

Solemn Protest Against University Apartheid



Led by the principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, a procession of more than 3,000 professors, lecturers and students of all races marched through the streets of Johannesburg last week in protest against the Separate Universities Bill. (See story on page 3.)

Plans For June 26

JOHANNESBURG.

JUNE 26 this year will be marked by demonstrations, meetings and prayer meetings throughout the Union.

The people will this year demonstrate and protest against the following:

- The ruthless pass laws and their heartless extension to women.
- Police raids and terrorism.
- The increase in taxation and its extension to African women.
- Low wages and the poverty of the people. "Demand a minimum wage of £1 a day!"
- The Native Laws Amendment Bill, the University Apartheid Bill, the Nursing Apartheid Bill and the Bantu Authorities Act.

The call for this day issued by the African National Congress says June 26, 1957, should be remembered as the day of the most vehement protest by the people against the tyranny of apartheid, and a day on which they are rallied by the Congress to sharpen their resistance against fascism.

A message from the president-general, Chief Lutuli, and further plans for activities on this day will be issued soon.

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AFRICAN WOMEN HERDED LIKE CATTLE

Forced To Sleep In The Open Waiting For Passes

From A Special Correspondent

UMTATA.

WHILST in the last session of the Transkei Territorial Authority Chief Victor Poto, other chiefs and their councillors shouted "Bayete!" hailing Dr. Verwoerd for bringing them the Bantu Authorities, conditions in Umtata are reaching a deplorable state of affairs. The government authorities have speeded up their efforts in giving out passes to women.

A pitiful sight can be witnessed in the street below the magistrate's offices. In front of the building where passes are issued is a crowd of about 500 women. From the crowd a long queue 300 yards long winds round the corner to the other street. The queue has been there for

two weeks. It has not diminished but swells day by day.

POLICE ACTION

Groups of police stand by with batons regimenting the women. Many women have been sleeping in the queue from three to five days. These women sleep on the pavements of Umtata, some with their babies regardless of the weather. On Friday and Saturday 17th and 18th May it was raining. Since there is no pavement where these people stand, the rain drenched and soaked them. They had only their rugs to protect them. The passes continue to be given out regardless of the weather, at a mad pace.

Many of these women say that they have been sent by their chiefs

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Mayor, Police Chief and Verwoerd in Big Row

Storm Over City Hall Anti-Permit Protest

(From Our Political Correspondent)

JOHANNESBURG.

LAST week's anti-permit demonstration outside the Johannesburg City Hall has led to a first-class storm in top Government, police and municipal circles in which:

1. Colonel U. Boberg, Rand C.I.D. Chief resigned;
2. Minister Verwoerd has set up a special commission of enquiry;
3. Mayor Max Goodman has been instructed by the police to receive no more Non-European deputations at his City Hall—and has publicly announced that he will not obey the order;
4. The leader of the U.P. in the Johannesburg City Council, Mr. C. J. H. Patmore, has criticised the U.P. Mayor in an interview with the Nationalist newspaper, Die Transvaler.

There was hardly a uniformed policeman to be seen at this great and deeply impressive demonstration, and those policemen who were standing on the edges of the crowd did not interfere. In spite of—I should rather say, because of—this fact the demonstration was one of the most orderly ever seen here.

What has really angered official circles is not the flowers on the City Hall steps which suffered when, for the first time in many years, Johannesburg's "Hyde Park" was restored to its original function, but the obvious proof that the presence of large numbers of police are not required, and that big African demonstrations are not the danger that Minister Swart makes out in "justifying" the banning of demonstrations on previous occasions.

Warning the Mayor not to do such a thing again, a senior police officer, acting on instructions from Pretoria, said that there was a danger of "rioting." Yet of course last week's demonstration showed that

there was no such "danger," provided there is no police interference.

Colonel Boberg showed that he was perfectly aware of this fact when he instructed the large body of police supposed to be standing by for the occasion to remain in barracks.

