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STATEMENT OF POLICY TO BE SUBMITTED  
TO THE 1st ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF  
S.A.C.T.U.

TO BE HELD IN CAPE TOWN ON MARCH 1st,

2nd and 3rd, 1956

*at the home of Mr. H. Baard.*  
*Teleg. 112, New Brighton*  
*5/2/56*  
*C 7/4/200*

PREAMBLE.

Speaking in Parliament on the 19th March, 1942, Mr. B. J. Schoeman, former Minister of Labour, explained his party's policy with regard to Trade Unions, as follows:-

"I want ... to briefly touch upon a few of the main underlying principles (of the policy of my party) ... Firstly, we contend that wage control and wage fixation should be entirely in the hands of the State.

"Secondly, and this is the most important principle - self-government in industry must be eliminated ... Self-government in industry and collective bargaining are things of the past ... the time has arrived that in the interests of the State, in the interests of employers and employees, self-government in industry and collective bargaining should be eliminated from our economic life ... "

"In regard to the non-Europeans, the unhealthy economic competition which is gradually arising and which will become more and more intense should be entirely eliminated. My party maintains that this can only be done by fixing a definite quota for Europeans and non-Europeans in unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled occupations in industry. We contend that only along those lines will the non-European in industry problem be solved ... "

"The people of South Africa want something entirely new, something radical, and it is for the government of the future to give the people a new economic order. That is the only Government that in future will ever command the support of the people of this country. I want to assure the people of South Africa that when my party soon takes over the government of this country we intend giving the people the new economic order."

In Chapter 10 (2) of their pamphlet published in 1948, "The Road to a New South Africa", the Nationalist Party defines its labour policy as follows:-

"The party considers the present system of wage control and the regulation of working conditions as ineffective, and proposes that the system of collective bargaining be supplemented by a system of State responsibility, exercised by means of the Central Economic Council and the Labour Council as described above."

As a fascist party the Nationalist Party attempts ruthlessly to force through its programme.

They placed the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) act on the Statute Book. "Placing wage fixation" (as far as the African worker is concerned) "entirely in the hands of the State", and denying the African workers all say in their own conditions of work; prohibiting the strike weapon under severe penalties, implements the Government's policy.

They introduced the "Industrial Conciliation Bill" which will give the Government the power to weaken the Trade Union Movement by dividing the workers on racial lines; undermine and destroy collective bargaining; deprive all workers of the right to strike; deprive trade unions of the right to control their own funds, to elect their own officials, generally to exercise democratic rights within their own Unions.

Thus the Nationalist Government hopes to translate its fascist policy into the legislation of our country.

The Trade Union Movement was ill-prepared to meet this onslaught on the rights of the workers. Years of Trade Unionism along the lines laid down by the provisions of the Industrial Conciliation Act had softened the backbone of the Trade Union Movement. In the field of Trade Union organisation the emphasis had gradually shifted from the shop and factory floor to the Trade Union office. It became a tendency to settle disputes by legal procedure rather than through the militant struggle of the workers. This tendency also spread to those African Trade Unions to which the provisions of the I.C. Act did not apply. Many Trade Unionists recognised the necessity to link the militant struggle with legal procedure, but found difficulty to apply it in practice.

Failure to engage in a political struggle for the protection of the rights of the working class further weakened the Trade Union Movement. The cry of "No Politics in the Trade Unions" has for many years been the curse of the Trade Union Movement in South Africa.

The scourge of racialism found its way into the Trade Union Movement with the result that the organised European workers failed to mobilise the African workers, who were fast becoming integrated into the Industrial life of South Africa, for the working class struggle. They fell an easy prey to Nationalist propaganda that their jobs were endangered by this growing number of Africans, instead of seeing in it the country's greatest asset, namely, expansion of our industries, added prosperity for our economy, and thus greater opportunities for all. Nowadays many European Trade Union leaders persist in depicting the African workers as rivals to European workers, thus playing into the hands of the Nationalist Party.

These basic weaknesses on the part of the Trade Union Movement left the field wide open for the Nationalist Government to establish what Mr. Schoeman called the "new economic order." The introduction of the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act took place with the unorganised African workers hardly knowing what was going on, and with most European and Coloured Trade Unionists refusing to concern themselves with an issue which they erroneously believed to affect only the African workers.

