

STUDENTS STAGE SPIRITED PROTEST

Handcuffs Locked the Gate

CAPE TOWN. IN the bitter cold and drenching rain of the Cape's worse winter weather in four years, 300 students from the University of Cape Town last Wednesday staged the most spirited demonstration against the Sabotage Bill yet seen in this city.

For nearly two-and-a-half hours, soaking wet but with torches flaring brightly in the darkness, they faced scores of uniformed and plain-clothed policemen with courage and determination, insisting on their democratic right to stage a legal demonstration.

A pair of handcuffs—apt symbol of the police state—locked the gate through which they had planned to file, one-by-one, from the field at Hidding Hall to take up their positions, 20 yards apart, on the pavements of Queen Victoria Street, where riot vans, squad cars and pick-up vans stood ready for them.

"ARREST US ALL!"

Although Colonel J. J. Gouws, the District Commandant, had warned their spokesmen that he would regard any form of demonstration as a violation of the ban on their previously planned torch-light march, five of the leaders volunteered to court arrest by taking up their stand in the street. Many of the students disagreed with this proposal.

"Why let them arrest just a few of us," they shouted. "If any are to be arrested, let it be all of us."

Torch in hand, they lined the high wall separating them from the police, watching tensely to see what would happen to their leaders. The police left the volunteers alone, but refused to let the rest of the students out of the grounds.

When two of the students clustered at the gate stuck their torches under the handcuffs, a pair of burly

policemen climbed over to arrest them. Cries of "Sieg Heil", "Fascists", "Police State" were heard as the students crowded round and shouted their anger.

"Are we going to let them be taken?", shouted someone. "No!", roared the students—and only prompt action by the stewards prevented an ugly situation from developing.

THREW TORCH

One of the policemen making the arrest tore a torch from the hand of his prisoner and tossed it, still flaming, among the crowd in the street outside. A detective, thinking that one of the students had thrown it, yelled out excitedly: "Gooi dit terug! Gooi dit terug", and bent to pick it up. One of his colleagues stopped him just in time. A burning missile falling among the packed students at that stage might well have sparked off serious trouble.

The two arrested, Mr. de Keller and Miss Kemp, were taken to Caledon Square but later released and returned to the students after an angry meeting had demanded that they be freed "within five minutes." On their return about 30 minutes later, Miss Kemp was carried shoulder high among the triumphantly cheering students.

MORE ARRESTS

The official demonstration was called off at this point, but a big minority of the students decided to carry on with the original plan, using the Orange Street exit as their starting point.

They found that the exit, too, was cordoned off by a strong force of police, who refused to allow any of the students to pass. Heated arguments developed and a number of students were arrested.

More were arrested (making ten in all) as they walked down Orange

Street after out-flanking the police by using a lesser known exit in the Avenue.

Among those arrested were Messrs. A. Leftwich, NUSAS president; Anthony Eastwood, Kevin Hamilton and Misses Pocock and Cohen. The two students who were arrested earlier in the evening were also among those taken to the charge office.

About sixty students then made their way to Caledon Square. They dispersed quietly after their comrades were released. No charges have yet been laid against the students.

SHOCK AND DISMAY

In a statement issued on Thursday the presidents of six Student Representative Councils expressed their "shock and dismay, firstly at the banning by the Cape Town City Council of what was to have been a perfectly peaceful and legitimate demonstration against the General Laws Amendment Bill, secondly against the behaviour of the police."

"We find it a little difficult to understand," continued the statement, "how the police could advise that the demonstration be banned to prevent violence and then to proceed in the most provocative manner designed to create the violence they ostensibly wished to prevent."

Cape Town's Moslem community added their protest against the Bill at a crowded meeting in the Drill Hall last Sunday afternoon. Over 1,000 people were present.

Imam Harun, a former chairman of the Moslem Judicial Council, condemned the Bill as "contrary to the will of Allah," and said that any Moslem who collaborated with the Government was a hypocrite. Moslems must stand together with all the other oppressed groups.

