

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
Twelfth Year, No. 16 THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1948 Price 1d.

"MOST AMAZING EFFRONTERY"

—Mrs. BALLINGER

Nats. As Native Representatives

Reported by RUTH FIRST CAPE TOWN.

THE appearance this week of "unofficial" Nationalist Party candidates in the election of Senate and Assembly native representatives makes it clear that in their frantic bid to increase their precarious majority in the House, the Nationalists will stop at nothing.

Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, M.P., described this proposal of the Nationalists to contest the Africans' seats in Parliament as "one of the most amazing pieces of political effrontery that the so-called democratic system has so far produced."

For the moment the aim of abolishing African representation in the House of Assembly has been jettisoned while the Nationalist

Press back Dr. P. J. Schoeman, a one-time Stellenbosch professor, against Mrs. Ballinger; Mr. A. P. van der Merwe, an attorney member of the Nationalist Party, against Councillor Sam Kahn, and Douglas Buchanan in the Cape Western constituency, and a certain Mr. P. J. Hofmeyr for the Senate. In the Transvaal, too, Mr. Koos van Rensburg, a Free State cherry farmer from the Ficksburg district, backed by the Dutch Reformed Church, has become the fifth candidate for the Transvaal-Free State seat.

VERY CONVENIENT

The Nationalist Party does not advertise that these men are its candidates. But in the Cape a so-called "Parliamentary Voters' Union for Natives," which is supposed to have nominated these candidates, has made a convenient appearance. Chairman of the body is a certain Mr. Bennet Newana.

The announcement of the nominations, carried in Die Burger, came from Port Elizabeth.

Die Burger wrote that it was possible that all the African seats in the Senate, Assembly, and Cape Provincial Council would be opposed.

Mr. van der Merwe has already been formally presented to some African voters in the Cape Western constituency. At a meeting in a house in Claremont towards the end of July he insisted on speaking in Zulu—having been brought up in Zululand—though most of his audience was Xosa-speaking.

At question-time Mr. van der Merwe is reported to have proclaimed proudly that he belonged to the Nationalist Party, which stood for the complete separation of the races.

NATS. AS NATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

(Continued from page 1)

Mrs. Ballinger told The Guardian in an exclusive interview that the Nationalists had unexpectedly won an election on the most violent appeals to anti-African prejudice, and on a guarantee that under them Africans — and indeed all Non-Europeans — would be "kept in their places" which meant that they would for ever be denied rights of citizenship in this, the land of their birth.

"They now propose to try to win another election," Mrs. Ballinger said, "by persuading the Africans to sell their own birth-right."

Mrs. Ballinger said this was an interesting, if apparently crazy, adventure.

"I have no doubt," she said, "that the African voters will be agog to hear what the Nationalists have to offer them in return for all their hopes of freedom. And I have no doubt that the African will give his answer in emphatic and unmistakable terms."

USEFUL EXPERIENCE

Mrs. Ballinger said she had always found African audiences highly intelligent politically, as people struggling for freedom usually are. "I believe it may be a useful experience to some Nationalists to meet these audiences and hear what they have to say. So far, Christian trusteeship and apartheid have alike meant that those who govern the truly voiceless millions of this country never make the slightest attempt to meet those whom they govern and for whom they speak."

"This is one of the most dangerous and disastrous effects of our tradition of separation, since it leaves those who are responsible for the destinies of this country without the knowledge to safeguard the peace of the century."

"Now, a few of the Africans' White overlords will get to know something of what those whom they govern think of them, their policies and their propaganda. If they are still amenable to stabilising influences, this should have a sobering effect upon them."

"In the meantime," concluded Mrs. Ballinger, "I think we are entitled to ask — what of apart-

heid now? And what of the oft-repeated intention to abolish the House of Assembly representation of Africans?"

Commenting on the appearance of these Nationalist-supported candidates, Mr. Moses Kotane, general secretary of the Communist Party, said: "No sane African can vote for a supporter of a party whose policy is to keep him as a heaver of wood and a drawer of water."

In the light of the Government's Non-European policy, the African people would regard such a candidate as adding insult to injury.

Mr. Kotane said it would be "foolish and dangerous for any group of Africans to fall for the honeyed words of these enemies of our cause."

Mr. Donald Molteno, former Native representative, told The Guardian he was surprised at this apparent change of front of the Nationalists — if it were correct that they are supporting these candidates, because he had understood their policy to be one for the abolition of African representation in the House.

HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS

He said the Nationalists would find the African people highly suspicious about their policy of apartheid. It was as a matter of fact, the policy of the United Party, too. It had been tried, and had failed. That was why the Fagan Commission was appointed. "The African people have full experience of what apartheid means in practice," said Mr. Molteno.

About the chairman of the new organisation Mr. Molteno said: "I have known Mr. Newana for many years and have little confidence in his giving proper guidance to his people."

Mr. Sam Kahn, Communist candidate for the Cape Western constituency, said the African people were not in the least likely to be deceived by the overtures of Nationalist-supported candidates who might pretend they have the ear of the Government and can get things done.

PASS LAWS

"The things the Africans would like to see today, as part of an immediate policy, include the abolition of the pass laws, poll tax and the location segregation system, and equal franchise rights with the European. No matter how close a Nationalist candidate might get to the ear of the Government, he would be quite unable to get any of these things promised," emphasised Mr. Kahn.

Mr. Kahn said the intervention of these candidates in the election rendered the boycott policy completely ill-advised. The Nationalists were resorting to every possible means to bolster their majority in the House and add to their numbers. This tactic was based on the hope that in an election boycott their candidates might manage to sneak in.

Mr. Danie du Plessis, secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, said this move did not guarantee that the Nationalist Party was not going to carry out its election programme of denying the most elementary human rights to the Non-European people.

"The African people are now in the position where they will have to express themselves very clearly against apartheid and the Government's policy towards the Non-Europeans," he said.

NAT. BIG GUNS TRAINED ON THE WORKERS

OCT. 21, 1948

Unemployment Insurance Report Leaks Out

CAPE TOWN.

THE BIG GUNS OF THE NATS. ARE NOW TRAINED ON THE WORKERS AND THE LABOUR MOVEMENT. IF ANYTHING WAS STILL NEEDED TO PROVE THAT THE NATIONALIST PARTY IS A PARTY OF BIG FARMERS AND NOT ONE OF THE WORKERS—EVEN MR. STRYDOM'S WHITE MEN—THIS HAS BEEN

THE COMMISSION TRYING TO WRECK THE GARMENT WORKERS' UNION; THE INDUSTRIAL LAWS COMMISSION;

AND NOW, THIS WEEK, THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION INVESTIGATING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Already the Nats. are out to wreck one of the only effective social security measures of the last government.

FISHY BUSINESS

The report of the Unemployment Insurance Commission is a very fishy business.

The Guardian understands the report had barely been drafted and handed to the Minister of Labour to study, when the Burger and the Transvaal were telling their readers all about it.

Mrs. Ballinger, one of the commission members, did not even know the report was being drafted!

There has been no official announcement of its contents.

IT RECOMMENDS

But the reports in the Nat. Press have also not been denied. And according to them the commission recommends:

1. The abolition of the 1946 Act;
2. A voluntary system of unemployment insurance;

3. The exclusion of African workers.
4. The exclusion of seasonal workers.

Using the farmers' old argument that workers are unemployed because they are lazy—"and let them come and work on our farms if they really want jobs"—the Nats. have long waged a bitter fight against unemployment insurance.

One of the first things they did after their May 26 victory was to change the personnel of the unemployment insurance committee set up by the Smuts government.

COMMISSION RECONSTITUTED

An all-party commission, it at first consisted of three members of the United Party, two of the Nationalist Party, one Labour M.P. and one Native Representative, Mrs. Ballinger.

As reconstituted it consisted of four Nats. with a Nat. chairman, only one United Party member (Mr. J. R. Sullivan), Mr. J. Christie of the Labour Party, and Mrs. Ballinger.

(Continued on page 6)

Nat. Guns Trained On Workers

(Continued from page 1)

The commission had already finished taking evidence before the elections, except for that of an actuary who was heard by the reconstituted commission.

The fight against this report, if it is the final one, will be one of the priority tasks of the trade union movement, it is felt.

MUST BE FOUGHT

Miss R. Alexander, whose union the Food and Canning Workers Union, will be one of the main unions affected by the exclusion of seasonal workers, said this was clearly another piece of colour discrimination, in line with the character of the Nat. Government.

A voluntary system of insurance, she said, would lead to absolute chaos. "I ask you," she said, "how can this be operated? It is obvious the members of the commission who recommend this are totally ignorant of unemployment insurance provisions and systems."

Mr. I. Wolfson, of the Tailoring Workers' Union, said the report would mean in effect that unemployed workers would be starved into submission and used as cheap labour on the farms.

Among the trade unionists who condemned the recommendations as soon as they were announced, were Mr. E. Weinberg, of the National Union of Commercial Travellers, Mr. W. Kalk, of the Leather Workers' Union, Miss B. du Toit, of the Laundry Workers' Union, and Mr. J. B. Marks, of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, who said all African workers in the Union must protest against this attempt to deny them even some measure of social security.

STOP PRESS

A minority report on the Unemployment Insurance Commission has already been sent to the Minister, signed by Mr. J. Christie, the Labour member.

Mr. Sullivan is at present drafting his minority report.

Sedition Charges Withdrawn

CAPE TOWN.

THE charges of sedition against eight members of the Communist Party and a member of the African Mine Workers' Union Organising Fund Committee have been withdrawn, states a telegram received in Cape Town this week from the Transvaal Attorney-General.

The Communists are: Moses M. Kotane (general secretary of the party), Adv. H. Sutticher, Lucas Phillips, Fred Carneson, H. A. Naidoo, I. O. Horvitch, Dr. H. J. Simons (members of the central committee of the party) and W. J. Roberts, a member of the Johannesburg District of the party.

The case was first opened two years ago following the strike of the African mineworkers on the Rand in August, 1946. The Crown had alleged that the accused had conspired to initiate the strike.

Films Censored On Racial Grounds

CAPE TOWN.

SOUTH AFRICA'S censorship laws were unique in that they made provision for discrimination on the grounds of race and colour, said Mr. R. F. Windram, the Cape Town representative of a film

The aim of this censorship, he said, was to "protect our Non-Europeans from disturbing scenes of equality between black and white". A film was judged on political grounds or because it clashed with prevailing social ideas. The negro actor, Eddie Rochester, had been banned in the State of Memphis because he was too "familiar" in his attitude to whites.

