while the people of Cuba starved

were not pleased, and now we are

told of a mysterious army o

small island. I think this is enough

for the Cold War. FOR AFRICA

IN ORDER TO KNOW AND

UNDERSTAND WHICH COUN

TRIES ARE HER FRIENDS, WILL HAVE TO JUDGE THEM

NOT BY WHAT THEY SAY

liberation of this continent is

day by day coming close to

our own doors and our peo-

ple will have to be prepared

to give all forms of sacrifice

to make the final deciding

"We have not had any interference from the Eastern countriesonly encouragement"

# THE COLD WAR

Mr. Wiseman Dungelo N1196 Nyanga, Cape Town

IT will not only reduce the chances of a shooting war but will be of definite advantage to Africa if she refused to be dragged into the West-East cold war.

For hundreds of years the countries of Africa were ruled by the Colonial governments of the West, and for others colonial exploita-Africa is backward and underde- making. veloped, her people are poor, underfed and illiterate. Disease and superstition play havoc with state of affairs we have nothing independent, the late Mr. Lumum-

this country, which racial policies American monopolists who used

their lives and for this miserable Last year when the Congo became

## AFRICAN FORUM-Our readers write

else to blame but colonialism and ba, the elected Prime Minister of continent have bitterly fought and won their independence, others are about to be free while others are in the midst of their struggle for freedom. It is good to note that not in one single case did the Colonialists give freedom as a present, they were and are being forced to give way because of the great irresistible demand by the people to rule themselves.

It is also true that in our struggle for independence we have not had any interference from the Eastern countries only encouragement, which, in any case, we welcome.

#### Soviet Aid

Now that it has become clear be- in the hands of people known to yond any doubt that Africa in- be No. 1 stooges of the Belgian independent on her own terms, I may add that the shameful mureveryone wants to be her friend. der of this great son of Africa In view of the cold war between was made possible through the ship is offered. Without asking people to believe in or accept one we know that the Soviet Union has strongly denounced colonialism and is prepared to give aid ance to him. to Africa purely on economic considerations.

#### Pressure on U.S.

unfortunately have found it difficult to denounce colonialism and the type of aid they offer is so complicated that at the end of it all one finds nothing to be happy about it.

As far back as 1946 when the U.N.O. was first formed South Africa was attacked there because of her brutal racial policies. The At the time of writing the people of held at St. Matthews Hall, Barkly Countries of the West and the U.S.A. immediately formed a strong line in defence of South Africa. As the U.N.O. grew older, the stronger did the attacks on South Africa become. Only last year when the pressure against Innocent Cuban men, women and the republic," and "Pass Laws in re-South Africa, accompanied by children must now suffer because lation to the republic." defence of the racial policies of benefit. We know that certain Indian people in the area.

are not anything to write home to process and sell Cuban sugar about in the Southern States of to fill up their big money bags

In viewing the cold war, Africa must emember that there are no real good reasons for the U.S.A. to prevent the admission of the People's Republic of China into the membership of the U.N.O. This great country has proved beyound doubt that it desires nothing but peace and friendship with the rest of the world. China has opened her doors wide open for African students who wish to take BY WHAT THEY DO. advantage of the tremendous The struggle to complete the learning and training offered there. We all have nothing but praise tion is still their burden. Today for the rapid progress she is

### Lumumba and Dag

This is the second article

contributed by our readers

for our Africa Forum. Fur-

ther contributions on prob-

lems facing Africa are

welcomed — but please

make them brief.—Editor.

## **BASOTHO WOMEN** FINED

blow possible.

and five men were dismissed from

neir employment.
The six women were later charged with assaulting one of the new oppression. Some countries in the the Country soon made it clear Francina Moabi. The Club secrethat he would accept aid only from countries of his own choice. This said he followed the workers into annoyed the west and as a result the clubhouse. He did not witness difficulties from outside were caused for his legally established tered round Mrs. Moabi and questioned her. Later they dispersed.

government. He appealed to U.N.O. for help—and what hap-The charge of assault was pened? He was brutally murdered dropped but the magistrate found the women guilty of causing a public disturbance and fined them £3 or two weeks, remarking that they belonged to a trade union and the Basutoland Congress Party which were responsible for the recent disturbances in the country.

