

# NEW GROUP AREAS PROHIBITIONS

## Jobs, Cinemas, Restaurants Hit By Amendments

JOHANNESBURG.

**BARELY** a session of Parliament goes by but the Group Areas Act octopus grows new and more horrible tentacles. Group Areas Act amendments passed this last session and gazetted on the first day of this month establish new, extreme colour barriers in the fields of jobs and employment, and also in social matters and entertainment. Cloaked in wordy clauses and cumbersome definitions that make this law incomprehensible to the ordinary man, the new amendments enforce a number of new prohibitions.

Under the Group Areas Act certain racial groups may be prohibited from occupying land or premises in certain areas set aside for a particular group. The Governor-General is given wide and far-reaching powers to define the nature of "occupation" and the mere presence of a person may be taken to be "occupation."

The effect of this will be that

Non-Whites can be prevented from working in offices, or even merely visiting premises, in areas proclaimed for other racial groups.

Already, by proclamation, Non-Whites may not employ domestic servants of a different racial group in group areas. Lenasia, Balfour, and Brits in the Transvaal are already affected by this edict, and by next year Newclare, Coronationville, Mosmot and New Montelo (in the Western areas of Johannesburg) will be covered by this prohibition. Already in these and any other group areas therefore, no Indian may allow a domestic servant of another racial group to occupy land or premises within the area.

A new type of job reservation also comes into force. This excludes Non-Whites from filling jobs in any supervisory position in any White trading concern or business.

Further, no Non-White may employ any member of the White group in any supervisory or managing capacity.

The amended Act now prohibits all races, except under permit, from attending cinemas, restaurants, tea rooms or clubs in areas belonging to other races. These activities fall within the definition of "occupation."

The mere presence of a person of one group in premises of this type earmarked for another group constitutes illegal occupation which makes one liable to imprisonment for up to two years or a fine of £200 or both imprisonment and fine.



SACPO leader, Mr. Barney Desai, charged with incitement—see story on page 3.

### THE DANGER SIGNALS ARE BEGINNING TO FLICKER

SIX months ago we were forced to raise the price of New Age to sixpence. This helped us to overcome a very serious financial crisis. The response from our readers was magnificent. It indicated more clearly than ever how important New Age is to the workers of South Africa and the leading role that it plays in the liberatory struggle of the oppressed people in this country.

The response to our appeals for money in the past two months has been very poor. For some unaccountable reason the donations have perceptibly dried up in this period. And we have that extra £1,000 to pay for the newspaper at the end of this month.

We are therefore appealing to you all to double up on your normal donations this month. And to those of you who have not given us a donation for a long while, this is your chance to really do us a good turn. The current is beginning to run swiftly against us. Give us a helping hand NOW, before it is too late.

This is only partly true. The increased revenue accruing from the sales of New Age has kept us solvent for many months now; but it has not per-

manently abolished the danger of a financial crisis. For instance, when our overhead costs are increased by the premature arrival of newsprint, or when donations do not come up to scratch, then the danger signals begin to flicker. That is precisely the position we are in today.

