

LIBERAL NEWS

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE TRANSVAAL DIVISION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY
OF SOUTH AFRICA

2-MAR 1961

C O N T E N T S .

1 9 6 1.
EDUCATION FOR
FREEDOM
and
RESPONSIBILITY
Y E A R .

National Committee	4
Hammarskjold visit	10
Pass Campaign	5
Letters to Editor	6 & 7
Alex meetings	8
Alex prosecutions	9
Ward 24 election	9
Summer School	10
Branch News	11
Stofberg	2

DECEMBER 1960/JANUARY 1961

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Vol. 3 No. 1

SPOTLIGHT.

BIRD-JENKINS: We congratulate two liberals on their marriage recently. Rosemary Bird to Arthur Jenkins. We wish them great happiness.

We should like to offer our sincere congratulations to the following couples, whose liberalism is bearing fruit!

KAPLAN : To Babette and Maurice, a daughter born on Nov. 9th.

LANG : To Julie and Andrew a daughter on Nov. 19th.

CONNELL: To Frankie and Tony, a son on Jan. 26th, 1961

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS:

The Transvaal Congress will be held on April 15th and 16th in the Duncan Hall. All members are asked to attend. Resolutions must be in by March 10th.

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STOFBERG

First of all a really big and sincere thank-you to all those who either drove to Stofberg or lent their cars for this enterprise.

As was mentioned in the last issue, Stofberg is the prison where political prisoners are detained. It is a long way from Johannesburg - where most of the families live - and quite unapproachable other than by car.

Families can visit the prisoners only every 4 months and then for a bare 20 minutes. On Sunday November 29th Liberal Party cars took over 100 people to Stofberg for these precious 20 minutes. 40 miles each way.

"MY LOYALTY IS TO MY COUNTRY"

Alan Paton

The following statement appeared in the "Rand Daily Mail" after Mr. Paton had been deprived of his passport on his return home from receiving the Freedom Award in America.

"If there was a representative Government in South Africa, I would not have criticised them while I was overseas," said Mr. Alan Paton last night.

He was answering the attack made by Mr. Eric Louw, Minister of External Affairs, in yesterday's "Die Transvaler". Mr. Louw said that Mr. Paton had been audacious enough to complain about the withdrawal of his passport.

Mr. Paton said: "I have never complained. For me, it is part of the fight against apartheid. I do not wish to receive another passport from the present Government.

"Mr. Louw is correct in saying that I attacked South Africa's traditional racial policy. This policy is ruining the country, creating hatred and division, driving away capital, and threatening our position in the Commonwealth."

"It is not I who did these things. All I did was to report who was doing them."

Mr. Paton said he denied "absolutely and categorically" Mr. Louw's claim that he incited "the Union's enemies" at the United Nations to act against South Africa by way of boycotts and sanctions.

He did not deny, he said, Mr. Louw's claim that he had stated that the United Nations might be the only hope one day for any kind of solution for the Union's problems.

"It certainly will be if the Nationalist Government proceed along their present course, making no concessions, brushing aside

the/....

the appeals to give Coloureds direct representation and yielding nothing of the un-Christian provisions of job reservation."

He added: "I have no respect for Mr. Louw's opinions. He does not represent the views of South Africa but only those of a minority section."

"My loyalty is not to him and his Government, but to my country and all her people."

"I have a right to criticise a policy as wicker as apartheid, which appears utterly indifferent to the suffering of individual persons."

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

A special meeting of the National Committee was held in Johannesburg over the last week-end in January to discuss the integration into party activities of the hundreds of new members, particularly Africans, who have been joining the party throughout the country over the past few months. It was decided to launch a massive summer school campaign so that with the help of these new members 1961 can be made "An Education for Freedom and Responsibility" year.

--- oOo ---

NON - RACIALISM.

Over the past few months hundred of Africans have joined us in the Transvaal. They joined us because they accepted our programme of establishing a non-racial democracy in South Africa. These new Liberals believe that a non-racial democracy will only be realised by a non-racial party. This presents a challenge to the white members of our party. What are some of you white Liberals doing to justify the faith in you of our new African members? If you believe in non-racialism what are you prepared to do about it? If you believe that the political situation is critical don't you agree that a stop-order and attending one or two public meetings a year is not a very imaginative contribution?

Why don't you come forward and participate in the work of a very active Party?

Stimulating Work:

The most entertaining committee to join, where most of the spontaneous campaigns originate, is the General Purposes Committee. From here come the summer-schools, the Alex meetings, the Young People's Division, the anti-pass campaigns - most of the stimulating work of the party. Meetings start with snack supper in the office one Thursday every month. Anyone who would like to join please telephone 22-9637.

PASSES FOR WOMEN

The Liberal Party is conducting a survey into the attitudes of African women to the pass laws and the administrative pressures on them to take out passes. The Women's Division is conducting the survey in Johannesburg and surrounding areas. The survey will be used as the basis for a Liberal campaign against passes. Anyone with ideas (or better still offers of help) should phone 22-8637.

The Editor,
Liberal News.

Sir,

When I married, my husband assured me that, as he was a member of the Liberal Party, he would be particularly understanding and helpful. Since then, however, he has been out of the house on numerous occasions in the evening, pleading as excuses that he must attend :

Provincial Committee meetings,
Evening Executive meetings,
Canvassing,
Collecting subscriptions,
Organisation Committee meetings,
Special Public meetings,
Special Fund-Raising,
General Purposes Committee meetings,
Office Committee meetings,
Various sub-Committees, including Summer School,
Special briefing by someone called "Jock".

Some of these have occurred only once, but others, like canvassing, seem to burst out at regular intervals in a spate.

Furthermore, he spends whole week-ends and longer away from home attending Congresses, National Committee meetings and Conferences, although nothing ever seems to be decided at them.

I would welcome your advice, Sir, whether I should:

- (a) consult a solicitor,
- (b) join a charm school,
- (c) let the spare room to a tall dark United Party type.

Yours faithfully,
Sylvia Colley.

We suggest you too should join the Liberal Party. It is full of good-looking solicitors! Editor.

The Editor,
Liberal News.

Sir,

In the October/November issue Mr. Julius Malie referred to the 69 connected with the Declaration of Rights as "angry old men". He used this term again at the Kensington meeting arranged by Hillbrow Branch.

Unless I've got the whole thing quite wrong, the Declaration was an expression of good will, directed especially towards the oppressed amongst us, and the originators stated that they had had endorsements of it from all over the country. This seemed to me all to the good, because if we can get people thinking along the right lines, that is surely the first step towards getting them to practise what they preach.

I feel that, however, ineffectual the statement may have seemed to Mr. Malie, a public expression of his cynicism expressed in uncomplimentary terms was most unwise.

Similarly, at the Kensington meeting, Mr. Wentzel made various remarks about Sir de Villiers Graaff, which caused a listener, obviously one of a group of U.P., to ask with annoyance why the speaker disliked him so.

Constructive and objective criticism based on facts and figures is, of course, quite in order, but when we are trying to convert people to Liberalism, I feel that the impression they get of us should be one of kindness. Incidents like those mentioned are, I think, no good for the Party.

MEMBER.

There is little kindness in politics, unfortunately.

Editor.

A MEETING AT ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP.

I can recommend a Saturday afternoon at Alex as a complete cure for that complaint known in polite circles (these do not include my family and friends) as "apricot sickness". Only Rosemary's gentle but firm persuasion would have wrenched me from black tea and modern plumbing so essential to my comfort and cure. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. What other political meeting starts off with penny-whistlers and jivers - one of whom, blue-jeans and all, later tells us, in most moving language, how the Pass Laws have meant six months on a Bethal farm to him?

MASIBE BANYE:

What other political party can offer Dorcas' fiery speeches - "all African men are cowards, it is the women who must stand together!", or Rocky's abstracted gum-chewing interpreting? Do other parties have members like Jacob, who politely ask the Special Branch men to doff their hats for the singing of "Nkosi Sikelele Afrika" - and having done so, hastily don them again at the warm shout of "Masibe Banye!" And where else would you see tiny children clasp their hands together and echo that cry?

What stays most in my mind is the noble-featured old man with snow-white hair who draws me aside and says "Am I to die with a child, younger than my grandchildren shouting "Waar's your pas, Kaffir?" at me.

M.W.

What other meetings start with penny whistles and end in the Magistrate's Court - Editor.

T.B.

South Africa is one of the world's backward countries in the prevention and cure of Tuberculosis. The Johannesburg Association for the Prevention of T.B. (which is affiliated to S.A.N.T.A.) is campaigning against T.B. Anyone interested should phone 22-2548/9.

