# NEW AGE

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# WAVE OF ANGER AT VERWOERD METHODS

JOHANNESBURG.—A wave of anger at the Nationalist Government, and in particular at Dictator Verwoerd's methods, was fanned among Africans on the Reef last week when it was announced that:—

- **About 4,000 school children would be deprived of education at Reef and Johannesburg Government schools;**
- **about 100 teachers would be dismissed from the service;**
- **drastic action—banishment from their homes to remote spots in the country—would be taken against the boycott leaders.**

**It was reported that local authorities—and here as many United Party as Nationalist municipalities are involved—would recommend action against the men they earmark. At the time of going to press no details of this contemplated Government move were known, but the Johannesburg City Council denied that it had applied for any deportation orders.**

There had also not yet been any official expulsions of children from the schools, but children refused readmission after the expiry of April 25, the date of the Verwoerd ultimatum, are being told to report daily to their former schools, where principals are awaiting their orders from the Government.

In its strongly-worded protest at the Verwoerd reprisals the African National Congress says these are the outrageous acts of tyrants. It finds it sinister that in the same week as these measures were announced there was a "leakage" of N.A.D. plans for a "labour camp for agitators," or, its more familiar name, a concentration camp.

**LATE NEWS.—The dismissals of African teachers by the Government has actually started. In one Western Native Township school four of six teachers have been notified that their services will be terminated at the end of May. Policemen are being used to deliver these dismissal notices to the teachers instead of using the post, as is normal.**
**P. 3: COD Condemns Intimidation**

**Parents interrupt their work on building their children a school to pose for the New Age camera.**

# ALEXANDRA BUILDS ITS OWN SCHOOL

JOHANNESBURG.—In Alexandra Township the first courageous attempt at organising alternative education for the children, in protest at Bantu Education, was inaugurated last week.

In a few days about 350 pupils were enrolled: some the children of parents who had volunteered at a mass meeting in the Township to send their children to non-Bantu Education schools; and others children who had taken part in the boycott, and been turned away from the schools on Verwoerd's order to the principals not to re-admit those who had joined the protest.

The school also absorbs those children who were part of the overflow from one of the Township's Ethiopian schools.

The school was started entirely on the initiative of the local community, with volunteer teachers from the African National Congress.

The school has classes for children from the sub-standards, up to standard six.

Residents in the township have donated blackboards, tables and benches and chairs. Others are assisting the school by helping to make benches for the children to sit on.

**The Congress flag flies from one of the makeshift school buildings, and in the classrooms and the vicinity of the new school, there is a mood of jubilation and excitement at this new people's venture.**

# Will To Fight Strengthened

## —A.N.C. Statement

**JOHANNESBURG.—The actions of the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd, in ordering the expulsion of 4,000 children from the schools and the dismissal of teachers, as well as the threat to banish African leaders from their homes, are brutal reprisals which we cannot too strongly condemn, said the African National Congress last week. No democrat in South Africa can permit these things to go unchallenged.**

To attempt to penalise children for a life-time—for that is what this action is intended to achieve—is the outrageous act of tyrants.

The Bantu Education Act was imposed on the African people without their having a say in their own future, and in the face of their deep opposition. "Then, when the people take one of the few means of protest they have against this education for servitude, the Minister hits back with savage fury."

**These acts, far from breaking the determination of the people to resist Bantu Education with all the means in their power, serves only to strengthen their will to fight.**

**TEACHERS VICTIMISED**

The Government has clearly failed in its attempts to get the teachers to act as the agents for Bantu Education. Now that it is apparent that the teachers could not, even at the insistence of the Native Affairs Department, inveigle or persuade parents to send their children to school in the areas where the boycott was carried out, they are to be the victims.

**African teachers must see themselves as part of the African liberation movement, and we call on them not to capitulate to the principles of Bantu Education but to place service to their community and allegiance to the common cause of defeating the Nationalists first.**

**AN INSPIRATION**

The boycott struggle waged will serve as an example and an inspiration to the African people throughout the country, and we have confidence that, far from being intimidated by Dr. Verwoerd, the struggle against Bantu Education will be intensified.

