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THE DEMANDS OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA, PRESENTED BY THE TRANSVAAL REGION OF THE
FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN.

The women of South Africa have come not to beg or plead, but to ask for what is our right as women, as mothers, and as citizens of our country.

We are women of all races and colours. We are housewives, workers and professional women. Our backgrounds are varied. We come from homes in townships and suburbs from shanties and from houses. We speak the many languages of our country and our educational and cultural backgrounds are varied.

Yet all of us have the same hopes, the same desires. We want the same things for ourselves, our children, our families. We are not divided by our differences, but united by our common needs. We have come together with common purposes and together we set forth these burning questions that affect us as women.

We believe that every child born in our country has a right to health and happiness. Every child should receive the food and care he needs to make him strong and healthy. Every child is entitled to education to the fullest extent of his abilities, to training as a useful member of society as a whole, not merely as a member of his racial group, and to the fullest utilisation of his training and capabilities in the field of productive work.

Children have been denied the right to universal, free and compulsory education, and instead their minds are to be stunted and their potentialities destroyed through the evil of Bantu Education. We women are determined that Bantu Education must be withdrawn, and that all children of this country shall enjoy education in the fullest sense, education that includes the cultural riches of the whole world, the heritage of every child regardless of his racial group.

EDUCATION SHALL BE FREE, COMPULSORY, UNIVERSAL AND EQUAL FOR ALL CHILDREN.

Hundreds of thousands of our children are born into crowded and unhealthy slums. They die of preventable diseases before they can walk. They are physically stunted by lack of proper food. Too many of them grow up deprived of the full care of both parents as a result of the many evil laws and conditions that destroy family life and keep one, or both, parents away from home.

The essential requirement of true family life is that every family should have a decent home. We women condemn unreservedly the Group Areas Act and the many regulations that prevent us from living freely in proper housing estates and suburbs that segregate us in ghettos and locations, that deprive us of the right and opportunity to own a home, to live where we choose.

We are opposed to the inhuman site-and-service schemes, by which hundreds of thousands of families will be condemned to live permanently in shacks and shanties, because the wages that our husbands and we ourselves can earn are too low for us to pay the price of a decent house. In the name of the children of South Africa, we demand proper homes.

ALL PEOPLE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE WHERE THEY CHOOSE, TO BE DECENTLY HOUSED AND TO BRING UP THEIR FAMILIES IN COMFORT AND SECURITY.

FENCED LOCATIONS AND GHETTOS SHALL BE ABOLISHED, AND THE LAWS WHICH BREAK UP FAMILIES SHALL BE REPEALED.

Amongst us today are housewives, workers in factories and in offices. We must work for our homes and our families, must work to meet the cost of living, to supplement the earnings of our husbands, to support our children and our children and our parents. Yet the right of the worker to organise freely to come together in trade unions, to fight together in unity for the just rewards of our labour, is denied to us, as it is denied to our menfolk, for we are split asunder into racial groups by legislation to hear: "We are women, we are workers, we stand together." We shall unite in unflinching opposition to the legislation which seeks to the legislation which seeks to destroy the trade union movement, to prevent the full organisation of the workers.

ALL WHO WORK SHALL BE FREE TO FORM TRADE UNIONS, TO ELECT THEIR OFFICERS AND TO MAKE WAGE AGREEMENTS WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS.

In our struggle today for human rights, for a free untrammelled future for all children of our country, we are hampered by the laws which seek to crush our efforts, to remove our trusted leaders from their positions, to remove trade union officials, to banish our leaders to far off parts of South Africa. When we oppose injustice and racial hatred and speak out for the rights of our children, for peace and for freedom for them, we are accused of "treason", the privacy of our homes is invaded by police, we are subjected to searches and questionings. We are denied the fundamental human right to associate freely together, to organise. We protest to our utmost ~~sex~~ against these practices, sanctioned by legislation. But we want to say here today, all women together, that we shall not be intimidated, we shall not be daunted in our march forward together; we shall not fear the vicious penalties that may be inflicted upon us in our struggle.

THE LAW SHALL GUARANTEE TO ALL THEIR RIGHT TO SPEAK, TO ORGANISE, TO MEET TOGETHER.

Freedom of movement is denied to a vast majority of the people of South Africa; even the right freely to leave and return to the country of our birth has been destroyed; passports are refused and have become the vested right of the government, to withhold or grant, not the human right of the individual. The people of South Africa are becoming enclosed in a prison. Thus not only we ourselves, but our children also, are affected, for they are no longer free to seek higher education in other countries, to develop to their fullest by travel, by training in other lands.

ALL SHALL BE FREE TO TRAVEL WITHOUT RESTRICTION FROM COUNTRYSIDE TO TOWN PROVINCE, AND FROM SOUTH AFRICA ABROAD.

As women of all races, we protest against the "reclassification" of the coloured people; we protest because we are all South Africans and we do not recognise the right of any official, to ask a man or a woman what they are, to what racial group they belong. To such a question we reply "We are of the human race" we protest against this use of the population registration Act to attack and destroy families, to inflict inhuman suffering upon individuals.

As women of all races we protest against the vicious degradation of the pass system, which we proclaim to be in full force today. Former pass laws may have been more cruel than ever before. Daily our husbands, our brothers, our sons, are arrested, thrown into goals for some trivial unconscious infringement of these laws; call them what you will, they are to us the PASS LAWS which which make us into slaves.

Today the threat to women is greater than ever before; African women are to be issued with passes and to be exposed to all the humiliation and indignities associated with the production of passes on demand. We who are not African women, stand today before you, together with our African sisters, to say that this is an affront to womanhood, that we women are firmly and untirely opposed to this extension of the pass system. African women have never carried passes; to inflict this indignity upon them is an injustice that cries aloud for redress, that will shame South Africa at home and abroad.

PASS LAWS . PERMITS AND ALL OTHER LAWS RESTRICTING THESE FREEDOM SHALL BE ABOLISHED.

