Question: "What has more explosive force than an atomic bomb test?" Answer: "No atomic bomb test."

THE announcement by the Soviet Foreign Minister. Mr. Andrei Gromyko, that the Soviet Union has unilaterally stopped testing nuclear weapons promises to be the greatest international bombshell since the

The dropping of this great "peace bomb," unlike the explosion of atom bombs, has not filled the peoples of the world with dread, investing their bones with cancer-producing chemicals, and stupefying their minds to the acceptance of the inevitability of a third world war.

On the contrary, it has as never before filled the hearts of millions upon millions of ordinary citizens of our planet with a new hope.

It has encouraged the Peace marchers on their long tramp along the wintry roads of Britain, it has given new strength to the brave American pacifists who are sailing to the Eniwetok islands in

order to prevent the forthcoming U.S. nuclear weapon tests from taking place; it has strengthened the hope of French nuclear scientists, who, according to the London Observer, have been holding back on the production of atomic bombs, that their country will not be forced into the "atom club," and it has inspired the uncommitted, the cynical and the apathetic everywhere to the knowledge that there is something that they, the ordinary people, can do for peace.

For the Soviet decision marks a great victory for the mass feeling for peace present in every country. It represents what could turn out to be the triumph



of the needs and wishes of humanity over armaments and militarism.

For the first time since the War a Great Power has 'een prepared to take the risk of trading superiority in armaments for winning the support of the world's masses and thereby forcing the armaments race to a halt.

ALTERED POSITION

How seriously the Soviet leaders must have ponbrought out by the fact that only seven months ago Khruschov stated that the Soviet Union was not prepared to risk unilaterally ceasing atomic weapon

In an interview with the editor of a Japanese newspaper (see New Age October 3, 1957) he said: "Imagine the position—the Soviet Union makes a statement on the unilateral termination of nuclear weapon tests, but the other countries possessing such weapons do not follow suit and proceed with their world's climate.)

"The Soviet Union will naturally begin to lag, while its partners meanwhile will do their best to leave it behind. Without having achieved anything we shall be forced to resume the tests after some time . . . the arms race will be intensified and will assume even greater proportions,"

What has happened since he gave that interview to make Khruschov and the other Soviet leaders change their mind? It is not that they have all suddenly become pacifists, or that they have ruled out the possibility of ever being attacked.

The Soviet leaders are sober politicians, not given to wishful thinking. They must feel confident that their call to the peoples and governments of the world will not go unheeded.

Ever since the Soviet Union announced that she had developed an inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM), and then sent up Sputniks to prove it, the campaign for the convening of a summit meeting and the ending of nuclear weapon tests as a preliminary to full disarmament has gone forward with unprecedented strength.

Both the East and the West now possess sufficient atomic weapons to blow up the whole world, and both sides have the means for delivering devastating bombs to almost any point on the globe. From a having enough bigger and better bombs to blow up

If a halt to the arms race cannot be called now, then it seems that it will never be possible to do so. sanity on this earth.

The Soviet Union, which has suffered in its short history more from war than perhaps any other nation in recent times, realises full well that a world war means untold horror, if not complete annihilation, for all the peoples of the world.

PROPAGANDA?

The tragedy is that the American leaders, even now, seem oblivious to this fact. After the Russians had "leaked" the news that they intended to announce their unilateral suspension of nuclear tests, the Americans considered stealing a march on them as a propaganda move, says Dulles.

In Dulles' own words, Washington regards the whole question of disarmament as merely one of propaganda. And why were the Americans not prepared to take this step which they realise is such good propaganda?

Because they are still determined to negotiate from strength, to pile up their armaments in the hope of forcing the Soviet Union into submission.

The reason America must earry on with her tests, says Washington, is that the U.S. must develop the new uitimate wonder weapon, the anti-missile missile. In order to develop the anti-missile missile, according to this lunatic logic, it is necessary to send off missiles with atomic warheads which can then be blown up in flight.

Presumably the next stage in this contest of strength will be the development of the anti-antimissile missile, and so on ad infinitum.

Meanwhile, apologists for Washington have reached a new low in the feebieness of their reply to Russia's latest peace initiative. They cannot stall their reply by saying "We are studying the Soviet announcement," because its message is so simple and clear as to be plain to the simplest of men.

