

AFRICA ACCRA EMERGENCY MEETING ON NYASALAND

THE Steering Committee of the All-African People's Conference will meet early in April to decide what effective action to take in support of the Central African people's fight for freedom and independence, it was announced last week by the Permanent Secretariat of the Conference.

Administrative Secretary of the Permanent Secretariat, Mr. S. Paintsil, said that normally the Committee should meet this June, but in view of the

sudden turn the African national movement had taken, Chairman of the Committee, Tom Mboya, considered an earlier meeting on the Committee a matter of extreme urgency.

Mr. Paintsil said that the Committee would discuss and decide on:

FIRST, proposals for the All-African People's Conference to open direct negotiations with the British Government and the Governments of

Kenya, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, on behalf of the struggling African nationalists and victims of the British Government's recent action in these territories.

SECOND, raising of funds.

THIRD, the most effective ways of mobilising world opinion in support of the African peoples and of formulating concrete means and methods to achieve that objective.

The Central Committee of the Convention People's Party of Ghana had decided to donate £10,000 sterling to the African National Congress in Nyasaland for the dependants of the dead and the leaders arrested during the recent struggle.

EUROPE BRITISH MINERS ELECT COMMUNIST

A COMMUNIST, William Paynter, Chairman of the South Wales Mineworkers' Federation was elected last week to the post of Secretary-General of the National Union of Mineworkers. He takes the place of another prominent Communist, Arthur Horner, who has retired on reaching the age limit.

Backstage manoeuvres to secure the election of a right-winger to the Secretaryship of this influential union failed completely, 249,638 members of the union voted for Paynter—a 50,000 majority over the next candidate.

Now 55, Will Paynter started work in the pits as a collier's assistant at 14—when he joined the union. Later he became a collier at a Porth colliery.

In 1929 he joined the Communist Party and later served for a period on its executive committee.

Twice in 1931 he was arrested when taking part in hunger marches.

POLAND 'CLOSE TO SOCIALISM'

—declares Party Congress

POLISH Communists are "confident that in a short time Socialism will be completely victorious in our country," Mr. Wladyslaw Gomulka, secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party, declared last week at the opening of the Party's Third Congress.

"Since our last Congress five years ago our Party is more mature, wiser and more consolidated on the basis of Marxism-Leninism," he said. "We are marching forward toward the completion of the construction of Socialism."

There are 1,400 delegates and over 2,000 guests and visitors, including fraternal delegates from 41 parties.

SOVIET ALLIANCE

On the international situation, Mr. Gomulka made the most emphatic declaration of Poland's close friendship with the Soviet Union and the Socialist camp for the defence of peace and Poland's frontiers.

He criticised the role of the Western Powers in "condoning Adenauer's open declarations of aggressive aims to revise Germany's Eastern frontier."

Adenauer's professed bid to revise the frontier without war was "like proposing to skin the sheep without using a knife and with the agreement of the sheep."

Some Western quarters were throwing out hints of recognising Germany's Eastern frontier as a means of controlling Adenauer and bribing Poland and Czechoslovakia to move away from the Soviet Union.

"Poland will welcome Western recognition of her frontiers as the fulfilment of the Potsdam Treaty and as a step to peace, but not as the price for a bargain," he said.

COMMON OUTLOOK

Mr. Gomulka supported the Soviet proposals on Berlin and for a German peace treaty. "If the German Federal Republic refuses, we

(Continued in next column)



"About time you thought of something! What do you think you're paid for?"

(Continued from previous column)

shall sign a peace treaty with the German Democratic Republic," he said.

Describing the advance of the international Communist movement, he said that, while every Communist Party was sovereign and their international unity was based on a common outlook, the "leading position and special authority" of the Soviet Communist Party derived from its record and experience over 41 years.

On Yugoslavia he said that the League of Yugoslav Communists with its revisionist draft programme had "taken the position of an outsider." But this position could not continue and "we have not lost hope for their return to the Communist movement."

BIG NEWS AT A GLANCE

CUBA'S revolutionary Prime Minister Fidel Castro has announced that he is in favour of the development of trade relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

INDONESIA has nationalised 227 Dutch rubber, tea, palm and quinine plantations. Compensation will be paid to the former Dutch owners, but, it has been hinted, only after Holland has liberated the Indonesian territory of West Irian which it still occupies.