As women we demand, therefore, the repeal of all legislation which aims at destroyed our solidarity, which denies us women human rights, which threaten the future of our children. In this ~~legis-~~ legislation we include:

- The Bantu Education. All laws and regulations relating to the pass system.
- The Population registration Act . The departure from the Union Act.
- The Industrial Conciliation Act Amendment Bill. The Native Labour (Settlement Of Disputes) Act. Criminal Laws Amendment Act. The Public Safety Act .
- The Riotous Assemblies Act. The Suppression Of Communism Act.
- The Group Areas Act.

Qw speak from our hearts as mothers, as women. Life cannot be stopped. We must love and marry and find a home. We must bear children in hope and in pain. We must love them as parts of ourselves, we must help them to grow, we must endure all the longings and sufferings of motherhood. Because of this we are made strong, to come here, to speak for our children, to strive for their future.

We, the voters and the voteless, call you, the minister responsible for these acts, and we will not rest until we see the

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Report of the Executive Committee
to the Bi-ennial General Meeting
of the Transvaal Indian Congress
held on Sunday the 9th May, 1954,
at 2.30., p.m., at the Trades Hall
Johannesburg.

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Mr. Chairman Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have the honour and privilege to present to you this brief report of the work conducted by your Congress. The present Office bearers and members of the working committee were elected to office at the Bi-ennial General Meeting held on the 19th November, 1950, at the Trades Hall, Johannesburg. Owing to various circumstances arising from the number of campaigns in which the Congress was involved the working committee was constrained to decide to postpone this meeting to a more propitious and suitable date.

2. Tribute to the Leaders who have died.

We would be failing in our duty if we did not record at the outset the sad death of two outstanding personalities and leaders of the Indian community of South Africa. The late Mr. T.N. Naidoo and the late Mr. E.S. Dangor. For these loyal veterans of the struggles of the Indian community no political task was too great or small for them. Throughout their lives even when ailing they were prepared to work for the cause which was so dear to their hearts. As a result they were respected by all sections of the community and their services and sacrifices will go down in history as a lasting contribution to the cause of liberation in South Africa. We acclaim and record their services with great pride.

3. Congress faces the political situation.

Fascism is making headway in South Africa. Since the Nationalist Party came into power in 1948, a host of legislations have been enacted. They have passed the Suppression Act, the Martial Law Act, the Group Areas Act, the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the Consolidation of Passes Act, the Population Registration Act, the attack on the Coloured vote goes on, the Bantu Education Act, the Riotous Assemblies Amendment Act, the Western Areas Removal Bill, and Apartheid in the Trade Unions Bill is being considered by Parliament. Apartheid is being forced upon the people in every walk of life which has become a veritable jungle of restrictions. The housing position is worsening by the day, breaking up family life and causing an increase in juvenile delinquency. Propaganda agencies with the pogrom spirit, disruptive elements and secret police agents, are trying to spread race, and communal hatred, attempting to set race against race, group against group, language against language, religion against religion, in order to divide the masses of the people into conflicting groups so as to facilitate the implementation of the Nationalists' Nazi inspired laws, which are all designed to enslave the masses of the people and hamstring their legitimate struggle for democratic rights.

4. Opposition increases on all fronts.

The masses of the people however, are not submitting to the devilish plans of the government. They have struck back, by means of the May Day strike of 1950, the Cape franchise Action strike, the National Day of Protest, 1950, the garment workers strike and the historic defiance campaign of 1952.

The African people under the leadership of the African National Congress, the Indian people under the leadership of the South African Indian Congress, white democrats under the leadership of the Congress of Democrats, the coloured people under the leadership of the National Organisation of the Coloured People, by means of these struggles have developed the mass political consciousness of the people and the spirit of unity among the oppressed and voteless masses to a level yet unknown in the history of South Africa. The call of 'AFRIKA' symbolises that spirit. In addition we note that the working classes see the dangers in the new Schoeman Bill. The churches are realising the dangers ahead. World opinion is opposed to the apartheid policy of the government. Dr. Malan's attack on Mr. Nehru is part of the Nationalists' plan to divert the minds of the people to an imaginary menace outside the country and inside the country. Hitler always said that Germany was threatened by communists and by local and international Jewry in order to justify the massacre of the Jews of Germany and establish a brutal dictatorship. The attack by the Nationalist government on the rights of the Indian, coloured and African peoples, and on the working classes is a prelude to the broader dictatorship of rich farmers, landowners, industrialists and capitalists.

5 Congress of the People for United Action against Apartheid Tyranny.

Our latest report on the proposed Congress of the People is as follows.

At the invitation of the African National Congress, a joint conference of representatives of the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress, the South African Coloured Peoples Organisation and the Congress of Democrats was held in March. United by the aim of achieving full citizenship rights for all South Africans, and by a common desire to make the democratic aspirations of our people heard powerfully throughout South Africa and the world, the conference resolved to convene a Congress of the People at a date to be announced. The Congress of the People will consist of democratically elected representatives of the people of all races from all parts of the country and will be the most widely representative gathering of South Africans ever

known in the Union's history. This decision in itself is a political victory and a major step forward for the freedom loving forces of South Africa. The Congress of the People will mobilise and unite the great majority of the people of South Africa in the struggle against fascism and for democratic rights. Its success will depend on you and all freedom loving people of South Africa. We have no doubt that the Indian people will contribute their share towards the successful convention of the Congress of the People.

6 Victory over the ban on Indian wives and children.

You are no doubt aware that it was the intention of the government to ban the entry of wives and children of South African Indians into South Africa, although these women and children had every right to join their husbands and fathers. Quite a number of men cried when they were faced with the prospect of being parted from their wives and children, who had every legal right to be in South Africa. Under the guidance and vigilance of the Congress, the affected members of the Indian community were enabled to exercise their legal right to bring their wives and children home. The 1913 Immigration Act, which prevented the further entry of Indians into South Africa since 1913, was amended in 1953 in order specifically to prevent Indians from marrying Indian women in India and bringing them to South Africa.

