



"No admission of guilt fines here. We'll fight our case!" said the women of Carltonville arrested for not having permits. Here they have just been released from the cells on bail, and a police constable hands them their bail bonds. Some were arrested with their babies on their backs.

Pass Raids In The "Golden West"

Police Behave Like Cowboys

From Tennyson Makiwane

JOHANNESBURG.

OUT in the "Golden West" of uranium and gold, young policemen seem to be enjoying themselves playing cowboys.

In a big raid on the African area to arrest women without permits, they fired pistol shots in the air, and then went from door to door throwing their weight around.

Not that that upset the women much! In Carltonville they're made of sterner stuff.

RICH AND BOLD

Uranium is making Carltonville, on the far West Rand, rich and bold, and to this mining village near Randfontein the women's anti-permit and anti-pass struggle switched last week.

Carltonville might be young and new, but not too new to insist that African women carry permits, and to round them up if they don't.

Women must register, the word went round. But the womenfolk of the location (named "SIT and PHOLA"—Stay and Relax) decided otherwise and marched to the magistrate's office to register their objection.

That was the signal for the mass police raid, in which police from neighbouring areas were used. The raiding parties arrested 41 women on permit charges.

But next morning the town was in for more shocks. Those near the court opened their windows to see a crowd as thick as mist, as African

(Continued on page 8)

CALL FOR MASS ACTION TO END THE PASS LAWS

1,200 Delegates At Jo'burg Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

AT a monster overflowing conference in Johannesburg last weekend, participants from all over the Transvaal pressed for mass pre-general election campaigns against passes.

Delegates asked in a conference resolution for a definite date to be set "to free ourselves of the vicious passes before the elections," and empowered their organisations to work out ways and means and the desirability of mass action in which passes among other issues "will be the focal point of our campaign."

Lutuli Condemns Commission Report

DURBAN.

THE recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry in regard to Undesirable Publications create another grave threat to the liberties of the people and constitute an unwarranted attack on the liberty of expression, said Chief A. J. Lutuli, President-General of the African National Congress, in an interview with New Age.

The daily newspapers and leading members of the different communities here are highly critical of the Commission's recommendations, which are generally regarded as a serious threat to the freedom of expression, the freedom of publication and the freedom of distribution.

Chief Lutuli's statement, therefore, expresses the feelings prevalent among most sections of the people with regard to the Commission's proposals.

"The Commission seems to have laid great stress on the necessity of safeguarding moral standards by suggesting fatuous legislation when it is a universally accepted fact that moral standards can be protected only by a decent standard of life—economically, socially and culturally—and by a sound educational system which ensures compulsory higher education for all people," he said.

No responsible person, he added,

(Continued on page 5)

The hall was too small to hold the 1,200 delegates, so the overflow was packed in the aisles, the corridors along the walls, and outside in the street.

The conference organisers said 61,000 people were represented by the participants. Each speech was followed by the clamour of many delegates to be heard on the conference topics.

The chairman, Mr. W. B. Ngakane, read an address stressing that a mood of defiance and resistance was spreading among the voiceless and rightless, and urging the people to "answer every attack of the Government with stronger organisation; answer its attempt to crush the spirit of the people with the determination that the people will never submit, can never submit, for to submit is death."

Mr. Jerry Mbuli, on the £1 a day campaign, said fighting for £1 a day is the same as fighting for freedom. Dr. A. B. Kazi, on the Group Areas Act, said the Act was unjust, was "an act for plunder, to rob and to steal from defenceless, innocent people." While Dönges tried to propose, said Dr. Kazi, God and his children would dispose otherwise. The Nats who formulated the Group Areas policy should be quarantined so that South Africa would not be plagued with their sickness.

"The vote you and I have is the language of action. It was proved in the bus boycott and on June 26 that we can be united, we can bring the Nats to their senses."

Coloured leader Mr. Adam Daniels spoke on the Population Registration Act. Mrs. Ruth Matsoane spoke on passes and the threat to women. Mr. D. Putini also spoke.