So they say: "How do we know that Russia won't secretly carry on with her tests," knowing full well that all such tests are detectible in America. And they say: "But look, Russia has just carried out an intensive series of tests," knowing full we'll that the Soviet Union has altogether carried out only 39 tests to America's 90 and Britain's 16.

SUMMIT STALLING

So with hardly even a pretence to virtue, the U.S. militarists are proceeding with their plans to have more and more atomic weapon tests. And at the same time they are doing all in their power to stall the holding of a Summit Conference.

The latest Western Note on the subject of a Summit Conference proposes merely that there should be a pre'iminary conference of Foreign Ministers to see whether it would be worthwhile at all holding a full-scale summit conference.

Thus the Foreign Ministers would get together and haggle over an agenda for months while the U.S. continued her tests in the Pacific.

(This coming series, by the way, promises a new horror -there are going to be underwater atomic explosions which might contaminate the whole of the sea, destroying ocean life and upsetting the

USEFUL PURPOSE

It will have exposed those who are re- booth on their own. The per- pute between the supporters of "The people have no candidates." sponsible for the continuation of the arms race, centage polled there is estimated Piet Beyleveld and Bloomberg, showing them up nakedly for the whole world at 50 per cent. of the effective after the Treason Candidate's to see for the dogged warmongers that they are; All day long barkers kept up a sition was using a megaphone. tions was the big fleets of flashy And if you can find only a hand-

It will have inspired the millions of peace ranged from "Vote for Bloomberg, ordered the barker not to use the the pre-election canvass had shown pair—use their statements again and workers all over the world with the knowledge that the skolly-boys' friend," at the megaphone. Police also spoke to that a number of voters were plantheir efforts have not been in vain, that they are a Drill Hall, to "Boycott Bloomberg, some of Bloomberg's helpers who ning to use his transport to the sound so familiar to your sorely force to be reckoned with, and that they can yet prevail upon Britain and America to stop H-bomb At Athlone a man walked to and they got there.

working for peace, the Governments of the socialist on others." The odds, according seemed to have little support the ballot form, one thing had the ANC in Alexandra Township; states, and of the neutralist states of Asia and Europe, to him, rose against "the others" throughout the day. the leaders of opposition parties in Europe and the later in the day. military point of view there is not much point in Americas, the millions of rank and file trade union- The Anti-CAD supporters stood On the whole the competition shaken out of their apathy, and right now for his role in the Transists, party political workers, professional men and quietly by with their banners and between the helpers of the rival that there was room for a lot more vaal Congress dispute and in partistudents, into a mighty unified force which will how! placards, calling for a boycott of candidates appeared to have been political work to raise their politi- cular his seizure by force of the the militarists down and re-establish the rule of "dummy elections," but showed conducted on a friendly basis, per- cal consciousness to the highest Congress car) is elevated (by the





THE ELECTION SCENE

ABOVE: Mr. Jimmy la Guma, SACPO President, and Mr. Henry Naude, executive member, with some of their helpers at the Drill Hall on Thursday.

RIGHT: "Vote for Bloomberg, the skolly-boy's friend," shouted some of Bloomberg's supporters.





COLOURED ELECTIONS

DRILL HALL

Polling was also quiet in Boland increased. and Karoo.

fro all day shouting betting odds, The third candidate in the At the end of the day, when the So Mr. J. Madzunya (spokesman

FRIENDLY BASIS

cotters.

Several voters in Athlone and and why?

signs of impatience towards the haps due to the fact that they had level.

At the Drill Hall Cape Town Salt River complained that the Rule two: Dig out from here, Yet even if the Soviet initiative fails in its immediate aim of bringing atomic tests to an end and thus opening the way for proper disarmament, it will have served a most useful purpose in the cause of furthering and solution.