I understand that it was a clash of policy over this matter which led directly to the decision of Col. Boberg to quit the force, on the grounds that he was a police officer, not a politician.

It is probable that his departure will be followed by a series of political appointments to senior police posts.

U.P. OUTBURST

The Mayor's progressive attitude towards the voteless Non-European citizens of this City (shown also by his outspoken support of a general rise in wages for unskilled labour) is by no means shared by all his United Party colleagues, as shown by Mr. Patmore's outburst to Die Transvaler.

"It's fantastic," he told the Nationalist reporter. "White organisations are forbidden to hold meetings in front of the City Hall, because of the garden, and now thousands of Natives come and trample on the garden." He also complained over the interference with traffic caused by the demonstration.

VERWOERD WORRIED

It is no secret that Dr. Verwoerd's
(Continued on page 3)

WHAT IS TREASON?

The Prosecution's Case as Outlined in Court by Professor Murray

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SIGNALS OF DANGER

WE have stressed many times that the increase in the price of New Age to 6d. does not mean that we need less from readers in the way of donations. But since May 2—when the price increase took place—there has been only one week in which donations reached the required level.

For the rest the level of donations has been so low that at the end of this month we are in a worse position than we were at the end of April—and that despite the fact that we have maintained our sales at the same level as when the paper was selling for 3d.

We produced 5 issues of New Age during May—and in those five weeks the total of ALL donations from ALL quarters was only £621 5s. 5d. This is only half of what we needed to come out square.

That means that at the end of this month we can't pay all our bills, or will have to borrow money and start out with a heavy burden of debt at the beginning of June. That way lies disaster.

The only redeeming feature about this week's collections is that it shows our newspaper continues to gain support from readers as far afield as Ireland and Holland in fact.

What we need is more of this spirit from within our own borders—right here in South Africa where the struggle for freedom is becoming more bitter and intense from week to week.

"New Age" is one of the standard-bearers in that battle. We appeal to all who are taking part in this great fight to keep "New Age" where she belongs—right there in the vanguard of the people's march to freedom.

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS:

Cape Town:
Unity £2.2; Ireland Students £1;
Van den Ham's £3; Sundries
£18.18.6.

Johannesburg:
Bill £10; Friend £5; Miscellaneous
£19.

TOTAL—£59 0s. 6d.



AN A.N.C. BRANCH REPORTS ON SUCCESSFUL STRUGGLES

After the location authorities had imposed a refuse bin scheme which would cost every stand holder a shilling tax, the ANC held a number of meetings. The people were determined not to pay the tax, and though they have been threatened with arrest and deportation the majority of the people have stood firm, and there have not been any arrests or deportations.

For a number of years the Queenstown Municipality have been planning to remove the Sidikidi location. Residents were warned to prepare for removal and last year Mrs. Mtshatsheni was ordered out of the location. The ANC branch immediately organised the people to collect funds for her defence by a lawyer. This action intimidated the Council with the result that no legal proceedings were taken until March this year. Mrs. Mtshatsheni was given 30 days notice to move. She appealed to the ANC and the ANC took action. The Council then threatened all Congress followers with removal. The ANC, through the lawyer, won the case on behalf of the Sidikidi people, in court on April 17, 1957.

A Border regional concert organised by the ANC was raided by the police on May 30, 1957. Names and addresses of all pre-

sent were taken and the directors were told that they were charged for not paying entertainment tax. No arrests were made and the concert continued. Two weeks later all who had attended the concert were summoned to appear in court on May 8, charged with having attended an unlawful concert.

On May 8 Chief G. M. Matanzima appeared for the accused, but a disappointment came from the prosecutor who refused to proceed with the case, which is still pending.

ANC SECRETARY
Queenstown.

Cradock Protest Against Passes

Today in the Eastern Cape the African women are issued with reference books, many women have taken these dom passes because they have been terrified by the authorities. Some do not know the danger in these books, so they need people to explain them. Recently the Cradock Women's League sent a deputation to the chief magistrate to protest against the issuing of reference books to the African women. The magistrate stated that he is not responsible for the issuing of these pass books.

