# 'FASCISM WILL NOT PASS!' **Say French Workers**

T has long been obvious that French imperialism is in a more desperate position than its American and European allies. It was knocked to pieces in the stubbornest and stupidest of rearguard battles against the Viet-Nam liberation forces. It was left shaking a futile fist at Egypt after Britain and the U.S. had made face-saving withdrawals. It stood alone in Algeria while the Algerian liberation army prepared to form an independent government, and the U.S. stood by hoping to And the Pflimlin Government won pick up the pieces as it had in Viet-Nam.

Once-mighty France has become a second-class power and the French ruling class has been left sadly licking its wounds. The editor of Le Monde-which holds a position in France roughly comparable to that which the Times crisis has been the Communist holds in Britain-admitted this, a Party. fortnight before the attempt at a military coup began, in a series of articles bitterly entitled "Simple Thoughts for Has-Beens" in which he declared that "even those who were most hopeful have come to despair.'

In Algeria, he said, acting "with the blindness and obstinacy so often demonstrated by future has-beens, the French pretended to ignore what was happening in China, Indo-China, or Indonesia.'

Prophetically he warned that final disaster would come "if we persist in the role of a has-been, living in a world of the past, using our last resources in multiplying reckless gestures.'

Now the right-wing has made its "reckless gesture" by seizing power in Algeria in an attempt to impose a fascist regime in France headed by De Gaulle.

#### Stupid?

Political commentators, both of the left and the right, have long taken into account the possibility that French imperialism would seek this solution. But having taken it into account almost all have dismissed it as unlikely.

French correspondent of the New a Communist-fascist aliance! Statesman for example, said a Thus Lessing said: "With the fortnight before the revolt: "What backing of the 150 Communist about a military coup d'etat? My answer is this: the French right is, as Mollet remarked, 'the stupidest right wing in the world,' but it is not quite as stupid as that. It has not forgotten that Paris is ringed by the 'red belt,' and that the one thing which would re-create the Popular Front is an attempt to overthrow the Republic." And conservative opinion such as that reflected by the Le Monde series, showed that the "responsible" right was aware of the folly of any attempted coup.

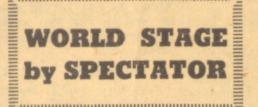
But events have proved once again that the forces of imperialism do not always act with logic. They have a lunatic logic of their own which drives them to their own destruction. This was seen in the suicidal attack on Suez. It was seen in the bombing of the Tunisian village of Sakiet.

#### Will the De Gaullists Succeed?

the predictions that a coup would adopting "temporizing tactics." fail will be proved correct. Have In actual fact it has from the colonise us."

the De Gaullists over-reached themselves?

Their one hope for success was that their Algerian coup would panic the French centre-parties and either paralyse them or win them over while fascist mobs took over the streets. But there were no fascist mobs, no parades calling for De Gaulle, no army mutinies.



a decisive 416 to 114 majority for its emergency measures, perhaps more important as a demonstration of parliamentary solidarity than for the value of the measures themselves.

A fact which stands out undeniably is that the backbone of French democracy in the present

This has been reflected even in the SAPA reports which emphasise the importance of the Communist support for the Pflimlin anti-fascist measures. Not only is the French working class, whose party is the Communist Party, a physical basis for an anti-fascist army

Also, and perhaps almost equally potent, it creates a factor which the moderate conservatives fully appreciate: that if they, the conservatives, sell out to the fascists, the last remnants of working class support for the right wing parties will disappear and both the fascists and the moderate right will have to deal with a popular front of all progressives.