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**LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS**  
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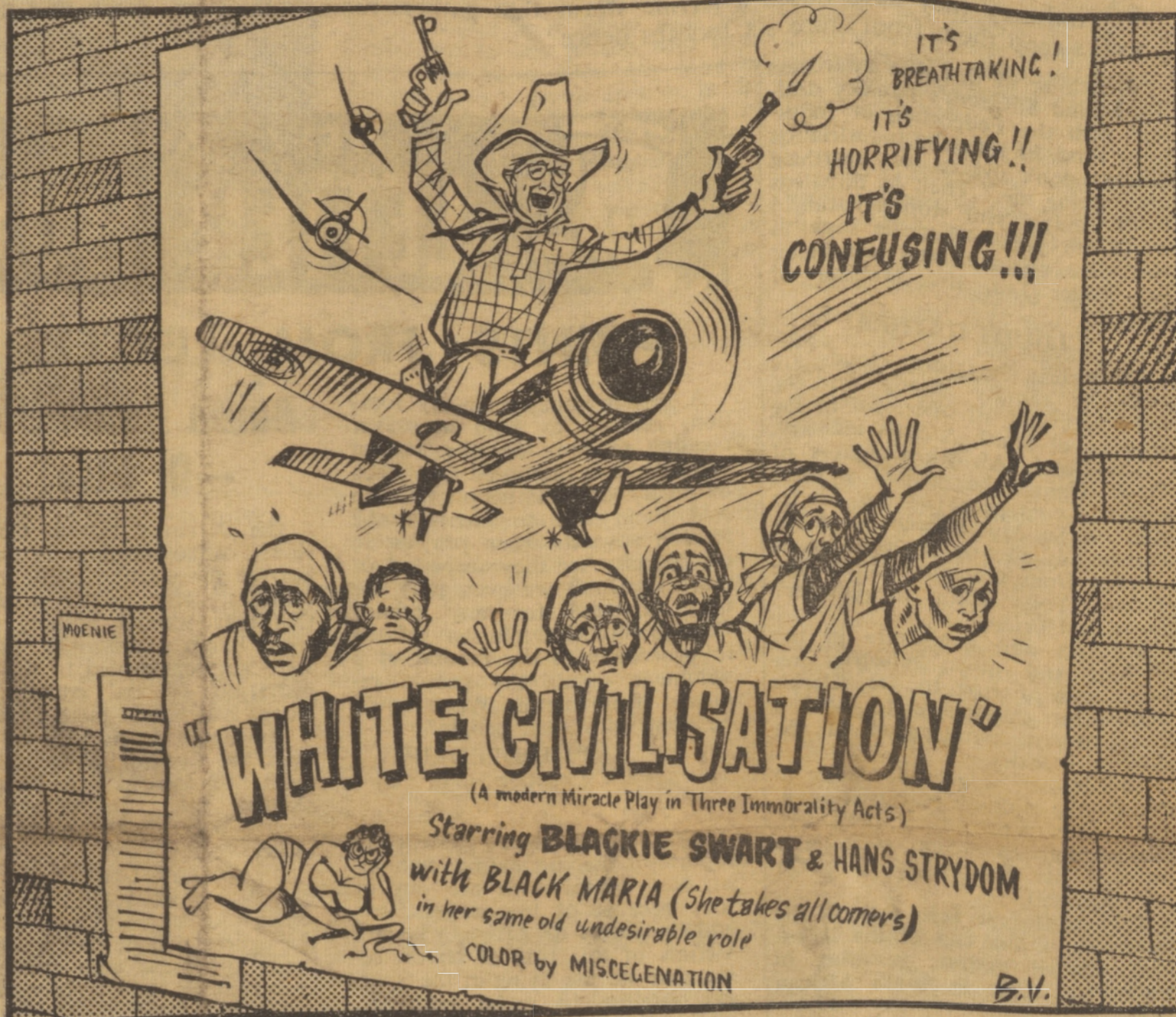


# NEW AGE

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## TRIBE REFUSES TO BE INTIMIDATED

### Swart's Cowboy Tactics Misfire in Zeerust

JOHANNESBURG.

**THE** Bafurutshe tribe was not prepared to lead its evidence while military planes roared above the Court, and road blocks were set up to prevent people coming into Zeerust, the tribe's legal representative told the one-man commission last week.

Of 30 tribal representatives due to appear before the commission, only two managed to get into Zeerust; the others were presumably held up or turned back.

Eight S.A.A.F. planes circled at telegraph pole level above and near Zeerust for over an hour, zooming and dipping over the groups of people, mostly women, who were walking to the town to listen in to the Commission proceedings.

#### ROAD BLOCK

A force of 40 police blocked the only road leading into Zeerust and turned back those tribespeople who walked on despite the terrifying experience of the planes twisting and weaving above them.

One way or another about 200 people reached Zeerust, but many times that number were turned back.

A proclamation in the Government Gazette the day before banned groups of more than ten Africans in the Reserve.

