

TO SAVE NEW AGE

# We Want 200 People To Guarantee £5 a Month

Dear Readers,

Despite our pleas, the money from donations is still not coming in fast enough. We don't appear to be able to convince you that unless you give us the £1,000 a month we need, we may have to close down.

**THE FACT IS THAT UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY, OUR FUNDS WILL BE EXHAUSTED IN FOUR WEEKS AND WE WILL BE UNABLE TO CARRY ON.**

As a last effort to stave off this disaster to the progressive movement in South Africa, we are appealing this week for 200 volunteers to come forward and guarantee us £5 a month. That is, each volunteer must guarantee to put in our hands the sum of £5 at the end of each month, whether he has donated that sum himself or collected it from his friends.

We know that not everybody can afford to pay £5 a month out of his own pocket. But surely there are 200 people amongst our tens of thousands of readers who can make themselves responsible for covering one small portion of our monthly loss? Who will help collect this money, hold jumble sales, film shows, cake sales and other functions to raise money?

If 200 people will help us with this burden, then we can see our way to keeping New Age on the streets. We know we are asking a lot. We know many people will have to make sacrifices, maybe stop supporting other worthy causes in order to concentrate on New Age.

But we are not asking the impossible. You used to give us £1,000 a month as recently as last year. We are only asking you to rise to the occasion now as you did then.

**The alternative, if we don't get your support, is that New Age will fail, and the progressive movement will be without a paper—the body of the people without a voice, dumb and silent.**

Do you, reader, want to have the blame for the loss of New Age on your conscience? If not, then please fill in the form below and send it in to the New Age office which is nearest to you. Our office addresses are:

Johannesburg: 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street.  
Cape Town: Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street.  
Durban: 703 Lodson House, 118 Grey Street.  
Port Elizabeth: 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street.

### GUARANTEE FORM

I, the undersigned, undertake to collect £5 a month for New Age funds.

Name .....

Address .....

Ref Mithu p1



Vol 4, No. 35. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

NORTHERN EDITION

Thursday, June 19, 1958

6d.

## JUNE 26 PROTEST AT GROUP AREAS

### Durban Indians Form United Front To Fight Proclamations

DURBAN.

JUNE 26, 1958, will be observed here as a day of prayer and also a day of Hartal, when all Indian shops, offices and other business establishments will be closed as a protest against the proclamations for Group Areas published last week.

At 2.30 p.m. on the same day a mass meeting will be held at the Durban City Hall, at which it is expected the Indian people will decide to defend their homes through militant mass resistance against this deadly blow to their status.

Simultaneously, steps are being taken to test the validity of the proclamations in court and in view of this the people have been called upon not to fill in any forms or render returns to the Group Areas Development Board until the decision of the court is made known to them.

These are some of the decisions that have been taken at informal meetings, called largely through the initiative of leaders of the Natal Indian Congress with responsible and representative members of the Indian community in Durban.

### UNITED FRONT

In a statement to the Press, Dr. G. M. Naicker, President of the Natal Indian Congress; Mr. P. R. Pather, President of the Natal Indian Organisation; and Dr. Alam Baboolal, President of the Combined Indian Ratepayers' Association, declare that the disastrous

nature of the Proclamations have had the immediate result of uniting the Indian people as never before.

"In the face of the grave dangers confronting our community, I call on the people to come together as never before in our history and to meet the challenge unitedly and with one voice.

In an exclusive interview with New Age, Dr. Naicker said that the mass uprooting of the Non-European people, as envisaged by these proclamations, constitutes a gross violation of human freedom.

Stating that the aim of the proclamations is to render the Indian people economically impotent, Dr.

Naicker said: "This heartless attack, in the name of racialism, on a voteless people, must be met unitedly and with determination.

"Now is the time for the Indian people to declare to the authorities (Continued on page 8)

### JUNE 26 IN OTHER CENTRES

JUNE 26—FREEDOM DAY—this year is to be a day of national solidarity with the people of Zeerust and Sekhukhuneland. In both these Transvaal reserves the people are living under brutal police rule and scores and hundreds have been arrested, beaten and persecuted.

