



NORTHERN EDITION

Advance

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PEOPLE'S CONGRESS — THE LEADERS HAVE MET!

AN important step towards the convening of the Congress of the People was taken at Durban last Sunday, when leaders of the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress, the Congress of Democrats and the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation met and elected a joint planning committee of the four bodies to carry out the campaign.

This historic meeting is the opening of a new phase in the long struggle of the people for freedom. For the first time, in response to the invitation of the African National Congress, leaders of democratic national organisations of all races have met to plan out a major campaign.

A campaign to form local People's Convention committees in every suburb and township, every village and reserve in cities and in rural areas throughout the length and breadth of the Union will begin immediately. The first task of the local committees will be to hold public meetings to discuss the drafting of the Freedom Charter.

The Freedom Charter will not be submitted, even in draft form, by

the leaders. The charter will emerge from countless discussions among the people themselves. It will truly be, in every sense of the word, the charter of the ordinary man and woman.

THE MANDELA CASE

The legal profession is following with the keenest interest the case in which proceedings have been instituted against Mr. Nelson Mandela, well-known local attorney, to have him barred from the profession. The Law Society has instituted these proceedings against him because of a conviction arising out of the defiance campaign.

The comments of some Johannesburg legal men are unprintable, as the matter is sub judice.

We promised you news to warm your hearts when we announced our special big May Day issue of Advance. Well, here's the first instalment of that good news—the Dean of Canterbury, the world's most beloved churchman, has accepted our invitation to write a special May Day article for Advance.

The Dean's article will tell how May Day will be celebrated all over the world. Make sure of reading this article by the writer of that classic of people's literature, "The Socialist Sixth of the World," and many other books written by this outstanding Christian and fighter for peace and justice, holder of the Stalin Peace Prize.

You can be sure of receiving the special issue of Advance if you order it to-day. Don't delay—we are sure to be sold out very quickly.

HAS YOUR UNION, CONGRESS BRANCH, P.E.A.C.E. GROUP SENT IN ITS ADVANCE MAY DAY GREETINGS?

WOLSELEY WORKER SAYS STATEMENT FORCED

Support from Hungary, Italy

By BECKY LAN

A 15-YEAR-OLD girl, Mina Gungu, told the Wolseley Magistrate's Court last week that she had been working at Wolseley Canning Factory since she was 11 years old. She had been called by the prosecution to give evidence against trade union leaders Rachel Williams and Anne McKenzie, who are charged with inciting "Mina Demingo and others" to take part in an illegal strike for higher wages.

But when cross-examined by Sgt. Venter, the prosecutor, Miss Gungu denied that the accused or anyone else had told her not to go to work.

Sgt. Venter applied to have her declared a hostile witness. He said that the evidence she was giving in court was contrary to a statement she had made to the police.

Miss Gungu told the court she had signed this statement under force. She had been called into the office of Mr. D. Delpont, manager of the factory, and in his presence and that of a factory foreman she had been questioned by two detectives. She pointed out Det.-Sgt. Sauerman in court as one of those who had questioned her.

"That man forced me," she said, her finger pointing at Sauerman.

She told the court that she was terrified by the presence of the boss, foreman and members of the C.I.D.

EVEN ORGANISING THE "SCABS"

They said to her repeatedly: "Didn't Annie McKenzie tell you to strike?" After they had repeated this many times she said "Yes." But, she said, this was not the truth.

The case was adjourned to 22nd April.

Meanwhile, my union, in spite of increasing police intimidation, is

going ahead with the organisation of the workers. The backward workers who have been recruited as "scab" labour by the bosses are joining the union, too! Last week we registered 75 of them.

BOSSSES HAVE LABOUR SPY

A Coloured member of the C.I.D. has been sent into the factory to spy on the workers as a "sub-foreman." They very soon spotted him, and when he turned up at a meeting he was ejected from the hall.

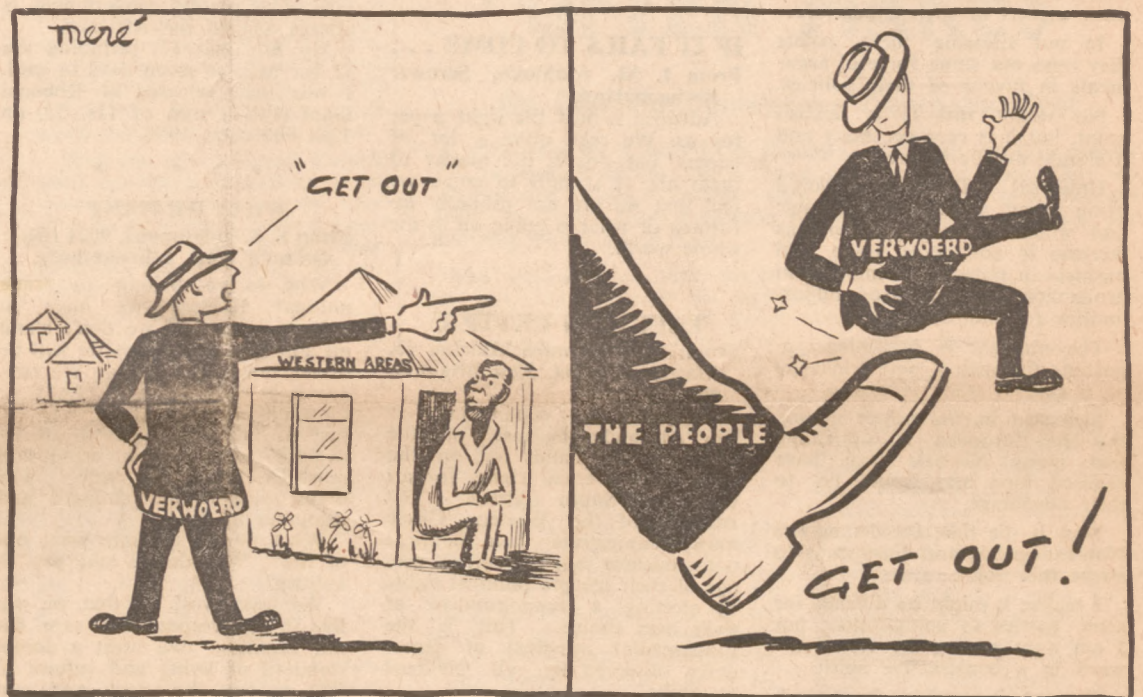
The workers have been most heartened by messages of solidarity from food workers all over the world.

"We learned with indignation of the attempt to smash your union. Be sure of our moral support," wrote the workers of one of the largest dairy plants in far-away People's Democratic Hungary.

And the Italian Food Workers' Federation has written expressing its sympathy and solidarity.

Post us your May Day greetings right away. Only limited space is available, and to be sure of yours appearing you should waste no time.

Rates: 10/- an inch or 2d. a word.



CHUCK OUT THE CHUCKERS-OUT

Massive Opposition To Forced Removals

JOHANNESBURG.

WITH the announcement by the Government of its intention to start its piecemeal ejection of the people of Sophiatown, Newclare and Martindale at the end of April, the campaign against this grim plan is reaching new heights among the people of the threatened areas and throughout Johannesburg.

"I have no intention of moving," one African householder told Advance last week. His spirit is reflected in the thousands of signatures to the mass petition against removal now being signed by people of the area.

Meanwhile a massive demand is growing among the people of the Orlando breeze-block death chambers, the people of Moroka and Jabavu and other "temporary" emergency camps erected by the City Council to deal with the housing shortage, that they should have first claim on the new houses being put up at Meadowlands and intended to receive the Western Areas evacuees.

These people are living in the worst slums in Johannesburg, and the City Health Department has repeatedly drawn attention to the shocking and inhuman conditions under which they live—conditions which threaten the health of everyone in the city.

"How can they put up new houses for people who live in brick houses in Sophiatown,

which they own themselves, and leave us living in cardboard and hessian," one Moroka resident said to Advance. "We are Council tenants. The Meadowlands houses are Council houses. We demand the right to occupy those houses."

"LIBERAL" SABOTAGE

Meanwhile, Father Huddleston's Western Areas Protest Committee is continuing to arouse tremendous support with its campaign among European citizens of Johannesburg against Verwoerd's inhuman scheme. Thousands of postcards objecting to the scheme are being signed and sent to Parliament and the City Council.

An attempt to form a united front of all organisations opposed to the scheme, however, broke down at a stormy meeting last Monday,

when members of the Liberal Party, the Torch Commando and others refused to accept a motion that representatives of the African and Indian Congresses, or even individual Non-Europeans, should be brought in as partners in the proposed campaign.

Commenting on the meeting, a member of the Congress of Democrats who was present told Advance:

"One had the extraordinary spectacle of members of the United Party voting for an all-in campaign to include the Congresses, and members of the Liberal Party and others who should know better voting against it."

"At every meeting of the Western Areas Protest Committee African speakers have been on the platform and they have been excellently received by the European suburban audiences."

"One can only conclude that the Liberals are lagging miles behind progressive public opinion."



Advance Post

Address letters to Advance Post, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town. Some of the letters below have been shortened or extracts only printed.

THE THREATENED PEOPLE

From XYZ, East Griqualand.

I have just read the pamphlet issued by the S.A. Congress of Democrats ("The Threatened People").