Mr. Windrum said the principle in banning a film was that the feelings of no section should be hurt by it. "You never quite know where that will lead, though," he added, and quoted the case of the classic German film "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" which had been banned because inmates of asylums might be affected by the lunatic scenes!

FOR EUROPEANS ONLY

During 1946 ten films had been banned in the Union. So far this year 4 have been banned. But many more were partially banned and prohibited to Non-Europeans and children of certain ages.

The term "Non-Europeans", said Mr. Windrum, included also Indians and Chinese. "But whether a Chinese professor or an Indian Maharajah would be arrested for attending a performance of a film banned to Non-Europeans, I really can't say."

Mr. Windrum thought it very unhealthy that the public should welcome the banning of films. "Enthusiasm for banning is unhealthy," he said. "If it is welcomed, censorship is most likely to be extended, and perhaps to other fields. When people come

to accept film censorship they are less likely later to reject it in other fields."

"NO BASIS FOR UNITY"

Communists Resign From Train Apartheid Committee

CAPE TOWN.

FOUR members of the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee resigned this week on the grounds that the Committee had no intention of resisting apartheid on the trains.

They are Messrs. Fred Carneson, H. A. Naidoo and J. A. La Guma (members of the Communist Party), and Sundra Pillay, chairman of the Cape Passive Resistance Committee.

UNITED FRONT DESTROYED

Stating that the Committee was formed for the specific purpose of organising direct resistance to the apartheid regulations, the Committee point out that failure to take such action has destroyed the basis of the united front.

"In spite of the obviously favourable political circum-

stances revealed by the support given by the public and the recruitment of hundreds of volunteers," states their letter of resignation, "the majority of the Committee members have rejected our repeated requests that

action be taken to defy the regulations."

The letter points out that there is a tendency on the part of a majority of the Committee members "to utilise the Committee and its activities to build up a permanent organisation whose objectives are far removed from the purpose for which the Committee was formed."

Mr. Sundra Pillay, in his letter to the Committee, complains of "delaying tactics" on the part of a majority of the Committee members.

THE DANGER IS NOT YET OVER

A FEW weeks ago we took you into our confidence. We told you we had to have £700 a month to keep alive.

From all parts of the Union have come messages of deep concern lest The Guardian die at a time when it is most vitally needed to fight a Government sliding towards real fascism.

Now we have nine more weeks to go till the end of the year—the limit to the campaign for funds.

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS

Last week we had donations from Edinburgh and London,

Luderitz and Bulawayo, Goodenicht and Gwelo, Middelbush, Paarl, Worcester and Bethal.

Yes, The Guardian is read in all these places—and many more.

Our thanks this week to three Greek democrats who sent us 10s., to the three South African railwaymen who sent £1 10s.; and also to the "capitalist" who sent £1.

In the first three weeks of this month £373 has come in. Compare this with only £261 for the whole of September. A great improvement.

But now look at our list of donations in this issue. Of the £37 that came in this week ONLY £22 odd is in the form of regular donations.

REMEMBER: WE NEED £700 A MONTH. Casual donations are welcome. BUT THEY ARE NOT ENOUGH. WE MUST HAVE A GUARANTEED MONTHLY INCOME IF WE ARE TO CARRY ON.

Of the £700, we were already collecting £200 before this special fund was launched. In three weeks almost another £100 has been guaranteed, apart from promises.

YOU—the average reader of The Guardian—MUST CLOSE THE CAP OF £400. YOU HAVE NINE WEEKS TO GO. Guarantee your donation at

once. Anything from 6d. to £400 a month!

How's your arithmetic? Remember that 30,000 shillings equal £750 a month. Then our troubles are over.

So send your guaranteed donation. And those of your friends.

THE DANGER IS NOT YET OVER.

(SEE THIS WEEK'S DONATIONS ON PAGE SIX)

CONQUEST WITHOUT WAR IN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA NATS EXTEND APARTHEID SPHERE

(FROM OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT)

THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT IS ABOUT TO PULL OFF ONE OF THE COOLEST DR. MALAN'S VISIT TO SOUTH-WEST AFRICA LAST WEEK PUT THE FINAL TOUCHES TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PLAN TO INCORPORATE THAT TERRITORY INTO THE UNION. THIS IS BEING DONE IN OPEN DEFIANCE OF UNITED NATIONS DECISIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY.

Under the agreement concluded between the Union Government and the Nationalist and United Parties in South-West Africa, the territory will get six seats in the Union's House of Assembly, and two, possibly even four, seats in the Senate. One of the senators will be appointed for his "special knowledge" of the wishes of the non-white population of the territory.

The Legislative Assembly in South-West Africa, elected by Europeans, is to remain but its members will be increased. All overriding powers will be retained by the Union. The question of future financial relations between the territory and the Union is to be referred to a joint commission.

This plan envisages the acceptance of the territory as the fifth province of the Union, with powers and functions substantially the same as those enjoyed by the Union's four provincial councils. There will be no improvement in the status of the non-white population of the territory.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

In fact even the puppet body of Africans known as the Advisory Council will be scrapped and a gratuitous gesture is to be made by appointing the Native Commissioner as a member of the territory's executive committee who will merely "advise" the executive on matters affecting the Non-Europeans.

Thus by this carefully-planned attempt at annexation the Nationalists hope to extend their policy of apartheid to South-West Africa, so denying to the non-white population of that territory any hope of realising the promise of self-government (Continued on page 5)

South-West Africa

(Continued from page 1)

envisaged in the League of Nations mandate.

Among the Non-Europeans both in South-West Africa and the Union these proposals will meet with unanimous condemnation. Among the Europeans, however, the proposals are not likely to meet with any opposition, except on a minor scale.

U.P. DILEMMA

But there is reason to believe that certain sections in the United Party will not readily accept the number of seats allocated to the territory as it can only result in further strengthening the slender majority which the Nationalists now hold in the Assembly.

With the decision of the Government to re-naturalise some 5,000 Germans who were deprived of the vote during the war and the possible weakening of the territory's United Party, the Nationalists stand to gain much in the overall plan to disarm the Opposition and thereby entrench themselves in power.

Meanwhile the Hereros of South-West Africa, who have consistently refused to recognise the Union's right to take over that territory, are still waiting to hear from Dr. Malan whether their representatives will be allowed to leave for overseas in order to place their case before the Commonwealth Relations Department and the UNO Assembly.

"A DYING PEOPLE"

The Reverend Michael Scott, who is at present in Windhoek, told The Guardian that the Hereros today have many of the symptoms of a dying people.

"It is right," he said, "that their appeal for the return of their lands and their rehabilitation as a tribe, and against the absorption of the country by the mandatory power (South Africa) should be heard by those who still have a legitimate interest and obligation regarding the future status and administration of the territory."

ERASMUS' PLATTELAND FORCE AGAINST WHOM?

THE Minister of Defence has announced his plateland army plans to the Cape Nationalist Party Congress.

The Defence Rifle Associations in the Union are to be built up from their present strength of 25,000 men to 80,000.

Commanders will be increased from 200 to 500 men. Magistrates and police officers will issue application forms to all who are interested.

"We shall arrange for the people to get as many rifles in their hands as possible," said the Minister.

The Government will appoint a Committee to investigate sources of supply of war material in South Africa, the possibilities of

converting industries to war production, and the control of supplies in an emergency.

The disbanding of the Native Military Corps and the Cape Corps is now in its final stage.

Die Burger says the disarming of all non-Europeans in the whole of Southern Africa is aimed at.

The Union Government has obtained an undertaking from the British Government that no Natives in the three Protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland will be armed or will have military training in peacetime, states the report.

VICTORY FOR COLOURED VOTERS

CAPE TOWN.

OURS was a great victory in Paarl. We have proved that it is possible for the people to defend their rights from the attacks of the Nationalist Government," said Mr. Frank Marquard, president of the Food and Canning Workers' Union on the retention of the vote by 594 Coloured voters against whom Nationalist Party organisers had lodged wholesale objections.

The Food and Canning Workers' Union which set up committees in Paarl to get all the voters against whom objections had been lodged to attend the court proceedings at which the electoral

Branch delegates from centres throughout the province who heard Frank Marquard's report at the recent meeting of union branch delegates, resolved to mobilise the Coloured people in their areas to defend their votes. Union members say the response to their appeal to Coloured voters to defend their rights was "wonderful."

The B.E.S.L. also issued a circular of support to the campaign, and Europeans in the town gave their support.

Attempts to disfranchise thousands of voters in the Cape—at Paarl, only Paarl, but also Hottentots Holland, Wellington and Malmesbury—have been foiled by the electoral officer's decision.

The electoral officer told the Paarl court that in his opinion the Act was never intended to create the opportunity for wholesale objections.

"The Act is there to create facilities to cast votes, and not to deprive people of the right to vote."

10-Year Education Plan

CAPE TOWN.

The Transkeian Bunga urges that the Government adopt a 10-year plan for African education.

The aim, said the councillor who moved this resolution, is that "all African children shall be in school at the end of 10 years."

"We find," he said during the debate, "that there is one obstacle in the way of the plan, that is finance."

He added: "It is admitted on all sides that proper co-operation between the white and the black people will be delayed by the fact that Native education is backward."

"There are many rights we are unable to enjoy."

"We think it would be a good idea for investment if a large sum of money is voted for a plan like this one."

"Everything that is done for our benefit will not help very much unless we raise our standard of education."

CONVENTION DISAGREES WITH JABAVU

CAPE TOWN.

THE All-African Convention Western Province Committee has dissociated itself from Professor Jabavu's participation in the unity talks for the merging of the African National Congress and the All-African Convention.

The proposal for an "All-African National Congress" is denounced. "It is not a sincere move for unity of the African people," says the statement, "but merely a manoeuvre of the members of the Native Representative Council, the liberals, and reactionaries in the leadership of the African National Congress."

The purpose of the manoeuvre, it is stated, is to eliminate the convention with its policies of boycott of the N.R.C. and of non-

collaboration with the "instruments of our oppression".

REPUDIATE

The statement calls on all bodies affiliated to the convention to "repudiate all connection" with this new manoeuvre, and "to rally to the protection of the convention from the liquidators on the basis of the ten-point programme."

