

PLOT AGAINST KOREA PEACE

IF China attempted to liberate Formosa, said warmonger Dulles two weeks ago, the United States would retaliate "from the south, centre and north"—i.e., from Indo-China, Formosa and Korea. He also threatened the Chinese that U.S. retaliation would include the use of "new and powerful weapons of precision which can utterly destroy military targets without endangering unrelated civilian centres."

Dulles' statement is the clearest indication so far that U.S. activities in South-east Asia are all linked with the master plan to launch atomic war against the Chinese when the moment is considered ripe. The only fly in the ointment, however, is the fact that the Asian peoples, and even America's own allies, are not at all enthusiastic about the U.S. war plan. A war in the Far East would bleed the imperialists to death.

Nevertheless, the U.S. proceeds to build up its military strength in the Far East. On the basis of the Manila treaty and the pact with Chiang Kai-shek signed last year, United States arms and dollars are being poured into the Philippines, Formosa, South Korea, South Indo-China and Thailand (Siam)—all territories whose puppet Governments are subservient to America. Attempts are made to

truce commission. Why? Because, "with the one-sided farce of truce enforcement ended, the U.N. Command will be free to match the Red build-up when and as necessary."

It is significant that the U.S. does not call for enforcement of the armistice terms and does not propose to lay its evidence before the United Nations. It makes accusations against North Korea in the hope of being able to end the armistice and openly build up its own military strength in the south.

Sabotaging Tactics

Last week the United States took its sabotaging tactics a step further and asked its Korean War allies "to consider repudiating part of the armistice agreement to meet a reported Communist military build-up in North Korea." A State Department official, questioned by reporters, "while declining to give direct official information, said last night—"Communist violation of the truce and the increase in military strength in North Korea are causing us serious concern." (Cape Argus, 21.3.55.)

One of the complaints against North Korea, according to this official, is that it is not undertaking enough in the way of military activity! "The Communists had notified the Neutral Supervisory Committee of only 11 cases in which they had replaced weapons or equipment, while the Allied side had made 7,000 reports."

Apparently, if the North Koreans were to announce that they had made large-scale military replacements the Americans would be satisfied. The fact that the North Koreans have been straining every nerve to restore their damaged country, and not to prepare for more fighting, evidently does not impress the warmongering Americans.

Meanwhile, the facts available show it is the Americans who have been sabotaging the work of the truce commission. According to an International News Service dispatch from Seoul, the capital of South Korea, on December 18, 1954, the United States had been insulating "the Czechoslovak and Polish members of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in South Korea until some permanent way of removing them can be worked out."

To "insulate" these neutral supervisors the Americans restrict their movements and prevent them from seeing anything except what has been arranged for them to see. The report discloses that American military police are assigned to every Czechoslovak and Polish representative to "escort them to approved areas only."

The representatives are made to "merely confirm the United Nations figures" on rotation of military personnel and replacement equipment. For the rest of the time the Czechoslovak and Polish members "are confined to their living compounds."

The dictator of South Korea, Syngman Rhee, has also for a long time been playing the American game by attacking the armistice commission and frustrating its work. In some areas the truce supervisors have had to carry out their investigations at the risk of their lives. There are serious indications that Syngman Rhee and his U.S. military chiefs are planning to get the war started again.

Under the corrupt Syngman Rhee regime 50,000 war orphans roam the streets begging or rummaging for food in the dirt-bins, while everywhere there is starvation and despair.

In North Korea

In North Korea, by contrast, the reconstruction of the country has been proceeding at an impressive pace. During 1954 state-owned and co-operative industries raised production by 76 per cent. compared with 1953 and by 3 per cent. compared with the pre-war year of 1949.

The national income in North Korea rose by 37 per cent. in 1954 compared with 1953, wages were increased by 46 per cent., and prices in state trading and co-operative establishments reduced by an average of 35 per cent. Twelve times as much money was spent on education in 1954 as in 1953—the number of higher educational institutes established in 1954 included 16 universities.