(Continued on page 8)

NEW AGE

Vol. 3, No. 50 Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper

NORTHERN EDITION Thursday, October 3, 1957

6d.

The Date—the Theme—the Agenda—the Speakers—Here are the

FINAL DETAILS OF MULTI-RACIAL CONFERENCE

JOHANNESBURG.

THE theme of the multi-racial conference, whose dates have now finally been fixed for December 3 to 5, is to be "Human Relations in a Multi-racial Society."

All shades of opinion are being invited to the conference, and invitations are now being prepared to individuals from such circles and bodies as the Churches, the Salvation Army, the Dutch Reformed Church, the Black Sash movement, the Congresses, Advisory Boards, teachers and students, leading members of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Handelsinstituut, the women's organisations from the N.C.W. and the Federation of South African Women to the Vroue Federasie, trade unions, SABRA and the S.A. Institute of Race Relations. Also to be invited are leaders of the Parliamentary parties, newspaper editors, some of the Stellenbosch professors, and leaders of the Non-European people.

Individual Participants Only

Delegates will take part in the conference in their individual capacities, and not as representatives of organisations.

The organisers of the conference are now preparing lists of individuals to be invited to take part.

The Sponsors

The sponsors of the conference now number 63. They include 12 professors; eight M.P.s and Sena-

tors (the Labour M.P.s and Native Representatives); 19 Non-European leaders; the president and secretary of IDAMF, the Rev. Z. Mahabane and the Rev. A. L. Mncube; Mrs. A. Foley and other leaders of the Black Sash movement; Mr. Alan Paton, Prof. L. Kuper, Mr. Patrick Duncan, Mr. C. W. M. Gell, Mr. P. Beyleveld, the Bishop of Johannesburg, the Right Rev. Thomas G. V. Inman, Bishop of Natal, Bishop Gow, the Rev. I. D. Morkel and other leading Church figures, and the Hon. Mr. Justice F. A. W. Lucas.

The Non-European leaders who have agreed to sponsor the conference include Chief A. J. Lutuli, Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, Dr. G. M. Naicker, Dr. A. B. Xuma, Dr. R. E. van der Ross, Mr. J. A. la Guma, Dr. Z. W. Asvat, Mrs. L. Abrahams, Mr. Y. Cachalia, Prof. Z. K. Matthews, Mr. A. M. Makiwane, Mrs. E. Mafekeng, Mr. T. Ngwenya, Mrs. L. Ngoyi, Mr. J. Nanabhai.

The Agenda

A sponsors' meeting at the beginning of September adopted the conference theme, and prepared the agenda. Plenary sessions will be devoted to the opening address, to be given by the Rev. Z. R. Mahabane, president of the Interdenominational

African Ministers' Federation; and possibly to one or two other topics, but for the most part the conference participants will meet in commissions to discuss

- the responsibilities of religious communities in a multi-racial society;
- educational policies for a multi-racial society;
- economic rights and duties in a multi-racial society;
- civil rights and duties in a multi-racial society;

(Continued on page 6)

Jo'burg Clashes—24 Arrested For Public Violence

JOHANNESBURG.

The police are opening public violence trials arising out of the recent clashes in the south-western townships involving Dube hostel residents. Held in the Fort, Johannesburg, already are 24 men, some of whom were taken into custody from hospital wards, having been among the casualties of the fighting. No bail has been allowed.

Some were said at the time of arrest to be still in bandages. Among those held is a man shot through the neck during the clashes. More arrests are expected.



ANC LEADER DEPORTED FROM CATHCART

Early in the morning of September 19, a policeman dropped in with instructions that I'm wanted by the sergeant. I am served with an eviction order to clear out of town within 72 hours. Where to?

The law today is trying to separate me from my family. My mother is a teacher here. My sister is a nurse here. My father has been a teacher here too since 1950. This is a sequel to my writing to the location Superintendent applying for a meeting of the ANC as local organiser. It was the first of its kind at Cathcart.

