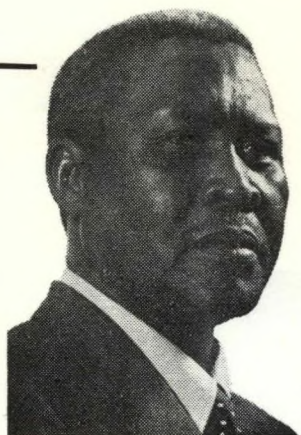


FC 4.1

an

African National  
Congress Handbook

PRICE: 1/-



**“The length of the term of slavery depends largely on the oppressed themselves, and not on the oppressor.”**

Chief Albert Lutuli, President-General of the African National Congress, in his presidential address to the 45th annual conference of the A.N.C., at Orlando in Johannesburg in December 1957.

## The Congress Calendar

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Anniversary of the Founding of the A.N.C. ....                                   | January 8   |
| Afro-Asian Day .....   | April 24    |
| Africa Freedom Day .....   | April 15    |
| (Decision taken at the Accra Conference<br>by the 8 independent African states.) |             |
| May Day .....  | May 1       |
| National Protest Day .....   | June 26     |
| South African Women's Day .....  | August 9    |
| Declaration of Human Rights Day .....  | December 10 |

## The Congress Flag

The Congress flag represents the people (the black); the land and rolling veld (the green); and the gleaming wealth of the country (the gold).

## The Congress Salute

Adopted in June 1949 the Congress salute is the right hand clenched with the thumb upraised. It represents the unity of the people of Africa.

## The Congress Anthems

### NKOSI SIKELEL' i AFRIKA

Nkosi sikelel' i Afrika.  
Maluphakanyis' uphondo lwayo,  
Yiva nemithandazo yethu,  
Nkosi sikelela, Nkosi sikelela.

chorus:

Yiza Moya;  
Yiza Moya, Yiza Moya.

Yiza Moya;  
Yiza Moya, Yiza Moya.  
Yiza Moya oYingwele,

Usisikelele, thina lusapho lwakho.

### MORENA BOLOKA.

Morena boloka sechaba sa heso.  
O felise lintoa le matshoenyeho.

Morena boloka sechaba sa heso.  
O felise lintoa le matshoenteho

O seboloke Morena.  
O seboloke.

O seboloke sechaba.  
O seboloke.

Sechaba sa heso. Sechaba sa heso.

## Some Facts From Our History 1912-1958

The African National Congress was founded on January 8, 1912 as a Union of all the African organisations which had existed in the four colonies before Union in 1910. The Congress is therefore one of the oldest political organisations in our country.

Prior to the foundation of the African National Congress there had been organisations which had in one way or another attempted to put forward the views, demands and aspirations of the African people. But these organisations differed from the African National Congress in that they either had a tribal basis or confined their area of activity to a particular district or province.

From its inception the A.N.C. set out to achieve the UNITY OF ALL AFRICAN TRIBES INTO A SINGLE NATION. It strove for the end of all discriminatory legislation; and to win complete equality of Africans with other national groups in the political, social and economic spheres.

### EARLY FOUNDERS

Among the founders and early leaders of Congress who gathered at Bloemfontein in 1912 were to be found Dr. John Dube, Mr. Sol. T. Plaatje, Dr. P. Ka I. Seme. These were elected President-General, Secretary-General and Treasurer-General respectively of Congress.

The Congress did not immediately adopt a constitution but appointed a committee to draft one. This

work was only completed five years later when Congress adopted the constitution which governed its work until 1943 when a new one was adopted. The 1943 constitution was greatly amended in 1957 when the present constitution was adopted. The original constitution was in some respects modelled on the British Parliament, and, for example made provision for a House of Chiefs and a House of Commons.

From the very moment of its birth, Congress was faced with a severe test in the Land Act of 1913. This law destroyed African land rights in the Union and confined the bulk of the African population to the Reserves. The first mass struggle of the Congress was launched against this measure. Despite the protests up and down the country this measure became law. A moving account of the struggle against the Land Act of 1913 is given in the pages of "Native Life in South Africa" by the then Secretary-General of the A.N.C. Mr. Sol. T. Plaatje.

