

"Let Cato Manor Be Nats.' Waterloo" 5,000 INDIANS AT GROUP AREAS PROTEST

NEARLY 5,000 Indian men and women gathered at the Indian Sports Ground, Mayville, last Sunday to hear Congress leaders attack and condemn the Group Areas Act and the threat by the Group Areas Board to declare Cato Manor a White area.

Over 40,000 Indians and 50,000 Africans and Coloureds are affected by the threatened action in an area where not a single White home exists.

The meeting, which was called by the Natal Indian Congress and its Mayville, Manor Gardens and Standard Road branches, began solemnly and there was little enthusiasm until Dr. Naicker, the SAIC President, made a clarion call for unity and determination on the part of the people.

PASSIONATE PLEA

In a passionate plea for courageous action by the people of Cato Manor, Dr. Naicker said: "We have prayed and our prayers have been thrown to the winds. We have petitioned and our petitions have been scorned. We have entreated and our entreaties have been disregarded.

We have begged and they have mocked us. "We beg no longer. We petition no longer. We entreat no longer. We fight for what is ours by birthright and our sweat.

"We will fight at board hearings. We shall fight them in the law courts. We will fight them from our homes. Let Cato Manor be the Waterloo of the Nats so that our children can say that through the sacrifices and courage of our parents we are still housed at Cato Manor and the Nats are no longer in their House of Parliament."

Calling on the people to organise so that they could act unitedly when called upon to do so, Dr. Naicker urged the people to inculcate a spirit of defiance whereby they should say: "You take Cato Manor over our dead bodies."

UNITE AND FIGHT

Speaking on behalf of the Combined Ratepayers' Organisation, Dr. Alam Baboolal, the organisation's President, said that the people should set aside all differences, political, social, religious, linguistic or even personal, so that a united front could be launched to save Cato Manor. "Our stand is just and justice must triumph," he said.

The full support of the African

people in the struggle of the Indian people of Cato Manor was expressed by Mr. George Mbele, former organiser of the banned ANC. The chairman of the meeting was Mr. N. T. Naicker, General Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress, who has lived in Cato Manor for over 30 years.

COD OFFICES RAIDED

JOHANNESBURG

Four Special Branch detectives from "The Grays", Johannesburg, raided the offices of the Congress of Democrats on Saturday morning. They were armed with a warrant to search for various documents.

Mrs. Eve Hall, regional secretary of the Congress of Democrats, said that the raid lasted for about an hour. The search warrant contained information relating to six different Acts.

Amongst the documents taken were some dealing with the granting of the freedom of the City to the State President, Mr. C. R. Swart, and various letters to members of the region.

Later in the morning, the Special Branch returned to take a copy of the type from the Congress of Democrats typewriter.

WHITE MAN WAKE UP

JOHANNESBURG

A large-scale distribution of leaflets 'White Man Wake Up!', issued by the Congress of Democrats, took place here last weekend. The leaflet, which was placed on the windshields of cars and handed out at cinemas, says that the Government is spending R20 million more on defence this year than in the peak year of the second world war.

The non-white people of South Africa will protest against this to the bitter end, BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT THIS NEW MILITARY MACHINE WILL BE USED AGAINST THEM, the leaflet says.

The leaflet asks members of the White community to join COD and help the non-white people of South Africa in their fight against racialism and for a democratic, non-racial South Africa.



WHITES ON THE PLATFORM, ALL OTHERS DOWN BELOW: When the new weekly Zulu-English paper "Elethu" held a launching party in Mofolo, Johannesburg, last week-end, strict segregation was maintained, in accordance with the well-known views of the Nationalist Board of Directors.

SEGREGATED PARTY MARKS BIRTH OF NAT. WEEKLY FOR AFRICANS

JOHANNESBURG.

