

# PASS BOOKS FOR WOMEN ISSUED IN WINBURG

## AFRICANS BLUFFED BY VERWOERD'S OFFICIALS

JOHANNESBURG.—WHILE WOMEN IN DURBAN, CAPE TOWN, JOHANNESBURG AND OTHER AREAS WERE STEPPING UP THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PASS LAWS, VERWOERD'S OFFICIALS LAST WEEK LAUNCHED THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE AFRICAN PEOPLE BY STARTING THE ISSUE OF PASS BOOKS FOR WOMEN AT WINBURG, IN THE FREE STATE.

By the beginning of this week 1,429 African women in Winburg had been issued with pass books, and the Native Affairs Department teams and local authorities were patting themselves on the back that they had managed to bluff and bamboozle the women into believing that they were not really passes!

### THE GIRL THEY WENT ON STRIKE FOR



CAPE TOWN.

Four hundred canning workers at Grabouw, Western Cape, came out on a lightning strike last Thursday, because they were under the mistaken impression that Miss Becky Lan, acting general secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, was in jail.

(Miss Lan's appeal against her sentence under the Suppression of Communism Act was dismissed in the Bloemfontein Appellate Division on Monday. Her sentence of 3 months' imprisonment, however, was suspended for 3 years.)

The Grabouw workers refused to take the word of Labour Department officials that Miss Lan was not in jail. They also refused to speak to their union's head office in Cape Town on the factory manager's telephone, saying it was a trick to get them into the factory. Instead, they said, they would walk down to the village and telephone their union from there.

Only when Miss Lan arrived at the factory in person in the afternoon did the workers go back to work. Her arrival was greeted with cheers and clapping.

Mr. B. January, official of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, explained their mistake to the workers at a brief but enthusiastic meeting—Becky Lan being prohibited from addressing the workers in terms of a banning notice under the Suppression of Communism Act.

The next Free State towns marked down for the issue of passes to women are Excelsior and Westminster, both due to be visited this week by N.A.D. teams, which will later return to Winburg again. It is rumoured Ladybrand and Verkeerdelei will be next, but these N.A.D. plans could easily be altered.

The reference book issued to the women is six and a half inches by three and a half inches in size and contains 48 pages within a hard black cover. The women must pay 3/6 for this book and their photograph and also a type of purse-wallet supplied with a double cord for the women to wear strung from their shoulders or round their necks.

**Nats. Exploit Coloureds' Opera Triumph —Page 6**

The book provides for entries almost identical with those required in the men's pass books. Three of the sections are virtually the same: Those for Labour Bureau eflux and

(Continued on page 8)

## "OPPOSE ALL PASSES!" URGE WOMEN'S LEADERS

All over South Africa last week women of all races were stepping up the campaign of protest against the pass laws.

### Johannesburg

"OPPOSE ALL PASS LAWS!" SAID THE FEDERATION OF WOMEN IN A STATEMENT LAST WEEK WHEN THE FIRST ISSUE OF PASSES FOR WOMEN WAS ANNOUNCED FROM WINBURG.

In the name of the 2,000 men and women who gathered together on March 11 in opposition to the pass laws, the Transvaal Region of the Federation of S.A. Women condemned the action of the Government in imposing passes upon the African women of Winburg.

"The blitz methods employed in pouncing upon Winburg, the confessed secrecy for fear of organised resistance, confirms the real truth that this Government is aware of the nationwide opposition of the

African women to passes. "It can achieve its fascist purpose only by creeping like a thief in the night to take women unawares. "The Federation sees in this despicable action the first step towards the enslavement of the African women, and calls upon women of all races to intensify the campaign against passes for women, and to oppose all pass laws."

### Durban \*

A deputation of over 200 women, representing the majority of Durban districts, marched to the Native Commissioner last week, without the necessary appointment, to tell him to inform the Minister of Native Affairs that the African women here do not want passes or

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Some of the textile workers who were on strike in Worcester last week.