BEERHALL BOYCOTT

The Cradock beerhall boycott is four months old. Over 30 volunteers have served jail sentences, and some are still awaiting trial. The people do not even dream of buying liquor from the beerhall. Since the boycott started, there is peace in the location during week-ends. Death cases are not as common as before. The standard of rugby is higher this year than before, because the beerhall which served as an obstacle is no more effective to players.

"THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND COMFORT."

E. L. VARA
Pres, ANCYL (Cape), Cradock.

PEN PALS

Dear Readers, We have pleasure in informing you that we have a large number of pen-pals of both sexes from Poland, and other East European countries who wish to correspond with South African people on all aspects of life. They include workers, teachers and artists.

Their ages range from 15 to 40 years. For further particulars we suggest that you write to the South African Peace Council, Box 10528, Johannesburg.

Yours faithfully,

D. JOSEPH
Secretary,

Long Live New Age!

May I be permitted to add another little voice to the thousands who are staunch and sincere supporters of our courageous paper. New Age has for years now been the champion of the oppressed and exploited people of South Africa. In the face of victimisation, threats and the prejudice of fascism, our paper has boldly stood its ground regardless of the consequences. Today, with fascism's greedy tentacles spreading out to destroy all its opponents, it is the duty of all progressives and democrats to stand by New Age—it is the duty of all freedom fighters to stand by their leaders, who are on trial at the Drill Hall—and New Age we must remember is one of these leaders.

The message of New Age must now reach every home and family. Not only must we ensure that the paper is read we must also sell it. In that way shall we organise the people. The clarion call of New Age must not be drowned by the outrageous lies and calumny of the so-called State Information and Verwoerd's information bureau. Let us STAND BY OUR LEADERS AND NEW AGE—LONG LIVE THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR PEACE, FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS.

MOKXOTHO MATJI
Qacha's Nek,
Basutoland.

Appeal For ANC Volunteers

There is no progress in the ANC branches because the volunteers are not coming forward. Unless one can get about 20 or so volunteers to put themselves under the control of the branch, how can one push ahead with Congress programme in that area?

I appeal to the volunteers to come forward.

A. METSHILE
Secretary, Despatch.

To Ray Alexander and Family

Dear Friends, I have heard of the sad news, the passing away of the old lady. This really came as a shock to me though I know fully well, that happens at all times. With these few words I say I wish you all Alexander family and friends a quick recovery from the deep sorrows and bereavement you have suffered. Let not your hearts be troubled for He has prepared a place for us all.

ANNIE SILINGA
C/o Treason Enquiry,
Drill Hall, Johannesburg.

A PLAY WITH A MESSAGE

THE Strong Are Lonely at the Library Theatre in Johannesburg is a play full of meaning for the people of our country, and it is hoped that many will see it and absorb its significance.

The play tells, in a form which never loses its dramatic tensely, the story of a Jesuit mission which launched a daring, socialistic experiment in Paraguay in the middle of the Eighteenth Century. Of course, the good fathers were not actuated by any subversive motives. They wished to convert the simple tribesmen to the Church. But to do so they found they had to do something to convince the Indians that they were not, like the other White men, merely out to despoil and exploit them. In the process they built up an equalitarian and progressive society which seemed to them the Kingdom of God on earth: equipped, let it be said, with a suitable military force to defend it from the rapacious colonisers.

Editorial

INEQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW

THE public were beginning to ask questions about the disparity of sentences passed for the same offence, said Senator A. Friend (U.P.) in the Senate debate last week on Mr. Swart's administration of the portfolio of Justice.

A young policeman was recently sentenced to four years for raping an African woman after arresting her, Senator Friend said, but others paid the full penalty.

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Swart, interjected: "Non-Europeans on Europeans."