Such is the reaction of the Government to the awakening of the Africans. It has happened to many before me and is still to happen to many more.

But forward in the march for National freedom. The banning and deportation orders of Minister Swart will not deter us from taking the initiative. I only pray and make a special appeal to our fellow oppressed at Cathcart to march forward in the struggle for freedom.

Afrika! Mayibuye!
MONDE RAMNCINANA
ANC Cathcart.

Japanese Group Wants Pen Pals

We have formed a group named "Nippon Pen Pals Club" which consists of many Japanese boys, girls and adults who want to correspond with persons in foreign countries. And some of us are anxious to have pen-friends in your country and desire to know your people and your country.

Therefore we should appreciate it greatly if you would be so kind as to introduce us to persons who are interested in the same subject.

All the letters from your country to our group we will be sure to reply to and we hope to do our share towards strengthening even further the ties of friendship between your and our countries.

NIPPON PEN PALS CLUB
P.O. Box 20,
Semba Post Office,
Osaka, Japan.

Nyasas Preparing For Strikes And Boycotts

All plans which the architects of racialistic Central African Federation have been making since 1951 came to an end at the recent Nyasaland African Congress conference, when all supporters of W. M. Chirwa suddenly and unanimously turned to support the present Congress policy of positive action and immediate extricating of Nyasaland from the Imperial Rhodesian Federation, and the expulsion of the two Nyasaland African M.P.s from the NAC.

Among the resolutions that were passed are:

1. A telegram to ask Dr. Banda to come from Ghana for political leadership.
2. The NAC will send a deputation to the House of Commons to reject the racialistic Federation and ask for self-rule.
3. Abolition of the feudal system (Thangata).
4. A vote of confidence in the present office bearers.
5. National day of prayer or mourning be observed.
6. Another deputation to see the governor about the Nyasaland constitutional reforms, and to confirm our determination for self rule as soon as possible.

Nyasas are now preparing for systematic boycotts and strikes in case the government does not listen to our demands. Self government is peeping through the window, because it is waiting for a mass and militant organisation. Kwacha Africa! Kwacha Nyasaland!

KATOBA MUSOPOLE

EDITORIAL

CENSORSHIP!

THE report of the Commission of Inquiry into Undesirable Publications constitutes a threat to the freedom of the press. If its recommendations are carried out, the Nationalist Government will be the final arbiter of what can and what cannot be published in this country. For the Commission does not only make recommendations for the control of pornography; it also proposes a political censorship. And political censorship in the hands of the Nationalist Government will become a weapon of outright dictatorship under which all effective opposition to the policies of apartheid will be outlawed.

The worst aspect of the Commission's report is that it has not even managed to prove its case. That there is undesirable literature circulating in the Union, no one will deny. And many would support measures to protect the community against the flood of pornographic and horror trash which is undoubtedly circulating in the Union in large quantities.

But the Commission's definition of what is undesirable goes far beyond what the "ordinary, civilised, decent, reasonable and responsible inhabitants of the Union" will regard as necessary.

The Commission itself comes to the conclusion that "on the whole, undesirability is encountered in local newspapers to only a slight extent." (Paragraph 3:512, page 87.) If that is so, why does the Commission come forward with its monstrous machinery for the control and intimidation of the Press?

The answer is that the Commission is concerned, not merely with the suppression of pornography, but mainly with the maintenance of White supremacy in the Union. Even the dangers of pornography are enhanced, in the Commission's view, because they undermine the position of the White man.

"As the torch-bearer in the vanguard of Western civilisation in South Africa," says the report, "the European must be and remain the leader, the guiding light, in the spiritual and cultural field, otherwise he will inevitably go under." With this attitude of mind, it is inevitable that the Nationalists should regard anything which threatens the supremacy of the White man as "undesirable."