Following the tribe's protest at these moves by the authorities, the hearing of the tribe's evidence was postponed for one week till this Wednesday. Adv. G. Bizos is leading the tribe's evidence.

#### CAUSES OF TROUBLE

The memorandum submitted by the tribe says that disturbances have taken place whenever the people have been uprooted; when tribal heads have been deposed or banished; and when pass books have been issued to women. The Bafurutshe have been subjected to these three evils at one and the same time, and these are the causes of the troubles in the Marico district.

The solutions urged by the tribe to restore peace in the area are:

- an assurance that the people of Braklaagte and Leeuwfontein will not be moved;
- the restoration of Chief Abraham Pogiso Molea the Second;

- the removal of the Native Commissioner, Mr. Richter;
- the abandonment of the proposal to issue reference books to women.

The memorandum outlines the threat to remove the people of Leeuwfontein and Braklaagte and (Continued on page 3)

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# Why Did Strydom Panic?

## Reaction To Job Reservation Has Shaken The Nats

JOHANNESBURG.

ARE the Nationalists beginning to realise that by their reservation of jobs in the garment industry they have raised a terrific storm that gathers momentum every week and may well sweep them from office six months hence?

Something of this dim awareness lies behind Strydom's panicky dealings with the Federation of Industries. First, he tells the industrialists "Please don't discuss job apartheid until seeing me." Then he threatens them "unless you stop agitating I won't see you." Then he says "It was all a mistake. You had better see Swaer Jan, the Minister of Labour."

### CLOUDS GATHER

Meanwhile the storm clouds are gathering rapidly among workers, employers and all interested in the progress of South African industry.

The South African Congress of Trade Unions has called a mass workers' conference at the Trades Hall on Sunday. Officials of affiliated unions already report vigorous support from the workers for the leaflet "Your Job's in Danger" issued last Friday.

Workers and employers in the clothing and other industries reacted with disgust to De Klerk's transparent manoeuvre to hold a Wage Board investigation in the clothing industry.

This is seen as a crude device to destroy the clothing industrial councils which, representing both employers and employees, vigorously opposed the Nationalist plans for job apartheid.

The employers fear this is the beginning of the end of the industrial council system, resulting in widespread strife in South African industry.

### NO FIGHT

Trade union opinion, however, is disturbed by the apparent lack of fight among the leaders of the garment unions, particularly in Cape Town and Natal.

"They don't seem to realise what is happening to them," one veteran trade unionist told New Age. "Even in the Transvaal and the Eastern Cape the garment union leaders, while showing more spirit and militancy than the other unions, appear to regard this as an internal matter of garment workers, whereas it is really a great national issue affecting hundreds and thousands of workers and their families—indeed the whole economy of the country is endangered, with far-reaching threats of unemployment and lowered living standards.

"The garment workers can't go it alone. We intend to back them up with or without their leaders' permission.

"The action of the Port Elizabeth garment workers in giving notice must be backed by the whole progressive movement, even if some disagree with their tactics or are repelled by the uncomradely attitude of some local union official."

### LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS

Johannesburg: H.D. Schoole, 9s.; Self, £2 10s.; Lily, £1; Ella, £5; Little Sputnik, £5; Total: £13 19s.

Cape Town: Anon, £51 2s. 6d.; Van der Byl Park, 9s.; A.T., £5; Jumble Sale, 14s.; S.K., £10; Rough Diamond, £12 10s.; K., £5; J. & R. 40th Anniversary, £5; Jumble Sale, £1 10s.; P. Moremi, 4s. 8d.; November Birthday Party, £12 13s. 6d.; M.S., 19s.; T., £5; Alec, 10s.; Total: £110 12s. 8d. Combined Total: £124 11s. 8d.



## POINTS FROM LETTERS

### Bantu Authorities —Or Else!

A certain minister in my location, refused to hold a prayer meeting to pray for the treason suspects. It is rumoured that when he preached to the people he even told them not to mention the treason suspects when praying in his church. Are they suspected of murder? Don't we even pray for those arrested for any crime? Once before this minister refused to proceed with the funeral of a volunteer unless the people removed their rosettes. What should be done with such people?