I feel that there is an important admission left out of this pamphlet.

The authors do not stress sufficiently the necessity of universal franchise in regard to the economic prosperity and progress of South Africa, nor even to the cultural aspects of such a measure.

In not stressing these points they miss out some forceful arguments in favour of their policies.

No doubt this is a ticklish point, but it is very necessary and it should not be ignored.

Universal franchise would bring about a qualitative change and would mean a tremendous increase in commerce, trade and business in general; an increase in production and increased opportunities for industrialisation.

The moment is becoming opportune for such a policy in view of a general trade recession.

Increased buying power among the Non-European is something that many business men have realised long ago would be to their advantage.

Now is the time for democratic Non-Europeans and Europeans to stress this point.

I realise it might be difficult for some parties to compromise, but I am only putting my views forward in a constructive spirit.

To put it crudely, hard cash wins more converts than sentiment—but there is no reason why the two cannot be bound together.

Conversely, it should be pointed out that Malan's apartheid cannot increase anybody's prosperity except, perhaps, an ever-narrowing circle of privileged persons, but on the contrary must reduce the country's general prosperity.

Get rid of ANGRY PAINS!

Mag-Aspirin is better. Take Mag-Aspirin for quick and effective relief. Feel how gently it soothes away the pain and calms the affected nerves. Mag-Aspirin's safe, sedative action has freed thousands of sufferers from the agony of backache, lumbago, neuritis, headache, sore throat, bladder pain and sleeplessness. Get your Mag-Aspirin to-day!

MAG-ASPIRIN
is not ordinary aspirin

Mag-Aspirin Powders, 2/- per box. Also available in Tablets at 2/6 at all chemists and stores.

6560-5

PSALM 23

From Nuffied, Cape Town.

Dr. Malan is my shepherd.

I'm always in want;

He maketh me to lie down on

park benches,

He leadeth me in the path of

apartheid

For my Coloured sake.

Yea, though I walk through the

valley of depression,

I anticipate no recovery,

For Malan is with me.

He prepareth a reduction in my

salary

In the presence of mine enemies;

He increaseth my income tax;

My expenses runneth over.

Surely unemployment and poverty

Will follow me all the days of his

administration,

And I will dwell in a pondokkie

for ever.

* * *

IF IT FAILS TO COME . . .

From I. M. Mahloko, Serowe,

Bechuanaland.

Advance is just the right paper

for us. We read quite a lot of

papers, but this is the master of

them all. If it fails to come we

feel that we are not properly in-

formed of what is going on in the

whole world.

* * *

ELECTION LETTER

From: R. Mpakamisi Mhlaba, 15,

Masumph Street, New Brighton,

Port Elizabeth.

I support the candidature of

Ray Alexander because of the

principles she stands for, on the

basis of full equal rights for all

citizens of South Africa. The

Africans of the Western Circle

must demonstrate their political

consciousness and the correct use-

age of their meagre political rights

by electing a representative of

their own choice. This is the

fundamental principal of demo-

cracy observed by all civilized

countries.

This demonstration will also

show to our own leadership the

fallacy of the boycott slogan.

Support the people's candidate!

* * *

A LETTER THE CAPE TIMES WOULDN'T PRINT

From G. Ngotyana, secretary,

Cape Western Advisory Board

and Vigilance Association,

White House, Cashel Street,

Athlone.

The Cape Times of March 20

gives prominence to a statement

by a Mr. Nonkonyana that "the

African vigilance associations of

the Western Cape dissociated

themselves from attempts to con-

vert them into political bodies

supporting the candidature of Miss

Ray Alexander in the Cape West-

ern Natives' representative by-

election."

The Cape Western Advisory

Boards and Vigilance Associations,

the only body capable of speak-

ing on behalf of Vigilance Asso-

ciations in the Cape Western, and

of which Mr. Nonkonyana's Ath-

lone Vigilance Association is in

fact a member, has instructed me

to inform you that this is not the

case. Mr. Nonkonyana has no

authority to speak on behalf of

"Vigilance Associations in the

Cape Western."

My organisation has in fact

adopted a resolution declaring its

firm opposition to the Amend-

ment to the Suppression of Com-

munist Act, which will have the

effect of debarring one of the

candidates from Parliament, and

has announced its demand that

Africans have the right to sit in

Parliament, and has gone on record

in support of the candidature of

PRISON EXPERIENCES

From L. Kukulela, Bennie Street, Langa, Cape Town.

On the 28th January, 1954, I was arrested under the Urban Areas Act. I was kept in a cell from 11 a.m. to Friday morning, 29th January. After that we were taken before the registration pass officer, who had the authority to tell us whether guilty or not under section so and so.

In the presence of the pass officer I was beaten by a policeman (number given).

We were then taken to the cells again without any trial, and I was kept there for three days.

On Monday, 1st February, we were made to appear before the magistrate of Langa Court, who adjourned the case to Friday, 5th February.

Then the appointed date came, and the case was again postponed until 10th February. The 10th came and I appeared before the magistrate. He did not want to hear any nonsensical things from me, he said. I tried to defend myself by telling him that we came here to get money as we are not better paid in outside areas. The reason we are all collected here is for better pay, better conditions in jobs. The present Government is always against the Africans.

My fine was £1, including the £2 for bail, or seven days in gaol. I was then released at Roeland Gaol with a sum of 11s. 5d. on 12th February, 1954.

* * *

WHAT WE WANT

From S. J. Mogomotsi, 9021 (B),

Orlando West, Johannesburg.

Why do we belong to trade

unions? Because we have to

stick together. If we don't stand

up and fight the bosses we will

be driven down and down. We can-

not fight as individuals, we have

to stand by one another. An in-

jury to one is an injury to all, ir-

respective of colour or creed, and

must be resisted as such. The

union gives us the strength and

resources to do it.

What do we workers want out

of life? Why do we take part in

politics?

We want work so that we can

live in self respect and care for

our families. We want a decent

standard of living and culture so

that we can be men and not

machines. We want peace so

that humanity can organise its

resources to go forward and to

go higher.

* * *

Miss Alexander precisely for the

reason that she is the only candi-

date who puts forward this policy.

Mr. Nonkonyana says: "it is not

the job of vigilance to try to force

the Africans to vote one way or

another."

We fully agree. The suggestion

that anyone is being forced is

clearly ridiculous. Putting the

reasons to the African people why

they should support Miss Alex-

ander—a democratic right we still

possess, is a very different thing

from forcing them.

The one who is trying to "force"

Africans to vote one particular

way is the Minister, who by his

amendment is attempting to force

Africans to vote for Miss Alex-

ander's opponents.

As your report has created a

widespread incorrect impression

of the policy of my organisation, I

have been instructed to request

you to give prominence to this

correction.

* * *

We have received a letter

from a Johannesburg reader

criticising trade unionist Morris

Kagan for his decision to re-

sign from the Trades and

Labour Council.

The letter, together with Mr.

Kagan's reply, will appear in

our next issue.

Editorial

NO TIME TO WASTE!

ON February 4 we printed an editorial that many of our readers reported they liked. It said that conditions in South Africa were ripe for an unprecedented unity between all sections of the population against the fascist attack, for full democracy.

The theme of the editorial was this:

These are the millions waiting to march together in an invincible army of freedom.

But waiting.

For there can be no army without leaders—organised leaders working together as a team, guiding all the different people in this great army together, showing them the way, inspiring them with confidence.

That was nearly two months ago. A lot has happened in those two months. The people have shown themselves more determined than ever to fight fascism. Not only has this been the case on the Non-European liberatory front, but also in the heightened activity of the trade union movement since the Schoeman Bill was announced.

But the failing which we criticised two months ago still exists to-day. We do not yet seem to have found an effective way of co-ordinating our campaigns, of uniting all who are fighting the same enemy on different fronts.

A steady flow of reports of the struggles of the people come to the people's newspaper. When there is not complete clarity on an issue ADVANCE is the first to sense it. And on a number of matters to-day there is not complete clarity among the people on the correct manner of working on some issues.

The people are calling for leadership in the struggle—for a vanguard of the people, to give a lead on every issue. Such a vanguard must make their views public far and wide. And they must do so the moment the issue arises.

There is, for example, an urgent need for clarity on the present trade union struggle. There has long been the same need in the campaign for peace. Even in the preparations for the Youth Festivals, which are going so splendidly, the young people complain that the old hands under-estimate the significance of the Festivals and don't give the necessary support. Die Burger launches an attack on a Durban crowd for holding a Stalin memorial meeting, and the country is left wondering why Durban is the only place where such a meeting was held. And the Congress of the People—probably the the most important activity of the year—has not been pushed as hard as the people had hoped.

The forces of freedom have grown stronger since then, but the headline of our editorial two months ago is more pointed than ever. There can be **NO ARMY WITHOUT LEADERS.**

HISTORY CAN BEAT THE SPLITTERS

PROGRESSIVE trade unionists have been delighted at the way ADVANCE, through the news scoops and commentaries of Ray Alexander and Michael Harmel, has been able to expose each attempt at treachery by trade union leaders and thus to assist the workers in foiling Schoeman's plans.

"Some people are having weekly thromboses at your slant on trade union affairs, and I would not be surprised if ceremonial burnings of Advance are being carried out by the leading ladies of the right wing," one correspondent chuckles.