### DEPUTATIONS TO BRITAIN

It was also in relation to the fight against the Land Act 1913

that the African National Congress sent its first deputation to the United Kingdom. The Deputation consisting of Dr. J. L. Dube, Dr. W. B. Rubusana, Messrs. J. M. Mapikela, Saul Msane and Sol. T. Plaatje was sent to the British Government with a demand for the setting aside of the Land Act 1913. This step was quite logical and correct in those days as South Africa was not fully independent and the British Government had a veto power over legislation passed by the South African Parliament. Whilst the delegation was in the United Kingdom the first world war broke out in 1914. The delegation failed in its purpose.

#### POST-WAR STRUGGLES

After the end of the world war in 1918 there was a great wave of African political struggle in which the Congress played an important role.

Those years saw strikes on the Reef and over 40,000 African workers on strike for higher wages. The 1919 Women's anti-pass campaign in the Free State defeated the attempt by the Smuts government to make the women carry passes. In the decade following the war campaigns were waged in the Transvaal under the leadership of the militant leader the Rev. S. M. Makgatho for the right of Africans to travel in rail coaches and to have proper facilities on the railways. Previously Africans travelled in cattle trucks. Another campaign battled for the right of Africans to walk on pavements.

#### "ABANTU BATHO"

In its work the Congress was greatly assisted by the newspaper "Abantu Batho" founded in 1912

by Dr. Seme. This newspaper which continued publication until 1931 was the first multi-lingual newspaper in South Africa. Articles were written in English, Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho and Tswana. It was an important influence in the building up of a national outlook among the African people. The "Abantu Batho" campaigned for the teaching of African languages as recognised subjects in South African schools and popularised national songs.

During these early days "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" was adopted as the National anthem.

The years 1928-29 and the 'thirties saw the revival of struggles against the Pass laws. These were the pass burning campaigns, and it was during one of these campaigns that Johannes Nkosi was shot down by police fire at the Durban Anti-Pass demonstration at Cartright Flats.

#### THE HERTZOG LAWS

Up to 1935 the Africans in the Cape Province still had the right to vote on the common roll with other groups, and the political demand of those days was for the extension of the vote to other provinces. In 1936 came the Hertzog Bills which included one to abolish franchise rights of Africans in the Cape. Although the Bill primarily affected African voting rights in the Cape the whole country was aroused in one of the biggest agitations in our history. The Congress played a key role in the organising of the All-African Convention called for in 1935 by Dr. Seme and Prof. Jabavu who represented the Cape Voters' Association. Despite massive protest the Hertzog Bills were passed, although in a modified form, in 1936.

## MAMMOTH PROTESTS

The next period of intense struggle followed the end of the Second World War in 1945. In 1946 there was a fresh struggle against the Pass Laws and in the same year the great African miner's strike took place from August 12-19. The Native Representative Council was in session during the strike, but adjourned indefinitely until it was abolished in 1951 by the Nationalist Government. This was in protest against the shooting down of African miners demanding 10s. a day.

## THE NATS IN POWER

In 1948 the Nationalist government came to power and with it one fierce discriminatory law after another: the tightening of pass laws; measures against farm squatters; the Suppression of Communism Act; the Group Areas Act; the Bantu Education Act and many others.

On May 1, 1950 the African National Congress jointly with other organisations called for a strike on the Witwatersrand in protest against Nationalist government attacks on freedom of speech and organisation. On that day 19 Africans were killed in police firing. The strike was a mighty success. On June 26, 1950 the first national stoppage of work in South Africa was organised in protest against the Suppression of Communism Act (then before parliament), the Group Areas Act, and also as a Day of Mourning for the victims of May 1, 1950 and others killed in the struggle for liberation.

## THE DEFIANCE CAMPAIGN

In January 1952, the African National Congress addressed a letter to the Prime Minister, Dr. Malan, demanding the repeal of unjust laws. Six months later on June 26, 1952 the Campaign for the Defiance of Unjust Laws was launched jointly by the African National Congress and the South African Indian Congress. Eight thousand volunteers, men and women of all races, went to prison for defying apartheid legislation, and by the end of the campaign the membership and support of the African National Congress had increased many times.

## THE FREEDOM CHARTER

In 1953 the National Conference of the A.N.C. called for the organisation of a Congress of the People to draw up a Freedom Charter. In 1954, the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress, the South African Congress of Democrats and the South African Coloured People's Organisation issued the call to the Congress of the People. On June 26, 1955 thousands of delegates met at Kliptown, Johannesburg to adopt the Freedom Charter based on freedom demands sent in by branches and members of Congress and other organisations.