Nobody should be misled into thinking that the Commission is concerned only with limiting the right of the public to look at pictures of scantily dressed women; or that the Commission itself can be dismissed as a collection of narrow-minded kill-joys plus Mrs. Grundy.

The Commission's report represents a frontal assault on the right to oppose at a time when the Nationalist Government is more worried by the growing opposition to its policies than at any time since it came to power.

The freedom of the press in South Africa is already gravely limited by the Riotous Assemblies, Suppression of Communism and Criminal Laws Amendment Acts. If the Commission's draft Censorship Bill becomes law we can stop talking about freedom of the press altogether, for it will have ceased to exist.

ALL WHO VALUE THEIR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS MUST UNITE TO PREVENT ANY SUCH BILL BEING PLACED ON THE STATUTE BOOK.

Africa for the Africans and all those who are prepared to live side by side with us on the basis of democracy, unconditional equality, justice and freedom for all irrespective of colour, creed and race. ONTISITSE K. SETLHAPELO
ANC, Elizabethville.

Dr. Dadoo's birthday picnic was a gathering of all branches of the four Congresses, and helped to promote and create friendship between these Congresses as well as individuals. Everyone who attended will agree that we had a vision of the future South Africa, a South Africa of democracy. L. L. B. TYUMWE
Krugersdorp.

Cathcart is a small town and the Cathcart Coloureds mix up very freely and are usually respectfully accepted in African dances. It is unpleasant, therefore, to see Africans sometimes regarded as unwelcome guests at Coloured

dances. I only pray to live to see Coloureds and Africans working in close co-operation socially and politically and in all spheres. OBSERVER
Cathcart.

The people of Sediba (Thaba N'chu) and other nearby places are in a bad temper over the government. They have been hungry for more than seven years and they have lost their financial standards because they battled for freedom. The government tried by all means to victimise them but they are still solid against culling of animals and minimising of crop fields.

Not to speak of those who agreed to cull their cattle. They have no chance to plough because they have no animals, and if anybody does not plough for a year or two his field is immediately confiscated and he is accused of being lazy. These are the fruits of the government's antics to bluff the people about independence within their own areas. GAABOHI J. KGASANE
Thaba N'chu.

Jewish Culture In The Soviet Union

I do not believe that the cause of the punishment of some Jewish cultural leaders in the last few years of Stalin's crazy hunt for "enemies of the people," was their association with foreign anti-Fascist groups, as stated by your London correspondent in the last issue of New Age.

It would be more logical to find the clue in their likely association with Israeli intellectuals or political leaders, at a time when Israel had already made clear its stand with the West, its Government's and other hot-head groups' pronouncements and actions proving hostile towards the Soviet Union.

JEW

No Housing For The People

I thought that slavery was stopped many years ago by the greatest man that ever lived. What these Nationalists are doing to the black nation is the most dreadful event which ever happened in any world. Taking people away from their homes to a bare field where there is no water at all. No lights, no tar roads, no shops, but poor souls got to go even if they don't want to go.

They have built cells which they call Meadowlands. Where did you see a house just built with no plaster or good bricks, and still a house where people must live? A house with no dignity or integrity.

What about people living in the Shelters where they are 19 years now?

B.Z. O.S.S.R. SECRETARY

REFERENDUM AMONG NURSES WANTED

Senior members of the S.A. Nursing Association and the S.A. Nursing Council are making some strange statements at public meetings.

At a sparsely attended meeting (18 out of 450) for Non-European nurses in Port Elizabeth, Miss Borcherds, chairman of the association and Miss C. A. Northard, a member of the board of the association of the Council, tried to explain the Nursing Act of 1957.

Commenting on the provision which limits voting rights in the association to white nurses, Miss Borcherds is reported to have said: "My interpretation of this is that it was done because business must always be conducted in our country—a democratic country—on the majority decision. The white nurses are in the majority."

