

papers 4

6. 194.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESSHELD AT BLOEMFONTEIN FROM 15th TO 19th Dec. 1949.

The Motion reads:-

The fundamental principles of the programme of Action of the African National Congress are inspired by the desire to achieve National Freedom.

By National Freedom we mean freedom from white domination and attainment of political independence.

This implies the rejection of the conception of the principle of segregation, "Apartheid" "Trusteeship", or white leadership, which are all in, one way or another, motivated by the idea of white domination.

Like all other people the African people claim the right of self-determination. With this object in view and in the light of these principles we claim and will continue to fight for the political rights tabulated on page eight of our Bill of Rights such as i-

- (1) The right to direct representation in all the governing bodies of the country --- National, Provincial and Local, and we resolve to work the long term abolishment of all differential institutions or bodies especially created for Africans, such as Local or District councils, Advisory Boards, Native Representative Council and the present form of Parliamentary representation.
- (2) In order to achieve these objectives the following programme of action is suggested:-
  - (a) The establishment of a single political Organisation behind which every African men, women and child should be organised.
  - (b) The creation of National Funds to finance the struggle for National Liberation.
  - (c) The appointment of the committee to organise an appeal for Funds and the regular issue of propaganda material through the press and otherwise.
  - (d) In order to implement our resolutions we accept the principle of employing the following weapons:- Boycott, Strikes, Civil Disobedience, Non-Co-operation and the Boycott of all differential Institutions.
- (3) We should prepare for a National stoppage of work; for one day as a mark of protest.
- (4) To appoint a council of action whose functions should be to carry into effect, vigorously and with the utmost determination this policy as a programme for immediate Action, and to organise Protest meetings against the refusal of the Minister of Education to provide funds for the feeding of the African school children during the first (Term) quarter of 1950, and to Boycott the Education Commission appointed by the Government to whittle down the content and quality of African Education.
- (5) Lastly:- Congress realises that ultimately the people will be brought together by inspired Leadership, courage and boldness, even to the extent of suffering imprisonment and death for the cause.

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**RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961**

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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