The South African Indian Congress in a memorandum to the government protested vigorously against the decision of the government. Protests were also made from other parts of the world. The position now is that if one of our sons fell in love with a

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girl born in India, he would be faced with this restriction, which is definitely a blot on civilised law for no civilised country in the world places such a restriction on the rights of the individual. The Amendment takes effect after February the 10th 1954.

7 The fight against the group Areas.

The Indian people and all decent minded people are deeply conscious of the far reaching and drastic implications of this law which is designed to uproot, segregate, and economically ruin the Indian people. In order to refresh the minds of those who have forgotten the fundamental aims and objects of the Act, we quote once more paragraph 331, from the Joint Report of the Asiatic Land Laws Commission set up by the Government. The Commission's report was published in 1950, and the Group Act was born.

' There seems to be an evergrowing belief in the public mind that the only satisfactory solution of the Asiatic question is repatriation, and whatever is done by way of legislation should be such as not to endanger the possibility of repatriation, and deprive the public of one of its most deeply cherished hopes. The fundamental theme of evidence throughout the years has been and still is repatriation or failing which compulsory segregation. In the most recent evidence there is noticeable a distinct tendency for this theme to assume the form of repatriation and pending which compulsory segregation. In its most advanced form this theme reads, repatriation, and failing which, compulsory segregation with boycott to induce repatriation'

When this vicious Act was passed, the S.A.I.C. resolved to oppose it with all the power at its command. For four years the Indian people supported by the A.N.C. and other democratic minded people objected strongly to the Act. The whole world has condemned this apartheid law.

& Lydenburg.
The Land Tenure Board has concluded its sittings at Carolina, Balfour, Nylstroom & group Areas in the bundus, on sewage dumps, in the jungle, on the rocks, with natural geographical boundaries, such as mountains and rivers are envisaged. Land Tenure Board Inspectors are busy in town and country-side intimidating and questioning people on their right of occupation. Mosques, Temples, schools, churches, community property, halls, places of entertainment millions of pounds worth of public money, shops, and businesses, and the very right to earn an honest living or live where you are, are in imminent danger. But the people are fighting back and defending their hard earned rights as evidenced in the enquiries of the Land Tenure Board.

Speaking in the Assembly on the application of the Group Areas Act D.R. Donges, the Minister of Interior among other matters said ;

' The other aspect is naturally the proclamation of group Areas. We have always warned that this is not a matter which can happen overnight because it is so irrevocable we must act with the greatest care and consideration. It is a slow process, but we are busy in the large centres!

Lydenburg is one of the places where we have systematic opposition from the Indians. The Land Tenure Advisory Board went there, and among others the Indian Congress appeared and made certain objections. They wanted the board to recuse itself. The board refused to do this. Then they said, 'Well we are going to make a case.' The board kindly adjourned the hearing to give them an opportunity of making a case, but nothing happened. We waited and waited and eventually we arranged a second meeting of the board in Lydenburg for Monday (29th March), and, /4.

and I think it was Thursday (25th March, 1954), they made an application for an interdict, a temporary interdict. This was only heard on Friday, and we appeared and we put our case and the court upheld us, and we could then hold the meeting on Monday. They then again got busy trying to take up time with various unnecessary points. Again they threatened to go to court. They asked us to adjourned again, but we said, 'No, we are not adjourning again. We are completing the sitting' But apparently they are going on with a case. Apparently it concerns the locus standi of the Indian Congress; people who do not live in Lydenburg, but the head office puts in an appearance in a place like Lydenburg. Now we have had this opposition, but there is also a section among the Indians which is co-operating and which realises that it will eventually be in their interests to co-operate. It is only this Indian Congress and we know what its affiliations are, and one must expect opposition from them. "

In reply to this statement of the Minister we are obliged, to state that the affiliations of the Congress are the majority of the Indian people of South Africa and all oppressed people of this country and to quote from Dr. Dadoo's statement and article appearing in the May Day issue of the Advance, :

'That the Government has not succeeded in declaring group areas is an indication of the strength of the united and resolute opposition offered by the people. It is the primary task of the people to continue to express their united and determined opposition to the implementation of the Group Areas Act at every sitting of the Board so as to make the declaration of Group Areas well nigh impossible. It is however regrettable to note that a group of individuals styled as an Indian Organisation with vested interests have now broken the united front and are asking for group areas.' They are consciously or unconsciously assisting the apartheid plans of the Government. While the Minister has said that the process is slow these vested interests are now hastening the process. Remember that the Government found allies in the Kleurling Bond, the Bengu Congress and they now have the Organisation group.'

Many successful actions against Group Act threat.

Apart from the objections at Board sittings, your officials and executive committee have given advice to hundreds of persons facing prosecution, confiscation of their rights, & confiscation of religious institutions. Many actions have been successful. Congress news bulletins are circulated throughout the country informing the public of the latest developments in regard to the Group Areas.

More plans prepared.

Plans are prepared for Rustenburg and Klerksdorp. The City Council of Johannesburg have submitted portions of Fordsburg Newtown, Burghersdorp and Lenasia as their plans for Indian areas.

7. Mass Meetings and conferences.

Mass meetings were held in town and countryside to acquaint the people with developments affecting their vital interests. These have been held in the E. Transvaal, W. Transvaal, Northern Transvaal and in Reef towns. Joint conferences under the auspices of the A.M.C., and T.I.C, have been held in the Western Areas, Kliptown, Benoni, and Germiston. Up to 5,000, delegates attended these conferences.

8. Passes for Indians.

Mass meetings were held in Pretoria on this question. According to a statement in the Senate by the Minister Indians do not seem to be co-operating.

