

Eisenhower And Dulles Fear Peace Talks

LONDON.

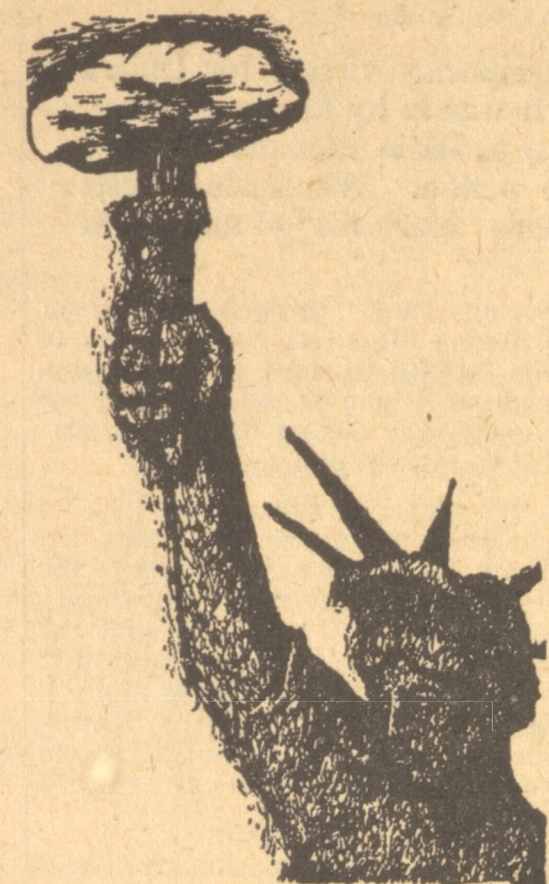
A MEETING of the heads of the Big Four nations—Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—is to take place from July 18 to 21 in Geneva. An invitation in these terms has been sent by the Western Powers to the Soviet Union.

The Western press and statesmen are trying to make out that the initiative for the talks came from them. But it has been the Soviet Union and People's China which for years have consistently taken the lead in the fight for peace, while the West has planned for war.

The Soviet Union, in particular, has been asking for a Big Four meeting to discuss Germany since 1950. It has been the West which has refused, which insisted that West Germany must rearm first.

To remove all obstacles to the holding of a Big Four conference to relax international tension, the Soviet Union has made one concession after another. Peace to her has been more important than prestige, hence the mission to Yugoslavia.

It has been the very determination of the Soviet Union to win peace which has finally compelled the West to agree to the Big Four talks. To have refused to hold such talks now would have been to brand the Western Governments openly as warmongers, refusing to talk peace because they did not want peace.



Propaganda?

Reporting the recent meeting in Paris of U.S. State Secretary Dulles, British Foreign Secretary Macmillan and French Foreign Minister Pinay, the London Observer's correspondent said:

"The British suggestion for a meeting at the Eden-Eisenhower-Faure-Bulgarian level has been frowned

WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

on by the Americans, who regard it—with all the fervour of reformed characters—as a bit of electioneering."

It was the reluctance of the Americans to talk peace, their determination to build up an overwhelming "position of strength" based on their boasted superiority in atomic weapons, which finally roused the peoples of the whole world to demand peace talks before it was too late.

The New York Post reported recently that there was a growing storm of protest at the continuing American threats of war, a storm which had grown into "an atomic revolution . . . raging in Europe . . . like nothing since the anti-clerical revolt of the Reformation . . . a new and sudden development, with the H-bomb acting as catalytic agent for all the old and hitherto diversified discontents."

This, said the Post, was "the over-riding political fact in the Western alliance today."

Time magazine confirmed: "Thus, in a joint note to the Kremlin, the U.S. and its allies yielded to the pressure that had been abounding in hearts everywhere . . . that a 'parley at the summit' might mean a 'generation of peace.'"

The Chicago Daily News said Eisenhower and Dulles "have agreed to the meeting reluctantly and with profound scepticism. They have yielded to pressure from the Governments of Great Britain and France. The responsible officials of those Governments themselves do not believe the meeting is actually desirable from the standpoint of international relations."

It is, however, politically necessary at home to the men in power. In both countries people, terrified at the possibility of atomic war, have been demanding a top-level conference, expecting it to conjure some magic not workable by ordinary diplomatic procedure.

Eisenhower, at a press conference, though conceding he expected very little from the talks, said he had agreed to take part because "a growing sentiment had become discernible throughout the world that something might come from such a meeting."