A GLITTERING but segregated dinner-party, where the champagne (non-alcoholic) flowed and chickens appeared on the groaning dinner-tables by the dozen marked the appearance of the new Nationalist-sponsored weekly newspaper 'Elethu' in Johannesburg last week.

European Affairs Department of the Johannesburg Municipality, Mr. Carr, notorious for his support of the Urban Bantu Councils scheme and his refusal to meet the people of Orlando to discuss it with them.

MISUSED HIS NAME

Those who did not come included Mr. Godfrey Piñe the lawyer, who told New Age that he had never been invited. "How dare they use my name on the programme without getting my permission first?," he said.

Dr. W. Nkomo of Pretoria did not come either, but the master of ceremonies, Mr. R. Mngadi of Radio Bantu (when he used the word 'Bantu' in his remarks he was howled down and finally started saying 'African' as requested by the audience) called someone from the BAD to speak on his behalf. Mr. Casey Motsisi of the Golden City Post, Mr. V. T. Ntshona of the African Chamber of Commerce and Mr. J. R. Rathebe, a social worker, were others whose names appeared as speakers but who did not come.

DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of Elethu includes the Minister of Finance, Dr. J. D. Donses, and the Minister of Bantu Education Mr. Maree. Professor S. Pauw, the Rector of the University of South Africa and a known Broederbond, is another member of the Board, of which the Chairman is Professor F. J. Langgauge, well-known for his consistent stand for 'total segregation' in all spheres of South African life.

Dr. A. M. Dekker, the Managing Director, said at the launching party: "We are proud that the Editor, Mr. Maphalala, is not White but Black." But what he failed to say was that all the directors of the new paper are White.

Nor did he draw attention to the fact that all the Whites at the party sat on the platform or at the front tables while the Africans present sat at the back, watched by members of the Special Branch.

FOOTNOTE: New Age reporter Mrs. Lipman, whose name also appeared on the programme of speakers without her consent, was told in a telephonic reminder on the day of the party: "Please come—You can say whatever you please." She did not attend.

Florence Mkize — Banned By Vorster Frances Baard — Banned By Langeberg 2 WOMEN'S LEADERS VICTIMIZED

THE Natal Region of the Federation of South African Women and the Port Elizabeth African Food and Canning Workers' Union came under attack last week when women leaders of both organisations were banned.

The campaign is continuing and will culminate in a Natal-wide conference which will be held on May 26, 27. The main discussions will centre around the drawing up of a Women's Bill of Rights.

NO REASON

Mrs. Frances Baard who visits the Langeberg Ko-operasie factory twice a week on trade union business, was told by the factory watchman last week that he could no longer admit her. He referred her to Mr. Mendley, the labour manager, who gave Mrs. Baard no reason for the ban from the premises, except that he was acting on instructions from the firm's headquarters in Cape Town.

Mrs. Baard reported the matter to the factory committee which in turn interviewed Mr. Mendley. He asked them whether they knew that Africans were not allowed to form a trade union or have a Secretary. The committee reserved their reply pending a full discussion of the matter by the executive committee of the union.

SPECIAL BRANCH

Mrs. Baard, who is an active veteran of the trade union, and also a leading member of the Women's Federation in Port Elizabeth, told New Age that her prohibition from the Langeberg factory was "a deliberate attempt by the bosses to sabotage the activities of the union." But she added: "Like most of their type, they are wasting their time."

She also stated that she had lately noticed that a Special Branch detective was nearby whenever she went to the factory on trade union business.



THE DIFFERENCES

On the question of WAR AND PEACE the Chinese have emphasised that only the sharpest and most vigorous forms of struggle will curb U.S. imperialism, and that the forces of socialism and national liberation should not allow themselves to be blackmailed by imperialist threats of unleashing a nuclear war (which, if it did take place would end with the complete defeat of imperialism). Thus it follows that to emphasise the horrors of nuclear warfare will only engender a spirit of hopelessness and defeatism amongst the people of the world and encourage U.S. imperialism in its aggressiveness.

