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REPORT OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PEOPLE.

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It is well known that the Congress of the People was held under the auspices of the four sponsoring organisations, the African National Congress, The South African National Congress, The South African Congress of Democrats, and the South African Coloured Peoples organisation, on the 25th and 26th of June 1955, at Kliptown, Transvaal.

The Conference which was attended by 2,084 delegates of whom ~~260~~ were Indian Delegates, 312 Coloured and 112 Europeans, representing all sorts of creeds, diverse walks of life was the culminating event of the two year steady and difficult campaigning by freedom volunteers who despite political intimidation and all sorts of other difficulties which beset them answered the call made by Chief A.J. Lutuli, President General of the African National Congress at its Queenstown Conference in 1953. The Conference received many messages of support, among others from the Prime Minister of China, and the President of the Indian National Congress.

The Campaign of the Congress of the People must be rightly described as the most epoch making event that has ever taken place on South African soil and on the South African political scene. It was the most historic gathering held and ~~was envisaged~~ a historic declaration emanated from the assembly. The final document, The Freedom Charter which was formulated as a result of the innumerable demands received from all sections of the South African people, from all walks of life, representing all shades of progressive and democratic thought, from all creeds ~~of~~ diverse outlooks which transcended the narrow racialism and sectionalism that South Africa is accustomed to was acclaimed by every delegate who represented either his town, village, compound, factory, reserve, dorp, street, district, mine, by every student delegate, youth and women delegates and by the clergy.

In the months before the conference was held, our main objectives in regard to the campaign were the renewing of

/renewing of contacts

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renewing of contact among all freedom lovers, raising the political consciousness of the oppressed people, organising and strengthening and preserving our national liberatory organisations, extending the unity conceived in the Defiance Campaign to the European and coloured peoples for our national struggle, at the same time reiterating our rejection of the doctrine of apartheid and fascism and asserting the demands of the people for the political, social, economic and cultural freedom of the people.

In the weeks and months of the political campaign for the success of the Congress of the People wide sections of the people in all the major ^{centres} ~~countries~~ of the Union, and also those on the farms and the reserves were brought into the Campaign and their hopes and aspirations contained in the demands for inclusion in the Charter, have made them conscious of the disabilities under which they suffered and the ~~need of the~~ need to ameliorate their conditions. They have become conscious of the necessity for all progressive forces irrespective of colour, creed or race to combine and unitedly campaign against such disabilities.

At the Aliptown conference the single overriding fundamental achievement was the spontaneous ~~achievement~~ assertion of unity in thought, in action, and in spirit for a better South Africa. A new brand of South Africanism which expressed its loyalty to a universal creed, loyalty to self respect and human dignity, to the basic inherent national aspirations of the people for peace, progress, freedom and democracy was born. It set the pace for the co-operation of all peoples of South Africa, irrespective of race, colour or creed strive for the equality of all peoples. Delegated to conference also expressed their firm resolve to extend and broaden the frontiers of our freedom ^{struggle} ~~Charter~~ to each and every person who loved liberty, who loved the security of his home and held high their respect for common justice against evil.

Apart from this the conference was one of the ~~greatest~~ greatest triumphs in the non-violent peaceful struggle. Despite the very sharp provocation of the armed police who had entered and raided the conference the people ^{behaved} ~~behaved~~ magnificently with a deep sense of responsibility and continued with the proceedings fearlessly.

/To day.....

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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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