The time was now ripe for the Government to introduce its onslaught on the registered Trade Unions in the form of the I.C. Act Amendment Bill. Once again the greater majority of these Trade Unions fell into the trap deliberately set for them by the Government. They completely failed to recognise the necessity to mobilise all workers in the struggle for the survival of the Trade Union Movement. The majority of the Trade Unions affiliated to the old Trades and Labour Council (the only Trade Union co-ordinating body left to accept the principle of racial equality in the Trade Union Movement) voted for its dissolution, and for the formation of the South African Trade Union Council from which African Unions were excluded. A body which further adopted a policy pleading with the Government, rather than mobilising the workers for a militant struggle.

This situation, however, brought about one ray of hope. It brought about the formation of the S. A. Congress of Trade Unions, a body which recognised no colour bar in the working class struggle. The task to mobilise the workers of South Africa irrespective of race or colour in the struggle against the fascist labour policies of the Nationalist Government and for the realisation of a

better South Africa, rests on the shoulders of this body. It is the task of S.A.C.T.U. to rectify the mistakes of the past and to lay a sound foundation upon which to build for the future.

#### POLICY FOR THE FUTURE.

For the S. A. Congress of Trade Unions to fulfil this task adequately, it will have to educate the workers through the process of struggle. It will have to plan and execute the organisation of the many thousands of unorganised workers. As this struggle will take place under conditions of severest oppression, it will be the task of the Congress to lead and plan this struggle in a manner most effective in such a situation.

The highly centralised type of Trade Union machinery is at a great disadvantage in such a situation, and although the necessity of it is recognised and must be maintained, it will be the militant factory unit which will be most effective in the struggle. It is on these factory units that the organisational emphasis must be placed. Workers in the factories must receive the necessary theoretical education in the working class struggle to equip them for independent struggle. The emphasis must, further, be on the development of leadership in the factories. Such a policy will in itself supply the movement with leaders.

The Congress must continue to propagate and practice complete racial unity amongst workers of all races.

The S. A. Congress of Trade Unions must vigorously pursue a policy of placing the interests of the workers in the forefront of its struggle. We must boldly organise all workers for higher wages, better conditions of life and labour. The elementary human rights of the masses of workers in the factories and workshops must be our foremost concern. Such issues as full and equal benefits for prospective working mothers, guaranteed annual leave on full pay for all workers, full equal workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance for all workers, the right of every worker to engage in skilled occupations and to advancement in industry - those issues are basic demands of the Movement, which the S. A. Congress of Trade Unions will relentlessly strive to achieve for all workers, irrespective of race, colour or sex.

At the same time the S. A. Congress of Trade Unions is conscious of the fact that the organising of the mass of the workers

for these demands and the successful struggle for them is inextricably bound up with a determined struggle for political rights and for liberation from all oppressive laws and practices. Every move of the workers for their basic rights in South Africa is hampered by general legislation affecting their right of movement, their right of domicile, their lack of political representation. Every struggle of the workers for higher wages, for better working conditions, even for the smallest advance in factory conditions or for the re-instatement of an unjustly dismissed fellow-worker - is immediately met by the full force of a Police State organised to restrict every civil human right.

It follows that a mere struggle for the economic rights of the workers without participation in the general struggle for political emancipation would condemn the Trade Union Movement to uselessness and to a betrayal of the interests of the workers.

It is for this reason that the S. A. Congress of Trade Unions allies itself without reservation with the struggle for the Freedom Charter, the great united struggle of the people of South Africa for a new basic constitution, which will guarantee equal rights to all people in South Africa. The S. A. Congress of Trade Unions is convinced that there is a happy future for South Africa in the acceptance of the Freedom Charter, a joyous future of freedom and human dignity for all. S.A.C.T.U. firmly believes that the struggle for this future bears the only guarantee for the achievement of workers' rights, included in Section Seven of the Freedom Charter:-

"THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY!"

"All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers;

"The state shall recognise the right and duty of all to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits;

"Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work;

"There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full pay for all working mothers;

"Miners, domestic workers, farm workers and civil servants shall have the same rights as all others who work;

• "Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished."

Conference further pledges Congress to educate and organise all workers for a militant and fearless struggle for the protection of their rights, and the achievements of the aims and objects of the Freedom Charter.