The progressive forces are strong, and the splitters can be beaten. The hopes of a few reactionaries to turn the new Trade Union Federation into a colour-bar pawn for Schoeman can easily boomerang if progressive unionists and the rank and file of the unions whose leaders are betraying them pull their full weight.

Ray Alexander's reminder is all-important that, when in 1925 Creswell tried a similar stunt, the new organisation threw out Creswell's nominee, elected Bill Andrews and entered a period of united, honest effort in the interests of the workers.

We must make history repeat itself.

"SOCIALIST" LEADERS BETRAY PEOPLE IN INDIA

Left United Front Broken Up

BOMBAY.

TRUE to the tradition of Social Democracy, the Praja Socialist Party in the Southern Indian State of Travancore-Cochin have betrayed their electoral promises and decided to set up a minority Government, relying on the Parliamentary backing of the Congress Party.

The decision of the Praja Socialists (equivalent in outlook to the Labour and Socialist parties of the West) to form a Left coalition with the aim of defeating Congress at the elections caused a crisis in the national leadership of the party.

The local Socialist leader, Mr. P. T. Pillai, defied his national leaders by entering an electoral pact with the Communists and other Left parties and groups. Agreement was reached not only to join forces to defeat the reactionaries of the ruling Congress Party but to continue after the election and set up a model State Administration.

HIGHLY PROFITABLE

The electoral pact was highly profitable to the Socialists. They were not well organised and by themselves might have gained few seats in the election. The Communists stood down in some of their safest seats in favour of Socialist candidates.

While the national leadership of the Socialists was shouting about a "pact with the Communists in order to destroy them," the Left United Front threw its whole weight into the election, and Mr. Pillai maintained frequently that the pact was a lasting agreement.

The result of the election was historic—the first clear defeat for Congress. Congress emerged from this election and the simultaneous general election in Patiala and East Punjab as the party of the extreme right, the princes, land-holders and conservative religious bodies.

The Left United Front together won 59 seats against 45 for Congress. Of the 59 the Socialists won 19 seats and the Communists 23.

BETRAYAL

Up to the middle of last week the Travancore Socialists adopted a firm attitude and issued an announcement on Tuesday that the party had "decided to keep the Congress Party out of power and prevent a breakdown of the Constitution."

Meanwhile, however, the right-wing national leaders of the Socialists were meeting in emergency session in Madras, their aim being to destroy unity with the Left and turn back to their now familiar tactics of villifying the Communists.

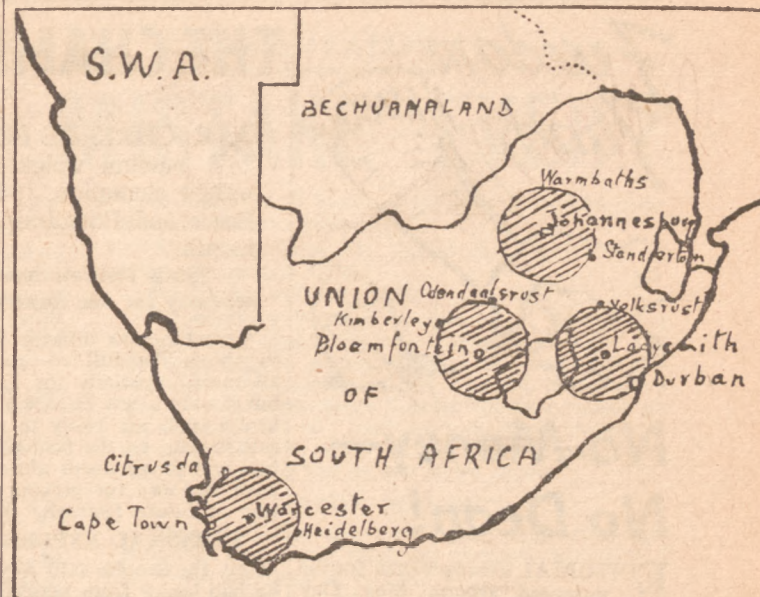
They won the day and the Travancore leaders announced their decision on the following day to break with the United Front and abandon their promises. They will form a Government by themselves, although they have only one-sixth of the seats in the Legislature and will be unable to exist for a day without the support of the Congress.

MOVEMENT TO LEFT

But this betrayal is not considered likely to halt the broad movement towards the left in the whole Indian sub-continent, including Pakistan.

The landslide defeat of the Moslem League in the East Pakistan elections, where a loose coalition of the Left ousted the Government; the doubling of the Communist vote in PEPSU; the Travancore-Cochin result; by-elections and municipal elections have shown that Congress and other reactionary parties are losing their appeal and have become the party of the entrenched interests against the mass of the people.

The next general election is due in India in two years, and reactionary politicians are looking with anxiety at the signs that the Indian masses are awakening.



If a bomb hit Warmbaths

Not satisfied with having let off a powerful hydrogen bomb on March 1 which burnt and injured fishermen 90 miles away from the explosion centre in the Pacific Ocean, the irresponsible atom-maniacs of the United States have announced they will explode next month a bomb many times more powerful. The March 1 bomb had a blast of 15 million tons of the most powerful conventional explosive TNT. The whole world has never manufactured so much TNT. Japanese fishermen were injured by the after-effects of the March 1 bomb up to 600 miles away from the explosion centre. What will happen if the Americans continue with this policy of recklessness and intimidation? The Australian atom scientist, Prof. John Blatt, has suggested that unless a check is called mankind will be annihilated in 20 years' time.

This sketch map of South Africa illustrates the area of death, destruction and injury which could be caused by only four bombs of the March 1 type. One explosion over Johannesburg would blast, shatter and burn an area up to Warmbaths in the north and Standerton in the south-east. On the Rand itself stones and buildings would melt, life would disappear. A bomb over Worcester would spread destruction over the whole Western Cape, including Cape Town. (The circles on the map have a 90-mile radius.)

EINSTEIN'S BIRTHDAY CRACK AT MCCARTHY

NEW YORK.

DR. ALBERT EINSTEIN, the world's greatest living scientist, celebrated his 75th birthday last week with a statement calling on the American people to resist McCarthyism and the witch-hunt against the people's liberties. Einstein urged all intellectuals in particular "to refuse to co-operate in any undertaking that violates the constitutional rights of the individual."

Einstein's fight for the democratic rights and freedoms won by past generations of Americans and now trampled by the witch-hunting policy of big business, has stirred up bitter hostility to him. He was denounced by Congressman John E. Rankin as "an old faker with a Communist front record."

But Einstein is too big for them to touch and is too valuable a scientific asset for them to risk driving him out of the United States as the Nazis did from Germany in 1933.

It was Einstein who worked out the basic equations for the development of atomic fission, and he was the first to warn President Roosevelt in 1939 that the Nazis were probably developing atomic weapons and suggesting similar research should be undertaken in America.

Afterwards he stated resolutely that if he had known the consequences he would have had nothing to do with the development of the atom bomb programme.

In one of his recent statements he openly attacked atom diplomacy and the cold war.

U.S. MILITARISM

"The policy of security through superior military power," he said, "has led to the concentration of tremendous financial power in the hands of the military; militarisation of youth; close supervision of the loyalty of citizens; intimidation of people of independent political thinking; the indoctrination of the public by radio, Press and school; a growing restriction of the range

of public information under pressure of military secrecy."

Einstein also enraged the U.S. war planners by his defence of peace. His latest statement was a call to his fellow scientists to make a stand.

STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

"We scientists believe that what we and our fellow men do or fail to do within the next few years will determine the fate of our civilisation."

"And we consider it our task untiringly to explain this truth and to work for understanding and ultimate agreement between peoples and nations of different views."

TAKE YOUR CHOICE!

Here are two agency reports of the same event:

South Korean Widows Insult Syngman Rhee

Seoul (Reuters).—War widows interrupted a religious service held in memory of the South Koreans who had fallen on the field of battle by shouting insults at Syngman Rhee. The women screamed: "We want our husbands! We don't want charity!"

South Korean Women Show Their Devotion to Syngman Rhee

Seoul (United Press).—After taking part in a ceremony in memory of those killed during the war President Syngman Rhee and his wife were nearly injured by a crowd of shouting people, who cheered them as they left the scene of the ceremony.

HEAVIEST FIGHTING YET IN INDO-CHINA WAR

Peoples' Army Allows Mercy Cease-Fire

LONDON.

THE seven-year struggle in Indo-China entered a new and significant phase last week, when the Vietnam People's Liberation Army opened full-scale positional assaults on the French fortress of Dien Bien Phu, defended by over 10,000 crack troops and a fortified zone which has taken years to construct.

For almost a week the battles raging round the entrenched outpost have been the largest since the war began, and in the event of the fortress falling the entire French position would become critical.

The campaign opened with two daring and spectacular commando operations, in which the Liberation Army attacked key airfields deep in the French rear at the chief port and headquarters centre, Haiphong and Hanoi.