#### **Fantastic Slanders**

The events in France have certainly put the lie to a series of very beginning been the Commu-World and even Africa South. These said that the French Com- France has said again and again munist Party was likely to soft- that the war against the Algerian pedal its opposition to the aggres- people is against the true interests sive French war in Algeria and of France. Events are proving K. S. Karol, the perceptive ally itself with the De Gaullists in how correct we have been."



deputies, Soustelle's Right-wingers might be able to scrap the Constitution and thus establish an authoritarian regime . . . The Kremlin therefore stands to gain by allowing French Communists to co-operate with Soustelle In short the Communists may find the proposition highly attractive. (Bantu) World was saying last week: "The Communists are now whipping up public feelings

against freeing the Algerians." (What a blatant lie that is!)



apers, but also in the Bantu in the Gaillard government:

"The Communist Party of

#### 'Negotiate"!

He called for negotiations with the Algerian Liberatory Movement-the solution subsequently put forward by the Movement's representative at the Ghana Conference—and declared: "The right wing says the solution is stronger repression in Algeria. The Com- one crucial question has not yet munists say the solution is quite been answered. This question is different: a Popular Front and not: "How long will the 'Socialist' peace." The C.P. programme on Algeria declares that a French socialist in the world-continue in withdrawal "is the absolute im- the tradition of the pre-Hitier perative which must guide all our German Socialist Party and refuse actions.

no means isolated in their deter- question is not in doubt. There mination to stand firm against will be no change from the fascism. A broad anti-fascist front leadership of the Socialist Party. has been forged over the months But the decisive question is: "To during which Gaillard, by bowing what extent will the Socialist to every pressure of the white Al- Party rank and file continue to geria lobby, has made the task follow its corrupt leadership, at of the fascists simpler.

As Jean-Paul Sartre said prophetically of Gaillard's attacks on the democratic movement: "Once And even Africa South carried he has sold all of our democratic Algeria have made this a question an article by Claude Bourdet say- institutions down the river, the Al- to which the answer will soon be The question now is whether ing that the Communists were gerian colons (white supremacists) known. The world can have conwill but have to cross the sea and fidence that the French working

The vast anti-fascist movement fantastic slanders of the French nists and the Communists alone is by no means confined to intel-Communist Party which have re- who led the fight for peace in Al- lectuals. Far more significant was ceived publicity not only through geria. As the party's secretary the substantial gain in Communist the despatches of commentator Jacques Duclos declared in parlia- votes first in the Marseilles and Pieter Lessing, in the morning ment in the vote of no confidence other parliamentary by-elections and then in the recent county council elections when the Communist vote of 1,717,741 was almost 200,000 higher than the previous elections in 1951-an increase L'Humanite considered "all the more remarkable because since the last election seven years have passed during which the bourgeoisie have left no stone unturned to weaken the Communists."

### **Key Question**

In the campaign against fascism Party leadership-the most antiunity of action with the Communists even in moments of acute The French Communists are by danger?" The answer to that the risk, as in Germany in the 1930's, of helping to pave the way to fascism?'

> General De Gaulle's men in class will not shirk its duty.

# **COUNTRY-WIDE PROTEST AGAINST MEETINGS BAN**

given by Mr. Prinsloo, chief information officer of the Native Affairs Department, able time limit." who said last week that "the ban will be lifted as soon as it May 12, published an editorial is reasonably possible," the criticising the continuation of fantastic ban on meetings of the ban which, it said, "is apmore than ten Africans is still parently now being used to in operation practically prevent certain political meetthroughout the country.

It was imposed by a notice of Dr. Verwoerd in an Extra- imposed for one object is now ordinary Government Gazette, being applied for other and on April 11, in order to deal different objects. with an alleged "emergency"the peaceful national protest week decided on at the Workers' Conference.

the General Election is more suspended. than a month past. All that is needed is another notice cancelling the ban. Dr. Verwoerd can do it with a stroke of the pen. Yet he has not done so.

gravely affected by the ban, ANC "could force the organiwhich has brought political, sation underground-with dantrade union and numerous gerous results."