The Russians on the other hand emphasise that a nuclear war would be devastating for mankind, even if it did end in the extinction of imperialism. The arms race threatens mankind and it is up to the communists to give a lead to the world's people to compel disarmament. Diplomatic negotiation and treaties with the west can help to prevent war by accident or miscalculation or a small war growing into a major war. Time and peace are on the side of the socialist forces which will grow ever stronger and clearly demonstrate their complete superiority over those of capitalism and imperialism.

With regard to the TRANSITION FROM SOCIALISM TO COMMUNISM, both the Chinese and the Russians accept the proposition that socialism is only a stepping stone towards communism. Communism is a higher form of society in which every human being makes his maximum contribution for the good of all, not because he is compelled to do so or gets paid for doing so, but because he wants to do so as he feels that that is the right way to live. At the same time each person can share in the fruits of the common labour entirely according to his needs and not according to the power or the money he might possess.

The Chinese have urged that under the 'three red banners'—the general line, the great leap forward and the people's communes, it is possible for China to surge forward dramatically from socialism to communism. The general line refers to the whole population being geared towards the rapid economic and moral transformation of the country. The great leap forward involves a tremendous effort of will on a nationwide scale, based on the theory that there is nothing that man cannot do if he tries hard enough, to make a sudden and dramatic upsurge on the economic front. The people's communes imply that there can be elements of communism in a socialist society even before there is an abundance of the necessities of life.

The Russians, while by no means ignoring the importance of the will and enthusiasm of the working people as a factor in bringing about the transition to communism, emphasise that the advance will be steady and regular based upon the scientific expansion and development of the country's natural and human resources.

Finally, on the question of ACHIEVING SOCIALISM IN COUNTRIES WHICH TODAY ARE NON-SOCIALIST, the Chinese concede that it may be possible for socialism to be won without resort to armed struggle. They stress, however, that nowhere has it yet been possible to achieve genuine socialism without the old state apparatus having been smashed by armed revolutionary struggle.

The Russians, on the other hand, say that the growing strength of the socialist forces and the growing isolation of the forces of reaction makes it increasingly possible for the working people in some parts of the world to achieve power by parliamentary means and to maintain that power without being subjected to armed attack by counter-revolution. The

CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION

Latest Developments

THE great debate in the world communist movement continues. The principal issues remain the same:

- how best to maintain world peace;
- the best and quickest way of reaching communism in the socialist countries; and
- the best way of achieving socialism in the non-socialist countries.

The two main viewpoints on these subjects are usually referred to as the Russian view and the Chinese view. This is a convenient classification and will be used in this article. But readers must remember that there are people in each of those countries who support the viewpoint adopted by the communist party of the other country—the differences are essentially ideological and not national.

harder they fight to make that possibility a reality, the more popular will the socialist forces become.

These, stated very briefly and perhaps rather crudely, are what seem to be the main points of argument. Flowing from and around these three points of disagreement are many other differences, notably on how socialists should view people like India's Nehru and Yugoslavia's Tito.

There seems to be little doubt that the great majority of communists outside of the two countries concerned seem to support the Soviet view. They feel that the Chinese approach serves to isolate communists from millions of ordinary folk throughout the world who would otherwise be drawn into an effective anti-imperialist struggle.

CHINESE RE-ASSESSMENT

It is against this background that there appears to have been a period of re-assessment in China in the past few weeks. Last month all these issues seem to have been thrown open to debate at two grand assemblies held in Peking, the National People's Congress (the Chinese equivalent of Parliament) and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Committee (like the Senate). Contrary to the usual practice, the whole of these two conferences were held behind closed doors.

An official report from Peking on the meeting of the CPPCC states that "the speakers elaborated their views and poured out their minds freely, making commendations, criticisms and proposals. It was the prevailing view that the session showed a highly democratic spirit and unity and reflected the vigorous and thriving progress of the country."

