

# KHRUSHCHOV COLUMBUS DISCOVERS AMERICA

## And America Discovers Him

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL NEVER BE QUITE THE SAME AGAIN.

"That man Khrushchov" has come and gone leaving behind him a trail of bemused Americans asking themselves whether it really happened or whether it was all a dream.

A SHORT while ago Mr. K. was commonly regarded by most Americans if not quite as the "Vodka-slopping peasant," as Time suggests he once was held to be, at least as a rough, tough dictator without an ounce of humanity.

In a way he can be thankful to the late Joe MacCarthy for the success of his tour, for it is probable that if it had not been for the MacCarthyites past and present who built up the picture of the Russians as a scheming, mysterious people from another planet, it is likely that the interest in seeing the Russian Premier would not have been so great. KHRUSHCHOV, ONE GATHERS FROM REPORTS FROM AMERICA, MUST HOLD THE WORLD'S RECORD FOR HAVING SPENT THE MOST TELEVISED FORTNIGHT IN HIS HISTORY.

"HE'S HUMAN!" His every movement was watched and relayed to millions of Americans. For 14 and more hours a day the American public eagerly drank in his "Communist propaganda."

And they discovered to their surprise that not only was Khrushchov a thoroughly human being, but also that he was reasonable, approachable, a man with dignity not afraid to speak out when confronted with petty insults, but a man above all with charm, wit and great intelligence.

From the start the American people were aware that the tour was an important one. Said a Miss Martha Graham at the airport when Mr. K. was invited to "step on to American soil" by Soviet Ambassador Menshikov: "WHEN YOU REALISE THE IMPLICATIONS OF IT ALL, YOU JUST KNOW IT IS HISTORY, REALLY IMPORTANT HISTORY."

No one had heard of the 19-year-old Miss Graham till then, but her words were splashed in all the Washington newspapers.

"Like when Columbus discovered America."

Possibly it was more like America discovering Columbus.

Big businessmen, notables of the press, government officials and senators were all treated to sessions with Mr. K.



"Now, your job is to check on anyone who doesn't like Mr. K; and yours, Butch, is to check on anyone who does."

Whether he was liked or disliked, he could not be ignored. As one U.S. Senator put it after Mr. K. had had a heavy session with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: "He's a little like a candidate in

the late stages of a campaign. He has heard all the questions many times, and his answers are as sharp as hell."

It is perhaps significant that it was after a meeting with logshoremans on the West Coast that the first real swing towards openly shown popularity was noticeable. Khrushchov had said that getting back to meeting with the workers again would make him feel "like a fish in a mountain stream."

From then on people, both famous and obscure, went out of their way to greet him. According to Time magazine, when he went to a Hollywood luncheon all the Stars were there. "Even Eddie, Liz and Debbie were in the same room."

### "SHUT UP"

When 20th Century-Fox President Skouras tried to needle Mr. K. the audience told him in no uncertain terms to "Shut up," "Sit down" and let their guest alone.

When Los Angeles Mayor Poulson nastily asked Mr. K. about his statement that the Soviet Union would bury the U.S., which Khrushchov had already explained was an obvious and complete misinterpretation of what he actually had said, the crowd gave him a big round of applause when he remarked: "I want to ask you, why did you mention that? Already in the U.S. I have clarified that. I trust that even mayors read. In our country chairmen of councils who do not read the press risk not being re-elected."

### MAYOR POULSON TURNED CRIMSON.

The highlights of the trip were, of course, his address to the United Nations and his meetings with President Eisenhower, which appear to have been carried on on a useful and friendly basis.

### CAN-CAN AFFAIR

As one American reporter said after the famous Hollywood scene in which Frank Sinatra and Shirley MacLaine had gone out of their way to impress on their visitors their feelings of friendship:

"When I watched the lovely stars of 20th Century-Fox dance before the Premier and his family in Hollywood I could have thought Well, now I've seen everything.

"The performance had the quality of a midsummer night's fantasy, yet in many ways it was profound and meaningful drama.

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"They're trying to make a film actor out of me," he said.

## THERE IS NO CULT OF MR. K.

THE full glare of publicity, the klieg lights, television cameras and the rest which met Mr. Khrushchov in the U.S., and followed him wherever he went, is considered the normal treatment.

said: "They're trying to make a film actor out of me."

Before starting the interview the C.B.S. commentator gave Mr. Khrushchov some idea of what he was going to say in his introduction, which included the phrase: "In this room the major decisions of this country are made."

Mr. Khrushchov at once objected, saying that this was not so. The

By British journalist who has spent a number of years in the Soviet Union, SAM RUSSELL

decisions were made in the room down the corridor, where the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet met.

### "NO BUILD UP PLEASE"

"We have been struggling against the cult of personality," he said, "and I don't want you to build me up. We don't want another cult of personality."

What he said then still holds good and reflects the feelings of every Soviet citizen.

### COMRADE BOSS!

Most visitors to the Soviet Union who have visited factories, mines or other industrial enterprises have remarked on the comradely relationship that exists between the director and the ordinary worker at the bench or lathe.