JOHANNESBURG. other normal activities to a DESPITE the assurances standstill, are not impressed by Mr. Prinsloo's statement that "we are still within a reason-

> The Rand Daily Mail. on ings

"Thus the ban which was

The Cape Times, calling for the lifting of the ban, said: "Millions of South African citizens . . . have had an The "emergency" period of elementary political right

The fortnightly "Contact" warns that the ban on trade union activities may lead to unrest among industrial workers, and that the tempo-Millions of African people, rary immobilisation of the

# SHORT STORY COMPETITION

NEW AGE has pleasure in announcing its third short story competition. Contributions are invited from readers and should reach the New Age office, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town, before July 31, 1958.

The prizes offered are: 1st Prize: £10 2nd Prize: £7 10s.

3rd Prize: £5

In addition £2 will be paid to the writer of any story, not being one of the prizewinners, which is printed in New Age. Stories should be in English, not more than 3,000 words long and should be based on a South African theme.

A panel of well-known writers will be appointed to judge the entries.

The last two competitions were a rousing success, and brought a great deal of talent to light. Help make this one a success too by preparing your contribution now. All entries should be accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope so that manuscripts may be returned to the authors when the competition is over.

# OPPOSED WOMEN'S PASSES



THAT BANTU FINANCE CORPORATION

**OPENING** the second annual session of the Transkeian Territorial Authority which has been established under the Bantu Authorities Act, Mr. B. Young, Under-Secretary of Native Affairs for the Reserves, announced the intention of the Nationalist Government to establish a **Bantu Finance and Investment** Corporation.

Its purpose is stated to be to help Africans in the reserves to establish "commercial, industrial, mining, financial and service projects.

This speech was followed last week by the promulgation in the Government Gazette of regulations which will make it possible for Africans to be granted allotments in African areas, under title, for business use. Under a previous proclamation in 1955 allotments in townships and rural villages on Native Trust land could be granted only for "residential purposes." Now Africans can buy allotments for business purposes as well.

But they don't get freehold tenure. The Minister is given the power to declare an allotment forfeited if the holder is convicted three times of any offence under regulations for the control of the township in which it lies. The Minister may also cancel the allotment if it is proved to his satisfaction that the holder "is acting in a manner prejudicial to the State.'

Thus the ailotments will be for "good boys" only; and even the "good boys" will have no chance of developing into full-blown Black capitalists because they will still be under the control of the Minister in everything they do.

WHAT'S THE GAME? Nevertheless, it is clear the

Nationalist Government is trying to promote some sort of business undertakings in the Reserves. What have they got in mind? First of ail, the Government

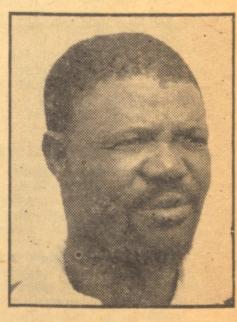


passes for women.

inquiry is the charge

books to women . . .'

1957.



**Chief Setlhoapile** "she will no longer be my wife."

#### JOHANNESBURG. THE Chief of the Barolong tribe in the District of Vryburg is

being "investigated" by the Government for his opposition to Last week an enquiry into his women of Genesa will not take

conduct as Chief of the Barolong of reference books." this district took place at Vryburg,

To date the Chief's wife has not in terms of Proclamation 110 of taken out a reference book.

Members of the Special Branch confronted by the Native Commis- treason trial have been the investi-(about nine in all) but key to the against the Chief.

During last week's inquiry before . that you are not in favour the magistrate at Vryburg the Chief of the issue of reference books was in the witness box for about to women, on the contrary you opposed the issue of reference He was exhaustively cross-ex-

amined on his reasons for objecting The Chief is charged with having said in August 1957 in the Native there were other laws that he Commissioner's office at Vryburg: opposed.

If my wife takes a reference book Next step lies with the Minister she will no longer be my wife. The of Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd.

trying to create the impression that, in return for influx control, it is providing facilities for the Africans to "develop in their own areas." This would enable them to claim that the apartheid policy did bring some benefits to the African people.

