

CLOTHING WORKERS MUST FIGHT BACK!

35,000 NON-WHITES STAND TO LOSE THEIR JOBS

JOHANNESBURG.

STRONG action from the workers in the clothing industry can be expected in reply to the announcement that the Industrial Tribunal has recommended that all except the unskilled jobs in the industry should be reserved for Europeans only.

Shock and alarm spread through the industry this week as the meaning of this latest edict went home. The feeling here is that if the workers don't act forcefully on this issue, they will probably not have another chance to do so.

AN ELECTION STUNT?

By some the Tribunal's announcement is seen as a huge political stunt for election purposes. It may rock industry to its foundations, but it will give Senator De Klerk and his friends a chance to stomp the country boasting "we have created 30,000 jobs for Whites."

The staggering consequences for the Non-White workers—mass unemployment—apparently leave Strijdom's men unmoved.

The employers are equally staggered, for this job reservation scheme for White workers, if applied, would bring the industry to a standstill.

According to the letter of the law, by November 11 every Coloured in

a job reserved for Whites should get the sack.

So even now the Department of Labour is understood to be preparing mass exemptions for factories that might technically be breaking the law by keeping Non-Whites in these reserved jobs but could not stay open without these workers.

FATAL FLAW

This is the fatal flaw and giveaway of this Nationalist apartheid in the clothing industry. The whole industry will be at the beck and call of the Department of Labour, dependent on exemptions and bound hand and foot to the Department's edicts.

The industrialists say frankly: "This cannot work." Why not? The figures give the answer.

The industry is almost entirely Non-White, except for the Transvaal, and even there the Non-Whites hugely outnumber the Whites.

The jobs reserved for Whites are machinists, supervisors, cutters, choppers-out and table hands.

The Cape clothing factories can produce perhaps 300 White machinists, of whom 3,500 are Whites. Of ban has a completely Non-White industry. Port Elizabeth—very few Europeans.

The Transvaal has 9,000 machinists. (Continued on page 5)



Attorney Douglas Lukele.

AFRICAN ATTORNEY THROWN OUT OF COURT

MAGISTRATE CALLS HIM "CHEEKY" FOR OBJECTING TO APARTHEID

From Sam Masemola

FRANKFORT.

I WITNESSED a shocking incident in a court of law here in the Free State last week when African attorney Mr. Douglas Lukele was bodily thrown out of the court. His three clients remained undented.

This was the third occasion on which Mr. Lukele has been involved in incidents in Free State courts. Another lawyer, Mr. Nzimande, also got into difficulties in this very same Frankfort court.

I accompanied Mr. Lukele from Johannesburg as a representative of New Age.

NOT ALLOWED IN

When we arrived in court at about 11.5 a.m. there was an atmosphere of expectancy among the African crowd that had come to court to listen to the cases. The people were told, however, that they could not enter the courtroom. I learnt later that as a rule the women are never allowed in court though the men are sometimes allowed in. I was the only occupant of the public gallery.

As soon as the magistrate was seated the prosecutor brought in a desk and a chair. The desk was the type used by school pupils in primary schools. The desk and wooden chair were placed next to the dock, and behind the prosecutor's table.

The first prisoner was brought in and the indictment read. The magistrate asked if the accused man had any defence counsel. Mr. Lukele

went forward to the table for attorneys and introduced himself.

As he approached the table the prosecutor pushed him aside, pulled away the chair on which he was about to sit and directed him to sit at the desk.

Mr. Lukele refused to do so. The magistrate directed that the desk be placed in line with the defence table. Mr. Lukele wanted to know why he was discriminated against, since all attorneys are entitled to the same accommodation in court.

The magistrate said that Mr. Lukele ought to know that it was traditional policy of the country that people of different races could not sit at the same table.

Mr. Lukele: With respect, Your Worship, all attorneys are governed by the Legal Practitioners' Act . . .

The magistrate: This court refuses to be addressed by you. If you do not want to take your place you will be removed from court.

Mr. Lukele: With due respect, will Your Worship allow me to address the court?

The magistrate: You are very cheeky and you are wasting the time of the court.

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WHY SPUTNIK CAME FROM RUSSIA

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GIRLS AND GUNS FOR HUSSEIN

LONDON.

KING Hussein of Jordan took time off from night-clubbing in Spain recently to ask the United States for immediate naval, air and financial help to resist "Communist infiltration" into his country.