### 4-Day Strike Wins

# BIG GAINS FOR 1,200 TEXTILE WORKERS

CAPE TOWN.—Twelve hundred Coloured and African workers, men and women, standing firmly together in complete unity, last week staged one of the biggest and most successful strikes in the history of Worcester and the Western Cape.

After four days strike action, the workers at Hex River Textile Mills, Worcester, were able, through their trade union, to wrest substantial increases from bosses, who in 18 months of previous negotiation had been prepared to concede only 1s. a week increase for workers with five years service.

The benefits include:

- Weekly increases ranging from 1s. 7d. to over 5s., with, in some grades, additional quarterly increases over the next two years. The increases range from 7½% to 10%, and the average increase per worker is 3s. per week.
- An additional 1s. per week, over and above these increases, for all workers with 5 years and more employment in the factory.
- Free overalls for all workers.
- The employers and the union agreed to the establishing of a sick fund.
- The principle of establishing an Industrial Council for the worsted section of the textile industry in the Cape was also accepted.
- There was to be no victimisation. All workers were to be re-instated.

(Continued on page 2)

### Kathrada Not Guilty on Immigration Charge

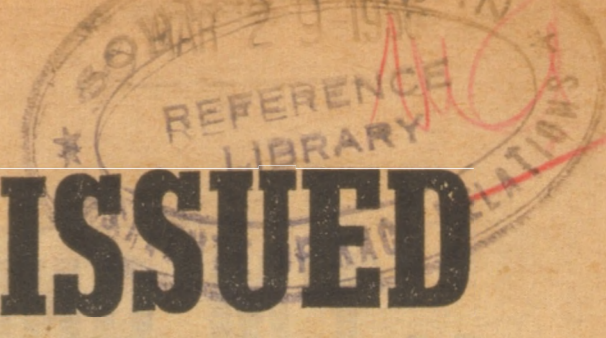
JOHANNESBURG.

Transvaal youth leader, A. M. Kathrada was last week freed of the Free State immigration charge against him. Kathrada was arrested on December 17 for entering the Free State and not reporting to an immigration officer. However, in court it transpired that even the police and the prosecutor could not trace any immigration officers in Bloemfontein to whom Kathrada could have reported. Further, the Chief Immigration Officer in Durban was unaware of any immigration officers in Bloemfontein.

The magistrate found that the Crown had not proved that Kathrada did not make an effort to appear before an immigration officer as soon as possible after he had entered the province!

On the second charge, of entering a location without a permit, Kathrada was found guilty and fined 10s.

Mr. J. Slovo, instructed by Mrs. S. Muller, appeared for Kathrada.