The Congress movement calls for house to house and street by street collections to raise money to aid the defence of those on trial for their courageous resistance against the Government.

Stickers for SOLIDARITY WITH ZEERUST AND SEKHUKHUNELAND will be sold by Congress volunteers this June 26. All branches have been urged to go to the people on these issues and to raise large sums of money.



Dr. G. M. Naicker.

### Ambrose Makiwane Arrested at Fort Hare

PORT ELIZABETH.

As Ambrose Makiwane, a final year law student at Fort Hare, left the examination room after writing a paper on Politics, he walked straight into the arms of the police who were waiting to arrest him.

New Age understands that he will appear in Court this week on a charge of aiding and abetting the nurses during a recent strike at the Victoria Hospital, Lovedale. During the strike, which resulted in the dismissal of about 100 trained and untrained nurses, the hospital had to rely on volunteer services.

Bail was refused.

**BRITAIN'S COMMUNISTS** got 50,231 votes in the local elections in England and Wales. They won 6 new seats, held six, and lost two of their old seats. Their total vote showed an increase over that obtained at the previous elections.

## WHY DID SPRINGS WOMEN TAKE THE PASSES?

By Our East Rand Correspondent

**THE many-coloured queue of hundreds of African women at the Springs Pass Office could be seen from the road that leads to Payneville Location and drew attention and comment from every passer-by.**

European housewives could be seen unloading their domestic servants from their posh cars at the

main entrance of the Department of Native Affairs. The scores of African men who are used to the grilling of the pass law system looked dourly and incredulously at this novelty of their sisters, mothers and wives being marshalled into the grind of the infamous pass laws.

Many of the women looked shame-faced; some prattled nervously and others laughed hysterically in the five-deep queue that stretched right across the yards of the pass offices. The faces of the

aged wore a grim and often inscrutable expression. So passes for women had come to the Reef.

### WHY DID THEY COME?

I approached a group of them and asked what had prompted them to come. At first there was a hostile and distrustful look. Then one ventured to say, "What can we do, oh God?" Then many joined in, all talking at the same time. "It is our missus's. They threaten us." A police constable approached me and waved me away. The women

continued to talk and made many disparaging remarks. The most venomous were reserved for the European housewives.

I spoke to some of the women who trickled out of the gate of the Pass Office. In their hands were the fawn-coloured little handbags in which were contained their reference books. They were quite willing to show their passes to anyone. I inspected the reference book of one Mary Shabalala, a young woman who works at

(Continued on page 4)



## RELIGION AND THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Our Aim is the Unity of Humanity

I read with interest the letter by "Anti-Christian" appearing in New Age on May 29, 1958.

I am inclined to agree with "Anti-Christian" when he says that Christianity is the contributory cause for the loss of our land, our freedom and say that Christianity, as it stands today, is not even a rational religion. The teachings of Christ have been distorted and altered to suit the ruling classes, amongst whom were the Popes and Priests. These so-called Christians associate Christ with God; make Christ the son of God and the Holy Ghost. I have neither heard nor seen a more ludicrous and conflicting statement than this. It is common knowledge that God has no partners, no associates. He is ONE.

I would suggest to "Anti-Christian" not to go back to the pagan way of worshipping his ancestors, but to believe in the ONENESS of God, the compassionate, and the brotherhood of humanity. Our aim in South Africa is to bring about the unity of humanity. This will be achieved only if we have full faith in God.

BUSTER BUNNY

Pretoria.

### All Religions are Equally in Error

The question that anti-Christian should have asked, in his letter to New Age of 29/5/58, is not what Christianity has done for the world, but 'what has religion done for the world.'

After all, Christianity is merely the outcome of several religions; Judaism, Mithra-ism, the Egyptian religion of Isis and Osiris, as well as a garnishing of the old Viking religion.