9. Humanity fights for Peace.

Humanity is meeting the challenge of the Atom and Hydrogen, Bomb through the medium of the World Peace Movement . 500,000,000, people of all nations and colours signed the first petition for peace for all mankind . Public opinion all over the world wanted recognition of New China , peace talks in Korea , and agreement that the five great powers should meet for peace talks . That the great powers are meeting now over the question of the peace in Korea and the Imperialist war in Indo China is in itself a victory for the World Peace Movement. South Africans too want peace . Members of the Indian community took part in the convening of a South African Peace Movement in 1953. A South African Peace Council under the leadership of the Rev . Thompson, was formed. We are also proud to record that Dr. Y.M. Dadoo, was one of the founders of the peace movement in South Africa, and that the late Mr. T.N. Maidaoo , became chairman of the Transvaal Peace Council. The government's interest in peace may be measured by the Governor General's opening speech at this session of Parliament, He said,

" The unrest and tension which the world in general has been experiencing , for some time, is showing welcome signs of easing. My Ministers cherish the hope that this improvement will continue. Although the situation in Korea after the signing of the armistice remains unsatisfactory, it is hoped that the difficulties still existing will be surmounted.

Over 6,000,000, pounds were spent by South Africa for her part in that senseless slaughter. How many schools, hospitals, and houses could be built with all that money. The people are taxed directly and indirectly to finance these wars . Every man woman and child suffers in a war , therefore every man woman and child must fight for peace .

10. Defiance campaign stood up to government . Hats off to the gallant volunteers and leaders who have been banned.

We are proud to record that the Indian people have played their part in the historic defiance campaign of 1952. We congratulate particularly the men, women, and youth volunteers who have suffered the rigours of imprisonment . We would also be failing in our duty if we did not record our thanks, to all those , inside and outside Congress, who were ready at any time of the day or night to lend assistance during that campaign.

'It was one major force which has stood up to the government as a serious opponent of fascism and as the defender of the rights of the South African people of all races has proved to be the National Liberation movement of the Non-European people. Throughout the time when the liberals and reformist trade unions have been on the retreat, abandoning one after the other the principles which they claim to uphold, it has been the fraternal alliance of the African National Congress, and the South African Indian Congress which held the fort for democracy and rallied the people to resistance.

The defiance campaign of 1952 was the biggest and most important mass action ever carried out by the oppressed people of South Africa. It was this campaign which showed up the general Election of 1953 as a hollow sham fight between rival oppressors. It brought the attention of the whole world to bear on the basic problems of our country, and it established the Congresses as the true spokesmen of the aims of the majority of the people of our country. As a result of this campaign the Congress movement is stronger than it has ever been " AFRICA.

Fight to lift the ban on leaders . Public pressure can do it.

Every one must help in the struggle to get the bans placed on Dr. Dadoo, Mr. Nana Sita, Mr. Y. Cachalia, and Mr. S. Nayer, lifted. Their only crime is that they were elected by the people to serve their cause . Congress records with high appreciation the magnificent and magnanimous work they have done. During the defiance campaign , officials, and leaders of the Congresses and youth Congress were put on trial for conducting the campaign .

11. Congress opposes Western Areas Removal.

Congress is co-operating with the people of the western Areas in opposing the removal of the people of the western Areas. There are 58,000 , African, Coloured, and Indian persons at present living in the western Areas of Johannesburg. Mothers, fathers, labourers, shopkeepers, clerks, teachers, and children. There are mosques, temples, churches, schools, and public institutions. Millions of pounds spent by the people there in the building up of the area. All this is to go and the people to be resettled at meadowlands, and the Indians who knows where.

We protest against these removal plans. Congress members, members of the Youth congress assist in the organisation of protest meetings, thousands of people have signed a petition protesting against the removal, and European public opinion, and church organisation are also objecting.

12. Congress fights for proper housing conditions for the poor and homeless.

Land tenure restrictions, the Group Act, the natural increase in population and the declaration of industrial areas , are the main factors causing the housing shortage . Goodwill racketeers, and rack renting landlords are causing additional frustration among the people . Local authorities have criminally neglected this civic amenity in so far as the Indian community is concerned. Unscrupulous elements , political spies and informers are exploiting this shortage in order to justify the request for group areas. Five per cent agents are doing the same.

Congress representatives have made representations to the City Council of Johannesburg, demanding that areas in Fordsburg, Ophirton etc owned by the Council should be used for the building of utility flats and housing schemes.

13. Tenants Defended Daily.

Tenants who are being threatened with ejection come to the offices daily for assistance . In most of the cases we have succeeded in obtaining redress . Most of the affected tenants however wait until the last minute . Landlords should realise that if they do not help tenants , they are unconsciously justifying group areas in which they will also finally land. The Indian community must support the demands of the Congress in no uncertain terms.

14. Lenasia.

Congress objected to the creation of this Township. As far back as June, 1952 , reflected in its minutes, the City Council of Johannesburg recommended Lenasia as a suitable group area for Indians. Lenasia is part of the Group plans for Johannesburg. It is part of the scheme to remove 20,000, Indians from Johannesburg.

Those who are forced to go there or wish to go there will in the near future face the full brunt of apartheid with all its ramifications.

15. Congress never rejected a housing scheme.

Malicious misrepresentations are being made that Congress has rejected this scheme or that scheme. What the authorities were concerned with was not the housing of the homeless, workers, and lower income groups, but with the uprooting of the Indian people from the towns for segregation and repatriation purposes. So Indians object to being thrown out of town and have a right to civic amenities in towns.

16. Hawkers, Pedlars, Flowersellers, Fruit Sellers defended.

When these people were threatened with the loss of their licences, congress made successful objections.

17. Opposed Apartheid in trade and boycott.

Evidence was submitted to the Commission on Local Government. Apartheid in trade was opposed and evidence of the boycott moves against traders in country towns was exposed.

18. Help for Tornado Victims and victims of Orlando train disaster

The Indian community responded to our call for assistance in this respect. Special thanks are due to the women who did a great deal of work not out of charity but out of a desire to help those in distress.

