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A G E N D A.

FOR THE TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
TRANSVAAL INDIAN YOUTH TO BE HELD AT THE
DUNCAN HALL, JOHANNESBURG ON SUNDAY 15TH MAY
1955 COMMENCING AT 9.30 A.M.

1. Opening Address of Dr G.M. Naicker, President, Natal Indian Congress.
2. Chairman's remarks.
3. Messages - A. Jassat.
4. Musical Item.
5. Secretarial Report. - S. Esakjee.
Discussion.
6. Nominations.
 - a) President.
 - b) Chairman.
 - c) 3 Vice-Chairmen.
 - d) Joint Hon. Secretaries.
 - e) Joint Hon. Treasurers.
 - f) 8 Executive members.
7. LUNCH.
8. The International Situation - M. Moola.
Discussion.
9. Sports in South Africa - A. Bhana.
Discussion.
10. Indian Education and Culture. - D. Manga.
Discussion.
11. Elections.
12. Resolutions.
13. General.

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TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

TRANSVAAL INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS

HELD AT

JOHANNESBURG

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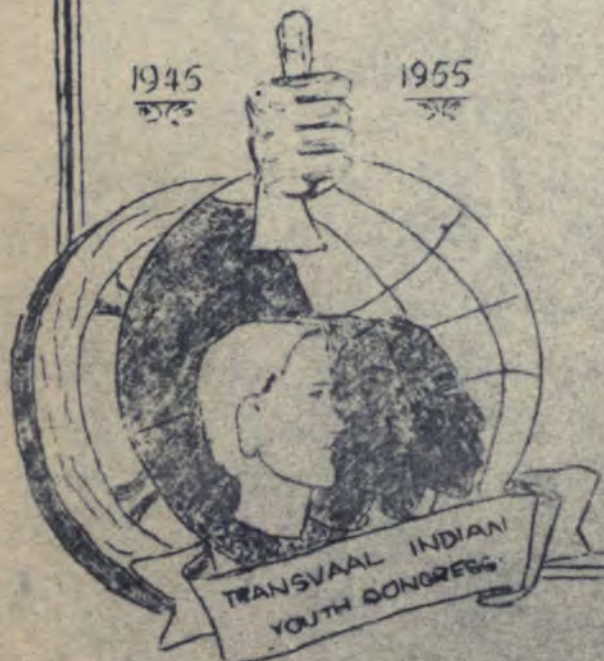
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DUNCAN HALL

1945

1955



OPENING ADDRESS BY

DR G. M. NAICKER

PRESIDENT NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

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SPEECH DELIVERED BY DR. G. M. NAICKER
ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
INDIAN CONGRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE
TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
TRANSVAAL INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS HELD AT
JOHANNESBURG

ON

SUNDAY - 15TH MAY, 1955.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND FELLOW YOUTH,

When your Organisation invited me to declare open this ~~Conference~~ ^{Conference} which marks your Tenth Anniversary, I accepted your invitation without hesitation for although I may not qualify to be a member of your organisation in respect of the age limit, if there is one, I claim to be youthful in spirit.

I regard your invitation as conferring a great honour on me and on the South African Indian Congress which I represent. It is an honour firstly because despite my ban, the young men and women of the Transvaal have thought it fit to ask me to address them even though I do so in absentia. Secondly your honour the South African Indian Congress and its official policy by our gesture. If the organised youth of any community accept and endorse the policy of that community's national organisation, then that national organisation has reason to be proud and to claim that the future not only lies with the youth of today but equally with the policy of freedom which it has endorsed and accepted.

Ten years ago, the Transvaal Indian Youth ~~Organisation~~ ^{Congress} saw its birth and since then the Indian community of South Africa has passed-through great tests and tribulations. In 1946 our people organised and participated in the heroic passive resistance struggle in which over 8000 people suffered imprisonment. Just as in the days of Mahatma Gandhi when the youth of our community held high the torch of liberation, so too in the "46" campaign the majority of our volunteers came from the ranks of the youth.

In 1952, with 4 years of Nationalist rule behind them the African National Congress and the South African Indian Congress launched out on the Defiance Campaign in which men and women from

all nationalities in South Africa believing in freedom participated. Once again, it was the youth that played the vital role in cementing the differences among the different sections of the South African community and opposing the tyrannical policy of apartheid.

We are now in the midst of the campaign for the convening of the Congress of the People. On the eve of this Congress, I make an earnest appeal to every South African Youth who believes in freedom to strengthen the organisations for liberation in South Africa. There is not the slightest doubt in our minds that freedom will and must ~~come~~^{lead} to our beloved country, but if our slogan of freedom within our life-time is to have any meaning at all, then we must realise that the basic task facing the liberation movement in the Union today is the difficult and often inspectacular task of organisation.

There is not a single non-European in the Union who is against freedom, but millions remain unallied behind our banner of freedom. It is our task to materialise that force in an organised and disciplined manner and to this end we must direct our energies. We have already overcome the first stumbling block in achieving this task. The Indian people are today legitimately proud of their Congresses. A long period of internal organisational struggle has resulted in the elimination of the opportunist and reactionary leadership which had dominated the Indian political scene almost from the time of Mahatma Gandhi's departure from South Africa.