But, despite all the hardships created by Section 10, there is no question of the Government being prepared to cut off the supply of cheap labour to the European areas. The African is in the

## By GOVAN MBEKI

European industrial areas and on the European farms to satisfy the labour needs of industry, commerce, agriculture, public and personal services. The rulers and the capitalist class they serve have a vital interest in the perpetuation of this source of cheap labour, without which organised industry and commerce and mining would come to a standstill.

Why then should any intelligent man expect the Government to set itself the task of destroying European industry by eliminating cheap African labour? Why should it dump such labour in the reserves to swell the population of Black towns, or to main industries whose sites have not yet been defined, to say nothing of the nature and capital requirements of such industries?

#### **BLACK CITIES-BUT** NO TRANSPORT

Some of these Black cities which the Nationalist Government claims apartheid tas bestowed upon the Africans are Hammanskraal in the Transvaal, where less than 500 two-roomed houses have been built; and Zwelitsha near Kingwilliamstown, where there is a textile factory that thrives because it pays low wages. Both these settlements provide labour for the surrounding farming interests, as also does Umlazi near ZEERUST CASES Durban

It the Nationalist Government is sincere in its planned programme for an "industrial revolution" in the reserves, why does it neglect the communications, water supplies and n electricity? No railway line links one end of the Transkei to the other. At Umtata, where there is an abundant supply of water and a strong potential source of power, the only railway line which runs through a small area of the reserves reaches a dead end. More than threequarters of the largest reserve is roads in the country.

the making of cheap coffins from awaiting trial. rough-sawn pines.

#### THEIR OWN AIMS

more are contemplated.

.

cheap labour and a protected market for the disposal of their products.

To the Nationalists the reservesare looked upon as colonies. These men do not realise that in the evening of its life imperialism is being caught in the maelstrom of history under which it is being drowned together with its defenders. Blinded by an irresistible urge to build an empire based on the maintenance of a superior race myth, they are determined to do anything which will be of benefit to the Afrikaner yolk.

NATIONALISTS SEEK ALLIES In the second place, the Nationalists are trying to win over a section of the African people who, they hope, will support the apartheid policy by being allowed to share in the exploitation of their fellow-men.

When the members of the Transkei Bunga and subsequently those of the Ciskei, and later Cyprian Dinizulu accepted the Bantu Authorities Act, they hoped they would acquire powers that would enable them to exercise real authority over those who fell within their area of jurisdiction. The Government promised them sufficient support to ensure that they got maximum obedience from their subjects."

It went further and promised the establishment of industries and opening of avenues for the employment of their youth for whom there would be no need to go to the cities where they would fall under "foreign influences." The promise of the establishment of ndustries was not intended so much for the chiefs as for a nascent middle class most of whom would be drawn from the educated ranks.

It is for the creation and maintenance of this class as Nationalist allies that the Finance and Investment Corporation will be estab-



IN the Rustenburg Circuit Court, Mrs. Maria Sebogodi, the wife of the chief of Braklaagte, of the Zeerust district, was sentenced to six months imprisonment without the option of a fine for attempted extortion.

dependent on meagre vehicular Originally charged together with Johannesburg had been arrested by transport over some of the worst nine others for assault and public the police at a wedding, and when violence, Maria Sebogodi was dis- the police were asked why they had In addition to the sisal growing charged at the end of the prepara- come to arrest people at a wedding project which is still at an experi- tory examination in this case. Three they said: "Go and ask Richard mental stage, the only other type weeks later, the Attorney-General Morefe." The group of women had of industry which Mr. de Wet Nel indicted her on the charge of at- visited this witness, they said in deforecast when he addressed the tempted extortion. In all the Chief's fence, to ask him why he had Ciskei Bunga a few years ago was wife spent about five months in jail called in the police and why, when | the police were in the district, they The crown alleged that on No- stopped at his house first. He denied