What this means in the way of collective effort can be appreciated only if one bears in mind that during the three years of the Korean War the North had been pounded, in the words of one correspondent, into a "shapeless heap of rubble" by the American Air Force.

To the Americans and Syngman Rhee alike, improvement of conditions represents nothing less than "Communist subversion" on the part of the North Koreans, and there is a clause in the SEATO pact which pledges the signatories to take action to put an end to this sort of thing.

The coming months will witness intensive efforts by both the Americans and Syngman Rhee to smash the Korea truce and lead the world back to the brink of war.



MAY DAY ISSUE

MAY DAY is just one month away now, and we're beginning to plan our May Day issue.

Space is being set aside for your May Day messages and greetings. Every progressive organisation will want to take this opportunity of conveying fraternal greetings through our pages. Individuals, families and businesses are also invited to publish messages.

Rates are 10/- per inch, or 1/- per line (about five words). See that your organisation sends its mes-

sage now (cash with order!). Closing date for messages is Friday, April 22.

Make an extra spurt in collecting cash for us during the next couple of weeks so that we can make the May Day issue just that little brighter to ensure new sales and new readers.

Friends in England have made a start by sending £17, shortly after a previous fine effort of £34/18/4.

MANNIE MONEY.

In the recent world ice hockey championships played at Krefeld, Germany, the Canadian team avenged their 1954 defeat by beating the Soviet team 5-nil in the final. Our picture shows the Soviet captain Bobrow (left) holding the European trophy, shaking hands with the Canadian captain McAvoy, holding the world cup. In the centre is the European President of the Ice Hockey Association, Mr. J. F. Ahearne.

"SLAVE LABOUR BILL IS UTTERLY UNWORKABLE, UNJUST, UNDEMOCRATIC"

Congress of Trade Unions Evidence to Select Committee

JOHANNESBURG.—Industrial legislation can only be of benefit to the workers if it enables them to organise freely in trade unions under their own control and if it protects their right to bargain collectively with the employers. This is stated by the South African Congress of Trade Unions in its memorandum to the Select Committee on the Industrial Conciliation Bill.

WORKERS MUST BE FREE AT ALL TIMES TO WITHDRAW THEIR LABOUR, THE SALE OF THEIR LABOUR BEING THEIR STRONGEST BARGAINING POINT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR IMPROVED WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, SAYS THE MEMORANDUM.

S.A.C.T.U. finds that the Industrial Conciliation Bill meets none of these needs of the workers but on the contrary it sets out to:

- divide the workers and prevent any contact between workers of various races.
- weaken the trade unions and smash their bargaining powers against the employers.
- subject the trade unions to ministerial control and to dictation by government officials.
- intensify competition and animosities among workers.
- deprive the workers of the right to withdraw their labour.
- deprive the workers of the right to take independent political action in their own interests.

AMENDMENTS NOT PROPOSED
S.A.C.T.U. finds examples of these tendencies too numerous to mention individually. Nor does it deem it advisable to suggest individual amendments, as the anti-working class character of the

LEFT-WING PARTIES WON more than one third of the seats in the Japanese parliament in the recent elections. The failure of the Conservative parties to win a two-thirds majority means they will be unable to revise the constitution so as to provide for the remilitarisation of Japan.

The Democrats, headed by former Premier Hatoyama, undoubtedly owe their victory to their foreign policy of improving relations with the Soviet Union and People's China, while at the same time maintaining their connection with the West. It is expected Japan will take a firmer line against American pressure.

Election frauds broke all post-war records, 2,066 persons being arrested for bribery.

the 18th July, 1950, pointed out the fallacy of racial superiority. "All human beings are capable of learning to share in a common life."

Such biological differences as exist between members of different ethnic groups have no relevance to problems of social and political organisation, moral life and communications between human beings.

Assuming that the clause is administered in such a fashion as not to reserve the manufacture of an entire product to a particular race, but only a portion of the process, then other serious problems arise which will make the clause entirely unworkable and cause severe disruption of industry.