Outlook Unchanged

Yet the United States has not changed its basic attitude. Its outlook is still one of unvarying hostility to the countries of socialism. Though capitulating to the world-wide pressure for Big Four talks, Eisenhower and Dulles have made it clear they do not intend to make any serious attempt to bring about a lessening of international tension.

THEIR TACTIC IS GOING TO BE TO PUT FORWARD DEMANDS WHICH THE SOVIET UNION COULD NOT POSSIBLY ACCEPT, AND

THEN BLAME THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE FAILURE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

In a television discussion of foreign affairs two weeks ago, Dulles and Eisenhower declared their belief that the United States policy of firmness was beginning to "pay off" and that the Soviet Union by signing the Austrian Treaty had begun her long-awaited "retreat from Europe."

What was the purpose of the proposed Big Four talks? The object was, said Eisenhower, "to set up new processes for the solution of such great problems as the unification of Germany, the satellite countries and international Communism," which Dulles described as "a pest all around the world." Note—not to solve these problems but to "set up new processes" to solve them.

Previously, at the recent NATO meeting in Paris, Dulles had expanded a little more on his intentions. One of the subjects to be discussed, he said, would be the "repression of human and national rights in the satellites." The West "must not give the impression that it accepts the indefinitely prolonged enslavement of captive peoples, and wanted the captive peoples to know that." (Time, May 23.)

No wonder both Eisenhower and Dulles doubt whether much can be achieved at the talks, which they predict, will not last more than two or three days!

Soviet Reply

Following the Eisenhower-Dulles television performance, a Soviet newspaper in a leading article, said—"The silly talk of presenting the Soviet Union certain demands, and particularly demands having no connection whatsoever with the tasks of the conference of the heads of the Great Powers, compels one to doubt the sincerity of the agreement of the ruling circles of the United States to the holding of such a conference."

The internal affairs or social systems of the sovereign, independent states in Eastern Europe were not at issue, said the paper. What the peoples of the world were demanding should be discussed by the Big Four was "the cessation of the cold war and the restoration of such an international confidence as would enable the liquidation of the onerous armaments race, a decisive reduction of armaments and armed forces, the prohibition of the atomic and hydrogen weapons, the creation of an efficient system of collective security, the re-establishment of normal economic relations and the expansion of peaceful co-operation in all fields between the peoples."

The paper added, "The wish of the people for peace has become so all-embracing and powerful that it has become impossible to ignore it, and it would be dangerous to struggle against it."

There is no formal agenda for the coming talks, but Germany and disarmament will undoubtedly be the main subjects of discussion. Under both heads the Soviet Union has recently come forward with far-reaching proposals embodying many concessions to the Western point of view.

Germany a "Problem"

And that is precisely why the West is entering the talks with such reluctance and, in the case of West Germany's Adenauer, with positive alarm. The Soviet peace offensive threatens to block the Western drive to war and isolate the warmongers.

The West has no substantive answer to the Soviet proposals. The offer to Germany to unite in neu-

WOMEN'S VOICE WILL BE HEARD AT C.O.P.

JOHANNESBURG.

WOMEN are seeing to it that their voices will be heard at Kliptown at the Congress of the People this month. Over two hundred women of all races came to the Trades Hall recently to discuss the demands of women for the Congress, and from among those attending, twelve women were elected as delegates and spokesmen of women's rights.

The meeting was organised by the Transvaal Region of the Federation of South African Women, and drew a response from Springs, Brakpan, Benoni and all parts of Johannesburg.

Josie Palmer as chairwoman called on all women to organise house meetings and to elect delegates to the C.O.P. Women as mothers should play an important part in framing the Freedom Charter, she said, for women would have to work to see that the demands would be realised.

Mr. J. Matlou, of the African National Congress, spoke on conditions in the reserves and rural areas, and supporting the demands put forward by the women, said: "In these demands lies one of the signs that the Congress of the People is really the torchlight which must ultimately bring about peace and good relations between the people of South Africa."

Women speakers explained their demands, which covered maternity and child welfare, education, health, housing, the pass laws, unemployment insurance and old age pensions, the right of women to vote and be elected to Parliament, and the right of all to peace and freedom.



HOMES, FOOD, JOBS, REAL EDUCATION FOR ALL—that's what we women mean by freedom, said the conference of the Federation of South African Women, which prepared women's demands to the Congress of the People.

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trality, said the New York Times recently, "will provide the Western Powers with the most difficult problem they have yet faced in Europe since the end of the war."