The statement is issued from Cape Town and signed by Mr. S. M. Kusse.

THE £1 IS WORTH LESS THAN 10s.

PUT A STOP TO THE SOARING COST OF LIVING

CAPE TOWN.

HAVE you ever been faced with the problem of clothing seven people, five of them small children, on 5s. a week? Impossible, you'll say. Well, that is Mrs. J.'s dilemma.

This week The Guardian looked into the cost-of-living problem.

The position among working-class families in particular is becoming desperate. Talk about Louwco is all very well, they will tell you. But the cost of living is not coming down: it is soaring rapidly. "And we just can't see that the Government is taking any real steps to improve the position."

Look at these official cost-of-living index figures.

| | |
|--|-------|
| In May the index figure was | 139.9 |
| In June | 142.2 |
| In July | 150.1 |
| In August | 149.4 |
| (the first decrease in 1948, but only 0.5 per cent.) | |
| In September | 151.2 |

It is a well-known fact that the cost-of-living allowance figures of the Government are not a true indication of the actual position, and that between allowances paid and actual living costs there is a wide, ever-growing gulf.

By July, 1946, it had been calculated that the value of the pound had dropped to 14s. 10d. It has been said that today it is worth even less—less than 10s.

How the average housewife manages to budget for her family on present wages is a mystery.

FOOD PRICES

Look at the way the prices of foods have increased over the past 10 years:

| | 1938 | 1948 |
|-------------------|------|------------|
| Potatoes, per lb. | 2d. | 7d. to 9d. |
| Cabbages, each | 3d. | 6d. to 1/6 |
| Shoe, each | 1/- | 10/- |
| Breakfast, oats | | |
| local, per packet | 9d. | 1/2 |

Some prices have more than doubled. Others are between 75 and 100 per cent. higher than they were in 1938. Vegetable prices are more than double the 1938 figures.

Rents have increased enormously.

To get back to Mrs. J. who has to clothe her family on 5s. a week. We give you her budget.

Her husband has worked on the railways for 23 years. He earns £4 18s. a week—including cost of living.

Mrs. J. pays 15s. a week on rent. Transport costs are 11s. 2d. So deduct £1 6s. 2d. from her £4 18s. odd a week. She is left with £2 15s. She pays for:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Meat: | 4s. a week |
| Fish: | 3s. a week |
| Vegetables: | 8s. a week |
| Greengroceries: | £1 2s. 6d. a week |
| Bread: | 7s. a week |
| Milk: | 2s. 3d. a week |
| Fuel: | 2s. a week |
| Fruit: | "We can't afford any," she says. |

Amusements: Oh, we don't lay aside anything for that. If there are a few odd pence left over they will have to do.

So £2 10s. immediately goes on essentials every week.

Mrs. J. is now left with 5s. a week to buy clothes for her family, pay chemists and doctors in case of illness, keep up insurance and burial payments, and pay for sundries such as haircuts and shoe repairs.

Mrs. J.'s plight is that of hundreds and thousands of families in South Africa today.

Their cost-of-living allowances have never kept pace with the actual cost of living.

And there is no indication that the Government is prepared to do anything about it.

Langa Africans In "Horrible Mood"

Bitterly Opposed To New Regulations

CAPE TOWN.

"ONLY during the riots last year have I seen the people of Langa in the mood in which they are at present." This was the warning uttered to the last full meeting of the Cape Town City Council by a member of the deputation from Langa organisations objecting to the proposed new regulations for the Township.

"We have the hundred per cent. backing of the people against the regulations," said this member, Mr. W. Stuurman. He warned that the people were "in a horrible mood."

The new regulations seek to increase rentals, make it necessary for all visitors to Langa to state their business to the superintendent before being allowed to enter, and provide for the appointment of inspectors who would have the right to stop any African in the streets to establish his identity or business.

On the suggestion of Cllr. Sam Kahn, a sub-committee of six councillors was set up to go into the question of the proposed regulations and to consider the representations of the deputation.

CREATED A STIR

Mr. Stuurman, speaking on behalf of ten organisations in Langa, created a stir in the Council chamber when he issued a challenge to councillors to go with him that night to the Langa barracks, where, he said, he would show them men sleeping on the floor.

He alleged that the Council was in some cases collecting double the rent for a bunk because two men were sharing it.

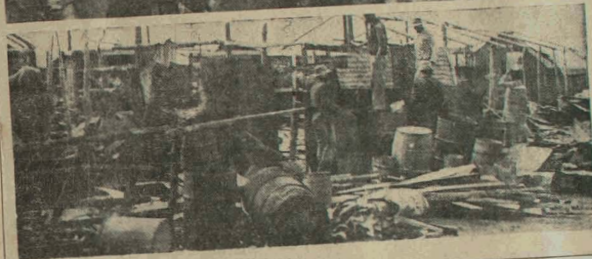
Arguing that rentals should not be increased he told the Council that the court to hear cases of residents who were behind with their rents used to sit once a

CONCENTRATION CAMP

Moses Kotane told the Council that the regulations requiring all visitors to state their business would produce the idea in the minds of the people that Langa was nothing but a concentration camp—"those hated words," he said.

"These are not times when racial feeling should be fanned by a responsible body like the Council," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the Langa Advisory Board, Mr. J. Ngwevele said: "When a man comes to town he has not to visit the Mayor to report his presence and his business. If this is required in Langa, the township will be like an ordinary prison where a visitor has to get the permission of the gaoler before he can see the prisoner."



A fire that swept through 55 closely packed pondokkies in Windermere rendered hundreds homeless. This was the third fire in the same block over the last two months. These families had to build themselves new homes, many of them spending more than their month's wages on new building materials.

Methodists Protest At Apartheid Plans

Call For Extension Of Political Rights

CAPE TOWN.

"IN this multi-racial land we are bound to take account of the basic Christian principle that every human being is entitled to fundamental human rights and dignity and belongs to the family of God," says a declaration concerning race relations adopted by the annual conference of the Methodist Church of South Africa recently.

"No person of any race should be deprived of constitutional rights or privileges merely on the ground of race, and morally binding contracts protecting such rights or privileges should be regarded on the high level of a pledged word," states the declaration.

"Political and social rights especially of the under-privileged groups should not be reduced but rather developed and expanded into greater usefulness. Living conditions and opportunity for education and labour

should steadily be improved in the clear recognition that the good of all should be reflected in the contentment and usefulness of all sections of society."

The Conference appealed to the Government to reconsider its intention to exclude the Native Representatives from the House of Assembly and to remove the Coloured voters from the common roll. It further expressed its grave concern in regard to the deteriorating position of the Indians in South Africa.

31 YEARS OF SOCIALISM

THIS year November 7 marks the 31st anniversary of Socialist construction in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Our pictures show some of the great advances made by the world's first Socialist country.

On one-sixth of the earth's surface 200 million people share the prosperity of a planned economy under which great industries are owned by the people, national problems have been solved, and comprehensive social, educational, health and cultural services are guaranteed to all.



Midrar Bahreva (right) and Sarvar Tarkulova, women graduates of the Samarkand State University in Uzbekistan.



A young girl athlete at a city stadium in Tbilisi, capital of Soviet Georgia.

The people of the world are fearful. Will there be a third great world war?

Mr. Bevin says the Soviet Union will be responsible if we are faced with the catastrophe of an atomic conflict.

But it is America that holds the atomic bomb.

The Soviet Union is building no war bases on the territories of other nations.

Since the end of the war the Soviet Union's expenditure on her armed forces has decreased steadily. Today 15 per cent. only of her budget is earmarked for defence.

This coming year the United States will spend 19 per cent. of her entire budget on her armed forces.

Behind the Berlin crisis, behind the deadlocks inside the United Nations over efforts to outlaw the bomb and to reduce armaments, there is a continuous story of Soviet endeavour to secure lasting peace by creating the conditions which will end war tensions.

America is in the tight grip of strikes and inflation.

In the Soviet Union, this year celebrating the 31st anniversary of Socialism, prices are down and wages are up.

The first post-war five-year plan is being completed in four years. About nine million peasants on war-torn collective farms have been rehoused since VE Day.

The Russian harvest this year was completed earlier than ever before.

Production of bread jumped 50 per cent. over last year, margarine output increased 60 per cent., and twice as much sugar was produced.

The textile industry produced a quarter more cotton, wool, silk and linen.

To keep pace with increasing production, new stores are being opened at the rate of 125 a day.

To continue this progress for its peoples the Soviet Union must have peace.

Soviet Progress Requires Peace

JOHANNESBURG.

Never in all the 31 years of its existence has an understanding of the U.S.S.R. and its policies been so important as it is today, says a statement issued by the S.A. Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union.

To say that the Soviet Union is aggressive and wants war is to deny the very foundations of the Soviet State.

On this 31st anniversary, the South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union, pledged to fight for a better understanding of the U.S.S.R., calls to the peoples of South Africa to defeat the war-makers, to reject the propaganda for war, and by learning the truth about the Soviet Union, to help to build a lasting peace between nations.

POLAND MOVES AHEAD TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY

By Anna Louise Strong

POLAND is one of the few countries in Europe where the question of whether the standard of living is higher than before the war is not purely academic.

In Western Europe the people know it is not. In Britain the pre-war standard is one of those dead, dead things beyond recall. In Poland they are revivifying it and going right on up, too.

This is especially remarkable since Poland was destroyed far more than any land in the west. There is no family without its dead. The great cities—Warsaw, Odessa, Wrocław—were left in greater ruins than even the worst bombed German cities.

RISE IN BRISKY

If despite all this destruction the standard of living rose briskly, it testifies to a national economy which is soundly based and a political outlook that is reasonably unified. For the first time in centuries Poland has these assets. They are lacking today in the west.

For the first time in a thousand years the Polish State stands four-square on Polish lands, without national minorities, without uneasy bunkering or pushing towards east or west. The Polish farmer owns

his own land and holds a fairly adequate amount by Polish standards, though far below the U.S. family farm.

For the first time the Polish worker is fully employed in Polish industry. No longer is he working for foreign industrialists, whose policies of closing mines and factories to keep prices up in other countries led to chronic unemployment and forced hundreds of thousands of Poles to emigrate. Today these people are returning.

Some enthusiasts claim that the standard of living is already four per cent. higher than the pre-war level. No figures substantiate this claim. The best judges I can find do not make it. They say it depends on your class.