New methods are being constantly applied which change or abolish whole occupations. The Minister, the Department of Labour (already overloaded), and the Tribunal will find themselves saddled with keeping continual check on thousands of operations in thousands of factories throughout the country. In a very short period there would be more exemptions than determinations and the clause would come to represent nothing but an irritation to the otherwise normal processes of commerce and industry.

TEMPORARY EUROPEANS
We could give many examples of the extent to which, of necessity, the exemption clause would be used. We will, however, limit ourselves to that of the Public Service Commission's report of 1953. During that year there were 17,886 vacant posts for civil servants, of which 1,045 were for non-Europeans. Large numbers of temporary employees were being employed in these posts, of which 4,113 were non-Europeans. It appears then that 3,068 non-Europeans were "temporarily" occupying European posts in the Public Service itself, at a greatly reduced wage bill.

CONFLICT WITH FACT
It is sometimes argued that the manufacturer employing white workers would find them more productive than workers of other colours. This finding is in conflict with every finding in industry here and throughout the world. The statement made by UNESCO on

the application of the principles of equal pay for equal work, accompanied with equal opportunities for all workers, irrespective of race or colour.

DIVIDES UNIONS
The earlier sections of this Bill divide South African trade unions on racial lines, encouraging a multitude of unions and agreements, and therefore differing wage rates. The European union, the Coloured union, and Asiatic union divided and weak, will make different agreements in different or in the same areas. The African workers, without any registered unions, will be in the weakest position of all, and will also have a separate instrument in the shape of a wage determination. Wage standards will differ according to race for the same operations in different or in the same areas.

A worker, whether European, Coloured, Asiatic or African, operates in our economy as an economic unit. His usefulness and labour are in no way related to his race but to factors such as training, ability and aptitude. Any attempt, therefore, to establish an artificial link between race and work can only lead to interference with the efficiency of production, restriction of the rate of development of our industry and the lowering of the standard of living and deterioration of the welfare of employees as a whole.

"NO FREEDOM WITHOUT SACRIFICES"

Huddleston Opens Natal Indian Congress Conference

DURBAN.—The annual Provincial Conference of the Natal Indian Congress was opened by Rev. Father Trevor Huddleston, whose inspiring message to the Indian people roused prolonged and moving applause from the hundreds of democrats who packed the hall.

"Let me begin by giving you a very simple message," Father Huddleston said:

"It is essential that all of us who care about freedom should stand fast now on all matters of principle. This may seem a very obvious and platitudinous remark. I would ask you to examine it more closely.

"Again and again, the Government is succeeding in persuading not only its own supporters but large numbers of Europeans (even many who would regard themselves as 'liberals') that its policies are for the real benefit of all races in this country.

"BENEFICIENT ACTS"
"Thus, the Western Areas Removal Scheme is put across as a beneficent act of slum clearance: Meadowlands is an earthly paradise: those who oppose the measure are immoral and dishonest agitators seeking their own advantages. Thus, too, the Bantu Education Act is an advance in African education: is a liberalism from the outmoded form of control exercised by the missionaries: is a path to greater and wider opportunities for the African in all walks of life. Thus, again, the

"ONLY THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE CAN STOP FASCISM"

—NAICKER

DURBAN.
THE Provincial Annual Conference of the Natal Indian Congress regarded the Western Areas Removal Scheme as one of the major problems facing the whole progressive movement of South Africa.

"The Western Areas remains the active battlefield of the non-violent army of the people fighting against apartheid," declared Dr. G. M. Naicker, in his presidential address to the Conference.

Dealing with the international situation, Dr. Naicker said that the oppressed people of South Africa followed a clear course: "We stand for the liberation of the whole of mankind and hence we reject totally imperialism and colonialism. Our stand is not a passive one. We support the struggle against imperialism and we show our solidarity in colonial and semi-colonial countries.

"The history of mankind gives a clear proof that war is the instrument of the oppressor and that in all ages the oppressed people have stood for peace and against war.

"We totally condemn the atom and the hydrogen bombs and stand for their total abolition."

In an analysis of the South African situation, Dr. Naicker said: "The historic task of making South Africa free lies with the extra-parliamentary forces. Only the national liberation movement, only the organisation of the oppressed people, can stop the advance of fascism."

CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE
"We meet at a time when our people are in the midst of extensive preparations for the holding of the Congress of the People in the near future for the formulation of the Freedom Charter.
"I make an urgent call to all Congressmen to work with the

across persuasively enough to influence even Non-European opinion towards a favourable view of certain aspects of Government policy: to a discrediting of Congress; to, at the very least, an apathetic, fatalistic attitude of acceptance.

"And why does this happen? Is it because people are all the while being deluded into a forgetfulness of principle? This at least is what I believe. And it seems to me that the chief work of your Congress—a work for which you are peculiarly well fitted—should be to reaffirm those principles again and again upon which liberation alone can and must rest.

WELL FITTED
"I say you are well fitted to perform this task for South Africa because of your own history: because of what has happened in this matter in India itself: because of the great and ancient civilisation of which you are the heirs. I say also because you are South African citizens whose future lies in this country and who have, I am sure, an immense contribution to make to that future.

"But I want to add one note of warning. I believe that any one of us who does try to stand for these principles of right and justice must be prepared to suffer and to make sacrifices. We must be ready for any amount of misunderstanding even from our friends. We must be prepared for dark days and for the temptation to despair.

"But such has always been the lot of all those who would build for the future. Our reward—a reward worth all the suffering and all the misunderstanding in the world—will be the gratitude of future generations.
"Without any shadow of doubt victory is ours, but we must work for it."

VICTORY FOR WORKERS' SOLIDARITY

Johannesburg.
AT a clothing factory in Johannesburg last week a Coloured woman shop steward was summarily dismissed after a charge by the management that she had been caught stealing.

Once again the solidarity of the workers and their immediate action proved effective.

Setback For Group Areas Board

JOHANNESBURG.—The Chairman and two members of the Land Tenure Board have undertaken not to sit in the Johannesburg inquiry into the setting up of group areas. This is the result of the court application which applied for the recusal of the Board on the grounds that, in stating that Sophiatown would be a European group area, they had prejudged the issue.

The group areas investigation in Johannesburg will now have to commence all over again, this time conducted, probably, by another government sub-committee set up for the purpose.

WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

build, through the South-east Asia Treaty Organisation, a unified war bloc on the lines of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

Most Asian countries, however, won't play ball. Of the nominally independent Asian powers, only Thailand, Pakistan and the Philippines are members of S.E.A.T.O., and their combined military strength would not suffice to make a dent in any of China's borders.

Want Bases

But it is not so much troops America wants in Asia as bases from which to launch attacks with "new and powerful weapons of precision"—for the Americans only fancy war when it can be fought in "safety" from an atomic bomber 40,000 feet up.

General Curtis Lemay, head of the United States Strategic Air Command, told the British journalist Don Iddon last week—"Do you know where the safest place would be in the event of war with Russia? In a bomber over Moscow. That would be the safest place."

I only hope General Lemay never has the opportunity to learn how wrong he is. He might remember that the Germans, during the last war, managed to destroy by air bombardment many cities in the West like Coventry, but were unable to damage Moscow to any comparable extent because their air fleets could not break through its defences.

Atomic Bombardment

The Americans still think they can destroy China by atomic bombardment from the air—provided they get the bases. And from this point of view there is a great hole in the imperialist front stretching from Thailand to Formosa. The armistice agreements in both Korea and Indo-China deprived America of an active theatre of war in both countries, and also laid down the condition that in both countries there was to be no build-up of military forces on either side of the armistice line.

The whole world knows that America resisted the armistice in both countries as long as she could, and was only compelled to agree to the cease-fire by the overwhelming pressure of world opinion. In both countries the Americans have since been doing their level best to sabotage the armistice terms.