It is surely an astonishing conception of democracy which includes the right to disfranchise minorities completely. And in any case the Government's argument in Parliament was that non-white nurses would constitute a majority of the profession in the foreseeable future. Will the chairman of the Nursing Association then support the disfranchisement of all white nurses and the enfranchisement of all non-white ones?

Surely a referendum throughout the profession on the far-reaching provisions of the 1957 Act is long overdue?

NON-DISCRIM.
Port Elizabeth.

POINTS FROM LETTERS

It is important to note that the true Africans are conscious of the historical order of things and know the truth. We Africans have openly and repeatedly said:

WE AIM TO HIT BACK

ONE of the best ways of fighting against the threat to the freedom of the press, is to hit back at the danger and do it in such a way that its effects are felt over as wide a field as possible. That is what we intend doing in our own sphere. But we want the impact to be even greater than it is at the moment. The new threat to all newspapers (and in particular to New Age) in the shape of the Undesirable Literature Commission's report is not going to leave us petrified with fright. On the contrary we intend showing up this proposed legislation for what it is, namely, another wicked attempt to muzzle all opposition and prepare a docile population whom the Nats can push around as they like.

We refuse to kow-tow to the whims of any power-drunk, narrow-minded, authoritarian clique of politicians. And because we aim to rally the people against this new and far more

serious danger to our freedom, we need an even greater effort from all our readers and supporters to see that New Age rises to the occasion.

So all those who have supported us in the past, must make greater efforts on our behalf in the months to come. And to those many admirers of ours who like to see a bonny fight, we promise that you will get what you want provided you supply us with the ammunition in the form of L.S.D.

Without it, of course, we are helpless.

Last Week's Donations:
Cape Town:
A.M.N. 9s.; Anon £12.1; J.Z. £3.18.

Port Elizabeth:
Friend £3; Babs 10.6d.; Friend £2.2; Friends £10.10; Anon £1; Odds 5s.

Durban:
Jeans Jumble £1.7; T.C. 10s.; A.N. £1.1; Harry £5; J.N. £3.
TOTAL—£44 13s. 6d.

From This House In Sophiatown...



JOHANNESBURG.

THE court which is hearing the petition brought by Mr. Job R. Rathebe, of Sophiatown, against an order to quit his house and move to Meadowlands, inspected the alternative accommodation offered him in Meadowlands.

This is the test case which the Western Areas is watching with deep anxiety. It will affect the removal of many other Sophiatown property owners.

Mr. Rathebe has lived in Johannesburg since 1900, and his Sophiatown stand was acquired by his father, using his life savings.

His Sophiatown home, which is of the kind found in many long-established, middle-income group suburbs in the city, is worth at least £3,500, but has been valued by the Resettlement Board at only £925.

The house offered at Meadowlands is of a sub-economic type, built as cheaply and austere as possible, said Mr. Rathebe's petition to court. It offers hardly any amenity above the minimum requirements of a roof and four rooms.

It has no ceiling, no running water, no provision for heating, no gas and no electric points. The so-called bathroom is an empty room without even a bath in it.

Mr. Rathebe's petition added there was no garage (the Sophiatown house has two), and no garaging facilities within miles. There are no telephone facilities at Meadowlands and the road outside the house is unmade.

It was virtually impossible to sell the Sophiatown house said Mr. Rathebe. It can, legally, only be let or sold to Europeans and because many thousands of Non-Europeans are still living in Sophiatown, there are virtually no property transactions.

All A Mistake

TOKYO.

The recent acquittal by the Yokosuka District Court of a U.S. Marine private, tried for the fatal shooting of a Japanese citizen, has roused popular indignation in Japan.

Adolph Merten, the accused, "mistook a Japanese youth for a Communist" and shot him in Yokosuka last October. The court verdict declared him acquitted on the ground that the accused got drunk and "temporarily lost his memory" at the time of the shooting.

... To This One In Meadowlands



Zeerust Africans Sentenced

ZEERUST.

Thirteen Zeerust Africans received sentences ranging from fines of £25 to imprisonment for up to five years, with two years suspended, in the Pretoria Supreme Court this week.