We do not regard it as accidental that the news of the contemplated concentration camp should leak out now. These are familiar methods—camps surrounded by barbed wire, reprisals against whole communities, mass victimisations, Government action even against children **. . . but as fascist governments have in the past been defeated by the action of the people, so the Nationalists will in time share the same fate.**

The struggle against Bantu Education has only just begun, and Dr. Verwoerd must now reckon with the intensified anger and opposition of the African people.

**There are few threats the Minister has not used, but even the banishment and deportation of leaders will not break the struggle. New leaders spring from the people when they are needed, and the very conditions of oppression of the people create their organisations and their leadership. Those who fight for freedom to-day are not deterred, even by the methods of the Nationalists. Each new repressive measure of the Government sharpens the conflict with the people and brings nearer the break in their tyrannical hold.**

# UNITED TOBACCO SACKS 700 WORKERS

## Great Hardship to Families

CAPE TOWN.—Seven hundred Cape Town workers will shortly be thrown out of work when the United Tobacco Company factory in Observatory closes down. Some of the workers have had 35 to 40 years' service with the firm, the majority at least 12 years, but the first time the workers were informed of the closing was on April 22—only three weeks before the first dismissals.

The workers will be dismissed in batches, the first batch of about 100 on May 11, a second big batch on May 18, and then in smaller groups until the final dismissals on July 27.

The large majority of the workers are women. Of the 700, about 200 are European, the rest Coloured. The average wage is about £5 a week.

**"The news of the closing came as a terrific shock to the workers," Mr. A. Calmeyr, general secretary of the Cigarette and Tobacco Workers' Union, told New Age. "There was no prior hint or warning."**

About 95% of the workers at the factory are union members and the union is very busy trying to find alternative employment for them. Together with the Company, the union representatives have approached the Cape Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Labour Department and other employers in order to find jobs for the workers. The union has also arranged a meeting with secretaries of other trade unions for the same purpose.

"I want to make a strong appeal to other trade unions and to employers to assist in trying to place our workers in employment," Mr. Calmeyr said. "Any further information they require may be obtained from our office at 302 Albert Road Salt River, phone 5-5828."

Workers who are nearing pensionable age will receive pensions from the Pension Fund, while all workers will receive a gratuity from the company, of an extra week's pay for every five years of service.

**With the coming of winter, the sudden closing of this factory, one of the biggest in Cape Town, is sure to bring terrific hardships and suffering to hundreds of families whose breadwinners had thought that their jobs were secure.**

# FRANCE REVERSES ATOM DECISION

**PARIS.—The French Government has reversed a previous decision to make the hydrogen bomb. The French Premier, M. Faure, told a Press conference recently that France would limit her atomic research to peaceful and industrial purposes.**

"My Government has decided to eliminate research for military uses of atomic power," he said.

Asked if this meant that France had abandoned the idea of producing a hydrogen bomb, M. Faure replied—**"We do not propose to produce any atom bombs, hydrogen or otherwise."**

# NEW AGE LETTER BOX

## Bantu World and the Boycott

THROUGH the withdrawal of children from Dr. Verwoerd's slave incubators, which began on the 12th April, 1955, on the Rand thousands of parents and children clearly demonstrated their disgust for Dr. Verwoerd's Slave Education and their unequivocal and determined rejection of that brutal fascist experiment which was being imposed upon them.

Despite malicious rumours about their action, police intimidation under the guise of "protection" and Dr. Verwoerd's threats to close down schools, arrest the pupils and intern them in his slave camps, the people demonstrated their hostility to his schemes in a disciplined and unwavering way.

The daily Press tried in every way possible to sabotage the boycott. And this attitude was not confined to the White Press only.

Other elements took upon themselves the task of calling for the withdrawal of children. Notable amongst these were Dr. Xuma and the Bantu World.

The Bantu World takes upon itself the task of calling on parents to send their children back to school. In one of the most double-tongued appeals ever made ostensibly in the interests of the people, the Bantu World states that it cannot support "political action which involves children." The advice it gives to the people is to leave the children in "peace"—obviously in Dr. Verwoerd's loving care.