Neutral Nations Commission

For a long time the Americans have been sniping at the neutral nations' Armistice Commission in Korea, alleging that the Polish and Czechoslovak members of the commission have been engaging in espionage in the south, and in the north frustrating attempts to inspect military installations. Although the truce commission has been unable to establish that North Korea has violated the armistice conditions, Time magazine reported recently:

"By now the Reds have amassed alarming new strength in North Korea. According to U.S. intelligence, the Communists have built fortifications, increased their artillery fire-power 30 per cent., laid out 40 airfields and moved in more than 400 aircraft, including at least 150 Mig-15 jets—all in violation of the armistice terms. Truce inspection, instead of enforcing the armistice, had simply screened the steady Red build-up."

Not a word of evidence—only the unsupported testimony of "U.S. Intelligence," whatever that means. Time reported the U.S. was eager to disband the



As a reminder that the people can do it again, Naomi Shapiro tells the story of **HOW THE COLOURED PEOPLE DEFEATED APARTHEID IN 1939**

"THERE is the same stirring among the Coloured folk of the Cape today as there was in 1939 when we defeated the 'group areas' proposals of that time," an "old-timer" told me last week. "Speaking to the people all over the Peninsula, I find that the Coloured people today are as ready and as determined to defend their homes as they were back in March, 1939, when 20,000 of them staged the biggest demonstration we have yet seen on the Grand Parade."

Not being an old-timer myself, I decided to do some investigating into the past to see just what happened in those exciting days. So I spent a couple of hours in the Public Library looking through old newspapers, and this is what I found:

Early in January, 1939, the Non-European people of the Cape were roused to fury by a petition organised by the leader of the Nationalist Party, Dr. D. F. Malan, then in opposition in Parliament to General J. Hertzog. The Nationalists' belief in the superiority of the white race, you must remember, had been raised to fever pitch by the Voortrekker centenary celebrations of the previous months. Also their hero, arch-racialist Adolph Hitler, was still cock of the walk in Europe.

MALAN'S PETITION

In this petition the Nationalists stated that the undersigned "adult Europeans" "regard the domination of the European race in the spirit of guardianship as of vital importance to the future of South Africa." They therefore demanded that legislation be passed without delay to "(1) prohibit all mixed marriages between European and Non-European; (2) to make punishable all miscegenation between Europeans and Non-Europeans; (3) to put a stop to Europeans and Non-Europeans living together in the same residential areas; (4) to carry out economic as well as political segregation between Europeans and Non-Europeans."

Many of the demands in their petition the Nationalists, much to the detriment of the people, have been able to fulfil since they came to power in 1948. But in spite of the Group Areas Act, they have not succeeded in residentially segregating the Coloureds and the Whites. And if the people are as determined in the defence of their homes as they were in 1939 the Nationalists will never succeed.

SEGREGATION ORDINANCE

Also hanging over the heads of the Coloured people in 1939 was the Cape Provincial Council's Draft Segregation Ordinance. Already in 1937 the Council had passed a resolution calling upon the Administrator to introduce an Ordinance which would provide for separate European and Coloured residential areas. In June, 1938, this draft ordinance was produced. It proposed to give powers to the municipalities and other local authorities to have segregation applied to their areas if they so desired. They could also exclude Non-Europeans from their halls, places of entertainment, etc., and transport companies were empowered to apply apartheid (though this word had not then gained the notoriety it enjoys today;) to buses, trams, trains, etc.

In the long debates in the Provincial Council chamber, both the U.P. and Nat. members supported the principle of segregation but so strong were the protests of the people at scores of meetings that the Provincial Council decided to postpone the matter for a year. Now, however, it had been brought to the fore again and was due to be the main topic on the agenda of the Cape Municipal Executives Congress in Oudtshoorn on April 16.

The reaction of the people to the Nationalists' petition and the resurrected Draft Ordinance was immediate and strong. Under the leadership of the National Liberation League and other progressive organisations, it was decided to organise a united front of resistance and to launch a counter petition.

"FIRST SHOTS"

A few days later, the "first shots in the coming segregation war" (to quote the Cape Standard of January 17, 1939) were fired at a mass meeting on the Kalk Bay beach. The Standard's headlines, spread across the front page, declare: COLOURED ADOPT MILITANT POLICY—PREPARED TO FIGHT TOOTH AND NAIL—HUGE CROWDS LISTEN AT KALK BAY—"DOWN WITH SEGREGATION."