In these two raids 78 planes were totally wrecked (10 per cent. of the total force available) and enormous quantities of bombs, shells and aircraft fuel set on fire. Nearly all the planes and war material destroyed were supplied direct to the war front by the United States. At Catbi air base, near Haiphong, one of the three biggest in Indo-China, American ground personnel servicing the planes had to flee when the airfield was attacked, and they returned to find the wrecks of 60 planes, including 38 huge B26 Superforts, worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Vietnam attack on the fortress was aimed in the first place at the airfields. Dien Bien Phu is over 200 miles away from the nearest French-held territory at Hanoi, and

all its supplies and reinforcements were coming in by air.

In the first two days of the assault both airstrips were put out of action and 18 American planes destroyed. Some were shot down over the battlefield by intensive anti-aircraft fire—the first of its kind in the war.

The French lost over 1,200 men in the first three days' fighting, including their Deputy Commander, Colonel Gauchet. In one day's fighting for the fortified position of Hinlom the French lost 623 men of the famous Foreign Legion. The hill position, defended by concrete posts and barbed wire in belts 50 yards thick, was captured and hundreds of prisoners, dead and wounded fell into the hands of the Vietnam Army.

"PICK UP YOUR WOUNDED"

During the evening the People's Army attended to the French wounded, and meanwhile informed the commander, Gen. de Castries, under flag of truce that he could pick up his wounded in the morn-

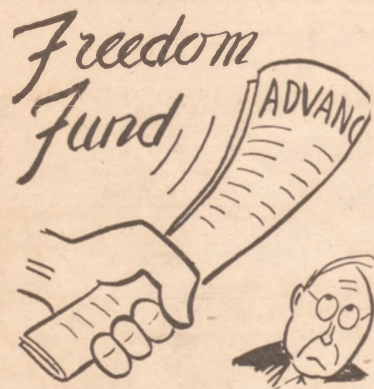
ing during a temporary cease-fire.

The French sent out Red Cross ambulances in the morning and took away their wounded and dead. This was the first cease-fire on the battlefield and was an impressive proof of the policy of leniency of the People's Army.

The Vietnam command has not set the capture of Dien Bien Phu as its immediate target, and describes the battles there, although the biggest yet, as a means of "creating favourable conditions for the people's forces on other battle-fronts and to destroy still more of the enemy manpower and so crush the military plans of the French and Americans."

In a message to the successful units the Vietnam People's Army commander, Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, conferred the Government's decorations on them and declared:

"It is the first time that our people's forces have attacked a group of enemy fortified posts with a combination of artillery and anti-aircraft units. The victories thus scored demonstrate the steady growth of our People's Army and lay the foundation for still more victories."



No Money—No Dean!

EDITORIAL arrangements for the proposed special May Day issue have gone ahead very well indeed. Several famous people, including the Rev. Hewlett Johnson, the Dean of Canterbury, have already agreed to write exclusive features for us. There's a real treat in store for all of you—IF...

IF you give us the money we need to produce that extra four pages. With the best will in the world we simply won't be able to do so unless you play your part.

As it is now, donations are not coming in fast enough to make us feel confident even about an 8-pager, let alone that May Day special. This week's contributions, although slightly better than last week's effort, still leaves us with almost £1,000 to collect by the end of the month.

There is still time—nine days, in fact, from the date of writing—for you to give us that £1,000. I repeat what I said last week: If even only 100 of our readers set out to collect £10 each between now and the 31st we shall make our target.

READ THAT LAST SENTENCE AGAIN! We're speaking to YOU! Sit down now, make out a list of your friends, relatives and acquaintances and then get cracking. Approach each one of them for a donation to the Freedom Fund before the end of this month and send us the results.

Some of our friends in England have been doing what we are suggesting you should do. This week's total of £141 includes £6 14s. from "Arbee," a pseudonym which covers the identity of more than one English well-wisher in our struggle for freedom and justice. . . . OUR struggle for freedom. However many well-wishers we have abroad, the outcome depends primarily on our own efforts. Make yours now and give our fascist enemies something to gnash their teeth about at the end of this month.

FRED CARNESON.

P.S.—Our office addresses are: CAPE TOWN: Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street. JOHANNESBURG: 5 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street. DURBAN: Pembroke Chambers, 472 West Street.

Another Youth League Branch

JOHANNESBURG.

Following Mr. Walter Sisulu's call to the youth of South Africa, a new branch of the Africa National Congress Youth League was recently formed in Orlando. The enthusiastic meeting of young people elected Mr. Lebello as chairman and Mr. Charles Lakaje as secretary.

VENTER MEMORIAL UNVEILED

JOHANNESBURG.

A large crowd of trade unionists and friends attended a ceremony at the West Park Cemetery last week, when a monument to the late Jan Venter, late president of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council, was unveiled.

THE CHAMP BACKS FESTIVAL

DURBAN.

MR. CHRIS DE BROGLIO, ex-South African (European) bantam weight-lifting champion and Natal feather-weight champion, 1949-1952, is supporting the Festival for Peace and Friendship, to be held at Curries Fountain next month.

"Such festivals must lead to the racial harmony which is so necessary for our country to-day," he told Advance.

"I realise how difficult it will be to obtain the full co-operation of all races, especially the Europeans, but if only a few European athletes, like myself, are ready to give their full support to the festival the venture will prove worth while and will pave the way for greater co-operation at future festivals," he said.

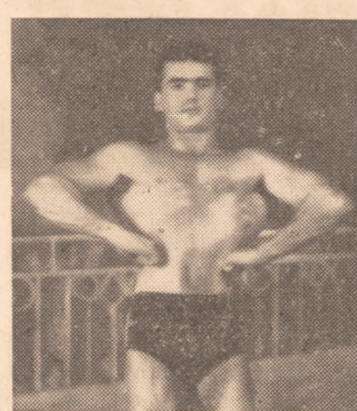
PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. De Brogio told Advance that he had learnt from personal experience how inter-racial sports events did much to achieve better co-

operation and friendly relations amongst various groups in a multi-racial country.

"I have attended mixed schools where the youth of different racial groups learnt to understand and appreciate one another on the sports field as well as in the classroom.

"I sincerely hope that sportsmen of all races will take the opportunity of meeting their fellow athletes at Curries Fountain during the festival week in April."



Weight-lifter De Brogio.

Natal Indian Youth Support Festival

DURBAN.

Appealing to all young men and women of Natal and to their youth organisations to participate in the First Natal Festival of Youth, the Natal Indian Youth Congress has issued a statement proclaiming the festival as "a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the bonds of friendship with the youth of other racial groups."

The forthcoming Festival for Peace and Friendship is being organised by the Natal Festival Society at Curries Fountain, Durban, during the Easter week-end.

"There we can come together and shake hands as a token of solidarity and friendship; there we can affirm our determination to fight against racial discrimination," continues the Congress statement.

"There we can learn to understand each other's problems and there we can exchange our experiences and discuss how we contribute to better understanding amongst our different peoples."

"The police party was under Lieut. Du Plessis."

CROWD ANGERED BY ELECTION STOOGES

CAPE TOWN.

THE Chairman of the Nyanga Vigilance Association, Mr. E. J. Malike, who was asked by a specially requisitioned meeting of the Association to explain on what authority he had written a letter to Swart opposing a protest against the Suppression Bill, left the meeting in the middle of his explanation when he became fearful of the growing anger of the audience at his attempt to explain.

The meeting then adopted a resolution of full support for Messrs. Ngwevela and Ngoyana in their petition to Parliament demanding the withdrawal of the Amendment to the Suppression Bill, designed to keep Ray Alexander out of Parliament.

Meanwhile, candidate Gibson, who had set up his loudspeaker a few yards away in the hope of drawing some of the crowd away, annoyed the meeting by playing loud music. He, too, had to move off hurriedly.

Among Ray's speakers were Capt. Wilson Lincoln Tsikwe and Messrs. H. Gila, W. Ngongonyeka and J. Ngwevela. Chairman was Mr. D. Mehloana.

Strong Attack on Bantu Education Act

"THE Africans in this sub-continent have again been served with one more slice of the unleavened apartheid bread. Once again South Africa has declared herself a democracy only for the 'chosen Whites'. Once again South Africa has shown that the opinion of the majority means nothing to the ruling minority." These are the strong words used by the editor of The Good Shepherd, official organ of the Transvaal African Teachers' Association, in his editorial on the Bantu Education Act.

The editorial continues: "What we object to is the fact that our education is to be separated from the education of other people in South Africa. We object to it because it is discriminatory.

"The so-called Native education is to be transferred, not to the Union Education Department where it belongs but to the Native Affairs Department, because, says Dr. H. F. Verwoerd, Native education must be controlled so that it followed the traditions and direction of the State. In other words, 'Native education' is openly and shamelessly to be turned into a political agency designed to enslave the African mind and thus ensure his perpetual oppression and suppression. The aim is not to educate the African but to ensure White supremacy. Thus the doors to higher education are to be closed at the discretion of the Minister."

C.I.D. GOES COWBOY

Strange Arrest of Bhoola

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. ISMAIL BHOOLA, banned ex-secretary of the Tin Workers' Union, has been arrested and charged with an offence under the Suppression of Communism Act. He is alleged to have committed the offence over a year ago at Palmietfontein Airport on the eve of his departure for overseas. The case has been remanded, and he is out on £100 bail.

The arrest took place under extraordinary circumstances.

Mr. Bhoola has been back in South Africa for over a month, and has carried on his normal life, has spoken at public meetings and been seen about on his normal affairs.