Hussein, who had been holidaying in Madrid and San Sebastian, made his appeal to Washington through members of the U.S. military mission in Spain.

Madrid's night-clubs probably declared a special dividend as a result of the lavish patronage of the Jordanian king. Ever night between 12 and 1 a.m. Hussein, his three bodyguards and French doctor, stoked up on double iced orangeade (their religion forbids alcohol) and drove off for the night's fun.

The manager of a famous Spanish night-spot, the Villa Rosa, was not perturbed at the king's abstinence. Said Don Felipe: "His majesty always bought whisky or French champagne for the ladies with whom he and his party danced, and there were usually at least eight girls at the table."

Security Branch Keeps Watch On Soviet Sailing Ship

CAPE TOWN.

THE Soviet cadet training ship "Tovarisch," which arrived in Cape Town last week, has been isolated from the South African public by the port authorities.

A windjammer of the old type, she would have been an object of great interest to Capetonians, thousands of whom were expected to throng the docks to see her. However, on arrival, she was stuck away as near to the end of the Eastern mole as possible—almost three miles from the main dock gates.

In addition, because she was berthed near tankers discharging their cargo, it has been impossible for anybody to visit her without a permit issued by the port authority. Even those to whom the "Tovarisch's" captain had issued personal invitations were unable to gain

access to the ship.

The port authorities state that the stringent precautions are necessary because of the great fire hazard. But there are many vacant berths in the Victoria and Duncan docks, and it would have been an easy matter to berth the "Tovarisch" elsewhere where there is no fire hazard.

The "Tovarisch's" captain, Vladimir Vasilyer, told the press that the public were welcome to look over his ship, which will be in port for several days to effect repairs sustained when the barque had to battle through mountainous seas to reach Cape Town from Port Elizabeth.

But for all practical purposes the authorities have placed her "out of bounds" and a 24-hour watch is being maintained by the Security Branch to see who visits and leaves the ship.

EDITORIAL

NAT. ROAD TO RUIN

THE recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal, in terms of section 77 of the Industrial Conciliation Act, that the work of machinist, supervisor, cutter or chopper-out and tablehand in the clothing industry should be reserved for Europeans only has come as a shock to the whole country.

"Can it be true?", one asks. "Do they know what they're doing?"

The clothing industry is one which has become more and more dependent on Non-European labour in recent years. In the Transvaal alone there are about 7,500 Coloured people and 4,000 Africans employed in the jobs the Tribunal wants reserved for Europeans only.

What the recommendation means is that from now on no Non-European will be allowed to do more than in the clothing industry. If the Government gets away with this in the clothing industry, it will extend the order to other industries, so that in due course the same pattern will apply throughout the country—the Non-Europeans at the bottom and the Europeans on top, with the Non-Europeans forbidden by law to improve their status.

Just how serious are the implications of the Tribunal's recommendation can only be appreciated if we look at the labour set-up in the country as a whole. The Industrial Legislation Commission reported that in 1948 Non-Europeans constituted 16.2 per cent of the skilled labour force in industry and no less than 66.2 per cent of the semi-skilled labour force, in addition to practically the entire unskilled labour force (98.5 per cent).

If the Industrial Tribunal's recommendation is to be carried out, it means that the existing labour pattern in industry must be scrapped. Hundreds of thousands of better-paid jobs are to be taken away from the Non-Europeans and given to Europeans.

It is quite obvious that if any attempt is made to carry out the Nationalists' policy, South African industry will be ruined, for no Nationalist magic can create an abundant supply of White labour where it doesn't exist at the moment.

Only last week, at the conference on management in Johannesburg, trade unionists and industrialists bemoaned the "chronic scarcity of White skilled and semi-skilled workers." The President of the Artisan Staff Association of the S.A.R. and H., Mr. Liebenberg said that the only alternative before South Africa was to make full use of the country's African labour resources so as to overcome this scarcity.

For whom, then, is the Tribunal speaking when it urges that the Non-Europeans, far from being pushed up the ladder of skill, should be knocked to the ground and never allowed to start climbing again? Not for the industrialists. Not for the trade unionists. Not for the workers. No, they speak only for the tiny handful of apartheid-crazed fanatics who rule over us, and who are prepared to ruin the country for the sake of their lunatic theories.

