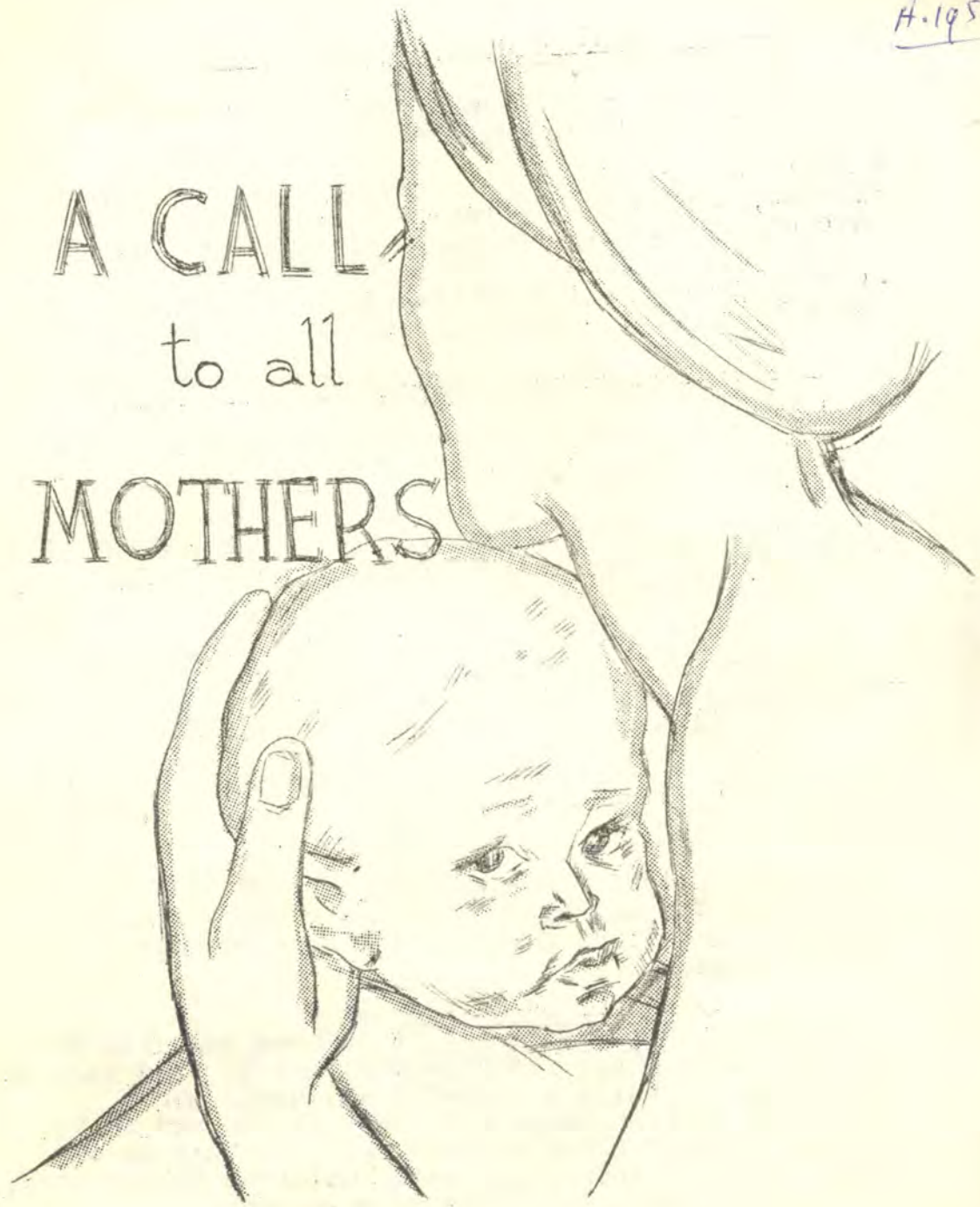


A. 195

A CALL
to all
MOTHERS



WHAT IS THE FIRST THING A MOTHER THINKS OF?

The answer is simple - a mother's first concern is for her child or children.

She wants her children to have good food, proper clothes, a pleasant home; to be educated; to have opportunities for happiness and development.

No mother will rest content until she has won these things for her children.

HOW CAN WE GET WHAT WE WANT FOR OUR CHILDREN?

The time when women sat at home and wept or wished for better things for their children has long since passed.

Women are now in the forefront of the fight in our country for a better life for all, particularly for our children.