ALEXANDRA PROSECUTIONS.

Our weekly meetings at Alex have landed four of our members in court. Every Saturday the Party has been holding meetings on a vacant lot in 6th Avenue owned by Sam Mathebula. And every Saturday the Branch has been there recording everything for posterity (and Spengler).

LOST JOB:

Sam Mathebula, Jacob Steele Lebele and Herman Dormehl were visited by the Police and warned to appear in court on the vague allegation of holding an unlawful meeting in Alex last October. A fourth member, Edith Ntisa, was arrested a short while later and brought to court on a similar charge. This arrest cost Mrs. Ntisa her job.

An indictment has been prepared by the prosecutor and our members are charged with holding a meeting in or on 6th Avenue, Alexandra Township, without the permission of the Peri-Urban Areas Health Board.

COURT ATTENDANCE:

The case has been remanded to 13th February in Court 8 of the Johannesburg Magistrates' Court. Perhaps some members might care to attend.

THE WARD 24 ELECTION.

Mr. Leo Kowarsky of the Progressive Party is contesting the Municipal election in Ward 24 (Hillbrow). Polling Day is March 1st, 1961.

It is not an act of disloyalty to the Liberal Party to assist the Progressive Party in this election in which we are not putting up a candidate. The phone number of their campaign office is 44-0824 where they need help urgently.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL.

Our first summer school was held in Johannesburg in December. Some 40 "students" attended the week-end classes of the school which was organised by Julius Malie, Ruth Hayman and Robin Scott-Smith. The purpose of the school was to stimulate thinking among our members on the policies and programme of the Party. Discussions were held on the "Philosophy of Liberalism", "How to achieve a non-racial democracy", "the Role of United Nations in Africa" and practical problems of organisation.

The discussions revealed that we have several new members of unusual talent. Further schools are being held in Springs, Pretoria and Vereeniging.

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THE HAMMERSKJOLD VISIT.

Liberal's were in constant attendance at Mr. Hammerskjold's hotel in Pretoria during his visit. Mrs. Hain presented our memorandum to him in which we urged that he meet opposition leaders like Alan Paton and Chief Luthuli. Although we had every confidence that he would not be fooled by the circus arranged by the Government for him, we felt he needed help in assessing the local situation.

Totally Inaccurate:

After the press report of his alleged 'Umtata statement', our national leaders telegraphed Hammerskjold asking for further information. Mr. Wieschoff, the U.N. Political Adviser, phoned Mrs. Hain and told her that Mr. Hammerskjold wanted Mr. Paton to know that the report was totally inaccurate.

On one of their visits to the hotel, Mr. & Mrs. Hain and Maritz van den Berg spent some time talking to Mr. Wieschoff. They were watched by the S.B. from a nearby table and Mr. Wieschoff made no effort to prevent the police from hearing what he was saying. He told our people that the U.N. observers were in no way deceived by their very organised trip.

B R A N C H N E W S .

YEOVILLE: A public meeting was organised by this branch in Kensington during November. The people of Kensington were invited to "meet the Liberal Party". Julius Malie, Ernie Wentzel and Jock Isacowitz put the Liberal case.

NORTH EAST RAND: Julius Malie spoke at a well-attended meeting of this branch during November. A new committee was formed, including lots of new blood, and so we can expect great things. The weekly meetings in Alex continued and favourable reports are received about increasing membership.

PARKTOWN NORTH: This branch is very happy to report that it is now a fully-fledged multi-racial branch. This is due to a sudden influx of women domestic servants in the area. Discussion at a recent meeting when Eddie Roux was the speaker was lively and long.

PARKTOWN: This Branch has now put into practice what it has long wanted to do, viz, "adopt" the family of a banishee. Jumble sales and collections are making it possible for "our" family to be helped quite a bit. Through contact with this family, and others, the branch is following up the whole question of banishments.

SPRINGS: This Branch is as active as ever. Meetings are held regularly and new members are being enrolled throughout the East Rand. Recently Ernie Wentzel spoke at a house-meeting at the Pringles on the Liberal programme. Was this meeting lively!

N E W B R A N C H E S .

WITBANK: Edith Sopazi has got a branch going in the Witbank area.

RUSTENBURG: Good contacts have been made by the Liberal Party in this area and prospects are excellent for enrolling hundreds of new members. The people there are bitterly opposed to Bantu authorities and look to us for support.

Get your painting jobs done by:-

K. Gilbert

PAINTERS,

HOUSE DECORATORS.

98a, 4th Avenue,
Alexandra Township

or

Telephone: 22-8637

ZULU AND SOTHO CLASSES

We will be holding weekly conversational classes in ZULU or SOTHO (or perhaps both) in our offices. The fee will be 5/- per week of which half will be a donation to party funds and half to the teachers.

Anyone interested in these highly informal classes should telephone 22-8637.

Ed
27/1/61
THE SHAME OF PONDOLAND.

23 FEB 1961

ALL SOUTH AFRICA WANTS TO KNOW:

- +++ What is happening in Pondoland?
- +++ Why has the government thrown an iron curtain over this area?
- +++ What are the armed forces doing there?
- +++ Why have people been detained and deported without trial?

LIBERAL PARTY PUBLIC MEETING

THIS SUNDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 1961

AT VICTORY SQUARE

cr of HAMILTON AND WANDERERS STREETS

NEWCLARE at 10.30 a.m. SHARP

LET THE WORLD KNOW

YOUR PROTEST AND DISLIKE OF

A P A R T H E I D

10 APR 1961

LIBERAL NEWS

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE TRANSVAAL DIVISION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY
OF SOUTH AFRICA

C O M E

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C O N G R E S S

C O N T E N T S .

Public Meetings	3
Passes	4
Pretoria Petition	4
Youth Div. Picnic	4
Summer Schools	5
Rustenburg	5
Maritzburg Conference		6

M A R C H 1 9 6 1

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SPOTLIGHT.

Our congratulations this month go to:

ISAACSON: Myrna and Jeffrey, on the birth of a son on February 10.

EHRlich: Bella and Aaron, a daughter born on March 7.

Mrs. MARY WALKER has become our fund raiser and we all wish her as much success as she can possibly get because we can certainly do with a LOT of money.

JULIUS MALIE: represented the Liberal Party on British and American Television on South Africa's withdrawal from the Commonwealth.

ROBIN SCOTT-SMITH is doing a full-time public relations job for us for three months and we hope that he will be able to put us on the map in a big way!

How Sour are My Grapes:

The so-called 'Kenya Trekkers' produced some interesting sidelights on attitudes in the White Highlands. A 14 year old Nairobi-born boy said he objected to Africans and Indians being allowed into his school at the start of the year. "I was very angry when African children were brought to school in chauffeur-driven cars", he said.

WHAT IS THE LIBERAL PARTY DOING???

During February

WE DID:

City Hall Steps Meeting:

This was held on February 9th to discuss the 1961 Parliamentary programme. Whilst granting permission, the Johannesburg City Council laid down two conditions (a) that only whites speak and (b) that we confine discussion to the subject nominated. After much thought, the Executive decided to hold the meeting and observe the conditions but also to protest strongly and also to make known to the public that we were so hamstrung. There were non-whites on the platform and the meeting was told that they were not allowed to speak.

The meeting was a great success with a large African attendance who received our speakers enthusiastically. Jack Unterhalter, Nell Green and Ernie Wentzel spoke.

If the City Council continues to impose conditions, especially about only whites speaking, we may have to forego any further City Hall steps meetings. Thus the places in which we can hold multi-racial public meetings will be further narrowed. The responsibility will be the United Party's the so-called opposition to the tyrannical Nats.!

VICTORY SQUARE, Newclare Meeting:

On Sunday the 26th February, we were able to hold a public meeting on this privately owned square (with the owner's permission). The meeting was well-attended by the Special Branch, including the Big White Chief, Col. Spengler in an apparently amiable mood. Speakers were David Craighead, Drake Koka, Julius Malie, Ernie Wentzel.

Newclare is to see regular meeting of the L.P. as does Alexandra.

WE ARE DOING.

PASSES FOR WOMEN: The survey which Edith Ntisa is organising continues and all of you who received the forms sent with last month's NEWS are asked to please co-operate and fill them in and send them to the office. This is something positive that the women of the Party can help in, so please send in those forms.

PRETORIA PETITION: In two days Ad. Hain of Pretoria managed to collect 700 signatures to a petition against the removal of Africans from Lady Selborne, a freehold township. The response to this petition continues although there are signs that intimidation is being practised to prevent us getting too many signatures. At the moment we have 1400 signatures.