The fact that the Arabs, Indians and Chinese still have their own religions, is no argument. The religions of the Arabs, Indians and Chinese developed out of contact with, or, conquest by other nations, in exactly the same manner as the Africans' religion did, whether pre-Christian or not.

For him to state that Africans should revert to their pre-Christian faith, is just as much a sign of bigotry as it is for a Christian to say that the followers of non-Christian faiths are heathens.

The fact is, that any belief based on blind faith, is illogical, and, as ALL religions are based on blind faith, they are ALL equally in error.

ANTI-RELIGION

Port Elizabeth.

### LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS

Cape Town: G. M. Jili 10s., Nick £1, Ecclestone (Sheffield) £5.10s., Harold £2, Wellwisher £5, J.G. S.V. £1, Unity £5, T.S. £10, T.G. £5, Sacred River £10, Film Evening £5.16.9, Jack and Naomi £3.

Johannesburg: Jumble Sale £19, Collections £18, Parkwood £1, Orange Grove £5, Intellectual £2, Friend (Benoni) 10s.

TOTAL—£99 6s. 9d.

We Want Freedom, Not the Bible

Let us forget about the nonsense we read in the Bible, which has enslaved our people. Let us join, not the church, but the liberation struggle. Let us show Strijdom and Verwoerd that they cannot stop us from getting freedom in our lifetime.

Strijdom and Co. are trying to mobilise students from Stellenbosch university to propagate the word of the Bible to all African locations on Sundays so as to tame the spirit of the Africans. I wonder what they are afraid of? The Black man believes in a multi-racial form of government, not the Bible and oppression.

I appeal to you all sons and daughters of this country irrespective of race, creed and colour to form a united front to fight Nazism and the Nationalist Government.

EPHRAIM Z. MCGUWA.

Kensington Proper Branch A.N.C.

### Religion is Not Politics

Christianity is not a custom, or tradition. To enlighten "anti-Christian" (New Age 29-5-58) Christianity is the religion by which a man can have eternal life (St. Mark 8,36).

We must know exactly what is the difference between religion, and politics. In Christ is where brotherhood and justice to all the people is preached, regardless of colour, or race, unlike other religions (St. John 4,9).

Let us know that in the struggle for freedom we are people with many different religions. Therefore by criticising any religion you are only discouraging the people, because the struggle is a political one, not a religious one.

N. DAVID MOTHUTSANE,  
Johannesburg.

KEEP NEW AGE ALIVE! SEND YOUR DONATION TODAY

GIVE THE WHITES A TASTE

It would be an effective weapon to give our bosses a taste of what we are eating. If Annie, Mary and Lizzie, John and Boy were to sit down and the honourable madam were to sweep the rooms, do the washing and cooking; whilst the master put on a dust coat with big words written on the back, the sons put on those silly uniforms with red trimmings, scrub the lavatories, polish the floors; and lastly, if those typists were to make tea, then surely the Whites would learn something.

B.M.

Johannesburg.

### No Africanists in this Branch

Rumour is rife in Port Elizabeth that there is now a No. 2 or Central Branch at Kwa-zakele since the day of the "sit-down strike," April 14. As a resident of this township with a thorough knowledge of the Branch, I wish to state that the rumour is untrue. What has actually taken place is that the Executive Committee was dissolved because it failed to function properly. A Working Committee was formed in its stead, and will operate until such time as a new executive is elected at the general election in December.

I hope that I have dispelled all doubt from the minds of those who are under the impression that some members of the Branch are Africanists. Nothing could be further from the truth. We all signed the Freedom Charter, and were present at its adoption that day at Kliptown.

Friends, let us fight, not amongst ourselves but together and for a common cause. Let us unite in the struggle against oppression!

D. F. A. MAXEGWANA,  
Kwa-Zakele, P.E.

### Pen Friends Please

I wish to correspond with pen-friends from all parts of the world. Will you please write to me at the address below?

A. T. NAIDOO.

96, First Avenue,  
Durban, South Africa.