Later in the debate the Minister was reported to have added: "Regarding sentences for rape the practice had grown of sentencing to death Non-Europeans who raped Europeans. This had come from the judges and not from the Government. Heavy sentences were usually imposed in the court's discretion to discourage crimes that were prevalent. There were too many cases of Non-Europeans raping Europeans."

Are we to take this as an admission that the judges of the Supreme Court administer unequal justice as between Europeans and Non-Europeans in such cases? And are we to understand that Mr. Swart approves of this practice?

Are we to understand that a black man who rapes a white woman will hang, but a white man who rapes a black woman will not hang?

Is the justification for this the belief that a black woman who is raped by a white man suffers less than a white woman who has been raped by a black man? Are there from now on to be differential standards of justice, not only in rape cases, but also in theft cases, housebreaking, robbery, assault and all other crimes committed by persons of one race against the persons or property of another?

If what Mr. Swart says is true, it is a shocking thing that discrimination has been allowed to enter at all into the administration of justice, and even more shocking that it should be condoned by the responsible Cabinet Minister. This is the level to which the administration of public affairs has been reduced under the present Nationalist Government.

The Nazis, pursuing their hideous racial policies, eventually bestialised themselves to the point where they could murder millions in the occupied countries, in the concentration camps, in the gas chambers, because they believed their holy mission to Aryanise the world justified every excess.

If a Minister of Justice can justify, as Swart has done, naked racial discrimination in the administration of justice, then South Africa has already travelled far on the Nazi road. The very failure of "public opinion" to cry out against Swart's statement is indicative of the extent to which it has become conditioned to the acceptance of evil.

South Africans must not wait for the final horrors to which this Government is steadily leading the country before taking action. It is time to wake up now, cast off the blanket of fear, and call a halt to tyranny and injustice before it is too late.

These arrangements proved well to the liking of the native Paraguayans, who as a result flocked to the Church—whole tribes, led by their Chiefs. It was not at all to the liking of the local Spanish colonists who found that the free labour of the Jesuit colony produced tea at prices with which their unwilling corvees could not compete, and that their labour force was continually escaping to the Church lands. The colonists had powerful connections in Spain, a rigged inquiry is arranged, and the King's representative orders the dissolution of the colony and the return of the Jesuits to Spain.

The Father Provincial (finely portrayed by Rory McDermot) decides to defy the order and resist the King's troops; his duty to God, he decides, comes first. The people are mobilised, amidst tremendous enthusiasm, to defend their paradise.

Then comes the climax: the

Father is ordered by the Church to obey. After a tremendous tussle with his conscience, Jesuit training and discipline win; the Kingdom of God, he is told by his superior, is in heaven, not on earth, and he has the bitter duty of ordering his people to surrender to the greedy slave-drivers from Spain.

This powerful story, with its so pertinent message for our times and our country, is brilliantly projected by director Cecil Williams and the talented company of actors he has assembled. Of the chief players, I felt that John Boulter's Don Pedro, the King's emissary, was somewhat youthful; the part needed a baritone, perhaps, rather than a tenor. Yet he carried off the character with a fine swagger, and Pieter Geldenhuis's honest Dutchmen, and the other members of the Society of Jesus, the planters' representatives and the Indian Chiefs all played with conviction and effect.

ALAN DOYLE.

"5s. INCREASE NOT ENOUGH— WORKERS WANT £1 A DAY"

Civil Liberties Conference

DURBAN.

A MASS conference of all organisations in Natal has been called for June 16, 1957, in defence of civil liberties. The conference is sponsored by the African National Congress (Natal), the Natal Indian Congress, the South African Congress of Democrats (Natal) and the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

In a circular letter to all organisations in Natal the Secretaries of the Preparatory Committee state that the purpose of this conference will be to "examine carefully the extent to which civil rights have been whittled away, and . . . to consider and formulate a well defined, clear and united answer to the Nationalists."

The Conference will be held in Durban, but as yet no venue has been announced.