Recent conference reports, news items and editorials from China suggest that as a result of this period of reassessment, the gap between the Soviet and the Chinese views has narrowed, although it has by no means disappeared.

The Chinese press has been filled with reports of friendship meetings and gestures between China and the other members of the socialist camp, the Soviet Union, North Korea and Albania figuring most prominently.

A Soviet trade delegation recently concluded a trade agreement in Peking (no figures are given, but the reports emphasise the friendliness and speed of the negotiations) covering the exchange of a vast amount of goods between the two countries.

Soviet engineering specialists have been co-operating with their Chinese colleagues in a project to tame the waters on the Amur river.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

With regard to international affairs the Chinese still emphasise that they stand by their fundamental position.

They are at pains to stress, however, that they have always stood for peaceful co-existence, that they support the efforts made by the Soviet Union towards securing general and complete disarmament, and that they feel that it is possible by means of suitable diplomacy to secure a ban on nuclear weapons and a disarmament treaty.

They add, however, that no international treaty relating to disarmament would be worth anything unless the Chinese were a party to such treaty.

With regard to the Great Leap Forward, the Chinese maintain the correctness of the policy of the three red banners as described above. They do not suggest (and never have done so publicly in the past) that all the socialist countries should adopt the same course. The present period in China is described as one of consolidation and expansion on the basis of the tremendous gains made in the period of the Great Leap Forward and the setting up of the People's Communes (which are regarded as having been substantially most successful).

After a suitable period of consolidation it should be possible to once more embark upon a Great Leap Forward campaign. Finally, with regard to the struggle by the forces of each country at present not socialist to achieve socialism, it seems that the Chinese adhere to the view that ultimately the armed forces of revolution will always have to be used against the armed forces of counter-revolution.

(The Chinese attitude to Nehru and Tito appears, by the way, to remain unchanged.)

3 Years For Working For Communist Party Aaron Molete Sentenced

JOHANNESBURG.

AARON Molete, an employee of New Age, was last Saturday sentenced to three years' imprisonment for taking part in the activities of the banned Communist Party.

In sentencing Molete, the Regional Magistrate, Mr. G. B. Jordaan, said it was obvious that he had been "active and working in the Communist Party ever since it was banned." Mr. Jordaan said that this was more serious than an offence of taking part in the activities of the A.N.C. or P.A.C., because the "Communist Party is an international organisation." He regarded the offence as

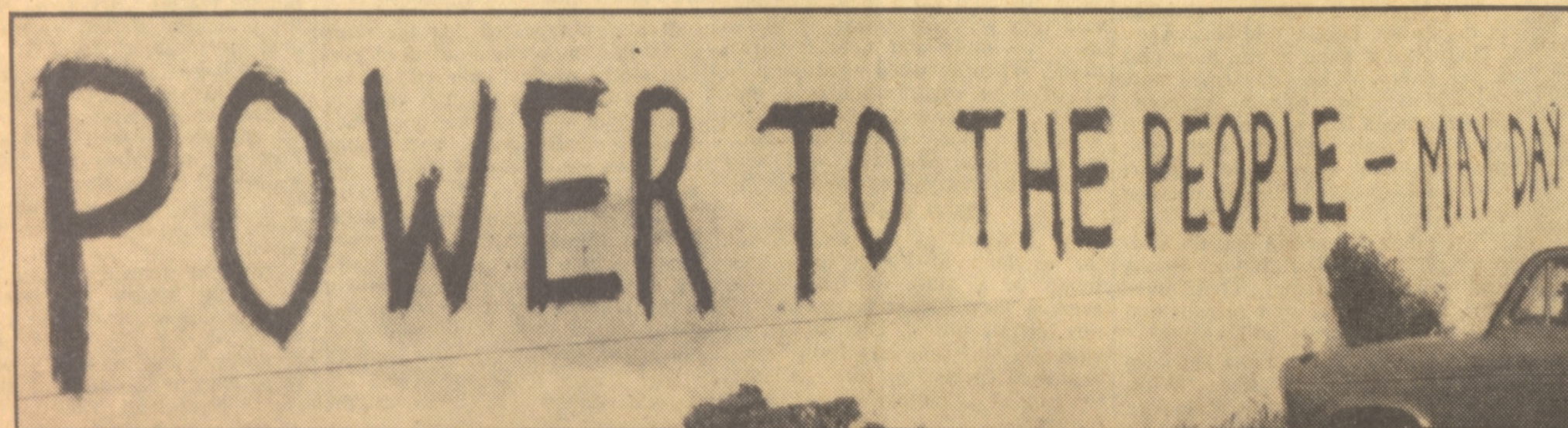
"almost tantamount to high treason."