## Kimberley Plans for End of May

KIMBERLEY. visited South Africa a little while conference which called for demonago and was satisfied to have con- strations at the end of this month. form of government or another, versation with Dr. Verwoerd But at the last minute the conference alone, the African people and was banned by the authorities.

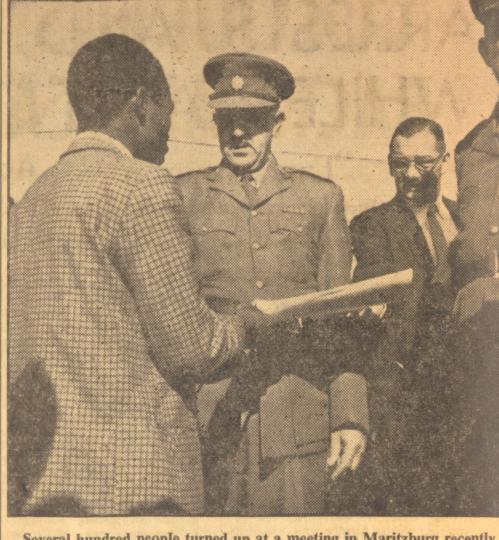
> St. Matthews Hall, Barkly Road, are in the majority; Kimberley on May 13 and 14. Now the question is—Is this man a Calling upon all churches, sports, friend of Africa? I leave that to workers' and business organisations the readers of your paper to to send delegates to this conference, the organisers declared that the anti- herit a Motei heritage illegally.

future, intends to attack another country nor is she prepared to ernment decided without the partici- which is known as the Bayer allow any part of her land to be pation of the African people who Village. They were given their own used as a base by another country for an attack on a third country.

Judge by Cuba The conference was to have been

Cuba are being invaded by land Road, Kimberley on May 13 and 14. so-called rebels who have planned and prepared their assault from a opened by the Venerable S. Wade, is not paid at all Archdeacon of Kimberley. Papers point somewhere in the U.S.A. wer to be read on "Apartheid and

other political events in the whole they say the sugar they produce in Indications were that the confer- continued, and last year the Bayei of Africa, became so overwhelm- their country is theirs and there- ence would have received consider- again went to the Regent and told \equiv will of the people to fulfil their ing, did the U.S.A. abandon her fore must be used for their own able support from the Coloured and her they were no longer prepared aspirations.



Several hundred people turned up at a meeting in Maritzburg recently only to find that the police had banned it. Here Mr. J. Kunene, of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, is handed the order by the police and told to disperse the crowd.

Following the recent strike, six women workers of the Maseru Club

### TRIBESMEN SELF-RULE DEMAND

From Our Bechuanaland Correspondent

A FRICAN police armed with kieries, accompanied by White officers carrying pistols, arrested 28 Bayei tribesmen in their kgotla in Bayei refused the summons, saying

The Bayei tribe are the indige- of the 28 men, who are now out or nous inhabitants of Ngamiland who | bail ranging from £5 to £1. One of The six women, who intend to were enslaved by the Batawana the accused is an old man suffering appeal, are: Mrs. Hilda Motsoane, tribe about 50 years ago. The Bayei from leprosy. Mrs. Julia Mosso, Mrs. Rosina Lebokollane, Mrs. Emily Moleleki, "Makoba," a word which comes Mrs. Mariette Fobo and Mrs. Matsu from "go kobakoba," meaning trotting: the Bayei used to trot behind sioner. their masters' horses while journeying, carrying their masters' goods on

#### GRIEVANCES

In 1948 the Bayei brought their grievances to the Regent of the Ba-The people of the Northern Cape tawana, who are in fact the Bathe Soviet Union and the United States of America, we have to closely examine whatever friend
the Soviet Union and the United were preparing for a mass multi-racial conference to rally support they wanted:

The people of the Total Among other things were preparing for a mass multi-racial conference to rally support they wanted:

to be freed from their masters and have their own villages;

to have their own courts and their leaders being of no import- The conference will be held at headmen in the areas where they

> o to graze and plough like any other tribe in the reserve;

that no Motwana should in-The U.S.A. and her Western Allies The assurance we must give to both themselves to most the abellance of this hearing, the the Soviet Union and the USA is that Africa, neither now or in the day.