# .. 'I'M ONLY BUT A LABOURER!'

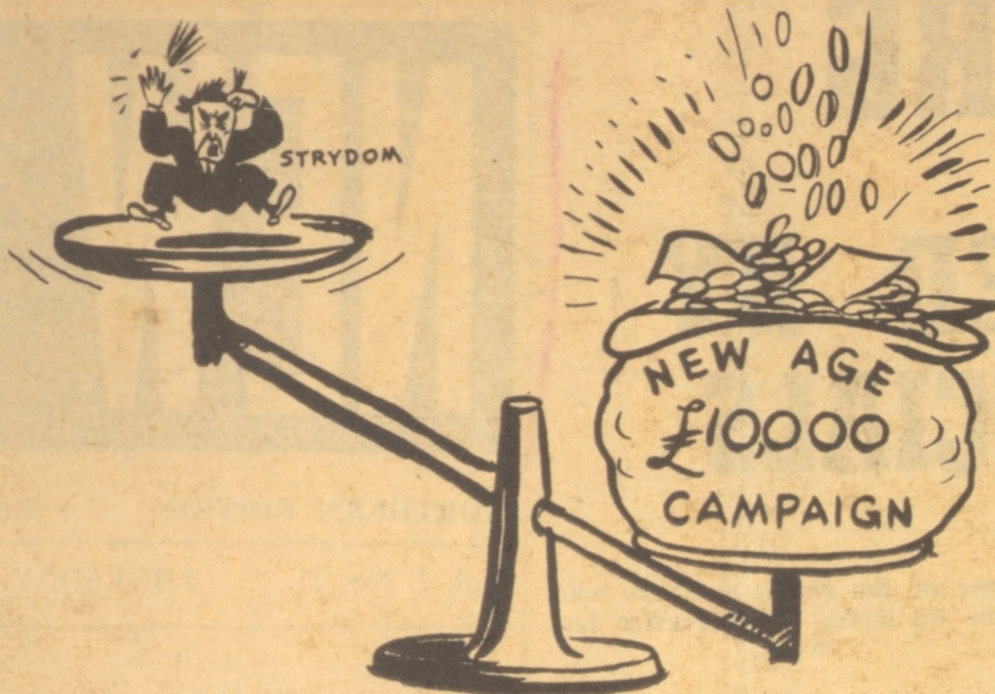
"I'm forwarding you the contribution of mine. I understand what you said, the paper is only living through the people. When I could afford it, I use to give. But now seeing that I'm not in a position to give as I use to give. You must consider that I'm a man of 75 years of age, and I'm only but a labourer. As you know yourself in Africa the Coloured is the worst of pay, but when I can afford I will give."

The above is an extract from a letter which accompanied a donation of fourteen shillings sent to us by an old Coloured reader who lives—and still has to work—in a remote village, far from the stimulating currents of the mass political movement in the big cities. For him, the very existence of New Age is a guarantee that future generations will not have to suffer the oppression and hardships which he has had to bear throughout his life.

We thank him from the bottom of our hearts for the outstanding tribute he has paid our paper. We know all our readers will join with us in wishing him long life and a happy old age in a truly People's Democratic South Africa.

In Cape Town, over the weekend, a children's-party-cum-Bring-and-Buy sale raised the useful sum of £18 6s. The uninhibited, care-free enjoyment of the kiddies of all races gave the lie direct to Nationalist apartheid nonsense.

Two Johannesburg readers, who normally give us £2 per month, have stepped up their contribu-



tion to £5 per month for the duration of our campaign. What about a few others following their example?

Do you remember our telling you about the shipment of newsprint we had to order in a hurry in order to beat the world-wide shortage? Well, it is due to arrive within the next two or three weeks. We shall be in serious trouble if we do not have enough cash on hand to pay for it promptly when it lands in the docks.

So please, GIVE US YOUR MONEY NOW! Help push our total up to a minimum of £10,000 by the end of the month. Remember that the success or failure of

our campaign is a matter of life or death for our paper.

### THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS

APV £5; Kay 5s.; Old Friends £50; Old Friend £25; Anon £5; Anon £2.10; Anon £5; Anon £5; H.H. £10; Wellwisher £10; A.T. 9s; Anon 1s.; R.M. 9s.; Mica £1; Visitors £50; Anon £5; E.A.R. 5s.; J.O.W. 14s.; N.J.C. 9s.; L.M.B. £1.17; S.N. 4s.; F.C.-P £2; Cyprus £2; Bring and Buy £18.6; Norman £5; Unity £2.2.

### Previously

Acknowledged ..... £285 9 8  
Total this week ..... 207 11 0

TOTAL TO DATE ..... £493 0 8

## Editorial

# THE WARNING OF WORCESTER

THE Worcester strike of textile workers provides startling evidence of the way in which Nationalist legislation is intended to hamstring the labour movement.

The strike broke out because the management had refused to grant the workers the wage increase they had demanded. Both the management and the trade union had gone through the conciliation procedures laid down in the Industrial Conciliation Act without being able to reach agreement. Thus, when the union called its members out on strike it was perfectly legal for them to do so.