ASIA INDIAN CONGRESS AND CP. DISCUSS COOPERATION

AN exchange of views is taking place between the leaders of the Congress and Communist Par-

ties in India on the possibility of co-operation between them.

The Communists have offered to co-operate in carrying out a policy of economic development, but they have ruled out full co-operation in all spheres because there are fundamental differences between the parties.

This statement followed a call by premier Nehru at a recent press conference for co-operation between the parties in carrying out land reforms.

A right-wing M.P. announced at once that if Congress and Communists worked together for the implementation of land reform, a Liberal Party would be formed to oppose them.

USSR CUTS ITS POLICE FORCE

People Themselves Will Deal With Crime

From Sam Russell in Moscow

THE formation of volunteer detachments to assist in the maintenance of public order in the Soviet Union is part of a general plan to reduce the size of the police force all over the country.

This was explained to me by the secretary of the executive committee of the Moscow City Soviet, Boris Rodionov, commenting on the resolution of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the Soviet Government, published last week.

The resolution, which authorises the establishment of detachments of volunteers to ensure public order, has been widely misrepresented abroad as being allegedly a "tightening up of security measures." The exact opposite is the case.

NO NEW THING

For some time now the Soviet Government has been cutting down the size of its security forces, including the militia, which is what the police are called here. It is planned to continue to cut down the size of the militia in the coming year.

The move to draw the general public into the maintenance of public order is, in any case, no new thing, and the latest resolution

merely extends what has already been happening.

For a long time now volunteer detachments have assisted the militia to maintain order during big demonstrations such as May Day and November 7 and in and around sports stadiums during big football matches and other sports meetings.

Patrols of volunteers from among members of the Young Communist League have also assisted the militia in the fight against crime.

There is no question of the sudden appearance of a crime wave necessitating the recruitment of volunteers to tackle the problem, as certain comments abroad have suggested.

CRIME FALLING

On the contrary, Soviet statistics show that crime is falling from year to year.

"The aim of the new resolution adopted by the Central Committee and the Government is to eliminate crime altogether and to enable the size of the militia forces to be further reduced," Boris Rodionov told me.

During the 21st Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, Mr. Krushchov declared that it was necessary to create a situation in

which public order would be ensured by the people themselves and would become less and less the responsibility of State organs like the militia.

This is part of a general plan to

transfer more and more functions hitherto discharged by the State to the general public and to public organisation like the trade unions.

The basis of the new detachments will be strictly voluntary.

MIDDLE EAST

ALGERIANS WELCOME ASSISTANCE OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

But Criticise Thorez

THE newspaper of the Algerian National Liberation Front, *El Moudjahid*, last week expressed "the great appreciation of the Algerian workers and people for the acts of working-class human solidarity performed for Algerian refugees and wounded by the Communist countries." At the same time the paper criticised what it called the "ambiguity" of the policy of the French Communist Party.

El Moudjahid reported that the first planeload of severely wounded Algerian liberatory fighters had been flown to hospitals in East Berlin. There they were "magnificently received" by government

leaders, army officers and children with bouquets of flowers.

East Germany is reported to have sent to date 16 consignments of aid for Algerian refugees, and the other popular democracies have made arrangements for such aid on a regular basis. The aid, which goes to Tunis by sea, consists of blankets, sugar, soap, rice, etc.

AMBIGUITY

El Moudjahid reports sorrowfully on the French CP's recent condemnation of FLN "terrorist" actions in France, which underlines, it says, the "intolerable ambiguity, both for Algerians and for sincere French democrats," of relations

with the French Left. The paper said it had until now "voluntarily refrained from replying to the position taken by French CP leader Thorez."

It suggested that Thorez had not sufficiently taken into account the fact that the Algerians were fighting a terrible war and had been for four years. It felt that before the Communists criticised the Algerian struggle they should have demonstrated more clearly by their actions that they were its allies.

In any case, the paper said, the F.L.N. had officially denied that it participated in terrorist acts in France and Thorez was wrong to ignore these denials.

LITTLE LIBBY — THE ADVENTURES OF LIBERATION CHAGALALA

by Alex ha Guma



SPORTLIGHT

by

"DULEEP"



SETBACK FOR SOCCER

The S.A. Soccer Federation has now again received a severe setback in its quest for world recognition as a result of the affiliation of the Johannesburg Bantu F.A. to the Southern Transvaal Association (Whites). The first was when United F.A. linked up with the European W.P.F.A.