"MIDDLEDRIFT"

Thurn Park Location, C.P.

New Age has been consistently reporting the increasing number of Non-Whites who are out of jobs because of low wages. Sons and daughters of Africa, who are victims of this rule of terror, remember we are flying in the Sputnik satellite to racial harmony, where the land shall be shared among those who work it

It's almost six months now that I have not been working, not because I don't want to, but because when I get a job the authorities devise some means of causing me to lose my job because I am a freedom-loving person.

As the year is nearing its end let us also remember A. Gwentshe who is rotting in the jungles of Africa while Mr. Strydom and Cabinet Ministers will be enjoying a happy Christmas in their palaces.

E. L. VARA

Cradock.

Historical development does not proceed in a circle and we will never go back to slavery. Every system of government is succeeded by a new system and just as fascism was overcome by democracy, likewise apartheid must be replaced by an entirely new system of government by all racial groups in this country.

We are ripe enough for direct representation. We are poor because the Nationalists desire to keep us poor. We want £1 a day.

HOWARD M. TZISHANA  
Worcester, C.P.

The railway workers appeal against the attitude which is taken by the administration of the SAR and H in recruiting workers from outside the town to come into town to work for the low wage of 4/3d. per day, and 15/10d. a month c.o.l.a. for single men and £2.17.8 for married men.

We railway workers appeal to all the congresses to help us on this issue.

Yours in the struggle,  
L. NZANGA  
S.A. Railway and Harbour  
Workers' Union.  
Johannesburg.

The Xalanga Native Commissioner called meetings in September for the election of Bantu Authorities. The people told him that they wanted nothing to do with Bantu Authorities as they were not represented in the administration of the country. The Bunga had taught them a lesson.

The Bantu Authorities are worse than the Bunga. If the Government has decided that the people should rule themselves, they should not tell the people what to do.

On the 3rd October the chief magistrate delivered a speech which took him an hour and told the people that he had a big stick ready for those who resisted the Government laws. He said that agitators were misleading the people and he was going to deport them to Northern Transvaal. He mentioned two locations, Emuxe and Lower Lufuta, where people rejected "stabilisation" in front of the Native Commissioner, and read the names of the people he was going to deport.

If these two locations rejected "stabilisation," the magistrate said, they would be deprived of their old-age pensions, the schools would be closed, and there would be no police aid. He wondered why the people suspected the Government which was helping them. The people should only ask questions and not argue.

ABEL M. NTWANA

Xalanga, Transkei.

### Lovedale Hospital Boycott

The propagators of the Nursing Amendment Act met with yet another complete boycott at the Lovedale Hospital. All the staff and student nurses except ONE boycotted the meeting. These daughters of Afrika rightly allied themselves with the other hospitals. The ONE who went against the voice of the people was Sister J. Jolobe, in spite of being advised and requested not to attend. After all, she knew she could not repeal the Act. Her intention in attending is still a mystery. What she said at the meeting is only known to herself and the propagators of the Nursing Act. Whether she supported the Act or not we don't know.

A. CORRESPONDENT.  
Lovedale, Cape.

## EDITORIAL

# A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE

THE pardon which has been granted to Mr. Jurie Louw, the proprietor of the Masonic Hotel in Wellington, rescinding a suspended sentence of 14 days imprisonment, which was part of a sentence imposed on him for assaulting two Coloured men, is one of the most disgustingly immoral actions ever perpetrated by the Nationalist Government.

The Department of Justice has given no reasons for the granting of the pardon, but the press has widely publicised the fact that the effect of the pardon is to enable Mr. Louw to renew his liquor licence, which he would have had to relinquish if the sentence had stood.

The Liquor Act states quite plainly that no one who has been sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine may be granted a liquor licence. In other words, it was the opinion of the Legislature that such a person was not a fit and proper person to be in possession of a liquor licence, and since the law has not been amended it may be taken that that is the opinion of the Legislature still.