ATHLONE

In Athlone, where there are during the lunch hour and after working hours. In all 1,208 votted but the rest simply ignored the remarks made by the Unity Movement adherents. At the Drill Hall the boycott supporters behaved in an insulting manner towards them, but the rest simply ignored the working hours. In all 1,208 votted but the rest simply ignored the remarks made by the Unity Movement adherents. At the Drill Hall there and everywhere (generally during the lunch hour and after working hours. In all 1,208 votted but the rest simply ignored the remarks made by the Unity Movement adherents. At the Drill Hall there are during the lunch hour and after working hours. In all 1,208 votted but the rest simply ignored the remarks made by the Unity Movement adherents. At the Drill Hall there are during the lunch hour and after working hours. In all 1,208 votted but the rest simply ignored the remarks made by the Unity Movement adherents. At the Drill Hall boycott supporters behaved in an insulting manner towards them, but the rest simply ignored the voted but the local point in the course of the voted but the boycott supporters behaved in an insulting manner towards them, but the rest simply ignored the voted but the voted but the rest simply ignored the voted but the rest simply ignored the voted but a most useful purpose in the cause of furthering when candi-world peace. The polls and others came to the the polls and others came to the Police intervened in a minor dis-

steady barrage, and the slogans The presiding electoral officer cars which served Bloomberg, but ful of such "leaders," never des-

And it can lead to a coalition of all those forces "11 to 10 on Bloomberg, 10 to 1 Peninsula, Mr. Louis Kellner, last voter had made his cross on of only one of seven branches of emerged clearly: that the Coloured long a saboteur of Congress campeople had not been completely paigns; under disciplinary action

-St. George And The Dragon

sored? Gagged? Muzzled? Heavens, no! The press reacts with righteous indignation whenever the suggestion is made. And so it should.

But self-imposed censorship is another thing and that goes on all the time until slanting the news and outright distortion benewspaper world.

ELECTION JOTTINGS

press, dailies and weeklies, is, as Africanist group who, for the infortown, you tell your readers confiusual, to trade on the White reader's mation of the press, is one African dently: "Latest reports show they abysmal ignorance of most things who is on record as favouring the (the demonstrations) are receiving African: how he lives, what he return of a Nationalist government no support from the African Nathinks, why he decides on certain to power)... "we are against this tional Congress in Pretoria, Alexcourses of political action.

seems to be that if you ignore a work. Why should we?" ticklish problem for long enough it may well dissolve itself.

DOESN'T APPROVE

hopes they don't come off. So may- themselves with the protest." Non-Europeans and, instead, blow rately reproduced. up out of all recognition all signs of "disagreement" and "disunity," we may prevent this fearful event coming off altogether.

So, either these papers print no news at all, or play down the news and hope that if they, ostrich-like, keep their heads buried in the sand ong enough, others will take up the same position; or they print a grossly misleading picture of what is going on.

SIMPLE RULES

The rules here are quite simple. Congresses to ask them. That would today be fatal. Seek out those few—and they are few and fairly hard to find -who have come out openly against the Congresses on this issue. "The World" is source number one. Ask yourself, why should a reporter, seeking the truth, go to an openly (Continued from page 1) end of the day when the polling a common enemy in the boy- anti-ANC newspaper, to ask what the ANC is doing, and thinking,

the past or is preparing to take disciplinary action against them now because of their constant sabohelpers complained that the oppo- A significant feature of the electrage of majority decisions.

SHOULD the press be cen- | CHIEF" and makes several repeat | of these statements to pretend you | struck no one on the big news-

The Press And The Stay-Away

March 27: "the time (for a pro- the campaign. test) is not ripe . .

In the Rand Daily Mail on April 2, a similar condemnation of the protest plans. In the "World" on April 5: "the stay-at-home will be of little

or no effect . . ." Dr. W. F. Nkomo (expelled from the ANC in 1953 after he had atcome routine techniques in the tacked Congress policy at a S. Rhodesian conference of Moral lives in Alexandra Township, and in Pretoria." (The World.)

protest because it is left-inspired. andra Township or the Western Na-The basic delusion of this press We do not want to stay away from tive Township, and in Sophiatown

the ANC in 1955 during the Bantu Education school boycott) pops up The English press is embarrassed course, in the Rand Daily Mail ad- readers know what Africans are by the proposed demonstrations and vising Africans "not to concern doing and thinking, we can but

we keep the news of what is stirring only one of the five not of the all that too. among Non-Europeans out of the same company, gets even shabbier newspapers, it may not happen after | treatment. A statement made weeks all. Or alternatively, if we play ago in "Imvo" is picked up by The down the hard news of actual pre- World, and when used again by the parations for election week among Rand Daily Mail is not even accue.g. The World: "Any demon

stration by Africans on election day will not have been organised by Congress. Those demonstrations, if any, will be incensed by local grievances But the Rand Daily Mail:

"Any demonstrations by Afri- editorial comment. cans on election day will not have But how far is it permissible to (1962).

hausted this useful little panel of your pre-conceived plans? Is there far the original target of 200 new "leaders," dig up some new ones, no obligation to readers to give at varieties for the year. and let them be nameless. Write a least some of the other facts—even Vice-Minister of the Textile Inwhat the Congresses are doing, "leading officials," and start it: "A happening?

