

① ORT 116

GENERAL REMARKS

1. This is only a first draft: no time to tie up some ends.
2. I have in each section drafted a general clause of rights, followed by the more particular detailed demands.
3. The demands are framed in such a way as not only to demand the positive (eg. "We demand freedom of movement") but also to contrast this with the present hated system ("the pass laws must be abolished").
4. The order of demands is not yet the best - some should be re-arranged.
5. More detail is necessary under some sections.

We here hold that man, born but once, has the right to live his life fully, in liberty and security of person.

This might be superfluous in view of the Preamble you have; on the other hand some of it might be included?

We believe in the essential dignity and worth of the human being, be he African or White, Indian, Coloured or Malay; man or woman; graduate or illiterate.

We resolutely reject colour as a dividing line between men; we believe that all men can live in our country as brothers and good neighbours; that unitedly we can secure the future against poverty and misery, and save South Africans of all generations from the scourge of racialism and enmity.

We South Africans hold that the will of all the people shall be <sup>the</sup> basis ~~the~~ of the authority of our government.

White men and Black, all South Africans, must join hands as partners and equals for the future.

Every adult South African, regardless of colour or sex, of national or social origin, should have the ~~un~~unqualified right to vote for, and to stand for election to, the Parliament of our land, and to all national, provincial and local governing bodies.

Peppet advisory ~~boards~~boards, "Bantus authorities" and tribal councils should be abolished.

More details of political rights needed?

The bonds between the people, the organs of public opinion and their elected representatives shall be close, and consultation between the people and their representatives shall prevail at all levels and at all times.

The preaching and practice of national, racial or colour discrimination, contempt or exclusiveness should be severely punishable by law.

All peoples in our country should be protected from insults to their nationality and human dignity.

All languages spoken by the peoples of South Africa should have equal status in the schools, the courts, in the legislative bodies and in the departments of state.

Every national group should have the right, and state encouragement, to use and develop its own folk culture and national customs.

Should the main clause be rather a positive declaration of national equality?

We hold that the riches of our country derive from the labour of all our citizens, and that all should share in the national wealth.

The land, the forests, the mines of coal, gold and diamonds, the quarries, the factories and workshops, the railways, should be worked for the benefit of the people.

"be worked for the benefit of the people - too vague"

The mines should be nationalised.

Huge land monopolies must be ended and the land must be owned by those who win its produce from it.

We demand not the restrictive Reserve system and cattle-culling, but more land to the peasants. Famine and land-hunger must be banished by an equitable distribution of the land, by the adoption of advanced and mechanised ways of farming, by planned irrigation schemes and anti-erosion work. Peasants should receive state assistance in the form of seeds and farm implements.

For the Farm tenants we demand lands homes and security. No man shall have to live out his life squatting on a small patch of earth he will never own; scratching out a living from the soil at the whim and mercy of another.

Farm workers should be protected by welfare legislation, assured of paid leave, sick benefits, and overtime payment.

Child labour on the farms should be abolished.

The tot system must be ended.

The system of coercing men to work on the farms, and the wicked farm prisons should be abolished for all time.

Include a section on labour conditions rather than here?

The migratory labour system which permits men neither security in

the towns nor the opportunity to make a living from the land should be ended. Mine workers should be permitted all the securities and comforts of home and family life.

All men and women shall have the right to work of their own free choice, to guaranteed employment, to equal pay for equal work, and to skilled and technical training

The colour-bar in industry must be abolished, and payment be on the basis of skill, not colour.

There should be a national minimum wage and a 40-hour week guaranteed for all: worker in factory, shop and office, those who labour on farms and in the fields, miners and domestic workers.

Trade unions, the guardians of the workers' standards, should be free, unfettered and legally recognised for all. The right of collective bargaining and of factory consultation <sup>should</sup> ~~shall~~ be ensured.

Should we go into greater detail on improved factory conditions

"factory consultation" too vague

We hold that taxation without representation is tyranny.

The system of taxation should be based on the principle of equality of sacrifice, and such systems as the poll tax should be abolished.

All must have the right of equal access to the civil service.

The professions must be closed to none on the basis of national group or social origin.

Trading opportunities should be open to all.

All South Africans should be recognised as equals before the law

No man should be held in custody without charge, condemned without trial, or sentenced without defence.

Prison sentences for petty and trivial infringements of regulations should be abolished.

The forces of the law should be devoted to protecting the peoples' rights, instead of hounding the people by night and day in never-ending raids for tax receipts, passes & licences and liquor.