With this internal struggle satisfactorily resolved, the leadership which had been acting as an opposition within Congress organisation found itself confronted with the problem of actively opposing the policy of segregation and apartheid. In Natal 35,000 Indians became paid up members of Congress in support of a positive policy of the new leadership and in the Transvaal we found up to 12,000 and more Congress members turning up at Protest meetings organised immediately prior to the 1946 Passive Resistance *campaign*.

The mass support which we received then and which we have consistently received since is sufficient proof of the correctness of our policy. But the fact remains that the 1946 and 1952 campaigns while ~~they were~~ they were directed against the policy of segregation and apartheid, did not to my mind lay sufficient stress on the importance of basic organisation. Perhaps that was to be expected for here was a new leadership which on taking office had to organise for specific campaigns and as a result not sufficient attention was paid to the question of basic organisation.

The Congress of the People campaign is a campaign which to my mind can help our people tremendously if we lay proper stress on the importance ^{aspect of our work} I do not wish to go into the details of this vital question, but I would like to stress that unless our youth is disciplined and organised, we cannot expect to get freedom in our life time. I therefore ask you to pay particular heed in your deliberations to this all important question. Because I regard the problems of organisation as fundamental I have given it priority over my comments on International and National questions. Remember we will only advance our political cause if we have the organisation to do so.

South African youth must naturally formulate its national policies within the framework of progressive international trends. As part of the colonial and semi-colonial youth of the world they stand for the ending of all forms of imperialism, the elimination of racial segregation and the ending of exploitation of man by man. They are at one with the world-wide movement for peace and hence call for the abolition of the atom and hydrogen bombs.

We note with great pride ~~with~~ the achievements of the Afro-Asian Conference recently held at Bandung. From Indonesia delegates from 29 nations of Asia and Africa have made a call to the world to end colonial oppression and racial discrimination. With the major part of Asia free from Colonial oppression and

with Africa astir with new awakenings, the people of these continents are making important landmarks in the history of man's liberation. The Bandung Conference has paved the way in particular for the youths of Asia and Africa to work in unison for the liberation of mankind and I have no doubt that at future Afro-Asian Conferences the non-white youth of this country will play a significant part.

When we review the happenings in our own country we note that Mr. Strydom, the Union's new Prime Minister, has in no uncertain terms made clear what Apartheid stands for. During the present session of parliament he has for the first time admitted our accusations in unequivocal terms. Mr. Strydom has stated that his party stands for "Baaskap" that is domination by the white man of the non-white population of this country.

When the Nationalists removed the sheepskin in which at least some of them had sought to clothe themselves the Union Parliament presented a strange spectacle. The official opposition was able to offer no real alternative to the Nationalist conception of apartheid now clarified, for they too stand for white supremacy. In fact it is crystal clear that there is no single Parliamentary Party which stands for universal franchise and full democratic rights.

The liberation of our country must of necessity come from forces which are today engaged in an extra-parliamentary struggle. Hence the significance of the Congress movement in South Africa.

The African National Congress has shown tremendous maturity in making a call for the Congress of the People. That call is being sponsored now jointly by the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress, ^{the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation} and the Congress of Democrats. These ~~three~~ ^{four} Congresses today offer an effective alternative as against domination, Congresses put forward a programme based on equality in a democratic state in which men and women will be

Judged on merit and not on the colour of their skin. One of the major significance of the Congress of the People is the fact that in its organisation for the first time in the history of our country, Europeans, Coloureds, Indians and Africans have through their respective organisations come together in ~~an~~ an endeavour to advance the ideals of freedom.

The months that lie ahead of us are going to be dark and difficult ones, particularly for the youth of this country. The Bantu Education Act has been forced onto the African people,. There are moves afoot to remove the Coloured people of the Cape from the common role and in the near future group areas will be set aside under the 1950 Act. These and many other apartheid measures, call for iron discipline on our part and for our readiness to make the necessary sacrifices in the call for freedom. During the Defiance Campaign, much was done to bring the different sections of our oppressed people together,. We have had the support of ~~the~~ European democrats and today while we meet as Indian youth, let us have our perspectives clear. The present forms of organisations too must eventually disappear and when the struggle for liberation advances and as we near our goal. I visualise a day when there will be no need for separate Congresses for African, European, Indian and Coloured peoples but one single Congress for all who believe in freedom.

Let us today rededicate ourselves to the great organisational and political tasks which face us. In this atomic age, apartheid stands outmoded and condemned. History is on our side and let us with renewed organisational might go forward to make it. With these words, I have the greatest pleasure in declaring open your 10th Annual ~~Meeting~~ *Conference*.

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Today June 26th is a red letter day in the history of the struggle for liberation in this country. We are assembled here to pay our humble tribute to those brave and gallant men and women who have contributed to the struggle for freedom, for the time of the arrival of the first white man in this country.