The Magistrate held that it had been proved that Molete was found in possession of 19 copies of a roneoed document entitled "Inkulu-leko" last September. This publication, he found, was issued by or on behalf of the Communist Party.

A defence submission that the South African Communist Party and the Communist Party of South Africa were different organisations, and that the former had not been banned, was rejected.

An appeal has been noted against the conviction and sentence. Bail of R500 was allowed pending the appeal.

MAY DAY SLOGAN



On the morning of May Day this slogan appeared on a wall opposite the Natal University, Durban. The slogan "Bread Not Bullets" was painted on the wall enclosing the Defence Headquarters on the Snell Parade.

TRANSKEI OPPOSITION CONTINUES

(Continued from page 1)

Following on the circularisation of the plan of the Recess Committee to the various regions of the Transkei, meetings were held at Nyandeni, Western Pondoland, and Mbobane, in Tembuland. The Nyandeni region expressed criticism of the election system in the plan, saying that there was a preponderance of chiefs. At Mbobane there was outright rejection of the plan.

AMENDMENTS

Other places wanted some form of amendment to the plan before it could be acceptable to the people.

The total effect of these views was that the Transkei was electrified with opposition and distrust of the plan but, as everybody knows, the word of the Government and the will of the Recess Committee was final.

The hope of the people was that their true leaders in the TTA would come up and voice their real aspirations. But it did not happen. Even the much talked-about alternative democratic constitution was completely suppressed. their true leaders in

But make no mistake, these people knew what they wanted: total and real independence, not merely instalments of self-government. They wanted a democratic, independent, multi-racial state where merit, not the test by blood, counted.

GOVT. PRESSURE

It was against this background that the session of the TTA was opened. The Government, through its official Chairman Mr. C. B. Young, made it quite clear that the policy of the government was separate development and nothing so fantastic as multi-racialism. Gradualism in the Xhosa tradition to chieftancy was emphasised. The people were warned against the prophets of doom.

The popular line was that during the discussions the government plan would be attacked and then the people's demand highlighted. The Chairman of the Recess Committee—Chief Matanzima—read the constitution clause by clause and there was a ready seconder for each paragraph up to paragraph 24.

From the outset it was clear that members of the TTA had not

grasped the procedure. The Chair has since explained that when the Constitution was read paragraph by paragraph each clause was passed or disposed of.

The members had repeatedly asked if they would be allowed to adopt the Constitution as a whole after accepting the clauses, and the Chairman agreed. The members took this to mean that they were accepting the Constitution in principle only but would be free to discuss it. They were of the opinion that this document could not be disposed of in one reading.

ANGER AND CONFUSION

But the Chairman held the opposite view. This came to light when there was a lengthy discussion on paragraph 24 of the Constitution by a number of chiefs and elected members. From then on there was confusion and visible anger among members. This anger and confusion was accelerated by Chief Sabata who alleged that the Chair had said that there would be no discussion on the report until it was read. If he had understood that there was to be no discussion at that stage he would have opposed the Constitution from the beginning. He demanded an explanation from the Chairman as to what was happening.

