who greatly outnumber the Boers. The war "lasted three years, and in the face of overwhelming odds the Boers were at last beaten. But their resistance won admiration throughout the world..." No such praise is anywhere offered to the British for their contribution to South African history.

The names and achievements of Van Riebeeck, Paul Kruger, Botha, Smuts and Hertzog are quoted, but not a single Englishman gets so much as a mention.

An idyllic picture is painted of life in the Reserves, where the Africans lead "a simple pastoral existence as their ancestors did through the centuries before them—a happy, picturesque people."

No mention of the slums and the squalor in the shanty-towns, of the cruelties of section 10, of the forced removals, of farm goafs, of cattle-culling in the Reserves—all that is no doubt just the lying propaganda of the English press. As

far as the State Information Office is concerned, the Africans lead a "simple, happy and picturesque" existence, under the benevolent guidance of the Nationalist Government.

EDUCATION

The booklet describes in detail the wonderful educational facilities that are available to the White child. Then it adds:

"The same broad principles as the ones described here apply also to the education of non-White children, although (because until recently many of these people were quite primitive), their system is not so far developed... The Bantu, as a people, are still backward, and so the Whites pay three-quarters of the money needed for their education."

So, you see, it is the fault of the Non-Europeans themselves that their educational facilities are not as good as those of the Whites. The booklet does not mention that the State spends £43 16s. each year on the education of each White child, but only £7 a year on each African child at school, or only £2 12s. on each African child of school-going age—since only a third of the African children ever get the chance to attend school.

And the claim that the Whites pay for the education of the Blacks is simply untrue. The Government makes a contribution from general revenue—and both European and Non-Europeans contribute to general revenue by direct and indirect taxation.

But, finally, what can one say of a man, who knows that the Bantu Education Act is on the Statute Book, and who can yet remark that "the same broad principles" apply to the education of both Europeans and Non-Europeans?

The only explanation is that he is deliberately attempting to mislead public opinion abroad about the true aims of the Nationalist Government. The lies spread abroad about South Africa do not come from the English press, but from the State Information Office, which is to-day little better than the propaganda arm of the Nationalist Party—paid for by you and me out of public funds!

BRIAN BUNTING.

P.S. "Land in the Sun" is illustrated with many drawings by the Cape Town artist Leng Dixon. One can only express one's surprise that this talented and progressive artist has associated himself with a project of this nature.

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THE BANTU WORLD AND FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

As the successor to the Guardian and Advance you have naturally been jealous of the freedom of the press. You rightly drew attention to the apathy of other sections of the press when Advance was suppressed.

The action of the ANC conference in Bloemfontein in "banning" the Bantu World reporter because of that paper's "hostile attitude" falls far short of suppression. Nevertheless, it is a step in the wrong, undemocratic direction, taken for the wrong motives. I am sorry that you have not yet found editorial space to say so.

I think that you will agree with me in having little or no use for Bantu World's editorial line. But I hope you will join me in insisting on its right to a reactionary line, if it wishes.

It seems an oversight in the Freedom Charter that there is no clause specifically dealing with press freedom. But the spirit of the Charter clearly supports it. And I think this is an occasion when those of us who are sincere friends of the ANC should say quite clearly that we think a mistake was committed. I feel this the more strongly because there is still in some ANC quarters an attempt to justify what was done in the heat of the moment, even after there has been time for more considered reflection.

As soon as the sign goes up: "Favourably disposed journalists only," there has been a serious encroachment on democratic liberty. The fact that white South Africans suffer from still greater immaturity in the face of adverse criticism is no reason to condone even a minor encroachment within the jurisdiction of the ANC, in which such high hopes are set.

C. W. M. GELL.

Port Elizabeth.

(Criticism of the decision to exclude the Bantu World from the ANC conference was expressed in the article "United People's Front Can Defeat Strijdom's Fascism" in last week's New Age. Mr. Gell hopes New Age will join him in insisting on the Bantu World's right to a reactionary line, if it wishes. But how far would Mr. Gell be prepared to go? If Goebbels wished to start up a daily newspaper in South Africa today, New Age for one would not support his application. Had the representative of a Nazi paper made application to attend the ANC conference, it is our opinion the ANC would have had every reason to deny him the right of entry. Similarly, the ANC would have been justified in taking action against the representative of any Nationalist or other South African newspaper which had consistently misrepresented and slandered the Congress and its leadership, and whose presence at the Congress could reasonably have been held to be for a malicious purpose. There seems to be some doubt, however, whether such a case was made out against the Bantu World, and the expulsion of its representative would therefore seem uncalled for.

We wholeheartedly support Mr. Gell's call to fight for the freedom of the press, but at the same time feel it necessary to stress that it is a freedom which does not exist in South Africa and has still to be won. In the first place, laws such as the Suppression of Communism Act have already destroyed the right of the people to think and say what they please. In the second place, the majority of the people are in no position

anyway to exercise their right to press freedom because they lack the financial resources needed to launch and maintain a daily newspaper—thus, for instance, there is not a single African-owned, African-run newspaper in the whole country, while on the other hand the existing press, with few exceptions, is almost completely in the hands of the great mining and financial monopolies and the rich farmers who control the economic life of the country and the government.

That is why the representatives of the people of South Africa who gathered at the Congress of the People last year drew up the Freedom Charter on the lines they did. Not only did they proclaim the necessity to establish democratic rights for all, but they also indicated that the framework of our existing society would have to be radically altered in order to create the political, social and economic conditions in which those democratic rights would be not merely written into the constitution of the country, but actively practised in the daily life of the people.