Before recalling the supreme courage and determination of our forbears let us first of all understand the significance of June 26th. Mr. Yengwa, the Secretary of the Natal ANC, will deal more fully with this particular aspect. However, it is necessary for me to ~~state~~ remind you of the following facts.

On June 26th, four years ago the first united struggle of the non-white people began. It was on this day that we had the historical National Day of Protest in which thousands of Indians and Africans laid down their tools as a mark of protest against the injustices ~~perpetrated~~ perpetrated against them by a vicious anti-democratic Government.

It was on this day also, two years ago, in 1952, we ^{fully} strengthened ~~the~~ the bonds of non-European co-operation by striking ^{yet another} ~~the~~ blow at injustice through the Defiance of Unjust Laws Campaign.

And, therefore, it is only right and proper that today the fourth Anniversary of our first united struggle we should recall the contributions made by the numerous heroes and ~~heroines~~ heroines who laid down their lives so that we may live in freedom.

We recall the gallant struggle waged by the Zulu people under Dingana and Cetshwayo; we recall the struggle of the Xosa Nation under the leadership of such great men as Hinsa, Sandale, Nongawuzi and others; we recall with pride the struggle led by Moshesh and Khama on behalf of their people - the Abesutu and Abetswana respectively.

We recall also the more recent history of the great and gallant fighters for freedom. To my mind comes immediately the name of Johannes Nkosi who was killed by ~~the police~~ ^{in 1947} when he led the African people of Durban.

in their struggle against the abnoxious pass laws; we recall the case of an old women freedom fighter - Mrs. Valliamma - who fought and later died in prison ^{during} the great passive resistance struggle led by Mahatama Gandhi when he was in South Africa, and of Kistensam who was beaten up by white hooligans during the Passive Resistance struggle in 1946.

On this historic day, we also recall the death in prison of a gallant daughter of South Africa - Miss Sinini Mxokozeli - who died during the recent Defiance Campaign in a goal in ~~East~~ ^{Elizabeth, the Bantu Baza.}

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~~Whitix~~ We pay homage to these great men and women who left their kith and kin; their homes and their jobs to play their part in the liberatory struggle of the oppressed people of our country.

We are proud of their services and sacrifice and when the true history of this land of our birth is written they will not be forgotten.

The greatest tribute we can pay to their noble example is to re-dedicate ourselves to the ~~same~~ ^{Just} cause ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ which they lost their lives. We must build an army of the people, fighting, not with guns and bullets, but with the strength of the people; fighting, neither for pay nor power, but, for freedom. In doing so we should remember that we are but a small division of the great army of men and women ^{in such countries as} ~~who throughout the world~~ - in Gautamala, Malaya, North Africa, Kenya ^{who} ~~and~~ Indo-China and other parts of the Colonial World, are fighting against Imperialism and Colonialism.

South Africa today still remains a bastion of the vicious system of semi-colonialism where the vast majority of the people are subjected to the most inhuman conditions. While we consider plans to fight fascism at home we must remember that ^{the} fascists leaders hope to re-infect the world at large with this plague of fascism. In their desperate madness to inflict the world with this horror they are developing more and more destructive weapons. They intervene and side with the oppressors when they ~~find~~ ^{find} see masses of people ready to break the shackles of slavery.

We see ~~that~~ these war ~~mongers~~ brandishing the Atom~~ic~~ and Hydrogen bombs with^{out} paying any heed or thought to the destructive power of these weapons. I am not one of those who panics everytime a new weapon of war is invented. ~~But we have read scientific and other data of the destructibility of these horror weapons. If an Hydrogen bomb is dropped on Cape Town it can kill people here in Durban and radio-active snow from the Cape can be carried by the wind to places thousands of miles away and there injure and kill people and animals, and destroy vegetation. A world war in this context is simply madness for it will destroy all people both black and white; war mongers and peace lovers. There will be no victors nor will there be the vanquished in such a struggle. No intelligent person; no civilised person who loves peace; who loves his home and children, can remain indifferent to this grave threat that faces mankind.~~

We must strengthen the hands of peace and strike out against those who want war and ~~bring about the annihilation of the~~ ~~series~~ of mankind.

What can we who are almost slaves in this country and who have no voice in the making of laws do? First, we must organise and strengthen our respective organisations and by our massive protest make known to the Government our desire for peace and freedom. We must strengthen our bonds of friendship and join hands with all the oppressed people of this land. We cannot avoid that which history has imposed on our generation. We must fight back with all our resources to achieve our cherished goal - freedom in our lifetime.

You will today ^{hear} ~~hear~~ of the steps taken by the National Liberatory Movement - the ANC, NIC, and COD - to call a great Conference to be known as the Congress of the People where a Charter embodying the aims, aspirations and the demands of the people of South Africa will be adopted.