The union, being a registered union, does not include African workers, and consists for the most part of Coloured and European workers. In terms of the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act it is illegal for Africans to go out on strike under any circumstances. Had the African textile workers in Worcester followed the procedures laid down in the Act, they would have been compelled to act as strike-breakers when their fellow-workers went on strike. The law required them to be at work while it was in the interests of their fellow-workers that they should not.

So long as the African workers remained at work, it was possible for the management to defy the union and the other workers who were on strike. It was only when the Africans came out that the bosses were forced to give in and accept the union's conditions for a return to work.

The lessons to be drawn from this are obvious.

● First of all, it is only working-class solidarity that can weld the unity needed to make the bosses see reason.

● Conversely, if workers are split on racial lines, their bargaining power vis a vis the bosses is greatly weakened—and that goes for European workers too.

● Thirdly, the splitting of workers on racial lines, far from leading to harmony as the Nationalists claim, can only lead to mutual suspicion and race hatred. No worker who is on strike can stomach a scab, and if the scab belongs to a different racial group, it is easy to understand that race hatred can be generated.

● The Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act, which makes criminals of African workers who go on strike, no matter what the circumstances, must be repealed.

● Finally, the Industrial Conciliation Bill at present being discussed in Parliament, which provides for the splitting of the trade union movement from top to bottom on racial lines, can only lead to a worsening of the position of all workers, White and Non-White, an intensification of race hatred, and a strengthening of the position of the bosses. The Worcester strike proves why.

The workers of South Africa, White and Non-White, must recognise that the road of racial disunity leads to disaster for all. It is not too late to launch an all-out struggle to prevent the I.C. Bill becoming law, and to fight to the end against the Nationalists' apartheid plans.

As an indispensable weapon in this struggle, all workers must strive to strengthen the only non-colour-bar trade union centre, the South African Congress of Trade Unions, so that it will become the indisputable leader of the South African labour movement, capable of leading the workers in the bitter struggles which undoubtedly lie ahead of them.

# ADVISORY BOARD CONFERENCE REJECTS RENT INCREASES

## JOHANNESBURG.

The Johannesburg Joint Advisory Board conference where the slogan was "asina mali"—we have no money for high rents—was too large to be accommodated in the Orlando Communal Hall, so the 700 from all Johannesburg's locations and townships including site and service schemes moved out of the hall to hold the conference in the open air, and there unanimously rejected the increased rents.

The resolutions said the increases were unwarranted and totally un-

acceptable, called on the Advisory Boards to fight the increases using "all legal methods," also rejected all laws restricting the Africans' freedom of movement and deplored the extension of the pass laws to women. They also called for a Wage Board inquiry in all industries to review current wage determinations and agreements.

Johannesburg's manager of the Native Affairs Department sent his apologies and those of the Mayor and said his committee would discuss the conference decisions; but the conference delegates said they did not accept his apologies.

Presiding, Mr. P. M. Lengene

said: "This land belongs to us not only as South Africans but also by birth. Yet our rulers are prepared to make us pay high rents."

Mr. G. G. Xorile attacked the new Bill which will prevent Africans having rent increases upset in Court. One after another spokesmen from George Goch, Moroka, Pimville, Orlando, site and service, Eastern Native Township and Western Native Township spoke against the rent increases.

Mr. Leslie Massina spoke for the organised African workers in their opposition to higher rents. "Let us join our organisations in thousands," urged Western Native Township Board member, P. Q. Vundla.

## GWENTSHE ACQUITTED

MAFEKING.—The courtroom crowded with Africans cheered when exiled leader Alcott S. Gwentshe was last week found not guilty of contravening the Governor-General's order of deportation.

Gwentshe was charged with having defied the order of the Governor-General that he should stay on the farm Frenchdale in the district of Mafeking, to which centre he was deported after his exile first to Bushbuckridge in the Transvaal.

In terms of the deportation order Gwentshe had to live in Mafeking in a place pointed out to him by the Native Commissioner. In court the Native Commissioner Mr. van Rensburg said that on Gwentshe's arrival at Frenchdale he had pointed out two huts for his occupation.