The Bantu World, without foundation, claims to be a supporter of A.N.C. constitutional leadership and condemns the parents who withdrew their children as defiers of Congress leadership.

This is a clumsy attempt to undermine Congress authority and to isolate the leadership from the masses of the people.

Since when has the Bantu World supported the constitutional leadership of the A.N.C.?

If the Bantu World is such an ardent supporter of the A.N.C., why is it so determined to sabotage the correct decision of the A.N.C. of withdrawing children permanently from Dr. Verwoerd's schools?

Dr. Xuma's call to parents to end the boycott follows that of the Star very closely. He asks for a "positive" approach, and suggests this could be achieved by electing the best possible people on to the school committees, pausing to reflect the repercussions of a boycott, sending the children back to school, and encouraging the teachers, sub-inspectors and supervisors to remain at their posts.

This is Dr. Xuma's positive action, and the only way to struggle against Bantu Education. Boycott, according to the doctor, "will help to make the system a greater success."

It is important for the people to be vigilant and to distinguish clearly between the voices of opportunists, who pretend to have the interests of the people at heart more than the people themselves, who make their appearance to the people at times of crisis to give wise counsel about the folly of the people and their own wisdom, truth and honesty; who want to learn nothing from the people but arrogantly want to teach the people.

The most honest and calmest reflection will indicate that the decision of the people to withdraw their children from the Verwoerd schools is the most correct reply and the only correct reply to Dr. Verwoerd's fascist experiment, not only to destroy education for the Africans but to put in its place a poisonous process designed to stamp on the African child the inferiority of his people in order to perpetuate his exploitation and oppression.

DUMA NOKWE.

African National Congress
Youth League, Johannesburg.

* * *

## Education Fund?

All the Africans are against Bantu Education. I suggest that an educational fund be established. Every able-bodied man and woman should pay a levy to it for the education of the children on a sound basis.

C. VILAKAZI.

Cape Town.

* * *

## Poison Rejected

The people of Newclare do not want Bantu Education. Parents are determined to battle to the last, not with arms, like the Government, but through courage and love of their children.

The Minister of Native Affairs is unable to intimidate the people. The parents say with one voice—"Away with Bantu Education and its fascist aims." They are busy digging a hole to bury this rotten dogma. The people are well organised. They know all the bad implications associated with this mysterious title given to our education—Bantu.

Why do other sections of the community not add titles to their education? Is an African M.A. going to be B.M.A.? LL.B. going to be Bantu LL.B.?

Education is one the world over—education is not based on nationality, race or creed but is universal.

Verwoerd has discovered that even little children recognise his poison; they do not want to drink that poison.

D. W. KHUNOU.

Newclare.

## Land of Fear

The Nationalist Party claims to know what we need better than we Africans do.

If we say anything against the Government then we are Communists or agitators, or even up to treason!

For this we are banned, imprisoned. We live in the land of fear. If we want to be safe we do not say what worries us. We live in a land where we do not trust one another, as your fellowman may be a Native Nationalist or a member of the police Special Branch, who all hate the truth.

We live in a country where jail is every Non-White's goal. We live in a country where it is nothing to see an African being insulted, assaulted and even murdered in the strongholds of the Nationalist Party, e.g., Bethal and Rustenburg.

We live in a country where it is common to see young Europeans enjoying themselves by teasing, using abusive language to an African in the cities, while it is worse on the farms. And these people are religious—they belong to the state Church.

ENOCH S. NAIKANA.

Johannesburg.

* * *

## Spread Truth

The word struggle is often used in the vocabulary of the various national liberatory organisations, but perhaps there is not a clear idea or definition of it.

What is the essence of the word "struggle"?

Surely the essence, the heart of the matter, is knowledge. The knowing that the misery and sorrow which so besets a large part of the world's population is not necessary and can be overcome.

"Struggle" should be another way of saying "spread the truth."