Yet he was arrested while driving on a country road after a police car had dogged the car he was driving for 10 miles, and eventually swerved to block the road in the style of a Hollywood melodrama.

Mr. A. Kathrada, who was driving the car, told the story to Advance.

"We were on our way from Koster to Magaliesburg when a 'TAZ' car passed us on the road. They remained in front of us for about 10 miles. Then, when there was a parked lorry ahead on the left, they suddenly stopped and blocked the road. We had to stop sharply and nearly collided with the lorry. We saw the car was full of detectives, and when we complained at their action they merely laughed. They took the key out of our car and pushed it off the road. They searched the car, ignoring my protests and demands for a warrant. They took away my diary, notebook, personal letters and collection tins.

"The police party was under Lieut. Du Plessis."

DEMOCRACY? LONDON.

The Governor of British Guiana, Sir Alfred Savage, has announced his new Legislative Council and Executive to take the place of the deposed Government and Legislature in which the People's Progressive Party had won power in the first democratic elections.

The Executive of seven consists of the following: Three businessmen; two defeated candidates at the general election, one of whom lost his deposit; one retired official and the former leader of the Opposition.

The Legislative Council of 24 comprises: The manager of the Sugar Producers' Association; five defeated candidates from the election, four of whom lost their deposits, two civil servants, a group of company directors and all the former members of the Opposition.



Mr. Jack Cope, Natal-born journalist, author and poet, last week had news from London that his first novel had been accepted for publication in London. The book was described in a cable from London as "magnificent" and is scheduled for early publication.

The book, under the title "Fair House," is set against the dramatic events of the armed rising of the Zulu people in 1906, and includes in its characters some of the historic leaders of that time, among them the almost legendary Bambata, whose name is usually associated with the struggle.

YOUR BABY CAN'T BE 'HARBOURED'

JOHANNESBURG.

Several employers of domestic labour have recently received circulars from Mr. Carr, Non-European Affairs Manager, threatening them with prosecution under the Urban Areas Act, involving a month's imprisonment, if they continued to "harbour" babies belonging to their African women servants.

LATEST MOVES ON THE T.U. FRONT

BY MICHAEL HARMEL

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions will probably call a national trade union conference in the near future to discuss the vital problems facing the workers. All unions, without distinction, will be invited to the conference. The agenda will include discussions on the Native Labour Act, the Industrial Conciliation Bill and the future of the trade union movement.

This decision has already been taken in principle by the Executive of the Council. It will be submitted for confirmation to the annual C.N.E.T.U. conference, which takes place in Johannesburg on Saturday.

"The Government threat to the trade union movement affects workers of all races," said Mr. Leslie Messina, secretary of the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, in a special interview with Advance. "The main weapon of the Government to destroy our unions is racialism. Racialism spells death to the trade union movement. Our only hope of defeating Schoeman's splitting tactics is a challenging reaffirmation of the trade union principle of workers' unity, irrespective of race or colour."

The Transvaal Council had not been approached by any other trade union body with a view to united action, said Mr. Messina. So-called unity moves which excluded the African workers, the majority of the working class, merely played into Schoeman's hands.

"Our duty towards the trade union movement and towards the workers will not permit us merely to sit back and criticise others whose racial prejudice seems to outweigh their trade unionism," he said.

Meanwhile the new Witwatersrand Workers' Council of Action,

a rank and file body whose establishment was reported in last week's Advance, reports an enthusiastic response among the workers. A manifesto, calling workers to a mass meeting of factory and workshop representatives on April 11, exposes the Industrial Conciliation Bill and declares the aims of the Council of Action to:

Unite trade unions and workers, irrespective of race; Secure and defend the rights of freedom of association, collective bargaining and strike action; Defend living standards "and the freedom of all South Africans against the attacks of the Nationalist Government;

Struggle for higher wages and against increased costs of living; Obtain better protection of all workers from illness, injury and unemployment; Secure better workers' housing and defend their homes against forced removals; Demand freedom of movement and a stop to the deportation of African workers.

FUTURE OF T.L.C.

The resignation of Morris Kagan from the National Executive of the Trades and Labour

INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY BY COMMENTATOR

BIGGEST U.S. MISTAKE EVER?

O O O O O! What a terrible fall the United States has had in Asia.

When the U.S. Government risked the enmity of India and the whole of the Middle East by signing a war pact with Pakistan, Harry Pollitt, secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain, was in India. Immediately after the announcement of the pact Pollitt made what seemed a rash statement.

"It's the biggest mistake the United States has ever made," said Pollitt.

Events last week went a long way to proving the British Communist leader correct.

The pact led to outspoken hostility from Prime Minister Nehru of India. ("Since the pact there has been greater insecurity and greater tension . . . it is a step away from peace. . . . It is likely to create conditions which facilitate and encourage aggression. . . . It creates a grave situation for us in India and for Asia. . . . (It) is a form of intervention. . . . likely to have more far-reaching results than previous types of intervention.

"At the present moment there is a considerable number of American observers attached to the United Nations team on either side of the 'cease-fire' line in Jammu and Kashmir State.

These American observers can no longer be treated by us as neutrals in this dispute, and hence their presence appears to us to be improper . . .

"India has no intention of surrendering or bartering her freedom for any purpose or any compulsion whatever," he concluded. "In this grave situation this country will, I have no doubt, stand united. This is no party matter but a national issue, on which there can be no two opinions." (Parliamentary speech: March 1.)

Never before had Nehru made so forthright a statement on the U.S. war aims. It was a speech of first-rate importance, and it had the support of the entire Indian Press.

Everywhere in Asia Nehru's words were echoed. The pact was "a conspiracy to create bases in this part of the world and to involve these areas in war," declared Nepal's Foreign Minister, Regmi.

Had the U.S. predicted such results? Apparently not. Certainly the Egyptian reaction caught them on the wrong foot. The semi-official Cairo Al Mussara hinted angrily that the best reaction was for Middle East countries "to adopt a policy of neutrality or even throw in their lot with the Russian camp."

The biggest shock came when Naguib made a speech condemning the pact. Blunder followed blunder. The U.S. threw Naguib out.

Then, as a special Advance correspondent reported, "No sooner had the news of the ousting of Naguib reached the people than the masses demonstrated in tens of thousands, demanding an end to the army dictatorship and the beginning of democratic rule."

With their whole position threatened, the rulers had to beat a quick retreat and call back Naguib to present a united ruling class. "This was a distinct shock to their American masters, who, according to United Press, 'were caught completely by surprise,' our correspondent reported.

But, of course, this is all building up to the great big climax which gave the whole point to Pollitt's statement.

Last week, after the U.S. had gambled the united opposition of the whole of Asia in exchange for the Pakistan war pact, the people of Pakistan gave the Yanks the shock of their lives.

A United Front, in which the Communist Party played an important part, entered the East Pakistan elections against the reactionary Government Moslem League on a policy of rejection of the pact.

When the first 129 results were announced the Moslem League had only four seats. The United Front had 119.

WILL DULLES LEARN?

In Venezuela Dulles finished battling away to enforce his colonial policy on the Latin American States with little sign of real success.

One thing was certain. A plot to overthrow the popular Government of Guatemala had been hatched. But whether Dulles would learn from the burnt fingers in Pakistan remained to be seen.

Little Guatemala clashed sharply with the giant imperialist power of the north. The clash was reported somewhat differently by the Cape Argus and the U.S. Time Magazine.

The Argus tried to ridicule the Guatemalan Foreign Minister.

"Pro-Ror Minister Rebuked," it headlined (March 9). "Senor Torxiello, Foreign Minister of Guatemala, was rebuked sharply by Mr. John Foster Dulles

(U.S. Secretary of State) at the Inter-American Congress at Caracas yesterday. . . .

"His speech gave Mr. Dulles the opportunity to indict Guatemala."

But Time, March 15, told it like this: "Guatemala's Foreign Minister . . . delivered a fiery counter-attack, directly naming the U.S., and made the biggest oratorical hit of the week with the conference delegates . . . and won the conference's first ovation. Argentina's Foreign Minister rushed up to wring his hand. Said another South American delegate: 'He said many of the things some of the rest of us would like to say if we dared.'"

"SOON YOU DIE"

While watching the troubles of their rival imperialists with thinly disguised pleasure, Britain had her own problems in Kenya.

Through General China she had been trying to negotiate peace with the liberation movement. And though the peace offer was little other than a demand for unconditional surrender, it had set the teeth of the settlers on edge. The settlers want nothing less than what is happening now—a war of extermination of the Kikuyu people. ("Hang a dozen Kikuyu from a tree every morning," as one expressed it.)

But the wealthy settlers were able to relax. The fighters refused to accept the British terms.

One of the leaders to whom the surrender demand was addressed, the so-called "Field Marshal Russia," sent a taunting reply to the local British District Officer, John Candler. "Soon you die," said the note.

A little while later Candler drove into an ambush. His body was buried in a Nairobi cemetery last week.

Rebuked, Britain has begun one of the heaviest offensives of the war in a desperate victory attempt. More Africans were killed last week than in any previous week, Sapa reported.

Britain announced a bogus "reform" which bluffed nobody—not even the tiny section of Africans who collaborate with the imperialists.

The "reform," including an African in a minor Cabinet post, was nothing less than agreement with the settlers' proposals for a War Cabinet. More power to kill the Kikuyu people is given to the European settlers.