It is easy enough for the West to wish the support of Adenauer, who recently, in a speech at Mainz, echoed Dulles by declaring that the reunification of Germany "means not only the return of East Germany but a new status for the territory east of the Oder-Neisse line," i.e., the territory returned to Poland after the war.

But it is not so easy to persuade the German people that war is the easiest road to reunification. In view of the fact Germany would prove an atomic battlefield in the event of East-West war, Adenauer had to admit nine out of ten Germans don't want to fight.

The Wall Street Journal added on May 9—"By all accounts the West German people want unification much more than they want military association with the West."

On May 15 the Washington correspondent of the London Observer said—"It is significant that the idea of an independent, reunified Germany within a general European system of mutual guarantees against aggression, to which the United States would be a party, is gaining ground in official circles."

Yet Eisenhower, Dulles and Adenauer can only reply with a wooden "No" and attempt to change the subject.

Unacceptable

This sort of answer is no longer acceptable to the majority of the peoples of the world. The tremendous efforts which the countries of socialism are making to win peace are plain for all to see. (Only last week, again, People's China made another gesture towards the United States by releasing four airmen—yet what has been the U.S. response to this, and to Chou's previous offer to sit down and talk Formosa over at the conference table? Only peremptory demands for further concessions.)

The Soviet initiative has driven the Western politicians into a tight corner. They will be racking their brains in the coming months to devise a plan which will enable them to continue preparing for war while at the same time posing as the champions of peace.

IT IS THE TASK OF ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO INTENSIFY THE CAMPAIGN FOR PEACE SO THAT, DESPITE ALL OBSTACLES AND INTRIGUES, THE COMING BIG FOUR TALKS HAVE A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.

Here are some of the demands adopted by the conference to show

What S.A. Women Want

WE DEMAND four months' maternity leave on full pay for working mothers. Properly staffed and equipped maternity homes, ante-natal clinics, and child welfare centres in all towns and villages, and in the reserves and rural areas. Day nurseries for the children of working mothers. Nursery schools for the pre-school children. Birth control clinics. WE DEMAND THESE FOR ALL MOTHERS OF ALL RACES.

WE DEMAND compulsory, free and universal education from the primary school to the university. Adequate school feeding and free milk for all children in day nurseries, nursery schools, and primary and secondary schools. Play centres and cultural centres for school children. Properly equipped playgrounds and sportsfields. Vocational training and apprenticeship facilities. WE DEMAND THESE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF ALL RACES.

WE DEMAND proper houses at rents not more than 10% of the earnings of the head of the household. Indoor sanitation, water supply and proper lighting in our homes. The right to own our own homes and the land on which we build them. The right to live where we choose. Housing loan schemes at low rates of interest. Lighting in our streets. Properly made roads and storm water drainage. Ade-

"Secret Caucus" was a Carcass

Fort Hare Principal Got Confused, Says Natal S.R.C.

DURBAN.

Protesting against the "unwarranted" closing of the Fort Hare University, the Non-European Students' Representative Council of the University of Natal has endorsed the demand for the re-admission of all students to Fort Hare without renewal of application.

The S.R.C. also asks that a commission of inquiry be instituted, on which students are represented, to investigate the students' grievances.

The closing of Fort Hare, says the S.R.C., is "another serious inroad into the meagre and already crumbling education of the vast majority of the South African population."

The S.R.C. states that it has interviewed no less than 40 present and 50 past students of Fort Hare, and has learnt, among other things, that there was long-existing dissatisfaction among the students over the question of their food. The diet was improved after a successful students' boycott of the dining room in 1954, during the Principal's absence, but upon his return, the quality of the food again deteriorated. Subsequently, students' legitimate requests for better food were ignored.

Furthermore, "for reasons not known to the students, police have consistently intruded into the College premises. This has intimidated and caused unrest among the students."

The students hoped the boycott of the graduation ceremony would draw the attention of the authorities to their hitherto ignored grievances.

SURPRISING The Natal S.R.C. says it is surprising that the Principal should have conceived of the existence of a pressure group or so-called "caucus," of which none of the students interviewed had any knowledge.

"We gather, however, that a goat which had been consumed at Sandile's Kop by students of one House, celebrating a sporting victory, was frequently referred to as the 'carcass.' The students believe that the

word 'caucus' as used in the Principal's statement probably originated from this incident."