The Freedom Charter, incidentally, does include a clause dealing with press freedom. Under the heading "All Shall Enjoy Equal Human Rights," it reads: "The law shall guarantee to all their right to speak, organise, to meet together, to publish, to preach, to worship and to educate their children."—Ed.)

Worcester Refuses To Elect School Committee

A meeting of parents was held at the D.R.C. Church in Worcester on December 22 to elect a school committee under Verwoerd's Bantu Education Act. After the chairman explained the purpose of the meeting, he called on the people to elect the members of the committee.

He was challenged by a barrage of questions from our volunteers which he could not answer. He said he, too, knew nothing about Bantu Education, and was only accepting it because he wanted to see how far it goes. If after going some distance he found it unsuitable, he would turn back and join the opposing majority.

But the people were not prepared to have anything to do with Bantu Education, which is intended to dull the minds of the young, and by a large majority decided not to elect a committee.

J. P. BUSA, Secretary A.N.C.

Worcester.

SACTU Protest At Family Survey

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Congress of Trade Unions has sent an emphatic protest to the Director of Census and Statistics at the exclusion of South Africans of non-white origin from the survey of family expenditure.

By the exclusion of the bulk of the South African population, the survey will in no way reflect the true economic position of the worker in relation to the consumer price index now being constructed, says SACTU.

The survey should be broadened to include a genuine cross-section of the people of South Africa, concludes the letter.

AN APPEAL FROM DR. DADOO

As the Union Parliament prepares to assemble for its new session, the people of South Africa face the grim prospect of more vicious fascist attacks from the Strijdom police state on their fast dwindling rights.

Our African womenfolk face the ghastly possibility of having to carry passes and suffer all the indignity and oppression of the pass system. Our Coloured people stand to lose their voting rights on the common roll and they, together with the Indian community, will have to bear the main brunt of the further and more vigorous implementation of the Nazi ghetto law — the Group Areas Act. Our workers of all races and colours will be confronted with the sinister and foul implications of the new Industrial Conciliation Bill which is intended to destroy workers' unity, strangle their trade unions, rob them of their most cherished right—the right to strike—and to place them under the corroding influence of racialism.

In the face of this onslaught the people of our land must

rally and stand firmly united in order to turn back the tide of apartheid tyranny.

One of the most important and indispensable weapons in all these struggles is New Age, the people's paper. Without it the freedom struggle would be so much poorer.

It is, therefore, impermissible that we should allow it to remain a four-pager when the needs of the time demand that New Age should be at least an eight-pager, if not bigger. New Age will become an eight-pager before the end of this month! It is our duty and our task to keep it up to eight pages for the duration of 1956.

We must make every effort to raise every single penny we can to support New Age.

We must set to work right now:

(a) We must collect on every pay day from our fellow workers in factory and workshop.

(b) We must collect every week-end from our neighbours in our residential areas.

(c) We must organise concerts, film shows, fêtes, bazaars and other forms of entertainment to collect money.

(d) We must regularly donate ourselves.



Act now! Donate and Collect! Help to keep New Age an eight-pager. Every penny for New Age is a penny well-spent for freedom!

Y. M. DADOO.

AFRICAN LEADER DEPORTED FROM BASUTOLAND

PORT ELIZABETH.—Mr. I. J. M. Mathibela, whose home is at Pitseng in Basutoland, has been served with a deportation order which prohibits him from entering or remaining in Basutoland.

Mr. Mathibela, who works in Port Elizabeth, attended the Basutoland ANC conference in Maseru from December 31, 1955, to January 2, 1956.

About 6 a.m. on New Year's Day, three uniformed policemen, one plain-clothes detective and a headman came to him in a pick-up van. Mr. Mathibela told New Age. The Sergeant read out to him a prohibition notice issued by the Resident Commissioner, Mr. Edwin Porter Arrowsmith, under the Public Safety Proclamation.

The notice declared that Mr. Mathibela's presence in Basutoland was, in the opinion of the Resident Commissioner, likely to be "prejudicial to the peace, order and good government of the said territory of Basutoland and to the interest of the Natives living therein." The notice then went on to prohibit him from "entering, or remaining in," Basutoland.

After the notice was read, Mr. Mathibela was ordered to leave Basutoland within 24 hours. The order was served on him nearly 13 months after it had originally been signed, at a time when Mr. Mathi-

bela was working in Northern Rhodesia.

The people at the ANC conference were incensed when they heard of this outrageous action. Mr. Mathibela told New Age, and declared their determination to fight this latest British injustice.

Another direct result of the deportation order was that many people who had previously hesitated about joining the ANC, enrolled immediately.

UNVEILING OF TOMBSTONE

The unveiling of the tombstone of our dearest mother Esther Nokufa Vilakazi who left us on the 19th July, 1954 at house No. 1633, Orlando East, P.O. Orlando. The unveiling ceremony will start at the same residence on the 21st January, 1956 to the Anglican Church and to the Croesus Cemetery. Ever remembered by her children Elias, Amos, Meshach, Alfred, Martha, Solomon, Christopher and all her grand-children.—M. Z. W. Vilakazi, 1633, Orlando East.

YOUR PORTRAIT—

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHS CHILDREN'S PICTURES ELI WEINBERG

The New Age Photographer
11, Plantation Road, Gardens, Johannesburg. Phone: 45-4103

THANKS

Violet, Eli, Sheila and Mark Weinberg would like to thank all the comrades throughout South Africa who shared our anxiety during the past few weeks. We are deeply grateful for the friendship shown to us by everybody in the Liberatory Movement, which sustained us during this trying time. Mark has been making fine progress and we hope that he will soon be fully restored to complete health.

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BIRTH

To Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood Ngotyana, a daughter, born in Gqogqora location, district of Tsomo. Both well.

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