Leading soccer administrators, although shocked at this news, knew that approaches had been made over a number of years for the Non-Whites to join up with the Whites, but Federation officials have always been able to nip these moves in the bud, condemning subservient affiliation from which no material gain could be derived. These overtures they felt, were just to show the outside world that Non-White soccer was receiving sympathetic treatment.

The amalgamation of the African and the Bantu units, which was announced last season, never really materialised in effect, and now with this break-away, the chances have become more remote, if not impossible, as the Johannesburg body is now a member unit of the Europeans. Whether they will still retain their membership with the national S.A. Bantu Football Association is a matter of conjecture, for the other possibility is that they may influence their parent body to follow in their footsteps. This is a matter that the Soccer Federation must tackle immediately.

WE HEAR IT SAID...

That yet another organisation has removed the racial tag. This time it is the Durban and District C.U. who have deleted the word "Indian". Incidentally, they also oppose the West Indies tour.

That the news from Bangalore, India, that an invitation from the S.A. Indian Board of Control to the Board of Control for Cricket in India to send a team to South Africa in 1960-61, has come as a pleasant surprise. But there is also some confusion, for there is no Indian Board of Control here, and no one, except perhaps the S.A. Board of Control officials, know of an invitation extended to India. This, at least will not be an apartheid tour.

That the W.P. Indian Football Association are making a determined effort to remove the "centralisation of headquarters" clause from the constitution. They prefer the old rotary system.

That the disclosure that apartheid is practised in swimming clubs belonging to Europeans in Calcutta and Bombay has come as a great shock to many. Amongst a membership of over 4,000 members, all white-skinned, there has not been a single Indian member for the 90 years the Calcutta club has been in existence. This position

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MISSING

A box of personal papers belonging to me was taken from a Zephyr car in Johannesburg on March 18 or 19. These papers are of no value to anyone and I appeal for their return.—A. M. Kathrada. Telephone 34-1659.

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is being remedied, we understand, for the Indian Constitution has a clause as follows: "Those who are enforcing racial discrimination on Indian soil, are abusing the hospitality India has offered them."

That yet another provincial unit has signified its intention of withdrawing support of the West Indies tour — the E.P. Cricket Union, formerly the E.P. Indian C.U.

That the conditions laid down by the Minister of Interior, for the West Indies tour, are going to create a certain amount of embarrassment, especially the last one which stipulates separate seating and other facilities for White and Non-White spectators. Since European grounds for the Test matches are under consideration, many spectators are going to be annoyed.

Self-Inflicted Injuries to Escape Jail Horrors

Port Elizabeth

Near a dam project about 60 miles from P.E. is a jungle jail where 400 long-term prisoners are kept.

During recent weeks 14 of the convicts have been sent to Livingstone Hospital for treatment. They slashed the strong tendon muscle behind the ankle with blades they had managed to smuggle into the jail. They stated that they inflicted these injuries on themselves in order to escape from the horrors of the jungle jail situated near the Kougaport Dam they are constructing. Some of them have been admitted to Livingstone Hospital more than twice for the same complaint.

When they were brought into the hospital last week the doctors said it would take about three months before the men recovered, but a day after they had received treatment they were wheeled in trolleys into lorries that took them back to the jail they dreaded so much.

According to reports the men have sworn they will not again allow themselves to work on the dam.

One of them is still lying at the hospital with a TB hip joint, while yet another of those who were sent back to the jail last week has returned after slashing the muscles on the unbandaged leg.

Alleges Assault in P.E. Cells

Port Elizabeth

Stanley Mabusela of Zakele, who came out of the Rooi Hell prison after he had been locked up awaiting trial for about a fortnight, told New Age he was beaten, kicked and hit with fists while in the police cells for three days at the Korsten police station. He was arrested during the anti-pass demonstration at Veeplaats, the police alleging he was one of those who had taken reference books from some women.

Arrested on Tuesday morning he was kept in handcuffs, day and night, until Thursday afternoon. By then his arms were swollen as the blood circulation was impeded. During that period he says detectives were plying him with questions about the ANC and were beating him with batons. His jaws were so stiff that he found it very difficult to eat, and he was spitting blood when he coughed.

In court he was found not guilty and discharged.

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