Let each and everyone spread the truth as best he can in however small a way and help sweep away the reactionary filth that is blocking progress and that is the father of apartheid in its hideous and nonsensical form.

XYZ.

East Griqualand.

* * *

## Organise Chiefs!

The Nationalist Government is busy manipulating our kings (derogatorily called chiefs) into policemen to carry out their destructive, oppressive principles. Africans should not forget to organise effectively these kings by consulting them and inculcating the constructive spirit of African unity.

The Nats. ingratiate themselves with our kings through bribery to make them impassive to this onerous oppression, and also to hate us and like them. After this, the more ungratefully, they call our kings "dom mense."

In the beginning the attempt to organise the kings will seem difficult, but because they are our kinsmen and kinswomen belonging genuinely to our blood they will eventually understand.

M. C. BOSHIELO.

Brakpan.

* * *

## "Ethnic" Grouping

In spite of the protests of the people of Benoni against "ethnic" grouping, the apartheiders are introducing this system. It is already sowing the seeds of hatred among the African people. It is an attempt to drive the Africans back to the days of tribalism, the days of Paul Kruger and of barbarism.

C. P. PIETERSON.

Benoni.


# FLU is serious

For each hour you walk about and work with an attack of Flu on you, at least an extra day will be spent either in bed or in a state of half health. Flu damages and weakens the system—don't under-estimate or try to ignore Flu.

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*EDITORIAL*

# CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE . . .

## *SIX WEEKS TO GO*

WITH less than two months to go before the Congress of the People opens on June 25th, elections of delegates are now taking place and there is a renewed wave of enthusiasm for the drawing of a Freedom Charter.

Events of the past weeks have brought home to ever wider sections of the people the urgent need for the Charter.

● The parents and children who are so determinedly fighting the Bantu Education Act will see the recent events as a further incentive towards making the Congress a success so that the right of all to true education can be embodied in the charter.

And Verwoerd's tyrannical action in closing the schools to children who stayed away will strengthen the conviction of all that the Charter of Freedom must contain the provision that the ministers of the government of South Africa must be elected by all the people, so that it will be impossible for tyrants to rule.

● The terrible conditions under which many farm workers exist were once again emphasised in the recent court case resulting from the beating to death of a Coloured farm labourer.

It was the normal treatment to whip farm labourers who stole wine, the accused said in their defence.

Coming after the Rustenburg trial and the Bethal disclosures, it is clear to all that farm labourers on many farms live under conditions of the worst feudalism.

Farm workers will certainly be represented at the Congress of the People to put forward there the demands that they have the right to a better life.

By formulating these demands and coming together with other freedom-lovers, they will be able to take an important step forward in the organisation of farm workers so that, by their own unity, they will be able to win improvements in their conditions and participate in the struggle for freedom for all.

● Teachers faced with the new Education regulations which are designed to make them unthinking, obedient serfs will rally to the Congress of the People so that the demand may be embodied in the charter that the teachers shall be free men, whose duty lies to the children and not to the tyrants.

● African city workers harassed by Section 10 are demanding that all should have the right to live where they choose.

● Trade unionists, faced with the threat of muzzling by the Schoeman I.C. Bill, are demanding that they have the right to organise their unions free of interference.

● Mothers call for parks and recreation grounds for the children, decent houses for the families, cheaper food on the tables.

The police campaign of intimidation in a futile attempt to sabotage and prevent the Congress of the People has never abated. It can be expected to reach even greater fury in the coming weeks as the date of the Congress draws nearer.

But no intimidation can hope to prevent this great rally of the people of all races and all walks of life.

The call to action has gone out. There can be no standing aside. All who support the demand for a better life for all South Africans must work for the success of the Congress of the People.

Forward to the Congress of the People!

Forward to Freedom!

# C.O.D. CONDEMNS INTIMIDATION

**JOHANNESBURG.—To oppose the Minister of Native Affairs is becoming a punishable offence, comments the Congress of Democrats in a statement protesting at the post-boycott actions of Dr. Verwoerd.**

The Congress condemns the punitive retaliatory methods of the Nationalist Government against the protest made by the African people against the introduction of Bantu Education into African primary schools.