The prisons must be humane centres of correction and rehabilitation, not dungeons of vengeance by the State against the wrongdoer.

See Sheet D of Peoples Demands. Much detail on penal reform and juvenile delinquency has been left out. Some of these points should be made?

The police force and the army should be the aides and the protectors of the common people, not their oppressors and armed enemies.

The people should have the right to form civic guards for their protection.

All South Africans demand the guarantee of freedom of speech

freedom of assembly

freedom of the press

freedom of organisation

freedom of religion

freedom of movement, from countryside to town, from one city to another, from province to province.

South Africans should have the right to travel abroad and to return to their country. We demand the inviolability of our persons and our homes, the privacy of correspondence.

All machinery for dragooning our citizens and limiting their freedoms such as permits and the pass laws, our badge of slavery and humiliation, should be abolished.

women should enjoy full and equal rights with men in all spheres of our national life.

All people should have the right to live where they choose, to trade freely, and own their homes.

Fenced locations, closed ghettos, segregated townships should be eliminated. Every family should have the right to a decent home. It should be the responsibility of the State to build homes for the people; to pave the roads and build storm-water drainage; to bring light and piped water <sup>and</sup> indoor sanitation into the homes, and to make available the amenities of hygienic and civilised living.

Rents and interest on housing loans should be within the reach of the working man. The people should be assured cheap and adequate transport; schools, libraries, parks, halls and community centres should be built in their residential areas.

Prices of essential commodities should be controlled, black-marketing severely punishable; corrective foods such as milk, vegetables fruit, bread, meal and meat subsidised.

There should be fair rationing of essential foods and fuel when in short supply.

At this point a general clause about giving people the opportunity to live 'the good life', in health, with adequate sustenance, or something?

The family is the natural and fundamental unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the state.

Free preventive and curative medical services should be open to all  
Hospitalisation should be free.

A network of clinics, factory first-aid stations, maternity, anti-natal and child clinics should be provided so that none are beyond reach of skilled medical care.

The aged, the orphaned, the disabled, the sick and the needy should be protected by comprehensive social security measures.

which detailed demands to be included? See Sheet C of Peoples' Demands.

The state should give tender care to mothers and children, working mothers, mothers with large families and widows should receive assistance from the state. Pensions for retired workers should be sufficient to enable those who have given of a lifetime of labour to their country to live out their old age in happiness and serenity. Maternity leave should be the right of all women workers.

All South Africans have the right to education. Education should be for equality, and directed to the full development of the human personality.

This right must be ensured to all classes and colours by free, universal compulsory education; access for all to higher education and state assistance in the form of scholarships and student allowances.

See very large no. of demands on Sheet E of Peoples' Demands.

Adult illiteracy should be eliminated by a mass state campaign.

The qualification for entrance to universities should be academic merit only.

Workers should be provided with free technical and vocational education.

Teachers should enjoy all the liberties of citizens in general, including the right to take part in the affairs of the community outside the school.

The children and the youth of South Africa should be educated to love and appreciate the national cultures of the people, and to honour principles of human brotherhood and peace.

All should have the right to participate in and *enrich* cultural life, to enjoy the arts, to share in scientific advance and its benefits.

Music colleges, art schools, symphony concerts, museums and libraries

should be open the treasure-house of mankind's cultural achievement to all.

Folk art and culture of the national groups should be given the most fertile ground in which to flourish.

There should be full cultural exchanges between South Africans and the peoples of the outside world.

All should have the right to rest and leisure.

The colour bar in sport is incompatible with true sport-loving principles and must be ended. Playing fields, swimming baths for the youth should help them to develop in health and fitness.

We South Africans call for a democratic republic which will determine the course of its own future, with complete independence from all foreign domination.

The peoples of the Protectorates: Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, and the peoples of South West Africa, ~~shall~~ have unconditional rights of self-government and independence.

See Sheet II for all the demands. Map of them should probably be included.

In the realm of international affairs we declare our belief in the principles of co-existence, of negotiation to settle all outstanding matters and for world peace.

We demand an end to military alliances for war, an end to the subordination of peoples' national independence for for war bases and war purposes.

We demand the outlawing of all weapons of mass destruction, and that South Africa's uranium be used for peaceful purposes, and not for war and destruction.

(N.B. Where include Demand for the Repeal of all laws, proclamations, and regulations which are based on colour differentiation and autocratic and arbitrary powers of government against the people?

Also omitted: Demand to brew and drink liquor.

~~omit~~ Others left out can be seen from the sheets - some omitted purposely, others should probably still be included.

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**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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