Under cross-examination by Mr. J. Slovo, appearing for Gwentshe, Mr. Van Rensburg admitted that three days after Gwentshe's arrival he had complained to him that the huts were not fit for human habitation. He then allowed Gwentshe to stay in the Labour Depot in Mafeking for a few days. He said Gwentshe had also complained about the state of the Depot.

The Native Commissioner told the court under cross-examination that it was improbable, but he could

not deny that he had told Gwentshe that he could stay at any place in the Mafeking district which he could find.

Another deportee who gave evidence for the Crown said under cross-examination that in cold and rainy weather it was impossible for Gwentshe to live in the huts allocated to him by the Native Commissioner. He said that Gwentshe had spent a few nights with him just after his arrival because the deportees had no work, nothing to eat and were starving.

The magistrate found that Gwentshe's evidence to the effect that he had been given permission to stay in any place he found in the district could reasonably be true. He found Gwentshe not guilty and discharged him.

(Footnote: Deportees confined to the farm Frenchdale in the Mafeking district include not only Congress leader Gwentshe from East London, but also men from Witzieshoek and Kingwilliamstown and a group of Church of Zion followers.)

## BIG GAINS FOR TEXTILE WORKERS

(Continued from page 1)

The strike began on Monday morning of last week when 900 Coloured workers went on strike in support of their union's demands, which the employers had consistently turned down.

At that stage, the 400 African workers in the factory were not on strike—they went to work with the full support of the Coloured workers, who realised that the Africans might face prosecution in terms of the Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act, should they join the strike.

When I visited the strikers on Tuesday they were in high spirits. They had not been intimidated in the slightest by the presence of police at the factory the previous day, nor were they intimidated by a notice on the factory gate, declaring that there were 900 vacancies in the factory, i.e. that all the strikers had been dismissed.

But it was after this notice, threatening the jobs of the 900 Coloured strikers, that the African workers came out the following day. So, on the Wednesday morning, ALL the workers in the factory were out, and production was at a complete standstill.

At midday on Wednesday, 242

African workers were rounded up by police (reinforcements had come from the neighbouring towns) put into buses, and taken off to the charge office. Two trade union leaders, Joe Ndamoyi, who is national president of the African Textile Workers' Industrial Union, and J. Busa, an executive member of the union, were put into separate vans and taken to the charge office.

The police, who carried rifles, were booed and jeered by the Coloured strikers. On the following day all the Africans were released on £3 bail each, excepting Ndamoyi, Busa and Koppie Baartman, another African textile leader. At the time of writing, bail had not yet been granted to these three.

While the Africans were appearing in court, the Coloured workers held a short but impressive service outside the factory gates, praying for the release of their fellow workers and expressing full solidarity with them.

On Thursday the employers offered, in writing, to grant reasonable wage increases and at a meeting on Thursday evening the workers agreed to be back on the job at 5 a.m. the following day.

But it was not till 9 that the

workers went back, declaring that they would go out on strike again immediately if no satisfactory agreement was reached.

Negotiations between the union and the employers were then resumed. After the union had turned down the employer's offer of a 5 per cent increase as "not reasonable enough," a final settlement was reached.

"This strike was one of the most successful I have ever experienced," Mr. A. Calmeyr, Cape area secretary of the Textile Workers' Union, told New Age. "The workers' solidarity was of a very high standard. In addition, we had the whole-hearted support of the people of Worcester."

The union's appeal for funds for the strikers has met with a very good response. Up to the end of last week, £60 had been collected in Worcester alone. Textile factories in other areas have sent in donations, as have other trade unions, and SACTU has promised all possible help.

The Textile Workers' Industrial Union and the African Textile Workers' Industrial Union will be jointly responsible for the defence of those workers arrested in terms of the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act.

NAOMI SHAPIRO,

# NOBODY TO MEET DULLES

NEW DELHI.—Garlands and cheering crowds were conspicuously absent when U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles arrived here last week. He was met at the airport only by Syed Muhmud, Minister of External Affairs, and a few other Government officials.