SACTU Reply To Commerce Proposal

JOHANNESBURG.

COMMENTING on the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce statement that the wages of unskilled labour are too low and that the Chamber favours a five shillings increase, Mr. L. Massina, secretary of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, said:

"It is most important and significant that a section of the organised employers admit wages are too low. We welcome such statements, also the supporting statement of the Mayor of Johannesburg.

"We must point out, however, that the suggested increase of 5s. is woefully inadequate. Moreover the proposed procedure of a Wage Board investigation is lengthy and highly unsatisfactory. Experience has shown us that Wage Board and other State agencies are violently opposed to wage increases for Africans.

"The workers appreciate the sympathy of Commerce and progressive individuals, but are well aware that

they must rely on their own strength and unity for genuine advances.

"The masses are rallying behind the demand for substantial all-round increases and a national minimum of £1 a day. Workers are flocking into the unions in support of the Congress campaign."

The five Congresses have issued an appeal to the people to support the campaign:

"Inescapable facts show that the majority of workers are living below the breadline. Wage increases are the first priority if a solution of the boycott and future boycotts is to be found."

Mayor, Police Chief and Verwoerd

(Continued from page 1)

Native Affairs Department is also deeply perturbed at the support for African grievances coming from such important European sections as represented by the Mayor, the Bishop of Johannesburg and the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce.

It foreshadows the crumbling of the whole NAD-cum-police empire planned by the Nationalists.

But with the African people becoming increasingly articulate and determined to end pass and permit terror and win higher wages, Dr. Verwoerd's Commission of Enquiry is not likely to get very far in checking the process now taking place. More and more influential European sections are accepting, or bowing to, the need for changes and concessions. Under the pressure of real life, the elaborate artificial walls erected by apartheid are falling to pieces.

COD Condemns Nursing Apartheid

JOHANNESBURG.

The S.A. Congress of Democrats, in a statement, condemns the proposed legislation to introduce apartheid into the nursing profession.

"We see in this proposal yet another example of the intention of the Nationalist Government to repress still further the non-white people," says the statement.

"At the very time when medical science devotes itself to raising the standards of medicine, to the universal alleviation of suffering, South Africa must surely stand alone in this deliberate intention to lower the standard of nursing for a particular section of the community. Can inhumanity go further?"

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

From Tennyson Makiwane

Alexandra Township, near JOHANNESBURG. (Saturday.)

TODAY I went to the funeral of my cousin. As we walked, step by step to the graveyard, lead pulled at my heart. Yet hardly anyone cried. Our eyes had been dried by anger.

The parson had said at the service, in his words of condolence to the family: "A thing like this has happened to many others . . ."

My cousin, Palmer Mthuthuzoli Thele, died as a prisoner on the farm where he was contracted to work after his arrest for a pass offence.

A TEACHER

He had been a teacher. But he was dedicated to the Congress cause, and when Bantu Education was introduced he left the teaching profession. He then became a railway booking clerk. He was well known in football circles. When the news of his death reached the Township, young and old were heard to say, "I knew him." He was a devoted son and husband.

Two weeks ago he left his home in the Township to go to Johannesburg . . . and he never returned. His parents and family searched for him high and low. Finally they learnt that he had been arrested and contracted to a farmer in Nigel, in the Eastern Transvaal.

Then came the tragic news that he was dead.

Yet we might never have known what happened to Palmer, if not that a clerk at the hospital informed his parents about his death. The families of many never know. The clerk said specific orders had been given to staff not to tell. But he felt deep sympathy for the parents. He pleaded that his name should not be disclosed.

A full report on the circumstances of Palmer's death is not yet available. The doctor who admitted him to the hospital said that before he died my cousin had complained of having been kicked in the kidneys. The doctor said he had no reason not to believe him but thought the cause of death was "acute nephritis," an infection associated with inflammation of the kidney.

The parson said at the service: "Any of you must expect to be arrested any day as long as the present government lasts. This very thing might happen to you."