YOUTH DIVISION: This Division, under Drake Koka's chairmanship operates on a social-cum-political basis and is proving very successful. They had a braaivleis-dance during Feb. and are at present attending talks on the history of other organisations. N.B. A picnic has been arranged for Van Riebeeck day, 6th April. Anyone who wishes to join this Division has only to phone the office.

ZULU CLASSES: These classes run by Elizabeth Mahalele have got off to a flying start. There is a 'workers' class on Thursdays at 5.30 and a housewives class on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Both classes take place in the office and cost 5/- per lesson.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

SPRINGS:

A very successful summer school was held at the home of Graham Pringle, that indefatigable and impressive figure, who almost alone has been responsible for the fantastic development of the Party's activities on the East Rand.

Evidence of the extent of this development is that there is now a regular Party office in Springs which is being run by Fraser Motal

SUMMER SCHOOLS: Encouraged by the success at Springs, Pretoria, Sharpeville, Orlando and Alex. branches are arranging summer schools, though to be accurate they may have to be called autumn academies or winter work-outs.

REVIVAL: The Students Liberal Association at Wits. University has been revived. We wish the revivalists good-hunting.

RUSTENBURG: There is extreme unrest in certain areas around Rustenburg, where the people are very distressed at the banishment to the Cryburg area of their legitimate and popular Chief, Jeremiah Rokoko Mabe. The L.P. are drawing up a petition to Parliament to be signed, we hope, in large numbers by the tribesmen concerned. Liberal Party support in the whole district is very good and increasing.

S.A.B.C.: We have started monitoring the "Bantu" programme and some of the results are astonishing. On the night that S.A. withdrew from the Commonwealth, not a word of this news was broadcast from this station. Instead listeners were given such items of "news" as: 1. A set of books for primary schools has just been published for use in...(a long list of Transkei schools). a. A school teacher of Pietersburg who had been on a local advisory board had been elected to the principalship of some farm school. - showers of praise on the man. 3. A secondary school in Pietersburg will now go up to J.C. in 1961 school year. etc., etc.

THE MARITZBURG CONFERENCE.

At a conference of African leaders in December last year at Orlando a continuation committee was elected to further the programme of the conference. Jordan Ngubane, our National Vice-President, Bill Bhengu, a National Committee member, and Julius Malie, our Transvaal Organizer, were elected to the Continuation Committee. Jordan became the National Chairman, while Julius was the Chairman of the Johannesburg Steering Committee.

The Continuation Committee prepared for a major African Conference at Pietermaritzburg to be held on 25-28th March. It was hoped that this conference would be representative of a wide cross-section of Africans - Liberals, Congressites, African Nationalists and independents. The Liberal Party believed that the conference would be a forum for the exchange of the major political credos among Africans and that some common ground might be found at the conference on which Africans could join together.

Regrettably serious differences of opinion arose on the Continuation Committee. The African Nationalists withdrew because they claimed that the conference would work towards the holding of a multi-racial conference. These Nationalists walked out of the conference in line with their policy of not co-operating with other groups in the political struggle.

As a non-racial Party the Liberals could not associate themselves with this withdrawal. But the rationale for a conference was to get tweedledum and tweedledee together and Jordan Ngubane and Bill Bhengu felt this had failed. They moved for a postponement to recreate the unity which had failed. On being defeated they resigned.

Paul Mosaka and Congress Mbata also resigned. Julius Malie took over the Chairmanship of the Continuation Committee from Jordan Ngubane. He struggled to make peace between the warring factions so that the conference could continue.

But the S.B. had other ideas. In the early hours of the 20th March, Julius Malie and Bill Bhengu were arrested,

together with the rest of the Continuation Committee. Jordan Ngubane was not arrested, but, hearing that the authorities were looking for him, he presented himself for arrest.

As will be seen some of those arrested had resigned nearly a month previously from the Continuation Committee.

Messrs. Bhengu and Ngubane appeared in the Durban court and were granted bail of R 500. Julius Malie appeared in Johannesburg and was also granted R 500. bail.

DEBATE WITH PROGS.: A debate was arranged with the Progressive Party for February 13th, but unfortunately they cancelled it because they were involved in their Hillbrow bye-election. This was a great pity because such a programme would have produced great interest.

ALEX.REMOVALS: We intend to organise a placard demonstration at the next removal.

ERNIE WENTZEL: At a symposium organized by the Progressives, challenged a U.P.-Prog. audience, "You agree with me that communism is a danger in this country and must be fought. You agree that black nationalism is as destructive as white nationalism. You believe, with me, in the democratic standards of the West. What are you doing about it? You say to me you are fighting Hospital Hill. That is not where the battle is being fought."

LIBERAL ON CITY COUNCIL: Mrs. Eulalie Stott, a foundation member of the Liberal Party, and National Chairman of the Black Sash, has been returned unopposed to the Cape Town City Council.

K. Gilbert

PAINTERS
HOUSE DECORATORS

98a, 4th Avenue,
Alexandra Township .

or

Telephone: 22-8637

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

Friday 14th April, 1961 - Public Opening
at Vrede Hall, Orange Grove.

Please bring non-members with you.

26 MAY 1961

LIBERAL NEWS

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OF SOUTH AFRICA

N K O S I

S I K E L E L'

i A F R I C A!

C O N T E N T S.

Chairman's Message ...	3
Future Programmes ...	4
9th Congress	5
Nkosi Sieklel' i Africa	9
Spotlight	2
Stop Press	10

MAY 1961

Published by the Transvaal Division of the Liberal Party
of South Africa, Box 5495, Johannesburg. Vol. 3 No. 3

S P O T L I G H T.

CLYDE: Our congratulations go to Barbara and Douglas on the birth of a daughter April, 13th.

NEW EXECUTIVE: Members will be interested to know just who those TOP PEOPLE are in the Transvaal Division. At the first meeting of the new Provincial Committee held on April 25th, a new Executive was elected: viz -

Chairman: E.M. Wentzel, Vice-Chairmen: Miss Ruth Hayman and Drake Koka, Hon. Sec. Robin Scott-Smith, Treasurer: David Craighead - others, J. Unterhalter, J. Isacowitz, L. Cooper, Mrs. E. Sophazi, A. O'Dowd, V. Stone, R. Farquharson.

CAPE DIVISION: We should like to congratulate the Cape on organising the most spectacular rally ever to take place under the Liberal Party flag. This was the AFRICA DAY public meeting held on the Grand Parade, Cape Town, on April 15th. 10,000 People attended and there were 10 speakers. Despite the size of the meeting there were no 'incidents' which proves that people can be peaceful in crowds as long as they are not provoked.

ORLANDO BRANCH: During April this branch held a jumble sale and raised nearly £20. Congratulations, please keep it up. If a Branch a month could raise that amount we might JUST become solvent!

NATIONAL CONGRESS: This Congress will be held in Durban from July 7th - 10th, 1961.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN.

Dear Liberals,

The Police raids on our members throughout the country are part of a pattern we have come to recognise.

An atmosphere of uncertainty and even fear is rising as the Republic approaches. In these times Liberals must fulfil their role of courage and leadership. Raids and arrests are the weapons of a desperate government. Instead of heeding the legitimate grievances of our people they resort to strong-arm tactics.

Verwoerd Must Go:

Every incident merely strengthens our view that Verwoerd and his henchmen must go. The pressures on apartheid, political and economic, are building up. Soon they will sweep apartheid away.

We, of course, cannot be intimidated. Liberals believe powerfully in their programme. We cannot be deterred when the end of our struggle is at hand.

Your example of faith and courage in these times will be a contribution worthy of the Liberal Party.

Masibe Banye.

Ernest J. J. J.

BANISHED PEOPLE.

These forgotten people desperately need writing materials - paper, envelopes, pencils, stamps. Please send whatever you can to the office.

FUTURE PROGRAMME OF ACTION.

At a recent meeting of the National Executive held in Johannesburg a definite plan of action was formulated for the immediate future.

- (a) That we bring together in a National Consultation all progressively-minded groups in the country on or near June 15th, 1961.
- (b) That four pamphlets be issued during May setting out our opposition to the present Republic, the theme being "change or chaos".
- (c) That after May 31st the Liberal Party in each Division should hold a series of public meetings.
- (d) That the Party approaches Chambers of Commerce, Church Groups, employers regarding the nature of the political crisis. That this be done during May.
- (e) That we put our point of view to Nationalist Party branches.
- (f) That no Party demonstrations be held on May 31st.