Yet the Governor-General, acting presumably on the advice of the Minister of Justice, has now seen fit to disregard the wish of Parliament and pardon a man who would otherwise have paid the penalty demanded by law. Why?

### NO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Normally, the Governor-General grants a pardon only in cases where there has been a gross miscarriage of justice in the courts, or where there are extenuating circumstances which would make it desirable, in the public interest, that justice should be tempered with mercy.

There are no such factors in the present case. Louw was convicted of a brutal assault with a hosepipe and a sjambok on two Coloured men, one Williams, an employee of the hotel, and the other Faroo a labourer, after Williams had admitted breaking into the wine cellar. Faroo denied all knowledge of the theft.

Was there a miscarriage of justice? On the contrary, when Louw appealed to the Supreme Court the judges trebled his fine, remarking that in their opinion the sentence imposed by the magistrate was grossly inadequate for such a brutal assault. One of the judges said that had he been magistrate in the case he would have imposed a prison sentence and a whipping.

Furthermore, the judges were fully aware that Louw would lose his licence if the sentence of imprisonment were allowed to stand, because the matter was argued before them in open court. The Government cannot therefore justify its action by claiming that it is rectifying an oversight on the part of the judges, because they were fully aware of the implications of their judgment, and obviously felt there was no reason to prevent the law from taking its normal course.

Thus not only did Louw, in the end, get off lightly with a fine and a suspended prison sentence, but even the suspended prison sentence has now been rescinded, enabling Louw to renew his liquor licence.

### ACT OF DEFIANCE

On the part of the Government, as we have already indicated, this is calculated defiance of the expressed wish of Parliament. But it is more than that. While Swart is demanding the death penalty for armed robbers and heavier sentences and more floggings for crimes of violence, he apparently feels differently about the use of violence by one of his compatriots against his Non-European employees. A man found guilty of a brutal flogging gets a pardon. There can be no doubt that this will encourage others of Mr. Louw's ilk in the belief that, should they find themselves in similar circumstances, they will be treated with similar leniency.

South Africans, including Mr. Swart, have always claimed to be proud of the standards set by the judiciary in the administration of justice. But no one can be satisfied that these standards will be maintained when the Government, by administrative action behind the scenes, can defy, not only the wish of Parliament, but also the considered opinion of the Bench.



This photograph of the members of the Organising Committee was taken at the recent non-colour-bar nurses' conference in Johannesburg. Left to Right, back row: A. Masar, M. Hoffman, W. Nagdee, B. Njama, E. Busakwe, E. Phokojoe, T. Kumalo (Organising Secretary) and E. Sopazi. Seated: V. Phetheni (Chairlady) and S. Kale.

## SWART'S TACTICS MISFIRE

(Continued from page 1)

the threats continually made by the Native Commissioner Mr. Richter, that army lorries full of soldiers would be brought to break down the houses of the people, though the tribe had been told on other occasions that there was no official record to indicate that the people were to be moved.

The water pumps of the people of Braklaagte were, however, removed and to this day are lying in the yard of the Native Commissioner. The tribe considered this a pernicious and spiteful act by the Native Commissioner.

This proposed removal has upset not only the people living in the two affected areas but the people of Linokana as a whole.

They have been occupying their land — "The Land of Many Streams" — since time immemorial.

### TRIBE WAS SATISFIED

At the official commission of inquiry into the Chief's actions the majority of the headmen took the attitude that there was nothing to inquire into, and said the tribe as a whole was satisfied with its chief.

Then in March 1957 the Government Gazette carried a notice that reference books were to be issued.

### Arrested at November 7 Celebrations

From Temba Mqota

PORT ELIZABETH.

A crowded-to-capacity party was held in the Social Centre, New Brighton, on November 7, 1957, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union. This party marked the culmination of intense preparatory activity by the local committee of the S.A. Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union.

Music and refreshments were in abundance, and the people enjoyed themselves to the full, from 7 p.m. to 12 midnight.

The M.C., Mr. Sam Ntunja, welcomed the audience and moved a toast of long life to the people of the Soviet Union. Mr. S. Mabala replied briefly, saying "May oppression fall."