But the imperialist burden grows heavier and heavier. When democrats won the elections in British Guiana the British Army had to come to fight democracy. Now the nearby British Honduras is threatening to vote for freedom. Elections were to have been held there on April 23. But the People's United Party, which fights for democracy, looked very much as if it would win.

So the British have cancelled the elections.

Meanwhile the British attempt to find some legal basis for its fantastic charges against the People's Progressive Party in British Guiana has shown up the shameless fraud these were.

The courts found a district secretary of the party not guilty of sedition. Commented defence counsel Mr. D. N. Pritt frankly if inelegantly: "The police evidence in this trial stinks."

The next day the case against Fred Bowman, a People's Progressive Party member of the House of Assembly, charged with sedition, was withdrawn.

LITTLE GIRL GROWS UP

Noting my comment on the interest Die Wolboer has evinced in trade with the People's Democracies, a Newcastle reader has sent me this verse from the Newcastle Advertiser:

Mary had a little lamb,

Whose wool she wished to sell.

She took a fleece to Uncle Sam,

Who merely said, "Well, well,"

"This really is to me most queer";

And then he heaved a sigh:

"You do not understand, my dear;

I only sell—not buy."

Said Mary: "Why you turn down one

Who buys from you I cannot tell,

But look you here, my little lad,

In future you can go to hell!"

Poor Uncle Sam, he bowed his head,

And down his throat a sob did gulp,

But softly to himself he said,

"This little girl is growing up."

FRENCH POSTSCRIPT

Most South African newspapers "overlooked" a very important news item last week.

In a Paris Parliamentary by-election Communist writer Andre Stil got 125,927 votes against the combined opposition's 138,394.

In the last election for this seat (June 17, 1951) the Communist vote was 32.40 per cent. This time it was 47.73 per cent.

THE BEND IN THE ROAD

By KATIE HENDRICKS.

Illustrated by L. DE VILLIERS.



I lived in undreamed-of luxury.

SYNOPSIS

Katie has been living as the unwelcome guest of her aunt.

One day her good-for-nothing brother Robert, who has been living as a bergie on Table Mountain, comes to beg for money. Katie convinces him that he should go and see their mother.

We left for mother's room at the hotel in a little procession. Robert walked a few yards behind me because he insisted that I, a teacher, would be ashamed of being seen with him. I told him that I thought that was a silly idea, if he trailed behind me like that, people would get the impression that he was trying to pick me up and that would be much worse.

When we got to the hotel, mother was still in the kitchen, so I left Robert in her room and hurried off to the dance.

As the weeks passed, Aunt Mattie became more and more impatient and she sold the furniture from my little partitioned room more rapidly, so that there was little left beyond the bed. Finally that went as well, and by the time of the opening of the hotel, I was sleeping on the floor.

The Tafelberg Hotel is on the slopes of Table Mountain just below De Waal Drive overlooking Table Bay. I had booked a room in advance and every weekend I would walk to the building site to see what progress had been made. The watchman had grown accustomed to my weekend prowling and he would say, "Hullo, miss, your room is nearly ready."

"If you don't get a move on," I would reply, "I'll be out on the street."

When the hotel opened I was the first guest to move in. I think the idea of my living in such

undreamed-of luxury marred Aunt Mattie's satisfaction at seeing the last of me.

When I moved into the Tafelberg Hotel, I left Aunt Mattie's house with its childhood associations and took my place in the adult coloured world. I showed my friends over the hotel with a proprietary air that tried to ignore the fact that it swallowed up twelve pounds ten shillings of my nineteen pounds salary monthly. However, I assured myself, it was worth it because in any case I could not have found other accommodation. Everything about the hotel held for me the fascination of fairyland. The dining hall was large and bright and my table near a window was a vantage point from which I could sell all the

new arrivals for I had retained my convent-bred curiosity about people. There was the coloured lounge and also a European lounge, the threshold of which I must not cross; the notice board which stated positively that no visitors were allowed in the rooms after a certain hour; the multitude of "don'ts" pinned up here and there and the placards advertising a dozen variety concerts; then the stairs which led to my room. I never quite got over my delight in that room and I never opened the door without experiencing a warm glow of ownership. If only it did not consume quite so much of my earnings.

If one were to explore the origin of the European population of South Africa I suppose it would be found they stem from as many different places on the globe and as many different races as the Coloureds of South Africa. The features of the European are just as much a clue to his origin as are the features of the coloured with the exception of colour and that is a big exception. It is remarkable the number of shades one can find between dark chocolate brown and slightly off white, for the ancestry of the Coloured is blended in black and white on his face.

We Coloureds are a bewildering mixture of Hottentot, African and European; of Malay, Indian and the East; some Bantu, some Bushman, some Oriental, the seamen of the world, and the best families of the Cape, whether they be classed as Coloured or European today.

There are the Coloured intellectuals and professional men living on the narrow ledge of South African society, uncomfortably wedged between the mass of African and Coloured proletariat and the white man. They are so uncomfortable that many have left the black man's country to find living space in the white man's country overseas.

(Continued in next issue)

BASUTOLAND PEOPLE "HATE MALAN GOVT."

Congress Rejects Incorporation Discussions

DURBAN.

THE idea of the incorporation of Basutoland in the Union of South Africa is repugnant to every Basuto man and woman, declares Mr. N. C. Mokhele, national president of the Basutoland African Congress, in a statement to Advance.

The people of Basutoland will never accept the Union Government's legalised non-recognition of Africans and Indians as human beings; the fascist rulers of South Africa will never be our masters; and apartheid, which means the enslavement of the African people, will never be our way of life, states the manifesto of the Congress.

SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED

The Basutoland African Congress accuses Britain of acting dishonourably by negotiating with the South African Government on the incorporation of Basutoland in the Union without the consent of the Basuto people, and in spite of their hatred of the South African Government and its policies.

The manifesto points out that Britain has neither the legal nor political right to even hold discussions with South Africans on this matter.

The Basutoland African Congress demands self-government and an

end to the dictatorship—which the system of indirect rule means—of the Imperial Government in Basutoland.

ROLE OF CHIEF

The system of indirect rule has reduced the representatives of the people to mere advisers, while the desires and aspirations of the Basuto people are usually disregarded or dismissed with scorn by the hierarchy of White "political officers."

The Paramount Chief's role in Basutoland is to implement the usually threatening instructions of the Government officials, according to the manifesto.

The British Government is called upon to remove all discriminatory laws in Basutoland and to expel from the country any White official, trader or clergyman who discriminates on the grounds of colour, and demands that all licences of White business concerns which discriminate against the African people be withdrawn.

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CLARION CALL

BOGY SPIES Die Burger had a startling main front page headline: "S.A. Uranium Espionage—Russians Want to Know What is Happening."

Then followed sensational "disclosures" about an "international espionage ring" and "Russian spies."

What was the sum total of basis for this story? This:

"They (the Soviet Embassy) keep a careful watch of reports in South African newspapers and analyse them. Within a few days the information is in Moscow."

You know, that's not so funny. It's the sort of evidence they crucified the Rosenbergs on in the United States.

REAL SPIES The political department of the C.I.D. phoned our Mary Butcher a couple of days ago. She had been chairman at a meeting at which a Dr. Soandso had spoken. The problem, said the worried detective, was that the police had no record of a progressive doctor called Soandso. Could Mary help them and tell them where this doctor lived?

Mary's memory is usually good, and it was quite surprising how, when this policeman asked her for information she didn't seem to be able to remember anything. They still don't know where Dr. Soandso lives.

Which reminded me of what a fellow from Brazil once told me. In his country the police try to make it very hard for democrats and always go round taking down names. So the progressives have thought up a really nasty trick. Every time they speak at a meeting and they see a detective who does not know them by sight they have themselves announced under a fictitious name.

Then when the detectives report back to headquarters they find a huge, impressive file of new names growing—and they cannot trace the owners of the names. You've got no idea how hard that makes their work.

HANSARD HO! (These are No. 2: GROWN-UPS the men who sit in Parliament and say that Non-Europeans are not fit to vote.)

Col. Jordan (U.P.): When he rose to address the House shortly before the adjournment Mr. Barlow had a stomach-ache, and before the adjournment took place he had succeeded in transferring his complaint to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The Hon. Member must withdraw.

Col. Jordan: May I be heard before a ruling is given?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Mr. Russell: Say you withdraw the stomach-ache.

Col. Jordan: Surely there can be no impropriety about using the word stomach-ache. It is a perfectly respectable part of the anatomy.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Dr. Jonker: On a point of order, you, Mr. Speaker, ruled that the Hon. Member should withdraw. Does he not have to obey the chair?

Mr. Speaker: He must withdraw. He knows he must withdraw.

Col. Jordan: May I ask what I am to withdraw?

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member knows very well what he has to withdraw.

Col. Jordan: Then I will withdraw what I know I must withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Hon. Member trying to be disrespectful to the chair?

Col. Jordan: No, not at all.

Mr. Speaker: . . . I have to warn the Hon. Member I will not allow him to abuse the proceedings of this House.

Col. Jordan: I am quite unaware, with respect, that I am not obeying the rules of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

PHILOSOPHER.

