

Drastic Powers In Verwoerd's New Bill

Africans May Be Gaoled For 30 Days Without Trial

CAPE TOWN.

THE Minister of Native Affairs has only just succeeded in forcing his Native Laws Amendment Bill through Parliament in the face of country-wide protests against the notorious clause 29 abolishing freedom of worship and freedom of association.

Now, at the end of the session, he has come forward with a "Native Laws Further Amendment Bill" which heaps still further restrictions upon the backs of the African people.

This second Bill is to amend the Native Administration Act of 1927, the Native Trust and Land Act of 1936, the Urban Areas Act, the Native Services Levy Act and the Natives (Abolition of Passes and Co-ordination of Documents) Act of 1952.

Many of the 27 clauses of the new Bill are designed to tighten up the procedure in connection with the issuing of reference books, and to make it impossible for any African to avoid taking out a reference book.

FORCED DETENTION

Clause 14 of the Bill provides that all Africans on reaching the age of 16 must report to a Native Commissioner, or another officer designated by the Minister, in order that a reference book may be issued to him.

In terms of sub-section (2) of this clause, any African over 16 who is not in possession of a reference book may be brought before a Native Commissioner in order that a reference book may be issued to him.

ANC Row With Police At Queenstown Conference

From Govan Mbeki

PORT ELIZABETH.

THE proceedings of the annual provincial conference of the ANC (Cape) at Queenstown on May 31 were interrupted when Captain Heiburg in charge of a large force of Special Branch police seized documents from the platform while the conference was in progress. Accompanied by three others, he walked up to the chairman, to whom he showed a warrant empowering him to seize documents at the conference and also to be present throughout the proceedings.

A very tense atmosphere arose in the crowded hall after the seizure of the documents when Special Branch men who had been to the platform wanted to remove one of the women delegates from the seat she occupied. Delegates from the floor immediately took exception to the fact that a member of the Special Branch touched the woman and indicated with his hand that she should get off her seat.

The officer in charge claimed that the seat had been occupied by his man and as they had a warrant to be at the conference the woman must get off. The speaker chipped

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"Any such Native Commissioner or officer may, pending the completion of any such inquiries as he may deem necessary, make arrangements to ensure the appearance, on any subsequent date, before him of a Native brought before him in terms of sub-section (2), and may for that purpose, if he deems it necessary, cause the Native to be detained in any reception depot, lock-up, police cell or gaol for a period not exceeding seven days, which period may from time to time be extended by such Native Commissioner or other officer for further periods not exceeding seven days at a time: provided that the total period of detention under this sub-section shall not exceed 30 days."

In other words, it will be lawful to detain an African in prison for up to 30 days, even though he has committed no offence, simply because a Native Commissioner wants to make some "inquiries" about him before issuing him with a reference book.

This is comparable to herding cattle in a kraal so that they will not escape before the branding iron is pressed into their flesh.

One can imagine a situation where an African is left to rot in gaol for the full 30 days while some irresponsible Native Commissioner or "other officer" leisurely makes his inquiries. The sole criterion as to whether the African goes to gaol or not is to be "if he (the Native Commissioner or other officer) deems it to be necessary."

The African will have no say in the matter at all.

FINGERPRINT BUREAU

Clause 21 of the Bill provides for the setting up of a Native Affairs Central Reference Bureau, under

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Verwoerd Wants To Rob Them Of This Lovely Valley



This is the lovely Letsitele Valley in the Northern Transvaal where the Mamathola tribe has lived since the middle of the 18th century.

CIGARETTE FIRMS NAMED AS

ECONOMIC BOYCOTT STARTS ON MONDAY

JOHANNESBURG.

ON Monday, June 10, the national boycott of Nationalist-controlled firms and products starts, and on the first blacklist are the products of the Rembrandt Beherende Beleggings Beperk. Seven brands of cigarettes and seven brands of tobacco are named.