The Natal S.R.C. statement, which is signed by secretary C. D. Marivate and president L. P. Naidoo, declares further:

"To the best of our knowledge, no university has ever been closed in the face of even far greater problems of student-authority relationships. Is it not possible that pressure was brought to bear upon the University authorities from other quarters? As a result of this pressure, the students are now being made secret informants on one another."

Have YOU Sent Your Donation to NEW AGE This Week?

A LIVING FORCE FOR PROGRESS

JOHANNESBURG.

THE June issue of "Fighting Talk" is a special issue devoted to the forthcoming Congress of the People. In an article "Comrades for the Charter," L. Bernstein says: "Somewhere in this campaign the idea has filtered through to the men and women in the shacktowns and the backyards that they can make their future more certain, more capably, than all the politicians. It has shown itself in the quick understanding among unlettered working people that the Freedom Charter will become a living force for progress, once it has emerged from their own demands."

In this issue Hilda Watts writes an article on the Chartist movement in Britain, just one hundred years ago, which sowed the seeds of the struggle that later won the British people the universal franchise.

Michael Harmel writes an article on the Senate Bill and the people's fight against it; Cecil Williams writes on the N.A.T.O. decision to use atomic bombs as "conventional weapons"; Peter Meyer discusses Nationalist attacks on the English-language Press. He writes: "The democratic forces in South Africa must realise that the English-language Press is not an ally to be trusted. It is already betraying the struggle, and unless a miracle happens, it will continue to sell out to apartheid."

Other articles are by Desmond Buekle, the London journalist; an article on Africa and World Music, and a short story contributed by the African writer, Bruno Esekie.

Fighting Talk is on sale at 6d. a copy. Subscriptions are 5s. a year and may be obtained from P.O. Box 1355, Johannesburg.

TRANSVAAL YOUTH FESTIVAL PLANNED

JOHANNESBURG.

"Peace, Friendship and Racial Harmony." These words are again becoming the slogan of the youth of the Transvaal as preparations go ahead for the holding of a preliminary Transvaal Youth Festival on Saturday, June 18, at Kliptown, Johannesburg, at 2 p.m.

The Transvaal Youth Festival Committee has organised sports, including a series of multi-racial soccer and netball games, as well as a host of cultural events for this preliminary festival.

The People's Choir, now becoming a popular feature at Rand C.O.P. meetings, particularly through their fine rendering of the Call to the Congress of the People, will be one of the cultural items. There will also be readings from modern poetry of the people, folk-dancing, Coloured square dancers, Indian and African folk music and lots of food.

A competition for essays, stories, poems and pictures with a South African theme has also been arranged by the Festival Committee. The closing date for the competition is the middle of July. Further information can be obtained from 37, West Street, Johannesburg.

Film Profits

NEW YORK.

United States film producers earned \$354 million last year from the showings of their films in overseas cinemas. The total income from showings in the U.S. last year was \$436 million.

KLEURLINGVOLKSBOND "LIKE SNAKES IN THE GRASS"

Hectic Exchanges Before Group Areas Board

JOHANNESBURG.

At a session of the Group Areas Board last week E. Domingo, who claims to represent the Coloured people through his Kleurlingvolksbond, was told by a spokesman for Coloured ratepayers from Albertsville that the members of the Bond were "soos slange daar in die gras."

Domingo's representations to the Board were for Albertsville to be declared a White area, and for the removal of the Coloureds.

Asked what he thought of this, Mr. S. G. Pullen, representing Albertsville ratepayers, said loudly: "It's a shame!"

Dr. Lowen: What do you think of Mr. Domingo's claim to represent the Coloured people?

Mr. Pullen (violently): I told Domingo he'd be tarred and feathered. . . .

Dr. Lowen: Oh, no, he's sitting behind you there. . . .

Mr. Domingo then came forward to the microphone to question Mr. Pullen on his evidence that the Coloureds wished to remain in Albertsville, and that the Bond did not represent the people.

HEATED EXCHANGE

There was a rapid exchange between these two witnesses, in the course of which Domingo claimed that Dr. du Plessis, Commissioner for Coloured Affairs, had visited Albertsville in 1951 at the invitation of the Bond. Pullen called the Bond members snakes in the grass, and interjected that Domingo had been in jail recently, and what kind of organisation was his if it left him there?

The chairman then ruled that this was irrelevant.

Mr. Domingo was asked by the Board if he could produce lists of his members, as requested at his previous appearance.