### Wants Foreign Stamps

I am a 25-year-old air-mechanic living in Sevastopol, USSR, and am a stamp collector. I would like to correspond with South Africans interested in the same hobby with a view to exchanging stamps and post cards.

Please write to me at the address below.

LEONID RUDENKO

Flat 5,  
50 Sovietskaya Street,  
Sevastopol, Crimea, USSR.

## WOMEN REPLY ON PASSES

When the women of Bloemfontein sent a deputation to the Native Commissioner to protest against passes for women he told them passes were good because (1) in cases of accidents people would easily be identified (2) it made registrations of services easy (3) it prevented unmarried women from going about with married men.

The women's response was (1) it would be a surprising thing if women were identified after an accident, because the menfolk were seldom identified at such times. Passes and tax-receipts became silent when an accident happened. (2) passes only deprived women of freedom of movement and exposed them to the police (3) men have deserted their wives and passes have never brought them back, so passes for women could never prevent unmarried women from running off with married men.

At a subsequent meeting the blockman, Mr. Phetlo, however, told the women that whether they liked it or not they would have to take passes. He said in any case it was not the business of blockmen to question the

## EDITORIAL

### THE TREASON TRIAL MUST STAY IN JOHANNESBURG

THE news that the venue of the treason trial has been shifted from Johannesburg to Pretoria must arouse indignation amongst all who wish to see that the accused get a fair trial. The burden which will now be imposed on the defence is bound to place it at a serious disadvantage.

The bulk of the accused live in Johannesburg. During the preparatory examination, most of the remainder, who were torn from their jobs and families in other centres on the morning of December 5, 1956, managed to find spare-time jobs outside trial hours which enabled them to scrape in the extra few shillings a month which was sometimes all that stood between them and starvation.

The whole defence team of lawyers practises at the Johannesburg bar, and most of the records and witnesses on whom the defence will rely come from Johannesburg. During the long months of the preparatory examination a whole social welfare apparatus was built up in Johannesburg to feed and care for the accused and make their lives as comfortable as possible.

Now, for no apparent reason at all, the trial is shifted to Pretoria. The 93 accused must either find accommodation in Pretoria or else travel to and fro each day—in either case at fantastic extra and unnecessary cost to the already overburdened defence fund. The accused will have to forfeit their spare-time income. The problems of feeding and clothing them and keeping them in good health become well-nigh insuperable.

WORST OF ALL, THE ACCUSED MAY NOT BE LEFT WITH THE FUNDS REQUIRED TO BRIEF THE BEST AVAILABLE COUNSEL FOR THE PERIOD THE TRIAL IS LIKELY TO LAST.

The chief Crown prosecutor and some of his colleagues live in Pretoria. Is the change in venue designed purely to suit their convenience, at the expense of that of 100 others who will be gravely inconvenienced by the move?

If this is not the reason, the only other explanation which offers itself is that the Crown intends deliberately to place the accused at a crippling disadvantage so as to be able more easily to crush their spirit and that of their supporters and thereby secure the conviction on which it is determined.

We say emphatically that the move to Pretoria takes away from the accused their chance of a fair trial, for they simply cannot organise their defence as effectively as they could in Johannesburg. Those who believe in fair play, as well as those who wish to see the accused's cause vindicated, must cry out against this blatant persecution of those who have already suffered so much, and demand that the trial venue be returned to Johannesburg.

freedom, Sekhukhuneland, we are behind you.

E. K. NAZIBA,  
Langa, A.N.C.

### Some Questions to Answer

Is there no place in the highest Court of this country where the Africans can place their real and genuine grievances, in order to prove the gross injustice which is being perpetuated by a Christian government under the auspices of a Christian church?

Is the pass not a badge of slavery through which the African people are emasculated by the powers that be?

Is the parliament as at present constituted competent to make laws for all sections when the Non-Whites, both men and women, are not represented therein, but are better qualified to represent their own people than those elected under the Native Representation Act? In view of the above questions, where is the so-called justice of the White man in South Africa, and where is the much-spoken of Christianity in this land of our birth?