The special branch and the police were also present taking notes. They later participated in the jiving, rock 'n roll and feasting. After the party they trailed Mr. Ntunja and arrested him for "addressing an illegal meeting of more than ten Natives." He was allowed bail on his own recognisances until Thursday, November 21, 1957.

The Native Commissioner told the Chief he was to compel the women of the tribe to take out passes. And on April 1, 1957, for the first time, the Commissioner told the Chief that there would be serious consequences for him if he did not order the women to take out passes.

The Chief Native Commissioner for Potchefstroom was due to address the tribe a few days later and in the presence of a great crowd, who were stunned by the event, the Chief was told to vacate the chair usually occupied by him as he was no longer chief. The Chief was told he had 14 days to leave Linokana and this was interpreted by all who heard it as meaning the chief was not only deposed, but banished. No document was served on him and later the Department of Native Affairs indicated that the Chief had not in fact been banished. It was later ascertained that he had been deposed by the Governor-General earlier in the year, during January, but to this day there has been no explanation for the delay in notifying the chief or the tribe.

The impression was created that the actual deposition was delayed deliberately so that it could be used as a threat to the Chief to compel him to order the women to take out reference books.

### SCHOOLS BOYCOTTED

The memorandum then outlines in detail the events that followed: the boycott of the schools by the children; the constant gatherings at the kgotla wondering why the Chief has disappeared from public view and where he was; the meetings on the Reef of tribal members working away from the Reserve and their decision to go to Linokana to find out what had happened; then the meetings in the Reserve and the burnings of passes, and the arrests by the police.

These events have been the subject of long drawn out court proceedings in which a number of tribesmen were sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

The closing of the post office, the proposed removal of a trading store and the discontinuance of the railway bus service were all regarded by the tribe as punitive measures taken by the authorities.

Women were told that those who did not have reference books would not receive old age pensions, would not be able to buy railway tickets, or be married by the marriage officer, or be visited by the District Surgeon.

All these threats, for which there is no legal authority, are minuted in the records of the Local Council,

which the tribe suggests be made available to the Commission.

### PASS BOOKS

Women were told, at the same time, that the books were no more than identity cards "on the assumption that their intelligence was so low that they were not able to ascertain the character of the reference book by looking at it. They were also told that the Government was selling handbags in which the women could carry their personal papers and that the reference books were merely incidental. The women were also told that they were not in fact getting passes but merely suitably mounted photographs to show their grandchildren. Further that when one was in possession of a pass one would be able to travel free of charge on the railways.

While the books were being issued a certain Dt. Sgt. van Rooyen came to the district, at the head of a special force of police from Pretoria, and he went about shouting that he was going to remain in the area until the Bafurutse bowed the knee to him, until they had elected a new Chief and until peace and order were restored. He threatened to arrest the women in their thousands if they did not take our reference books by June of this year.

Many arrests of women took place. A special tent was set up in the police yard where admissions of guilt were taken from the women who were arrested.

### NO EXPLANATION

The Commissioner, says the tribe, has not once ventured into the Reserve to try to explain the deposal of the chief or the reason for the issue of the reference books, or their nature. He has contented himself with sitting in his office and hearing the reports of informers.

Of a total of 474 persons arrested or detained, many of the alleged offences were either fictitious or punitive, and only 37 persons have been convicted of any sort of offence.

Evidence led before the Commission seeks the banishment of the deposed Chief, says the tribe. He took part in none of the disturbances that occurred. The disturbances might well not have taken place if he had been allowed to stay in Linokana, and as the next in succession to the Chieftainship, Boas Moilola, has refused to accept the position, it is unlikely that any person can be found to accept the Chieftainship who would also be acceptable to the tribe, the memorandum adds.

## NEW GROUP AREAS BAN MEANS LOSS TO MANY

### No More Mixed Restaurants or Cinemas

CAPE TOWN.

THE declaration under the Group Areas Act prohibiting restaurants and tea-rooms from serving customers of all racial groups, and cinemas from admitting mixed audiences will result in financial loss to many businesses.