Established under the original chairmanship of Dr. N. Diedrichs, the Nat M.P., this investment company includes a number of Nationalist members of Parliament, including Cabinet Ministers, among its directors and shareholders.

The blacklisted products are:

Cigarettes:

Rembrandt.
Rembrandt van Rhijn.
Meesters.
Consulate.
Rothmans King Size.
Peter Stuyvesant.
Lexington.

Tobaccos:

Mine Captain.
Chapman's Special.
Silver Cloud.
Greyhound.
Wayside.
Champion.
Iris.

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Tribe Refuses To Move

JOHANNESBURG.

"**D**R. Verwoerd is forcing us. My people do not want to go," said Chief Mamatola last week after the Government had indicated that the entire Mamatola tribe was to be moved from their lovely mountain home on the Wolkberg, near Magoebaskloof in the Transvaal.

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WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE MULTI-RACIAL CONFERENCE?

Editorial

ONE would have thought Verwoerd would have been satisfied, having ridden the storm provoked by his Native Laws Amendment Bill, to sit back and relax for the remainder of this Parliamentary session.

But apparently his appetite is insatiable, and grows by what it feeds on. Now, at the far end of the session, the Minister has brought in a Native Laws Further Amendment Bill which in at least one respect is even worse than the one which went before. DESIGNED TO CLOSE THE LOOPHOLES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REFERENCE BOOK SYSTEM, THE BILL PROPOSES TO GIVE TO ANY NATIVE COMMISSIONER THE RIGHT TO KEEP IN GAOL FOR UP TO 30 DAYS ANY AFRICAN ABOUT WHOM HE WISHES TO MAKE INQUIRIES.

The African, who may be completely innocent of any crime, will have no trial, can call on no lawyer to defend him. His fate will be entirely in the hands of his white man boss, Verwoerd's underling.

Step by step, Bill by Bill, this Government is extending the scope of its police rule. The mass protests of decent people in all walks of society are ignored. Black and White must be separated, and the Black man must be kept down for all time. Any one who interferes will be dealt with by the Special Branch.

Not is it only the "Communists" and "agitators" whose opposition is brushed aside as irrelevant. Today, archbishops, judges, chancellors of universities—some of the most prominent men and women in the country have been snubbed by the barbarians who hold power. To oppose today is, in the eyes of the Nats, to qualify for the title of traitor.

Wide sections of the people have nevertheless been drawn into organised opposition against the Government's tyranny, and even now are willing to continue the fight against what they clearly recognise to be the main enemy standing in the way of the country's progress towards peace and prosperity—this apartheid-created Government itself.

But, many ask, what can we do? We have spoken out, we have held protest meetings, we have sent deputations, we have marched through the streets of our cities. What is the next step? It is time to ask the people's leaders, and the organisations of the people: what has happened to the decision taken last year at the all-in African conference in Bloemfontein that a multi-racial conference be called this year, 1957, to further the struggle against apartheid? The resolution passed at the Bloemfontein conference said:

"In the interests of all the people, and the future of our country this conference calls upon all national organisations to mobilise all the people irrespective of race, colour or creed to form a united front against apartheid. . . . We call upon all South Africans who realise the dangers and effects of apartheid to take positive steps to break down the colour bar in group relations. We urge them furthermore to ensure that democratic and Christian opinion expresses itself on discriminatory legislation in ways most likely to impress on the minds of the people of South Africa the urgent need for a positive alternative to apartheid or separate development."

A united front against apartheid must be built. NOW. It is time to ask the Interdenominational African Ministers' Federation, the Congresses, the Liberal and Labour Parties and others—what is being done to make the multi-racial conference and the united front a reality? The people are waiting impatiently for an answer.

Maritzburg Women's League Branch

As a result of a continuous drive taken as that of Black versus White; on the contrary it was progress versus reaction. All the Congresses and the trade unions were standing for progress while the Nationalists were barring the way to freedom. Leading a discussion on passes for women a woman speaker said the fight against passes was a matter of life and death. The interest in additional members.