Ray Alexander's Trade Union Column

Dangers Of The Proposed Co-ordinating Council



TRADE union resistance to Ben Schoeman's Apartheid Bill is growing week by week.

A number of trade union journals have criticised the Bill, in addition to the continuous attack maintained by the working-class papers, Advance, Saamtrek and Forward.

The S.A. Trades and Labour Council has issued a circular calling upon its affiliated unions to prepare for an all-in conference on the Bill, which it is organising in conjunction with the S.A. Federation of Trade Unions.

But no effective action is being taken to arouse the vast mass of workers. No factory meetings, no leaflets distributed—not even a pamphlet to explain the contents of the Bill.

Some trade unions even discourage members from discussing the Bill at branch members' meetings under the pretext that the contents of the Bill are unknown.

EXCUSE FOR FAILURE

When it suits their book the leaders will refer to the Bill. For instance the S.A. Council of the Amalgamated Engineering Union decided way back in December to extend the current agreement for six months.

Now, in March, they make the Bill an excuse for their failure to demand a more favourable agreement. But they don't make a single criticism of the contents of the Bill.

I see that the draft constitution of the proposed S.A. Council of

Trade Union Federations has excluded from the membership clause the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions.

The present membership consists of the S.A. Federation of Trade Unions, the S.A. Trades and Labour Council, the Western Province Federation of Labour Unions, the Federal Consultative Council of the S.A. Railways and Harbours' Staff Association, and the Co-ordinating Council of S.A. Trade Unions.

The draft constitution lays down that other trade union co-ordinating bodies may be admitted to membership by a majority vote.

LITTLE CHANCE

There is very little hope for a majority vote to admit the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions. The objects of this new Council is supposed to be to co-ordinate, to endeavour to reach agreement on matters of national importance affecting the trade union movement in South Africa.

How can this proposed Council reach agreement on matters of national importance when the mass of African workers centred round the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions are excluded?

A great deal of time has been taken up for the trade union leaders to hatch this out. Let the workers have no illusions about it.

Such a Council would not give the militant lead that is essential for the trade union movement to preserve its independence. It

would have too many Ben Schoeman-boeties. It will not carry on a fight against the apartheid clauses of the Bill as most of its members have adopted the apartheid principles.

PROGRESSIVE BODY

The workers must stop this plot. The formation of the new Workers Council of Action at the Witwatersrand is to be welcomed and such Action Councils should be formed in other centres.

The primary function of the Action Council should be to influ-

ence the workers of the dangers facing the trade unions in the shape of the Schoeman Bill and Native Labour Settlement of Disputes Act. It should strengthen the trade unions by arousing the workers to take an active part in their trade unions.

Let every trade unionist force discussions in their branch union meeting on the Bill. Discuss it at your factories and bring about a mighty workers movement to fight this vicious Bill.

A MISTAKE THE U.P. OFTEN MAKES

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

LAST week the United Party Senators voted with the Government in support of the Native Trust and Land Act. Later they explained that it was a mistake—they had meant to vote against the Bill! The United Party frequently makes these little mistakes of not knowing which side it is on.

The Assembly has now passed the Bill which amends the Suppression Act. The United Party voted against it and put up some good arguments on purely legal aspects. The United Party found itself opposing not only the Government but also the "Independent United Party"—the expelled rebels.

NAT. MOUTHPIECE

The rebels have become the Government's mouthpiece. They do all the Government's fighting for it. Mr. Swart is now in the happy position where all he has to do is to shout encouragement to the rebels from the grandstand.

Mr. Blaas Coetzee, one of the rebels, has apparently decided that he can best further his political career by being viciously anti-Communist. The United Party only wants to hang Communists. Mr. Coetzee, I am sure, would like to boil them in oil.

He accused Ray Alexander of standing for Parliament "to further the Communist strategy against the democratic institutions of the country" and to "make a mockery of the Government." But the Government needs no help—it makes an utter mockery of itself. And now that it has Mr. Coetzee on its side the mockery has reached its final heights.

Mr. Barlow also added his piece. He was horrified to learn that both Sam Kahn and Brian Bunting were out of the country. He also revealed that he had been reading the Burger's unsubstantiated scare stories, because he announced that there are spies in the country trying to find out about South Africa's uranium. Mr. Swart is on the trail of people who poison reservoirs; Mr. Barlow is catching spies; surely the time has come for Sir De Villiers Graaff to uncover a treason plot so that he can demand the hangman's noose again?

ANOTHER ACCIDENT?

The rebels voted with the Government on the Communist Amendment Bill, and it is now on its way to the Senate, where the United Party no doubt is taking every precaution to ensure that it does not vote for the Bill by accident.

For the rest of the week the Assembly discussed the Medical

Bill and then it went on to railway matters. The United Party was jubilant. In the scandal of the sale of the Agulhas to a company, one of whose directors was a former Nat. M.P., the United Party found a nice, non-political subject that it could chew, digest, regurgitate and chew again. What a relief to have a debate on something which has nothing to do with colour politics! Or so the United Party thought.

This week the Assembly intends debating the Natives Resettlement Bill—the Bill to provide for the removal of the inhabitants of the Western Areas. It must be remembered that the United Party is opposing this measure because it usurps the powers of municipalities and because certain alternative conditions are not being agreed to by Verwoerd.

But the United Party has not yet decided to oppose the removal scheme, because the Africans have every right to stay where they are. So far the U.P. has held the view that the Africans must be removed. It differs from Verwoerd only on the conditions under which removal should take place.

Perhaps there are brave souls in the U.P. who believe that the Africans are entitled to continue living in the Western Areas, and that the slum clearance schemes must take place within those areas. If there are such people in the U.P. I wonder if they will speak their mind?

Like to take a bet that they don't?

WELFARE SOCIETY

DURBAN.

The Cato Manor Local Committee of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society has issued a report on its service to the Indian community of its area during the past year.

Sewing classes have been established and a milk club organised at the Cato Manor Housing Scheme. Every child from the age of one to six years receives milk daily.

The committee also carries out the investigation and supervision of families in need, or in receipt, of maintenance grants in the district.

The hon. secretary of the committee is Mr. K. Swaminathan.

JOHN THEKA AND HIS PASS

JOHANNESBURG.

EVERY week thousands of Africans are caught in the cruel net of the pass system—arrested, imprisoned, deported. We know these terrible statistics and what they mean in terms of human suffering. Perhaps, though, we do not always realise what they mean to the individual until we come across the concrete instance of someone we know. Take a very ordinary, typical case which happened last week: the case of John Theka.

John Theka was born in Johannesburg. He has just turned 19. Until last year he was at school. Now he has to start looking for a job, so he had to go down to the pass office to get a permit to look for work. This is only a temporary permit, and jobs—reasonably paid jobs—are scarce. So John had to go down more than once to the pass office to get his permit renewed. The last time he went, a couple of weeks ago, he failed to come home that night.

PARENTS FRANTIC

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Theka, were frantic with anxiety. John is a good, steady lad, who did exceptionally well at school. He is the apple of their eye and they look to him for great things. They spent a sleepless night.

The next morning Mr. Theka got the day off from work. He went to a lawyer's office and got the lawyer on the telephone. The lawyer phoned the pass office, the Native Commissioner's office, "Number Four" (the Johannes-

burg Fort Prison), the hospital, the Newlands police station. Everywhere he drew a blank. Fee two guineas. He shrugged his shoulders and said there was nothing else he could do. Mr. Theka paid the fee and went out. He wasn't going to give up so easily. He knew that police officials rarely trouble to get down the names of Africans accurately. He was fearing by now that John had been "sold" to a farmer and already deported from Johannesburg under notorious section 17 of the Natives Urban Areas Act for the crime of being out of a job.

NO BAIL

He got hold of another lawyer. He went round personally to the police stations and the prisons. Eventually he traced his son, who had been arrested by the Native Commissioner and was, as he feared, facing deportation. The lawyer made representations. Mr. Theka got a letter from an employer stating he was willing to take John into his employment. No bail is allowed at the Native Commissioner's gaol, and John, who has already been in for a week, is still there awaiting developments.

Mr. Theka, who has spent a week of terrible anxiety, is still not free from his troubles. He still has to face further lawyer's fees. He still does not know whether John will be released next week.

That is the pass law. "John is a good boy," he told Advance. "The pass law does not worry the skellums. This Johannesburg—it is a terrible place."

M.H.

SPORTS PARADE

by

Bert Williams



IT is not often that you get such heart-warming displays of sportsmanship as well-known manager and trainer M. K. Tommy's gesture at Stanger recently, when, in one of the fights in the first professional tournaments staged there by Chin Govender, Tommy helped to heal the cut on his boy's opponent's eye with one of the many ointments he carries in his first-aid kit. The opponent was Kid Johnson, of Maritzburg, who was matched against Tommy's brilliant Natal bantam-weight champion, Harry Naidoo. If Tommy had not assisted, Johnson would most certainly have been defeated on a t.k.o., as the cut looked very dangerous.

Chin Govender's maiden tournament wasn't a sensational affair but it was an encouraging start to professional boxing in the Lower Tugela district. Govender got good support from the local fans, who packed the cheaper seats especially. The new promoter, an ex-amateur, struck me as a simple, unassuming soul. Sometimes he sounded very naive—a contrast to many of the wily merchants that are in business in boxing these days. Secretary Frank Ashe, of the Board of Control, was very liberal with praise of Govender. Ashe is a spartan for organisation and it is not always that he hands out praise. Govender has good reason to be pleased with himself.