The next step in the struggle for freedom is - the Congress of the People. Let us go forward and make this Congress an ~~great~~ occasion where all people irrespective of race or colour could meet and give expression to their hopes and desires

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATION TO THE
TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TRANSVAAL
INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS HELD AT DUNCAN HALL,
JOHANNESBURG ON SUNDAY, 15TH MAY, 1955.

Mr Chairman, Dr Padyachee and Friends,

Another year has come to an end. Today we are ten years old. We meet once again at our Annual General Meeting to review the activities of the past year, to discuss our achievements, to criticise our shortcomings and on the lessons of our findings to build for the future.

Much has happened in the period since our last meeting. We meet here today without a few more of our leaders and pioneer members. They, the Chairman has already pointed out have been prevented from being with us as a result of the fanatical whims of a madman, whom we have come to know in South Africa as the Minister of Justice.

It is precisely because our banned leaders are not here today that makes this meeting even more important for us who have gathered here, and for the Indian youth of our country as a whole.

Have the bannings affected our organisation? Have our members been deterred? Have we improved organisationally? Have we been enthused with a new determination to replace our banned leaders with hundreds of new activists in the movement? These are questions that are posed before us today. These are questions over which we have to seriously ponder.

Before proceeding with the report, I wish to make an earnest appeal to you. The past year has been one of many ups and downs. It has been a year for the regrouping of our forces, for the consolidation of our organisation. In the forward march of any movement anywhere in the world there are bound to be shortcomings, mistakes that warrant sincere attention. Today we want you, that members and potential members of the Youth Congress to speak your minds. We do not want our discussions to degenerate into petty quibbles. We want you to stand up, criticise where it is necessary to make constructive suggestions from which our organisation and all of us can benefit.

DURBAN TOUR.

The most successful youth activity in the last year, or perhaps among the most successful in our history was the tour of Natal initiated by our members in December of last year. The heartening response to the tour on the part of the Indian youth is an indication of what our youth have been waiting for from their organisation.

Here, through the initiative of our members, was something unique, something that combined recreation, sports, education and politics. The result we can easily see when we look around the hall this morning at the many new, young, enthusiastic, active faces who were not with us in years past.

En route to Durban the 50 youth were guests of Dr Sader at Ladysmith and of Doctors Motala and Hashim at Pietermaritzburg. In Durban itself, they were accommodated at an Indian school as guests of the Mayville Social Club and the Natal Indian Youth Congress.

During their nine-day tour, costing £6. 10. 0. the group spent many an enjoyable day at the sea-side or visiting places of cultural, historical or educational interest. For instance in their crowded itinerary they visited the Tongaat Indian High School as guests of the Principal; the F.O.S.I. TB Settlement, the whaling station, the Lever Brothers factory, as guests of the management; the Winchester Castle as guests of the Union Castle Shipping Company, the Phoenix Settlement established by Mahatma Gandhi, a Sugar Plantation in Northern Natal and a pleasure resort at Park Kenie on the South Coast. Among the notable personalities the group met were Chief Lutuli, Manilal Gandhi, etc.

In the coming months we should organise many more such tours. How many of us present here have seen the Krugar National Park for instance? How many of us have visited the Cape, how many the Congo Caves and countless other places of interest in our country.

From the Durban tour have grown new friendships, new comradeship among the participants themselves (most of whom had never met each other before) and we have made many friends in Natal.

Is that not what the Youth Congress exists for?

THE LENASIA SCHOOL.

In the Educational field the past year has seen what will be recorded as the most cowardly and unjust attack on innocent Indian youth. Having realised that the path to lead the Indian community to the Group Area of Lenasia was not strewn with roses, the Government redirected its attack against the children. The Booyens High School was abruptly closed and the children given transfers to the hurriedly-constructed school at Lenasia. By sending the children out every morning to a school some 18 miles from town the Government had hoped to induce the Indian parents to take up permanent residence nearer their children. But again the Government had reckoned without the people and the youth.

The Lenz School has been successfully boycotted since the beginning of the year and right up to now no appreciable numbers of children have enrolled. Instead, the Indian community, at considerable expense has established and maintained the Central Indian High School in Gordburg, with an enrolment of over 400.

In both the boycott of the Lenz school and the setting up of the new one, our members have and continue to play a leading part.

In the coming period it will become even more necessary for our organisation to keep an ever-vigilant eye on the educational needs of our young people. We must keep the lessons of the Bantu Education Act uppermost in the minds of our people. Today it is the Africans, tomorrow it might be us.

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS.

The period under review has seen the birth of the South African Indian Youth Congress. Some of our leading officials, Dr H. Moosa, Messrs A.M. Kathrada, and M. Mitha were elected President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively of the new national body.

TRANSVAAL YOUTH FESTIVAL.

Another landmark in our youth work was the organisation of the First Transvaal Youth Festival for Peace, Friendship and Racial Harmony at Mia's Farm towards the end of 1953. Here again we wish to stress the lessons we have to learn from such an activity. It will be remembered that the Festival, with its sports, social and cultural programme, was organised to cater for 500 young people. But so great and unexpected was the response of the youth of all races that well over 1,500 young people turned up and participated in the two-day event.