Whilst S.A.C.T.U. will thus pursue its own independent struggle for the workers' rights, it pledges full support and co-operation to all movements and organisations genuinely struggling for the removal of Fascist tyranny, for the elimination of all restrictive and oppressive legislation, for the achievement of complete political liberation. In particular S.A.C.T.U. declares its adherence to and support of the programmes of the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress, the S.A. Congress of Democrats and the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, as the organisations jointly responsible with us to struggle for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Freedom Charter.

EW 7-2-ISACTU.

Duplicate

A.M. 48

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Bewysstuk No.....  
 Gekry by.....  
 Deur.....  
 Te.....  
 Datum.....  
 Verwysings No.....

FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
 OF THE  
 SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE  
 UNIONS,

held at

SALT RIVER MUNICIPAL HALL, VOORTREKKER  
 ROAD SALT RIVER, CAPE TOWN.

on the

1st to 4th MARCH, 1956.

Incomplete  
 - See 29 C.M. 26

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SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

ANNUAL REPORT  
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AND  
BALANCE SHEET.  
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For the year ended March, 1956.

PRESENTED TO THE

FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CAPE TOWN.

Held from the 1st/4th March, 1956.

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, S.A.C.T.U.

Johannesburg.

February, 1956.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS  
of the  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

- PRESIDENT..... P. BYLEVELD.
- VICE PRESIDENTS..... L. MVUBELO, C. SIBANDE.
- TREASURER..... L. LEVY.
- GENERAL SECRETARY..... L. MASINA.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| MR. B.J. JANUARY.          | MR. B. <u>NAIR.</u>       |
| MR. W.H. ROSS.             | MR. P. <u>MEI.</u>        |
| MISS <u>STELLA DAMONS.</u> | MR. V.S.M. <u>PILLAI.</u> |
| MR. C. MA <u>EKISO.</u>    | MR. A. <u>MAHLANGU.</u>   |
| MISS C. <u>JASSON.</u>     | MR. J. <u>NKADIMENG.</u>  |
| MR. I. TOPLEY.             | MR. M. <u>SHOPE.</u>      |
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(2) A

MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

P. Byleveld.

Vice-Chairmen:

Mrs. L. Mvubelo.  
Mr. C. Sibande.

Treasurer:

L. Levy.

General Secretary:

L. Masina.

Committee Members:

Mr. A. Mahlangu,

Mr. J. Nkadimeng.

Mr. Shope.

Mr. O.A. Ohlson.

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LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Mr. B. Nair,  
Secretary,  
Natal Local Committee,  
315, Lakhani Chambers,  
2, Saville Street,  
DURBAN.

Mr. A. Sibeko,  
Secretary,  
Cape Western Local Committee,  
44, Stal Plein Buildings,  
Plein Street,  
CAPE TOWN.

Miss D. Telling,  
Secretary,  
Port Elizabeth Local  
Committee.  
9, Court Chambers,  
Adderley Street,  
PORT ELIZABETH.

Mr. J. Nkadimeng,  
Secretary,  
Witwatersrand Local  
Committee,  
30, Progress Buildings,  
156, Commissioner St.,  
JOHANNESBURG.

2 B

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY TO THE FIRST ANNUAL  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF  
TRADE UNIONS.

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In Durban, October, 1954, the South African Trades & Labour Council of 1949, was dissolved, and the remaining members of the National Executive Committee were empowered to wind up the organisation.

Meeting the following day, thirteen of the fourteen delegates representing those trade unions which opposed the dissolution, discussed and agreed upon the immediate establishment of a new non-colour bar Trade Union Co-ordinating Centre. A Committee and officials were elected which constituted the "Trade Union Co-ordination Committee", whose purpose it was to convene a Trade Union Conference to establish the new body. Five months later, on the 5th and 6th March, 1955, in Johannesburg, the "Trade Union-Co-ordination Committee" convened the Inaugural Conference of the new Trade Union Centre.

Delegates representing thirty-five trade unions founded the South African Congress of Trade Unions, and with it, a new sort of unity and a strong faith in the many thousands of unorganised workers which its programme would attract.

THE COUNCIL OF NON-EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS:

After twelve years of intensive activity and partial success in uniting a section of the working class under the banner of militant trade unionism, the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions hailed the establishment of the South African Congress of Trade Unions as a milestone in the struggle for trade union democracy and equality.