FUNERAL PROCESSION

We young people led the funeral procession. Congress volunteers carried the coffin for the last half-mile to the graveside.

The old man, Palmer's father, a former school principal, held courage to the very last. He said: "My son is already dead. Many more have suffered the same fate. Such happenings in the future must be prevented."

Many people came to the funeral to mourn Palmer. How many, I thought, have followed the coffins of hundreds of other victims? How many have said: "I knew him."

Wits. University Marches In Protest

JOHANNESBURG.

LEAD by the Principal of the University of the Witwatersrand a procession of more than 3,000 professors, lecturers, and students of all races wearing black academic gowns marched through the streets of Johannesburg in protest against the Separate Universities Bill.

The procession was watched by Special Branch detectives and photographers stationed at regular intervals along the route of the march.

It was the first time in the history of South Africa that professors and students had taken part in a joint public demonstration against the Government.

New Age understands that other university centres intend to organise similar marches in the near future.

Marching behind a banner saying "Against Separate Universities Bill," the mile-long procession, which included a large number of university graduates, made its dignified way from the University to the City Hall.

The procession was an expression of the completely united front that the university is presenting to the Nats, and is the climax of many months of protest activity, in which all the responsible bodies of the university rejoined hands. The march was supported by the Council (highest governing body), the

Senate (governing body of professors and lecturers), the Students' Representative Council (governing body of students).

At the City Hall, Professor I. D. MacCrone, addressing the assembled marchers, attacked university apartheid, and said that although the university would have to follow the law, it would never accept it.

Prime Minister Strijdom's statement that a university did not have the right to decide what it taught and who did the teaching was "truly subversive," said Professor MacCrone.

THE GREAT CRISIS AHEAD

By MOSES KOTANE

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BASUTO PEOPLE WANT ELECTED GOVERNMENT

Council To Discuss Draft Constitution

JOHANNESBURG.

WITHIN the next week a special session of the Basutoland National Council will sit to consider a draft constitution for Basutoland's legislative assembly and to discuss the report of the "Committee on Chieftainship Reform."

The people of Basutoland, under the leadership of the Basutoland National Congress, are demanding a legislative body with an elected majority, but the Secretary for Commonwealth Relations and the British administration are for one with a nominated majority. "This would mean that the reins of government would remain in the hands of the British, through their appointed lackeys," said Mr. N. M. Ntsekhe, national secretary of the Basutoland National Congress, in an interview with New Age.

Mr. Ntsekhe said that three major issues confronted the people of Basutoland today. They are:

- a legislative assembly for Basutoland;
- the prevention of Basutoland's incorporation into the Union of South Africa;
- the struggle for the abolition of all colour-bar laws.

If the Secretary for Commonwealth Relations has his way, Mr. Ntsekhe said, the Legislative Assembly will legislate for Africans only. "But the people are convinced that a real and democratic Assembly must be able to rule all sections."

According to reports from Basutoland, the British administration is trying to stir up the chiefs against the idea of an assembly with an elected majority with the propaganda that such a legislative body would mean the end of chieftainship in Basutoland.

Speaking on South African affairs, Mr. Ntsekhe expressed the

solidarity of the Basutoland Congress with the Non-Europeans struggling against apartheid and for their liberation.

African Women Herded Like Cattle

(Continued from page 1)

to get the passes and come from the surrounding country districts as far away as 30 miles. So they cannot go back without the passes. Some women came on foot.

The manner in which these women are given these passes is indeed intolerable. As though they are criminals, they are made to take off their docks, which by tradition African women do not remove in public. Earrings are also taken off from their ears. Finger prints from all the fingers are taken. This is all done in a most rude manner. This is how the Government is giving out passes to women.

MUST STOP

This state of affairs in the Transkei cannot continue. The women in Sophiatown and the rest of Johannesburg have shown their determination not to carry passes. The Transkei keeps on marching backwards when the rest of the country is marching forward. This must stop.

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