"You ruled that there should be no discussions on the report until it was read, now I find discussions and amendments being invited".

Mr. Monakile replied that he had heard every member had a right to express his views.

Chief Sabata replied that there was some confusion at the beginning. He understood the Chairman to be saying discussions would take place afterwards. This was supported by many of the members but Mr. Monakile refused the suggestion to begin the report again. He said it would not be fair to the house. The business must proceed.

PEOPLE SHOULD RULE

Chief Sabata pointed out that his signature was attached to the Government-sanctioned constitution because he was a Government employee. He expected a member to be able to express his views.

He said that the common people should be in the majority.

Chief Ndamase moved that 105 members be elected with four paramount chiefs ex-officio. Makwala from Mt. Frere moved that the number of elected be raised to 50.

Mr. Young said that any region opposed to the proposed constitution should say so and should be cut off from the proposed constitution. As a result of this pressure and the apparent reluctance of members to oppose these motions, the constitution was read to the last clause but no amendments were introduced.

MATANZIMA'S AMBITION

Interviewed by New Age afterwards, Chief Matanzima said that in time all Africans would control business in the Transkei as not a single White would live there. He said he would like the Government to assist in bringing that about by compensating the Whites living in White spots in the Transkei. He emphasised that the Whites would not be expected to leave suffering financial losses.

He said he could not predict how long it would take to reach such a situation, but when the time came the colour bar in the Transkei would disappear. He expected political parties to be formed soon. He was not happy about influx control, pass laws and other measures, and was also against job reservation.

He supported the Group Areas Act because he believed that Africans do not want to live besides Whites nor did the Whites wish to live beside Africans.

VETERAN NEW AGE SELLER



Mrs. Lydia Tshehla, who has been selling our paper for sixteen years. She is known to all who pass her regular pitch outside the Johannesburg station, and anyone who tries to take her place gets short shrift indeed. Mrs. Tshehla was recently convicted for not possessing a permit to live in Alexandra Township because she refuses to take the dcompass that would enable her to get a permit.

FARM LABOUR SCANDAL IN TELEVISION PLAY

A PLAY based on the farm labour scandal in South Africa recently had a wide showing on the German Democratic Republic's television network. Called 'The Dogs,' it is about the disappearance of three Africans from Krugerkloof Farm, where they are working out their prison sentences for a pass offence.

The play shows an inhuman White farmer, 'Sjambok' Labuschagne, who rules over his family and prisoners with equal harshness. He has hung up one of the men by one hand, and the policeman, Du Toit, finds him almost dead from hunger and thirst.

This man, Lewis Nukusu, is in fact a journalist who came

with the other prisoners to investigate the terrible conditions on the farm. He knows that the other two men are dead, torn to pieces by the farmer's dogs.

Despite Du Toit's pleas (made for the sake of White unity?), he exposes the truth of what has been going on and the horrible crimes that have been committed.

Members of the cast said in an interview:

"This production is more than an attempt to show our solidarity, our deep love for and alliance with the nations of Africa. It is also an avowal of the indivisibility of human rights and racial equality."

UP MY ALLEY

ARE we no longer to read at a sitting the thirty-cent exploits of those hard-drinking private eyes, those fast-on-the-draw Westerners, the Indian attacks at dawn and the last-minute arrival of the U.S. cavalry?

● The big boys are sure to find a way out. All these cost under fifty cents, and the publishers and distributors must make millions out of the paper-back public. So you can bet the importers will have their permits ready soon after the censorship bill becomes law.

Let's hope the prices don't go up to fifty cents. Then the public will really have to pay for their pulp.

★

THE latest paper-back I waded through (second-hand price fifteen cents) was "The Longest Day": an account of the invasion of Normandy by the allies on D-Day during the last war.

● At the back is a list of everybody, German and ally, who appears in the book, together with some info on their present occupations.