At a Conference on the 7th and 8th May, 1955, the Council of Non-European Trade Unions resolved to throw in all its weight with the South African Congress of Trade Unions, and merged with it. Indeed, it was the Council of Non-European Trade Unions which was in the main responsible for the establishment of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, and we trust that Conference will mark its gratitude to the affiliated unions of the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, who have so steadfastly upheld the principles of Trade Unionism.

(2) c

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

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1. ADMINISTRATION: Having established the South African Congress of Trade Unions, the administrative machinery had to be created in order that the organisation function smoothly. An office and the services of a typist was obtained, and, with a donation of £100.0.0. received from the "Fund for African Democracy", furniture and a typewriter was purchased.

Following directives in April, 1955, to the National Executive Committee Members, and interested Trade Unions, Local Conferences of Trade Unions were held, and Local Committees of the South African Congress of Trade Unions were formed in the following centres:-

1. Port Elizabeth;
2. Cape Town;
3. Durban;
4. Witwatersrand.

The Unions sympathetic to the South African Congress of Trade Unions were weak, and in many cases, lacked the resources to enable them to affiliate to Congress. Nevertheless, the machinery having been created, it was now possible for the South African Congress of Trade Unions to commence functioning. At present, 19 Unions, with an affiliated strength of 20,000 are members of the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

2. LOCAL COMMITTEES: The local committees, lacking experienced leaders and personell, have not in all cases been able to make good progress.

(a) Witwatersrand:

Due to the serious lack of funds, this local committee has been unable to employ a paid organiser, which has prevented it from carrying out its true function of organising the unorganised workers.

/During.....

During 1955, the Witwatersrand Local Committee organised a May Day Celebration, at which National Executive Committee members participated as speakers. The 10th Anniversary of the World Federation of Trade Unions was celebrated at a meeting called in Johannesburg.

In all strikes that occurred, the local committee gave assistance, in particular, to workers in the following industries:-

1. PEA-NUT.
2. TOY.
3. ENGINEERING.
4. TEXTILE.

Despite the lack of personell, (which is a major factor responsible for slowing down the progress of the Witwatersrand Local Committee), it has accomplished some achievements. Workers have responded to the appeals of the South African Congress of Trade Unions to organise into Trade Unions. It must be stated, however, that in the opinion of the Management Committee, the difficulties will not easily be overcome unless advanced workers are thoroughly trained, and Trade Union Secretaries assisted in their day to day problems through study classes and practical help.

(b) Western Province Local Committee:

The Western Province Local Committee was the first Local Committee to be formed after the establishment of the South African Congress of Trade Unions. Here too, available personell is limited, and progress has for that reason, been restricted. A leaflet on the Industrial Conciliation Bill was cyclo-styled and distributed by the Local Committee.

(c) Natal Local Committee:

Some months after the establishment of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, this committee was formed. However, this Committee has failed to make an impact on the workers of Natal generally,

and besides maintaining contact with affiliated Trade Unions, little else has been accomplished.

(d) Port Elizabeth:

Of all Local Committees, Port Elizabeth is the most active. This Committee works well, meets regularly, and is closely associated with progressive organisations.

It has concentrated on the following industries, and in most cases formed new Trade Unions:-

1. Milling Industry;
2. Chemical Industry;
3. Hotel & Restuarant Workers;
4. Sweet Industry;
5. Biscuit Workers;
6. Stevedoring Workers;
7. Engineering Industry.

In addition, a mass meeting of workers was called to protest against the police raids during September, 1955, which was attended by 500 workers.

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3. ACTIVITIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS DURING 1955.

- A. In April, 1955, a memorandum on the Industrial Conciliation Bill was submitted to the Select Committee. This was circularised to all Trade Unions, the Press, the International Labour Organisation, and the World Federation of Trade Unions (Appendix A.)
- B. A National Executive Committee meeting of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions was held on the 27th June, 1955, which was attended by delegates from all centres, where the "Freedom Charter" was endorsed, and a decision taken to affiliate to the World Federation of Trade Unions.
- C. In September, 1955, a National School, lasting for

two weeks, was held. Delegates from the Witwatersrand, Port Elizabeth and Natal attended. This school was an outstanding success, and the Management Committee strongly recommends that several schools of the same nature be held during 1956.