As it is only correct, the foremost desire of young people everywhere is to live happy and carefree lives -- to sing, to dance, to play, to make friendships etc. The Festival represented to us the South Africa of tomorrow. It is pointed out more strongly than anything else can to the blind racialists of South Africa that it is possible for peoples to live and work happily together, in respect and understanding and equality.

Let us place very high on our programme of future activities the organisation of more youth festivals.

DR. DADOO'S BIRTHDAY.

Once again as a fitting tribute and expression of appreciation to one of the greatest South Africans of our time, our Youth Congress initiated Dr Dadoo's 45th Birthday celebrations. A highly successful picnic was held and due to our initiative thousands of messages were sent to our beloved leader from throughout

the length and breadth of South Africa. In addition to this we recruited 100 new young Freedom Volunteers for the Congress of the People to mark the occasion.

TOUR TO STANDERTON.

Towards the end of last year, organised by the Youth Congress, a group of 40 young people -- Indians, Africans, Europeans, Coloureds - spent a week-end in Standerton at the invitation of the Indian youth of the town.

The purpose of the visit was to officially receive the lovely Sam Dangor Floating Trophy presented to the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress. Sam Dangor, who was the Chairman of the Ermelo Branch of the Youth Congress was given the trophy by the Branch when he left the town to settle in Standerton.

A successful reception was held on Saturday night, and Sunday was spent playing cricket, while the female members of the group enjoyed themselves at tennis.

The trophy is still with us but we have as yet not made any plans for its future. This meeting must devote some time to deciding what to do with the cup. There are various possibilities such as tennis, football, cricket, ping-pong, debating etc. The only condition attached is that it be used strictly for multi-racial and not for inter-racial purposes.

EASTER CAMP.

About 30 members of the Youth Congress spent a most enjoyable Easter week-end at a four-day camp near Johannesburg. As with the Durban tour, the camp proved to be of immense value in building new friendships, not only among our own campers but with the scores of others who too had spent the week-end at the resort.

Suggestions about the Youth Congress acquiring tents and other camping equipment must not be left in abeyance for too long.

SHORT-HAND AND CAMPING CLASSES.

For almost a year now, the Youth Congress Short-hand and Typing classes have been conducted at the Congress offices. These classes have proved to be most successful, judging from the large number of people who attend them. The classes, although the responsibility of the Youth Congress are open to young people of all races.

ART CLASSES.

The newly-formed art classes have had a modest beginning. Here we offer training in poster painting, silk-screening, line cuts etc. It is most unfortunate that our members, in particular have not taken a sufficient interest in its progress.

We must at all times strive to be self sufficient. For instance the days are no more when we have to spend large sums of money on printing posters. These are now silk-screened by our own members at little cost and are much more attractive than printed ones. An example is the poster done for this meeting.

"SHAKUNTALA" DEMONSTRATION.

The attempt of the mischievous Institute of Race Relations to inveigle the Indian community into accepting racial segregation at the Great Hall of the Wits. University in defiance of the student decision on the matter, was met with a rude shock as a result of a last minute protest demonstrated by the Youth Congress. As a political youth organisation, the Youth Congress showed the solidarity of the Indian youth and the people with the struggle of the students to resist apartheid.

"NEW YOUTH".

Due to the initiative of several of our members the "New Youth" magazine was published last year. Although it has not come out as frequently and regularly as it should have, "New Youth" has been extremely popular with young people. An important feature of this magazine is its wide variety of subject matter, other than politics. The founders of the magazine are to be congratulated for this very fine effort and we who are gathered here should make it a point of taking a greater interest in its publication.

THE TWENTY-FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS CONFERENCE.

What made the last SAIC Conference in Durban very significant for us was the large number of our members who were elected onto the Transvaal Delegation. At the conference itself everyone of our members made contributions to the discussion. These elicited high praise for us from leading officials of the SAIC.

CONTACT WITH THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH.

Having been the first organisation from South Africa to affiliate with the World Federation of Democratic youth, we have in the past year continued to keep close contact with its headquarters in Budapest. We have participated in various international gatherings and festivals organised by the World Federation of Democratic Youth and kepted them well supplied with information material on South Africa.

It remains with our great pride that at the Third World Youth Congress of the WFDY held at Bucarest, for the first time South Africa won a seat on the 45 member executive committee, when Mr A.M.Kathrada of our Youth Congress was elected.

CONCLUSION.

Mr. Chairman, I have dwelt rather lenthily on some aspects of our work during the last year. This is by no means all that we have done. We have merely attempted to pin-point some of the more important happenings. Before concluding we might mention the hard work put in by our members in campaigns such as against the Group Areas Act, the removal of the Western Areas, The Colonial Youth Day, the exposing of racialist teachers at the school etc.

But we have not the time to go into these today. We must think of the future. We must not be satisfied with what we have done, for when considering it objectively, it is but a minute fraction of what we could have done.