Rule four: Once you have enough press at times like these. Has it in the history of China,

TEST PLAN" (The Rand Daily tute one form of Nationalist racial-

om Pretoria, and Mr. Madzunya after all? Take the press coverage of National Protest Week and the staythere has been an interview with The line of the English-language Mr. P. Leballo (leader of the some unnamed leader in Sophiathe African National Congress is Mr. P. Q. Vundla (expelled from still in two minds about them." A GOOD JOB?

Well, the press says to itself, in The World and then, in due dusting off its hands, now that our hope we've killed the protest. Maybe, editors and their staffs hope, if The Reverend W. S. Gawe, the be some Africans will have believed

The great green dragon breathing fire and brimstone will be slain by our noble St. George. Though his shield be the cardboard Madzunya, his sword tip the rusty Leballo, his heart faint

across. It does not approve of any tives of the silk industry held here election eve protest by Non-Euro- is to turn out five to six times as peans. That it has clearly said in much as the 1957 output by the end

have built up a case, begin to gene- papers that by courting the Leballos In the Rand Daily Mail on ralise and to predict the outcome of and Madzunyas and boosting them as "ANC CHIEFS and LEADERS" You pronounce emphatically they are encouraging the most nawith prominent headlines that tionalistic and anti-White elements "THE ANC (is) SPLIT ON PRO- among Africans, those who substi-

> ism with their own crude form? "SUPPORT LACKING FOR And that withholding a true NATIVE DEMONSTRATION assessment of a situation from one's AT ELECTION TIME" (Star readers is an open invitation to panic and hysteria if what you pro-And because Dr. Nkomo hails phesy won't happen does come off

Harry Pollit Ill

Mr. Harry Pollit, chairman of Britain's Communist Party is making good progress in his recovery from a minor stroke which he

"The doctors say that he is doing extremely well, and they are very satisfied with his progress," Mrs. Pollit said.

China Will Become World's Biggest Silk Producer

China plans to become the as that of Dr. Nkomo, never fear, world's biggest silk producer in our St. George is going into five years leaving Japan and France behind. The target set at a national The English press gets its point conference of workers' representaof the Second Five-Year Plan

been organised by Africans . " go on distorting the news and twist- This year will see 1,600 new ing facts and giving only those varieties and 13,000 new patterns of Rule three: When you've ex- views that happen to fit in with silk products which surpasses by

Rule one: If you want news of story based on "reliable sources" if they do spell out what is really dustry, Chen Wei-chi, said at the conference that the achievements ader of Native opinion told me Not that these are the only con- made in this field during the First siderations that should worry the Five-Year Plan were unprecedented



Men, women and children have to queue up outside this pondokkie for a permit before they can enter the new shantytown in Nyanga.

THE WONDERFUL CLOAK

ONCE upon a time there lived a King, who had an only son. When the King grew old, he decided that his son must marry.

"I shall travel the country," the young Prince replied, "pass through every town and village and marry only the girl whom my heart fancies".

He travelled the wide world but nowhere did he find the girl he was seeking.

He went from town to town, from village to village until at last he came to a poor peasant's cottage on the outskirts of a small village.

A girl was sitting at the door of the cottage, spinning. The Prince looked at her and could not take his eyes away: she was so beautiful.

The Prince asked the girl to marry him, but the girl replied:

"Neither my father nor my mother are at home now. They will return from the fields in the evening, and then they will decide what I should do."

So the Prince went away empty-handed. But the next day he sent his envoys to see the girl's father.

The envoys rode up to the poor peasant's home and asked him to give his daughter in marriage to the Prince. But he didn't believe them.