Membership Co-operation Sought:

It is a long time since the membership of the party was told about our future programmes and we hope that members will respond to this precedent by giving as much help as possible.

The help that is needed is varied. We shall need people to distribute the pamphlets that are already at the printers. We shall, as always, need people to attend the public meetings and above all to bring as many non-liberals to these meetings as possible.

The organising of a National Consultation will bring with it the need for workers in the office and it is to be hoped that those of you who are asked will respond readily.

PLEASE RING THE OFFICE IF YOU WANT TO HELP - 22-8637

NINTH TRANSVAAL CONGRESS.

Congress this year got off to a late start owing to an unexpected last minute change of venue. We could not hold Congress at the Duncan Hall as originally planned because it was to be a multi-racial gathering. So it was held at a hall in Booysens, the Jack Eustice Hall, much to the annoyance of some of the local inhabitants.

The night before there had been a successful public meeting at the Vrede Hall where the main speaker was Prof. Le May, supported by Justin Fantisi and Leslie Cooper. For a change this meeting was well reported in the morning press.

Congress was well attended with about 120 delegates and observers present. Some important decisions were taken which we sincerely hope will be implemented. Unfortunately, as always, Congress did not finish the agenda and several resolutions were forwarded to the Provincial Committee to deal with. This is something that should not happen and some way of overcoming it should be devised for our next Congress.

ELECTIONS:

One of the most important events at Congress was the election of Mr. E.M. Wentzel as the new Chairman. He needs no introduction to readers and we wish him success in his new role. Courage and energy he already has but as he said in his first speech as Chairman he needs the support and goodwill of all members of the Division. With this we strongly agree and feel sure that this coming year will show 'Ernie' just how much support he will get from us all. Good luck!

A new Provincial Committee was also elected, and the names appear on page 7.

In addition the Provincial Committee contains a representative from each Branch plus *ex-officio* people, viz: J. Isacowitz (a National Vice-Chairman) and J. Unterhalter (National Vice-President).

Thin End of the Wedge:

For the first time for many years a really positive and constructive economic policy was debated and agreed to. We think this so important that we have stated in full the main points of this policy.

- (a) Complete abolition of the industrial colour bar;
- (b) Rapid improvement in wage levels of lower paid groups;
- (c) An equitable distribution of wealth and income;
- (d) Compulsory education of all children and equality of opportunity;
- (e) Increased industrialization utilizing capital from all available sources;
- (f) Full trade union rights for all;
- (g) Full use of land with more just distribution;
- (h) A system of taxation designed to assist the above aims and to correct the imbalances of the past;
- (i) The goal of a non-racial welfare state.

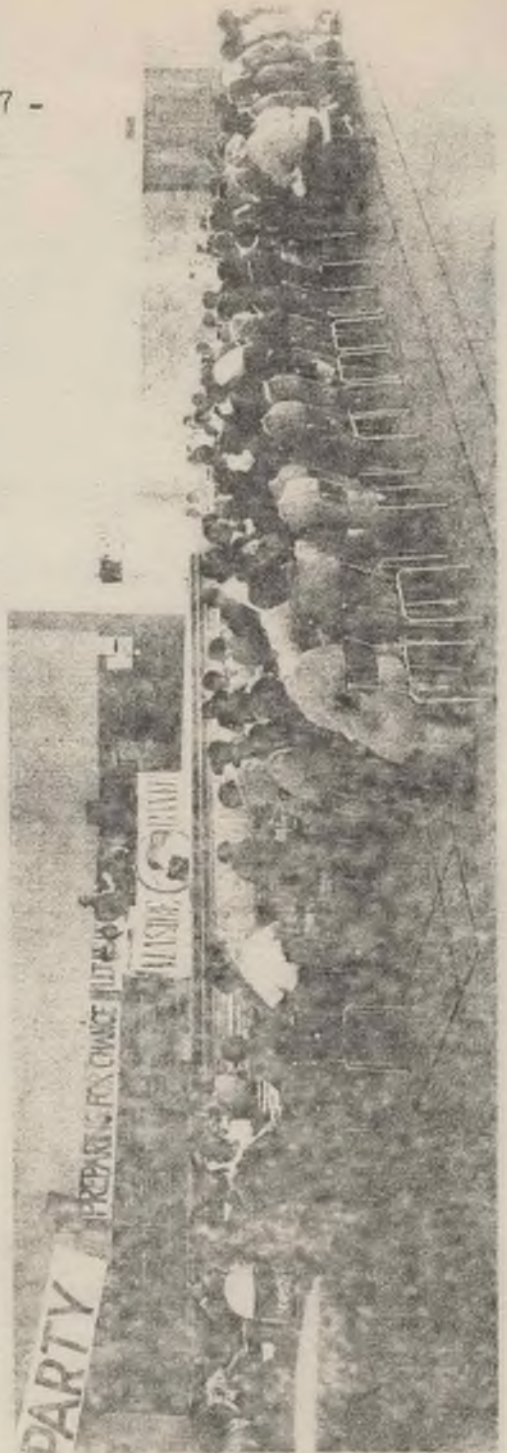
(COMMENT IS INVITED FROM READERS ON THIS POLICY)

Other matters covered by resolutions concerned 'laager mentality', banished people, shop apartheid, National Convention Re-organisation of Branches, finances, attitudes towards other organisations, Youth and Passes.

On the opposite page there is a picture of Congress and although the vastness of the hall didn't encourage intimacy the atmosphere was friendly and encouraging.

NEW PROVINCIAL
COMMITTEE.

Miss R. Hayman
Mr. C. van Reenen
Dr. E. Roux
Mr. W. Hain
Mrs. H. Jaff
Mr. E. White
Mr. A. O'Dowd
Mr. R. Scott-Smith
Mr. D. Craighead
Mr. S. Mathebula
Mr. M. van den Berg
Mrs. A. Cobden
Mr. M. Mahalele
Dr. R. Farquharson ..
Mr. L. Cooper
Mr. V. Stone
Mr. J. Harris
Mr. J. Lebele
Mr. G. Cohn
Miss E. Ntisa



I WAS THERE.

by Audrey Cobden

If one stops to think one is living in history all day and every day, especially in Africa in the Sixties. But occasionally one gets the chance to realise that "This is a moment of history".

So it was for me one Wednesday at the end of March, the 29th to be exact. On this day I took myself and friends to Pretoria where we saw and heard the death throes of the Treason Trial. To be in at the death of this tragic episode in the history of our country was a moving and wonderful experience.

It had been a strong rumour that today would be the DAY that had drawn us to Pretoria and as we listened to the quiet, rather high-pitched tones of Justice Rumpf, we couldn't quite believe what we heard. Repeatedly came phrases like.. 'the Prosecution has not proved...' and ... 'There is no evidence to show that...' We looked at each other, excitement rising as slowly it became clear that the accused would be found not guilty to some extent. But all the time there was the feeling that this couldn't really happen. Some would be found guilty, or parts of the indictment would be upheld.

And then the voice ceased. There was a pause and he said "The accused will rise". A slight delay whilst they did so. He continued "We find you not guilty and you are discharged. You may go".

There was a gasp, a sigh, a wind through the court, and we all moved automatically towards the sunlight outside. Once outside the precincts of the Court pure joy broke out. Some rushed to phones in nearby shops (all lines were maddeningly engaged) and there was of course a rush towards the now ex-accused. Tears ran down cheeks unashamedly, laughter bubbled everywhere and there was a great crowd of smiling, happy faces.

Photographers clicked cameras, hands were shaken, people embraced and then a voice began to sing "Nkosi sekele iAfrica". We all stood still, those who knew the words sang, black and white, ex-accused, friends, strangers. Passersby stopped. More tears as the moving anthem came to a close. And then a cry went up for "Izzy" Maisels. At last he came out and was chaired and cheered. A big heavy man he was not held aloft for long! Small Bram Fischer lasted longer on other shoulders and there were more pictures.

A last emotion seemed exhausted and there was a gradual movement away. Some time later, we passed the Special bus full of the ex-accused, now on their way home. After happy greetings and much hooting we went on our way, more than a little heartened that we had witnessed an end to a long drawn out episode that no one in South Africa should be able to think about without shame.

NKOSI SIKELEL' iAFRICA

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrica
Maliphakanyisu' uphondo lwayo
Yizwa imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo.

Chorus:

Woza moya - Woza moya
Oyingwele - Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo

PROG. - U.P. ELECTION

Many Liberals helped Mr. R.N. Harvey, the Progressive Party candidate in the bye-election of Hospital, Johannesburg.