Mr. S. Toefy was in the chair and among the other speakers were Sheikh Nazem Mohammed and Mr. M. A. Gierdien and guest speakers ex-Chief Justice Centlivres and Mr. Thomas Ngwenya.

The Black Sash staged a quick 15-minute torchlight demonstration on the Grand Parade early Thursday evening. Though the demonstration was organised at short notice and was not advertised, about 200 people stood in the gathering dusk, each holding a taper lit at a "Torch of Freedom."

Passing crowds, hurrying home from work, stopped to watch, but there were no incidents. The police did not interfere.

NOTHING DAUNTED THEM



Wet but determined, with torches flaring, the students stand firm in their protest. BELOW: "Where's your identification?" the students asked. This Special Branch man seems to have difficulty finding it.

82 YEARS OLD — STILL FIGHTING

JOHANNESBURG. MR. Andries Mahlatsi is 82 years old, a general dealer in Meyerton location, and "still fighting against racial discrimination and for freedom." On June 6 together with two others, he appeared in the Magistrate's Court, Vereeniging, accused of having held an illegal meeting in Meyerton without the Superintendent's permission. He was discharged.

Mr. Mahlatsi had come to Johannesburg to investigate the possibility of taking action against the Superintendent for wrongful arrest and "victimisation."

He says that he joined the now banned ANC in 1912 in Heidelberg, Transvaal. He took part in the great campaigns which have swept South Africa, such as the Defiance Campaign and the Congress of the People. In 1960, at the age of 80, he was arrested and spent five months in gaol "with all my friends like Mandela, Sisulu and all the other young fighters."

Throughout the length and breadth of Meyerton he is known by everybody as "Andries Afrika." But he alleges he is being victimised far too much for his beliefs by the authorities in this area.

Whenever a meeting is allegedly held illegally, or anything of a political nature takes place, he is either suspected of being the secret instigator or of using a perfectly legal inci-

dent for some dark or ulterior motive. For example, the Vigilance Committee of which he is chairman, elected him as spokesman on a deputation asked to present some local grievances to the Superintendent. That official refused to hear him, merely on the grounds that he was a "trouble maker."

In 1960 he was elected to the Advisory Board, but just prior to his arrest under the Emergency, he was advised by letter from the Superintendent that he was barred from attending this Board's meetings.

He opened his shop in 1938 and everything was all right until 1940 when it was discovered that he was in Congress. "Then they tried to cancel my licence and from that time until 1956, I was in and out of court fighting against this attempt to put me out of business."

Lately Mr. Mahlatsi has begun to feel his age a bit and was thinking of easing up slightly. He hoped to get a pension and with this thought in mind he approached the Superintendent whom, he alleges, said: "you can do what you like, but you will never get a pension."

STRACHAN AGAIN IN COURT

PORT ELIZABETH. HAROLD Robert Strachan appeared again in court this week. He was convicted of smuggling a letter from jail and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. The sentence is to run concurrently with the term of six years (half suspended) which he is now serving.

In passing sentence, the magistrate said that the evidence showed that the prime mover in the matter was not Strachan but an African by the name of Joseph Jack. New Age learns that the police are hunting for Jack, who was a co-accused with Strachan in the explosives case.

A Coloured prison warder, Ralph Thurston, was sentenced to three months imprisonment for being a go-between in the letter smuggling.

The letter came to the attention of the prison authorities as a result of a confession by a convict who was involved in the matter. Strachan was defended by Mr. Collin Jankelowitz.



I'LL BE SUING YOU!

KATHRADA vs MOOLMAN..... MOOLLA vs SPENGLER

JOHANNESBURG. A LETTER of demand claiming R5,000 has been sent to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, and to two members of the Special Branch—Major Moolman and Head Constable Vivier—by the attorneys of Mr. A. M. "Kathy" Kathrada. Mr. Kathrada is claiming this amount on the following grounds:

- (1) Unlawful arrest;
- (2) Unlawful detention;
- (3) Malicious prosecution.