On August 9, 1956 over twenty thousand women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against the extension of pass laws to African women. In the historic Reef bus boycott of 1957 which ended in victory for the people; in the rallying of the people to stand by their leaders in the Treason trial, Congress has played an inspired role.

## Programme and Policy

"Congress believes in a common society and holds that citizens of a country, regardless of their race or colour, have the right to full participation in the government and control of their future."

Chief Lutuli in his letter to the Prime Minister, May 1957.

### A Multi-Racial Country

The African National Congress has always accepted that South Africa is a multi-racial country and has stated its aims as a common multi-racial society based upon equality of rights for all our national groups and mutual respect between them.

The African National Congress took part in the first multi-racial conference held in Johannesburg in 1918 and the Non-European Conference of 1927.

#### EARLY UNITY PACT

In 1946 under the presidency of Dr. A. B. Xuma, the African National Congress signed the Xuma-Dadoo-Naicker pact which laid down the principle of co-operation on matters of common interest to the African National Congress and the South African Indian Congress.

The 1950 general strikes against Nationalist legislation and the Defiance Campaign were launched

and conducted in partnership with the S.A. Indian Congress, and this alliance was strengthened by the formation of the Congress of Democrats, the S.A. Coloured Peoples' Organisation and the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, all of which bodies are dedicated to struggle for the aims of the Congress movement and the Freedom Charter, adopted by these bodies after the Congress of the People. This working alliance functions through the National Consultative Committee on which representatives of all the Congresses serve. The N.C.C. deals with matters of common campaigning and policy.

While the Nationalist and United Parties stand for policies of narrow racialism and domination, the A.N.C. and its co-Congresses stand for a broad and true South Africanism, extending to all irrespective of race or colour.

### Co-operate As Equals

In his presidential address to the 1953 annual conference at Queenstown Chief Lutuli said "We are prepared to co-operate fully on the basis of equality with any national political party or organisation provided we share common objectives and common methods of achieving our aims. Co-

operation will always be on the basis of equality and mutual respect for the individual identity of our organisations . . . On this basis we may co-operate on specific issues with any group if we feel it is in the interests of our liberation movement to do so."

In line with this policy, the A.N.C. responded enthusiastically to the call of the Interdenominational African Ministers' Federation which led to the 1956 Bloemfontein Conference, and to the 1957

Multi-Racial Conference. In common campaigns it works closely with the Liberal Party and other bodies and welcomes all opportunities of co-operation with democratic bodies and individuals.

## African Claims

The policy of the African National Congress is laid down in its Constitution, in presidential addresses delivered to its annual conferences, and resolutions passed there, and in a number of general policy statements issued from time to time.

During World War II Congress issued a statement of its general policy set out under the title AFRICAN CLAIMS. Dr. A. B. Xuma, then President-General convened a conference of African leaders to draw up a Bill of Rights, based upon the Atlantic Charter of the Allied Nations, which would be

the demands of Africans "essential to guarantee them a worthy place in the post-war world." This Bill of Rights contains clauses on political rights and the abolition of discrimination, the right to equal justice in courts of law, freedom of residence, freedom of movement, and land rights. It said "We demand the repeal of any and all laws, as well as the abandonment of any policy and all practices that discriminate against the Africans in any way whatsoever on the basis of race, creed or colour in the Union of South Africa."

## The Programme of Action

In 1949 the Congress national conference adopted the PROGRAMME OF ACTION which set out a number of means and activities by which the Bill of Rights contained in AFRICAN CLAIMS might be achieved. The Programme proposed the creation of a National Fund to finance Congress struggles, the issue of regular propaganda material, the setting up of commercial and industrial enterprises in towns and country areas and the organisation

of trade unions. It set out as methods of struggle the organisation of boycotts, campaigns of civil disobedience, non-co-operation movements and a one day stoppage of work. The Programme of Action defined these activities as "means which may bring about the accomplishment of our aspirations." The Programme demanded the right of direct representation in all the governing bodies of our country and resolved to work for the abolition of all differential institutions..

