

BOYCOTT RESOLUTION:

To many people, the boycott of the elections under the 1936 Acts seem meaningless and unwise. It is because most people do not realise that the 1936 Acts completed not only the disfranchisement of the Africans but also affected adversely his right of free access to land, his economic, social and educational benefits. This point is appreciated when these Acts are read with the Natives Land Act 1913, the Natives Administrations Act 1927 as amended, the Natives Pass Laws Regulations, the Natives Urban Areas Act as amended and consolidated and the Natives Laws Amendment Act 1937.

By the passing of 1936 Acts, Parliament was freed of all influence of African Native Voters and as a consequence European Parliamentarians have considered themselves defenders of white interests as against Parliamentary representatives who represent Africans indirectly under the representation of Natives Act. These Acts have created two hostile political camps of white representatives on the one hand, and black representatives on the other.

The boycott resolution therefore is, a demand for common citizenship with the following minimum points:

1. Removal of political colour bar in the South Africa Act and direct representation of Africans in all legislative bodies- national, provincial, and municipal.
2. Abolition of the Pass Laws.
3. Removal of land restrictions against Africans in Urban and Rural Areas.
4. Recognition of African Trade Unions under the Industrial Conciliation Act and adequate wages for African workers including the mine workers.
5. Adequate housing facilities for Africans and adequate mass training facilities for Africans as builders and in other trades with outlets for employment as skilled workers.
6. Extension of the system of free compulsory education to all African children of school going age.
7. The re-establishment of the status of the African Chiefs in our national affairs.

We call upon all provincial and local branches to intensify the campaign and put this programme before the people. They must particularly mobilize, organise and ascertain the views of the voters in the Cape, the Chiefs, the Electoral Committees or Units, Location Advisory Boards as well as the masses of followers all over the country.

Much publicity has been to the statement of the so-called Transvaal African Congress. This is no organisation but a group of individuals with no following. Its Acting Secretary has been recently suspended and disciplined by the African National Congress (Transvaal) for acting in a manner prejudicial to the interest of the African National Congress and the African people.

Intensify your campaign. Put the above mentioned programme before the people and ascertain their views so that we can consolidate our forces at the next annual conference.

We want common citizenship; We want racial goodwill and co-operation irrespective of race or colour.

A.B. Xuma (President-General)

African National Congress.

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