Large numbers of women worked day and night to make the great Congress of the People a success. More women than ever before were among the delegates from all over our country attending that Congress.

No people can win freedom while the women are kept back. No people can win happiness while the women are prevented from playing their part.

Our children's future depends on the extent to which we, the mothers of South Africa, organise and work and fight for a better life for our little ones.

WHAT MUST WE DO?

Recently, a World Congress of Mothers was held in Europe. Women from every country met to find ways to end wars, to build a peaceful and happy world. We South African women will meet to add our voices to those of other women in the world, so that we can express our opinions and seek solutions to the problems of our country and of mothers everywhere.

THE CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.

ON August 7th, Transvaal Mothers will meet. This is what they will discuss:-

- What women can do to help carry out the Freedom Charter adopted at the Congress of the People.
- How we can campaign particularly for those sections of the Charter that call for "Houses, Security and Comfort!" and "The Doors of Learning and Culture shall be Opened!"
- How women of South Africa can help to preserve peace, to prevent the fearful and useless destruction of human life in war.
- How we women can strengthen and build our organisations and win recognition of our right to equal treatment and rights as human beings; how we can do away with laws and customs that keep women as inferiors.

WHO WILL BE THERE?

We call on every mother, every woman, to come to the Congress of Mothers. No woman will be debarred from attending. Every woman who has the future of her children, of the children of South Africa, at heart, is invited to attend this meeting.

SHOW THIS LEAFLET to women you know. Urge them to come. And see that you come yourself, on:-

SUNDAY 7th AUGUST, 9.30 a.m.
TRADES HALL NO. 3, (1st Floor), Kerk Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE: Tea will be served at 3d cup, but you are asked to bring your own lunch - WE CANNOT SERVE LUNCHEs. Bring sandwiches or other food for midday.

ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN

Last year women from all over South Africa met together in Johannesburg. Their purpose was to set up an organisation that would bring together women of all races and sections, assist to build and develop women's organisations, and press forward women's demands for an end to unfair and unequal treatment of women.

The result of this meeting was the formation of the Federation of South African Women.

The Federation is built on the basis of existing women's organisations, strengthening and uniting them in activities and in purpose. The Federation has already played an outstanding rôle in organising and speaking out on behalf of women, and in bringing women of different sections together. The Federation made a vital contribution to the organisation of the Congress of the People.

See that your organisation affiliates to the Federation of South African Women.

WOMEN'S PART IS VITAL IN THE STRUGGLE

FOR PEACE AND HAPPINESS.

Issued by the Federation of South African
Women (Transvaal Region) Box 10876, Jhbg.

L.M. 17
I



U SAL MET TROTS
KAN SÊ

EK WAS DAAR!



Die 9de Augustus 1956 sal een van die mees belangrike dae in die jaar vir die vroue van Suid Afrika wees. Hierdie dag is gekies vir 'n massa-optog na die eerste Minister van ons land om protes aan te teken teen die ondraaglikhede van paswte.

Vroue, sê die Regering, moet nou Verwysings-boeke dra. Hulle moet deel word van die vernederende stelsel Vangwae'ns, klopjagte, boetes en tronkstraf vir pass oortredings. Passe is alreeds aan Naturelle vrouens uitgereik. Vroue het alreeds in hulle duisende daarteen gedemonstreer.

Wat ookal u kleur, wat ookal u rassegroep u sal ook eendag die slagoffer van hierdie stelsel word, tensy u nou protesteer saam met u naturelle susters. Verlede jaar het 2,000 vroue van alle rasse op Pretoria gedemonstreer teen die "Baasskap" wette. Dit was een van die waardigste, gedisplineerste en treffendste demonstrasies wat die land ooit gesein he. Op die 9de Augustus sal daisende weer na Pretoria gaan in nog 'n gedetermineerde en groter demonstrasie.

KOM SAAM: U SAL EENDAG MET TROTS KAN SÊ: EK WAS DAAR SAAM MET DAAR-
DIE DUISENDE VROUE: EK HET MY DEEL BYGEDRA TOT NIERDIE MEES BELANGRI-
KE STRYD VAN ONS LAND.

Vul hierdie vorm in en pos dit vandag aan die Sekretaris, Federasie van Suid-Afrikaanse Vroue, Posbus 10876, Johannesburg.

Ek wil deelneen aan die demonstrasie van Vroue.

stuur my asseblief inligting.

NAAM.....

ADRES.....

NA PRETORIA OP 9de AUGUSTUS 1956

(2)

FK 10

Federation of South African Women (Transvaal Region) P.O. Box 10876, Johannesburg.