19. Education.

Congress submitted evidence to various commissions on education. We objected to apartheid in schools, demanded more schools, equal pay for equal work for teachers, full opportunities for promotion for teachers, a High School for Girls, and compulsory education. We also requested for the S.A.R., property in Gillie St, for a school to relieve the congestion.

20. Benoni - Germiston

Steps were taken to relieve the tension created by irresponsible elements who were attempting to create a race riot. The creation of Indian advisory boards as predicted by Congress, has not served any good purpose to the people generally but has led to the board members who were elected on the basis of Hindi, Gujarati, Tamil, and Muslim groups fighting among themselves for selfish reasons and ignoring the suffering people there. The authorities there are no doubt laughing up their sleeves. The people in the locations must wake up and form proper branches of congress before it is too late.

21. Women must organise themselves.

It would be superfluous for us to mention any further the contribution of women to the struggle. They are always ready to do something when called upon, but it is time Indian women were organised into a proper women's organisation.

22. Youth stimulate the struggle.

The politically conscious youth are doing magnificent work for the cause. Parents must encourage their youthful sons and daughters to help build a powerful youth movement and be interested in the future of the community. The youth are more literate than their fathers were. It is the task of the youth movement to fight for youth rights and help to destroy the juke box psychology spreading among the growing youth.

1. Congress in an assembly
of just, J. G. Wilson
Trades Hall, Johannesburg
9/5/54

The organisation of festivals are assisting in the building up of racial goodwill and the desire for peace and it is the duty of all to support these festivals. There is however much to be done to bring the idea of a youth movement down to masses of the youth.

23 T.N.Naidoo Memorial.

Members of the Indian community have set up a T.N.Naidoo, Memorial fund to set up a tombstone and create a fund for his widow and children.

24 Support for Trade Unions.

Congress at all times indicated their support for the free trade union movement. Workers must be vigilant and see to it that they attend their trade union meetings and take an active part in the affairs of their unions.

General.

Congress officials have also to perform other duties besides political matters. People come for legal advice, matrimonial advice, we had to arrange the burial of a pauper once. We had to try and trace the next of kin of an absentminded old man. A number of unemployed have been placed in employment, and other day to day problems of individuals and the community are attended to.

You may be aware that the West Rand School has decided to remove the Krugersdorp Indian School to a building which has a 20 foot donga 10 feet from the school building. The Indian community there have suggested alternative sites but they have been ignored. Congress has written to the Department objecting to this, and the community have signed a petition in support of their demand. It is important that vigorous protests must be made upon every encroachment however small on the rights of man, woman, and child. That is your public duty.

The Transvaal Indian Congress is affiliated to the S.A.I.C., and we are glad to record that we sent a full complement of delegates to the last S.A.I.C., conference held in 1952. Counsellors to the S.A.I.C. executive attend when ever called upon to do so.

Executive, Working Committee, and Joint Executive Meetings.

The work outlined in this report would not have been done if it were not for the regular meetings held by the Executive Committee and Working Committee, and I think it is our duty to express our appreciation to all loyal Executive members, Working committee members, and indeed members of the community, who were ready at any time of the day or night to do some work in all the campaigns and tasks conducted by the Congress. Joint Meetings with the Transvaal A.N.C. Executive, are held whenever necessary, on problems of common interest, and we want to record our thanks to all members and officials of the African National Congress for their co-operation.

27 Conclusion.

In the dark days that lie ahead, we have faith, that with courage, determination and sacrifice, true to the heritage of struggle of the people, we will unite with all freedom loving people of South Africa, for the defeat of fascism, and for democracy for all. AFRIKA.

★ Our policy of maximum co-operation with African National Congress and Organisations of Coloured and European Democrats, has helped to build a powerful and invincible democratic force against the Malan regime whose policy is to isolate and destroy the Indian people.

★ Co-operating in opposition to Western Areas Removal.

A PROUD RECORD

A proud and worthy record indeed in the face of the fierce onslaught of the Malan Government.

Leaders Dadoo, Nana Sita, Y. Cachalia banned. Congress offices raided. Police intimidation, and enactment of the Suppression Act, Public Safety Act and Criminal Law Amendment Act. A leadership with such a fine record does not only deserve the full confidence and trust of the Indian people but it must be retained in office for the general weal and future well being of the community.

It is therefore the duty of every adult Indian, man, woman and youth to be present at the General Meeting to express his or her confidence in the present leadership and to vote for the list of candidates which will be put forward for election.

NEXT STEP

The African National Congress together with the South African Indian Congress, the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation and the S.A. Congress of Democrats of the European section are preparing to organise a CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE for a FREEDOM CHARTER. This is a very important step forward. It will endeavour to bring together all the anti-apartheid forces in a mighty move to halt apartheid reaction and tyranny.

YOUR DUTY

ATTEND GENERAL MEETING IN
LARGE NUMBERS.

SUPPORT CONGRESS LEADERSHIP.

MAINTAIN DADOO POLICY. DEFEAT APARTHEID.
FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. FORWARD

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE.

FURTHER CONGRESS POLICY AND ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE.

Vote for this programme and fight Group Areas Act for: A house for every family. Schools for our children. No Apartheid at University. Work for all. Although Dadoo is banned, elect those who will carry out his policy.

SUPPORT THE DADOO POLICY

Issued by Election Committee, 58, Crystal Street, Denver.
Royal 454

Vote for
DADOO POLICY

at

Tvl. Indian Congress
Elections

TRADES HALL

9th May, at 2.30 p.m.

Vote for Dadoo Policy

Swysstuk No.
Delivered by *T.I.C. Annual Meeting*
John Wollson
Delivered to *Trades Hall - 4116*
9/5/54

A Call to Transvaal Indians...



Dadoo Policy has stood the test.
Vote for present Congress Leadership.