FARMERS BETTER OFF

Farmers are definitely much better off. Besides the land, they have machines and better prices for their produce. The once ragged Polish peasant now turns up his nose at anything but pure wool for his Sunday suit.

Workers are getting a slightly smaller individual wage in terms

of commodities, but—sure there is a demand for workers today, before there was unemployment—the family wage is higher. While collar workers are worse off than before the war, Teachers are still very poor.

Calorie consumption of food is still far below what American doctors think is needed for health. Slightly above 2,000 calories daily, it is just about what the post-war Germans get.

I don't know what the British are getting. But I do know that some Polish newspapers and food parcels to their London correspondents, containing butter, bacon and other fats—(A. L. N.).

Moscow Art Theatre

LONDON. Leading figures of the British theatre joined in a tribute to the world-famous Moscow Art Theatre on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary recently.

In a message to this celebration, the leading British playwright, Mr. J. B. Priestley, wrote: "The Moscow Art Theatre is simply the best theatre I have ever seen, and I imagine it is the best in the world"—(D. & G.N.).

(Below): Taken in the summer of 1948 in Moscow, this photograph shows the motor-cars, trolley buses, buses and trams that ply the broad thoroughfares of the Soviet capital in an endless stream. This is the crossing at Maykovsky Square.



(Above right): The reconstructed Tsvelin Boulevard is a gift by Moscow to the capital's young citizens who have acquired a picturesque spot for walks and games.



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PALMOLIVE

"TIME TO STOP BEING ON THE DEFENSIVE"

Sam Kahn On His Election Prospects

CAPE TOWN.

"THE time has come not only for the Africans but for all South Africans to stop being on the defensive, and to march forward with a positive programme to stop the Government's drive to fascism. This can only be done by immediately extending democratic rights to all Non-Europeans," said Mr. Sam Kahn, Communist candidate in the elections for a Native Representative for the Cape Western seat, in an interview with *The Guardian*.

"In these critical times a Communist M.P. is needed in Parliament to expose the policies of the Government as the very opposite of its so-called Christian principles," he said.

"I have stressed throughout my campaign that while Parliament must play an important part in

equal rights and opportunities for the Africans, and our unqualified opposition to the apartheid policies of both the Nationalists and the United Party opposition."

MR. KAHN'S OPPONENTS

As far as is known, neither of Mr. Kahn's opponents, Mr. Buchanan or Mr. Van der Merwe, have yet received a vote of confidence.

Mr. Buchanan is being hard put to it to explain away some of the statements he has made since his election as representative in the House for the Transkei seat last January.

In particular Mr. Buchanan is being taken up on his statement in September: "It is a great pleasure to see the administration of this very important portfolio has fallen on the experienced shoulders of the present Minister (the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. Jansen).

This statement, delivered as part of the longest speech of his parliamentary career, when he was silent during some of the most critical debates of the session, Mr. Buchanan is still trying to justify in circulars to voters.

He has labelled as a "false rumour" his statement, reported in the daily Press in June, that apartheid was "not half as bad as some have been led to believe."

Little has been seen in this election campaign of the Nationalist sponsored candidate, Mr. Van der Merwe. He, say the voters in his constituency, "flits about mostly by night."



the struggle for the emancipation of the African people, that struggle will only be successful when the African people are strongly organised to demand their rights and challenge the false doctrine of White supremacy in the Union.

FIGHT FOR THE VOTE

"Meanwhile the fight for the recognition of African trade unions, full education, and the end of the pass laws and poll tax, and the freedom of movement of the African people must go on, within and outside Parliament," he added.

"Above all," he said, "full recognition of the rights of the African people must include their right to vote — both men and women — on the same basis as Europeans, and the right of Africans to be elected to Parliament and to all other governing bodies,

"The African people constitute the majority of the people. They are entitled to a majority in Parliament."

Discussing his election campaign Mr. Kahn said: "The response of the people has been good, due to the clear-cut Communist policy

"FLOOD OF TALK BUT NO ACTION"

Communist Criticises Cape Resistance Leaders

CAPE TOWN.

IN the opinion of the Communist Party, the present dilatory policy of the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee represents a betrayal of the people," said the secretary of the Cape District of the Party, Fred Carneson, in an interview with The Guardian on the movement against apartheid on Cape suburban trains.

Mr. Carneson disclosed that on the Resistance Committee on which he has served since its inception, the Communist Party members have consistently called for action.

"But the acceptance of this policy has on every occasion been side-tracked by other political organisations on the committee on the pretext that 'the time is not yet ripe', 'The people are not ready', or 'the organisation is not yet good enough'", said Mr. Carneson.

IN FORCE FOR 2 MONTHS

The apartheid regulation on the trains had been in force for two months now, he said.

At mass meetings and in the spontaneous demonstration on the station following the second meeting, in the support that came from all over the country, the people clearly showed their readiness to take positive action against the regulations.

The fact that no organised resistance has been offered to the regulations is clearly not the fault of the people, nor the fault of the hundreds of volunteers who so eagerly offered their services at the commencement, Mr. Carneson stressed.

He added that unless action was taken in the immediate future the movement against apartheid on the trains which began so promisingly would peter out.

"It will be drowned under a flood of talk and vain boasting," he said.

VITAL ELECTIONS IN CAPE NEXT WEEK.

Chance To Reduce Govt. Majority

CAPE TOWN.

A "little general election" will take place in the Cape next Wednesday, the results of which will be of crucial importance in deciding the future government of the country.

★ Several thousand Africans in three constituencies—Cape Western, Cape Eastern and Transkei—will elect three Europeans to represent the African people in the House of Assembly.

★ European and Coloured voters of Stellenbosch will go to the polls in the first by-election since the Nationalists came to power, to choose a new member of Parliament in succession to the late Mr. Paul Roos.

In all constituencies Nationalist or Nationalist-supported candidates are standing. If they are all defeated, a tremendous blow will have been struck against the Government. Majorities in both Houses of Parliament will have been reduced to the barest minimum, and Malan may be forced to resign and go to the country in another general election.

Communist Candidate Sam Kahn

African voters in the Cape Western constituency have the opportunity of sending the first Communist to Parliament in the person of Sam Kahn, popular Cape Town City Councillor. In a special pre-election interview Mr. Kahn told The Guardian he was highly confident of the outcome of the election.

"For the Africans to vote for the Nat. candidate, Mr. van der Merwe, would be suicide," he said. "It is unthinkable that they should do so."

"In spite of all the overtures and false political promises made to them, the Africans are solidly opposed to being represented by one of their oppressors," he said.

Mr. Kahn thought it most regrettable that Mr. Douglas Buchanan, the third candidate, should have reduced himself to the level of a red-baiter in the campaign. "He had made wild, distorted attacks on the Communists."

African voters had demonstrated at Mr. Buchanan's meetings that they strongly resented his calumnies against the Communist Party. "A vote for the Communist is a vote for freedom," said Mr. Kahn. "That is what the Africans think today."

Nat. Against Mrs. Ballinger

In the Cape Eastern constituency the Nat. Dr. P. J. Schoeman, who is standing against Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, is having a



MRS. BALLINGER

tough time accounting to the voters for his policy and the actions of his party.

He told his party organ, the Transvaal, that the young Africans in particular didn't like him. At many places he was told: "You b— Boer. Yesterday you called us kaffirs and today you ask for our vote."

At meetings he has been shouted down.

To the Transvaal he complained about the enormous organisational task he has had to undertake. He had to build an election organisation among Africans to whom the word "Boer" was a word of abuse (a skeldword).

African voters in this constituency, knowing the fine work Mrs. Ballinger has done for them in Parliament, are expected to return her with a big majority.

Transkei

In the Transkei, Mr. J. D. L. Kruger, the Nationalist nominee, has also been unpopular. At a recent meeting called by him in Herschel, a vote of no confidence



DR. WOLLHEIM

in him was passed because he "supported the policy of apartheid, which is a cloak of oppression."

In this constituency the most popular candidate is Dr. O. D. Wollheim, prominent educationalist, who stands for the abolition of the industrial colour bar and direct representation of Africans on all governing bodies.

(Continued on page 3)

Vital Elections

(Continued from page 1)

Stellenbosch

In Stellenbosch there is a straight fight between United Party candidate, Mr. Hofmeyr, and Nationalist candidate, Mr. Loubser. The Nats are getting very worried. Feeling they have lost ground since May 26, they are making frantic appeals to voters to support Mr. Loubser, and Die Burger has carried a number of articles pointing out that the "apathy" of Nationalist supporters can cost them the election.

The behaviour of the universally rowdies who disrupted a United Party meeting last week has lost the Nationalists hundreds of votes. Deciding factor, however, may well be the Coloured vote of 1,100.

Several hundred Coloured voters are believed to have supported Mr. Roos in the general election on account of his personal popularity in the district. After the last session of Parliament, however, it is certain that the overwhelming majority of Coloured votes will go this time to the United Party candidate, Mr. Hofmeyr.

Nov. 11. 1948

Yugoslav Representative In The Union Resigns

CAPE TOWN.

FUNDAMENTAL disagreement with the political policy of the present Yugoslav Government under Marshal Tito has led to the resignation of the Yugoslav representative in South Africa, Mr. R. P. Komadinovic.

Mr. Komadinovic has, for the past 15 months, since the departure of the Acting Consul-General, been in sole charge of the Yugoslav Consulate General. He has

submitted his resignation to Belgrade and written to the Union Secretary for External Affairs advising him of his decision to leave South Africa.

In a statement issued to the Press, Mr. Komadinovic says:

WHY HE RESIGNED

"I have resigned owing to the hostile attitude of the present Yugoslav Government towards the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies of Eastern Europe.

"The friendship of these countries is the main bastion on which to ensure the successful building of socialism in Yugoslavia.

"I wish to make it clear that although I am not a member of the Communist Party, my conscience as a working man does not allow me to carry out the instructions of a Government which, I am now convinced, is betraying the interests and cause of the working people of Yugoslavia, and leading them into a position subservient to the imperialist aims and war plans of certain interests in the governments of the Western Powers."

CAPE TRADE UNION CENTRES MAY MERGE

United Opposition To Government

CAPE TOWN.

NATIONALIST onslaughts on the workers and the trade union movement may result in closer co-operation between the two existing trade union centres here in the Cape.