## International Policy

Congress has won the support of people in many other countries in its fight for liberation. We in turn have supported the right of

peoples everywhere to freedom from foreign domination or from minority rule. In doing so, we have not necessarily supported



the methods they use from time to time; this is their business, just as the methods we use and the day-to-day policy we put forward are ours. Congress does not ally itself with any bloc of countries in the East-West struggle; it supports the general aims of the Afro-

Asian powers, and opposes those policies which support either directly or indirectly the oppression of the people in any part of the world. Congress upholds peace against those who try to settle their international disputes by armed force, and by war.

## The Freedom Charter

**THE FREEDOM CHARTER**  
was adopted at the Congress of the People in Kliptown on June 26, 1955.

It is based on the many hundreds of demands sent in by people throughout the length and breadth of our land and proclaims:

**WE**, the People of South Africa, declare for all our country and the world to know:

that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people;

that our people have been robbed of their birthright to land, liberty and peace by a form of government founded on injustice and inequality;

that our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities;

that only a democratic state, based on the will of all the people, can secure to all their birthright without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief;

And therefore we, the People of South Africa, black and white together — equals, countrymen and brothers — adopt this Freedom Charter. And we pledge ourselves to strive together sparing neither strength nor courage, until the democratic changes here set out have been won.

- ★ The people shall govern.
- ★ All national groups shall have equal rights.
- ★ The people shall share in the country's wealth.
- ★ The land shall be shared among those who work it.
- ★ All shall be equal before the law.
- ★ All shall enjoy human rights.
- ★ There shall be work and security.

- ★ The doors of learning and culture shall be opened.
- ★ There shall be houses, security and comfort.
- ★ There shall be peace and friendship.

Adopted as the official policy of the A.N.C. at conference in 1956 the Charter is also the declared aim of the other partners in the Congress alliance.

# Points From The Constitution

## Aims

The Constitution sets out the aims of CONGRESS as follows:

1. To unite the African people in a powerful and effective instrument to secure their own complete liberation from all forms of discrimination and national oppression.
2. To promote and protect the interests of the African people in all matters concerning them.
3. To strive for the attainment of universal adult suffrage and the creation of a united democratic South Africa on the principles outlined in the Freedom Charter.
4. To support the cause of national liberation and the right to independence of nations in Africa and the rest of the world.

## Membership

Membership of Congress is open to any person over the age of 21 who accepts the principles, policy and programme of Congress and is prepared to abide by its constitution and rules.

Each member shall pay a yearly subscription of 2s.6d.

Women members of Congress enjoy equality of status and are entitled to join ordinary branches and vote for and be elected to all offices in Congress.

## Women's League

The AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS WOMEN'S LEAGUE exists to arouse the interest and assist with the organisation of African women into an auxiliary force to the Congress in the struggle for liberation. The League takes up the special problems of women and carries on propaganda against apartheid and discriminatory laws among African women. The League is entitled to its own rules and regulations, as long as these do not conflict with Congress policy.

## Youth League

The AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS YOUTH LEAGUE exists to draw the youth into the struggle and prepare them for leadership. The League is open to any person not exceeding the age of 30, provided that members of 18 and over register as Congress members. One of the League's aims is to promote social and cultural activities among young people, as well as to popularise Congress policy among the youth.

## Branches

Each member is attached to a branch, consisting of at least 20 members working under the direction of a branch committee, elected annually. The Branch committee of 11 members includes a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, as-

sistant secretary, treasurer and 6 executive members.

## Regions

Three or more branches in a given area may form a region, under a regional committee composed of representatives of the branches whose activities the regional committee exists to co-ordinate. The regional committee may elect a small executive, of a chairman, secretary, treasurer, two members and a member from each branch within the region.

## Provinces

The **Provincial Executive Committee** is the administrative head of each province, elected annually at the provincial conference attended by delegations from all the branches. The Provincial executive consists of a provincial president, vice-president, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and six members.

## Conference

The **Annual National Conference** is the supreme body of Congress which meets in the middle of December, reviews the activities of Congress during the preceding year and lays down policy and activities for the future. All branches are entitled to send representatives to the national conference and to participate in its proceedings.

## National Executive

Once every three years the national conference elects the **National Executive** of Congress, consisting of the President-General, Deputy President-General, Secretary, General, Treasurer-General, Organising Secretary and committee members. The executive also appoints a **Speaker** who presides at National Conference, and a **National**

**Chaplain.** The National Executive directs the work of Congress throughout the country.

## Working Committee

The National Executive appoints a **National Working Committee** to carry out and direct Congress day-to-day activity.