ON SUNDAY, MAY 9th, the Biennial General Meeting of the Transvaal Indian Congress will be held at the *Traders Hall, 30 Kirk Street, Johannesburg*, at 2.30 p.m. to elect officials and members of the Working Committee for another term of two years.

This meeting will also formulate Congress policy in order to guide the Indian people through the critical days that lie ahead.

Here is a golden opportunity for all Indians in the Transvaal of 18 years of age and over to play their rightful part in determining the future course of action.

THE DADOO POLICY

The present Congress leadership ever since it was voted into office in 1946 has consistently and courageously carried out what has been popularly acclaimed and accepted as the

DADOO POLICY

1. The Democratic functioning of the Congress on the basis of the expressed will of the people.
2. Bold and correct stand on all issues affecting the interests of the Indian people as a whole.
3. Attainment of the maximum co-operation with the African National Congress and the National Organisation of the Coloured People in the common struggle for the abolition of all colour and race discrimination and for full and equal rights and opportunities for all.
4. Co-operation with all the democratic bodies of Europeans which strive for the common goal of a free democratic South Africa for all irrespective of race, colour, creed, sex or religion.
5. Proper participation in the world wide struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for Peace, Democracy and Freedom.

THE RECORD OF THE PRESENT

LEADERSHIP

- ★ Passive Resistance against Ghetto Act, 1946-1948.
- ★ Xuma-Naicker-Dadoo Pact laying down the basis for African-Indian co-operation.
- ★ Freedom Day (May Day) Free Speech Convention and protest. (1950).

- ★ National Day of Protest with Jans, 1950
- ★ Defence Campaign, 1952-1953
- ★ Active and sustained opposition to Group Areas Act, 1950-1951
- ★ Indian question and racial discrimination in South Africa received consideration of the United Nations 1946-1953
- ★ Fights for housing for the poor and homeless.
- ★ Fought the ban on Indian women and children
- ★ Defended Hawkers, Pedlars and Flower-sellers.
- ★ Demanded more schools for the children, and better conditions at various education commissions.
- ★ Fought the anti-Indian boycott.
- ★ Gave evidence of the licensing commission, and opposed trading apartheid.
- ★ Worked for harmony between Africans and Indians during the Benoni and Germiston group disputes.
- ★ Has regular public meetings to educate public opinion.
- ★ Defended tenants from being ejected by unfair landlords.
- ★ Raised relief for Tornado victims.
- ★ Found employment for the unemployed.
- ★ Raised money for the victims of the Durban riots.

9.665

Post this coupon today to:

The Secretary,
South African Peace Council,
P.O. Box 10528,

I want to help. Please send me information

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____



We want to live!

*TIC Annual meeting
c/o Post. Jerry Morrison
Trades Hall - JMSing
9/1/74*

STOP THAT BOMB!

Last November the world-famous physicist, Professor Joliot-Curie, issued a stern warning against the development of the hydrogen bomb. The power of these bombs, he said, could be increased "to a diabolical degree." "Their explosion could **risk making all life on our globe impossible.**"

Since then the effects of the American experiments in hydrogen bombs at Bikini have shocked the world. The maiming of innocent fishermen, whose survival is in doubt, the threat to Japanese food supplies, have brought home sharply to the ordinary people the **menace of these horror weapons.**

Professor Joliot-Curie's warning has been repeated by other eminent men of science. The Australian Government's scientific adviser, Professor L. M. Martin, said:

"The atom bomb is a devastating weapon, but the hydrogen bomb is terrifying."

The Austrian physicist, Professor Hans Thirring, warned that a hydrogen bomb encased in a cobalt coat

"could release enough radioactivity to kill every living thing in the world."

On Friday, March 26, following international protests, the American Government announced that it was postponing further hydrogen bomb tests pending the institution of "safety measures." Mr. Attlee, British Labour leader, expressed relief at this decision. **On the very same day the United States military authorities set off a second hydrogen bomb explosion in the Pacific.**

THIS IS YOUR BUSINESS

THIS QUESTION IS NOT ONE THAT CAN OR SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE POLITICIANS AND SCIENTISTS ALONE. THIS QUESTION IS THE DIRECT CONCERN OF EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN THE WORLD. IT IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH TO YOU — WHATEVER YOUR CLASS, RACE, COLOUR OR POLITICAL OUTLOOK!

Atomic energy could be a boon to mankind. Or it could be our doom.

We want peace, not war. We want life, not death!

The money-mad warmongers can and must be stopped by the will of the masses of people in every country throughout the world. That means everybody, including us in South Africa. We are not invulnerable. South African uranium is being sent to make atomic bombs. South Africa, with its great crowded urban centres, is a target in any atomic war that may break out.

IT IS TIME FOR US TO WAKE UP!

It is time for us to act. Everywhere in the world great movements are sprung up, demanding peace, demanding the outlawing of atomic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, demanding that the great powers settle their differences by negotiation.

We call on the people of South Africa to raise their voices against the unthinkable dangers of modern horror weapons, against war. We call on every organisation, church, society, trade union and individual to speak up. To demand:

1. AN IMMEDIATE STOP TO DANGEROUS HYDROGEN BOMB TESTS AND EXPERIMENTS
2. THE BANNING, UNDER STRICT INTERNATIONAL CONTROL, OF ATOMIC WEAPONS
3. AN IMMEDIATE MEETING BETWEEN THE FIVE BIGGEST POWERS — BRITAIN, AMERICA, SOVIET RUSSIA, FRANCE AND CHINA — TO SETTLE THEIR DISPUTES BY NEGOTIATION AND CONCLUDE A LASTING PACT OF PEACE OPEN TO ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

WHAT YOU CAN DO

There are many things you as an individual can do in this dangerous situation. You can talk to your friends and explain to them why and how everyone is affected. You can get your organisation to adopt a resolution making the three demands which appear above. You can get the Peace Council to send a speaker to address your society or union to which you belong, or just a group of your friends. You can send a donation to the S.A. Peace Council to help conduct a night's educational campaign throughout the country. Best of all, you can yourself become a member of the Peace Council and throw your energies into arousing the people to the mortal peril which exists.