- D. The Transvaal Iron, Steel and Metal Workers' Union was actively supported by the Metal Workers' Joint Committee (comprised of officials of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions). As a result of the advice and financial assistance received, this Union has made considerable progress.
- E. A monthly bulletin, "Workers' Unity", has been issued since April, 1955, and has appeared regularly. The Bulletin has a circulation of 1,000 readers, and the January, 1956, issue will appear in printed form. It is hoped that "Workers' Unity" will be known throughout the country as the Voice of the Workers, and that the circulation will increase.
- F. With the help of the Management Committee, the Transport Workers' Union was formed in Johannesburg, which organised the workers of the Public Utility Transport Corporation and other Bus Companies. It is to be hoped that a National Union of Transport Workers' will soon be established.
- G. To acquaint workers with the programme of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, a leaflet was printed and distributed on a National Scale.
- H. As a result of a directive from the Management Committee to all local Trade Unions to participate in the "Congress of the People", many workers from factories attended as delegates and observers. A Fraternal message was sent to the Congress of the People by S.A.C.T.U., and our representatives addressed the gathering.
- I. The South African Congress of Trade Unions sent messages of support and delegates, when requested, to Conferences and gatherings of the Liberatory Movements.
- J. Following the decision of the Joint Executive Committee of the National Liberatory organisations to establish a

National Consultative Committee, it was decided that our organisation accept an invitation to become a constituent part of this body. We have no doubt that the South African Congress of Trade Unions will play an invaluable role in assisting with the struggle for democratic rights for all workers. This alliance will, we are confident, hasten the development of the entire movement for freedom and security.

4.

STRIKES AND DISPUTES:

During the past year, there was a serious strike wave in the Transvaal. Strikes occurred in many industries, including the following:-

<u>NAME OF FACTORY.</u>	<u>NO. OF WORKERS.</u>	<u>INDUSTRY.</u>
Amato Textile.	2,000.	Textile.
African Lamps.	57.	Engineering.
Speedy Products.	30.	Engineering.
Pea-Nut Products.	27.	Food & Canning.
Whidmans.	30.	Engineering.
Baby-Craft Manufacturers.	20.	Toy.
Jolly Dolly Doll Manufacturers.	25.	Toy.
Phoenix Foundry.	200.	Engineering.

These strikes reflected the growing impatience of the workers for improvements in their wages and working conditions, and have indicated the strong spirit of resistance of the workers to exploitation and oppression.

5.

NATIVE LABOUR SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES ACT:

The blatant refusal of the workers to co-operate with the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act during disputes which arose during 1955, have clearly indicated the workers opposition to this Act. Workers have no confidence in the Native Labour Officers, who appear on the scene of every dispute. These officers are jeered at, and treated with such contempt that they are forced to withdraw.

The presence of the Special Branch of the Police together with the Native Labour Officers, intensely irritates the workers. Of late, the impression is that the Special

Branch of the Police appears to be administering the Act in Johannesburg, which has proved to be both unworkable and impracticable. Through the efforts of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, the dangers of the Act have been explained to the workers, and there has been a desire among workers to form Trade Unions for their protection.

6.

INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION AMENDMENT BILL:

It is with profound regret that we have to report that efforts to achieve a United Front with the S.A. Trade Union Council, in the fight against the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill have failed. Immediately after the formation of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, approaches were made to the Trade Union Council in this respect. For the attention of Conference, we submit below the correspondence between ourselves and the South African Trade Union Council

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FROM: S.A. CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

TO: The Secretary,  
South African Trade Union Council,  
Sakers' Corner, 34, Eloff Street,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Comrade,

INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION BILL.

It seems to be obvious now, that the amended Industrial Conciliation Bill will be even worse than the original bill in many respects. It also seems clear that, in the circumstances, the correct Trade Union approach would be to oppose this legislation in toto, and to refuse any kind of co-operation in its passage through the House of Assembly.

My Executive Committee is keen to establish the maximum amount of unity in the Trade Union movement on this legislation. We also believe that opposition to this Bill must be linked with the sharpest possible attack on the Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act, which was the fore-runner of the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, and which established anti-trade union principles and precedents in legislation. These two pieces of anti-working class chicanery must be linked together, the more so as they enable us to demonstrate effectively how the interests of all workers, European and non-European, alike, hang together.

