

THE PLAN OF WORK FOR
THE CONGRESS OF THE
PEOPLE IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The campaign for the Congress of the People in the Transvaal is not what it should be. It has become urgently necessary to prepare a systematic plan of work for the whole Transvaal region. The immediate task in this plan is the setting up of a machinery capable of carrying on this campaign as speedily as possible.

Realising that we have now come to the close of the year, and yet despite the zoning of the province into 15 regions there is not a single region which has completed its machinery. The following plan is therefore submitted for immediate execution:

1. The immediate task is to complete the machinery on the 15 regions already zoned or to put everyone of them on working basis - by not later than the 30th November, commencing on the 21st of October.
2. Since none of these regions have been completed, the Johannesburg region, using the machinery of the already existing sub-regions must be put into operation not later than the ²⁰24th October. The Council for this region must be on the pattern of the provincial one as should be the case with all other regions - they must be under the direct supervision of one of the leading members of the Transvaal Secretariat. This region must be the model for the rest of the regions. This ofcourse will depend on the local conditions of each region.

A meeting of the Johannesburg local Volunteer Chiefs from the different branches must be held in Johannesburg Central on Saturday the 23rd October and they should be addressed by one of the provincial Volunteer Chiefs on the specific tasks and duties of Volunteers as outlined in the circular drawn up by the National Secretariat.

The following/.....

The following week there should be a further meeting of all the field-workers for the Johannesburg region to discuss problems and further plans for the Campaign. Thereafter there must be regular weekly meetings of local Chiefs, the local chiefs in turn must conduct regular weekly meetings of the unit leaders and the leaders in turn must have regular group meetings.

Speakers notes must be drawn from time to time by the Transvaal Council. Certain days must be used for lectures which are being prepared by the National Secretariat.

The West Rand and East Rand regions must be completed by Sunday 31st October. Both regions can easily be put into operation simultaneously because already the machinery of the African National Congress exists in these two regions.

The next very important regions are the Pretoria and Heidelberg-Vereeniging areas in view of their industrial position. The latter required adjustment since it is too wide to constitute one region. These regions require the attention of the full-time organiser assisted by experienced Transvaal Council members since these areas have never been adequately organised in our past campaigns. They lack basic organisations to constitute council and lack personnel.

Lichtenburg, Bloemhof, Wolmaranstad district. There are contacts of the T.I.C. and A.N.C. which would be used in the establishment of the regional council. This applies even in the Potchefstroom and Waterberg districts.

With regard to the remaining regions, especially the Rural Areas and the reserves, a Call will have to be made to the Witwatersrand Volunteers to give their part-time services especially those who are holidaying, whose homes are in these areas. Arrangements must be made forthwith for the Transvaal President, Mr Moretsele and someone else for a two weeks tour in all the reserves in the Transvaal without necessarily addressing public meetings but with a view to establishing contacts and small committees, especially in the reserves such

as Sekukuniland, which also happens to be his home.

A committee of factory workers has already been formed, as well as mines and domestic workers committees. These committees at present exist on paper. No progress will be made/^{until}in each of these committees there is at least one member who is relieved of all other duties to specialise in this work. The arrangements for lunch-hour factory meetings must ~~now~~ begin forthwith.

In all the Johannesburg compounds committees can be set up within the above specified time. This will help strengthen the work in the Gold mine compounds because of the social intercourse between the compound dwellers.

All these committees must give weekly reports to the Secretariat accounting for their activities so as to enable the Transvaal Council and other sub-committees to assess their work and study new problems of organisation.

For this work to be successful we require the utmost clarity and specialisation of the organisations constituting the convening bodies. In other words, in all the branches of Congresses there must be people specially appointed to deal with the Congress of the people, who must know precisely what the Congress of the People is and be able to explain it to the people in their areas.

A letter should be drafted asking every branch to appoint amongst its members of the executive a number of persons whose main task will be to do the work of the Congress of the People; to form local committees bringing other organisations into these committees for instance in Orlando out of the 11 members of the executive committee, 3 can be appointed to specialise in the Congress of the People work. They work jointly with members of the South African Coloured Peoples' Organisation from Nooidgesig. They invite local bodies such as the Vigilance Associations, Residents Committees and other religious and

/cultural.....

cultural organisations. To do this there must be no feeling whatsoever that there is an attempt to form a new organisation because that will destroy the very objectives of the unity we are trying to create.

Collection Number: AD1812

RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

©2012

LEGAL NOTICES:

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

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

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

This document is part of a private collection deposited with Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.