SO UNIVERSAL HAS BEEN THE OPPOSITION TO THE S.E.A.T.O. MEETING FROM WHICH HE CAME, THAT IT IS CLEAR THAT SEATO COULD BE AS DISASTROUS FOR THE U.S. IN ASIA, AS THE BAGDAD PACT WAS FOR BRITAIN IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

In a brief speech Dulles said that basically there were no differences between India and the United States. When an Indian pressman asked him to explain in the light of this remark his recent anti-Indian statements on Kashmir and Goa he brushed aside the question and hurriedly entered his car.

Dulles could not have chosen "a more inauspicious time for his visit," the Press Trust of India noted, reporting that Dulles' statement the previous day to SEATO attacking the Indian stand on Kashmir "is strongly resented."

The U.S. Secretary of State could not have taken much comfort from the newspapers he read when he reached his hotel suite.

## HAPPY HUNTING GROUND

Dulles "is set upon turning our sub-continent into a happy hunting ground for the cold-war strategists," declared the Hindustan Standard, the Congress newspaper.

The paper added that Dulles had embarked on a "policy of breaking down India's will by direct and indirect means." He was bent on using the SEATO and Bagdad war pact in order to push India into a tight corner.

"The danger lurking behind this policy of encirclement should be carefully weighed by all those who value and take pride in India's present independent status in world affairs," the paper said. "If Dulles thinks that by mounting up pressures and threats around India's borders he can exact a heavy price for our neutral policy, then he must be frankly told what India intends to do."

The (conservative) Times of India wrote: "The consensus of opinion in New Delhi appears to be that Dulles has badly soured India's feelings by his provocative performance at Karachi and thereby brought Indian-American relations, unpleasant as they have been, to crucial cross-roads."

The Standard also carried on its front page a cartoon depicting Dulles clad in steel armour with sharp spikes sticking out marked NATO, SEATO, MEDO, Kashmir, etc., and stretching out both arms to Nehru, with the words, "Let's embrace and be friends."

In Blitz, Dulles read a message of greeting in the name of peace and freedom to the "coldest of all cold warriors of America."

"You refused to accept the most glorious fact of contemporary Asian history in the emergence of China as a free republic," said Blitz. "You fought two wars against Asian resurgence—one in Korea, the other in Indo-China—to the bitter end of defeat for your arms and disaster for your prestige."

## ASIANS AGAINST ASIANS

"Not satisfied, you proceeded to push your master plan of making

Asians fight Asians by organising the war pacts, bringing America's defence perimeter on Asian shores forward from Seoul to Singapore and from Istamboul to Karachi."

In Parliament, replying to the demand of a number of deputies that the SEATO conference be discussed and rejected, Nehru declared that he agreed that the threat to India was a "serious matter."

## SEATO REJECTED

Referring to the SEATO conference itself, the Hindustan Times said: "If the general charge against the SEATO is that it brings the cold war nearer to the Asian countries, the references to Kashmir and Pakistan would appear to bear it out." The Standard saw SEATO as being "full of implied threats against

India." It declared: "The real face of the so-called 'regional defensive alliance' SEATO is clearly seen."

Said the Times of India: "Everything that has happened during the three-day session of SEATO confirms the suspicion that this ill-conceived organisation is a threat to the peace and stability of South-East Asia."

The Bengali daily, Jugantar, declared that the Western powers, "masquerading in the name of peace and democracy have been indirectly threatening India on the Kashmir and Goa issues through regional military alliances. But India will not be perturbed or frightened in this war of nerves."

## NOT INDIA ONLY

The violent outburst of anger at the U.S. war plans has not been confined to India. It was echoed in Burma, where the Rangoon Daily declared "the Asian nations will not be deceived by Dulles' talk of a 'communist threat'" and in



JOHN FOSTER DULLES

Indonesia where Herian Rakjat declared editorially, "Peace and security in South-East Asia will never be guaranteed as long as SEATO exists."