V. T. MOKGELEDI,  
White City, Jabavu.

actions of the Government. Such matters were done by political bodies like the A.N.C. and he was not going to lose his bread by being misled by the people.

MORRISON SENATLE.

Bloemfontein.

### Chiefs Born, Not Elected

I was in tears when I read about the Sekhukhuneland people. The African people cannot be forced to elect chiefs, and have never elected chiefs. Chiefs are not like Prime Ministers who are elected every five years, they are born, like princes, and if the father has died and the prince has not reached the age of 35 a member of the royal family, or a senior councillor, acts until the chief reaches the right age.

If the Sekhukhune people and their chief refused to accept the Bantu Authorities Act, then they did what was in their interest and we support them in their demands, saying: Forward to

# HUNDREDS LAID OFF AT CAPE FACTORIES

## Non-Whites Hardest Hit by Retrenchment

CAPE TOWN.

**HUNDREDS** of workers face a grim winter as a result of being laid off their jobs through retrenchment in many industries.

One of the big garment manufacturing companies in the Peninsula has put off a large proportion of its workers, and the furniture trade has also laid off many of its workers.

Mr. E. A. Deane, secretary of the Cape Furniture Workers' Union, told New Age that it was difficult to estimate how many workers were involved. The retrenchment of workers was a regular thing at this time of year in the furniture industry, but unemployed workers may

be absorbed again when the trade picks up towards the end of the year.

### TIN WORKERS

Seventy men and women workers in the tin industry were hit hard last week by the employers' decision to reduce the staff of a big tin-can manufacturing company in Ndabeni.

Requests by the workers to put them on short-time rather than sack them altogether were turned down by the bosses.

Notice was served on the 70 workers last Monday and at the end of the week they joined the increasing numbers of retrenched workers in the Peninsula.

### SHORT TIME REFUSED

Mrs. L. Kellerman, secretary of the Tin Workers' Union, told New Age that she had approached the manager of the factory, Mr. Clark, to ask that the workers be put on a short-time basis. A petition had also been circulated among the workers, asking for shorter hours which they preferred to walking the streets looking for other work, but they were told that a change-over in the factory would mean re-organisation which would not pay the firm.

Talks with the management by Mr. Retief, the Chief Divisional Inspector of labour, met with the same results.

The reason for the retrenchment of the 70 workers is, according to the management, the shortage of raw materials.

### 20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

Many of the workers sacked have been in the industry for almost 20 years and there appears little possibility of their getting work in another industry.

One such worker is Mrs. J. Patton who has a family to keep and no other source of income. Another is Miss M. Warner, with 17 years in the industry.

Mrs. Kellerman said that she had asked the management whether they would re-employ the retrenched workers when the industry returned to normal, but was told that "the old workers have had their share of life. They should give the new workers a chance to live."

The management is reported further to have told the union that the workers should make use of the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

## Protectorate Africans to Fight Back

JOHANNESBURG.

**POSITIVE** action against the issuing of permits to Africans from the Protectorates was decided upon at a well-attended conference of the Swazis held here last Sunday. In addition the Swazis have decided not to stand by themselves but have formed a joint protest council with Africans from the Basutoland and Bechuanaland Protectorates.

The first step decided upon was to send a deputation to the chiefs-in-council of the three protectorates in order to secure support for the struggle of the people who are in the Union.

Permits are being issued to these Africans in terms of Section 12 of the Urban Areas Act as amended in 1957 by Section 8 of the same Act. A government notice set May 6th as the dead line by which all Protectorate Africans must have the permits. Failure to do so might result in loss of employment and residential rights in the Union. The Africans from the Protectorates are now on the same footing as Africans who come from the Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

A leading spokesman of the Swazis told New Age that the effect of this new permit system was that only those Protectorate Africans who were "good boys" would be allowed to stay in the Union.