WOMEN DON'T WANT PASSIES!

Plans for the issue of passes to African women are now complete. WHEN YOU CARRY A PASS.....you may not move freely from place to place; you can be arrested at any time, day or night, for failing to produce your pass on demand; you become a SLAVE to police and government, who can order you to go where they please, to work where they demand. PASS LAWS DESTROY FAMILY LIFE.

IN THE PAST, AFRICAN WOMEN HAVE ALWAYS SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THEM CARRY PASSES. WE WILL NOT NOW BECOME SLAVES TO THE PASS LAWS!

Women of the Transvaal are going to Pretoria on THURSDAY 27th OCTOBER, 1955, to put their demands to the Government. As WOMEN AND MOTHERS we are going to demand freedom of movement, the right to have homes where we choose, to have real education for our children. We are going to protest against pass laws, Bantu Education, and other unjust laws. We are going to demand the right to justice and happiness for every child in this country.

You are invited to join this mass protest of women of all races. Let the voice of women be heard clearly and loudly throughout the land, so that our legitimate demands are answered with justice!

If you have not already given your name in, fill in this form and hand it to your Branch Secretary of the African National Congress Women's League, or post it direct to: P.O. BOX 10876, JOHANNESBURG.

I want to join the Women's Protest. Please send me more information.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

THE VOICE OF WOMEN WILL BE HEARD
THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA ON the 27th!

25 J.J.M. 20.

CALLING the WOMEN OF JOHANNESBURG!

TO A MEETING IN THE
TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS OFFICES
COR: WEST E. MARKET STS: ON
SUNDAY, 27th MAY, at 2.P.M.



to discuss the

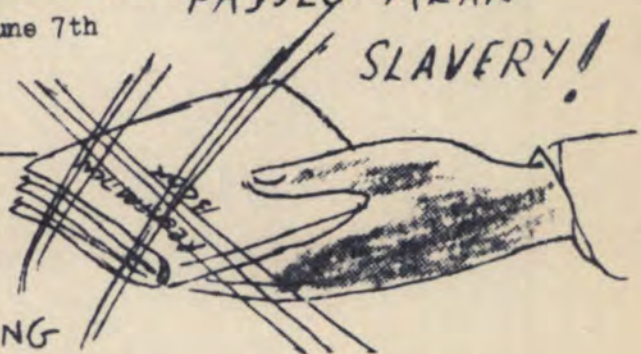
MASS DEMONSTRATION TO THE NATIVE COMMISSIONER, FORTSBURG.

While women in Winburg suffer persecution and prosecution, we women of Johannesburg must make their struggles and sacrifices worth while by organising ourselves to be ready for the day when Verwoerd will try to thrust his passes on Johannesburg women. We must all say: WE REJECT PASSES! We must say it every day, to everyone we meet, and on June 7th we will say it to the Native Commissioner.

PASSES MEAN
SLAVERY!

COME TOGETHER ON
SUNDAY 27th MAY

HEAR HOW THE WOMEN ARE GOING
TO ORGANISE AGAINST PASSES, AND
FOR JUNE 7th



IF YOU CANNOT COME ON SUNDAY 27th MAY
AT 2 P.M., BE SURE TO COME TO THE
TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS OFFICES, AT THE
CORNER OF WEST E MARKET STS, ON
SUNDAY, 3rd JUNE AT 2 P.M.

WE WOMEN DON'T WANT PASSES!!

Issued by the Federation of South African Women (Transvaal) P.O. Box 10876,
and the A.N.C. Women's League (Transvaal) Box 9207, Johannesburg.

70DN 70 *A Copies*
CONGRESS CALLS THE PEOPLE TO ACTION.

AFRICANS!!

WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING?

HERE IN SOUTH AFRICA, life is becoming harder everyday.

The Nationalist Government is trying to force our Women to carry Basses.

Police, at VLAKFONTEIN, LICHTENBURG and elsewhere have opened fire, killing and wounding Africans.

Rents are being increased,

Permits are being enforced.

RAIDS! RAIDS!. RAIDS! - for passes, taxes, permits, beer.

Bantu Education for our children.

IN EGYPT, our brother Africans are suffering under invasion.

WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING?

WAKE UP AND JOIN THE STRUGGLE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS - FOR F R E E D O M.

F R E E D O M, FOR E Q U A L R I G H T S, FOR DECENT WAGES AND CONDITIONS.

COME TO CONGRESS MEETINGS!