The African people have made it uncompromisingly clear to the Government, to South Africa and to the world that they are unwilling to accept this discriminatory education, which is clearly designed to indoctrinate the African children for a position of permanent inferiority.

The threats of the Minister of Native Affairs to remove the schools in the areas where the parents and their children have courageously defied the actions of the Government and the references to possible banishment of liberatory leaders must be clearly seen for what they are—further attempts to intimidate the African people and a proposal to punish the people for a perfectly legal and constitutional action.

**There is not, and never has been, compulsory education of African children. The parents committed no crime in withdrawing their children. Verwoerd threatens punishment for a crime which has not been committed. It is obvious that to oppose the Minister of Native Affairs is a punishable offence.**

The South African Congress of Democrats supports the demand of the African people for universal education and their complete rejection of Bantu Education, and supports fully the intensification of the campaign announced by the African National Congress.

## "HEIGHT OF DICTATORSHIP"

—ANGLICAN LEADER

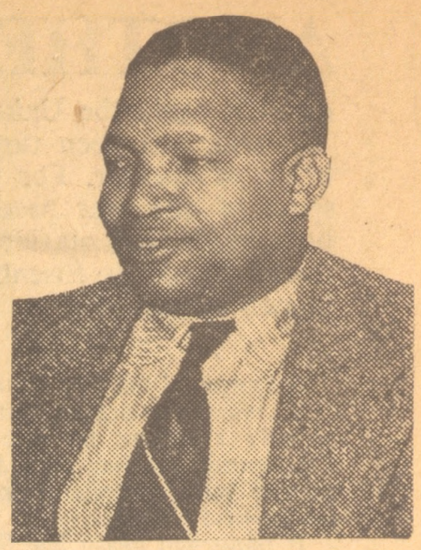
"There is no law that an African child must attend school. To threaten children for staying away when they have a perfect right to do so is the height of dictatorship," was the comment of the Rev. John Shand, director of Anglican schools.

"If African parents don't want Bantu Education there is no legal or moral obligation to force them to send their children to school," he said. "They must be free to choose."

Rev. Shand added that to say the boycott was being run by "tsotsis" was ludicrous. It was an attempt to pull down the standing of the movement. Anyone who knew conditions in the locations recognised that feeling against Bantu Education was very high among parents.

WRITING ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE ASIAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE

# MOSES KOTANE REPORTS FROM INDONESIA



**THE Republic of Indonesia consists of six main islands and more than 3,000 small ones. Indonesia knows no winter, no spring and no autumn. Its climate is tropical and has only a wet and a dry season, but it is one of the richest areas of the earth. It has a population of 81,000,000. Its capital is Djakarta.**

Bandung, the capital of Western Java, lies about 120 miles south-east of Djakarta. It has a population of 802,104—750,865 Indonesian nationals and 51,239 nationals of foreign states. Built on a plain 2,100 ft. above sea level and surrounded by mountains, Bandung is blessed with a fine mild climate. It is for this reason it was chosen as the venue of the historic and world-inspiring Asian-African Conference.

## Their Purpose

The purpose of the conference is to:—

**"1. Promote goodwill and co-operation among the nations of Asia and Africa, to explore and advance their mutual as well as common interests and to establish and further friendliness and neighbourly relations;**

2. Consider social, economic and cultural problems and relations of the countries represented;

**3. Consider problems of special interest to Asian and African peoples, e.g., problems affecting national sovereignty and of racialism and colonialism;**

4. View the position of Asia and Africa and their peoples in the world of to-day and the contribution they can make to the promotion of world peace and co-operation."

## Not Invited

Thirty Asian and African states were invited to the conference. All of them except one accepted the invitation and are represented. The Central African Federation of Dr. Godfrey Huggins declined the invitation.

**South Africa was disqualified by her racial and discrimination policies. So she was not invited and she is not represented here.**

Similarly, the imperialistic countries such as Britain, France, Portugal, Spain and Belgium, which to-day dominate vast territories and millions of people in the African continent, were not invited.