Unfortunately, the U.P. man, Alec. Gorshel beat Mr. Harvey but not as sweepingly as the U.P. had predicted. The election was held on a day of tension - the day of the raids - and yet only 40% of the electorate bothered to vote!

We shall all pay the price of such lethargy.

S T O P P R E S S !!

Because of the result of the Hillbrow bye-election there is now a Provincial seat vacant in that constituency.

At a recent Provincial Committee meeting it was decided to call a members' meeting to discuss the possibility of fighting this election.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD DURING THE WEEK
COMMENCING JUNE 5th -

DETAILS OF DATE AND PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED
SOON.

THAT 2 A.M. RAID!

A policeman stormed into the house after banging with a resounding noise on the door.

"Are you Mrs. R.....?"

"Yes", was the sleepy answer, more than tinged with anger.

"You are to report to the Superintendent's office tomorrow morning at nine o'clock". The policeman then stormed out before the astonished Mrs. R. could say another word!

The next morning the scene was similar but the place was different. Mrs. R. did the storming, this time into the Superintendent's office, and demanded to know what he had been doing the night before.

"Sleeping" was his surprised reply, "Why?"

"Aren't you ashamed to say you were sleeping when your policeman came to wake me up at 2 o'clock", screamed Mrs. R. "He told me that you wanted to see me this morning. Well, here I am what do you want?" The Superintendent was profuse in his apologies and promised that he would deal with the policeman but denied that he had instructions to rouse people at 2 a.m.

Her Activities:

The Superintendent then told Mrs. R. that he wanted to find out from her what her recent "activities" were all about.

Mrs. R. still not mollified by the apology, and still suffering from a lack of sleep, slapped down a copy of the Liberal Party "Cheque Book" of party aims and policies.

As she thrust it more or less under the Superintendent's nose she said proudly, "I suppose that is what you mean by my 'activities'." "Try reading it", and she thereupon stalked out of the office.

Comment: We should have more Mrs. Rs.

K. Gilbert

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Alexandra Township.

or

Telephone: 22-8637

19 MAY 1961

WHOSE REPUBLIC?

THE GOVERNMENT has decreed that on May 31st South Africa will become a WHITE SUPREMACIST REPUBLIC

The Government expects us to CELEBRATE

The Government claims it is carrying out the WILL OF THE PEOPLE

WHICH PEOPLE?

The Nationalists or the voiceless millions?

13 Years since this Government came into power.

13 Years of police raids, bannings, fear and insecurity.

13 Months ago Sharpeville stunned the world.

WHAT ANSWERS?

THE GOVERNMENT

uses more INTIMIDATION
SARACENS
POLICE RAIDS
SCARE PROPAGANDA

THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR CELEBRATION

THIS IS A TIME FOR MOURNING —

FOR OUR LOST LIBERTIES

THIS IS A TIME FOR REDEDICATION — TO BUILDING A
NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA

THE LIBERAL PARTY

calls on the people of South Africa at
the end of May to turn aside
for a few days —

to MOURN the wasted years
to REDEDICATE themselves

to build TOGETHER a united non-racial South Africa

MASIBE BANYE — LET US BE ONE

LIBERAL PARTY

TRANSVAAL DIVISION

PROVINCIAL BY - ELECTION

- HILLBROW.

GENERAL

MEMBERS

MEETING

ON MONDAY 5th JUNE 1961

AT 8 p.m.

AT ST. FRANCIS HALL

c/r Ross Common and Tyrone Ave.
Parkview.

This meeting is called to discuss the recommendation by the Provincial Committee that the Party contest the forthcoming by-election.

This meeting will also be asked to select a candidate, should the recommendation be approved.

This is a most important meeting, committing the Liberal Party to a great deal of work and expense and you are urged to make every effort to attend so that the decision is as representative as possible.

IF PERMISSION IS OBTAINED FROM THE CITY COUNCIL,
THE PARTY WILL HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING ON THE
REPUBLIC ON 24th MAY ON THE CITY HALL STEPS
DURING THE LUNCH-HOUR. PLEASE WATCH THE PRESS.

21 AUG 1961

11
2/1/61
LIBERAL NEWS

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE TRANSVAAL DIVISION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY
OF SOUTH AFRICA

~~10 OCT 1961~~

C O N T E N T S .

Taba Tse Lefatse	6
Inter-Racial Consultation	4
Rents	6
Unemployment	8
National Congress	9
Southern Rhodesia	10
Tsa Phutheho e Kholo Natala	7

GENERAL

ELECTION

JUNE-AUGUST 1961

Published by the Transvaal Division of the Liberal Party
of South Africa, Box 5495, Johannesburg. Vol. 3 No. 4

FUND - RAISING EVENTSCake Sale: Rosebank. August 12th.Book Sale: City Hall. August 29th.Shirt and
Jumble Sale: 101, 5th Street, Melrose, September 7th.Book and
Cake Sale: Asiatic Bazaar. 2nd September.

Books and Jumble are urgently requested for these events. Please at office or depots. One shirt from each man wanted please.

<u>Depots:</u>	Saxonwold	78 Jan Smuts Avenue
	Melrose	101, 5th Street
	Sandringham	58 Athlone Avenue
	Waverley	9 Stuart Street
	Parkview	81 Kilkenny Road
	Pretoria	1127 Arcadia St., Hatfield

S P O T L I G H T: This month we congratulate :

Egul and Mary KCANYAGO on the birth of a son, Hamilton on July 5th.

Elizabeth and Matthew MAHALELE on the birth of a daughter on July 28th.

Elizabeth and Michael MOKUBEIA on the birth of a girl, Athalia Florence, on July 13th.

Congratulations to Colin KINGHORN on his marriage to Jennifer Brown on July 29th.

GENERAL ELECTION

The Provincial Committee decided unanimously to contest the Hillbrow seat in the coming General Election.

Although no candidate has yet been chosen, the Party is setting up an Election Office in the constituency and preliminary work has already started.

The Liberal Party will fight seats in each Province.

The Pretoria Branch is considering fighting Pretoria East against the Nats.

++ Unique Campaigns ++

The Liberal Party election campaigns will present the country with dramatic evidence of non-racialism succeeding.

Wherever Liberal Party candidates stand, and nowhere else, the electorate will see the races working together with common political purpose.

In South Africa non-whites are denied the vote, but in the Liberal campaigns the non-white members will participate fully in all aspects of election work. Non-white Liberals will write cards, work in the election office, help with publicity and public speaking: and have decided to go on "invitation canvassing" - to canvass voters who want to meet non-white Liberals.

In this way the Liberal Party will begin now in ensuring that all Liberals are trained in the electoral processes of democracy.

The showing that we make should be effective. It depends on the work we do, so roll up your sleeves everyone!

4.

TOWARDS A NON-RACIAL CONVENTION.

The country-wide call for inter-racial consultations indicates that a significant and influential segment of white opinion has at last come to realise that South Africa, being a multi-racial country, cannot effectively be managed by only one section of her peoples. It is true that at this stage most of those white who urge consultation will certainly have in mind a severely limited field in which it should take place, but the important thing is that they have taken this first step of accepting the principle that people of all races should hear each others views.

The calls for consultation will probably lead eventually to an Inter-racial Consultation which will present a unique opportunity to the delegates. It may well play a large part in determining the future course of racial affairs in our country.

Amongst the delegates will be some whites who suffer from two serious mental blocs: that non-whites can be fobbed off with an improvement - possibly even a promise of an improvement - in living conditions, and that non-whites are not quite up to the mark mentally.

An Inter-Racial Consultation will correct these misapprehensions. The whites will come to realise that the other races will be content with nothing less than full and equal participation in all aspects of the life of our country and will see that this participation must begin soon.

Liberal Role.

For many of the delegates this will be a first contact with members of other races on a social and political level. The results can only be beneficial.

This has been the experience of the Liberal Party down the years. From the first prickly, awkward contacts between white and non-white, the Liberal Party

has advanced to the extent that its members now honestly regard their fellows first and foremost as individuals and not as Africans, Coloureds, Indians or Whites. It is in the sphere of human relations that most can be achieved by multi-racial meetings, and, as our immediate problems are essentially ones concerning human relations, the importance of such meetings cannot be over-emphasized.

At the Inter-Racial Consultation the Liberal Party will be able to present a working example of non-racialism. Unique among the groups present, we will be represented by white and non-white delegates who are united in their political beliefs. This gives our delegation the key-role.

Results.

An Inter-Racial Consultation will at this stage be in the nature of an exploration of attitudes and aspirations, and no cut-and-dried blueprint for South Africa's future can be expected of it. It is most unlikely to produce any immediately tangible changes in the South African scene.