We cannot, we dare not, remain quiet while the dreadful shadow of a world holocaust

WE WANT TO LIVE!

EVACUEES WILL START MOVING unless — the Johannesburg City Council refuses to have anything to do with the scheme. The Minister and the Board created by the Native Resettlement Bill can do very little if YOUR City Council refuses to help them. The Council represents YOU: it is elected by YOU and gets its powers to act from YOU. If the Minister persists in attempting the removal WITHOUT THE HELP of our City, then at least we, the citizens of Johannesburg, will not have besmirched ourselves by participating in an immoral and inhuman action.

On our City's coat-of-arms are the words "Fortiter et Recte" — "With Courage and Uprightness" — **Courage and Uprightness**

—Tell your City Councillor that you did not put him in office to do the Nationalists' dirty work;

—Tell him that you look to him to see that Johannesburg deals with **all** her citizens COURAGEOUSLY and UPRIGHTLY;

—Ask him what he thinks the consequences of a removal by force will be; remind him that **HE BEARS A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY**;

—Remind him that **NO GOOD CAN EVER COME OF A MORALLY INDEFENSIBLE ACTION**;

—TELL HIM TO KEEP HIS HANDS CLEAN!

Please fill in the enclosed form and post it to your Councillor.

If you can, will you also help us to defray the cost of printing this leaflet or help us in some other way?

CONTRIBUTIONS AND OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE TO:

The Chairman (Father T. Huddleston, C.R.),
Western Areas Protest Committee,
The Priory, 106 Victoria Street,
Rosettenville.

Written by M. Friedman, 511 Auto-Mutual House, De Villiers Street, Johannesburg, on behalf of the Western Areas Protest Committee.

Printed by Arlone Press (Pty.) Ltd., 30 Sherwell Street, Doornfontein, Johannesburg.



T.C. Annual meeting
at 1st. Jerry isoelson
Trade Hall - Johannesburg
9/5/54.

“FORTITER ET RECTE”

Who are they ?

They are 58,000 African, Coloured and Indian persons at present living in the Western Areas of Johannesburg: mothers and fathers, labourers and shopkeepers, clerks and teachers. They are not criminals, they are not being evacuated because of enemy action. They are part of Johannesburg's settled non-European population which has helped to make Johannesburg the richest city in Africa.

What are they leaving behind them ?

The children are leaving their schools, their clinics, a swimming bath, three cinemas. This is hard, but it is harder still for their parents, who are parting from a place they have called "home" for ten or twenty or forty years. "Home" had sewerage, running water, electric light; it was on a tarred road, near a good shopping centre, a cheap and speedy transport system, and it was near to their places of work. Now these homes are to be demolished and the occupants are to be deprived of the right to own a home again.

Where are they going to ?

They are going to a piece of veldt called Meadowlands, fourteen miles from Johannesburg (served by a transport system already crammed to breaking point). In the Native Resettlement Bill Dr. Verwoed has promised them accommodation. Accommodation presumably means a house—**without ownership**. But even if it means a house, there are no schools in the veldt at Meadowlands, no creches, no shops, no churches. In Orlando, which is EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD and maintained by our City Council, there is no resident doctor, no domestic electricity, no water laid on in 90 per cent. of the homes, not one dairy, and fewer schools and churches than in the Western Areas. If these amenities could not be provided in Orlando in nearly twenty years, how long will it take to provide them on the bare veldt at Meadowlands ?

2

THESE PEOPLE HAVE SAID PUBLICLY THAT THEY DO NOT WANT TO GO. Do you blame them ? If they do not want to go — ARE THEY TO BE MOVED BY FORCE ?

Why are they to be moved ?

It is said that they must be moved because they are living in intolerable slum conditions. But AT LEAST HALF are in good houses or houses which can be made habitable. The bulldozers are to tear down good and bad houses alike, and this at a time when Johannesburg has 200,000 HOMELESS people. Did any community ever before propose to **destroy good houses** when it needed 50,000 homes for the homeless ? Have you visited Moroka recently or the Orlando Shelters ? Visit them and see for yourself how urgently slum clearance is needed there compared with the Western Areas.

Why, then, are these people to be moved ? They are to be moved because the Nationalists want the non-European people to be unsettled and rootless, and also, it seems, because Dr. Verwoed wants to exercise dictatorial powers over the people of Johannesburg and their democratically-elected Council. The Native Resettlement Bill which makes provision for the removal **also gives Dr. Verwoed full powers to override local authority**. These things are allegedly being done to "save white civilization". Do you **really** believe that "civilization" can be "saved" by acts which are immoral, undemocratic, and likely to promote racial antagonisms ?

What will it cost — and who will pay ?

The cost of the removal is estimated at EIGHT MILLION POUNDS, or **over £500 per family**. The African cannot possibly pay this sum even in exorbitant rentals — nor should he be expected to. The ratepayer will thus have to make a very substantial contribution.

668.

AFSKRIF VAN NOTAS IN SAKBOEK VAN S/KONST. VAN HEERDEN : T.I.C.-
VERGADERING : AMBAGSAAL : JOHANNESBURG : 9.5.54 :

Sondag : 9.5.54 : 1 n.m. : Aan diens en hou observasie by die Ambagsaal, waar die T.I.C. 'n Konferensie hou. Daar was ongeveer 300 Indiers. Kathrada : Desai : Thandray : I. Cachalia : Saloojee A. Asvat : is ook opgemerk. Daar was baie karre met Nrs. van verskillende Transvaalse dorpe. Registrasie nommers van karre is geneem wanneer die Indiers daaruit geklim het en die ambagsaal binnegegaan het.

5 n.m. Konferensie het stil uiteengegaan.

Kopie/4/

STAND WITH OUR LEADERS!