A committee was elected consisting of Mrs. E. K. Gwala, chairman; Mrs. E. Ndlovu, vice-chairman; Miss I. Shange, secretary; Miss G. Khambutle, assistant secretary; Mrs. C. Majola, treasurer and Mrs. A. Gumede, Mrs. F. J. Sithole, Mrs. N. Ndamand and Mrs. Nxele.

The Native Laws Amendment Act was also condemned as a vicious piece of legislation. The meeting, after discussion, resolved to fight against all the unjust laws until freedom, as envisaged in the Freedom Charter, was won in this country.

Freedom Comes Through Struggle

Here, there and everywhere people are bound in chains for living, for walking, for thinking, for talking, for speaking, for being in contact with their fellow kinsfolk, for visiting, for sleeping, for not working in a place and for not working in a place. They blink country are ignorant. They blink the facts of history, which is a great teacher. The work of apartheid is no different to the achievement of fascists elsewhere. Their oppression never stopped the wheel that rolled to freedom. So, too, in our land. What must we fear? The time for fear has passed, and our children will find freedom through our struggle.

M. C. BOSHILO
Orlando West.

How Long Must We Suffer?

The deaf, dumb and blind can feel through their nerves that there is something wrong in this country today, and this is the pass law.

It is of no benefit for men to be carrying these reference books when they still go to jail like criminals. This horrible law has now come to women and their daughters.

It was such excitement to see that the raids have been called off in Johannesburg.

Last year the women said with one voice that they will never carry any kind of slavery document. The women of Johannesburg are still determined, and will burg are still determined, and will such papers until their final victory when no one suffers for being an African.

S. SIBEKO
Johannesburg.

The Future of African Youth

The future of the African youth is clouded with doom and destruction. Imagine a poor woman like my mother, who has struggled hard to educate her only son, but finds at the last moment that because of colour bars and identity books there is an impenetrable barrier between her son and the advantages of life.

My own family is an old established family here in Johannesburg, but as for me, without an identity book I am treated as a foreigner here.

It is a fact that no tyranny in history has ever been able to save itself from crumbling. I appeal to my African fellowmen to assist me in this struggle to bring about a change in this country.

HECTOR H. MAPOMA
Johannesburg.

HELP SELL NEW AGE!

I hereby extend my thanks to the New Age and staff for publishing all the political news. I hope you will have every success, and that more and more people will become interested like I am, because the paper is very educative.

Long live New Age! We are with you in the struggle. Our way is open to freedom when all shall be equal before the law.

Z. R. STEMELE
P.O. Veeplaats.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM COMPLACENCY?

JUDGING by the slow rate at which donations are coming in, New Age readers are suffering from the very dangerous political disease of complacency. Perhaps the fact that we have increased our price to six-pence has given you the idea that we don't need your support as much as we did before—and your pockets—right now. Get rid of your complacency before it proves fatal. Send us the biggest donation you can afford.

Nothing could be further from the truth. We need your support as urgently as ever we did. Unless we get it in the same measure—and soon—New Age will very rapidly be in a worse position than it was before the price increase—and you know how close we were to extinction then.

Don't take New Age for granted now or at any other time. Our paper is a precious possession which must be defended and fought for at every step along the long and difficult road to freedom. The moment you forget that simple political fact, New Age is in trouble.

Examine your conscience and your pockets—right now. Get rid of your complacency before it proves fatal. Send us the biggest donation you can afford.

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS:

Cape Town: L.W.M.R. 4s.; E.J.H. 4s.; H.T. 1s.; G.G.M. 5s.; E.A. Routh 1s.; A.J.S. £2.10; Miscellaneous £22.4.

Johannesburg: Mr. Anonymous (for June) £3; Washerman £1; F. £14; Donation £6; Anon £15.