The Consultation must be seen positively as a beginning and not as an end; as a starting point from which delegates should go forward to other conferences and plans which should eventually culminate in a changed way of life in South Africa - a way of life in which all our peoples will participate fully and equally. The Conference will have failed if it shirks its responsibility of telling South Africa that she is seriously ill and that illness such as hers requires drastic measures. We cannot get over this with a dose of aspirin, major surgery is required.

All this will not be easy, but the prize is so great that no effort must be spared to ensure that the Inter-Racial Consultation achieves these aims. If it does so then it will be a major step on the road to the non-racial democracy which is the Liberal Party's goal for South Africa.

6.

TABA TSE LEFATSE.

Mohlomphele G. Mennen Williams: Mong Williams o chakela Afrika kantle ho Africa e Boroa. Muso oa Afrika e Boroa o hanne ka tumelo.

Williams ke ena oa hore ka Mokete oa "Afrika Day" ka li 16th April, 1959 Muso oa Amerika (U.S.A.) o loane ka matla ho fetola puso ea khethollo ea 'mala mona Afrika e Boroa.

Koana Nairobi (Kenya) o ile a bua ka 22 February, 1961 a re "AFRICA FOR THE AFRICANS" ke hore "Afrika ke ea ma-Afrika", ke ea bohle bao ba lumelang hore ke ma-Afrika.

Williams o tla chakela Lesotho, Swaziland le Bechuanaland.

Ba Lekhotla la Puso mona Republika ea Afrika e Boroa le hanetse Ba-'Mala (Coloureds) ho tsoara kopano koana Kapa ka li 8 - 10th 1961 July.

Sepheho sa phutheho ena ene ele ho hlahisa lilio tsa batho ba leng khatellong mona Afrika e Boroa.

--- oOo ---

RENT CAMPAIGN.

The Liberal Party is distributing over 100,000 questionnaires in Johannesburg's South Western Townships as part of a massive campaign against the rents which, in relations to low wages, cause hundreds of people to fall into arrears every month. Feeling is running high in the townships after many months of midnight police raids on people who have failed to pay their rents.

The questionnaire, which is being taken from door to door, will establish how many people are unable to pay rent each month, how many are arrested, fined or jailed for arrear rentals, and on what scale evictions take place.

This information will form the basis of the campaign, which will be organized by the Residents Committees in the townships. Liberal Party members are well to the fore on these Committees, representatives of which decided at a meeting on 29th July to form a Central Committee to control and co-ordinate the campaign.

We believe that the concerted mass of all residents of the South Western Areas would be a force that neither the City Council nor the Government could resist. Mass action, properly planned, should succeed in ending the rents problem.

TSA PHUTHEHO E KHOLO NATALA.

QETO TSENA LIELE TSA ETSOA PHUTHEHONG E KHOLO EA MOKHATLO:-

1. LEKHOTLA LE QALE MEKHATIO EA BASEBETSI (TRADE UNIONS)
2. LEKHOTLA LE SUSUMETSE LIKEREKE HO LAHIA KHETHOLLO EA M 'MALA LIPHUTHEHONG TSA BONA.
3. LEKHOTLA LE ETSE SETSOALLE LE NAHA TSA AFRIKA TSE FUMANENG TOKOLLO.
4. LEKHOTLA LE ETSE KA MATLA HO BONTSA HORE MOKHATLO ONA KE OA BATHO BOHLE, HAHOLO-HOLO HO BONTSHA BA BATSHO HORE KE KHOTLA LA BONA.
5. MOKHATLO ONA O LEKE KA MATLA OHLE HO ROBA KHETHOLLO MEKHATIOG EOHLE MO LE NANG LE MATLA TENG.

TRANSVAAL: MONGHALLI E. WENTZEL O ILE A BOLELA KA HA KIKOIG EA MOKHATIO KOANA RUSTENBURG.

A BOLELA HAPE HORE LEKHOTIA LE THEILOE KOANA KROONSTAD.

NATALA: DR. MEIDNER O BOLETSE TSEBETSC EA MOKHATLO MO HO NATAL CONVENTION.

KAPA: BA ILE BA TSEBISA HORE MOKHATLO O HOLA HAHOLO KO GRAHAMSTOWN.

UNEMPLOYMENT:

Startling evidence of unemployment in the African townships has emerged from the first batch of rent questionnaires returned to the Liberal Party office.

Our organisers and volunteers who have been taking the questionnaires round the townships say that in every street there is unemployment. Many families have had not a single member employed for months. The human suffering is relieved by neighbours and friends helping with food and cash.

No relief is available to unemployed Africans. We believe that unemployment is a major cause of the rents problem in the townships.

No statistics of African unemployment are available but we believe that it has reached alarming proportions.

The Liberal Party will do the following :-

1. Test the incidence of unemployment in a given area, probably Springs.
2. Organize a fact-finding mission on which the Mayor, representatives of Commerce, Industry, Trade Unions and the Government will be invited to visit the townships to see for themselves.
3. Give continuous publicity to unemployment. Everyone knows that the South African economy is doing a "go-slow". In these times it is the duty of the Government to stimulate the economy by public works to create employment. Schools, roads and public undertakings must be imaginatively and ambitiously created.
4. Press for immediate relief of destitute families. Men have a right to employment. If an economic system leaves workers unemployed the system requires radical changes.

NATIONAL CONGRESS

To the horror of the Durban branch 62 delegates from the Transvaal attended the 8th National Congress of the Liberal Party in Durban over the July long weekend! In hired combies and private cars our delegates swarmed to Durban from all over the Transvaal from Rustenburg, Sharpeville and Johannesburg. It was the biggest delegation the Transvaal has ever sent to a National Congress.

Congress was held in the Kajee Hall, which is as close as a platform to the Durban trains. The S.A.R. puffed and shunted all day and night up and down outside the hall. From what I could hear this is what happened at Congress:

In his opening speech Alan Paton urged Liberals not to leave the country, but to stay and fight for non-racial democracy - Africa's only hope of peace.

The main task of Congress was to re-write our handbook of policies. Our policies are now more comprehensive and attuned to the recent trends of Africa.

There was much disputation as to whether private schools should be permitted to restrict admission to one race only. We all agreed that such schools could not be state-subsidised: but should they be allowed? Nearly half the congress believed that it was incompatible with liberalism to forbid such schools. Just more than half believed it was incompatible with Liberalism to allow such schools. The minority group believed that State intervention in the affairs of individuals should be kept to a minimum. The majority group believed that racialism would be the greatest disruptive factor in the new democracy and would have to be eliminated. In a speech of great statesmanship Alan Paton, who supported the majority group, suggested that as the arguments on either side were of great weight we should in our policy admit this difference and resolve to leave it to a Parliament or Convention of the future to decide. Congress, recognising the dangers of ideological rigidity, accepted this suggestion.

Peter Brown was re-elected Chairman and a moving tribute to his leadership was paid by Jordan Ngubane.

THE SOUTHERN RHODESIAN REFERENDUM.

The new constitution which the Southern Rhodesian Electorate accepted on the 26th July seems to be a great advance: for the first time specific provision has been made for the admission of Africans to the legislative Assembly.

But there are some disturbing features in the new Constitution, quite apart from its complicated qualified franchise system of A and B rolls, which the present Electorate has admitted it does not understand, and which Sir Edward Whitehead states will guarantee that real power remains in White hands for the foreseeable future.

Under the new Constitution Africans will lose their present right of appeal to Britain in matters affecting African rights. Instead, a Constitutional Council is to be set up for the purpose of safeguarding these rights, but the 15 African members in the 65-man Assembly will not be sufficient to prevent the two-thirds majority with which the House can override any Constitutional Council objections to its laws. In addition, there is no provision for increased African representation in the future and the Bill of Rights contains far too many reservations to be regarded as watertight.

The electorate which voted "Yes" with a two-thirds majority was an almost wholly white one; of the 83,486 registered voters over 77,000 are White, 4,000 African, 1,000 Indian and 1,000 Coloured. One in four of the White population has the vote, one in 750 of the African population. The referendum result therefore reflects the wishes of the Whites alone.

The reasons for White acceptance are not clear. It is to be hoped that they have at least realised that African aspirations have reached a stage where some concessions have to be made if serious trouble is to be avoided; but they have long resented Britain's right of interference where African interests are concerned and they may well have accepted the new Constitution partly in order to end this right.

Whatever their reasons there can be no doubt that their choice was the correct one; rejection of the new Constitution by the Whites would have indicated a swing away from Partnership towards Apartheid.