The crowd, said the Standard, "gave the speakers a hearing seldom accorded at open-air meetings . . . The spirited interjections of the crowd definitely showed a changed outlook in the Coloured people . . . The meeting ended with a shout coming from 600 voices—"Down with Segregation!"

Now the people's counter petition was launched. Addressed to Parliament, it stated:

"We, the undersigned adult inhabitants of the Union, regard the welfare of all sections of the people as essential to the progress of South Africa.

"We condemn proposals to segregate Non-Europeans residentially, politically and industrially and to legislate against mixed marriages as undemocratic and unjust and calculated to lead to racial disharmony.

"We respectfully request the rejection of such segregation proposals and the repeal of laws discriminating on the grounds of race or colour."

MEETINGS BY THE SCORE

Anti-segregation meetings were held by the score, in Cape Town, Simonstown, Woodstock, Retreat, Claremont, Maitland, Bellville—all over the Peninsula—also at the Strand, in Port Elizabeth and other centres of the Cape Province. "Anti-segregation feeling running high" was the newspaper headline of January 31. A great awakening was also reported in the country areas. Head office was swamped with demands for petition forms.

The next step was a "preparatory conference against segregation" organised to take place in the Trades Hall on February 5, but so strong was the response of the people, that the venue was changed to the bigger Banqueting Hall.

At this conference, the National United Front came into being—30

organisations with a registered membership of 27,000 members, were represented at the conference.

"Never before," reported the Standard, "had so many organisations, many of which were rivals from their inception, cast their personal grievances to the winds and united themselves into one solid mass to battle towards a common end."

Conference elected a committee of action and by the time the committee had its first meeting, a fortnight later, the United Front represented 44 organisations with a membership of 38,000.

UNITED PARTY'S BILL

Just at this juncture another blow fell upon the people. The United Party (then in power as the Government), unable and unwilling to withstand Nationalist pressure, announced through its then Minister of the Interior, Mr. R. Stuttaford, that it would soon introduce its own segregation bill—the Servitude Bill. This bill would divide the Union into various districts or areas. If in any district, 75 per cent. of the registered property owners voted in favour of segregation, then the Government would register free of charge a servitude (a legal restriction) against the title deed of every property in that area, to the effect that no Non-European might in the future occupy, lease, own or inherit property in that area. The bill also provided for stricter separation between Europeans and Non-European workers in factories.

CITY HALL CROWDED

Protest meetings and more protest meetings, including one that crowded the City Hall to the doors, was the people's reply to this latest move of the Government. And the National United Front grew in strength.

Preparations were now made for the monster Easter protest culminating in the mass demonstration on the evening of March 27, about which many a parent in Cape Town still tells his child today. And if he cannot forget the unprovoked and uncalled for police brutality on that night, he chiefly remembers the occasion for its wonderful display of the people's solidarity.

But to begin at the beginning of that historic weekend:

Saturday, March 25, was Petition Day—house to house visits were made all over the country to collect signatures to the Counter Petition.

Sunday was observed as a national day of prayer—when special prayers against segregation were said in all churches.

THE CLIMAX

The weekend's climax came on the following day, Monday the 27th, when at 5.30 p.m. the people came in their thousands to the Grand Parade. I am told that it was an unforgettable sight. Workers and their families, businessmen, students, Christians, Moslems, marched from Observatory, from Newlands, from Woodstock, from all parts of the Peninsula on to the Grand Parade, carrying their banners and slogans.

Close on 20,000 people gathered on the Parade that evening, and what a picture it must have been with the scores of banners held on

high; "Segregation means Slavery," said one banner. Others said: "Only equality is Justice," "We want the vote for all," "We are citizens not slaves," "Down with permit laws," "Give our country back," "We want land and freedom."