## Discipline

Branch, regional, provincial or national committees have power to reprimand, suspend or expel any member for breach of the constitution or for conduct detrimental to Congress or the African people. Any higher organ of Congress has powers to reorganise, suspend or dissolve any lower organ, for the same offences. Before any such action is taken, members or organs have the right to appear before the committee concerned, and to account for their actions, unless extraordinary circumstances prevent this.

## Appeals

Every member or body of members against whom disciplinary action is taken may appeal to the next higher committee. The final court of appeal is the National Conference.

## Quorum

A quorum for the holding of meetings is:—

For Committees — one-third of the members.

For Branches — fifteen members, or one half of the members, whichever is the lesser.

For Provincial conferences—delegates from 40% of the branches.

For National conferences — delegates from at least two provinces representing one-third of the total membership.

# A Good Congress Member

## Pay and attend

A Congress member must **pay subscriptions and attend branch meetings regularly.**

## Lead and teach

But he must do more than that. To be an active worker for the Congress cause he must devote his spare time and his leisure, his evenings and weekends to do active work for Congress. When he joins Congress he takes on himself the work of explaining to others that our cause is right. **Every Congress member must become a leader of his people in the long hard struggles for freedom.** He must teach the people that freedom will be won by their own efforts, that strength lies in unity and organisation, that every little struggle and campaign contains the seeds of greater national struggles for freedom.

## Organise others

The Congress member must **organise others** to join Congress, and fire the imagination of the people with our freedom aims. Where he lives and where he works he must explain Congress policy to people, winning them to join and support Congress.

## Learn A.N.C. policy

Every member must **understand Congress policy** and how it works, must study the conditions of the people and of our

country and must spread this knowledge and understanding among others. His knowledge will help him to guide the people in the daily problems and troubles of their lives.

## Check up

Congress members must become **experts in the field of organisation.** Decisions are not worth the paper they are written on until they have been carried out. Decisions taken at one meeting must be checked upon at the next. Each member must play his part in the carrying out of decisions, however humble.

## Obey decisions

The Congress member must **discipline himself** to carry out Congress policy and to do what the majority has decided.

## Lead — don't order!

Congress members must be **close to the people**, and trusted by them. They must lead, not dictate to the people.

## Work with others

Congress members and branches must **learn to work with other bodies** on common campaigns, must uphold the spirit of unity in joint campaigns and avoid petty sectional squabbles and disputes.

## Set an example

Above all the Congress member must **set an example** of devotion, sacrifice, courage and hard work to the people. Then others will follow him.

## A Good Congress Branch

### Recruit and Train

**T**he branch of the African National Congress is the peoples' first line of defence against attacks and for their rights.

The lifeblood of the branch is its membership. No branch will grow or thrive unless it constantly recruits and trains new members.

### Plan for Work

Every branch meeting must be carefully planned and organised. The branch executive must prepare an agenda for each meeting. At meetings there should be discussions on topics and campaigns of the day, education of members on political issues and instructions for work conveyed to members. The branch must co-ordinate its activity with national and provincial campaigns of the day, but must also discuss local problems and issues in which the branch must lead the people. Branch meetings must not be talking shop or debating societies, but meeting places for planning Congress activity.

### Go Door to Door

Each branch must be an **organiser and school of the people**, leading them on issues big or small.

The strength of the branch will depend on its regular house-to-house and **door-to-door organising** among the people.

### Elect with care

**Congress office-bearers** must be chosen for their record of work in Congress, their understanding of Congress policy, their experience in campaigns and the confidence and respect in which they are held among the people.