Front Row (from left to right): Messrs Stephen Segale, Isaac Bokala, John Tsele, A. Jassat, Ismail Bhana, Goolam Vawda, Mahommed Bhana, Joseph Majola. Middle Row: Messrs Boy James Ncube, Jacob Mogoerane, Hubert Mekuto, Mrs. Christina Matthew, Messrs Frans Manamela, Joseph Davies, Daniel Phoshoko. Back Row: Messrs Dajee Uka, Frank Mahudi, Mrs. Margaret Gazo, Mr. Joseph Alexander, Miss Mavis Lollan, Mr. Philip Matthews, Miss Mabel Balfour, Mr. Arnold Selby.

## A MINIATURE TREASON TRIAL DEVELOPING

# DEFENCE CONTESTS CROWN EVIDENCE IN RAND INCITEMENT CASE

JOHANNESBURG.

**THE** incitement trial against several Congress members which opened in the regional court here is beginning to assume huge proportions. Many people have dubbed it a "miniature treason trial."

Not only is the crown calling scores of witnesses to give evidence but it has also declared that it intends to lead evidence of the actions of people unknown to the crown and whom the police have been unable to trace who made speeches and distributed leaflets on the stay-at-home campaign. Such evidence would be admissible, says the crown.

This latter fact as well as the general manner in which the crown conducts the case has led many observers to believe that if the crown can get a conviction, many more Congress leaders are likely to be arrested and similarly charged.

The crown's case opened with the leading of evidence of speeches made by some of the accused at meetings held from September last year to April 14, 1958.

### DEFENCE PLEA

The defence was soon on its feet to challenge some of the evidence, declaring that it was irrelevant to the charge of incitement to strike.

This was not a preparatory examination where the crown could "fish" for evidence, said the defence.

The crown then said that it would lead evidence on all speeches relating to pass laws, £1-a Day, and the Group Areas because these were the issues the Congresses were protesting against during the stay-at-home campaign.

But the crown went further and led evidence on such matters as opposition to Verwoerd and the overthrow of the government.

There was a stir in court when during the cross examination the detectives who read evidence of speeches admitted that they remembered nothing at all about the meetings except what they had written in their notes. Dr. Lowen, Q.C. (for the defence) pointed out that the notes of the witnesses were themselves not evidence and applied that they be not admitted as evidence. The witnesses were only permitted to refresh their memories from the notes.

The magistrate reserved judgment on this point.

### NON-VIOLENCE

The speeches were reminiscent of those read at the Drill Hall in the Treason case. Most of the speeches reiterated the Congress policy of non-violence and its intention to win freedom by peaceful means.

Stephen Segale, accused number one, is reported by detective J. Coetsee to have said at one meeting:

"They have the audacity to say that we are the cheesa-cheesa. That is a lie. How can we form such organisations, we the non-violent people of South Africa?"

At another meeting:

"Strijdom says there will be a revolution if he does not get back to power. We say there will never be a revolution in this country. When they start a revolution, we will only sit down."

Some of the speeches read by the detectives were quite meaningless.

"Your leaders have told you why Sophiatown was moved. In 1936 they produced the pass laws. That makes the African slaves."

The speeches made at the National Workers' Conference were read in full.

### DEFENCE INTENTION

New Age is reliably informed

that the defence will oppose strongly the leading of evidence which on the face of it appears irrelevant to the charge. The Crown must set a limit to the type of evidence led against the accused, says the defence.



Our picture shows Miss Elizabeth Patosi of Cradock who was crowned Miss Congress Choir at the choir's 25th Anniversary. She is wearing her Congress colours and is well known in Cradock as a Freedom Volunteer and for her work during the Beer Hall Boycott.

The choir is led and conducted by the Rev. J. A. Calata, one of those acquitted of charges of treason last year. The choir is also forming a band, instruments having been supplied by the Rev. Calata, and they hope to produce the best instrumentalists in the Cape Midlands within the next two years.

Cradock ANC also wishes to inform friends and supporters that the Reverend Calata is recovering from his recent illness.



Some of the unemployed tin workers photographed outside the factory last week.

**Collection Number: AG2887**

**Collection Name: Publications, New Age, 1954-1962**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:* Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

*Location:* Johannesburg

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