As a result of this hearing, the Bayei were allowed voluntarily to separate themselves from the Bate. "No constitution or form of gov- wana and build their own village, orm an absolute majority of the courts, although they were never population can enjoy moral validity allowed to use them fully; and merit support within South every Moyei headman is still super-Africa or beyond its borders," they vised by a Motwana headman.

Some Bayei headmen are now paid low salaries, lower than those of their Batawana supervisors. The and bombed from the air by the the organisers declared that the anti- supposed head of the Bayei head-

#### NON-COLLABORATION

Restrictions on the Bayei still to co-operate with her oppressive

government. The Regent sent them to the District Commissioner, who refused to take any action.

NASSER REPLIES

**CECIL WILLIAMS** 

DRESIDENT Nasser of the

written from Cairo to answer

producer Cecil Williams' pro-

test at the detention and tor-

ture of political prisoners in

President Nasser calls the

reports of the detention of

politicals "rumours" and "fa-

"I have received your letter

with appreciation for expres-

sions of concerned interest in

the cause of democracy, free-

dom and dignity of man, which

we firmly believe in and up-

"Such rumours of alleged

anti-democratic practices, as

mentioned in your letter, are

only fabrications circulated

with the seditious intention of

defaming the United Arab Re-

public and sowing suspicious

dissension among the believers

in democracy, freedom and

dignity of man. Freedom of

speech, opinion and the press

is assured by the Constitution

which springs from the free

brications."

His letter says:

United Arab Republic has

JOHANNESBURG.

the Bayei Village in Maun, Ngami- Bayei refused the summons, saying they had their own kgotla to clean. This refusal resulted in the arrest

> The case is expected to be tried in Maun by the District Commis-

# are always unpopular.

#### Protests, Arrests

At the time the changes were made the people protested but without success. For three years they ploughed the new allotments very much under protest but feeling that they had no option; but this meant practically starvation for the people and finally in despair in 1958 they returned to their old

Numbers of them were arrested, charged and sentenced. Although they were given the option of

ARRESTS AND JAILINGS END FORCED LABOUR ON THE FARMS WHILE PEASANTS STARVE

## "Land Reform" in the Reserves

Fifty African peasants from the farm Drooghoek in Sekhukhuneland are today sitting in jail on charges of illegal ploughing of their land. Twenty-nine are women, seven of whom have their babies with them. One case has been tried and the accused convicted and fined £20 -which he cannot pay.

A contributor has sent us the following story of so-called 'land reform' at Drooghoek:

khuneland for as long as memory goes. Nearly all the present occupants were born there, and many

Prior to about 1954 it was Crown land—occupants paid their £1.10.0 per annum to the Government owned the land. But the tribe were left very much to themselves and regarded the land as their own. Allotments were inherited from father to son and so renained in the family.

For example one of the men whose wife has now been arrested has been looking after his father's land since about 1952. His father had 5 separate allotments which adjoined one another—a total acreage of 34 acres. Although this is far more land than the average African possesses, it has to be remembered that from it he had to support two wives and three adult married sons with their families. In fact the father has Bail is not very high—£5 per head gone to town to obtain cash wages in order to eke out the family income. Nevertheless they were able to live.

#### The New Order

On March 17, 1961, the Regent In 1954, however, 'organisation' came to the Maepas. The farm in question was taken over by the Native Trust. There had never been any consultation about this, of course, but now the legislation covering Trust farms was to be put into operation.

The law provides for changes in allotments on Trust farms for the general "betterment" of the standard of agriculture. No one can quarrel with this in principle.