Mr. Domingo said the request had been made only after an atmosphere of suspicion had been created at the hearings. If his organisation had to bring figures, why did not every other party before the Board? (The Transvaal Indian Congress had, in fact, to produce proof of its claims to representation.)

Then Domingo added that rather than go on, the Bond would withdraw from the hearing if it had to produce figures.

Mr. Koopman again gave evidence for Newclare Coloured residents. He recalled a memorandum prepared in 1935 for the removal of Africans from the Western Areas. If only the Indians had co-operated with the Coloureds in that year for the removal of Africans, he said, "I don't think we would have had any Black Spots Removal."

Mr. Koopman said his organisation claimed every Coloured person in Newclare as a member. He thought there were 1,800 in all, but "we haven't counted them."

Asked by the Board if his organisation fully supported the proposals for the removal of Indians from Newclare and its declaration as a Coloured area, Mr. Koopman's reply was: "Well, I'm unanimous." (Laughter.)

HOMES FOR INDIANS

Mr. Jajbhai was another witness before the Board last week. He was speaking, he said, for himself, and not for any organisation. He dealt with the attempts made in past years to get homes erected for In-

dians, and said that despite many deputations nothing at all had been spent on Indian housing.

Mr. Jajbhai opposed the Lenasia scheme. This he said was a rich man's suburb. It was impossible for the average Indian to acquire land there, build his house and work in town, as Lenz was so far out. Mr. Jajbhai said he would be prepared to hand into the Board a document showing the interests of City Councillors in the Lenasia scheme.

Mr. Jajbhai said that he admired the efforts of the present Government to try to solve the problem of Indian housing. "If you could sponsor a scheme seven or eight miles out of town Indians would whole-heartedly support it," he said. He had no objection to buffer strips.

Mr. Jajbhai's representations have been for Diepkloof for Indian settlement, also Pageview and other areas in the city centre.

A DUST BOWL

Mr. G. H. Carr, Manager of the city's Non-European Affairs Department, gave detailed evidence to the Board on the Council's proposed group areas. Mooifontein, proposed for Indian settlement, which is situated between several slimes dumps on mine ground and which Dr.

Lowen described as a "dust bowl," Mr. Carr thought could be rendered habitable by removing the slimes dumps with bulldozers.

Mr. Carr did not agree that Mooifontein would be the last area which any person would voluntarily choose as a residential site. Its attractions, said Mr. Carr, were its proximity to town, its isolation from European residential areas, and the availability of water and sewage.

Questioned about the Council scheme for Indian vertical expansion in five- and six-storey buildings in Burgersdorp, Mr. Carr said he was personally not happy about the density in the area that would result. Dr. Lowen described this building-up in the proposed Indian group area as an "impossible solution."

The cost of erecting these buildings, he said, would be in the neighbourhood of £30 million. The rents in the cheapest buildings would place these flats beyond the means of the average Indian family. The rents would be at least £23 a month and a Council survey had shown that in the Western areas the average family income was less than £30 a month.

WHO WANTS IT?

Mr. J. Slovo, for the Transvaal Indian Congress, asked Mr. Carr if the Council, in putting forward its scheme for group areas, had asked itself about the desirability of group areas in Johannesburg. Mr. Carr said the Group Areas Act was now law and it was necessary for local authorities to make proposals for group areas. He later added that the Council opinion had been divided, and that consideration had been given to this point of desirability.

The Board is still proceeding with its inquiry.

BRITAIN'S "BOOM" IS BUSTING

Strikes Reveal Deterioration in Workers' Conditions

LONDON.—Background to the strike wave which has hit Britain is that the living standards of the working people have not kept pace with the rise in the cost of living.

Under the Tories food prices have gone up 5s. in the £. It is true that wages have gone up, too, and the average weekly pay packet for men in Britain today is £10 4s. 5d., double pre-war.

But this money is being paid out for an average working week of 48½ hours, compared with just over 47½ hours in 1938 and the 42 to 44 hours which were won after the war in many industries.

To earn his increased wages the British worker has to work longer, and systematic overtime is now the rule in almost every job.

In 25 industries, for example, an average working week for men of over 50 hours is normal. In cement—highest of them all—the normal week is nearly 57 hours long. In four others, including private goods transport by road, it is over 52.

As a result of all this extra labour the British worker has increased output by 70 per cent.

But his own basic wage—as opposed to his overtime pay—has lagged far behind. Last year the net increase in wages was £125 million. But the official estimate of profits for 1954 was £3,658 million.