I have been instructed to ask your Executive Committee to consider possible methods of co-operation with us along the above lines. As practical methods of conducting such a joint Campaign, we suggest the following:-

- (a) A National Petition to be organised and signatures to be collected at Union meetings, at factories and in the homes of workers;
- (b) Publicise the petition by special Union General Meetings devoted to the subject; by meetings at factories and finally, by mass rallies in the various centres as culminating points.
- (c) Publication of special literature.
- (d) Mass lobbying of Members of Parliament.
- (e) Mass deputations to the Minister.

It is not possible within the confines of this letter to suggest all the details of such a campaign, nor how such a Campaign can develop and create its own methods. We are also not necessarily bound to the above suggestions, but would be glad to hear proposals from your end.

As this matter is of some urgency, I would be glad to have your earliest possible reply.

With trade union greetings,

Yours fraternally,

(Signed)

L. MASINA.  
GENERAL SECRETARY.

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From: SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL.  
To: S.A. Congress of Trade Unions,  
Progress Buildings,  
Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

Dear Mr. Masina,

INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION BILL.

I am directed by the Management Committee of my Council to advise you that your letter of the 9th August, 1955, has received full consideration.

Whilst we appreciate the necessity for co-operation amongst all trade unions in opposition to the Industrial Conciliation Bill, the Management Committee has decided that this Council will

- (a) determine its policy; and
- (b) prepare its campaign;

against the Bill in the light of the decisions of Annual Conference and any Special Conference that may be held. Having decided on these two matters, should any other trade union bodies find themselves in agreement with our decisions, our Council will no doubt welcome their support.

My Council is meanwhile examining the report of the Select Committee and the Bill as amended by it and will shortly be meeting the Minister of Labour to discuss the matter. I thank you for the information contained in your letter of the 9th August, 1955.

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) Dulcie M. Maxwell, Hon. Sec.

SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

Donation to Indian Textile Strike.	1. 1. 0.		
Rent.	70.16. 0.	Affiliation Fees Receivable.	681.11. 6.
Stationery.	55. 4. 0.	Donations Received.	174. 3. 0.
Travelling Expenses - Reef.	5.11. 6.	Trade Union Co-ordinating Committee.	14. 1.10.
Salaries. - Clerical Staff.	217. 6. 0.	Surplus on Winding up Transferred.	
Cost of May Day Leaflets.	10. 0. 0.	Commission on Photographs.	1. 5. 6.
Cost of Public Meeting - Police Raid.	7. 7. 3.		
Cost of Meeting.	8. 7. 6.		
Less Collection.	<u>1. 0. 3.</u>		
 "Workers' Unity".			
Cost of Production	15. 3. 3.		
& Postage.	54. 4. 8.		
Less Sales.	<u>39. 1. 5.</u>		
 Conference & N.E.C. Expenses.	15. 3. 0.		
Expenses re. Trade Union School.	8. 9. 6.		
Office Maintenance.	9. 8. 3.		
Bank Charges.	3. 5.11.		
Postages.	5. 0. 8.		
Telephone.	7. 7.11.		
Teas.	4.17.10.		
Expenses re. Farm Labourers Strike-			
Nelspruit.	31. 0. 0.		
Legal Expenses.	21.0. 0.		
Travelling Expenses.	<u>10.0. 0.</u>		
 Depreciation of Furniture & Equipment.	12. 5. 0.		
 EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE			
to Accumulated Fund Account.	<u>391.14. 9.</u>		
	<u>£871. 1.10.</u>		
			<u>£871. 1.10.</u>

9.

SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

<u>FUNDS HELD IN TRUST:</u>	41. 7. 0.	<u>OFFICE FURNITURE &amp; EQUIPMENT:</u>	119. 7. 0.
Subscriptions from unorganised workers.	24.16.6.	At cost.	131.12. 0.
San Defence Fund Appeal.	1.10.6.	Loss Current Depreciation.	<u>12. 5. 0.</u>
Cigar Workers' Strike Appeal.	<u>15. 0.0.</u>	<u>ARREAR AFFILIATION FEES DUE:</u>	219.11. 9.
<u>SUNDRY CREDITORS:</u>	6. 0. 9.	<u>SUNDRY DEBTORS "WORKERS' UNITY"</u>	25. 1.11.
<u>SUSPENSE ACCOUNT:</u>	10. 0.	<u>CASH:</u>	97. 5. 2.
<u>PREPAID AFFILIATION FEES:</u>	21113. 4.	At Bank.	35.13. 7.
<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS:</u>	391.14. 9.	On Hand.	61. 9. 4.
Being excess of income over expenditure for the 10 months ended 31.12.55. transferred from Income & Expenditure Account.	.	Petty Cash.	<u>2. 3.</u>
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£461. 5.10.		£461. 5.10.
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Subject to my report of even date.