### Keep Accounts

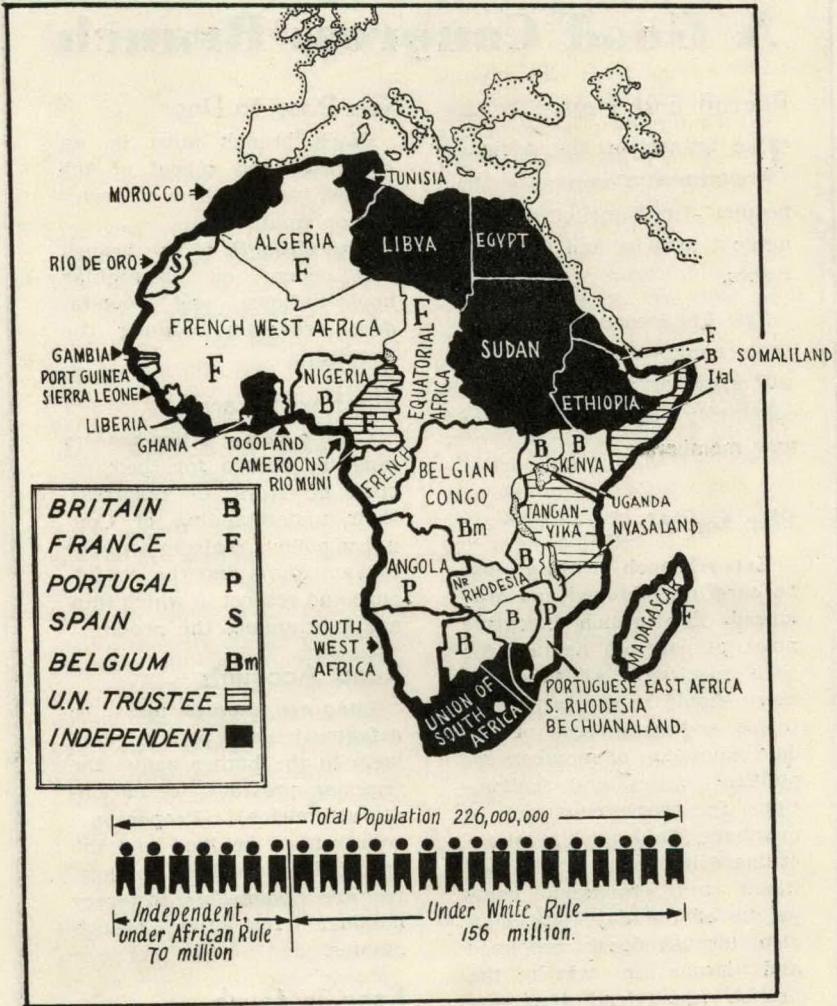
**Congress monies** must be safeguarded and paid in regularly to the higher body (the regional, provincial or national committee). Proper accounts must be kept and the branch treasurer and committee are responsible to every member for the branch monies.

### Keep in touch

Branch committees must answer all correspondence from higher Congress committees and must **keep in regular touch** with higher bodies.

**THE KEYS TO SUCCESS ARE ORGANISATION AND UNITY WITHIN CONGRESS RANKS, ON THE BASIS OF CONGRESS POLICY.**

# AFRICA



## AFRICA HAS:

44 countries. Nine govern themselves.

198 million people of whom 5 million are whites, more than half living in South Africa, 1½ million in French North Africa.

## AFRICA PRODUCES:

Almost all the world's diamonds, over half the world's gold, two-thirds the world's cocoa, three-fifths the world's palm oil.

# FACTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

## SOUTH AFRICA'S POPULATION

**14,418,000**

9,606,000 Africans  
3,011,000 Europeans  
1,360,000 Coloured people  
441,000 Indians and Chinese

(These figures are the 1958 estimates.)

## WHERE AFRICANS LIVE

1,800,000 in Towns.

3,300,000 in Reserves and on Trust Lands.

2,460,000 on European farms.

600,000 in Mine, factory and municipal compounds.

## WHERE AFRICANS WORK

Of every 100 workers

On the Mines: 87 are African

In Industry: 51 are African

On the Railways: 47 are African.

## WHAT AFRICANS EARN

On the mines: an average of 4/- a day plus food and quarters  
(Whites earn 50/- a day).

On farms: an average of £4 a month, including food and housing.

In Factories: from about 1s. an hour. In the engineering industry  
Africans earn 1/1d an hour, Europeans 5/5d an hour.

Wage and cost of living surveys in the Towns estimate the average monthly income of an African family of 5 is £15.18.11d., but that the average monthly minimum needs of a family are £23.10.4d. In other words the average family in the urban areas is short of £7.11.4d each month.

# FACTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

## Africans and the Vote

**T**he Africans, the majority of South Africa's people, have no vote and no say in the making of the laws. A tiny minority on a separate roll in the Cape Province may elect 3 of the 159 members of the House of Assembly, and all the Africans of the Union have 4 Senators in the Upper House to represent them, but the Government has announced that even this

paltry "Native representation" is to be abolished shortly.