African opinion seems to have been against the new Constitution. Mr. Nkomo's unofficial African referendum showed 372,546 against and 471 in favour, and in the official poll the Constituency which includes Salisbury's African townships voted "NO". It would have been surprising had African opinion have been otherwise, for, while Africans to the North are attaining or have attained full rights in their respective States, those in Southern Rhodesia were asked to accept much less than this.

We hope that, notwithstanding their opposition to the Constitution during the referendum, the Africans will now make use of the opportunity it affords them to press for full and equal participation in the life of their country and to work for the eventual adoption of One Man One Vote. The latter is taken for granted throughout the free world, there is no valid reason why Africans should be content with less.

We hope also that Whites, who in voting "yes" tacitly accepted that White privilege must eventually end, will honour the spirit of the new Constitution and so move forward in true partnership with their non-White fellow countrymen.

Liberals in South Africa look to Southern Rhodesia to show our apprehensive Whites that non-racialism can work and that it is in fact the only path to a decent way of life.

LIBERAL NEWS:

Please be patient about delays in publishing Liberal News. The more work the Party does, the less time it seems to have to print its newsletters.

Liberal News is written, typed, stencilled, collated and despatched by the members. When voluntary helpers are busy with such things as the rent questionnaire (an enormous undertaking), the unemployment campaign, National Consultation, and preparing for an election, Liberal News suffers. Any members who feel out of touch can always visit the office and do some work!

POLITICAL EDUCATION CLASSES

Classes will be held every FRIDAY at 8 p.m. at
4 First Street, Cape Reserve, Pretoria, beginning
Friday August 18th.

Any MEMBER is welcome to attend these classes.
Please bring pencils and notebooks.
Transport will NOT be provided.

Telephone 43704 for further details

JUMBLE SALES

Are held continuously

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Page 2.

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C O N T A C T

If you want to see the cause of freedom advanced during 1961, if you believe in non-racial democracy based upon one man one vote and in the creation of a truly democratic society in South Africa, we would like you to become an independent agent for CONTACT, South Africa's freedom newspaper. Liberal commission.

Write Manager, Box 1979, Cape Town.

1.6 OCT 1961

LIBERAL NEWS



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE TRANSVAAL DIVISION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA.

VOL. 3. NO. 5

SEPT/OCT.
1961

HILLBROW 1961

The Party is contesting two seats in the coming General Election: Mary Walker is standing in Hillbrow, and Randolph Vigne in Constantia, Cape Town. We had hoped also to contest a seat in Natal, but as the Progressives nominated candidates in all the favourable constituencies, Peter Brown decided against it.

Our purpose in standing is twofold: firstly, we hope to obtain a sufficiently large number of votes to show non-Whites that a substantial number of Whites are in sympathy with their democratic aspirations, and that the position is therefore not hopeless; and secondly, we hope to make use of the receptive frame of mind which exists at election time to "put across" the Liberal Party to as many Whites as possible.

It was decided at the outset of the Hillbrow campaign that, due to the cosmopolitan nature of the constituency the emphasis should be on a bright and lively campaign; Mary Walker's manifesto reflects this emphasis with its sketches and layout. Open air meetings are held regularly with a kwela band administering light relief between the speeches, and the constituency was blanketed with posters and stickers after a massive evening "sticker party" of over 80 members in the Election Office. Drake Koka has sent a letter to the voters inviting them to meet

C O N T E N T S

HILLBROW 1961...
pages 1 & 2

THE SOCCER
SQUABBLE....
page 3

NTWA KA NTLE GO
DIHLABANE...
page 4

AFRICA SURVEY...
pages 5 & 6

PARTY NEWS....
pages 7 & 8

non-White Liberals before they vote, and he and Ernie Wentzel conducted the first "mixed" canvass with such success that others have followed their lead.

The line taken in our propaganda to the voters is that change is imminent in South Africa and that Whites, as a minority group, stand to lose by it unless they act now with the Liberal Party to identify themselves with this change and so help guide South Africa into a non-racial and democratic future. We have also pointed out that the Liberal Party, as the only Party which represents all South Africans, is the only truly South African party; that it is the only Party which offers a permanent solution to our problems; that it is the Party of to-morrow for which the electorate can vote to-day.

The Election office is in a ground floor flat in Pretoria Street, Hillbrow. The tiny strip of garden has been brightened up with a striped umbrella and some gay pot plants, and Flip Green has hung an enormous "Liberal Party" notice across the front. Mary Walker is living in the back rooms for the duration of the campaign and having her on the spot 24 hours a day has undoubtedly contributed greatly to the happy and purposeful spirit in the office.

Leslie Cooper, Chairman of the Election Committee and a veteran of past L.P. elections, reports that the turn-out of members for canvassing, which was disappointing in the first two weeks, is now excellent - better than he has ever known it. He ascribes this both to the happy atmosphere in the office and to the encouragingly high percentage of "favourables" which our canvassers are bringing in. Leslie is not normally over optimistic, but as the campaign moves into its final week results and member support are both so good that he breaks into a happy grin whenever anyone says - "Election" !

Altogether the campaign has proved to be a real shot in the arm for the Party; Whites who had been inactive for many months are turning out in force and non-White assistance in helping with the 101 jobs in the office has been all that could be hoped for. Latest news is that Mary Walker is becoming so confident that she has started going through the "To Let" columns in the Cape newspapers ! Good luck to her on the 18th, she deserves it.

.....

ONE MAN ONE VOTE ?

"If Whites are unemployed the Government listens to their grievances and offers relief. The Whites, after all, are voters who must be considered. The non-Whites having no vote, find themselves snubbed or treated as 'agitators'."

from a leading article in the Rand Daily Mail, 27.9.61.

THE SOCCER SQUABBLE

The suspension of the all-White Football Association of South Africa by the Federation of International Football Associations, on the grounds that non-Whites are discriminated against in South African soccer, is an inevitable consequence of the "traditional South African way of life"; if there is any cause for surprise at the suspension it can only be that it has been so long in coming.

In a world which abhors racial discrimination South Africa stands alone as a country which blatantly practices it, yet our White sporting bodies continue to discriminate in the naïve expectation that they can retain membership of the Non-Racial organisations which control world sport ! It is futile for the sporting chiefs to protest that the laws of the land rule out non-racial sport in South Africa. Although this is true they should realise that the international bodies are no longer prepared to accept the membership of Apartheid Associations whose members, as voters, are the very people responsible for the laws of the land. The choice before the all-White sports associations is simple: they either get rid of Apartheid in South African sport or they cease to participate internationally.

The F.A.S.A. is hoping to overcome the suspension by persuading the non-racial South African Soccer Federation to affiliate with it. Presumably this would mean that both bodies would continue to play apartheid sport, but that when a touring team was to be chosen the S.A.S.F.'s members would also be eligible for selection (at present only the white F.A.S.A. members represent South Africa abroad). The non-racial body has, to its credit, not yet fallen for this one; indeed, the President of the White association has said complainingly of it: "What they want is multi-racial soccer"! They are quite correct in wanting multi-racial soccer and we hope they hold out until they get it; they are in a very strong position to do so because continued F.A.S.A. membership of the international Association is in their hands.

The near-hysteria with which the suspension has been received by the sporting press is an indication that it is beginning to appreciate the choice which must be made; that it at last perceives the writing on the wall. The suspension will certainly give South Africa's racialist sport a long overdue shake-up and will have repercussions far beyond the borders of sport.

.....

Liberalism: "A conviction that the best society is a brotherhood that enables the greatest number of its members to develop their personalities to the utmost."

NTWA KA NTLE GO DIHLABANE (NON-VIOLENCE)

Ka ntle go dihlabane, bo e seng Makhoa, ba Afrika e Borwa ba ka fenyaa. Ka dihlabane ke go ikgogela morago feela. Ka bo byang ?

Dikete-kete ga di thuse sepe dibetseng tsa Mehla ya lehono. Dithunya, disaracene le dikolo di ka fenyaa bontsi ya batho.

Makhoa a Afrika Borwa ba ne dibetša tša mehla ya lehona, Ma-Afrika ga ane sepe e bile a bōkeletswa Malokaseng kgole le tulo ya Makhoa - kafao dibetša tse di ka šumišwa ka botlalo hlakoreng lo bona.

Tšomišo ya dihlabane hlakoreng la Ma-Afrika ke go ipolaya ka noši.