vember 3, 1957, accompanied by that this happened. The two wit-While the Government serves about 60 women, Mrs. Sebogodi nesses for the defence denied that Chief Joseph Setlhoapile was who figured prominently in the the interests of industrial capital went to the home of Richard Mo- they had asked Morefe or his wife as it is at present organised and refe, chief crown witness in this for money. sioner with a number of charges gating officers in these proceedings concentrated in the industrial case and also the case in which 9 Passing sentence. Mr. Justice areas, the Nationalists are also men were charged and found guilty Cilliers said the wife of the chief looking for openings to establish of arson, and demanded from him "should have known better in times their own industries where there and his wife 5s. each for "Con- of tension and turmoil." is less competition. They are al- gress." The chief's wife told him, ready building cheap labour fac- said this witness, that on Xmas day FOOTNOTE: Defence witnesses tories in or near the reserves, and the "home-boys" would be back in this case, who had travelled from from Johannesburg and would Zeerust to Rustenburg for the Cir-It would not be surprising if come and burn his house. The wo- cuit Court trial, had to sleep in preferential treatment were to be men repeated the same visit and police cells for the better part of given to companies that not only message the following morning, ac- the week they gave evidence in this

support unreservedly the Govern-ment's racial policy but are Afri-kaner-controlled. They would be control that on the Sunday two men from the control that on the sunday two men from the control that on the sunday two men from the control that control the cont

NAT. IMPERIALISTS PLAN TO **ROB AFRICAN PEOPLE** 

guaranteed a regular supply of lished. Aid from this source will help a few Africans to run shops that will stock goods that have been produced in Nationalist-controlled factories that are being established on the borders of the reserves. Owing to the poverty of the peasants a few such traders can command tremendous influence as people within a radius of 10 miles become indebted to them. **COMPULSORY SAVINGS TO** FINANCE APARTHEID

> It has always been the policy of the Nationalist Government that the Africans must pay for the machinery of their own exploitation under the apartheid scheme. In order to finance those Africans who are going to be the commercial agents for the sale of the apartheid policy, the Africans themselves are going to invest in this Nat-sponsored and controlled Finance and Investment Corporation.

How is this to be done? In the first place, Verwoerd is planning legislation-which it has been announced will come up during the next session of Parliament-to increase African taxation and to extend taxation to African women. This Bill was dropped last year in the face of widespread protests from the people, but is being revived again.

Then we can expect a whole host of "thrift" schemes, officially sponsored, by means of which the Africans would be robbed of a portion of their earnings which would be handed over to the Finance Corporation.

The Government's policy is that if the Africans are to hang, they must pay for the rope, hangman and the entire elaborate machinery designed to lead everyone to the gallows-which is what the acceptance of apartheid is. The African people can be expected to put up the stiffest resistance to these colonialist schemes of the Afrikaner imperialists.

#### NEW AGE, THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1958



Right in the swing of it.



IF the so-called "Patriots" think that I'm going to kick up a hullabaloo about them in this column, they're mistaken.

I have only the heartiest contempt for whoever they may be.

CAPE Town Whites made a rush to get their identity cards and it seems that apart from criticisms of their looks in the photographs everything was hunky-dory with them.

Carrying a pass doesn't appear to worry them much, because I guess they don't expect a cop to come up and say "Waar's jou pas?

But you can bet there are a lot of Africans wishing those Whites had a black skin for a

"He's an example to his fellow men," said the M.P. That sounds like incitement to

contravene the Act, to me.

WHAT is this I see? After rubbing my eyes I'm convinced that what I'm reading is the real McCoy. South Africa is sending a shooting team to compete in the world small-bore championships in MOSCOW in August.

I wonder where they got their passports from.

\*

BAAS Strijdom made utterances the other day to the effect that his republic would be a democratic one . . . "I don't think

Tennyson Makiwane on the New Dance Rhythm

# VELA, MZALA

THEY say our South African "kwela" music is becoming a hit overseas. One of the largest dance organisations in Britain has taken up this South African dance "The Kwela."