Who had ever heard of a Prince asking for the hand of a simple peasant girl?

"We are not equals of the Prince. Let him seek a bride of richer and nobler birth . . ."

But the girl heard the envoy's message calmly. She merely asked them: "And does your Prince know a trade?"

The envoys burst out laughing: "Know a trade? Why should the King's son need a trade, when the whole kingdom is his?"

"That's true my daughter," said her father sadly. "It is we poor people who need a trade to earn our bread.

"But the Prince has no need to work; we work for him . . ."

The girl listened to her father respectfully, then turned to the envoys and proudly replied:

"Tell the Prince I will only marry a man with a trade!

"Today he is a Prince, but tomorrow he may not be. Then how shall we live? How will he keep a family?"

WHEN the Prince received her message he became sad and thoughtful. He had never had to do any work in his life, and it wasn't easy to learn a trade just like that!

All the same, he loved the girl very much indeed, and couldn't lightly give her up. So he went to his father and told him what she had said.

The King summoned all his craftsmen. He asked a carpenter: "How long will it take you to teach my son your trade?"

"Five years."

"Five years! She will have found another husband before then and what'll I do then?" the Prince exclaimed.

But all the other craftsmen named long periods. Some said three years, others four, others even longer.

Finally an old cloakmaker came forward.

"I too have a craft of sorts," he said. "Give the Prince to me and I will teach him my craft in a day and a night."

The Prince went with him and in exactly a day and a night had learnt to smooth felt and to make cloaks.

So he married the peasant girl and they both lived happily and peacefully. Soon the old King died and the Prince ruled in his place.

ONE day the new King said to his wife: "I'll travel through the kingdom to see how my people live, and to hear what they say about me."

He dressed in simple clothes and set off.

When night fell, he put up at a tiny inn. He didn't know that the wine and food at the inn was drugged, so that the unsuspecting travellers could be kidnapped and sold into slavery.

When he woke up, the King found himself in a deep dungeon. with two other unfortunates.

The heavy iron doors grated open and the fat, bearded inn-keeper entered with three armed servants.

"What can you do?" he asked hoarsely, prodding one of his captives with a thick finger.

"Oh master, I can write, and sing gay songs . . ."

"That's no good to me! You'll die at dawn tomorrow. And how about you?" he turned to the second man.

"My lord, I can count the stars in the heavens and tell you how many grains of sand are on the seashore..."

"You'll die at dawn the day after tomorrow . . ." said the innkeeper, and then he turned to the King.

"In a day and a night I can make a cloak so precious that only the Queen will be able to buy it."

"You shall live until you have done what you say."

They locked the Prince in a cold tower, and brought him the very best wool and he set to work.

He made a cloak that fitted the Queen exactly, not a hair too wide, not a hair too long.

And he coloured the white felt so marvellously that one could not take one's eye from it.

The innkeeper himself took the cloak to the palace. The King's wife liked the cloak, tried it on and was amazed that it fitted her like a glove as if the tailor had made it from her own measurements. She looked at the flower patterns along the edge of the cloak and in one corner found written in tiny lettering:

"My darling, I am a prisoner in a cold tower in the house of the man who brought this cloak."

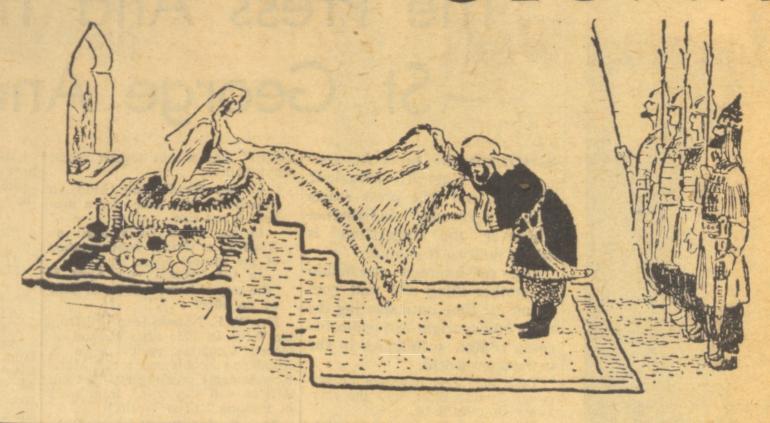
The King's wife generously rewarded the innkeeper so as not to arouse his suspicions, but when he had gone she gathered an army and followed him.