TOTAL—£65 8s. 0d.

FOR PEOPLE'S UNITY AND £1 A DAY

LETTER BOX

NEW AGE

HOWARD TSHIZANA
Worcester.

Death of Paulus Lesenyego

We would like to inform you of the sudden death of Comrade Paulus Lesenyego on Thursday night, May 23, at the age of 56. He has been a staunch member of the ANC Pimville branch and a volunteer during the Defiance Campaign in 1952.

We had a most impressive funeral service was conducted by several ministers of various churches—Rev. P. Magagula, Rev. Viso, Rev. Dr. G. V. T. Gule, Rev. A. A. Tseketele, Rev. Mofolo, Rev. G. P. Lesotho, Rev. G. Sono and others, on Sunday, May 26.

The chief speakers were the branch chairman Mr. G. Ngcobo and Ruben Koako (volunteer). Other volunteers were present as well as the Branch Executive members and other members of the ANC from different branches. About 400 people attended the funeral.

Yours in the struggle,
E. F. MENTOR
Asst. Secretary,
ANC, Pimville branch.

It is time we realise fully that South Africa is no longer a country abounding in sunshine as it was before the Nationalist Government assumed power. Our borders are closed by a dark enclosure of racial laws. Freedom of movement, of worship and of speech have been destroyed. It becomes plain, therefore, that it is only through unity that we can restore our lost liberty.

I don't want to think there is any of you, workers, who would like to work as a slave. It would be very stupid if the £1 a day campaign of SACTU did not get your full support.

It is obviously only by our own efforts that we can survive the rigours of Nationalist apartheid. It is our unity that can and must ultimately rock, smash apartheid and its reputed advocates!

Workers, you toil from dawn till dusk for the good of all South Africans irrespective of race, colour or creed, whereas the Nationalist Government represents only a minority of yes-men. You support the Nationalists in every sphere of life, only to be rewarded with passes, increased taxes, lower education, deportations, bans, church clause in the Native Laws Amendment Bill etc. Everything you say in your own defence is either treasonable or detestable.

Comrades, let us decide today we will not let the Government destroy our lives and our future in this country. Let us be prepared to destroy apartheid wherever it exists if we want to live in cooperation at all times.

Let us all work for the fulfilment of our decisions as embodied in the Freedom Charter otherwise there is no hope for us under this fascist government.

Long live the people's leaders

"S.A. IS NOT A WHITE MAN'S COUNTRY—IT BELONGS TO ALL"—A.N.C. President

From Our Correspondent

DURBAN.

THE Africans' duty would be to stay away from any churches which insulted them by submitting to Dr. Verwoerd and accepting apartheid, Mr. G. S. D. Nyembe (Acting President-General of the ANC) said in Durban recently.

Mr. Nyembe—who was speaking at a mass meeting convened by the Civil Liberties Defence Committee to protest against the Native Laws Amendment Bill, the Group Areas Act and other unjust laws—paid tribute to most of the churches for their firm stand against the Bill.

"South Africa is not a white man's country," he said. "We do not seek to make it a black man's country only. We want it to be the country of all who live in it."

"We protest against being forced to regard our fellow countrymen and co-believers as aliens or enemies with whom we have nothing in common. But above all we protest against the insult to the African implied in the fact that only he will be committing a crime if he goes into a white church or mixed gathering."

"Let us always remember in our prayers our arrested leaders. Let us count no sacrifice too great in carrying to the country the message of freedom in which they so fervently believe."

WHO COMMITS TREASON?

Mrs. I. C. Meer said: "It is not we who conspire to bring about treason, but those at the helm of affairs, who conspire to change the normal course of development."

The Nursing Apartheid Bill, she said, fitted "logically and maliciously into the pattern to segregate a whole section of the people for ever," while the University Apartheid Bill was aimed at preventing the Non-White professional man from rising and competing with whites.

"It is the Government's intention to create inferior facilities, medical colleges which will produce glorified male nurses, not doctors."

