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THE FREEDOM CHARTER
 Signed by.....
 SIGNATURE.....
 KAMPAIGN.....
 T. 604 P. 15th City, Jabavu
 D. 5/12/56

WHERE DID IT START?

After the historic ~~Verwoerd's~~ Verwoerd's ~~No. the People at Kriptown;~~ the joint "National Executive Committee's of the four Congresses decided to launch the campaign for 1,000,000 signatures, 1,000,000 people convinced and educated that the Charter is the only way forward.

WHY WAS IT STARTED?

The aim of the campaign is not just to get 1,000,000 signatures it is to win one million people to our way of thinking, it is the way of organising our congresses, and educating our members and winning new members.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THE SIGNATURES?

This is a question raised by those who want to confuse the people, who indirectly want the Nats to win. But there are also many who are genuinely confused.

There are many who support Congress and agree with Congress but they are only members of Congress when they sign their Congress card. There are many who support us, who know about us but have never been asked to sign a pledge of support for our principles. It is up to us to change this pledge into membership of Congress.

And then what of South Africa and the world? We must show them that when Dr Verwoerd says, "The Government is the friend of the Bantu": The people, 1,000,000 of the people and many more say. That is a lie. We don't want Apartheid. We want freedom, the Freedom Charter.

BUT HOW ARE WE TO GET THE SIGNATURES?

Firstly, the Charter is our Charter, the people's Charter, it is our answer to Verwoerd and Strijdom.

The Charter is not a document of a few intellectuals sucked out of their thumbs in a vacuum. It is the results of the demands of the people. It contains their cherished hopes. It talks of Bantu Education; of houses, security and comfort. It talks of wealth and how it is kept from the people, of passes, of Section 10 and government by the people of the people for the people.

It is part of our everyday struggle against oppression, it is part of the hope in the heart of every oppressed mother, father and child.

IT IS US WHO MUST MAKE THEM POLITICALLY CONSCIOUS.

Secondly, we must talk of the charter and the signatures, we must write about it, pray for it and fight for it and popularise it.

- (i) Each congress branch must have 2 or 3 persons whose express job it is to organise and work for the signature campaign.
- (ii) We must always have a copy of the charter to give or sell to a friend and get him to sign.
- (iii) We must talk at our meetings about the charter and get those signatures from the people.
- (iv) We must work on the block system. Each congress volunteer must be given a section of his residential area to canvass door to door, yard to yard, person to person, to sell the charter and get those signatures and tell the people: "THERE SHALL BE HOUSES, SECURITY AND COMFORT".

(2)

(v) Where we work we must hold meetings and obtain the signatures of our work-mates and tell the workers "THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY".

(vi) Our friends and relatives in the country must be told of the Charter and the section on "THE LAND SHALL BE SHARED AMONGST THOSE WHO WORK IT". All congress branches should make note of the people who sign the charter, and contact them later and persuade them to join congress.

If we of the congress redouble our efforts

"THE PEOPLE SHALL GOVERN".

HOW ARE WE TO LEARN MORE OF THE CHARTER?

We must work for the Congress and read our new Congress Bulletin, IZWE LE LENTSOE LA (Congress Voice), New Age, Fighting Talk etc. We must get out charter bulletin produced monthly. We must come to meetings and discuss our difficulties. We must be disciplined and staunch.

If you want charter in any language (English, Afrikaners, Suthu and Zulu) or signature forms write to the Congress headquarters:

A.N.C. 38 Market Street, Johannesburg.

T.I.C. & S.A.C.P.O., 37 West Street, Johannesburg.

C.O.D. 110 Fox Street, Johannesburg.

or to the Transvaal Consultative Committee, 37 West Street, Johannesburg.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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