

A delegate from China had said that conditions are the same in all countries, and one should not be discouraged if the fight for peace and freedom is more difficult in some countries than in others.

World Congress of Mothers:

Our representatives are not yet back, but today we have met for our own congress. We represent more than 1/2 m. people in this country.

These women came from 65 different countries, mothers from all over the world and they represented not 1/2m. but 65m. mothers. They came to add their voices to the cry for peace, for the banning of bombs and to ~~mak~~ plan for a peaceful and happy world.

Women there spoke of the terrible horrors of war. We in S.A. do not know of war, but we know of racial oppression, and we are struggling for our country to be free from apartheid. We are struggling against all the shameful conditions that we see around us.

The Freedom Charter is our light,

Japanese women spoke of the war, and how children were deformed and ~~women~~ women were deprived of the right of motherhood. This is only a part of what the H bomb can do. Food has been poisoned by radioactive dust. This mass destruction must end. Together we shall go to defend life against death, to defend friendship against hatred, peace against war.

Women from other countries wanted to hear about S.A. These women rose to their feet to pay tribute to the ~~women~~ women of S.A. and they are with us in our struggle and ever since that Conference in Switzerland they have been preparing annual conferences of mothers. They have been holding meetings and collecting signatures for peace. All over the world women have been organised against the destruction of mankind. In a country such as this, we still want peace, we do not want our children to be destroyed by wars.

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Lilian Ngoyi and Gladys Smith were the South African representatives at these conferences. Lilian spoke to the women there and she had a tremendous response.

Discussion:

The case of Mrs Lange in Cape Town was recited.

Resolution: This congress of mothers in the Transvaal called together by the Federation of S.A. Women, proclaims our support of the World Congress of mothers for world peace.

We welcome the voices of the women which are today heard from all over the world.- calling for an end to war. for the banning of all weapons of mass destruction. We add our voice to the voices of the ~~women~~ women of the world. .

2. This conference, the congress of mothers, called by the Federation of S.A. Women resolves to endorse the Freedom Charter which is the real volkswil of the people of S.A. and we pledge ourselves to work with all our strenght for the implementation of the Freedom Charter.

3. This meeting of women urges the Women's Federation to consult with the Congresses and with other organisations that represent ~~women~~, with a view to organising a mass deputation of women of all races to go to Pretoria to protest against Bantu Ed. and all other legislation. s.s.s. education, and proper housing for all people.

A resolution was ~~it~~ also moved to allow Stephen Ramasodi to be given a passport.

Also to call on the government of Germany to immediately release the two German youths who had been arrested.

There were 170 people present from Johannesburg and the Reef.

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FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN 1954-1963

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