For some years differences in policy have kept the Trades and Labour Council Western Province Local Committee and the Western Province Federation of Labour Unions apart. The Federation refusing to affiliate to the national body.

At its annual meeting last week-end the Federation decided unanimously to set up a special committee to discuss closer co-operation with representatives of the Council.

This follows a council invitation to the Federation to affiliate. Mr. A. Jenner, secretary of the S.A.T.U.C. Western Province Committee, said a move towards unity at this time "would be a very good thing — and is very necessary."

In a statement issued this week the Western Province Local Committee says "the Council is convinced that there can be no major obstacle to the successful outcome of the meeting (between representatives of the two bodies)."

"Now, more than ever, all trade unions should unite in the common cause," the statement continues.

SCHOEMAN'S COMMISSION

The Western Province Federation has taken a strong stand in opposition to the terms of reference of the Industrial Legislation Inquiry Commission, and to Government policies of apartheid in industry.

The conference last week-end decided to invite all trade unions to organise a political strike if the Minister of Labour proceeded with his policy of interfering with the affairs of the union.

Government Investigating African School-feeding

N.C.W. Watching the Position

CAPE TOWN.

NOW beginning its work is a Government-appointed committee of enquiry into the African school-feeding scheme.

Mrs. J. Hiptel, adviser on African affairs to the National Council of Women, told The Guardian that N.C.W. branches in all areas where there are local school-feeding schemes have been asked to keep in touch with the position, and to be ready to take action if necessary.

The commission is to inquire into "the necessity or otherwise of a State-aided national feeding scheme for Native children," and "the requirements and limitations of participation in the scheme, especially with a view to the limited financial means of the State."

Members of the commission are: Mr. W. O. Hoof (one-time Director of Prisons), Dr. W. Fox, Dr. P. van Bijl and Mr. G. H. Franz.

DISCRIMINATION

The school-feeding scheme has been operating in all provinces for a number of years. The amount spent by the Government on Afri-

can children is only 2d. per head per meal, whereas European children get about three times as much.

The announcement of the Government commission coincided with a report from the Transvaal

that the grant for African school meals had been exhausted, and that an application for a supplementary grant had been rejected. There will be no more money available for feeding African school-children until the end of the first 1949 term.

SCHEEMAN'S REBUFF TO T. L. C.

Refuses To Speak To African Delegates

CAPE TOWN.

MINISTER OF LABOUR B. J. SCHEEMAN TOLD A DEPUTATION FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE AND LABOUR COUNCIL LAST WEEK THAT HE COULD NOT AMEND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INDUSTRIAL LAWS COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY BECAUSE THE WHOLE COUNTRY WOULD DRAW THE CONCLUSION THAT HE HAD YIELDED TO PRESSURE FROM SOLLY SACHS.

The Minister repeated his assurance that he had no desire to interfere in the internal administration of trade unions. But when asked by T.L.C. secretary A. G. Forsyth to appear at the special conference of the T.L.C. then in session and give this assurance in person, he refused on the grounds that "there were Native delegates present."

These facts were revealed when the T.L.C. deputation, which saw the Minister on Wednesday, reported back to the special conference on the results of their interview.

The T.L.C.'s emergency convention which had been convened to consider the nature of the evidence to be presented to the Industrial Laws Commission, instructed its deputation to protest to the Minister against those terms of reference of the commission (d and e) implying the need for control of trade unions. The council also asked for greater representation on the commission.

TWO-HOUR TALK

Reporting back, Mr. J. J. Venter, T.L.C. vice-president, said the Minister lasted two hours. Minister Scheeman advanced a number of reasons for being unable to amend the terms of reference of the commission. The request should have been made earlier, he said.

His main argument was that he strongly resented the conference speech of Rolly Sachs the day before in which Sachs had accused the Minister of wishing to replace the trade union movement by a labour front modelled on that of the Nazis, and in which Sachs had advocated a boycott of the commission's sessions.

If he agreed to amend the terms of reference of the commission, Scheeman told the council deputation, the whole country would draw the conclusion that he had yielded to pressure from Sachs. The Minister was, however, quite prepared to make a public statement that he had no desire to interfere in the internal administration of the unions.

UNWILLING

On the request for more trade union representation on the commission, the Minister's reply was that if he disturbed the commission membership other groups and bodies would also come forward to ask for greater representation. This would make it more a conference than a commission.

Scheeman promised the deputa-

(Continued from page 1)
"Scheeman refused on the grounds that there were Native delegates present," reported vice-president S. Mann. ("Shame!")

Mr. Mann added that when Scheeman gave his assurance of no interference he said that all he had in mind when he spoke of "control" was the "picking out of political elements from the trade unions."

CRITICAL

Large sections at the conference were sharply critical of Scheeman's assurance that his commission was not intended to interfere in the trade unions. "At one time Adolf Hitler gave an assurance that he had no desire to interfere in the trade unions," said Dulcie Hartwell, representing the Garment Workers' Union, "and a few months later he proceeded to try to conquer the world."

Solly Sachs announced that he was prepared to make an offer to the Minister.

"I don't want to be an obstacle to the trade union movement. I am prepared to withdraw entirely from it if the Minister of Labour is prepared to ask the commission to withdraw from its terms of reference items d and e."

Lucas Barnard, of the Furniture Workers' Union, told the conference he was convinced the Government would carry on with its policy of trying to undermine the trade unions.

CAMPAIGN

The conference passed a resolution endorsing the request of the national executive for changes in the terms of reference, and resolved to conduct a campaign to expose to the workers and the public in general the danger inherent in the policy of the Government in regard to the trade unions.

The national executive was instructed to prepare a pamphlet setting out the aims of trade unions and the dangers facing democracy in South Africa.

The conference adopted a resolution asking the Minister of Labour to dissolve the Garment Workers' Union Commission of Inquiry, and asking the Minister of Justice to institute legal proceedings against those responsible for lawless acts at a meeting of the union in the City Hall on

September 16. The resolution was read by Miss Du Toit and adopted by Mr. Boyle, of the M. C. Employees' Union.

REICHSTAG TRIAL

Mr. Sachs said this commission was discrediting South Africa in the eyes of the world. It was being looked upon as a Reichstag Fire Trial.

The Commission was paralyzing the union by preventing it from carrying on its normal work. "Today we are the victims," he said. "Tomorrow you may be."

At this stage Mr. J. Hagen, of the Pretoria Transport Workers' Union, made his contribution: "It is a scandal that we must sit here and listen to a speech attacking a Minister of this country," he protested. "I would be a traitor if I sat here and let these things be said." He then made the usual attacks on Communism.

The resolution was carried with only 12 voting against.

For six hours the conference sat in private session to discuss its stand before the commission on the question of African unions.

The resolution eventually passed was the recommendation of the Council's executive, and asks that:

- (a) African unions be accorded full legal recognition.
- (b) The unions should be able to make representations to the industrial council, wage board or conciliation board, as the case may be, on the working conditions desired by them.
- (c) That the unions should be informed of the results of their representations before these are given the force of law, to allow them to appeal to the Industrial Court.

(d) The consideration of any such appeal should not be allowed to preclude the enforcement of the conditions prescribed for other workers in the industry.

Trade unions wishing to do so should have the right to admit African members. In cases where existing registered trade unions declined to accept Africans as members the Council recommends that provision be made under the Industrial Conciliation Act for the establishment of African trade unions on a parallel basis to those catering for European and Non-European workers.

Finally the Council recommended that the definition of "employee" under the Industrial Conciliation Act should be amended to cover all workers.

S.A. "Unpopular" At U.N. Assembly

JOHANNESBURG.

SOUTH AFRICA is one of the most unpopular nations at UNO. This is the view of Mr. J. Isaacowitz, national chairman of the Springbok Legion, who has just returned from Paris.

The Union's colour policy was strongly resented by the majority of the United Nations, he said, and the unfortunate manner in which Mr. Louw presented his case caused even greater resentment.

Mr. Isaacowitz said that there was grave disquiet in Europe at what was happening in South Africa under the Nationalist Government. His experience in Europe, together with those of his fellow delegates, had reinforced the determination of the Legion to resist at every possible stage all anti-democratic tendencies in South Africa.

Mr. Isaacowitz said he had been very surprised to read in the Union Press that Mr. Louw had scored a victory at UNO on the South-West issue. This was not so.

DISADVANTAGES

The Union would suffer great disadvantages if she left said Mr. Isaacowitz. She would, for example, be barred from the activities of the International Monetary Bank, the food and agricultural activities of the

United Nations, and all its specialised agencies. South Africa would then be in the same position as Spain.

Mr. Isaacowitz added that the difficulties of Dr. Danoo and the Reverend Michael Bontin in reaching UNO had created a most unfavourable impression abroad. There was great fear of war in Europe, Mr. Isaacowitz went on to say. But he thought the people of Europe were not prepared to go to war so easily. "They can still see about them the terrible devastation of the last war." Among all classes and groups there was still hope in the United Nations.

Will Africans Build Unity?

Crucial Talks In Bloemfontein

BLOEMFONTEIN.

BLOEMFONTEIN is the centre this week not only of the annual conferences of the African National Congress and the All-African Congress, but also of unity talks between these two premier African bodies, talks in which many place high hopes as a prelude to a strong united African stand against apartheid.

Nevertheless, there is much criticism among delegates of the manner in which this unity move-

WELCOME TO DELEGATES

Dr. A. B. Xuma, A.N.C. president-general, hinted at this in his welcome to delegates.

"This conference will determine whether we Africans are serious-minded men and women, putting the cause of the people over and above everything else. It will determine whether debating ability will count for more among some of us than the real issues which will determine our future. South Africa, white and black, has its eyes upon us."

Dr. Oana Makabeni, member of the Congress Working Committee, prominent trade unionist, described the situation as "organised confusion."

"No one can be against unity," he said. "But even members of the Congress Working Committee were not aware of all the preparations for the unity moves, and were never consulted." In delivering his presidential address to the African National Congress Conference, Dr. Xuma said the Africans had rejected the last Government's Native policy and were determined to oppose this Government's policy with even greater intensity.

Civil Rights Petition

JOHANNESBURG.

A MEETING OF SUPPORTERS

21 of the civil rights movement held here recently under the chairmanship of the Reverend J. B. Webb, decided last week on the formation of a Civil Rights League, following the establishment of similar bodies in Cape Town, Grahamstown and East London.