Published in the Government Gazette last week, the declaration says: "... all provisions of the Act relating to the occupation of land or premises shall apply also with reference to any person who is at any time in or upon any land or premises in a group area or in the controlled area for the purpose of attending any public cinema or partaking of any refreshments in a licensed restaurant, refreshment or tea room or eating house or as a member of or guest in any club, as if his presence constituted occupation of such land or premises."

The same Gazette announced the date of the coming into operation of the Group Areas Act as November 1.

### FINANCIAL LOSS

Interviewed by New Age, Mr. Ebrahim Kablay, manager of the Medina restaurant in Cape Town, said that the banning of Europeans from his restaurant would be a severe blow. The restaurant was established ten years ago and had many European customers.

"Many of them are prominent businessmen and we also have the after-theatre parties coming in. I am positive that they will be most affronted at being prohibited from having their meals where they please. Apart from that, the loss of their custom will mean a heavy loss to us."

Mr. A. H. Kathrada, owner of another well-known restaurant in Hanover Street, said that he had engaged a "battery of lawyers" to investigate the legality of the new declaration. A large number of his customers were white, and it would be most embarrassing to have to turn them away.

### RIDICULOUS

"This is ridiculous," said a European customer of one of the restaurants. "Why shouldn't I be able to eat where I like? I, and many of my friends, have enjoyed going to a Non-European cafe for a real Indian meal. Now the Nationalists are not only preventing us from eating where we like, but also what we like."

An Indian woman, the owner of another popular restaurant in the city, said that although she did not have very many European customers, several very often dropped in for tea or a light meal.

"Does it mean that I now have to chase them away?" she asked. "That would be a very difficult thing to do. I don't know what the Government will think of next."

Although the regulations allow for exemptions from the provisions of the Act, none of the business people interviewed said they intended to apply for them.

## Zeerust Women Assaulted and Thrown into Prison

### ZEERUST.

ON the day the Commission was due to resume its enquiry into disturbances in the Zeerust-Marico area reserves, a group of women, some with infants on their backs, were attacked by a number of men near the kgotla of the Chief of Witfleigat, near Marico.

The Chief is known to have been trying to force women to carry passes.

A three-month-old baby was hurt in the attack, and one woman had an arm broken.

One of the women involved in the incident, Makgoro Maletsoe, described how her sister was arrested by the Zeerust police and how she and a group of women tried to take her sister's 16-month-old baby to her in prison. As they approached the Chief's kgotla, she claimed, a group of his supporters came towards the women, and hit them with sticks. This is when the mother and her three-month-old infant were hurt. The group of women were locked up for the night, among them women with young children.

That evening a police sergeant threw open the door of the room where the women were detained, spat upon the floor and said the women were dogs, fit only to be killed, they told New Age. The following morning the Chief's men again threatened the women, and fired shots into the ground.

The women were released after more threats, and a group travelled to Johannesburg to get medical attention for the woman whose arm had been broken in the attack. They were afraid to take this injured woman to a doctor in Zeerust, they said.

### SACPO Leader Arrested

CAPE TOWN.

MR. Barney Desai, member of the National Executive of the South African Coloured People's Organisation, was arrested by the Special Branch while on his way to address factory workers last Friday. He was taking part in the SACPO campaign against job reservation in the clothing industry.

After questioning by the Special Branch, Mr. Desai was held incommunicado until Saturday morning when he appeared at the Magistrate's Court and was charged with three counts of "inciting to strike" and another for contravening the immigration laws. He was released on £100 bail and was instructed to report to the police every Monday and Friday before 10 a.m. until November 26 when the case will be heard.

Mr. Desai told New Age that the Special Branch requested that one of the conditions of his bail be a ban on his attendance at meetings, but the magistrate refused to agree.

Mr. Desai spent Friday night in the cells with other prisoners. Nobody was allowed to visit him.

### OKLAHOMA IN MOSCOW

LONDON.

Radio Moscow recently entertained its home service listeners with a Bolshoi Theatre presentation in Russian of "Oklahoma."

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