In practice it is usually imposed on the people in an arbitrary manner witout proper consultation, education or explana-

The land at Drooghoek has been reallocated by the drawing of lots. Those who drew the first numbers have chosen the best land, sometimes dispossessing people who have been there for generations. Those people who have been living on family lands which are not deeded in their own name, but in ] that of another member of the family (for example the father) have not been given the opportunity to get new allotments at all, and have been officially completely dispossessed of all land.

The man whom I have already mentioned now has 3 morgen instead of 35 acres! Yet on this he has to support the same number of people. Despite applications by his adult sons for their own allotments these have not been granted.

allotments.

THE Maepa tribe has occupied fines they all served jail sentences IN THE MEANTIME THE PEO the farm Drooghoek in Sekhu- of up to 3 months because they PLE ARE STARVING. THIS IS did not have the money to pay LAND REFORM!

> Nevertheless they came out of jail and went back to their old allot-ments although some of them did Police Interference At not plough at all in 1959.

and realised that the Government In November, 1960, desperate still because of their starving families, they again ploughed their old allotments. Again many were arrested, charged and sentenced. Again many of them went to jail because there was no money to pay their fines. Still the ploughing and the hoeing and the weeding

> **■Today over 50 people are again** sitting in jail on charges of illegal ploughing. Twenty-nine of these are women, seven of whom have babies with them. their cases are heard.

but they cannot afford to pay it and so be released pending their trial. £100 has been raised through sympathisers to try to bail out the women. The men will probably await their trial in jail.

#### Expensive

It is true that they were originally summonsed; but through a misunderstanding they did not attend court on the dates on which they to go to see why they had not come and to try to bring them to Court (they lived only about 6 miles away), but he was refused permission to enter the area, which is a Notice Property and

of land may be shown to be ille- year. long time.

## Trade Union Meeting

Vuyisile Mini and Alven Bennie were arrested on a charge of trespass last week. They had been invited by the Bay Passenger Workers o come and clarify some points about the formation and running of

While Mr. Mini was addressing the workers the police walked in and after talking to Mr. Holo, the chairman, they called out Mr. Mini and Mr. Bannie and arrested them.

It was not until they were brought It will be some time before to court two days later that the men knew they were being charged with trespass. They were released on their own recognisances and the case was adjourned to June 5.

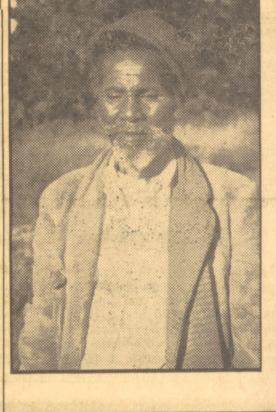
Mr. Colin Jankelowitz, of Noach, Jankelowitz and Zartz, appeared for the two men.

#### Arbitrary Arrests Continue in the Transkei

The police are still continuing the were summonsed to appear. Their arbitrary arrests in the Transkei, counsel who had come all the where a State of Emergency has way from Johannesburg to con- prevailed since November 30 last duct the case asked for permission | year. As some detainees are released,

which is a Native Reserve, and of night. The neighbours did not tion. Such measures—even if They are now trying to have their to the benefit of the people— cases properly defended. It is known leader in the area, since the possible that the new allocations beginning of the emergency last

gal. But it is a frightfully expen- When they could not find him sive business to defend these they pressed his wife for informacases. Sekhukhune is about 180 tion as to his whereabouts. As she miles from Johanntsburg from would not provide the information come, and 54 cases will take a presumably under the Emergency Regulations.





# subsequently the people were know until the children reported in the morning. The police have been THOUSANDS OUT

The women in the picture above are picking groundnuts on a Vryheid farm. They live on the farmer's land and in lieu of rent are

forced to provide the farmer with unpaid labour. The old man Mr.

Mabebane (below, left) has worked on a farm in Vryheid since he was 12 years old. Today he has been told that his services are no longer required, as he is too old. Where must he go? (Below, right)

In any civilised country a boy of this age should be in school. But in

Verwoerd's South Africa he works on a sugar farm in Natal, and is

dressed in a sack.

become so alarming that some of Labour Bureau. the City Councillors are appealing about it.