JOIN THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS!

① F.M.M. 27

TO THE NATIVE COMMISSIONER.....

We the women of....PORT..ELIZABETH.....request you as the Native Commissioner for this area to forward this protest to the Prime Minister of South Africa, Mr J.G. Strydom. While thousands of women are speaking for us today at the Union Buildings, we want the Prime Minister to know that hundreds of thousands of us all over this land support this protest and oppose the psaa system and all its evils with all our strnght and determination.

For hundreds of years the African people have suffered under the most bitter law of all - the pass law which has brought untold suffering to every African family.

Raids, arrests, loss of pay, long hours at the pass office, weeks in the cells awaiting trial, forced farm labour - this is what the pass laws have brought to African men. Punishment and misery - not for a crime but for the lack of a pass.

We african women know too well the effect of this law upon our homes, our children. We who are not African women, know how our sisters suffer.

Your Government proclaims aloud at home and abroad that the pass laws have been abolished but we women know that this is untrue for our husbands, our brothers our sons are still being arrested, thousands every day, under these very pass laws. It is only the name which has changed. The reference book and the pass are one.

In March 1952 your Minister of Native Affairs denied in Parliament that a law would be introduced which would force African women to carry passes. But in 1956 your Government is attempting to force passes upon the African women and we are here today to protest against this insult to all women. For an insult to African women is an insult to all women.

We want to tell you what the pass would mean to an African woman and we want you to know that whether you call it a reference book, an identity book, or by any other disguising name, to us it is a PASS. And it means just this:-

- That homes will be broken up when women are arrested under pass laws.
 - That children will be left uncared for, helpless, and mothers will be torn from their babies for failure to produce a pass.
 - That women and young girls will be exposed to humiliation and degradation at the hands of pass searching policemen.
 - That women will lose their right to move about freely.
- In the name of women of South Africa we say to you, each one of us, African, Indian, European, Coloured, that we are opposed to the pass system.

We voters and voteless, call upon your Government not to issue passes to African women.

We shall not rest until pass laws and all forms of permits restricting our freedom have been abolished.

WE SHALL NOT REST UNTIL WE HAVE WON FOR OUR CHILDREN THEIR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF FREEDOM JUSTICE AND SECURITY.

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

..... Sowastuk 10.7.56 5 (C)

AREA Gekry by J. Matayela

Deur Serant Roberts

Tc 79 Lincha Way P.O. N.B.

Datum 5/11/56

Wysings No 671: 6/300

WOMEN WILL NOT BE SLAVES

967 J.M. 62

Transvaal WOMEN'S DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH, 1956

WOMEN OF THE TRANSVAAL! MARCH 11TH WILL BE YOUR DAY!

IT WILL BE A DAY OF PROTEST!

Women do NOT want Pass Laws! We are not prepared to submit to the humiliations and sufferings that Pass Laws bring. On March 11th we are going to speak our minds and let South Africa know our thoughts.

We are also going to PROTEST against INCREASED RENTALS, the EVICTIONS AT BENONI, and against all the new hardships that are to be inflicted on women of all races through such bad laws as the INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION BILL, the NURSING AMENDMENT BILL, BANTU EDUCATION, POPULATION REGISTRATION, S.A. ACT AMENDMENT, the BILL TO EVICT AFRICANS.

IT WILL BE A DAY OF CELEBRATION!

We are going to celebrate INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, the one day set aside throughout the world for women to put forward their demands. We shall hear an eye-witness report of women in other countries, and how INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY can help S. African women.

IT WILL BE A DAY OF DEDICATION!

We women will dedicate ourselves to fight for a NEW South African Constitution - THE FREEDOM CHARTER! This will be OUR answer to pass laws for women. We will dedicate ourselves to work for a free South Africa!

SUNDAY 11TH MARCH AT 9 A.M.
at the
TRADES HALL (No 3) KERK ST

ALL WOMEN OF THE TRANSVAAL ARE
INVITED -
ON MARCH 11TH SHOW WE ARE UNITED!

Mothers, daughters - Women of All Races! Make March 11th a day to go down in history!
Issued by The Federation of South African Women (Transvaal Region) P.O. Box 10876, Jhb.

WOMEN AGAINST HATE. PASS LAWS - FOR FREEDOM!



J.J.M. 46.

77

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Federation of South African Women,
Transvaal Region,
P.O. Box 10876,
JOHANNESBURG

LET WOMEN MAKE THE LAWS!