Priority task of the League will be the launching of a monster petition to be presented to the coming session of Parliament. The petition will urge the government to honour the entrenched clauses in the constitution, and to abide by its moral implications.

Interested persons may join the League by writing to P.O. Box 4118, Johannesburg or by telephoning 23-5965.

Greyshirts Object To O.B.I.

JOHANNESBURG.

GREYSHIRT FUEHRER LOUIS O.T. Weichardt has announced that the Nationalist Party unreserved support to the provincial council elections.

Where agreement about seats is reached between the Nationalist and Afrikaner Farles, says Weichardt's statement, the Greyshirts would give their support to the A.F. providing its candidates were not members of the O.B.

APARTHEID ON CAPE TRAINS

THE Cape was introduced to apartheid last week—Mr. Sauer's version on the Cape suburban trains. At midnight on Sunday boards marked "Europeans Only" were nailed to selected first-class coaches on all suburban lines.

From the Coloured people has come a wave of seething resentment at this new attack on their rights. The African People's Organisation, the Anti-C.A.D. and the Communist Party have all called on the Non-European people to resist the introduction of apartheid on the trains.

Five members of the Anti-C.A.D. movement were taken into custody by railway police, had their leaflets confiscated, and were warned not to appear again on railway property, during a distribution of leaflets urging people to "sit where they liked" on the suburban trains.

No charges have yet been preferred against them.

Plans For Action

Non-European and democratic organisations conferred earlier this week at a special joint meeting to decide upon active steps against the new railway regulation.

From liberals, workers' organisations, all sections of the Non-Europeans and democratic Europeans came a challenge to the whole principle of apartheid, and the recognition that the railway regulation was the beginning not only of complete segregation on the South African Railways, but also, eventually, of inferior services for Non-Europeans.

The Nats. have hit on a new technique of one-way discrimination with this regulation. On the face of it, the segregation applies only to Europeans, for whom a number of special first-class coaches are reserved on each train. For the meantime, both Europeans and Non-Europeans are free to sit together in the unreserved first-class coaches and in second-class carriages.

Just The Beginning,

Says Sauer

There are few doubts that this is just the first step to complete segregation on the suburban lines. Soon there will be special second-class coaches set aside for one

section only.

Minister Sauer said as much in the Nat. Press this week. This is just the beginning, he announced, not the final scheme.

(Continued on page 5)

TRAIN APARTHEID

(Continued from page 1)

When apartheid was working smoothly in the first-class coaches, the question of second-class coaches would be "investigated."

"Secret" instructions are said to have been issued to railway officials charged with the administration of the segregation regulation.

Offenders Will Be Prosecuted

In the beginning, the Minister said, there will be no "strong-arm policy" against those who fail to observe the regulation. The period of "grace" is expected to last about one month.

"The plan must eventually be carried out." So action will later be taken against those who deliberately ignore the regulation.

Prosecutions for contraventions of the regulation—against "Non-Europeans Only," this time will probably be under a section of the Railways and Harbours Act which makes offenders liable on conviction to a maximum fine of £20 or 3 months or both.

Europeans Stand In Exclusiveness

Europeans had the worst of the deal under railway apartheid. On a number of trains during the first week of the operation of the system, first-class unlabelled coaches were only half-filled—with Non-Europeans and Europeans—while the European coaches were packed to capacity during peak periods, and European passengers stood in the gangway all the way home—in racial exclusiveness.

On the other hand, many Europeans deliberately walked down the entire length of their trains in order to find an unlabelled coach and so show their solidarity with the Non-European victims of Nationalist policy.

THEY PROTESTED AT "APARTHEID"

The following organisations and individuals have protested against the introduction of segregation on the Cape suburban railways:

Grand Parade mass meeting organised by the Cape District of the Communist Party—the largest meeting since before the war.

The African Peoples' Organisation.

The National Anti-C.A.D. Committee.

A mass meeting under the auspices of the India League and five other Indian organisations.

The working committee of the Natal Indian Congress.

Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, president of the Transvaal Indian Congress.

The Sweet Workers' Union, Food and Canning Workers' Union, Chemical and Allied Workers' Union, Cape Furniture Workers' Union and National Union of Distributive Workers.

The Cape Town branch of the Springbok Legion.

The Right Reverend S. W. Lavis, the Very Rev. M. Gibbs, the Ven. F. L. Suetet and the Rev. E. H. Roseware.

NO PROTEST YET FROM: The United Party, The Labour Party.

THEY PROTESTED AT TRAIN APARTHEID



MOSES KOTANE, general secretary of the Communist Party: "If we can come together as we did in the Cape in 1938 to resist further segregation against the Coloured people, we can defeat this Railway apartheid regulation."



EX-SERVICEMAN FRED CARSON, secretary of the Communist Party Cape District: "This is a disgraceful slander upon the Non-European people. The answer to this lies in the taking of political action."



COMMUNIST COUNCILLOR, SAM KAHN, candidate for the Cape Western Native Representative's seat: "This is a disgraceful slander upon the Non-European people. The answer to this lies in the taking of political action."



MR. N. J. J. BOTES, of Food and Canning Workers' Union, guest speaker, said: "This is apartheid for whites and blacks. Soon it would be Nationalist and United members too. Apartheid must stop at all costs."

NATS. MANOEUVRE STUDENT CRISIS

"Europeans Only" Body Formed

CAPE TOWN.

WHILE in Bloemfontein this week a "Europeans Only," "Christian-national" Afrikaner student body was being pushed into the world, the University of Cape Town was being split wide open by the manoeuvre of Nationalist students, ably assisted by prominent United Party student leaders, to get it to secede from NUSAS.

The secession motion was passed by 10 votes in a ballot of over 1,000; and threw NUSAS into its biggest crisis in 15 years.

The line-up today on the student front is:

Still affiliated to NUSAS and passed confidence votes in it: Witwatersrand University, N.U.C. (Maritzburg), Fort Hare and Hewat College.

Re-affiliated: Natal Training College, 1 Odes University, the Johannesburg Training College.

Under notice of secession: N.U.C. (Durban), the University of Cape

(Continued on page 5)

The students' mass meeting, thrown into utter confusion by a chairman who closed the meeting before it was made clear how the ballot would be conducted, was summoned by an 80-strong petition of students seeking to overthrow the S.R.C. secession decision.

Later objections by the NUSAS scrutineer to the conduct of the ballot and protests at the conduct of the meeting were overruled by the S.R.C., which has refused to give any reasons.

Against a solidly packed gallery of Nats, a speaker who announced that he had been at Pretoria University in 1939 when that centre decided to leave NUSAS, put forward his most "telling" argument: A new student organisation, "on the right lines" (npt defined) would be acknowledged by the new Government.

The real reason for the secession, he asserted, was clearly a desire to re-approach the DEONT SOCIALIST PAI

Afrikaans-speaking Universities, Mr. Kricker pleads that had left NUSAS years ago, support of members of the union at the English-speaking universities.

S.R.C. ACTIONS

At the general meeting, the chairman publicly castigated

NUSAS president, Philip Tobias, for having "interfered in the internal affairs of U.C.T." by organising on the campus an "unauthorised distribution" of leaflets and the NUSAS organ, "The S.A. Student". The Principal probably expected an apology for this action, the chairman told Mr. Tobias.

The students insisted Mr. Tobias be permitted to put NUSAS' case before them. This was done, but after an hour and a half of speeches from both sides the meeting ended in chaos with the students not knowing how their vote on 3 clauses of the Resolution was recorded on blank ballot papers.

Students charge the S.R.C. with refusing to permit a referendum on the secession issue.

S.R.C. members who resigned in protest against the secession decision, and the NUSAS treasurer.

LIBERALS ORGANISE

The S.L.A., the first really large and representative body to support academic non-segregation, advocates support of NUSAS and the promotion of harmony among all sections of the students.

Now preparing for the S.R.C. elections to take place within the next fortnight, this association, probably to be supported by the Students' Socialist Party, will most likely carry with it the majority of U.C.T. students, and will begin to open the way to the U.C.T. rallying again to NUSAS.

Moroka Bus Boycott Continues

JOHANNESBURG.

FOR the whole of last week, the people of Moroka and Jahau, rather than ride in the buses of the company which has so many accidents to its record, continued each morning and afternoon to walk the distance between their homes and Nancefield, two and a half miles away.

In the evenings the veld, road and the level-crossing. The and paths alongside the railway track are dotted with workers streaming towards the camps. Further on, alongside the new cemetery that serves these areas, the marchers join the main Potchefstroom road which runs past Moroka.

In a seemingly endless procession the men walk, carrying their jackets in the heat of the afternoon, women with washing and shopping parcels on their heads, many with heavy bundles.

As they join the Potchefstroom road mounted police ride up to shepherd them into rough lines at the side of the road. Cruising about in the neighbourhood is always a pick-up van.

The bus company has now withdrawn its vehicles.

COUNCIL'S DECISION

At an emergency meeting called to discuss the situation, the Non-European Affairs Committee of the City Council decided to send a deputation to Minister Stals to urge the building of a new road, direct from the station to the camps, so that the bus traffic will be diverted from the main

The Council itself could not take over the service, it said, but it would "explore means" to make the service as safe as possible.

The owner of a stretch of land between the station and Moroka has now offered to allow the Council to construct a new road across his land.

Meanwhile the Council continues to investigate the possibility of an alternative bus service, the people continue to march.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
Twelfth Year, No. 17 THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1948 Price 1d

PROGRESS IN UNITY TALKS

African Organisations Agree In Principle

(From RUTH FIRST)

BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE two premier African organisations in this country, the African National Congress and the All-African Convention, meeting here in joint session last Friday, agreed after three hours' tense debate on the principle of uniting the two bodies.

Their executive committees were authorised to meet jointly to work out the details of unity, and to report to their next annual conferences.

Presided over by Professor D. D. T. Jabavu, of the Convention, together with Dr. A. B. Xuma, of the Congress, the joint session agreed to endorse the October 3 statement of the 12 African leaders, which called for unity against the threat of apartheid, and initiated this unity conference.

"A direct attack on democracy has accelerated the desire of all of us to come together," said Dr. Xuma, outlining the history of the unity negotiations, which dated back to August, 1943.

On Thursday afternoon when the joint session was due to begin, Prof. Jabavu asked that it be postponed to the Friday. Some of his followers were still meeting at a conference of the African Voters' Association in Queenstown, he said.