That is why a trade union like the Electrical Workers has come to the conclusion that it is perhaps more important today to fight for the 40-hour week than for a sheer increase in wages which will come through overtime while leaving the basic rate unchanged.

The Tories have declared a state of emergency and—now that the elections are over—are abusing the railway workers for holding the country to ransom, and threatening to take drastic action to "bring the workers to their senses."

Actually, the demands of the railway workers are exceedingly modest—they are asking for weekly increases ranging from 1s. 6d. for cleaners to 5s. 6d. for the highest-rated drivers.

The Transport Commission has made a counter-offer which would benefit only the higher-paid categories, and which the union has rejected because it adds nothing to the pay of the majority of its members.

Meanwhile, by refusing to meet their demands and trying to browbeat the workers into submission, the Transport Commission is losing more money in one week as a result of the strike than it would have to pay out in extra wages in a year.

ATOM PLANES, SHIPS, SUBS. AND TRAINS

LONDON.

Details of Soviet plans for building atomic ships, submarines, aircraft and locomotives capable of travelling tens of thousands of miles without refuelling were given in a broadcast talk over Moscow Radio recently.

An atomic liner using heavy water instead of graphite blocks could sail round the world on less than 1½ lb. of uranium, said the commentator, Professor Vladimir Leshkovstev. Atomic submarines could do the trip between Murmansk and Vladivostok in less than a fortnight, sailing under the ice.

Describing a working model of an atomic locomotive, the professor said the engine was nearly 165 ft. long and weighed 180 tons. It would run for 50 million miles without refuelling.

It was premature to speak of atomic motor cars, though two projects existed.

C.O.D. "IN THE VANGUARD"

Regional Conference Discusses Senate Bill Fight

JOHANNESBURG.

An enthusiastic, self-critical and constructive Conference of members of five branches constituting the Johannesburg Region of the Congress of Democrats, held in Johannesburg last week, discussed campaign plans in opposition to the Senate Bill, appraised critically the past and proposed future work of the region, and discussed and endorsed resolutions to the forthcoming National Conference of the C.O.D. to be held in Johannesburg on June 24.

Reviewing the present political situation and the Senate Bill, speakers drew attention to the important role of the C.O.D. at the present time. Mr. E. Brown, leading the discussion stated that when the Suppression of Communism Act was passed it had been said that it was directed solely against the Communists and the Africans. However, it and other Nationalist measures had resulted in widespread intimidation, demoralisation and apathy amongst Europeans, and hence their lack of opposition to the Nats. The Parliamentary parties had proved themselves too weak to really oppose the Nats' laws and Europeans had come to believe that the Government was here to stay, he said.

The U.P. and to a lesser extent the Liberals and Labourites had failed to give a lead to the people. Instead they had demoralised them.

"In the present campaign, it is the S.A. Congress of Democrats which is truly in the vanguard for it is correctly calling for a National Day of Protest. It alone is not wedded to the idea of white supremacy."

Further, the C.O.D. had shown that only through an alliance with the Non-European masses, and not

through Parliamentary procedures alone could the Europeans hope to play a part in defeating the Nats.

TELEGRAM CAMPAIGN

Reports were given to conference on the telegram campaign against the Bill, which in Johannesburg within a few days had resulted in over 1,500 telegrams being sent to Strauss demanding a National Day of Protest. The Conference decided that C.O.D. members would use every opportunity at all protest meetings against the bill to raise the voice of true democracy and to show the people the necessity of alliance with the oppressed national groups, and the positive opportunities of advance towards democracy and the overthrow of the Nationalists which the Congress of the People and the Freedom Charter offered.

Among the resolutions for the National Conference were statements opposing Bantu Education and promising "the fullest active support to whatever measures are taken by the A.N.C. to provide alternative education for African children," and condemning the closing of Fort Hare and the imposition of University Apartheid.

The conference also endorsed a resolution welcoming the newly

formed South African Congress of Trade Unions and stating that the workers as a class have the greatest interest in the development of full democracy in South Africa and that militant trade unions will play the most important role in the liberation of the oppressed masses. The resolution called upon all C.O.D. members to co-operate with and support S.A.C.T.U.

Resolutions on peace and the international situation condemned West Germany's rearmament and called for peaceful co-existence, negotiation, the ending of colonial wars and the admission of Peoples' China to UNO.

Other resolutions on the restriction of civil liberties by the Nats, youth work and the need for greater political education of C.O.D. members, all of which are to be presented to the National Conference, were passed unanimously by the Regional Conference.

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