Laws such as the Bantu Education Act change our children's lives. Yet what say have we African women had in making such laws?

We must speak out as women and as mothers against everything that destroys our family life, robs us of proper homes, takes our husbands from us and harms our children, now and in the future!

AS WOMEN AND MOTHERS the Federation of South African Women calls for an end to the segregation and discrimination on colour lines that poison our land and destroy our children.

AS WOMEN AND MOTHERS we shall go to Pretoria on 27th October, 1955, to demand from the Government the right to justice and happiness for every child in this country.

AS WOMEN AND MOTHERS we ask all African women to respond to our call, to join in this mass protest of women, to join the voices of African women clearly and loudly with the women of other races so that our legitimate demands are heard over the length and breadth of South Africa and are answered with justice.

FILL IN THIS FORM AND HAND IT TO YOUR BRANCH SECRETARY OF THE A.N.C. WOMEN'S LEAGUE OR POST IT TO P.O. BOX 10876, JOHANNESBURG.

I want to join the Women's Protest. Please send me more information.

NAME: Virginia Binaka
ADDRESS: 9 - 11 - ave
Alexander townships

WYSSEX No.
ckry by 102 - 16 ac laan
Alexander 5706
Alexander
57056

BSAW.
ANCWL.

①

R.H.46

WILL WOMEN CARRY PASSES?

Will women carry passes? Will we be bundled into the pick-ups for going out without our "documents" or "reference books" . . . will we be searched, handled, jailed, while our children wait in vain for us to return?

Women in Germiston - Winburg - Bethlehem - Pretoria - Johannesburg - Evaton - Parys and many other places have already given their answer to the authorities, plainly and clearly, in mass protests, saying:

"WE WOMEN DON'T WANT PASSES"

NOW women have decided to go to the Prime Minister himself to tell him how they feel.

ON AUGUST 9th, THOUSANDS OF WOMEN WILL GO TO PRETORIA TO SHOW THE GOVERNMENT AND ALL SOUTH AFRICA THAT THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO SUFFER THE HUMILIATIONS AND INDIGNITIES OF THE HATED PASS SYSTEM.

YOU WILL BE PROUD TO SAY:

"I WAS THERE!"

Last year, 2,000 women startled the country when they went to Pretoria. This year, we will make the demonstration much greater, but just as dignified and disciplined. This will be the most important day of the year for women of South Africa.

YOU MUST COME TOO! ONE DAY, YOU WILL BE PROUD TO SAY: "I WAS THERE! I WAS ONE OF THOSE THOUSANDS OF WOMEN. I PLAYED MY PART IN THIS MOST VITAL STRUGGLE OF OUR TIMES!"

Fill in this form and post it today, to the Secretary, Federation of South African Women, Box 10876, Johannesburg, or to the Secretary, A.N.C. Women's League, Box 9207, Johannesburg.

I want to join the Women's Demonstration. Please send me information.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

**TO PRETORIA ON AUGUST 9th! AGAINST PASS LAWS!
HUMAN RIGHTS!**



Bewysings No.
Gekry by *Arthur Radebe*
Deur *M. M. de Vries*
Te *41, Buitenkant*
Datum *27/8/56*
Verwysings No.

Duplicate

Jan 18

①

PASSES for
WOMEN!

Jan 18 1956
5/27/56
Official pass



THE PASS SYSTEM daily destroys our family life. Our husbands, our fathers, our sons, are thrown into gaol under this degrading system. We wait in vain for them to return to their homes.

Now wif women are told that we, too, will have to carry passes. We, too, will be exposed to the pass raids, the pick-up, the search, the cells, while our children will be left alone and helpless.

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS OF AFRICA! DO YOU WANT THIS TO HAPPEN TO YOU? The Pass system is NOT made to help us, it is NOT for our protection. The new books are passes, just as same as the men must carry. Passes make it impossible for us to move around freely.

Now the new "LOCATION IN THE SKY" Act is going to force African men and women domestic workers to leave their rooms in blocks of flats, and find a place to live in the already over-crowded locations. This means they must travel to and from work every day - and day by day will be called on to show their passes to the police, to be arrested if they forget to carry them.

IN DURBAN, in Germiston, and other places, many women have already demonstrated against the Pass Laws. They have spoken out against Pass Laws. Now the women of Johannesburg are going to the Native Commissioner in Fordsburg to tell him what they think of the Pass Laws. On Thursday, June 7th, hundreds of women will demonstrate. Join them! Join the protest! You, too, must say "We don't want passes!"