Here, The Guardian understands, a vote of no confidence in Prof. Jabavu for being a party to the October unity declaration, was defeated.

"UNITY RESOLUTION"

When the talks opened, the Convention delegation placed a "unity

resolution" before the session. "In view of the political crisis facing the African people and the crying demand for unity from the people," it said, "the African National Congress should be approached to join the other organisations already in the All-African Convention."

This unity should be subject to four Convention conditions:

- (1) It should be based on the Convention's 10-point programme.
- (2) The federal structure of the Convention should be retained.
- (3) The unity should be based on the acceptance of the principle of the unity of all the Non-European.
- (4) It should be based on a policy of "non-collaboration with the oppressor." (Here the Convention referred to its policy of the boycott of the 1936 Native Representation Act, for instance.)

The Convention's chief spokesman, Mr. I. Tabata, said "we are prepared to ensure the Congress a

given percentage of the seats on the Convention executive."

NO DIFFERENCE

Arguing his organisation's thesis, Mr. Tabata said the Herenvolk parties were united in their oppression of the Non-Europeans, and there was intrinsically no difference between them. On May 28 "the velvet glove was replaced by the brutal, mailed fist. For us it produces the same kind of blow." The unity demanded at the present time must be based on certain fundamental principles. "We

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued) must say we do not want separate institutions. We want to go to the only councils recognised in the land — Parliament, provincial and municipal councils."

Prof. Z. K. Mathews rose to put the Congress viewpoint. "To the average Congress person this (proposal) seems to mean that one mouthpiece of the African people (the Convention) is wanting to swallow up the other mouthpiece (the Congress)," he suggested.

As the unity they were both seeking could not be achieved overnight, Congress placed a resolution before the session that a committee of representatives of the two bodies be set up to examine the details of unity. "There are also other organisations which must be drawn into the process of unification," he said.

ONE ORGANISATION

Mr. Moses Kotane said the two groups had different conceptions of unity. "Some of us feel a federal organisation is not a source of strength. We want to eliminate conflicting direction, interests and ideologies. We want one political organisation that will speak for the individual members of that organisation."

"A federal body tends to be an organisation of different interested bodies that come together to consult but have always to go back to their executives for direction. We conceived of one political organisation."

Convention speakers insisted that agreement on policy be reached that afternoon.

BLANK CHEQUE

To the Congress suggestion of a joint committee to work out details, Mr. D. Kora said: "We are not going to take the dangerous step of appointing a committee and giving it a blank cheque."

"While we quibble, the people are being crushed under the heel of the present government," said Mr. J. B. Marks.

Ten minutes before the session was due to close no compromise had yet been agreed upon.

Prof. Jabavu appealed to the joint session to place on record its affirmation of the principle of unity. "Let us at least go away

from page 1)

having said something," he urged. A group of Convention delegates was intransigent. They rejected Prof. Jabavu's suggestion that the October statement of the African leaders be endorsed.

EMERGENCY

Reverend Mahabane of the Convention then rose to put to the House a set of resolutions. "There is a state of emergency in the country," he had told the conference previously. "Emergency measures have to be adopted."

He moved that the principle of unity be agreed to, and this, together with the proposal that the two executives thrash out the details, was carried amid great applause.

To his next motion that the October statement calling for unity be endorsed, a Convention group protested vigorously. Prof. Jabavu put the motion three times, when this Convention group, many of its spokesmen on their feet in protest, did not raise their hands in opposition, he declared the motion carried. "It is solved," he told the cheering session.

Motor Insurance

JOHANNESBURG.

At the last meeting of the National Union of Commercial Travellers the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "This union strongly protests against the proposed average increase in motor insurance rates of about 34 per cent. We appeal strongly to the Government to intervene and to prevent this continued fleecing of the motoring public."

Africans Discuss A Strike In Protest Against Apartheid

BLOEMFONTEIN.

HOLDING its first national conference under the Nationalist Government, the African National Congress which met here last week, went strongly on record against apartheid. As weapons in the African people's struggle for liberation and full political independence, the conference debated the use of strikes, civil disobedience, the boycott of segregatory institutions, and non-co-operation.

A programme of action to attain freedom from "all forms of White domination," and demanding the direct representation of the African in all the governing bodies of the country, was the main resolution discussed.

It was later referred for further study to the national executive, which will consult Congress provincial committees and branches, and consider whether sections of the resolution can be implemented immediately.

"In order to implement our resolve to work for the abolition of all differential political institutions," says the programme, "we accept the principle of boycotting these institutions, and we undertake a campaign to educate our people on this issue, and in addition to employ the weapons of the boycott, the strike, civil disobedience and non-co-operation and such other means as may bring about the realisation of our aspirations."

PREPARATIONS FOR STRIKE

The programme goes on to suggest preparations for a national stoppage of work for one day as a mark of protest against the reactionary policy of the Government.

The establishment of a single, unitary and active political organisation, a committee of action to direct the programme, and a national fund to finance it, are envisaged.

The programme suggests also a boycott of the Government Education Commission appointed to "whittle down the content and quality of African education," and protest meetings against the refusal of the Minister of Education to provide funds for the feeding of African school children during the first quarter of 1949.

"The people want this programme," said Mr. D. W. Bopape. He suggested Congress consider sending a delegate to U.N.O.

During a discussion on the presidential address, names of Africans, some of them Congress leaders, who had supported apartheid, were cited to the conference. Among them was the name of the Congress treasurer, Mr. R. G. Baloji.

"We must throw out of Congress those who support the iniquitous policy of apartheid," said Mr. J. Mtwesi. "You can't sit with an enemy alongside you and think you can work with him."

Other names cited by a Port Elizabeth delegate were those of Bennett Ncwana and others from Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage, three of them Congress members, who had presented an address of loyalty to Dr. Malan in October. This delegate wanted the Congress members expelled.

Mr. Clements Kadiale said some Congress officials had supported Nationalist candidates in the elections for Native Representa-

tives. This was because the Congress had never given a lead to the country. "I say during the last elections the Congress did not do its duty as a national organisation."

Seventy-six delegates, from all provinces, attended the conference.

600 Travellers Lose Their Jobs

JOHANNESBURG. — About 600 commercial travellers have been retrenched or given notice as a direct result of import control.

Members of the Johannesburg branch of the National Union of Commercial Travellers told a press conference the threat of large scale unemployment was "disastrous."

One third of the union's 2,000 members are virtually unemployed. The union's organiser, Mr. E. Weinberg said he thought the Government had not chosen a representative trade period as the basis for making allocations.

Speakers said priority should be given to the import of raw materials for South African industries instead of allowing the importation of finished articles that could be produced locally.

By stimulating local industry, unemployment could be avoided.

Africans In Cattle Trucks

BETHLEHEM.

TWO Free State African National Congress organisers were told at a Bethlehem meeting that Africans who bought third-class train tickets were being transported in cattle trucks.

"We could not believe this," these Congressmen said. "We thought the people were exaggerating."

The following evening they stood on the Bethlehem station, waiting for the Kroonstad train to come in. "There it is," said someone standing at their side.

"Nonsense," they replied. "That must be a goods van."

But when the train pulled into the station they saw that the section in which third-class African passengers were travelling did in fact consist of cattle trucks.

"They were packed together, men, women and children, standing or sitting on their luggage. There were no seats, and no sanitary arrangements."

"Some people were peeping through the wooden slats of the trucks, their noses pressed against the sides, just like cattle."

"This we actually saw," these men told The Guardian. "When we asked the people what had happened they said they had bought third-class tickets, and had then been told: 'We have no coaches. That is all we have.' So they had to travel in the cattle trucks."

PRESS GANG LABOUR ON BETHAL FARMS

Women And Children Work In The Fields

BLOEMFONTEIN.

IT is now over a year since the Bethal scandal shocked this country to a realisation of the slave-like conditions under which Africans work in the rich farming area in the Eastern Transvaal. "Things are no better today," the Bethal delegate told the conference of the African National Congress last week.

Asked, as he rose to speak, to give his name and Congress branch, he said: "I am from the Bethal Jail."

He told the conference: "Many people who arrive in Bethal have never been tried in court, they are just sent out to the farms. At one time the people came looking for their children, saying they had been 'taken' out of Johannesburg."

Many farm labourers were those convicted for offences under Section 17 of the Urban Areas Act. When they had served their term of hard labour on Bethal farms, he said, they were not taken back to their homes, and since they had no money in their pockets, just could not travel back on their own. "There are many such people roaming about in Bethal," he said. "Children from the location are kept in lorries till dark, and are then taken to the farms," he told the conference.

CONVICT LABOUR

In a subsequent interview with The Guardian, this Bethal delegate said he had never before seen working on the farms, so much convict labour and so many people from Johannesburg, removed from that city by the operation of the Pass Laws. Many of the labourers today were men who went to pass offices to look for work in Johannesburg, and who were told they could not remain in the city but must accept jobs on the farms, he said.

The amount of convict labour is always increased at planting and harvest times. The convicts are lodged in the local jail and work each day under police guard.

The men removed from the cities

N.R.C. Summoned

JOHANNESBURG. — The Government has decided to call a meeting of the Native Representative Council in Pretoria on Jan. 4, 1949.

The agenda will include the draft estimates of the South African Native Trust and projected legislation affecting the African people.

and the indentured labourers, many of them from territories such as Nyasaland and the Rhodesias (a large source of labour for the farming area), are housed together in the farm compounds.

The men sent from the pass offices work in the fields in their own clothes, The Guardian was told. When their term of work is over, "they are in rags."

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

This delegate added that for the first time this year he saw women from the Bethal location working in the fields. They are 2s. 6d. a day, and go home in the evenings to sleep in the location.

Young boys between the ages of 12 and 17 were also working on the farms. These, the delegate explained, were the children he had said were taken to work "in lorries by night."

"And yet the farmers still complain of a shortage of labour," he said.

No Unemployment Pay For Africans

Effects Of Nats' Policy

JOHANNESBURG.

FIGURES obtained from the Pass Office show an enormous drop in the number of African beneficiaries of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and in the amounts paid out in Johannesburg from June of this year.

In March, April and May there were more than 4,000 beneficiaries each month, whereas in September, October and November the totals were 463, 436 and 407 respectively. The amounts paid out dropped from £11,884 in April to £1,120 in November.

This information was placed before the Johannesburg Joint Council of Europeans and Africans, which decided to approach Mrs. V. M. L. Ballinger to enlist her support in making representations to the Government about the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act as it affects Africans.