After three days in India which could not have been the most pleasant of his many travels, Mr. Dulles was disappointed if he expected a happier welcome in Indonesia. Crowds there were at the airport—but they were carrying banners and shouting "Down with Dulles; down with SEATO." The press was as hostile as that of India.

# HOW THE AFRICAN WORKERS ARE ROBBED

(By a Special Correspondent)

"THE worker is worth only what he can earn; and that is a lesson that I am far from convinced that African trade union leaders have learned. . . In the minds of many of the African trade unionists, the whole purpose of the trade union is to obtain more pay for the same amount of work. This must be broken down, and, in the main by the trade union movement itself."—Sir Roy Welensky, Deputy Prime Minister of the Central African Federation, in a recent B.B.C. broadcast.

The worker is worth only what he can earn! Perhaps this cash criterion is the only basis on which Sir Roy Welensky estimates the value of a worker. But to trade unionists such a basis is unacceptable. Look around you, Sir Roy. Everything you see—houses and factories, bridges and locomotives, cars, ships and planes, the most complicated machines and the most delicate handicrafts—all are created by the hands of working men and women.

## NO PRICE

There is no price for the working man. He is the most precious capital on earth, for it is his labour, his energy and his intelligence which create all this wealth

in the world. The worth of a worker, therefore, cannot be valued in pounds or dollars.

Let us take gold in South Africa.

The average African miner—and Africans constitute 89% of the workers on the gold mines—receives, in cash and kind, about five pounds a month. The total wage bill paid to African miners is eighteen million pounds a year. But the gold production in 1955, revealed by the Minister of Mines, Dr. van Rhijn, in the Senate last week, was £182,745,344. And not a penny of that could have been produced without the five-pounds-a-month African workers.

The same general picture can be painted for all the major commodities produced in Africa. The African miners who work in the diamond mines of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. (who account for almost the entire diamond output in South Africa) have produced diamonds totalling £150,000,000 in the last eleven years. There are about 12,000 African miners in the diamond mines of South Africa, and their wages are less than £100 a year. In other words, for producing £150,000,000 worth of diamonds, African miners have received in these eleven years about £13,000,000 in wages—or about 8 per cent of the wealth they produce.

Worth only what they can earn, Sir Roy?

## CONSIDER PROFITS ALONE

Now, let us look at Northern Rhodesia, which is the territory Sir Roy had very much in mind when he made the above statement. But for the purpose of our argument, we won't even take the whole wealth which the worker creates, but only a part of it, the surplus or gross profit, which goes to the employers and shareholders in the form of dividends and to the government in taxes.

Figures of the big copper-producing companies in Northern Rhodesia, together with other information now available, show that the big copper companies controlled by the American-dominated Rhodesian Selection Trust and the British-South African controlled Anglo-American Corporation,

made nearly £50,000,000 gross profit in 1955. This wealth was created by the miners (mainly Africans). This, in fact, was what the African miners actually "earned"—but what they, in reality, received was only £3,650,000 in cash, and a further £1,200,000 in food. (See official Forster Commission Report published in 1954.)

And so, for producing about £50,000,000, the Northern Rhodesian African miners receive about £5,000,000. And the shareholders, who produced nothing, earned nothing and who are therefore really worth nothing, took the bulk of this wealth, which they then shared with the government (by paying taxes) in return for the government's support and protection.

## TRUE EVERYWHERE

The same holds true for the African workers in Southern Rhodesia, who work on the tobacco plantations and produce huge profits for the British tobacco companies. And it is true, too, for the African tin miners of Nigeria, for the African workers on coffee plantations in Kenya, on sisal plantations in Tanganyika—in fact, for all African workers who receive a wage of 1, 2, or 3 shillings a day, but produce wealth to the tune of hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

Africa has enormous natural resources. It produces 98 per cent of the world's diamonds, 80 per cent of its cobalt, 55 per cent of its sisal hemp, 80 per cent of its palm oil, 63 per cent of its cocoa, 57 per cent of its gold, 28 per cent of its phosphates, 38 per cent of its chrome and manganese, 26 per cent of its copper, 25 per cent of its groundnuts, 23 per cent of its millet, 22 per cent of its anti-mony, and 15 per cent of its coffee.