SIGN UP TO JOIN THE JOHANNESBURG PROTEST ON ~~THURSDAY~~ 7th, 1956.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Issued by the Federation of S.A. Women & the A.N.C. Women's League. Box 10876, Jhb.



g. 773
What do Women Want?

Women - this is your chance to speak out - your needs, your wishes, your demands!

This public meeting is being held to give women a chance to put forward their demands for the FREEDOM CHARTER. What do women want to make South Africa a better land? What do women demand for their children. YOU must give the answer! Let YOUR voice be heard. The Demands will be discussed at the great Congress of the People.

SUNDAY 29th

MAY - 2 P.M.

TRADES HALL

KERK STREET

ALL WOMEN WELCOME!

Prominent Women Speakers

BRING YOUR DEMANDS FOR THE FREEDOM CHARTER!

Organised by The Federation of South African Women, Box ~~10576~~ 10576 Jhb. g.

FEB. 96.

FSAW CTVL
Regional (EXEC.)
COMMITTEE
2 copies

FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN (TVL)

CALLING all WOMEN OF THE TRANSVAAL!

The Provincial Conference will be held on
Sunday 2nd DECEMBER

at the

GANDHI HALL, 50 Fox St (between Sauer & West Sts.) at 9 a.m.

Women delegates are invited from all branches of the A.N.C. Women's League, from the Tvl. Indian Congress, from the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, from the Congress of Democrats, from the Food & Canning Workers' Union, from Church Organisations, from Women's Committees and organisations, and from groups of women.

Individual women who wish to attend in their personal capacity will be warmly welcomed.

Women are threatened as never before -

BY THE GROUP AREAS ACT, THE PASS LAWS, AND MANY OTHER OPPRESSIVE LAWS.

UNDER THE PASS LAWS African women will have to carry passes; they will be arrested, jailed, torn from their children, their homes and families,

UNDER THE GROUP AREAS ACT thousands of India, Coloured and African mothers will be ruthlessly uprooted from their homes; they and their children will be homeless -

WHERE CAN THEY GO?



FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN (TVL)
DIE PROVINSALE KONFERENSIE sal op Sondag, Desember 2, in die OH. NISDAL, Foxstraat 50, Johannesburg, (tussen Sauer en Mosstrate) om 9 a.m. gehou word.
Virne afgevaardigdes van alle takke van die African National Congress Women's League, Transvaal Indian Congress, S.A. Coloured Peoples Organisation, Congress of Democrats, Food & Canning Workers' Union, Kerk organisasies, Virne Komitees en organisasies, Virne grupe, word uitgenooi.
Virne individue wie in hulle persoonlike hoedanigheid die vergadering wil bywoon, sal vriendelik verwelkom word.
VROU WERD GEDREIG SOOS NOOIT TEVOREN NIE -
DEUR DIE GROEPGEBIEDE WET, DIE PASWETTE EN NOG VEEL ANDER WETTE VAN VERDRING.
ONDER DIE P.A.S.TELLE - .Trik an vroege sal . . . verlaas word
Gensam word, van hulle klein kindertjies afgeskeur word, asook van hulle huise en huisings.
ONDER DIE GROEPGEBIEDE WET - Duitse van Indiese, Kleurling en Afrikaanse moeders sal van hul huise op 'n meedogenlose manier uitgewortel word, hulle en hul kinders sal sonder huisvesting wees.
WAT S I HULLE TOEKOM N. JOE WESSE

in BEROEP OP
ALLE VROUENS IN
DIE TRANSVAAL

20,000 VROUWES IN DIE OPTOG N. DIE UNIEGEROUE OP

AUGUST 9

om teen die Paswette te protesteer. Strydom het geweier om ons te sien. Maar ons gaan voort in ons worstel.

Nou moet die vrouens van die Transvaal weer bymekaar kom, Afrikaner, Indier, Kleurling, Blanke, om te strewe vir 'n beter bestaan vir al ons kinders.

INDIER EN KLEURLING VROUWES HET VERKLAR D. T. HULLE VIR HUL HUISE S. L. VEG.

AFRIKANER VROUWES HET VERKLAR D. T. HULLE NIE P. S. S. L. DR. NIE.

As vroue van alle rasse moet ons organiseer

en verenig teen hierdie wrede wette.

ONS MOET ALLE VROUWES BYMEKAAR ROEP OM

SY-EN-SY IN HIERDIE WORSTEL TE ST. N.

In ons EENHEID lê ons KRAG!