We have not for instance dealt fully with the reasons for the collapse of our branches. Why is it that most of our branches collapse soon after they are established. After all are not the branches the best methods of keeping contact with the masses of young people? Perhaps there was something wrong with the planning of branch activities, or perhaps there was lack of sufficient co-operation on the part of the executive committee. These are questions we must resicously discuss today.

Let us then, Mr Chairman go into the report critically and analytically. Let us bear in mind that history has thrust heavy responsibilities on us as young people, responsibilities that we have to fulfil with seriousness, with objectivity, with sincerity, courage and determination. Let us go from this meeting a strong organisation, let us strive to build ourselves up into a mass youth organisation of our people.

When we have achieved this we can be certain that freedom will be just round the corner.

AFRIKA!!

AFRIKA!!

AFRIKA!!

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SECRETARIAL REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL SITUATION, TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE 10 TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TRANSVAAL INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS, HELD AT THE DUNCAN HALL, JOHANNESBURG, ON THE 15TH MAY, 1955

Mr. Chairman and Fellow members,

This, the tenth Annual General Meeting of our organisation is taking place at a critical time for the young people of South Africa. Internationally, the preparations of certain groups for a H-Bomb war threaten to destroy the great victories won by those working for peace and to plunge the world into a war which will lead to the extermination of all mankind. In our own country, the Nationalist Government continues to deprive our people of all human rights, to use force and police intimidation in order to implement its policies and to destroy all possibility of a happy and creative future for our youth. But all over the world with growing strength and determination the people are working and struggling for peace, national independence and democracy. In this work the young people are taking a full and leading role. In South Africa too the struggle for peace and democracy, notwithstanding all the actions of the Government, continues to grow and spread among the people.

THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

Since the Third World Youth Congress and Fourth World Youth and Student Festival for Peace and Friendship which were held in Bucharest in August, 1953 and which contributed to understanding among the youth of different countries, the forces of peace have won great victories. Following on the Berlin Four Power Conference, the Geneva Conference brought about peace in Indo-China, bringing to an end the 9 year war which had been fought by the gallant people of that country. The mass opposition of the people led to the defeat of E.D.C. and now the USSR has laid the basis for a peace treaty with Austria. Throughout the world the campaigns of the World Peace Council have drawn millions of people into the struggle for peace. Cultural, sporting and trade exchange between East and West have greatly increased; leading to better understanding and friendship. World youth have played an important part in this regard through the organisation of international sports events, meetings of students, holiday camps, the International Conference of Rural Youth and now in the preparations for the Fifth World Festival.

Unfortunately, however, the danger of war has not been eliminated. Certain forces, led by the Government of the U.S.A., in the face of the desire of the peoples for peace have increased their efforts to sharpen the cold war, deepen the arbitrary division of the world into two hostile camps and so gravely increase the danger of war. In Europe, the re-armament of Germany has been forced through against the opposition of the people, including the German people. In Asia, the U.S.A. has attempted to destroy the results of the Geneva Conference by forming the aggressive SEATO, interfering in the Formosa question and preventing the return of that island (which is a huge American war base) to its rightful owners - the Peoples Republic of China. American opposition too prevents the Government of China from taking its place in the United Nations Organisation. All these measures increase international tension and bring nearer the danger of war.

The formation of military alliances and the establishment of war basis in many countries is closely linked with the policy of colonialism. Determined to maintain their war bases and their supplies of strategic materials as well as their economic interests the colonial powers resort to force to crush the movements for national independence and peace in the colonial countries. Under the guise of "police" actions against "terrorists" huge British armies are engaged in brutal wars against the people of Kenya and Malaya. In order to maintain its military base in Cyprus, the British Government is busy attempting to destroy the liberation movement on that island. In Morocco and Tunisia, where there are gigantic United States military bases, French troops are used to combat the movement for independence. Similarly, throughout the Middle East, and elsewhere, foreign powers are interfering in the affairs of other countries.

The greatest threat to the future of mankind lies in the determination of the United States and Britain to prepare for a Hydrogen Bomb war. Already it has decided to arm the N.A.T.O forces with atomic weapons so that weapons of mass destruction will now be the ordinary weapons of the N.A.T.O armies. The U.S.A.

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continues to experiment with and stockpile atomic and Hydrogen weapons and Britain has now decided to build H-bombs for use in any major war. A nuclear war can only result in the extermination of all mankind and millions of people have raised their voices against the H-bomb and have demanded the destruction of all existing bombs and a total ban on the use of such weapons.

The World Peace Council have launched a signature campaign in favour of a ban on nuclear weapons and young people in all countries are taking part in the collection of signatures. World public opinion prevented the use of atomic weapons in Korea and can force the governments to ban H-Bombs if it is strong enough.