**At 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 18th April, 1955, the epoch-making conference was officially opened by the president of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Sukarno. Long before the time the conference was scheduled to start crowds lined the streets leading to and in front of the conference hall.**

The delegates were standing when the official party entered. The party was led by President Sukarno and his Vice-president, Dr. Hatta, and their wives, and then followed the representatives of 1,422,414,485 peoples of Asia and Africa, the Prime Ministers of the five sponsoring powers—Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia and Pakistan—and the heads of the various delegations.

Six of the 29 countries attending the conference are African countries, representing 55,752,000 people. These are Egypt, Ethiopia, Gold Coast, Liberia, Libya and Sudan.

## Spirit of Peace

The prevailing spirit and atmosphere is peace, preservation and promotion of world peace and understanding, and peaceful co-existence. Even elements which belong to warlike constellations or blocs were loud in voicing this. The opening addresses of President Sukarno and of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, centred on this theme. Here are some words from President Sukarno's address:—

**"I know that in Asia and Africa there is greater diversity of religions, faiths and beliefs than in the other continents of the world. But that is only natural! Asia and Africa are the classic birthplaces of faiths and ideas, which have spread all over the world. . . .**

"Yes, there is diversity among us. Who denies it? Small and great nations are represented here, with people professing almost every religion under the sun—Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Jainiam, Sikhism, Zoroasthrianism, Shintoism and others. Almost every political faith we encounter here—Democracy, Monarchism, Theocracy, with innumerable variants. And practically every economic doctrine has its representative in this hall—innumerable ideas, in all their manifold variations and combinations.

## Brotherhood

"But what harm is in diversity when there is unity in desire? This conference is not to oppose each other, it is a conference of brotherhood. It is not an Islam conference nor a Christian conference, nor a Buddhist conference. It is not a meeting of Malayans, nor one of Arabs, nor one of Indo-Aryan stock. It is not an exclusive club either, not a bloc which seeks to oppose any other bloc. Rather it is a body of enlightened, tolerant opinion which seeks to impress on the world that all men and all countries have their place under the sun—to impress on the world that it is possible to live together, meet together, speak to each other, without losing one's individual identity, and yet to contribute to the general understanding of matters of common concern and to develop a true consciousness of the inter-dependence of man and nations for their wellbeing and survival on earth."

**Speaking about peace and preservation of peace, President Sukarno condemned war preparations and asked the question—"How can any of us be disinterested about peace?"**

He went on to say:

"And do not think the oceans and the seas will protect us. The food that we eat, the water that we drink—yes, even the very air that we breathe can be contaminated by poisons originating thousands of miles away. And it could be that, even if we ourselves escaped lightly, the unborn generations of our children would bear on their distorted bodies the marks of our failure to control the forces which have been released on the world."

## Urgent Task

"No task is more urgent than that of preserving peace. Without peace our independence means little. The rehabilitation and upbuilding of our countries will have little meaning. Our revolutions will not be allowed to run their course."

He ended this section of his address with the following statement:

"What can we do? We can do much! We can inject the voice of reason into world affairs. We can mobilise all the spiritual, all the moral, all the political strength of Asia and Africa on the side of peace. Yes, we! We, the peoples of Asia and Africa, 1,400,000,000 strong, far more than half the human population of the world, we can mobilise what I have called the moral violence of nations in favour of peace.

**"We can demonstrate to the minority of the world which lives on the other continents that we, the majority, are for peace, not for war, and that whatever strength we have will always be thrown on to the side of peace."**

Those are some of the wise words said by President Sukarno in his address to the conference. The sentiments expressed in Dr. Sukarno's address were echoed by every delegation, even though some of the members of the Arab states were bitter about Palestine, and the Philippines and Thailand were very strong in their denunciation of Communism and in their indirect attack upon the People's Republic of China and its representatives at this conference.