Mr. John Didcott said the Native Laws Amendment Bill signified the final reduction of Africans to virtual serfdom.

The attempt to prohibit interracial social, political and organisational contact was a confession of defeat. Propaganda that the interests of the races were mutually irreconcilable had failed, and compulsion was the last resort.

"The more the Government legislates and tries to intimidate to repair the cracks in the colour bar, the mightier the multi-racial United Front against apartheid—the only real opposition in South Africa—grows."

GROUP AREAS

Mr. J. N. Singh said that the Group Areas proposals in Durban would mean the eventual removal of almost the entire non-white population to the city's outskirts.

He said: "Our people have made it clear that they are not going to be shifted from their homes to satisfy the whims and fancies of the City Council."

"Those dealing with the Group Areas Act have not been dealing with people, but with plans. They are not concerned with the effect of their plans upon you."

The meeting unanimously approved a motion proposed by the Chairman, Mr. Rowley Arenstein, which:

- protested against the Native Laws Amendment Bill and the University and Nursing Apartheid legislation;

- expressed disgust at the "calous policy" of the Durban City Council in its Group Areas proposals;

- called on all progressives to unite to struggle for a South Africa governed according to the principles of the United Nations.

Economic Boycott

(Continued from page 1)

Among the firms wholly or partially controlled by the Rembrandt company are Rothmans; Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation; the American Cigarette Company; John Chapman's Ltd.; the Rembrandt Tobacco Manufacturing Corporation of S.A. Ltd.; the Riggio Tobacco Corporation; Thomas Bears, Son and Co. (Pty.) Ltd.

SHOW YOUR DISAPPROVAL

The five Congresses call on "all opponents of the Nationalist Party Government to demonstrate their disapproval of its racialism and tyranny by refusing to buy or deal in any of the above-mentioned products as from June 10."

The Congress circular on the boycott, addressed to organisations of all types throughout the country, states that many different groups of people have found themselves increasingly aggrieved and menaced by various actions and measures of the Nationalist Government.

"Every mark of protest and opposition is disregarded by the Stridom Government. With the utmost contempt for the wishes of the majority it continues to pile up one act of oppression upon another."

"We may oppose the Government for many and various reasons, but there is one way in which all of us, in our capacity as consumers, can strike back and make our unwanted rulers feel the weight of public disapproval. This is the economic boycott."

Not Aimed At Whites Or Afrikaners

JOHANNESBURG.

THE economic boycott is not aimed at Whites, or Afrikaners as such. Anti-Nationalist Afrikaners and other Europeans are called on to join the boycott. This was stated in an exclusive interview with New Age by Mr. Oliver Tambo, secretary general of the African National Congress.

New Age put several questions to Mr. Tambo. Below are the questions and his replies.

1. Is a further list of products to be boycotted likely to be released?

Mr. Tambo: We have announced the first list. After full investigation, additions will be made and released at suitable stages of the campaign.

2. Is this a NATIONAL boycott?

Mr. Tambo: Yes, it offers an opportunity to the millions of people in all parts of the country to participate by an act of self-denial, in a nation-wide protest against the arrogance of the Nationalists and their utter contempt for the rights of individuals.

3. What must shopkeepers who presently sell these goods on the boycott list do?

Mr. Tambo: The boycott com-

mences on June 10. This gives shopkeepers reasonable notice to dispose of and to make no further orders for the affected goods. There is certainly no intention to involve them in losses. On the other hand, we do not believe that they will be acting in their interests if they attempt to oppose, ignore or in any way undermine the campaign.

4. Is the boycott appeal directed only to members of the African National Congress?

Mr. Tambo: No. The campaign is being conducted jointly by the ANC together with anti-Nationalist organisations of Europeans, Indians, Coloured people and trade unions. An appeal is made to all members of the public, including those who do not support the full aims of the Congress alliance, to observe the boycott as a token of protest against Government policy.