The Tribunal's recommendation is not yet law, but the Labour Department says the Minister intends to make a determination in accordance with the recommendation. It is the duty of all progressive opinion, both inside and outside the clothing industry, to mobilise instantly the maximum possible opposition to the Tribunal's recommendation and compel the Minister to stay his hand.

The alternative in terms of wastage of human and natural resources, not to mention the suffering and humiliation of the individuals involved, is too awful for any civilised community to tolerate.

We Need Brave Men Unity in Division

We all convey our sympathies on the death of Mr. Tshume of Port Elizabeth, who left the sons and daughters of Africa alone with a terrible struggle. In these days we want brave men like Gladstone Tshume. The ANC must stand firm and claim the rights of the Africans.

Fear not, you sons and daughters of Africa. We are trying to get our freedom, but the Government is passing bad laws, the worst is passes for women. I myself was driven out of Cape Town for no reason. I had to leave my darling Jane and I am crying for my darling.

Freedom in our lifetime, E. NGOTYANA

When I tried to get a permit to stay in Benoni location, I was told to go to Boksburg because I am working in Boksburg. Boksburg is the same place as Benoni. You can divide the people with your laws, but the division is not a real one because heaven has made us all one.

One of the ANC Benoni.

REPLY TO CORRESPONDENT: "Youth Leaguer," Queens-town: Please send your name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a token of good faith.



NEW AGE IS THREE YEARS OLD

THIS is birthday week for New Age. We think that we have produced a nice lusty three-year-old, beside whose accomplishments those of Hercules are almost insignificant. It has not been easy to rear this infant either. Many is the time that New Age has almost died from economic anaemia only to be saved at the last minute by a

life-saving injection from our very fine donors.

In these three years New Age has had to withstand many threats and actual blows from the Government. Our sellers have been hounded from pillar to post and wherever they have found it possible, the Government have brought them before

the courts in a vain attempt to scare them off the streets. Recently one of our branch managers was hauled before the courts in an attempt to have him removed—the Nats hate the idea of an African gentleman capably running an office with no white superiors to order him around!

Then there were the arrests last December when eight of our permanent staff were spirited off by plane to stand trial for treason in Johannesburg. Even this blow New Age has more or less recovered from in the year which has elapsed.

All these setbacks, plus the rise in the price to sixpence in May of this year, have produced crises for the paper which seemed insurmountable.

But thanks to the wonderful fighting spirit of our readers, who refused to let New Age die, and the heroic skeleton staff who struggled valiantly against great odds, the people's paper is proudly celebrating another year of endeavour and struggle to bring about equality for all in South Africa.

We know that you will all want to give us a birthday present to celebrate this event. Now we are going to make it easy for you. Usually one has to worry and puzzle about the type of present to give, but with us you have no such problem. Just send in your donations as soon as possible and give us a really big bumper birthday gift to speed us on into our fourth year.

Last Week's Donations:

- Johannesburg: October £2.10, Lilly £1, K.A. 10s., Diner £10, Doc £15, Max £2, V and M £4, I. J. £3, Vic £3. Cape Town: Willie 5s., Repairer £2, Sacred River £10, M.L.S. £2.2.6, Harold £2.8.1, Party welcoming £15.11.11, Anon J. £2, Unity £2.2, T.S. £25, H.S. £25, C.B. £10, S.P. £3, Anon £21.9. Durban: Kista 6.6d., Pillay £10, G. £10.10. TOTAL—£182 15s. 0d.

NEW AGE LETTER BOX

THE TROUBLE IT TAKES TO GET BUS COUPONS!

In February 1956 the public was informed that the Cape Divisional Council had applied for a Government subsidy to reduce fares on the "Nyanga Natives-only bus services," the reason being that "Natives working in the city have to spend about a sixth of their income on transport."

The subsidy was granted early this year and has been in operation for the last two months.

As a resident of Nyanga I would like to register my strongest protest against the manner in which this subsidy is being administered.

First of all the only place where you can buy coupons at a reduced price is the Native Administration offices at Nyanga. Why issue coupons only from this remote part of the city?

Secondly there is a lot of irrelevant red tape attached to the issuing of these subsidised coupons.

Before you can get a coupon a resident must have paid his or her rent which is between £2.4.4 and £4.8.0 per month. This must have been paid up to and including the current month. If you are in arrears for rent for one month you cannot benefit from the subsidised fares.