Record companies are pressing kwela records as fast as they can go, and disc jockeys are pushing the music over the radio and television. Even more noteworthy, British author Wolf Mankowitz has used a kwela record "Tom Hark" as a theme tune for his play "The Killing Stones."

Of course what is good enough for Britain is always good for us here and lo! our commercial radio is now playing kwela music for all of us to hear. In the past this music was restricted to the Bantu programmes of the S.A.B.C. and was the private property of township social life.

#### ITS MEANING

What is "kwela"? I suppose like its other jazz counter-parts 'Jive,' 'Bebop' and 'Rock 'n Roll' it has no real meaning. A few years ago the African bands introduced this new type of music. And at those hot 'non-stop' dance sessions the fans would at intervals form a ring round the ace couple, clapping hands to the rhythm and yelling "kwela mzala!" (ride on, Cousin)— "cousin" being used in the same way as "hep cat." The scream-ing crowd would then turn to the band, urging it on with "Tshisa!' (Make it burn.)

The music itself, as I have pointed out before, is simply the adaption of African traditional music to the jazz tempo-with a bit of improvisation. The appeal of the music to township Africans was terrific. You did not have to buy a music album before you sang the songs-you knew them.

The entry of the recording companies into the lucrative trade of selling African jazz (kwela) records helped the music to achieve a great deal of refinement. It is cool music. Unlike rock 'n roll the kwela isn't a series of physical jerks. It is much smoother.

#### PENNY WHISTLE

repeated, the road to fame and fortune would lie ahead for the top men of the kwela hit.

But the snag is that many of the leading African musicians are tied to recording companies by contracts which pay the musicians only a flat rate for each recording made and which leave royalties and copyright with the recording companies.

As for the composers of the songs, often nobody ever knows them, let alone greets them with the fame they deserve. Though I notice that some talent scouts have stuck their names to compositions they no more composed than you or I. The percentage payment due to the composer then goes into the pirate's pocket.

It is time that a body like the Union of Southern African Artistes stepped in to protect the interests of our musicians and to compel the recording companies to offer better contracts.

This was one of the aims of the Union when it was founded. What about a progress report from the **Union**?



# SPINNING DISCS

OU want to have the kwela right there at home? Well, here are some of the latest releases.

Claude Williamson, the American pianist who recently came out here with the Bud Shank Quintet, plays with Spokes Mashiane, South Africa's penny whistle and kwela king, on TJ 222



Spokes Mashiane, King of the Kwela.

## **SACTU** Protest To I.L.O.

JOHANNESBURG.

The S.A. Congress of Trade Unions has lodged a protest to the International Labour Office in Geneva and to the Secretary of Labour on the exclusion of SACTU from the selection of a workers' delegation to the 44th session of the I.L.O.

Representing 46,000 workers, SACTU is the only non-colour-bar trade union co-ordinating body in South Africa, yet it has again been cold-shouldered by the Govern-ment in the choice of workers' spokesmen.

Not only that, but this year the Trade Union Congress has also been left out, and is thinking of sending its own man as an observer. Candidate in mind is Mr. L. C. Scheepers, of the Leather Workers' Union, whom the TUC is also sending to the Common-wealth Trade Union Conference in June.

### INDIANS ORGANISE

(Continued from page 1)

on the advice of the Natal Indian Organisation, a well-attended mass meeting, which included prominent

day . . the day they forget to take their passes out with them . . . just so that they know what it's like.



THE public have got so used to the Russians sending sputniks way up yonder nowadays that asking anybody to comment is like pointing at any star up there and asking him what he thinks of it.

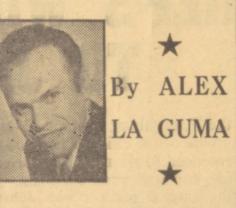
• The best I could get out of a fellow-passenger on the train home was: "Oh, it's just another one of those things.'