Coloureds and Europeans. The number of Coloureds walking the streets a minimum wage for unskilled Afrilooking for work is double what it was this time last year. The effects of the unemployment are already showing themselves in failure to pay rents at municipal housing schemes. Hundreds of workers were thrown out by the motor assembly plants

when the Government imposed ban on import of heavy cars. In the course of time some of the industries that are related to the motor inin turn have laid off workers.

#### SLAVE MARKET

than it was at this time last year. Deep mining property. The queue at the Labour Bureau is

are unable to find work after three by the Compound Manager.

PORT ELIZABETH. | weeks are endorsed out there would FOR some time now unemploy- be thousands queueing up at the ment has been on the increase Labour Slave Market, which is the where the legal defence must she has now herself been locked up, here, but the present position has name the Africans have given to the

> At its current conference the TUC to the Government to do something passed a resolution condemning job Figures are only available for the Trade Unions be recognised, and reservation, demanding that African calling upon the Government to fix can workers.

#### Mine Arrests

JOHANNESBURG.

Two Africans were arrested on mine property one night recently after a distribution of leaflets calling dustry have also been affected and on African miners to join the African Mineworkers' Union.

Both Johannes Dhlamini and Patrick Batela appeared in court the The number of European workers following day charged with trespass. unemployed is also much higher They had been arrested on Durban

daily becoming longer. No records They pleaded not guilty and were are available of Africans without discharged after one of the mine employment but if the length of the employees said in evidence that the queue is anything to judge by un- men, on being taken to the comemployment among Africans has pound manager by an induna to ask assumed serious proportions. | for permission to enter the com-But for the fact that those who pound, had immediately been arested



# WHAT'S BEHIND FURNITURE STRIKE?

THE strike and lock-out of the 1,300 furniture workers is now nine weeks old.

What are the facts of this strike-lock-out?

Three weeks before the strike, the Cape Times announced "that about 3,000 workers in some 54 furniture factories would get pay increases ranging from 50 cents to R1.80 a week from 1st July, in terms of a two-year agreement arrived at by the Industrial Counoil for the Furniture Manufacturing Industry."

Mr. Edgar Deane, National Secretary of the Union (who was at that time contesting the Cape Town City Council elections and was defeated by CPC executive member George Peake), added: "The new wage rates would be the best in the furniture industry in South Africa." (Cape Times 14/2/61.)

#### Three Weeks Later

Three weeks later, the Union called a strike at Ospovat's furniture factory, whereupon the other employers in the trade declared a lock-out in sympathy with Ospo-

The employers' statement issued on March 9 shows that in terms of the new proposed agreement the wages of the Cape furniture workers from labourers to artisans would be higher here than in the Transvaal.

Labourers Cape £3.15 p.w.; Tvl. £3.6.9. Journeyman Cape £13 p.w.; Tvl. £12.16.3. Seamstresses Cape £7 p.w.; Tvl. £6.8.1. Handsanders Cape £5 p.w.; Tvl. £4.9. Belt-sanders, Single Drumsanders, Boring machines, etc. Cape £9 p.w.; Tvl. £8.9.3.

At long last the Cape furniture workers were to achieve their ob-

## Don't Take Republic Medals Schoolchildren

CIRCULARS have been issued by the Congress Alliance in Natal to parents, teachers and students urging them to reject offers to schoolchildren of medals and flags to celebrate the advent of the Republic.

These "emblems of apartheid" must not be accepted, state the circulars.

"What have we to commemorate or celebrate? Are we to celebrate the Sharpeville shootings, imprisonment and banishment of thousands of our people without trial, the abortive Treason Trial of people's leaders, the indiscriminate banning of our leaders, organisations and newspapers, the Group Areas Act, Job Reservation, University Apartheid and the numerous other racemad laws? Are we to celebrate unemployment and poverty which are the direct result of the Nats' apartheid policies?"