If you happen to make a second attempt to buy a coupon before paying the rent you will simply get a summons to appear before the Native Commissioner's Court, Langa, to answer the charge of "failing to pay rent on due date." The sentence might be two weeks prison or £5 to £10 fine.

Further, before a subsidised coupon can be issued to you the book seller must satisfy himself that you are in fact working i.e. employed. He takes your reference book and examines it. If you are not employed, even if you are seeking work, you are not entitled to a subsidised coupon.

If your reference book is not in order you might be arrested and handed over to the S.A.P. for illegal entry at Nyanga.

Why on earth connect bus fares with rent and passes?

Because of this red tape attached to these cheaper coupons, most self-respecting residents of Nyanga have decided to do without them. We would rather buy the dearer coupons because we can get them much easier than the cheaper ones.

UNOMMOUS Nyanga.



Members of the tribe listen to the commission's proceedings. The man in the front row with the white shirt and dark glasses is the deposed Chief Abraham Moilola.

HUNDREDS ATTEND ZEERUST RIOT INQUIRY

JOHANNESBURG.

ONE of the very few commissions appointed by this Government since it came to power was sprung on the Bahrutse tribe of the Zeerust and Marico districts last week.

The appointment of the commission and its terms of reference were gazetted for the first time on Friday October 11, and only four days later (not counting the week-end) the commission proceedings opened.

This is a one-man commission, composed of Mr. Harry Balk, who is president of the Native Appeal Court, and it is to enquire into the "causes of unrest and disturbances in the Linokana Reserve and adjoining areas, measures to be taken to restore peace and good order and government" and other related matters.

NO ROOM

When the commission opened at the Native Commissioner's Court in Zeerust there was no room for the five hundred tribesmen who attended, so the commission moved into the open air. Among those present were the deposed Chief Abraham Moilola, who has been in Ventersdorp since his deposal—this was his first visit to his home since then; the Chief next in succession, Boaz Moilola, numerous headmen and sub-chiefs from nearby areas, and many members of the tribe, including women.

The Native Commissioner, Mr. Richter, was called upon to give the background to events in the area.

The manner in which the deposed Chief Abraham Moilola had conducted the affairs of his tribe had set the tribe against the authorities, he maintained.

The court of Abraham Moilola, said the Commissioner, "became a farce." The ex-Chief was not only incompetent, but would not cooperate with the Native Affairs Department, and objected to the Bantu Education Act and the Bantu Authorities Act.

"As soon as the situation arises the ANC takes up position to exploit the situation and create confusion."

The Reverend Hooper, the Angli-

can Minister, had been seen transporting accused persons to court and was known to have given tea and cigarettes to accused and other persons.

AFRIKA SALUTE

At the large April meeting against the deposal of the Chief and issue of passes to women the police had been unable to make themselves heard and everyone was giving the Congress salute and shouting "Afrika."

The Commissioner: Everyone?
Mr. Richter: Yes.

COUNTER-ATTACK

Applying for leave to cross-examine the Native Commissioner, Adv. G. Bizos, for the tribe, said that the responsibility for the disturbances in the area rested largely on the shoulders of the first witness, the Native Commissioner.

He had behaved in a petty and spiteful manner. He had sown discord between the tribes by playing chief against headman and headman against chief. He had divorced himself from the people and relied on informers who settled old private scores against certain tribesmen.

He had been responsible for stopping the visits of the District Surgeon to those women who had not taken reference books.

In association with a certain police Sergeant van Rooyen he had been responsible for the arrests of a large number of people whose arrest was not justified.

DECISION

The Commission chairman reserved his decision on Mr. Bizos' application to cross-examine witnesses and the following day said that evidence led up to that stage of the inquiry was "opinion evidence" and had not disclosed anything on which steps could be taken against Mr. Bizos' clients. If subsequent evidence did, he would permit another application for cross-examination to be heard.

Mr. Bizos then withdrew from the proceedings on the understanding that the tribesmen would prepare their case and submit evidence and call witnesses if necessary.

Meanwhile the commission continues. It is not known who are to be called as witnesses or how long the proceedings will take.

Have you ever tried to write a short story?

New Age invites readers to submit short stories for publication in their paper.

This is not a competition and there are no rules—except that you must write in English and that your story should be not longer than 3,000 words and should have a South African background.

If you have something you want to say, say it! And send your contribution to P.O. Box 436, Cape Town.