Yet, although he produces this wealth, the African worker receives miserable wages.

No, Sir Roy, the African worker is NOT paid what he earns. He earns—that is, he produces—many, many times the value of his wages. But the bulk of the wealth he creates is stolen from him—stolen by the big foreign companies.

Therefore African trade unionists are a hundred times justified in demanding "more pay for the same amount of work"—for from

## U.S. Negroes Fight Segregation

JOHANNESBURG.

In the southern states of the U.S.A. law and order have broken down. A public climate has been created in which a Negro's life is worth no more than a white man's whim, writes a Negro contributor in the latest issue of Fighting Talk, now on sale. Louis E. Burnham, editor of Paul Robeson's paper "Freedom", and a well-known Negro youth leader, discusses the fight for Negro equality in the States, and the civil rights crisis there.

The March issue of Fighting Talk carries also an article "Time for Outcry" by G. Mbeki, on the Transkei-Ciskei famine; an article by E. R. Braverman on the Industrial Conciliation Bill and the need for unity of workers of all races; an article on the attainment of independence by the Sudan; an article by an African nurse on the struggles of Nurses against Apartheid; the text of Kruschov's speech on foreign policy to the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; and an article on Lobengula, which is the second in a series on personalities in African history.

Fighting Talk is obtainable at 6d. a copy from P.O. Box 1355 Johannesburg.

the vast profits which they produce there is more than enough to meet the wage demands of African workers throughout the Continent.

This is increasingly being understood by African workers and that is why recent strikes in a whole number of African territories have been conducted with such unity and tenacity.

## MINIMUM WAGE

That is why the African National Congress recently issued a statement demanding a minimum wage of £1 a day for all workers in South Africa. The White supremacists laughed, called it "fantastic," "silly," "unreasonable." But look at the figures again. Even £1 a day would be less than the African earns for his bosses in profits.

And that is why the Congress of the People incorporated in the Freedom Charter the demand that "The People Shall Share in the Country's Wealth." This section of the Charter reads:

"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;

"All other industry and trade shall be controlled to assist the well-being of the people;

"All people shall have equal rights to trade where they choose, to manufacture and to enter all trades, crafts and professions."

## India-China Trade

NEW DELHI.

The increase in trade between India and China during the past year has been breath-taking. In the first ten months of 1955 India's exports to China increased more than ten-fold compared with the corresponding period in the previous year and her imports increased 3½ times.

In the same period China's exports to Burma increased 23 times, and her imports 25 times.

POLISH ENGINEERS have been awarded the contract to plan the rebuilding of the Hejaz railway line, which runs for more than 500 miles between Damascus in Syria and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

Bids were submitted by fourteen other countries, but Poland's offer was the most competitive.

# INDONESIA'S REACTIONARIES ARE OUT

DJAKARTA.—Following the decision of Indonesia's opposition parties, which now have the support of the overwhelming majority of the population, to boycott parliament (New Age last week), the U.S. puppet Masjumi Government has been forced to resign.

President Sukarno has called on Ali Sastroamidjojo whose National Party won more votes than any other single party, to form a government. During the elections the National Party stood together with the Communist Party in a broad coalition to defeat the Masjumi.

Asked about the foreign policy of the new government, Sastroamidjojo replied: "As I was the one who took the initiative to organise the

Asian-African Conference, I will try to implement in broad lines the decisions the conference took."

Calling for the broadest possible national unity to prevent any foreign interference, the Indonesian Communist Party has urged the new Premier to form a cabinet which includes all parties—even the Masjumi. The common programme which could serve as the foundation for such a government was that of anti-colonialism.

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