Because of the very nature of Soviet society he is not, nor can he be, the "boss" in our sense of the word. He is responsible not only to the Government for the fulfilment of the tasks assigned to the plant, but also to the workers in it.

Over six million factory and office workers have been elected to

production councils all over the country, and these councils have been given greatly extended powers in all matters concerning the running of their plant and the welfare of its workers.

Greater supervision is now exercised by representatives of the people over the distribution of housing, the organisation of public catering, the work of shops, while street and housing committees and parents' committees at the schools are being encouraged to show more initiative.

In all this work of extending real democracy, which is not limited to the ballot-box, the leading part is played by the Soviet Communist Party, with its eight million members supported by the Young Communist League with 18 million members, the trade unions with 50 million members, and in the countryside by the rural Co-operative Societies with millions more.

### STRIKING LEADERSHIP

And N. S. Khrushchov, elected First Secretary of the Central Committee of 300 members and candidate members, is expected to give leadership to the whole country.

That leadership has been given in a whole number of spheres in the past few years, but nowhere more strikingly than in the ideas which resulted in the radical re-organisation of agriculture, the decentralisation of the management of industry and the reform of the educational system.

These plans, which have done so much to put the Soviet Union on the sputnik round, have sprung from the demands of the people themselves. But before being discussed by the Central Committee they have been submitted to nation-wide discussions in which upwards of 50 million people have taken part on each occasion.



Khrushchov—doesn't want a cult of K.

Not so in the Soviet Union, where Mr. Khrushchov has only once appeared alone on television, although, of course, he has been seen when giving speeches and reports at meetings and congresses.

The one exception was when he gave his first television interview ever to the Columbia Broadcasting System of America. What happened then was an interesting indication of what he thinks about the personal build-up.

As he looked round and saw the batteries of special lights, cameras and microphones he grinned and

## ASIA

### Bandung Countries To Meet

PRIME Minister Nehru told the Indian Parliament recently that India had accepted Ceylon's proposal to hold a conference of Bandung countries (of Africa and Asia) to consider economic questions of common interest.

A team of Indian officials had been to Colombo, and a provisional agenda had been drawn up. But it remained to be decided when and where the meeting should be held, the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Nehru added that he had written to the Ceylon Prime Minister who was communicating with other countries concerned.

### ECONOMIC ONLY

Asked about a second Bandung Conference, Mr. Nehru said there was no such proposal at present before the Government. Some vague suggestions had been made in the last year or two but, he added, even the Colombo powers who were supposed to convene it were not of one opinion about its timing. Since then Ceylon's proposal for a conference confined to economic issues had been received.

## EUROPE

### Jailed Under Hitler Jailed Under Adenauer

THE West German Supreme Court recently passed jail sentences of up to two years on six members of the banned West German Communist Party.

They were found guilty of distributing illegal Communist pamphlets and newspapers. Five of the six men served long prison terms in Nazi Germany for the same offence.

Here are the records of the accused:

● SEBASTIAN STEER spent ten years in Nazi prisons and concentration camps.

● HEINRICH BELL was confined in a Nazi concentration camp from 1934 to 1937; he then made his way to Spain to fight in the International Brigade; from 1941 to 1945 he was held in Dachau concentration camp.

● LUDWIG HEIGL spent nearly four years in a concentration camp, and JOSEF AUMUELLER nearly two years.

● The youngest of the accused, ERNST GRUBE, aged 27, whose mother was Jewish, was sent to a concentration camp for Jews at the age of eight and held for five years until liberation at the end of the war.

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"Here, with vastly popular Frankie Sinatra presiding and virtually every star in the filmic firmament on hand, Marilyn Monroe could say: 'I think Mr. K's visit is a wonderful thing. Maybe now we can learn to be friends.'

"Remember, as the television columnist of the New York Daily Mirror said the other day, never before in history had one man been on so many programmes before, appeared before so many eyes before.

"You get the feeling that never before were so many millions of the world's plain people drawn in on that primary political matter, international policy, the moulding of a programme that would mean peace, not war.

"Here truly was the creation of 'open covenants openly arrived at.' They may have been dancing the can-can, and some might think it was kind of a scandalous dance. But what you were seeing was the dance of life, not the dance of death."





# SPORTLIGHT

by

"DULEEP"



## SASA Conference This Week-end

THIS Saturday, October 3, will mark the beginning of a new era in sports when the South African Sports Association convenes a mammoth Conference in Port Elizabeth, exactly a year after it was first inaugurated in East London.

In a brief twelve months, SASA has made tremendous strides in the fields of organisation, international recognition and the elimination of racialism in sports. The Brazilian episode, when the soccer team was forbidden to accept racialism; the attack on S.A.'s racialism at the Rome and Munich meetings of the International Olympic Committee; the halting of the tour by a team of West Indian cricketers under conditions of racial discrimination; and the strong opposition to the racialism which seeks to exclude Maoris from the New Zealand team to tour South Africa next year—for all these SASA may take a good deal of credit. And there are other achievements, less spectacular but equally important, such as the negotiations with the White S.A. Cricket Association, the M.C.C. and the Imperial Cricket Conference on behalf of our Non-White cricketers; the contact with the Johannesburg City Council on the issue of the Orlando Stadium; the contact with the international federations all over the world and the building up of tremendous public support in countries such as India, the West Indies, Britain, New Zealand, the U.S.A. and other parts of Africa.