The soldiers broke into his cellar, smashed the locks of the iron doors and released the prisoners.

The King ran and embraced his wife.

"It was a good thing," he said. "that you refused to marry a man without a trade!

"My rank did not save me from captivity and humiliation, but a trade gave me freedom and life."



OBESON BREAKS

NEW YORK.

A SIGN of the sharpness of the swing in United States public opinion away from the red-baiting hysteria of the MacCarthy era has been Paul Robeson's return to commercial entertainment.

Long barred from the large theatres because of his courageous stand for socialism and freedom, Robeson's name has not been mentioned by the music critics of the big newspapers for over nine years. But now, after a huge San Francisco audience turned out to hear and applaud him—in spite of the threats of fascist hooligans—the critics are once more giving him rave notices. This is what the big papers

said of his performance:

San Francisco Chronicle: "He floated the pianissimo melody with such feeling that a person next to me sat quietly crying while the crowd applauded."

The Tribune: "As of old, the sincere conviction, the dramatic vitality which he infused into his songs created the same strong impact."

The Call-Bulletin: "The capacity audience loved every minute of it and the 59-year-old basso knew it."

THEY STAYED AWAY

Anti-communist groups which had announced that they would picket the performance did not show their faces in the vicinity of the hall.

A record company has an-

THRUUGH

nounced that it will shortly

produce a long-playing album

A remarkable feature of all the press notices was that they wrote as if Robeson had been dead for the past nine years and had returned from the grave. They calmly ignored the fact that progressive groups throughout the country had been making great sacrifices and fighting great odds to enable people to attend the hundreds of concerts at which Robeson sang, while the music-loving newspaper critics had blanketed the great entertainer

in silence.

[In South Africa a long-playing record of songs by Paul Robeson is now available for the first time in many years.]

UP MY ALLEY

UNITY Movement types outside the Athlone Town Hail on election day were all insisting that I mention the "boycott" this week. Sorry I can't give you a boost, boys, because I didn't see you turning any voters away from the polls. And don't tell me the low poll is due to your "silent protest" (something you learned from the much-sneered-at Black Sash?) What I can say about the attempts at working an impossible miracle is that they were an awful waste of time, money and effort on the part of the Anti-CAD boys.

What the boycotters didn't take into account is that the powers that be are not concerned with how many people voted, but WITH WHO GETS IN.

• And now I'm looking forward to the next "black list" in the Torch, listing the thousands of voters who took part in the elections.

THEN there was the "boycott" LA GUMA supporter at the Drill Hall who gave his placard to somebody else to hold, while he got his

voting number at a table and then

went into the booth to cast his

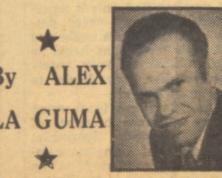
vote.

Quisling!

THE cops are prepared to spoil anybody's fun, it seems. From Port Elizabeth comes the story of a raid for permits right in the middle of a major golf tournament, resulting in the arrest of a number of caddies, so that many of the entrants had to abandon the game.

I suppose if the golfers had to raise a protest Senator De Klerk's answer would be to reserve caddying jobs for Europeans only.

WHILE clearing out my desk I came across a back copy



of "Bantu," described as "an informal publication of the Native

Affairs Department." Included among the many words of praise for "our government," I found a letter by a certain Mr. J. R. Mlate, of Pretoria.

Said Mr. Mlate: "Let us thank this Government, more especially the Honourable Minister and the Secretary for Native Affairs, and try to mould the Bantu by the following acts which we thank the Government for introducing: Bantu Education Act, Bantu Authorities Act, Urban Areas Act. We also thank the Government for: Labour Bureaux, Employment offices to send us where there is work to be done and thus to end Tsotsism . . . We wish this Government to carry this torch to the future."

It is perhaps significant that this letter came from Pretoria. I wonder in which Department Mlate works.

THE ideal (of total apartheid)

was there for future generations and the apartheid legislation of the present government would make it easier for them, said Minister Erasmus at a meeting.

• That's what I call being a super-optimist.

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