TORCH OF LIBERTY

At 8 p.m. after the leaders had been given an enthusiastic reception, Mrs. Cissy Gool lit the Torch of Liberty. This was the signal for the lighting of hundreds of torches on the Parade. Then began the people's orderly and dignified procession to Parliament, with thousands chanting "Down with Segregation." General Smuts and Harry Lawrence, who ventured on to the steps of the House, were loudly booed.

But now, springing from seemingly nowhere, the police emerged. And following the pattern made familiar to us in more recent years (as when the people demonstrated against the Suppression of Communism Bill) the police attacked, hitting the people with their batons. Scores of demonstrators and many innocent passers-by landed up in hospital that night—and so did a few of the police.

While this weekend is perhaps the most remembered highlight of the campaign, it was by no means the end of it. From April 8 to 10, a national conference, organised by the United Front, was held in Cape Town. One hundred and twenty delegates, representing 83 organisations, attended that conference, the main function of which was to further the anti-segregation campaign.

Resolutions adopted at the conference recorded the people's

uncompromising opposition to segregation in any form and their determination to resist its introduction. Conference called for the extension of complete equality and freedom to all races.

The campaign gained in momentum. The churches organised prayer meetings against segregation, the people crowded protest meetings.

And, as a result, in May, 1939, the Government decided to abandon the Stuttaford Servitude Bill. This automatically meant the death of the Draft Municipal Segregation Ordinance, which the Bill was intended to supplant.

THE PEOPLE HAD TRIUMPHED!

* * *

TODAY the Nationalists, more vicious and ruthless than the United Party, are clamping down ever harder on the people and one of their main planks is this very same residential segregation which the people defeated in 1939.

The lesson is clear—in the face of united opposition, the group areas can never become a reality.

THE MALAYAN GOVERNMENT has introduced a new scale of rewards payable to those whose actions result in the death or surrender of "terrorists." The minimum reward payable for the surrender of a "terrorist" will range from 2,000 to 20,000 Malayan dollars, and for the killing of a "terrorist" from 1,500 to 16,000 Malayan dollars.

THE SOVIET UNION has agreed to sell 10,000 tons of wheat to Iran, to be delivered by the end of March, to assist in avoiding the results of the failure of the grain crop in Iranian Azerbaijan and the general food shortages in Iran.

Pass your copy of
NEW AGE
on to a friend

Verwoerd Plan Would Mean Hardship For Workers -Anna Scheepers

THE statement of policy made by Dr. Verwoerd, Minister of Native Affairs, that he was not going to allow any new industrial areas to open in Johannesburg or the Cape Peninsula, spells doom for the industrial workers in these areas, if carried out, Miss Anna Scheepers, president of the Garment Workers' Union, said in a statement to New Age.

Dr. Verwoerd stated that employers who wanted to start industries in the next ten years should move their factories to the fringes of the Reserves. "Many industrialists will look forward now to starting their factories in these areas with an abundance of cheap African labour, but what does this hold in store for the European, Coloured, Asiatic and African workers in the City?" asked Miss Scheepers.

"Dr. Verwoerd's policy can only have one result and that is cheap labour for all industrialists throughout South Africa. Economically the industrialist in the city areas, who is covered by industrial agreements, in a few years' time would not be able to compete with his colleague who can open a factory and exploit African labour manufacturing the same type of article on the fringes of the Reserves at a third of the labour costs of the manufacturers in the cities.

"Because of the exclusion of African workers from the Industrial Conciliation Act the task of organising these workers into trade unions

would be very difficult, and from experience in the Clothing and Tobacco Industries it has been proved that where employers employ solely African workers, although they are performing exactly the same type of work, it is very difficult to improve the conditions of these workers under the existing laws," Miss Scheepers continued.

"Clothing factories have already moved to areas like Charlestown, Natal, where African workers are employed at a third and in some cases even a fifth of the wages paid to European and Coloured workers, doing identical work in Johannesburg. The same applies to a tobacco factory in Durban employing solely African workers. The only safeguard for all workers, European, Coloured, Asiatic and African is the trade union principle of equal pay for equal work," Miss Scheepers maintained.

"The Government expects the industrial worker to pay the price for apartheid and the price is too high for the workers to meet.

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