.....SLOVO vs MOOLMAN

Major Moolman of the Special Branch has started a defamation action against Advocate Joe Slovo, arising out of his (Moolman's) cross examination during the bail applica-

This lawsuit follows on the withdrawal of two charges against Kathrada last week (see New Age dated June 14) after he had been arrested and gaoled for allegedly contravening the Suppression of Communism Act.

R1,000 is being claimed against the two Special Branch policemen personally for illegal arrest and R4,000 against the Minister and the two policemen "jointly and severally" for the reasons set out in the letter of demand.

Kathrada's "confining and gathering" notices lapsed several months ago.

The petition to court cites the head of the Special Branch, Colonel Spengler, and Sergeant Dirker, another Special Branch man.

The claim is for R15,000.

CAPE TOWN. IN spite of extreme bad weather over 500 people turned up to meetings of the Langa Youth League in Langa and Nyanga West last Sunday, to hear speakers explaining the implications of Vorster's "Sabotage Bill."

At the Langa meeting, where about 250 attended, police took the names of organisers when they insisted on using their public address system. At a previous meeting they had been told that it was against the regulations to use loudspeakers without a permit. This time the organisers challenged the regulations and used the loudspeaker.

One of the speakers, Mr. Douglas Manquina, was arrested for being in the location without a permit, and later released on R10 bail.

At Nyanga West, where the Youth League held a meeting in the afternoon, approximately 300 people attended.

First speech in five years

"RULE OF LAW USURPED"

—Kathrada

JOHANNESBURG. WHITES had said, shrugging their shoulders: "This is happening to natives and agitators; it has nothing to do with us," and so White South Africa was directly responsible for the government's Sabotage Bill. This was the theme of the speech by Mr. A. M. (Kathy) Kathrada in his first speech for five years, delivered before a student audience at the University of the Witwatersrand.

The subject was "Treason or Opposition?" Mr. Kathrada's ban expired in February, though he is still banned from participating in the work of the Congress movement.

In his address, Mr Kathrada said that the attitude of most whites to inhuman actions like the Group Areas Act, the banishment of people to remote areas without trial, and the pass laws, was one of indifference.

Because white South Africa had lost its conscience, the rule of law was being usurped by the rule of Col. Spengler and the Special Branch.

The one exception to this general white apathy was the Congress of Democrats. COD, he said, has stood

and suffered with the Congresses, which have become the spearhead of the liberation movement in our country.

CONFIDENCE TRICK

Mr. Kathrada described the Sabotage Bill as "a confidence trick against the people of South Africa. This Bill is designed to make violence inevitable, and to plunge the country into an Algerian situation."

It is time for the whole of South Africa to say no to fascism: to say no to any further inroads on liberty. "If the freedom movement is called treason or sabotage, then I am convinced that the traitors and saboteurs stand for the most cherished ideas of the people of South Africa."

He ended his speech by calling on all white South Africans to join the non-whites in the freedom struggle. "If we must, let us go together through the darkness of prison cells to bring light to South Africa."

The meeting was called under the auspices of the 'Human Rights Society' at Wits. This society was chiefly responsible for the formation of a broad Action Committee against the Sabotage Bill.

AFRICAN COMMON MARKET CALL BY NKURUMAH

TUROK FOR TRIAL

JOHANNESBURG

THE court in which Mr. Ben Turok, national secretary of the Congress of Democrats, is appearing on a charge under the Explosives Act was cleared for the evidence of an explosives expert, called by the state to explain how a bomb placed in a government office worked.

Captain G. van Wyk, a police fingerprint expert, said that the fingerprints on brown wrapping paper found in a desk drawer at the Native Divorce Court were identical in at least twelve respects with those sent to him of Turok's fingerprints: only seven points were necessary to be conclusive. In addition, the fingerprints and the portion of the palm print at the base of the fingers were positioned, as a result of a fold in the wrapping paper, in such a way that Turok must have held the container after the paper had been wrapped around it.

The State produced a telegram signed 'Ben' and sent to Mr. Govan Mbeki reading 'Delighted at release. Convey solidarity to Harold.'

Mr. Turok was committed for trial at the end of the hearing and is being held in custody in The Fort. His trial will open within a fortnight.