UP MY ALLEY

LAST week I lost an old sporting acquaintance of mine, Albert Van Rheede, who was stabbed to death near his home in Crawford. I remember Albert from the days when I was playing outfield for one of the local baseball teams and he was slugging for Ohio Cubs. I am sure his passing has left a bad gap in the Cubs' defence and that he will be missed when they walk on to the diamond this season. To the club and his parents my deepest sympathy.

African workers. Well, I guess everybody will be anxiously waiting to hear how much the raise is going to be.

might have been reading the laughs page.



By ALEX LA GUMA

I suggest one pound a day all round.

THE circulation of jokes about predikants is growing daily, and I have heard some good unmentionables. However, many of my satellites insist that the best joke to come out of South Africa lately is one made by General Grobbelaar, the top brass of the army, the other day.

He said that South Africa is ready for an atomic war.

Thanks, General, for the assurance. But I haven't yet seen any place I can duck into should any big bangs go off.

Anyway, considering the state of preparedness our sunny land is in, it might be a better idea if the top brass thought in terms of preventing any war, atomic or otherwise.

SO a start is being made on the general revision of wages for

I HAVE heard that the next satellite will be launched by the Russians on November 7. I have also heard that the Americans are going to launch theirs on November 5. There'll be thousands of them going up all over on that night.

AND I wonder if the Soviet legal expert really did say it was the earth's fault if Sputnik was violating the air space of other countries, because it was revolving in Sputnik's orbit, and not vice versa.

I bet the chap who translated the piece from the Russian newspaper knows as much Russian as I know Siamese, or maybe he

I WAS having a chat with a friend of mine the other day, and of course the conversation inevitably turned to Sputnik. My friend is a very religious gentleman and also hands the plate around in the church.

He did not agree with launching satellites, going to the moon, exploring space etc.

"Man is interfering with God," he said firmly. "There are things that man dare not touch. The stars, the heavens and all in it are God's. Let us beware lest He smite us with hell-fire."

I tried to explain that such things as the moon and the planets and the stars exist, and just as we have investigated things on earth and acquired knowledge, so investigation of space would extend our knowledge.

"We are interfering with God," he insisted.

Well, I'm afraid I couldn't convince him. But a second later his little son dashed in and began running round and round the table shouting, "Beep-beep Beep-beep."

INCIDENTALLY, Sputnik means, somebody who accompanies one on a journey, a fellow-traveller.

PASS LAWS CONDEMNED AT ANC CONFERENCE

PRETORIA.

THE evils of passes and the Group Areas Act and the campaign for £1 a day were again the focal point of discussion at the 45th annual conference of the Transvaal ANC here last week-end.

The conference also confirmed the decisions of the September Transvaal conference which called upon people of all races to rally against Nationalist tyranny.

Both the presidential and the executive report pointed out the significance of the new spirit of defiance amongst the people in all corners of the Transvaal. The growing strength of Congress in the countryside, which is the Nationalist Party headquarters, gave the lie to Verwoerd's claim of support from the people in the Reserves.

The representative conference almost bogged down on a discussion of branch disputes instead of talking about the urgent tasks facing the liberation movement and the momentous events of the year. Delegates complained that much time was wasted in discussing these disputes from the floor of the conference, which involved rowdy exchanges at times. Delegates rallied in the end and amidst shouts of "We stand by our leaders," resolved to re-elect last year's executive, many members of which are in the Drill Hall.

The credentials report showed a general increase in membership and a number of new branches. Other resolutions called for a vigorous campaign to assist collections for the Treason Fund and condemned the banning and deportation of leaders and chiefs.

Victory for African Builders' Union

JOHANNESBURG.

The African Building Workers' Union scored a big victory here last week when their leaders were found not guilty of trespass and acquitted. The case against them was brought by the municipality which has been trying to debar trade union officials from organising municipal building workers.

Both Mr. Brian Somana and Mr. Joe Qabi, secretary and chairman of the union respectively, were arrested some two months ago when they went to organise the workers during lunch hour.

They appeared in court four times since the prosecution could not make up its mind whether to charge them for incitement or trespass. Finally the incitement charge was withdrawn.

Cross-examined by the defence, officials of the municipality said that they were not opposed to the union.

The magistrate then ruled that if they had no objection to the union they had no right to debar its organisers from entering their premises as long as it was not

HELP SELL
NEW AGE!

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