The sentences were passed after the trial arising out of incidents at Linokana location, in the Marico district, on April 13 this year.

For incitement to murder, Naph-

taly Moilwayana, Joseph Moilwa, and Gilbert Moilwa were sentenced to five years imprisonment, with two years suspended; and Meshack Mothaugae and Peter Moilwayana received three years, with one year suspended.

It was alleged that they held an unlawful tribunal and sentenced four men to be thrown down a hole in the mountain for having failed to surrender their wives' reference

NATAL'S DAY OF PROTEST AGAINST PASSES FOR WOMEN

From Jacqueline Arenstein

DURBAN.

LAST Friday was a day of protest against the issue of passes to the African women of Natal. The Minister of Native Affairs, through Native Commissioners in various centres, was warned by deputations that the African people would not cease their opposition to the extension of the pass laws.

The attitude of the Native Commissioners was that since the law was there it would have to be implemented.

The protests were organised by the Natal ANC Women's League.

Mrs. A. J. Lutuli led a deputation of over 200 women to the Native Commissioner at Stanger where it is expected that attempts will be made shortly to introduce passes for women. At the same time a deputation representing the women of Durban met the local Native Commissioner.

Members of the Special Branch watched proceedings and extra police were stationed outside the offices of the Native Affairs Department at Stanger.

A memorandum was handed to the Native Commissioners with the

request that it be forwarded to the Minister of Native Affairs.

The memorandum stated that the imposition of pass laws on the African women would be a direct attack upon the very foundation of African society—the family; and that if the women accepted passes they would face the danger of deportation from the towns and separation from their husbands. Like the men, they would be subjected to personal searches by members of the police force, arrested and imprisoned. Children would be left motherless. Nothing but social evils and hardships would result from such a system.

"We have always looked forward to the day when the Government would repeal all pass legislation, not extend this pernicious system to the women." The memorandum calls upon the Minister to abandon the policy of passes for women and to abolish all pass laws.

OFFICIAL REPLY

The Native Commissioner of Durban, after reading the memorandum, told the deputation that the Africans were wrong in opposing the issue of identity cards to women. He tried to assure the women that if they carried passes they would enjoy "privileges" and that the problem of large numbers of women entering the urban areas illegally would be solved.

The women need not worry about the police, he said, for they had the right to report to the Chief of Police misbehaviour on the part of any policeman, who would be charged, tried and dismissed if guilty.

Members of the deputation replied that they required no advice on the matter of the pass laws.

Every African, they told the Commissioner, experienced the suffering caused by the carrying of passes by the men.

"No more than our men will we escape the boot and blow of the policemen if we carry passes," said Mrs. H. Ostrich, president of the ANC Women's League. "Our policemen are not yet civilised."

"No African will be misled into believing that passes for women will not be for the purpose of denying them freedom of movement."

The Commissioner agreed to send the memorandum to the Minister.

The Native Commissioner of Stanger informed Mrs. Lutuli that he could not assure her deputation that passes would not be introduced in the Stanger district.

Metal Workers' Special General Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

All engineering workers are called to a meeting this Sunday (October 6) in the Trades Hall, 30 Kerk Street, to discuss the demand for £1 a day, 30 days annual leave, 30 days paid sick leave and two weeks notice.

This is a special general meeting of the Metal Workers' Union of the Transvaal at which workers will sign petition forms for their demands.

The union is demanding direct negotiation with the bosses and no forced overtime.

books to the tribunal.

The first three men were also fined £75 (or six months imprisonment) for holding a meeting without permission, and the remaining ten, including the two also sentenced for inciting to murder, were fined £25 (or three months).

Originally 25 Africans appeared, but the charges were withdrawn against 10 of them and they were found not guilty.

Collection Number: AG2887

Collection Name: Publications, New Age, 1954-1962

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

Location: Johannesburg

©2016

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is held at the Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.