Mr. Turok is also being charged with attendance at an unlawful gathering in contravention of his ban.

Modern imperialism arose when capitalism had achieved both industrial and financial monopoly and the competition for raw materials and markets had made it imperative for the advanced industrialised countries to expand into the less advanced parts of the world. This phenomenon led to the partitioning of the world among the great powers. Asia and Africa were divided up among them.

On the broader fronts, they are massing their forces in a determined effort to stay the advance of African liberation and the march to unity. It is not accidental that the countries of the European Common Market are those spearheading the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the imperialist powers who have brought in their vassals, Spain and Portugal. Portugal has, in fact, since the wars of the Spanish succession 1700-1714 been a protectorate of Britain, which has enjoyed special trading and concessionary rights in both Portugal and the Portuguese territories for over two hundred years. It is not difficult to understand, therefore, why Britain has not raised her voice against the atrocities in Angola and the other Portuguese territories, and actually supported Portugal's preposterous claim that Goa, in India, was an integral part of the metropolitan country.

However, we who are concerned with the immediacy of African independence and unity, are not prepared to wait upon the evolution of history. We are determined to give history a revolutionary push, or if I may boast a little, to push rather harder the revolutionary wheel that we freedom fighters have already turned a considerable way across Africa.

Among the new states in Africa are some which, through fragmentation, have been left so weak economically, that they are unable to stand on their own feet. This is the result of a deliberate policy of the withdrawing colonial powers, who have created in Africa several small, feeble and unstable and unviable states, in the hope of ensuring their continued dependence upon the former colonial power for economic and technical aid.

This is the inner plan of neo-colonialism, the latest instrument of imperialism. While relinquishing political rule it contrives to control the foreign and internal policy of the states it still dominates through the bestowal of material aid.

In the face of the serious threat to our economy and independence in Africa, we must begin to build immediately our own continental Common Market, for it is easy for anyone who studies the Common Market Organisation closely to realise that the Common Market is aimed at harnessing the African countries to satisfy the profit-lust of the imperialist bloc and to prevent us from following an independent neutralist policy. It is also easy to see that the imperialists and colonialists are determined to retain the African countries in the position of suppliers of cheap raw material.

It is a fair comment on the state of Western civilisation that this should be regarded as its highest pinnacle of achievement, while millions of the world's populations in Asia and Africa, yes, even in Europe and America, exist on the fringe of bare subsistence. We still call upon the powers who hold the fate of mankind in their hands, to turn away from the production of these appalling means of mass destruction and to devote to peaceful uses the harnessed power of the atom. How excellent it would be if, instead of preparing for the destruction of mankind, one barest part of the means financing it, could be used in the rapid development of the less developed parts of the world, and thus destroy colonialist-imperialism forever.

TRADE UNIONS

The ICFU has been at considerable pains and gone to considerable expense to infiltrate the African trade union movement and to seduce African trade union leaders away from an African

Further extracts from his speech to Freedom Fighters in Accra.

and give its active support against the brutal exploitation of our comrades in the dependent territories. There are several effective ways in which we shall resist, and these we shall discuss and resolve. But I want to make it quite clear that the aggressors are the imperialist-colonialists, first because they are the alienators of our lands to which we do not admit their right, whatever they may determine among themselves; and second, because they are the prime users of force, and if their international law was objective and not framed simply to legitimise their loot, there would be no need for it. We are not out to take what is not ours, but we have a perfect right to fight for the birthright of freedom and the ownership of our land that has been filched from us and is being illegally withheld.

WORLD PEACE

Inasmuch as our struggle for independence and our subsequent national and continental development is bound up with the question of peace, since our very survival hangs upon the decisions of the great nations, we once more put forward our appeal to them. Immeasurable quantities of money, not to talk of the futile waste of energy, brains and productive capacity, are put into the manufacture and explosion of the most lethal weapons of destruction that man has ever bent his ingenuity to devise.

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THE NATS FLY A FALSE FLAG

THE INSIDE STORY OF 'ELETHU'

JOHANNESBURG.