JOHANNESBURG.  
22nd FEBRUARY, 1956.

*M. Muller*  
M. MULLER.  
BOOKKEEPER.

(11)

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Realising that the task of sincerely fighting the I.C. Bill had fallen upon the South African Congress of Trade Unions, the Management Committee adopted a plan to mobilise the workers in the fight against the Bill. All local committees were immediately directed to prepare for a national conference to oppose the Bill.

A mass petition campaign was launched, and local committees directed to convene local conferences to popularise the National Conference, obtain signatures and elect delegates. The aim behind the directive was to draw the workers actively into the fight to protect the Trade Union movement.

We have to report that Local Committees have responded magnificently to our directives. In the Transvaal, the Local Committee issued leaflets and convened a successful conference in February, 1956, which was attended by approximately 300 workers.

At Port Elizabeth, the Local Committee organised a two-day Conference on the 5th and 6th February, 1956, and the Natal Local Committee organised a Conference on the 12th February, 1956. No local Conference was held in the Western Province, since the National Conference was convened in the Cape. However, the Cape Local Committee actively propogandised the National Conference.

In presenting the above report, to this, our First Annual National Conference, we recognise the serious short-comings in our work, and fearlessly admit them in order to progress. In conclusion, we reiterate:-

"The future of the people of South Africa is in the hands of its workers. Only the working-class, in alliance with other progressive minded sections of the community, can build a happy life for all South Africans, a life free from unemployment, insecurity and poverty, free from racial hatred and oppression, a life of vast opportunities for all people".

(Extract from the Declaration of Principles - Constitution of the South African Congress of Trade Unions).

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL.

L. MASINA.  
GENERAL SECRETARY.

(12)

The Annual Conference,  
S.A. CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

Dear Friends,

I have on the instructions of your Secretary, checked and verified your accounts and written up your books for the period ended 31st December, 1955, and I have to report on the following matters:

1. AUDIT.

There is no express provision in your Constitution for the auditing of your books and accounts. While such a provision may not be held to be strictly necessary, it is essential that your accounts both at the Head Office and for Local Committees, be independently examined and checked.

2. BOOKS SEIZED BY POLICE:

During a police raid on your offices, the political police seized and have not yet returned, certain of your receipt books and vouchers. This accounts for the item "Suspense Account" which refers to an amount of 10/- banked in excess of known receipts. This also accounts for an amount of £30.0.0. shown as part of cash on hand known to have been received by cheque for which there is no receipt available and no record of it being banked.

3. "WORKERS UNITY":

It has not been possible to ascertain exactly the cost of production of your journal and the actual cost is probably somewhat higher than the amount shown in the accounts.

4. TRUST FUNDS:

(a) Subscriptions: these are received directly from workers for whom there is no trade union in existence. There is no arrangement for the separate banking of such funds and for control over these funds by the people who pay them.

(b) Cigar Workers' Strike Appeal: An amount of £15.0.0. in response to this appeal was received in May, 1955, which amount has at the date hereof not been paid over to the trade union concerned.

5. PETTY CASH:

Vouchers were not produced for an amount of £2.13.4. shown as petty cash spent.

6. AFFILIATION FEES:

Considerable confusion exists over the so-called "base fee" of 10/- per month, which is not being paid by all affiliated Unions, and a definite decision on this provision of your Constitution is called for. It is also necessary that when applications for affiliation are accepted, the amount of fees to be paid by organisations paying less than the ordinary rate should be decided by your N.T.C. and reflected in its minutes. In the absence hereof, I have relied on information provided by your Treasurer. Attention is also drawn to Clause 10 (C) of your Constitution relating to annual returns by affiliated trade unions.

/Subject.....

Subject to the above, I report that to the best of my knowledge and belief, and on the information supplied to me, the attached reflects a true statement of the Income and Expenditure Account, and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

In my opinion, the balance sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, according to the best of my knowledge and explanations given me, and as shown by the books of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, as at the 31st December, 1955.

*M. Muller*  
M. MULLER.  
BOOKKEEPER.

Johannesburg,  
23rd February, 1956.

**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**

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