LAAT ONS VORENTOEG. AN. VIR ONS KINDERS.

ORGANISEER! VERENIG!

ONS S. L. NIE VERDEEL WEES NIE.

WE SHALL NOT BE DIVIDED!
UNITE!
ORGANISE!

We must call all women together to stand side by side in the struggle. In our unity lies our strength. Let us go forward together for all our children.

against these vicious Acts. AS WOMEN OF ALL RACES we must organize and unite

not carry passes! AFRICAN WOMEN have declared that they will

they will fight for their homes! INDIAN AND COLOURED WOMEN have declared that

for a better life for all our children. Now the women of the Transvaal must come together again, African, Indian, Coloured, European, to fight

OUR STRUGGLE. TO MEET US. BUT WE ARE STILL GOING FORWARD IN TO PROTEST AGAINST PASSES LAWS. STRYDOM REFUSED

BUILDINGS ON AUGUST 9th
20,000 WOMEN WENT TO UNION

(2)

1396

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THE DEMAND OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA

FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF PASSES FOR WOMEN AND THE REPEAL OF ~~THE PASS-LAWS.~~

We, the women of South Africa, have come here today, We represent and we speak on behalf of hundreds of thousands of women who could not be with us. But all over the country, at this moment, women are watching and thinking of us. Their hearts are with us.

We are women from every part of South Africa. We are women of every race, we come from the cities and the towns, from the reserves and the villages. We come as women united in our purpose to save the African woman from the degradation of passes.

For hundreds of years the African people have suffered under the most bitter law of all - the pass law which has brought untold suffering to every African family.

Raids, arrests, loss of pay, long hours at the pass office, weeks in the cells awaiting trial, forced farm labour - this is what the pass laws have brought to African men. Punishment and misery - not for a crime but for the lack of a pass.

We African women know too well the effect of this law upon our husbands and our children. We, who are not African women, know how our sisters suffer.

Your Government proclaims aloud at home and abroad that the pass laws have been abolished, but we women know this is not true, for our husbands, our brothers, our sons are still being arrested, thousands a day, under these very pass laws. It is only the name that has changed, the "reference book" and the pass are one.

In March 1952, your Minister of Native Affairs denied in Parliament that a law would be introduced which would force African women to carry passes. But in 1956 your Government is attempting to force passes upon African women, and we are here today to protest against this insult to women. For to us an insult to African women is an insult to all women.

We want to tell you what the pass would mean to an African woman, and we want you to know that whether you call it a reference book, an identity book, or by any other disguising name, to us it is a PASS. And it means just this:-

That homes will be broken up when women are arrested under pass laws.

That children will be left uncared for, helpless, and mothers will be torn from their babies for failure to produce a pass.

That women and young girls will be exposed to humiliation and degradation at the hands of pass-searching policemen.

That women will lose their right to move freely from one place to another.

In the name of women of South Africa, we say to you, each one of us, African, European, Indian, Coloured, that we are opposed to the pass system.

We, voters and voteless, call upon your Government not to issue passes to African women.

We shall not rest until ALL pass laws and all forms of permits restricting our freedom have been abolished.

We shall not rest until we have won for our children their fundamental rights of freedom, justice, and security.

NAME
ADDRESS

ADDRESS

THE DEMAND OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF PASSES FOR WOMEN AND THE REPEAL of the Pass Laws G. 896.

We, the women of South Africa, have come here today. We represent and we speak on behalf of hundreds of thousands of women who could not be with us. But all over the country, at this moment, women are watching and thinking of us. Their hearts are with us.

We are women from every part of South Africa. We are women of every race, we come from the cities and the towns, from the reserves and the villages. We come as women united in our purpose to save the African woman from the degradation of passes.

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- That children will be left uncared for, helpless, and mothers will be torn from their babies for failure to produce a pass.
- That women and young girls will be exposed to humiliation and degradation at the hands of pass-searching policemen.
- That women will lose their right to move freely from one place to another.

In the name of women of South Africa, we say to you, each one of us, African, European, Indian, Coloured, that we are opposed to the pass system.

We, voters and voteless, call upon your Government not to issue passes to African women.

We shall not rest until ALL pass laws and all forms of permits restricting our freedom have been abolished.

We shall not rest until ..

.. we have won for our children their fundamental rights of freedom, justice, and security.

NAME : Maggie Kamutala ADDRESS : 110 Ntshekisa St.
AREA : Port Elizabeth
Cape Province

PRESENTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER
August 9th 1956.