In the week that the Minister of Justice announced that he would ban New Age and three other fighting newspapers, the top man of a new English-Zulu newspaper said confidently "THIS paper will never be banned."

The paper is *Elethu*; the spokesman was its managing director, Dr. Abraham M. Dekker of SABIKOR, the Nationalist-financed South African Bantu Industrial Corporation which will ensure that Nats make money out of Bantustan border industries, and which is using this weekly to sell the apartheid idea to Africans.

The Nats have been getting more skilful, trying to break African opposition. They have woken up to the idea that it is no longer good enough to rant and rave against Congress policy, rights for all, one man one vote.

ROUNDOABOUT

They are now deep in the publishing field putting across their own apartheid propaganda. But they are doing it in a roundabout way because they know full well that they will get no African support unless they sail under false colours.

● So *Elethu* published handsome pictures of Chief Lutuli slap in the middle of its front pages.

● Appealed to Africans to give money for South African Lutuli celebrations when the Chief was awarded the Nobel Prize.

● Splashed pictures of the Ladysmith celebration of the Lutuli award.

● Boasted a picture of Dennis Brutus, leader of the fight against apartheid in sport.

MONEY NO OBJECT

Eight issues of the paper have appeared, handsomely laid out, cluttered with pictures—for there is no shortage of money here—giving the people pictures of leaders they follow—but studiously avoiding any reports or pictures of protests against the Sabotage law and all the issues that plague the African people: the pass laws, arrests, high rents, unemployment.

Dr. Dekker told a New Age reporter the pictures of Lutuli had no political significance; they had 'news value.' The paper is not run

by Nationalists, he said firmly; but by a public company, SABIKOR, whose shares were sold to the public, White and Black.

As the venture was a public company the paper could not 'take sides.' Criticism of the Government had to be 'responsible.' Said he, "We want to be fair to our readers and to the Government. We want this paper to be as the Broadcasting Corporation should be."

AIMS

Some comparison! The SABC is the mouth of the Government; and *Elethu* is there to spout the policy of the Government, whether the directors admit it or not.

Look at the SABIKOR prospectus: Its aims are to:

- establish industries and business concerns mainly on the boundaries of the 'Bantu' territories;—(make apartheid a paying proposition for Whites)
- to publish newspapers 'with the primary aim of keeping the Bantu informed about internal and external affairs;—(like Government propaganda)
- to educate the Bantu in the light of existing conditions in the political field;—(like Bantu Education)
- to discourage all influences damaging the relations between White and Non-White. (Like the Government's law to smash press freedom)