There is no cause for celebrating "our own oppression," state the circulars. A call is made on the parents not to send their children to school on the eve of Republic Day, May 31, and on all South Africans to boycott the Republican celebrations.

jective of eliminating the gap between themselves and the Transvaal workers, and were actually to obtain higher rates.

#### Working Hours

On the surface the strike appears to be over hours of work. The union demands a reduction of the working week from a 44 to a

## Workers' 9-week Struggle

Analysed by E. R. BRAVERMAN

42-hour week. But the reduction of the 2 hours is to come into operation 2 years from now.

The employers reply that the workers require more money and not shorter hours.

It is difficult, however, for the workers, let alone the public, to understand why such a long and costly strike should take place over a change in the working week which will not materialise before 1963.

The strike has the full support of the Transvaal Furniture Workers' Union whose officials, Messrs. Klopper de Villiers and Lucas Barnard, have taken a very active part. They have been staying in Cape Town and flying home for week-ends.

#### Transvaal Claims

The Transvaal union has itself been pressing for a reduction in the working week but has been told by the employers that they will agree to a 42-hour week as a condition of employment only when the Cape obtains a 42-hour week. The Transvaal union apparently does not feel strong enough to call a strike on this issue owing to the big preponderance of Africans in the industry who outnumber the Whites by 3 to 1, and who are not allowed to strike because of the provisions of the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act.

It seems therefore, that the Cape furniture workers are doing pioneering work for the industry throughout the Union.

To make matters more compli-cated the Transvaal White and Coloured workers have endorsed job reservation against the Africans.

#### Nationalists' Role

Coloured and White furniture workers in the Transvaal, as in the Cape, have separate unions but the same officials, who are known to be active and leading members of the Transvaal Nationalist Party. Many of the Coloured workers are suspicious of the intentions of the Transvaal trade union leaders, who are addressing the strikers' meetings and urging the strike to continue until the demands have been met by the employers.

The critics claim that the strike

plays into the hands of the Transvaal furniture manufacturers who keep their factories going at full production level while the Cape furniture workers are involved in a strike and lock-out.

#### Appeals For Unity

Some strikers also draw attention to the discrepancy between the appeals of the Transvaal leaders for unity and their support of the Government's apartheid policy and particularly job reser-

There is a fear that the Transvaal union will obtain a strong influence over the Cape union and work for the introduction of job reservation against the Coloureds.

CHEERS for the Mayor of Cape Town . . the thousands of nieblankes of the Mother City back up Her Worship's stand in giving the thumbs down signal to republic celebrations . . . And that's for sure . . . As for the 22,843 Nats whom she is supposed to have "insulted" . . . Well, they can have their bleeding ole republic . . . May it last for a thousand years -like Hitler's Reich did.

BUT in case there are some of us blacks crazy enough to want to dedicate ourselves to this republic, I hear that we will be "welcome" at the Goodwood Showgrounds where two females are organising some jollification on May Dirty-first . . . Guests of honour will probably be Uncle G.J., Booker Lakay and some annimum muminimum

UCCA types.

THIS story comes from one of those energetic characters . . . a field-worker in the end-of-themonth campaign . . . He came up against a lady the other day and she started beefing about all the money she was likely to lose by taking part in the demonstrations ... Our boy gave her the you've-got-to-sacrifice line . . . "Okay,"

she snaps back. "I'll sacrifice, but I'm warning you, I'm not staying. out for longer than a month."

IF Fuehrer Verwoerd cared to consult the stars he would be likely to discover that the advice for the end of May reads as

follows: "There should be an opportunity to establish the basis of worthwhile relationship this week, if you are prepared to cooperate.'

THE Anti-CAD, still tottering from the after-effects of their anti-everything stand during the March 1960 events, are giving a repeat performance this month.

A Headache For African Theatres

### AIMED **EQUITY DECISION** AT S.A. COLOUR

JOHANNESBURG.

EQUITY, the British Actors' trade union has taken another hard crack at the colour bar in South Africa's theatre. It has passed a unanimous vote telling its members not to work in any theatre where there is a colour bar unless a certain number of performances of exactly the same show are given to Non-Whites in the same theatre.