Through the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the young people of the world are participating in the campaign to collect signatures against the H-bomb and in other struggles for Peace, National independence and Democracy. On February 21st, each year, all over the world great youth demonstrations are held to express solidarity with the struggles of the youth and students of colonial countries for a better life. On the 14th of April, each year, support is expressed for the youth suffering under fascism in Spain. During World Youth Week, from the 21st to 28th March, each year, at international congresses and festivals young people affirm their unity in the struggle for friendship and a better life.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Led by the most ruthless of its leaders, Mr Strydom, the Nationalist Government is rapidly eliminating the last vestiges of democracy in South Africa and is turning our country into a police state. Determined to achieve this aim, the Government not only passes numerous undemocratic laws but also implements these laws with force, police terror and intimidation. Thus the Government sends its police armed with sten-guns to break into peaceful meetings and take the names of all those present; it sends thousands of heavily armed police to force the removal of the people from the Western Areas; it sends police to the homes of people to question them; and it bans its opponents from belonging to democratic organisations and from attending meetings. But although the so-called opposition and newspapers like the 'Star' are cowed and intimidated and speak now with the voice of the Government, the people and particularly the youth, are carrying on the struggle for liberation with greater courage and determination than ever before.

In an attempt to destroy the democratic forces of our country, the Government has banned the elected representatives of the people - Sam Kahn, Brian Bunting and Ray Alexander. The leaders of many organisations have been forced to resign, including our own Chairman, Mr R.H. Desai, our vice-chairmen, Messrs A. Kathrada and Paul Joseph. Such actions cannot deter us. We, together with other democratic organisations, will carry on the struggle with confidence because every leader who is forced to resign will be replaced by other courageous young leaders.

The true nature of the Government was shown by its ruthless removal of people from the Western Areas in the face of nation-wide protests from all sections of the people. Literally, thousands of policemen, armed with revolvers, machine guns and batons descended on Sophiatown to carry out the evil scheme of the Government.

Every section of the community is affected by the undemocratic actions of the Government. By means of the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Act and the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act, the right of workers to organise and strike for better working and living conditions is being attacked. The Departure From the Union Regulation Bill deprives all citizens of the right to freely travel to other countries. The Group Areas Act is aimed at destroying the economic competition from the Indian people, also deprives people of the right of living and trading in areas of their choosing. These and many other laws are the means by which the Government hopes to destroy all opposition and make the country safe in the interests of a small section of the population.

In order to secure its future, the Government realises that it must enslave the youth of this country mentally and economically. The Nationalists realise that courage, imagination and determination of the youth to enjoy a happy future presents a constant threat to the existence of their Government. The fighting spirit of the youth was shown in the almost unanimous refusal of Indian

youth to attend the Group Areas school at Lenasia after the Government has closed down the Booyens School. These young people, in co-operation with the Indian people, not only effectively boycotted the Lenasia school but also provided an alternative school where for the first time young African, Indian and European teachers teach together in complete harmony - an example of the future democratic South Africa.

The Bantu Education Act is a direct step by the Government to enslave our youth, and to carry out its policy which has been stated as follows:

"All Bantu Education must have the sole object of stamping the conviction into the child that his own people and his own race are inferior to all others".

But the youth have not taken this lying down because young people desire most earnestly to receive education which will enable them to develop their talents and which will prepare them for the future when they can creatively participate in all spheres of the life of the community. Our youth will not meekly accept slavery and misery. The boycott of Bantu schools by African youth have shown that the youth are prepared to sacrifice and struggle for their future.

The whole might of the Government, all its laws and its police and intimidation cannot stem the rising tide of the struggle for liberation. First the Defiance Campaign, in which thousands of young people participated, then the other struggles since that campaign have forged an unbreakable unity among the democratic forces of all races. The Congress of the People will further strengthen the unity of the liberation forces and raise the struggle against racialism and police terror and for peace, freedom and democracy to new heights. We young people must ensure that the Congress of the People becomes a tremendous demonstration of our determination to achieve freedom. We, the youth of South Africa, are a part of the army of world youth marching forward to a new life. The Congress of the People is a step towards the future life we all desire.

We young people have our whole lives before us. We will not live our lives in poverty and oppression. We demand the right to live a full and happy life. We shall go forward, inspired by the struggles of our young friends in other lands and in South Africa, determined to work harder and courageously for peace and liberation.

LET US SPEAK OF FREEDOM!!

FORWARD TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE!!

(8)

PAPER ON SPORTS PRESENTED TO THE TENTH ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE TRANSVAAL INDIAN YOUTH
CONGRESS, HELD AT DUNCAN HALL, JOHANNESBURG,
ON THE FIFTEENTH MAY, 1955.

Mr Chairman and Comrades,

When we speak of sports today, the thought of youth usually comes into our minds. Sports is the essential demand of youth in every corner of the world, and as such this demand must be catered for. As we are mainly concerned with the youth of South Africa, let us examine the demands of our youth in our country and find out what provisions are made for this.

The conditions in this country well known to all, are most unsatisfactory and the non-White youth do not receive a proper share, in fact no share at all. It is under these conditions that we the non-White, participate in sports. The belief that politics is no good for sports, or that it has nothing to do with sports has turned out to be quite a fallacy, as can be seen for the fact that sportsmen in this country have been refused passports to go overseas. The exclusion of non-Whites in South Africa from representative teams for the Olympic and Empire Games, and the fact that some people have proposed the provisions of sportsfields for Indians in Group Areas is proof enough that sports cannot be divorced from politics and vice versa.

SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS.

South African sports is organised on racial basis and this is one of the things that is the cause of so much racial hatred today. Because of this, people adopt a tendency to speak of "African boxers", "Indian cricketers" or "Coloured Soccerites", and this is the type of thing which heightens racial antagonism, if the situation is allowed to persist.

Inter-racial fixtures, have shown how this antagonism can arise, when particular sections of the people supporting their sides are liable to make racial remarks which lead to antagonism.

On the other hand, if sports was organised on multi-racial basis, we will not have these situations arising, because then we will have teams of mixed constitutions and this will further result in a feeling of goodwill. Another major factor affecting sports, especially non-White, is the facilities made available to them. In our country the distribution of facilities in the form of sportsfields, tennis courts, swimming baths, ice-rinks, gymnasiums and sporting equipment is very unfair and unequal. Roughly it will work out to about ten percent for non-Whites and ninety percent for Whites. This highly deficient provision for non-Whites is the main cause for frustration amongst our youth in this aspect that they are at a loss to know what to do when there is no facility for them in the field of sports.

THE STRUCTURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS ORGANISATIONS.

Sports in this country is organised on the following racial lines:

1. Whites.
2. Indian
3. African
4. Coloured
5. Malay.

The last four bodies are the "Black" bodies and it is this sub-division that is a great hinderance to our further unity, and the sooner we strive for this unity the sooner it will be better for our sports. Jointly the five bodies can be said to have achieved nothing, because they have never united as one, and because there have never been any attempts in the past to unite them, because of the racial laws of this country.

Individually the "White" body has achieved much as far as sports goes in this country. In the international field it has won a few honours for its particular section of the people. There have been many occasions when this body could have done with the help of the other four bodies, which are excluded from its ranks because of its racial policy.

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The other bodies have produced many brilliant sportsmen in this country, a fraction of which are named hereunder, but representatively they too have achieved nothing either in the national or the international field. The White section has definitely produced many more prominent sportsmen than the other, despite their small number, but there is a reason for this, and the reason is the marked difference in the provision of the facilities and the amenities to the two sections of the people in this country. Imagine what the proportions would be if the non-White section of the population were given equal opportunity. However, this barrier of restrictions has not hindered our keenest and enthusiastic sportsmen from making progress and a name for themselves. Glaring example of this are Jake Tuli, who has won honours in the field of boxing, David Samasi in tennis and R.P. Govinder who was placed eighth in the recent Mr Universe contest, and who has created national attention in the field of physical culture. Similarly our non-White soccerites and cricketers could today walk into any English or continental side. Our African boxers, especially have today proven to be so good that South Africa has become a hunting ground for many overseas promoters and managers. It has also been remarked by many of these personalities that what our sportsmen need is a right and proper type of training and facilities. This further proves that our achievements have not been what they might have been. Let us discontinue playing as racial bodies, and let us organise our districts, provinces and even our national bodies on basis of multi-racial sports. Why should we continue to play as separate units when international bodies are today prepared to accept us within their ranks if we are organised on multi-racial basis.

It is rather ironical to note that White South African sportsmen are prepared to play against non-Whites in England, America and the continent, but when in their homeland they object and refuse to have any contact with their fellow non-Whites.

SOUTH AFRICAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD.

The International Table-Tennis Federation rejected the application of the European body in South Africa, on the ground that it was not thoroughly representative of all sections of the community. Instead it allowed the affiliation of the South African Table-Tennis Federation which is a non-White body, and whose doors are open irrespective of race, colour or creed.

The World Soccer Federation has on its agenda the question of the South African Soccer Federation (non-White) whose application has been left in abeyance, to further give them and the white bodies an opportunity to attempt the formation of a non-racial soccer federation. When at the World Soccer Federation's Congress in November last year, South Africa was asked to explain its segregation policy, its representatives apologetically replied that due to the country's laws they were compelled to do so. If no settlement arrived at, on the basis of complete equality, the non-White body intends to re-affirm its application without the White body.

This type of action is being decided upon by many other international bodies and one can imagine what the repercussions of this will be. Most recent example of this is the investigation by the International Association of Boxing, regarding South Africa's representation of non-White people on its teams for the world Olympic and Empire games, and whether equal facilities are available to non-Whites. Also whether they are allowed to join the same clubs as Whites.

Being aware of international feeling for non-White sportsmen, I suggest that the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress takes a lead in bringing about multi-racial sports and calls upon the major sporting bodies to organise a conference to achieve this end. We welcome non-White sporting organisations which are working towards this goal, e.g. the decision of the South African Amateur Boxing Association to delete the word "non-European" in order to open its doors to all regardless of race or colour.

We in the Youth Congress can and must play a major part in bringing about radical changes in the sporting world, and I expect that many decisions will be taken here today to that effect. I suggest therefore, that contributions from the floor will help a great deal in this respect.

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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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