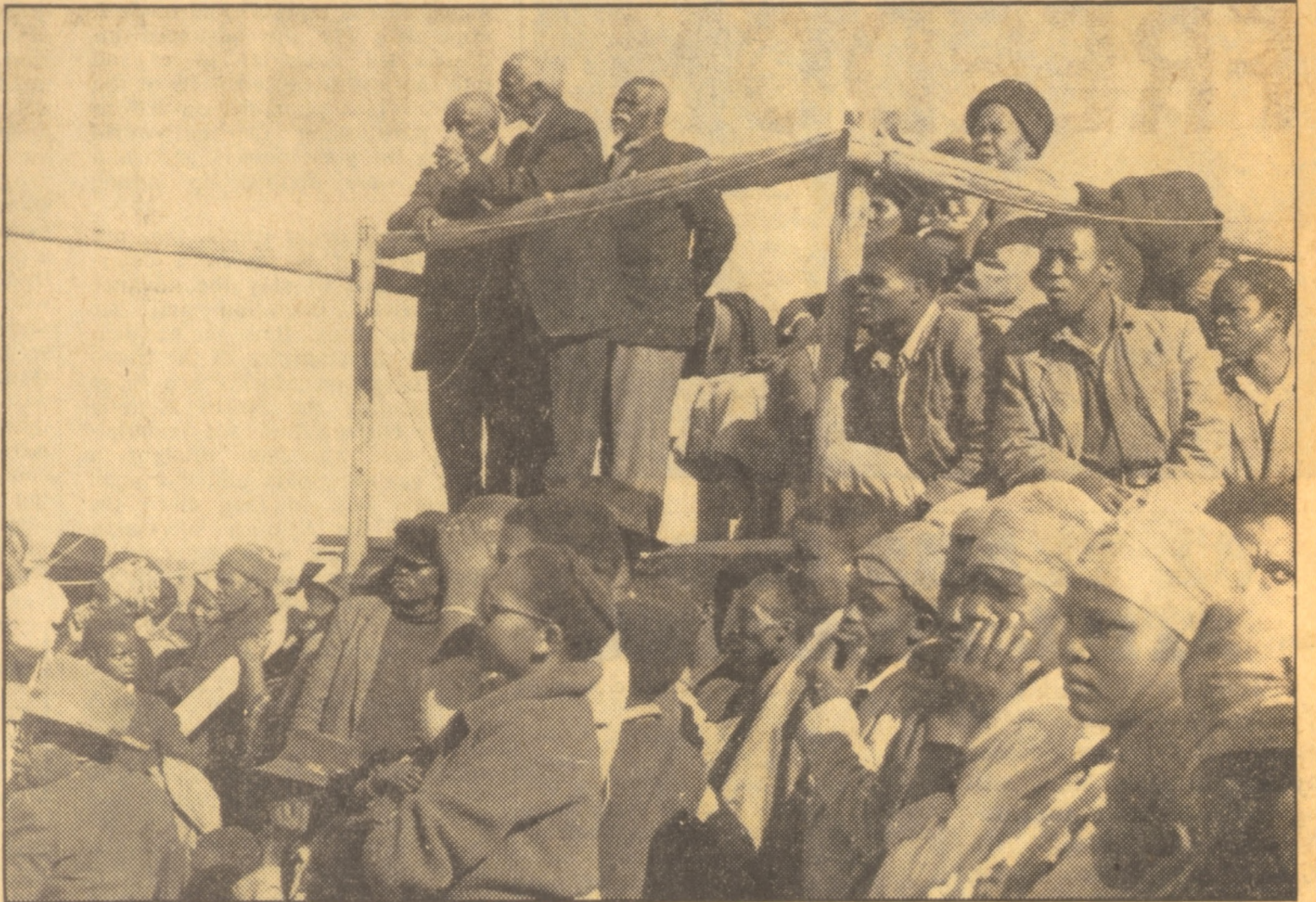
THE BOOT

"For maintaining racial peace and for the promotion of good neighbourship and race relations it is of the utmost importance that the Bantu enjoys the relevant reading matter in his own language. As soon as the newspaper has been established, it should be one of the media through which the racial problem should be solved," says SABIKOR.

The Government and Nationalists know only one way of solving the racial problem: putting the heel of the boot firmly on the African people. But you can't tell them that; you must pretend the boot isn't there at all, and that is the aim of *Elethu*.

Dr. Dekker told us that SABIKOR-*Elethu* would sue a

FROM CELEBRATION TO PROTEST



A section of the crowd of 5,000 who attended a celebration at Ladysmith to honour Chief Lutuli on winning the 1962 Nobel Peace Prize. The meeting which followed the celebration was turned into a protest against the Sabotage Bill and was addressed, among others, by Mr. G. S. D. Nyembe, former deputy President of the banned African National Congress and Dr. A. H. Sader, National Treasurer of the South African Indian Congress. One of the elders of the area, 75-year-old Mr. Ngcobo, is seen addressing the gathering.

leading newspaper for saying his outfit was Nationalist. That remains to be seen. Meantime, look at the directors of the company:

DIRECTORS

Samuel Pauw: Broederbond, sociology professor and rector at Nationalist universities, connected with the SABRA group that helped finance the office of *Banier*, the pro-Government Coloured newspaper.

Rev. T. C. Esterhuysen of the Dutch Reformed Church, SABRA man.