MR. SWART SHOCKS THE COUNTRY! y. 670

140 WELL-KNOWN MEN AND WOMEN HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND ACCUSED OF HIGH TREASON. THOSE ARRESTED INCLUDE MANY PEOPLE FAMOUS FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID AND FOR FRIENDSHIP AND EQUALITY AMONG ALL SOUTH AFRICANS, OF ALL RACES. MINISTER SWART HAS SHOCKED THE COUNTRY IN ANNOUNCING THESE ARRESTS.

THEY STOOD UP FOR US.

DURING ALL THESE DIFFICULT YEARS OF NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT, THESE LEADERS HAVE STOOD UP FOR OUR RIGHTS. THEY HAVE LED US IN OUR EFFORTS TO WIN BETTER WAGES AND HOUSES, VOTES AND FREEDOM; TO DEFEAT BAD LAWS LIKE THOSE ON PASSES AND GROUP AREAS.

NOW WE MUST STAND UP FOR THEM!

LET US SHOW THE GOVERNMENT AND THE WHOLE WORLD THAT WE, THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA, OF ALL RACES, STAND WITH OUR LEADERS IN THIS HOUR OF TRIAL, AS THEY HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL TO US, SO WE SHALL BE FAITHFUL TO THEM.

Come to a . . . MASS MEETING

on
at SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER, 1956.

FREEDOM SQUARE
CORNER VICTORIA & MICKELIS STREETS,
SOPHIATOWN

at 9:30 a.m.

Issued by - PEOPLES' DEFENCE COMMITTEE,
31 BEZUIDENHOUTSTRAAT, JOHANNESBURG

① G:672 ③ G. Cortyze

MEETING OF PEOPLE'S DEFENCE COMMITTEE : CORNER OF MORRIS STREET
AND VICTORIA RD, SOPHIA TOWN, JOHANNESBURG ON SUNDAY 9/12/1956.

(Meeting commenced at 10.40 a.m. with the singing
of Nkosi Sekalele Afrika.)

CHAIRMAN : (WILLIAM NGAKANE) : "Fellow Africans, I say Fellow Africans deliberately because although our struggle comprises people of various colours and races, we have met here with a common purpose - white and black have met here with a common purpose, the love of our country and the love of freedom. As chairman of this meeting today I have to make a few remarks to explain the purpose of this gathering and in doing so I want to make an appeal to you and I hope you will all heed that appeal." S

Our purpose here is peaceful - we shall not elaborate into our purpose. There may be great cause for provocation, but I want to appeal to you to be disciplined, to allow nothing to disturb the peacefulness of this meeting. If the Police are here, they are here on duty, let them carry out their purpose peacefully, let us not allow ourselves to be disturbed by them. I make an appeal to you, and I hope you have heard it. S

In the past you have shown that you can be disciplined, and we want you to show that same discipline and self-restraint. Another appeal I want to make to you is this. We have met here under a cloud and we may find it very difficult to control our emotions, not only by our actions, but also by our speeches. The People's Defence Committee on whose behalf I am presiding has asked me to announce that somehow we are going to disappoint you today. It is customary that when we have meetings and gatherings such as this, not only to allow elected speakers to speak, but to allow other people also on the platform to speak, but on this occasion we are going to disappoint you, we are going to part from that practice. I am certain you will understand me. Our leaders are behind prison cells this morning as we are speaking and whilst they are in prison their future is in the hands of the courts, and we may not say anything that could be interpreted as contempt of court.

Because we know your feelings, we will not allow you to speak, except this elected speakers. We have met here, as I said, under a great cloud. We do not yet know what our leaders have been arrested for - all we know is that they have been arrested for treason, but until the court tells us what they are arrested for we have to wait and in the meantime there are certain things that we have to do. We have to draw your attention to the conditions under which we are all living today, and the speakers are going to do that.

Our leaders...../2

Our leaders are behind prison bars - some people might not be aware of it - and we have to remind you that you have a duty towards those leaders, everyone of you. You have a duty not only to those in prison, but you have a duty also to their families which are left behind, and we expect you to respond to the appeal that we make upon you. Your leaders were all arrested about the middle of this week. They have been arrested in every part of the Union of South Africa and they are all in the fort.

We do not yet know whether there will be any bail money required for them, although at the present moment we know that they have been refused bail, but we can assure you that everything is going to be done to see that they get bail and that they are going to be with us. But in order to do that certain things are necessary. We shall want money from all of you. We shall want money for bail, we shall want money for their defence. We shall want money for them whilst they are awaiting trial, but we shall also want money for the struggle to go on. (Audience - Mayabuye !)

The leaders have been arrested, the dogs may bark but the waggon will roll on. We are not going to depart from the purpose which we have set ourselves to follow. If our leaders have been arrested they are only amongst those people who have been wounded and the ambulance will pick them up. Those who look back at the wounded may do so, but we are going on, the fight goes on. We expect you to make sacrifices, we shall therefore ask you to donate, let nothing be too much for you.

In concluding I want to say again that this meeting is called under the auspices of the People's Defence Committee, and I appeal to you again to control yourselves. Anything that you do here will not advance our cause, the fight is still going on. AFRIKA ! AFRIKA ! MAYEBUYE ! Our next speaker will be Mr. David Bopape. I need not say that we don't want to be contemptuous of court. Mr. David Bopape I need not introduce to you. He is one of the foremost fighters for the freedom of the people in South Africa. He is a small man physically but he has the heart of a lion. I can assure you that those of you who have followed what has happened in the country - will see what he has done on the East Rand. In his township nobody remains behind when a meeting is called. Mr. David Bopape".

DAVID BOPAPE : "Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen - in the first place I must thank you Mr. Chairman for having introduced me to this gathering as a man who has the heart of a lion. That is not true, but I nevertheless thank you Mr. Chairman for having said that. I must also thank you Mr. Chairman for having appealed to this meeting to be orderly.

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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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