5. Is this boycott anti-White? anti-Afrikaner? At whom is the boycott aimed?

Mr. Tambo: The boycott is not aimed at Whites or Afrikaners as such. The Nationalist Party has gone out of its way to set up financial and business ventures as a part of its political plan. It is only such enterprises that will be affected by the boycott. The Congress boycott

sub-committee includes European representatives and calls upon anti-Nationalist Afrikaners and other Europeans to join the boycott. The Congress movement is strongly opposed, on principle, to any form of racialism.

6. Critics of the campaign have suggested that there are many other ways of protest open to the people and that a boycott of some Nationalist goods is an ineffective method of protest. Any comment?

Mr. Tambo: There are of course many other ways of protest, and our organisations have been and will continue to be most active in advocating and pursuing such methods. The boycott does not clash with other kinds of political activity. In the course of conducting the campaign our organisations will endeavour to persuade the people of the reasons for not buying the listed products. This is valuable educational and political work.

I do not think the economic boycott could be described as "ineffective." Although one does not expect the Government to fall overnight as a result, hitting the Nationalists in the sensitive region of the pocket may bring them to their senses more effectively than many more conventional protests which they have ignored.



African men and women, dressed in their ANC uniforms, chartered a special lorry to bring them from Worcester to attend the trial of Mr. B. Baartman (bottom, right) in the Regional Court, Cape Town, on a charge of incitement.

Mr. Baartman In Court

CAPE TOWN.

An application by Mr. S. Kahn for the discharge of Mr. Ben Baartman, Chairman of the Worcester branch of the ANC, who appeared in the Cape Town Regional Court on Monday, charged with incitement to promote hostility between Africans and Europeans, was refused by the magistrate.

Mr. Kahn, in his application, said that the Crown had not proved that there had been any intention in the accused's speech to promote any hostility.

On a request by Mr. Kahn the case was remanded to June 7.

Fort Hare Demonstrates Against Apartheid Bill

From Marabe Maja

ALICE.

ABOUT 360 students and staff members of the University College of Fort Hare marched in a procession through the streets of Alice on the morning of May 22 as a sign of protest against the notorious "Separate Universities Bill." The procession was led by the President of the Fort Hare S.R.C., Mr. A. M. Makiwane.

Students carried banners reading "We do not want Black and White Tribal Universities," "Universities should be free." Placards read "We shall not be brainwashed," "Away with Tribal Universities."

After the procession had marched back to Fort Hare, a mass meeting was held in the Christian Union Hall. Opening the meeting, Mr. Makiwane said that he wished to dispel the false propaganda that students were being incited by white staff members to oppose the Bill. Students are themselves against the Bill.

"We are the wearers of the shoes," he declared, "and therefore know where the shoe pinches." "For us," he said, "apartheid legislation means ghettos, slums and the deprivation of our status, dignity and rights as a people."

Prof. Nyembezi, of the Bantu Languages Department, said he objected to the Bill because it took away the privilege of attending "open universities" and therefore removed an important bridge between whites and non-whites. A second objection to the Bill was that it envisaged the establishment of universities on a tribal basis.

"We are Africans and not Zulus or Sothos. The Bill, therefore, is moving the clock backward," he submitted. Thirdly, to the African, the NAD was a symbol of oppression.

Prof. Stuart, head of the English Department, said that even if Fort Hare was not included in the Bill, he still opposed the principles of the Bill. To change Fort Hare into a tribal university would not be difficult if the Bill was passed. Further, the tribal universities envisaged would not be true universities at all but institutions "given" a university status.

To lecture in the envisaged universities, he said, would be intolerable.

Mr. Beard, head of the Department of Philosophy and Politics, declared that if an institution did not enjoy the four freedoms of a university, it would be an insult to call it a university.

The meeting closed with the singing of the two national anthems "Nkosi Sikelele" and "Morena Boloka."

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