Dr. F. J. Language. One-time head of the Brakpan Non-European Affairs Department and taken to court by the then ANC secretary David W. Bopape for assault. Has written publicly his conviction that complete segregation, social, administrative, educational, religious and definitely also Government and economic segregation is the only way.

D. H. C. du Plessis. Director of companies.

G. D. Roos. Director of Companies.

Managing Director Dekker is known for his translations of religious work into Zulu, and the compilation of a Zulu-Afrikaans dictionary.

SHAREHOLDERS

Among the shareholders are: **Mr. W. Maree, Minister of Bantu Education; Dr. Donges, Minister of Finance; Mr. John Mashazi, bodyguard of Chief Cyprian Bekezulu; Dr. W. Nkomo, the MRA's chief African stooge.**

Dr. Dekker disclosed that Mr. H. Oppenheimer had been approached to take out shares in the company but had turned it down on the grounds that it was a Nationalist venture.

The Minister of Education, shareholder, has given sales a boost by approving *Elethu* for official circulation in African schools.

So the Government looks after

its interests on two fronts: the company will make cash for Nat shareholders out of African six-pences; and the newspaper will sell apartheid under cover.

If apartheid isn't screamed from the front pages already, that is be-

cause its directors know that open apartheid propaganda will simply not go over to Africans. So they are doing it in a roundabout way hoping readers will not notice this is a Nationalist ship sailing under a false flag.

Despite Banishments and Threats

CHIEF MATLALA'S PEOPLE FIGHT ON

JOHANNESBURG.

The Matlala people of Pietersburg have fallen under the banishment axe of the Government more than any other, yet still continue their courageous opposition to Bantu Authorities.

Eleven years ago Chief Mokoena Matlala was exiled to Hamanskraal, his family and closest supporters scattered under banishment to other corners of the country. His younger brother was appointed to the chieftainship and is playing the game of the Government—but a large portion of the tribe refuses to kow-tow.

The exiled chief has not been forgotten by his people, who are now demanding his release by petition.

BY FORCE

The silent war of non-co-operation goes on still. The Government has deposed many sub-chiefs and replaced them by good boys, a small tribal farm called Lapucella has not yet accepted Bantu Authorities and the rehabilitation scheme. The people have now been told by the Chief and the Bantu Affairs

Commissioner that the scheme will be imposed on them by force.

A deputation of four which saw the Commissioner and the Chief to protest against the removal of sub-chief Alex Kgobe was fined R10 for insubordination. The sub-chief was warned that if he saw anything wrong in the area he should keep quiet, or he would follow Chief Mokoena Matlala into banishment.

DISSATISFACTION

In Matlala's Location dissatisfaction is reaching a new peak because of rangers' orders that cattle above the regulation number must be killed.

People have been given three months in which to sell or slaughter their cattle. If they fail to do so they are brought before the Bantu Commissioner and fined from R20 to R40.

The land plots have also been greatly reduced. A married man with children is allocated six acres, has to pay R2.10 for it, and is not allowed to plough if he cannot afford the fee.

The people are also incensed that the Chief refuses tribesmen the right to lodge civil claims within the tribe unless he is paid a cash tribute.

UP MY ALLEY

LIFE is full of ups and downs, and things they say are getting vorster and vorster. But as the steeplejack said, you can't keep a good man down.

This column first appeared in the May Day issue, 1957. During those days yours truly and 155 others were seated in the Drill Hall, Johannesburg undergoing a preparatory examination for high treason.

● The world knows what came of the Treason Trial.

★ DO you remember the headlines of that issue? Here are some of them.

● Forward To a Minimum of £1 a Day!

● The Great Crisis Ahead—A call for unity, by Moses Kotane.

● Nat Students Apologise to Coloured People—And Mr. Golding Changes Heart.

● Halt The H-Bomb Tests! South Africans will continue to

make the same demands, in spite of ghoulies and ghosties, and the men who come knock-knock-knocking in the night.

★ AND in these times it is probably fitting to repeat an item from that very first column. It was really written a little under 200 years ago by Tom Paine.

● "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered. Yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph . . . Heaven knows how to put a price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated."

ALEX LA GUMA.

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