But perhaps the most important achievements were in South Africa itself: in the building-up of sporting organisations, in giving expression to their demands and in integrating and co-ordinating their work, of which the historic Durban Conference in January is an outstanding example.

### MUCH TO BE DONE

Conference, however, is unlikely to spend much time in congratulating SASA, for there is too much waiting to be done, especially in the next 12 months. The question of including Non-Whites in the Springbok cricket team to tour England next year will have to be bitterly fought; the exclusion of Maoris from the All Blacks team is still being debated. But the biggest question, whether Non-Whites will be included in the Olympic team to go to Rome next year, has yet to be thrashed out.

Conference's theme—"Problems in the development and organisation of S.A. sport"—covers a wide field, but most attention will be given to raising standards of performance and organisation and to the vital question of international recognition and the elimination of racialism in sport.

When Conference assembles it will have the advantage of representation and support by top administrators of eight national bodies, such as Messrs. George Singh, Frank Reynecke, V. C. Qunta, M. N. Pather, Rev. B. Sigamoney, as well as outstanding behind-the-scenes workers like Reg

Except where otherwise stated all political news and comment in this issue by Fred Carneson, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town. Cape Town news by A. La Guma, 6 Barrack St., Cape Town. Johannesburg news by Ruth First and Joe Gqabi, 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner St. Durban news by M. P. Naicker, 703 Lodson House, 118 Grey St. Port Elizabeth news by Govan Mbeki, 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley St.

Ngcobo, Ron Eland, Donny Jacobs, R. Lutchnan, Arthur Jacobs and Kemal Cassojee, to mention but a few.

### WHITES INVITED

Most significant is the fact that national bodies which cater only for Whites have also been invited, while in addition a blanket invitation will be sent to all through the S.A. Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association, as well as through the press.

THIS WILL BE THE TESTING TIME FOR THE WHITE BODIES. IF THEY ARE SINCERE IN HAVING NO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, THEN THEY MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET FOR FRANK AND FRIENDLY DISCUSSION OF THE MANY PROBLEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA. If it is true, as Reg Honey claimed at Rome, that there is no discrimination, then they must be prepared to give effect to his statement: BUT IF IT WAS ONLY BLUFF TO PREVENT SOUTH AFRICA FROM BEING EXPELLED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY OF SPORTING COUNTRIES, THEN WE MUST EXPOSE THIS BLUFF.

If the White bodies reject the hand of friendship and the offer of consultation, then the non-racial bodies must go it alone from now on, and the White bodies will stand exposed to the world in their unwillingness to work together to find a solution to the different problems of S.A. sport.

There are men in the Non-White bodies capable of hammering out solutions on their own, if they must. SASA alone can muster the support of weight-lifting and body-building, softball and baseball, soccer, netball, boxing, lawn-tennis, athletics and cycling. And its supporters include men like Adv. Christopher and Mr. Patrick Duncan (Patron), and vice-presidents like Messrs. S. L. Singh, Alan Paton, E. I. Haffjee, V. Qunta, W. Herbert, Archie Hanslo and J. Solomon.

The progress of South African sport cannot be halted. This week-end's conference will mark another giant stride forward.

### Pro. Soccer

PROFESSIONAL soccer amongst the Non-Whites has caught on in Natal more than anywhere else. Johannesburg seems keen, but the Cape centres appear to be uninterested in this new move, for it will be most impracticable for them owing to the distance from Durban and Johannesburg. The one advantage of professionalism is that Coloureds, Africans and Indians must play together if it is to make any progress.

A deterrent factor in professional soccer is the entertainment tax, which will mean 33 per cent. going towards the provincial administration. Amateur soccer is free from this taxation.

### Death of Mr. Nxumalo

ONE of South Africa's great sportsmen, Mr. Christopher Nxumalo of Durban, passed away a fortnight ago. Durban, Natal and South Africa feel his loss, for it would be hard to find a more ardent worker than the indefatigable Nxumalo towards the cause of the total abolition of racialism in sport. He was a foundation member of the Natal Inter-Race Board and at the time of his death was its president.

# LITTLE LIBBY - THE ADVENTURES OF LIBERATION CHABALALA

by Alex la Guma



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Published by Real Printing and Publishing Co. (Pty.) Ltd., 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty.) Ltd., Shelley Road, Salt River. This newspaper is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations. New Age offices: Johannesburg: 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street, Phone 22-4625. Durban: 703 Lodson House, 118 Grey Street, Phone 6-8897. Port Elizabeth: 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street, Phone 45617. Cape Town: Room 18, 6 Barrack Street, Phone 2-3787.

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**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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