Equity's previous stand was that shows could be given to Non-White audiences at an alternative venue. The new resolution means that if African Theatres—which brings out most of the top stars-wants to continue to bring out the big names, they will have to ask the municipalities for permission to have Non-White shows in their theatres—or lose the

chance of being in the big

Equity's stand can be put into practice. It has been done in Johannesburg at both the Alexander and Playhouse Theatres, where the same show was put on for Non-White audiences, and the performances were a huge success.

The American Equity Association, although it has not passed any specific anti-colour-bar resolutions, is in close contact with its British counterpart, and is prepared to instruct its own membership to demand conditions for work in South Africa that are in conformity with the British deci-

(In 1959 the American cast of the 'Pyjama Game' gave a number of shows for Non-Europeans when the show played in Johannesburg.)

Round The Shows

#### "FRUSTRATED BLACK

JOHANNESBURG.

PRUSTRATED BLACK BOY, the 3-act jazz opera currently running at the Selborne Hall, is a sharp attack on everything connected with the policy of White domination/Black subjugation in South Africa.

As the doctor, one of the nine sons of Molate, the father, puts it: 'A car is the only thing they can't apply apartheid on—they haven't made separate roads for darkies yet!'

The aim of the musical is to show how Africans are frustrated at every turn in their efforts to develop.

Unfortunately the singing and acting are not always of a sufficiently high standard to ram the point home.

For example, the death of the youngest daughter of the family (from TB) evokes a very unconvincing attack of hysterics from the mother (Martha Montso), who is comforted in what almost seems a mocking way by Molate. On the other hand, the comedy of the courtroom scene, where the lawyer is not allowed to speak for his clients because he is Black, is much more truly portrayed, with a fine wry laughter.

#### THE MUSIC

Musically the show is poor, the tone of the singers thin, and heavy reliance is placed on the worst of today's commercialised jazz. What a pity we did not get more of the riches and warmth of African jazz, as demonstrated particularly well by the young group of penny-whistlers and dancers, who showed great verve and excellent tempo, and whose numbers had a vitality and tunefulness that the more commercial items sadly lacked.

The sincerity and enthusiasm of the author and producer, Godfrey Skosana and Julius Dambuza, were apparent throughout. But to put on a show like this successfully, greater technical knowledge is requiredfrom how to get pre-show publicity and where to stage the show to the way people should move on a stage; from the acting of the chorus (who looked half-dead) to the pruning of a too-lengthy script.

Still, this was a very worthwhile

effort that deserved much better support than it got. B.L.

## DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE OF THE "MESSIAH"

JOHANNESBURG.

N a beautiful and dramatic preat the City Hall recently the Johannesburg African Musical Society Choir, under the baton of Joseph Friedland, gave the audience an unforgettable evening of musical enjoyment.

To the choir itself, over 200 strong, must go the main praise for the evening's success. Composed of the Jabavu Choristers, the Christ the King Choir, the St. Augustine's Church Choir and the Mofolo Choristers, they were as one in their sweet-voiced precision and clarity, and sang the big choruses like 'For Unto Us a Child is Born' and 'Their Sound is Gone Out' with moving force and power.

Soloists Alice Mollson (Soprano) and Ben Xatasi (Tenor) were outstanding for purity and clarity of tone, although both of them, as well as the other soloists, still have a big potential ahead when it comes to developing a wider range and tech-

Contact between conductor Joe Friedland and the large group in front of him (the stage was full to overflowing) was excellent. There is nothing of the grand manner about this conductor. He has a simple and direct human approach which, coupled with his great technical power and skill, made him completely a part of the group he was directing.

The programme blurb said: 'It is hoped that this happy association between people of different colours who have joined together with a common purpose, will enrich the musical life of this country.' This was put into practice right there in front of all of us that Sunday evening.

B.L.

**Collection Number: AG2887** 

Collection Name: Publications, New Age, 1954-1962

#### **PUBLISHER:**

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

Location: Johannesburg

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