\*

BUT nobody gets used to these Immorality Act cases. Especially when some high shot "stoops low." The latest stooping session in Krugersdorp brought an M.P. to the defence of the stooper.

#### DEATHS

ALLY: New Age regrets to announce the death of the father of Rahima and Fatima, two wellknown members of the Congress movement. Mr. Ally supported them in their activities and always had a ready welcome for all ali members and friends of the family.



either the English-speaking people or the Afrikaans-speaking would tolerate anything else.

I might be wrong, but I believe that there are some millions of other people in S.A. who wouldn't tolerate anything else.

AND further Herr Strijdom says he has information from the "Bantu in their own reserves' (apart from the "Communists and the Leftists") that the policy of the Government was such as to encourage voluntary allegiance to the state

Another Strijdom special handout.

THE Congresses say they're prepared to sit down and talk to anybody and tell them where they stand. But the Unity boys don't believe in conferences, summit or otherwise.

They can't reach that high.

The introduction of the penny whistle into the music gave it its mass form. Its exponents needed no longer to be the professional band members who alone were able to buy and play expensive instruments. Anybody or any group could gather together a penny whistle band, with only guitar accompaniment, and play.

But of course the musicians, like the children who were told that the 'shining stone' they were playing with was really a diamond, never really knew that they had scored a big scoop.

Many who preferred to play the American "modern jazz" were pushed by hunger to play the kwela and make a few pounds from recording.

On the other hand the recording companies have all along seen the new music as a gold mine. They employ several talent scouts to go around getting both amateur and professional groups to make records. Scores of records are placed on the marketyou hear them morning and afternoon blaring from the record shops.

Now a big break through has been made with the opening up of the overseas market.

#### FAME AND FORTUNE

If the same pattern which without the option of a fine. raised Elvis Presley, Tommy Among the nine is an old roll topped the hit parade were awaiting trial.

Maybe you'd like to have some of the discs now being released in Britain. They are recorded here on "Bantu" records as well.

"Jika Spokes" TJ 132 by Spokes Mashiane and

"Cool Mood" · NV 3058 by Peter Makana.

If you buy the new long-playing penny whistle discs featuring Spokes Mashiane, Ben Nkosi and Peter Makana you will have just about all the penny whistle music you want.

Trutone TLP 1047.

Other new African jazz releases worth having are played by Zacks Nkosi's Orchestra.

BMSC JP 2091 and

Section "Z" JP 2090. Watch this column and I'll be around with more kwela hits.

## ZEERUST ARSON CASE 9 Sent to Prison

JOHANNESBURG Nine men from Braklaagte, near Zeerust, were found guilty on arson charges in the Rustenburg Circuit Court last week, and sen-

Among the nine is an old man Steele and others from nonentities of about 68 years of age. They to neo-millionaires when rock 'n had all spent five months in jail meets to consider the proposals

Indian and African residents of the area, unanimously rejected this standpoint.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. I. C. Meer, ex-Treason Trialist and banned Vice-President of the Natal Indian Congress, the meeting heard Mr. Alan Paton and Mr. John Didcott, of the Liberal Party, and Mr. J. N. Singh and Mr. H. E. Mall, Vice-President of the Natal Indian Congress, condemn the Group Areas Act and the suggestion to work the Act by submitting plans for race zoning.

At the end of the meeting, Dr. M. V. Gumede, a local Medical practitioner, and Mr. Simon Davids, the principal of the Verulam Indian High School, stated that the people of Verulam were grateful to the speakers for having 'cleared the air" and for putting forward a clear-cut policy in regard to the Group Areas Act.

#### **OBJECTIONS**

Within a week of this meeting, hundreds of individual objections to the proposals before the Board "expressing total opposition to the removal of any person of any race from his home or place of business," have been submitted by an Action Committee which was formed as a result of the meeting. This Committee is preparing a tenced to 18 months hard labour, comprehensive memorandum on the implications of the Group Areas Act which will be submitted to the Group Areas Board when it now before it.

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