Ka ntle go dihlabane, bongato ba Ma-Afrika bo ka fenyaa. Makhoa a Afrika Borwa kantle le Matla a basebetsi ba Mmala o Motso ga go sepe seo ba ka sedirang. Matla a basebetsi ba-batso ge a ka lokišwa gore Makhoa a itse gore Ma-Afrika ga a hlole a ipakanyeditse go emela bomadimabe bo seisang, bo e leng hgale ba phela tlase ga bons. Gore Ma-Afrika a itse Matla a ona, mme ba ipakanyetse go a šumiša, diphetoga tse kgola-kgola di ka ba teng Afrika Borwa.

A re se hlweng re uthva polelo ya dihlabano ntweng ya rona ya tokologo. Ke polelo e hlokeng boikarabelo, e kotse, e senang boteng, e e dikadikišang batho tirong ya nnete - Tokišo ya Ma-Afrika e hlokang lerata, dihlabane, e ka fenyetsa bothle batso le basweu faseng le boꝑhelo bo lokileng, bo thsepehileng bo thlomegileng.

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DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD

Dag Hammarskjöld's untimely death has robbed the world of its most effective single force for peace, at a time when it could least afford to lose that force. We could spare him least of all.

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YET ANOTHER SHAMEFUL TRIAL

The case of Bevil John Rudd and Dorothy Tiyo has added to the growing disrepute into which the misnamed Immorality Act has fallen.

In this trial the accused have won the sympathy and admiration of thousands by the manner in which they have stood together, while the law under which they were found technically guilty has been exposed once again for the morally void and utterly abhorrent interference with personal privacy which it is.

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A F R I C A S U R V E Y

KATANGA: THE U.N.'s CROSS

The key to the Congo's future is held by Katanga, for without its mineral wealth the Congo has even less chance of remaining economically viable than would South Africa without the Transvaal's gold. It is therefore essential that Katanga be re-integrated with the other provinces; secession cannot be countenanced by the Central Congolese Government. But the first step towards re-integration must be the expulsion of the White opportunists who pull Tshombe's puppet strings. This was the task in which the U.N. forces were engaged, at the request of the Central Government, when Mr Hammarskjöld was killed.

Katanga is proving to be the U.N.'s great test. If it succeeds in expelling Tshombe's Whites and putting the Congo back on its feet, then its future as a force for peace and justice seems assured. If it fails it may well go out of business.

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THE FEDERATION: PARTNERSHIP AT LAST ?

With the unanimous adoption at the recent United Federal Party congress of a resolution calling for legislation against race discrimination in public places, South Africa's isolation on this continent becomes complete. Until recently Liberals had expressed grave doubts as to the sincerity of "Partnership" in the Federation, and with good reason. Now the picture has changed: the colour bar, which has never officially existed in Nyasaland, was abolished in Northern Rhodesia last year, and is now also to be made illegal in Southern Rhodesia.

The United Federal Party is to be congratulated on taking this stand, which brings it into line with the Liberal Party's views on the subject.

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GHANA: THE GOD THAT FAILED

Nkrumah's growing authoritarianism, as evidenced by the recent arrest of nearly 50 political opponents, reinforces one of the Liberal Party's main contentions - that it is not sufficient merely to replace White rule with majority rule; but that unless loyalty to democracy is fostered in citizens, extremism is likely

whatever the colour of the rulers' skins.

In recent years Ghana has increasingly proved an embarrassment to her friends and a joy to her enemies. In marked contrast, Tankanyika, where Julius Nyerere appears to have laid a firm foundation for democracy by rejecting the easy nationalistic shortcuts to independence, has earned the respect of the world.

The lesson of these two countries is that there is no substitute for democratic majority rule coupled with protection of individual rights, as advocated by the Liberal Party, and that the "leadership cult" is a particularly pernicious and unsatisfactory alternative.

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SOUTH WEST AFRICA: SOUTH AFRICA IN THE DOCK

S.W.A. was originally a German colony. After the defeat of Germany in the First World War the League of Nations placed it under the control of South Africa as a mandated territory. The League considered the territory to be too small to stand alone, and envisaged that it would eventually be incorporated into South Africa. Under the mandate South Africa was charged with "safeguarding the interests of the inhabitants", and with submitting annual reports on the territory to the League.

With the demise of the League of Nations the South African Government held that the mandate lapsed automatically and it therefore incorporated S.W.A. into the Union. However, some of the original members of the League took the view that the United Nations had assumed the position of the defunct organisation as regards mandated territories, and that powers which had held mandates under it were now therefore responsible to the U.N. for these territories. They submitted the matter to the International Court of Justice, which in 1950 gave an advisory ruling in their favour.

Liberia and Ethiopia, as past League members, have now petitioned the International Court of Justice to declare that South Africa has not adhered to the terms of the mandate in that she has failed to safeguard the interests of the inhabitants and has failed to submit annual reports to the controlling body, viz: the U.N. If the Court finds in favour of the petitioners the way will be open for the U.N. to cancel the mandate, when S.W.A. would cease to be administered by South Africa and would fall directly under U.N.O.

The Court's decision is expected by the end of 1962. This will make 1963 an interesting year for South West Africa and, incidently, for us !

P A R T Y N E W S

- o THE ELECTION - all other activities have taken second place to the campaign which we are waging in Hillbrow and which is reported elsewhere in this issue.
- o YOUTH DIVISION - a flourishing branch has now been established in Pretoria which recently combined with Johannesburg for a picnic-cum-lecture outing at Mia's farm.
- o IN PRETORIA - Friday night is School night; every Friday at 8 p.m. a Political Education class is held for members at - 4, First Street, Cape Reserve. Lectures to date have been on Economics, Liberalism, Democracy, Franchise and Civil Rights.
- o DAVID CRAIGHEAD addressed a "first ever" members meeting in a cinema at Phokeng, Rustenburg on Sunday, 10th September. The meeting started at 11 a.m. and continued until 2 p.m.! Permission to hold the meeting was conditional on the Special Branch being present, and they had a table to themselves looking for all the world like a group of Pressmen. This, and further S.B. intimidation has not deterred the Rustenburg members who are as keen as ever.
- o JOCK ISACOWITZ - "Mr Liberal" to many of us -- has been seriously ill for some months now. Latest news is that his condition is improving slowly. Jock always talks, eats and sleeps Liberalism and even at his weakest he remained keenly interested in the activities of the Party, especially the Election Campaign where one of his suggestions - open air meetings - has already been used. We look forward eagerly to his complete recovery.

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LIBERAL PARTY OFFICES

- o THE DIVISIONAL OFFICES at 45, Harvard Building, Joubert Street, are an ideal place to spend your lunch hour. There is a social room with magazines and books to read, interesting people to talk to, and the cheapest coffee (2½c per cup) in town! If the demand warrants it we could introduce a lunch hour talk once a week - let us know what you think of the idea.
- o SPRINGS OFFICE - 1st Floor, Exploration Buildings, 2nd Street.
- o PRETORIA OFFICE - P.O. Box 2321, Telephone 4-3704.

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FUNDRAISING

The Party is chronically short of funds and the position is now serious. In addition we have to find money to pay for the Election Campaign.

The Liberal Party is your party and you should support it - make your contribution to the Election Fund to-day. If everyone paid his share we would have no financial worries. No matter how small, 25c, 50c, R1:00....every little helps. If you cannot bring it to the office please send a postal order.

We have an energetic Fundraising sub-committee under Mrs Ray Spilkin which has already raised over R200 towards the Election, much more is needed however and to be successful they need your help in the way of Jumble, Books, Cakes, etc.

JUMBLE SALES and CAKE SALES are held regularly, so please go through your cupboards and bookshelves NOW while you think of it and hand in your contributions to the office or to any of the following depots:

- SAXONWOLD - 78, Jan Smuts Avenue.
- MELROSE - 101, 5th Street.
- SANDRINGHAM - 58, Athlone Avenue.
- WAVERLY - 9, Stuart Street.
- PARKVIEW - 81, Kilkenny Road.
- PRETORIA - 1127, Arcadia St.

REMEMBER, an army might march on its stomach, but the Liberal Party runs on its bank balance - help get us out of the red !

C O N T A C T - Agents Wanted

If you want to see the cause of freedom advanced during 1961, if you believe in non-racial democracy based upon one-man-one-vote and in the creation of a truly democratic society in South Africa, then why not become an independent agent for CONTACT, South Africa's freedom newspaper? Liberal commission.

Write: Manager, Box 1979, Cape Town.

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K. GILBERT, Painters and House Decorators....for a good job !
98a - 4th Avenue, AlexandraTelephone 22-8633

"Liberal News" is now compiled and edited by the Pretoria Branch. This issue has been delayed due to pressure of work on the Election Campaign, but we promise to be on time next month !

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