The Advisory Boards have no power and are mere talking shops and the Bantu Authorities system turns chiefs and headmen into "Yes-men" and civil servants who must carry out government policy on pain of dismissal or deportation.

## Africans and the Land

Under the Land Act no African may own any land outside of the Reserves, which are only 13 per cent of the total land area of the country. The Reserves are over-

populated and overstocked and land poverty and heavy taxes drive Africans to work on the mines, for European farmers, and to industry in the towns.

## Africans and the Towns

The Urban Areas Act makes it illegal for any African to be in any urban area without permission for longer than 72 hours, unless he was born there and has lived there con-

tinuously, or has been there 15 years without a break, or has worked for one employer for 10 years.

## Africans and Passes

The pass laws restrict the free movement of Africans, preventing them from bargaining freely in the labour market, making them victims of incessant police raids and arrests, and convictions under the pass laws.

In 1957 there were 643,388 Africans prosecuted for contraven-

tions of the pass laws. Many more arrested in raids paid admission of guilt fines, or were coerced into accepting farm work rather than being prosecuted and going to jail.

**Every day at least 1,000 Africans are arrested under the pass laws.**

These pass laws are now being extended to African women.

## Africans and Skilled Work

Africans are prohibited from doing skilled work or learning skilled trades and are confined to the worst paid jobs in industry. Africans are prohibited from striking

and their trade unions are not recognised.

Under job reservation all the better-paid categories of work are being closed to Africans.



# FACTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

## Africans and Taxes

From 1959 the poll tax payable by all African men will be £1.15s. a year instead of £1, and from January 1960, the tax will be on a sliding scale and African women will also have to pay taxes, for the first time in the history of the Union.

This is the scale of taxes: Affairs told Parliament that apart

from income tax, general tax and local tax (about £3,320,000 a year) Africans contribute between £30 million and £40 million in indirect taxes each year.

The Native Affairs Department estimated that during 1955 and 1956 the Government and provinces would spend about £31½ million on

| TAXABLE INCOME   | MEN     | WOMEN  |
|--|---------|--------|
| Up to £180 a year .....  | £1 15 0 | NIL    |
| £180-£240 .....  | £2 0 0  | £1 0 0 |
| £240-£300 .....  | £2 15 0 | £2 0 0 |
| £300-£360 .....  | £3 10 0 | £3 0 0 |
| £360-£420 .....  | £4 5 0  | £4 0 0 |
| Over £420 — £4.5.0 plus £1 for every £60 or portion thereof above £420. Any income tax payable to be deducted from the portion of the general tax which is in excess of £1.15.0. |         |        |

Apart from the poll tax Africans pay local taxes, tribal levies and levies to Bantu Authorities, an education tax (in the towns) of 2s. a month, quitrent and squatting fees, ploughing, dipping and grazing fees, dog tax, licence fees and fines.

In 1957 the Minister of Native

services for Africans, plus £33½ million for Reserve development.

The claim that the Europeans are paying for African services is false. Africans not only pay for their own services, and are taxed out of all proportion of their income, but it is on their labour that the country has been built.

## Africans and the Law

Africans are not equal before the law. There is a colour bar in the court where Africans are tried by White judges and magistrates and where juries are all-White. A great body of the oppressive law applies to Africans only. The 1927 Native Administration Act made the Governor-General (who delegates his powers to the Minister of Native Affairs) the "Supreme

Chief" over all Africans, and he has absolute power to govern by proclamation and legislate by decree. Africans can be imprisoned and deported without trial, whole tribes and communities can be uprooted and moved from their land, meetings can be banned and communal fines imposed — all by proclamation.

# The Nationalist Government's UNJUST LAWS

The Unemployment Insurance Amendment Act (1949) excluded Africans from unemployment benefits. African contributions to the Fund are not refunded.

The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act (1949) made mixed marriages illegal.

The Group Areas Act (1950) is the master plan under which whole towns are to be divided into separate group areas for the different racial groups at the cost of immense displacement of Non-White communities and large scale property and financial losses.

The Population Registration Act (1950) set up the population register for which every South African must be racially classified.

The Suppression of Communism Act (1950) defined "Communist" and "Communism"; gave the Minister power to ban organisations and gatherings, to prohibit publications and banish persons from certain areas. In 1951 an Amendment made the law retrospective, so that an individual can be penalised for an act that was lawful at the time it was carried out.