THE DEMAND OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF PASSES FOR WOMEN AND THE REPEAL OF PASS LAWS

We, the women of South Africa, have come here today. We represent and we speak on behalf of hundreds of thousands of women who could not be with us. But all over the country, at this moment, women are watching and thinking of us. Their hearts are with us.

We are women from every part of South Africa. We are women of every race, we come from cities and towns, from the reserves and villages. We come as women united in our purpose to save the African women from the degradation of passes.

For hundreds of years, the African people have suffered under the most bitter law of all - the pass law, which has brought untold suffering to every African family.

Raids, arrests, loss of pay, long hours at the pass office, weeks in cells awaiting trial, forced farm labour - this is what the pass laws have brought to African men. Punishment and misery not for a crime, but for the lack of a pass.

We African women know too well the effect of this law upon our homes, our children. We, who are not African women, know how our sisters suffer.

Your Government proclaims aloud at home and abroad that the pass laws have been abolished, but we women know this is not true, for our husbands, our brothers, our sons are still being arrested, thousands every day, under these very pass laws. It is only the name that has changed. The "reference book" and the pass are one.

In March, 1952, your Minister of Native Affairs denied in Parliament that a law would be introduced which would force African women to carry passes. But in 1956 your Government is attempting to force passes upon the African women, and we are here today to protest against this insult to all women. For to us an insult to African women is an insult to all women.

We want to tell you what the pass would mean to African women, and we want you to know that whether you call it a reference book, an identity book, or by any other name to disguise it, to us it is a PASS. And it means just this:-

that homes will be broken up when women are arrested under pass laws;

that children will be left uncared for, helpless, and mothers will be torn from their babies for failure to produce a pass;

that women and young girls will be exposed to humiliation and degradation at the hands of pass-searching policemen;

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We shall not rest until we have won for our children their fundamental right of freedom, justice and security.

NAME Bertha Mashaba ADDRESS 1311 7th Ave
AREA Germiston

PRESENTED to the PRIME MINISTER
AUGUST 9th 1956

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NAME Mary Santa

ADDRESS 604 White City Gardens

AREA Johannesburg

PRESENTED to the PRIME MINISTER
AUGUST 9th 1956.

4 717

THE DEMAND OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF PASSES FOR WOMEN AND THE REPEAL OF PASS LAWS.

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NAME *G. Mbitana* ADDRESS *1890 Mabeinela W.T.T.S*

AREA *Johannesburg*

PRESENTED to the PRIME MINISTER

AUGUST 9th 1956

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NAME J. Bassett ADDRESS 83-10th Avenue,
NAME J. Johannes Lydenburg, Johannesburg

PRESENTED to the PRIME MINISTER
AUGUST 9th 1956

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NAME Lilian Ngoyi ADDRESS 9870 B. Orlando
AREA Orlando

PRESENTED to the PRIME MINISTER
AUGUST 9th 1956

WOMEN DON'T WANT PASSES!

IMM. 2

Plans for the issue of passes to African women are now complete. WHEN YOU CARRY A PASS.....you may not move freely from place to place; you can be arrested at any time, day or night, for failing to produce your pass on demand; you become a SLAVE to police and government, who can order you to go where they please, to work where they demand. PASS LAWS DESTROY FAMILY LIFE.

IN THE PAST, AFRICAN WOMEN HAVE ALWAYS SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THEM CARRY PASSES. WE WILL NOT NOW BECOME SLAVES TO THE PASS LAWS!

Women of the Transvaal are going to Pretoria on THURSDAY 27th OCTOBER, 1955, to put their demands to the Government. As WOMEN AND MOTHERS we are going to demand freedom of movement, the right to have homes where we choose, to have real education for our children. We are going to protest against pass laws, Bantu Education, and other unjust laws. We are going to demand the right to justice and happiness for every child in this country.

You are invited to join this mass protest of women of all races. Let the voice of women be heard clearly and loudly throughout the land, so that our legitimate demands are answered with justice!

If you have not already given your name in, fill in this form and hand it to your Branch Secretary of the African National Congress Women's League, or post it direct to: P.O. BOX 10876, JOHANNESBURG.

I want to join the Women's Protest. Please send me more information.

NAME Johanna 944

ADDRESS 18 Dowling av.

Edenclare Johannesburg

Telephone No.
J. M. Muri
Ms. E. Green
577 Hamilton St. Newclare
5-12-56
Sings No.

THE VOICE OF WOMEN WILL BE HEARD THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA ON the 27th!

Collection Number: AD1812

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

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand

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