**Colonialism in its old and modern forms has so far been denounced by all who spoke. A few said something about racialism, and they were pretty strong in their words.**

# DEMAND FOR REGIONAL AUTONOMY IN GOLD COAST

## *Growing Opposition to Nkrumah Red-Baiting*

LONDON.—Faced with growing discontent against the rule of his Convention People's Party, the Prime Minister of the Gold Coast, Dr. Nkrumah, has tried to head off his main political opponents by appointing a Select Committee to examine the question of a federal form of government for the country.

**The appointment of the commission represents a tactical defeat for Nkrumah, who from the outset has ridiculed the demand of his opponents, the National Liberation Movement, for regional autonomy within a Gold Coast Federation. The Gold Coast was a unitary state, Nkrumah maintained.**

But the demand for a federal system continued to grow and gain support among the people, particularly in the Ashanti region, which is the main source of the Gold Coast's cocoa and also has gold and diamond deposits. The origin of the friction between the Ashanti people and Nkrumah was the Premier's refusal last year to pay more than £134 per ton of cocoa at a time when the world price of cocoa was about £400 a ton, thus assisting in the outrageous exploitation of the Ashanti people by the U.S. cocoa monopoly.

### CORRUPTION

But other grievances have been added to the list. There have been allegations of corruption and nepotism against the Nkrumah Administration. Above all, Nkrumah has been unable to do much to raise significantly the living standards of his people, and the long-awaited independence of the Gold Coast seems as far off as ever as Nkrumah marks time.

**There has been rising unemployment in the Gold Coast, reaching a total of 45,000 in 1953, nearly double the 1951 figure. Wages are low—the latest report of the Gold Coast Labour Department (1952-53) says the minimum daily wage in agriculture and forestry is 3s., 3s. 6d. for surface mining, 4s. 3d. for underground mining. In most industries only a small minority get more than 6s. a day.**

In protest against bad wages and conditions workers have more and more taken recourse t o strike action—31,639 were on strike during 1952-53, twice as many as the previous page.

### DARE NOT VISIT

A British newspaper correspondent in Ashanti recently reported—"No Cabinet Minister of Dr. Nkrumah's Gold Coast Government dare to-day visit the cocoa and diamond territory of Ashanti . . . one-third of the Gold Coast brings to Nkrumah the biggest surprise . . . and the biggest crisis of his fast-moving career."

The National Liberation Movement is led largely by men who were formerly loyal supporters of Nkrumah, but who have been driven away from the Convention People's Party by his dictatorial methods. Instead of democratising his regime, Nkrumah has tried to maintain his position by indulging in the Red-baiting tactics he has learned from his imperialist masters.

**While full scope is given to the pro-American imperialists anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to carry on its work in the Gold Coast (it maintains a regional office in Accra), official steps are taken to deny the World Federation of Trade Unions access to the workers. Two trade union pioneers, Anthony Woode and Pobey Biney, were expelled from the C.P.P. for attending a W.F.T.U. conference.**

### PASSPORTS REFUSED

All anti-imperialist and Communist literature is banned in the Gold Coast, and passports are refused to all delegates wishing to visit any of the socialist countries or even to attend international festivals and conferences held under auspices of which Nkrumah disapproves. In this he shows himself no different from South Africa's Premier, Strijdom.

But in his anxiety to convince the imperialists that he is not tainted Nkrumah has got himself out of step with his fellow Africans, not only in the Gold Coast but throughout West Africa. The West African Pilot, published in Lagos, Nigeria, commented recently:

"We know no more about Communism than what its American and British detractors have pushed across to us as propaganda. But judging from what we see and experience from day to day, we feel that all this talk of the so-called 'free world and 'iron curtain' is a camouflage to fool and bamboozle colonial peoples. It is part and parcel of power politics, into which we refuse to be drawn until we are free to choose which ideology suits us best.

**"For the time being, we shall judge every nation strictly on the merits of the attitude of that nation towards our national aspirations. We have every cause to be grateful to the Communists for their active interest in the fate of colonial peoples and for their constant denunciation of the evils of imperialism. It is then left to the so-called 'free' nations to convince us that they are more concerned about our welfare than the Communists, and in this regard we believe more in action than in mere words."**

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