The Bantu Authorities Act (1951) established a system of rule for rural Africans that tries to revive tribalism and makes no provision for elected representatives.

The Native Building Workers Act (1951) prohibited skilled African building workers in the urban areas.

The Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act (1951) imposed severe pe-

nalties for the illegal occupation of land by Africans.

The Native Laws Amendment Act (1952) tightened up influx control and pass regulations and provided for the summary removal of tribes and individuals.

The Natives Abolition of Passes and Co-ordination of Documents Act (1952) consolidated all the documents under the pass laws and extended the pass laws to women.

The Bantu Education Act (1953) established a separate system of education for African children. The Minister of Native Affairs said "Native education should be controlled in such a way that it should be in accord with the policy of the State . . . my department's policy is that there should be no place for the Bantu in the European community above the level of certain forms of labour."

In 1944 a law was passed to tighten control of Bantu schools and do away with mission influence.

The Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act (1953) outlawed strikes by Africans and prevented direct bargaining between employers and African workers.

The Public Safety Act (1953) provided for the proclamation of a state of emergency in which laws would be suspended and martial law imposed. This law and the Criminal Law Amendment Act (1953) were passed to smash the Defiance Campaign of Unjust Laws. This measure imposed severe penalties, including whippings, on persons found guilty of

breaking any law by way of protest against it.

**The Natives Resettlement Act** (1954) provided for the removal of 57,000 Africans from the Western Areas of Johannesburg, one of the last freehold areas.

**Native Land and Trust Amendment Act** (1954) limited the number of African squatters on any farm, but offered no alternative home or work to those squatters turned off White farms.

**The Criminal Procedure Act** (1955) gave new powers to the police to enter premises, and private as well as public meetings, without a warrant.

**The Native Urban Areas Amendment Act** (1955) further tightened up pass law control, including control of Africans from territories outside the Union, including the Protectorates.

In 1956 the law was again amended to give local authorities arbitrary powers to banish Africans.

**The Natives Prohibition of Interdicts Act** (1956) deprived Africans of the right to apply to the Supreme Court for interdicts restraining their removal or ejection, whether the removal order was valid in law or not.

## SUPPORT CONGRESS

In our struggle for political rights, decent living conditions, opportunities for education and culture Africans must be united and organised into one movement. As single isolated individuals striving for personal progress we can achieve nothing because of the powerful and evil interests that

**The Native Administration Amendment Act** (1956) extended the Natal Code which gives the government very arbitrary powers over all Africans, to the Cape, hitherto exempted. Under the Code banishment notices can be served without notice, any African can be arrested for "endangering the public peace" and detained for three months without being brought to court. Communal fines can be imposed on tribes and communities.

**The Industrial Conciliation Act** (1956) created machinery for the splitting of trade unions along racial lines.

**The Nursing Act** (1957) applied apartheid to the nursing profession.

**The Native Laws Amendment Act** (1957) gave the Government power to prohibit Africans attending Church services in non-African areas, and similarly outlawed mixed attendances at clubs, institutions and places of entertainment.

**The University Apartheid Bill** will establish separate, tribal universities for Africans and will exclude them from the Universities that have been mixed up to now.

benefit from our oppression. As united and determined members of one National Organisation, we can achieve our goal.

All who desire progress must join the African National Congress and play their full part in its work.

**JOIN CONGRESS! BE PART OF THE GREAT MOVEMENT FOR  
EQUALITY AND FREEDOM FOR ALL IN SOUTH AFRICA!  
MAYIBUYE!**

# HOW TO JOIN CONGRESS !

Send your membership application form to the address nearest your home.

A.N.C. TRANSVAAL:  
BOX 9207, JOHANNESBURG

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A.N.C. CAPE & EASTERN PROVINCE REGION:  
BOX 1294, PORT ELIZABETH.

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A.N.C. WESTERN CAPE:  
Regional Secretary, 44 STAL PLEIN BLDGS.,  
PLEIN STREET, CAPE TOWN.

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A.N.C. NATAL:  
LAKHANI CHAMBERS, SAVILLE STREET, DURBAN.

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A.N.C. ORANGE FREE STATE:  
3338 MASITO STREET  
BOCHABELO VILLAGE, BLOEMFONTEIN.

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

I wish to join Congress:

Name .....

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**FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN 1954-1963**

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