CLUMSY DISPLAY

Lingum Pillay fought poorly to beat Young Gobi. He gave a clumsy, unsure and irritatingly inept display. Gobi clinched too much, and this added to make up a very poor contest. Barry Vandeyar started off very promisingly against Joe Mgidi, of Maritzburg, but sat it out in the fourth round when Mgidi began to hit him a little too hard! Harry Naidoo was too clever and too fast for a very brave Kid Johnson, who was beaten very clearly on points after receiving a dangerous cut over the eye in the third round. Naidoo is a good boy, but he'll never win a championship. He hasn't learned to develop a punch yet nor has he got a killer instinct.

The bantam-weight division has some hard, tough boys who can punch hard and who know when to make use of an opportunity. If Naidoo can perfect this part of his strategy he will go a long way, though I can't see him doing very much against the dynamic African opposition from the Transvaal.

CLEVEREST FIGHTER

Gilbert Petros fought a brilliant welter-weight in the main bout of the evening in tough-as-nails Jerry Macdonald. Jerry is the cleverest fighter I've seen among both Black and White. Petros found his counter-punching a bit too hard for his comfort: that is why he couldn't knock out the former Durbanite now living in Maritzburg. I've always reiterated that the best form of defence is a counter attack—that is just what Macdonald did. Petros was the master, but he didn't have things his own way, especially when he managed to get Macdonald into trouble. The latter punched and pummelled his way out of a kayo defeat. Petros got the decision. I personally thought a draw would have been a fair verdict.

Isn't it an encouraging thing that the local favourite among a predominantly Indian crowd, although they have some very promising Indian fighters, should be Transvaaler Slumber David? The knock-out specialist, who is

proving to be one of the hardest hitters in the bantam-weight division in the world to-day, has always said that it was Durban which made him and it was for Durban which he always fought. Indian fans go wild with delight at the sight of Slumber, and even wilder after victory. Joe Francis, Leader's boxing editor, tells me you should have seen the crowd after Slumber stopped Lekwete, alias Kid Dynamite, at the City Hall in three rounds a week ago—they literally brought down the roof of Durban City Hall with their vocal strength.

I was greatly surprised when I came down to Durban to cover the Tuli-David fight for *Advance* to see the reception Slumber got. Despite Tuli's world acclaimed prowess, Slumber was the ruling favourite and the betting was all in his favour. Even though he lost, his loyal supporters chaired him from the ring into the dressing-room. In our racist country an instance like this does a world of good, not only in the sporting field but in politics, too.

SCARED OF SLUMBER

This is no fairy story, but Bill McConnell, trainer of the Australian holder of the world bantam-weight title, just wouldn't allow his boy to spar against Slumber David when they were in this country preparing for their fights with Towel. Ben Jele, Slumber's manager, tells me that he was insistent about David sparring with Carruthers, but McConnell most politely turned him down every time. Of course, they sparred with other Non-White fighters, but Slumber was marked "Explosive." They all knew what he had done to Vic Towel in his prime—knocked him cold for a few minutes. He was the first man to do so at the time, Carruthers' refusal to spar with David is the most spontaneous acknowledgment I have heard of this boy's ability.

And Carruthers should know—he's ruling world champion. Sport writers tell you very discreetly that a good sports writer will never commit himself, but readers of Bert Williams should know that they don't get any wishy-washy stuff from me. Slumber David will beat Carruthers any time he gets an opportunity to meet the kangaroo lad.

Many who thought that Tuli had finished Slumber have found that they've made a dreadful mistake. The Tuli fight has instilled greater confidence in the quiet, likeable and intelligent packer. There's nothing, he told me, that he'd like better than the opportunity to go overseas, either to Australia or England. It's a cruel shame that nobody has done anything about sending Slumber overseas. If anybody does we will have another world title possibility.

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FIGHTING TALK

The first issue of the new and greatly improved *Fighting Talk* is now on sale (subscription 5s., P.O. Box 1355, Johannesburg).

Fighting Talk was for many years the organ of the Springbok Legion. Now it has been handed over to an independent committee of supporters of the Congress movement and members of the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress and the Congress of Democrats.

"We intend to continue *Fighting Talk* as a vigorous, outspoken magazine which fights the good fight for the rights of men, and which challenges the ideas and outlook of the white supremacists, because their ideas spell death to democratic institutions, to racial harmony and to peace. *Fighting Talk*—if we can make it so—will be the voice of the Congress movement," the editors announce.

The first issue is attractively laid out and has a number of excellent articles on a wide range of subjects.

The magazine is so good that one looks for ways that it could have been even better. Three articles on Parliament and the plans of the Government are not balanced as one might wish, by articles discussing what the people, and the Congress movement in particular, are doing to foil Parliament's knavish tricks. (The people are more important and interesting even than Parliament.)

Startlingly, I was able to find not one single reference to peace in the whole magazine—not even in the article commemorating the anniversary of the death of Stalin. How was that possible?

A final point. Like our brother American progressives, who are ruthlessly critical of any slip into the racist terminology of the ruling class, we, too, must keep our writers alert to the need for vigilance. The derogatory term "Native" has been allowed to slip into two of the articles—and it is quite impermissible to talk of South Africa's "Black problem." The Africans, the vast majority of the people of our country, are no "problem." The only problem is how to get rid of the avaricious race-mad handful who rule South Africa.

Fighting Talk deserves a very wide audience. Readers of *Advance* will find the 5s. subscription fee to this monthly magazine well worth while. L.F.

MULTI-RACIAL SANTA COMMITTEE EVATON.

A new branch of the S.A. National Tuberculosis Association was recently formed at Evaton, Transvaal, with an all-races committee, consisting of five Indians, three Africans and Coloured and European members. The branch has been accepted as an affiliate of S.A.N.T.A.

The branch has already acquired an acre of ground, with a building originally erected by the A.M.E. Church for the Wilberforce Institute clinic. It is intended to use this site as a T.B. settlement. A concert held to raise funds for this purpose resulted in a net collection of £1,300. The branch committee is busy getting permission required under the Group Areas Act, Native Affairs Department sanction and other official formalities needed to get the settlement going.

Mr. S. M. Nathie is the chairman, Mr. S. J. Bloemetjie the secretary and Mr. I. N. Jada the treasurer. The committee members include Dr. M. Klein, Rev. Diphuko, Mr. Z. Xaba and other well-known local residents. The new settlement will be the only one of its kind to serve the large population of about 50,000 in the area.

The Man in the Street

No 17



MEET Mrs. Olive Vermeulen, typist, housewife and firm believer in trade unionism.

Mrs. Vermeulen, who works in the city and lives in Parkhurst, finds life pretty strenuous. She has to dash for her bus in the morning for her long ride into town. Shopping has to be done in the bazaars during lunch hour. "They are terribly crowded," she said. Often enough you find yourself at the back of a queue and have to go back to the office without get-

ting what you were waiting for." And after work it's another queue, a long ride back in the crowded bus and then start getting ready for supper.

"And the prices! Bread's 8½d., milk 7½d. . . . I remember when each used to cost a ticky. The bus fare used to be 5d., now it is 7d., and they're talking of putting it up again."

"Typists' salaries are quite inadequate. I certainly find it difficult to come out. I am sure we should get organised."

Mrs. Vermeulen was once an organiser for the N.U.D.W. and has never lost her feeling of sympathy and fellow-feeling with others. She spoke to us about the Western Areas scheme:

"I think it is dreadful. How can they throw those poor people out of their homes? And how do they expect them to get to work, when the Orlando trains are already crowded to bursting?"

She told us of the difficulties of African domestic workers at Parkhurst, who have to walk for at least half an hour to the nearest bus.

"Something has got to be done about it," concluded Mrs. Vermeulen. "We Europeans must speak up too. We are affected ourselves, and we must also show the Africans that the Government does not speak for us." M.H.

All Men Created Equal

Bishop Quotes Declaration of Independence

JOHANNESBURG.

Quoting the famous preamble to the American Declaration of Independence—"All men are created equal, they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"—the Bishop of Johannesburg was among the speakers at a meeting called by the Race Relations Institute last week to consider the implications of the Natives Resettlement and Urban Areas Bills. The Bishop condemned the Bills, as did Chairman Ellen Hellman, who said the Bills would take away freehold rights and put every African behind a location fence; Councillor Harvey (U.P.), who said the Mentz scheme would disrupt Johannesburg's commerce and industry; and Mr. Oliver Thambo, who said that legislators did not remember that Africans were human beings.

Speaking from the floor, Dr. A. B. Xuma said the Johannesburg City Council was as much to blame as the Government.

RENT INCREASES FOUGHT

Increased rentals in New Brighton are being vigorously opposed by the New Brighton Tenants' Association. Since rentals were increased many people have continued to pay the former rent. Two of the tenants who have been prosecuted for being in arrears are fighting a test case for the Tenants' Association.

"We cannot as tenants stand and watch while we are being prosecuted one by one for rentals whose legality we doubt," writes Mr. Raymond Mhlaba, the chairman of the Tenants' Association.

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