It is interesting to note that a

helluva lot of the Nazi big-shots are now big-shots with the Western military and various departments in the U.S. army in Europe.

● So we're all pals again, in spite of the gas-chambers.

★

WHICH reminds me that German troops now stationed in England to "defend" the "free world," have been issued with English conversation handbooks. Included in the handbooks are the following useful sentences to be used when the time comes.

● "Tell the truth or you will be shot."

● "You lie. I can easily see that this village is well off."

★

AN efficiency expert at one of the big firms sent out a long questionnaire to all employees.

The liftman answered most questions without much hesitation but pondered for a long time on the query: "How much time do you spend daily at each of your various duties?"

● Finally he wrote: "Up 50 per cent; down 50 per cent."

THE AFRICAN IMAGE

IF there is one quality which distinguishes the writing of Ezekiel Mphahlele, it is his sturdy common sense, his steadfast refusal to be taken in by slogans, sentimentalism or shibboleths. If this on the one hand makes him something of an elusive figure, difficult to pigeonhole, categorise or capture, on the other hand it prevents his individualism from becoming capricious or anti-social. Indeed, it gives an edge to his perceptions which makes his comments always interesting because they are the product of an uncompromisingly honest mind.

In his latest book "The African Image" Mr. Mphahlele examines some of the most emotionally-charged concepts of African nationalism, such as "the African personality" and "negritude", and comes to the conclusion that they are myths which have very little relationship to the realities of present-day Africa.

MORE THAN ONE AFRICA

Africa is not the same for all Africans, says Mr. Mphahlele. The problems of multi-racial communities are different from those of uni-racial ones, the outlook of Africans in French Africa is different from that of Africans in British Africa. There is not one African personality. "On the political plane, therefore, all these different meanings we attach to freedom make nonsense of the African Personality . . . Beyond the focus on freedom from colonialism in certain countries and fascist white rule in others, and the emergence into nationhood of others, the only thing that can really be said to be capable of expressing an African Personality lies in those areas of cultural activity that are concerned with education and the arts" but "we are not going to help our artist by rattling tin-cans of the African Personality about his ears."

Similarly the author finds the concept of negritude unhelpful. "To us in multi-racial communities . . . negritude is just so much intellectual talk, a cult". Its proponents "would do better, while preserving African culture where something of value still lives, to help the African artist in his

present predicament; to seek out those of us who write or paint or compose in dark ghettos and bring them to a world audience."

Mr. Mphahlele is equally devastating in his critique of nationalism and his analysis of the inconsistencies of the policies of the PAC. "It is in one way an easy and almost instinctive thing to be a nationalist", he says. "You find yourself with your back to the wall, first; then, like a hedgehog, you draw your head inside and underneath those bristles you manufacture a kind of venom as it were. Impotent at first. But without an outlet it poisons your system. You may spit it out now and again, or gather round you some slogans and put on a mannerism, grow a beard and walk about with a stiff uncompromising neck."

But, he adds, "paradoxically, the African nationalists do not really present a challenge to the Afrikaans. What does present a challenge is an organisation that consists either in close association or in an alliance of black, white, Indian and Coloured. Such a body constitutes a negation of the Afrikaans' theory of separateness, their mediaeval clannishness."

Mr. Mphahlele has much more beside to say about Black attitudes to Whites and White attitudes to Blacks in this stimulating book, ending with a chapter of neatly drawn "Black and White Cameos" which make one hope there will be more of this sort of writing from him, soon.

SHORT STORIES

Also a product of Mr. Mphahlele's exile in Nigeria is a book of short stories with illustrations by Peter Clark. The stories are all on South African themes and though uneven in quality, confirm the impression created by "Down Second Avenue" that the author is one of the most promising creative artists our country has yet produced.

"The African Image," published by Faber and Faber, price 21s.

"The Living and Dead" and other stories, published by the Minister of Education, Ibadan, Western Region (Nigeria) as a special publication of "Black Orpheus."

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