CATASTROPHIC

"This catastrophic drop," said the chairman of the Joint Council, Dr. Ellen Hellman, "arises out of a new interpretation by the Unemployment Insurance Board of the term 'similar employment'."

"The Board holds that all unskilled labouring work is of a similar class and that 'similar employment' does not mean 'the same employment'."

"Hence, farm employment is being offered to unemployed, unskilled labourers, and when Natives are offered this class of work and refuse it, they lose their right to benefits."

"AFRICAN IN INDUSTRY HAS COME TO STAY"

JOHANNESBURG.

IT is high time that it was realised that the African in Industry has come to stay, and that he is entitled to a reasonable share, compatible with human requirements and the necessities of life, in the wealth of the country," says the draft evidence of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, to be submitted to the Industrial Legislation Commission of Enquiry.

The draft memorandum was discussed last week-end by a special conference of Non-European trade unions in Bloemfontein.

The memorandum argues that most of South Africa's legislative machinery has been erected to maintain the policy of the African labour in industry, for as a source of cheap labour for the gold mines. "The position today is that industrial output is challenging the premier position of gold-mining."

Industrialists interested in developing South Africa, says the memorandum, are interested in a market for their commodities. A

PETITION TO UNSEAT SENATOR BALLINGER

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Afrikaner Party organ Die Vaderland announced last week that a petition to unseat Senator W. G. Ballinger, representative of Africans in the Transvaal and Free State, was being filed in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The grounds of the petition were allegedly that Senator Ballinger does not possess the necessary qualifications for a senator.

It is alleged he was granted a temporary permit to reside in the Union in 1928, subject to the condition that he would leave the Union should the Minister of Interior so desire. It is thus alleged that he is not a Union national, as he could not acquire domicile in the Union while residing on a temporary permit.

Should such a court action against Senator Ballinger be successful, it is presumed it would result also in the unseating of his wife Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, representative in the Assembly of Africans in the Cape Eastern Division.

Die Vaderland splashed the story on the front page. But several days later Senator Ballinger had still not been served with any court petition.

The mystery now is: Where did the story originate?

"In any case," Mr. Ballinger told The Guardian, "I am definitely a Union national."

He said that since he had been in the Union he had had two passport renewals, and both stated he was a Union national by British birth.

LIQUOR PROFITS

LONDON.

Taxation on alcoholic beverages is exceedingly high at present—but it is clear that the consumer, not the brewer, is paying it.

The famous brewing firm of Arthur Guinness, Son and Co. made a net profit last year of over £2,000,000. Its shareholders will receive a dividend of 29 per cent. —(D. and G. N.)

MAYOR WAS TOO DEMOCRATIC Attacked By Nat. Councillor

JOHANNESBURG.

The Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. S. P. Lee, was hauled over the coals by Dr. G. E. N. Ross, leader of the Nationalist Group of the Council, at its last monthly meeting, for signing a petition protesting against Government interference with the passports of South African citizens.

Dr. Ross said the Mayor was wrong to sign, in his official capacity, a political document which criticised the Government.

If people did things against the interests of the country the Government had the right to take away their passports, he said.

The Mayor replied that he had signed the petition because it was a protest against "any attempt at the curtailment of the freedom of the individual."

Other signatories to the document included Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, who signed the petition just before his death, Bishop Parker, of Pretoria, Justice F. E. T. Krause, G.

B. Cross, secretary of the Law Society, J. Calder, Trades and Labour Council President, and the Rev. J. H. Webb.

Ex-soldiers Debunk Havenga Myth

"Little Hope Of U.P.- A.P. Alliance"

JOHANNESBURG.

THERE is little chance of an alliance between the United Party and Havenga except by a U.P. sell out, says a circular issued to "all active contacts" by the Political Liaison Officer of the Springbok Legion.

The circular debunks the legend of the "White Knight of Afrikaner Nationalism," who is being built up in the daily Press as the future Premier of a reunited South Africa.

Havenga, it points out, "is caricatured as the political Messiah, the Constitutional Man, the Great Hope of Natal, the Embodiment of those Good Things We Remember about Hertzog."

"He is a prominent industrialist, has the favour of a section of the Chamber of Mines, and is known on the plateland to have a farm to which he so picturesquely retired during the years of the war."

HIS REPUTATION

"In spite of a bad record of public office, he has the reputation of a good Minister of Finance, a conservative and cautious administrator."

"But," the statement continues, "this build-up must be set against his political record. As Minister of Finance he kept on the gold standard many months too long and helped to drag the country down to depression and unemployment."

"He opposed the war; he endorsed General Hertzog's latter-day support of National Socialism. In the last few weeks he has shown clearly enough where he stands."

"In his Pretoria and Brakpan speeches he said that he stood for volksreinheld and apartheid. His attitude to the entrenched classes is particularly revealing."

NO MANDATE

"He claims that the present Government has no mandate from the people to amend the constitution on a bare majority vote, though at the same time he does not insist that a two-thirds majority is necessary. He therefore implies that a fresh election, whether provincial or general, is not stated, giving the Government a majority would be sufficient to abrogate the entrenched clauses."

"His point of difference with Malan is therefore not one of principle but one of mathematics."

500 Applicants For 50 Vacancies

JOHANNESBURG.—There have been 500 applications to enter St. Peter's Secondary School, Rosettenville, a school for African boarders and day pupils, the acting principal said at the school's annual speech-day last week. But the school would have only 50 vacancies at the beginning of 1949.

THEY PREFER TO WALK

Africans Still Boycott Moroka Buses

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Moroka Jabavu bus boycott continued all through last week. Buses, restored after a fortnight's suspension following the recent level-crossing accident, trundled to and from the Nancefield Station, their blinds down, the majority of them quite empty, but a few now and again carrying a handful of passengers.

The service was restored by the Road Transportation Board, although the Advisory Board warned that this might lead to trouble.

The chairman of the Advisory Board, Mrs. A. W. Hoernle, who spoke on behalf of her Board at the meeting of the Transportation Board, said it was felt that the tension in the camps had by no means subsided. It might be dangerous to run the buses while the boycott was still in full swing.

This, the Transportation Board contended, was not evidence, but only "opinion." The police reported that they thought the mood of the people had quietened, and they were prepared to afford protection to the bus company. This they have been doing throughout the week. Large squads of mounted police and some members of the flying squads under the command of the district commandant, have been on duty in the camps.

(Continued on page 6)

CHRISTMAS RAIDS

JOHANNESBURG.

The police force staged its usual pre-Christmas raids in compounds, hostels and African residential areas this year.

During the hostel raids, the Africans were roused from their sleep in the early hours of the morning, and stood by, seething with rage, as the police went through their rooms searching their belongings for illicit liquor and dangerous weapons.

THEY PREFER TO WALK

(Continued from page 1)

Isolated incidents of women stoning buses were at first reported.

The Transvaal has written of "unrest" in Moroka, and "clashes" between the police and Moroka residents. It even published on the front page of one issue a picture of a police charge on the day the bus service was restarted.

The Guardian correspondent, on the scene during the police charge, saw only a smallish gathering of Africans a few hundred yards from where the police were stationed on the veld, and no signs of any impending clash.

Yet, suddenly, although no incident seemed to have occurred, the police made a rush towards the crowd of Africans, which quickly dispersed. The police then re-assembled in small groups on the veld. This appears to have been the "clash" reported.

Mrs. Hoernle told The Guardian in an interview that she and the Advisory Board had warned the Transportation Board of the situation in the camps. Yet the buses

ation in the camps. Yet the buses were restored.

The people who were walking to the station twice a day were "weary to a degree," she said. They were carrying heavy loads, and some were to be seen walking home as late as 11 o'clock at night!

"They need transport," Mrs. Hoernle said. "And it should be municipal transport." She did not see why one section of the public should have this as a right, and another not.

The people living in the camps were submitted to "intolerable living conditions." Mrs. Hoernle said their nerves were on edge as a result, and this bus accident had been just the last straw.

Orlando Advisory Board Elections

JOHANNESBURG.

The outgoing Orlando Advisory Board, composed of Messrs. J. S. Mpanza, L. Kumalo, J. Masupa and the Rev. O. Mooki, was re-elected in the elections held this month.

No Aid For African Victims

JOHANNESBURG.

Following the recent tornado in Roodepoort, a fund was started by the Mayor of that town to provide relief for the victims.

Its target was £125,000. By now over £68,000 has been collected.

For the African victims of the same tornado, the Bantu World started a separate fund.

It has acknowledged to date only £44 15s. 11d. Most of the donations have been contributed by Africans, Non-European organisations and individuals, compared with the large amounts received by the Mayor of Roodepoort's fund from large firms, other town councils, collections taken in theatres and other big efforts.



A mug of milk for each child.

African School Feeding In The Holidays

JOHANNESBURG.

THE African Children's Feeding Scheme Committee hope to start a permanent feeding centre early next year in Newclare.

At the moment, the Committee is once again running its holiday feeding schemes in a number of African townships and locations. This scheme has been operated by a voluntary committee for the past four years.

About 7,000 children in Johannesburg get, every day, a mug of milk and a slice of bread and peanut butter. Pre-school children, school-going children, and those for whom there is no place in school, all queue to share the food.

For the permanent feeding centre, the Committee has already found a site in Newclare, but a request for a Government grant has been refused. Feeding from this centre will cost about £5,000 a year.



At the recent Bloemfontein Unity Conference — from the left—the Reverend J. A. Calata, secretary of the African National Congress, Professor D. D. T. Jabavu of the All-African Convention, and Dr. A. B. Xuma, president-general of the A.N.C.



A steady stream of people moves along the Potchefstroom road towards Moroka and Jabavu each evening, as the bus boycott continues. Story is on the front page.

GOVT. DECIDES TO ABOLISH N.R.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Government is to abolish the Native Representative Council. "It is of the same opinion as yourselves (the councillors) that the Council can serve no useful purpose," is the way Dr. Gordon Mears, the Native Affairs Department Secretary, put it in his opening address at the N.R.C. session in Pretoria this week, the first coming together of this body for two years since it adjourned in protest in August, 1946.

Delivering the Government's message, Mr. Mears said it was not prepared to accede to the Council's demands for the abolition of discriminatory legislation. No Government could do so, he said, and such a course was impracticable.

Mr. Mears went on to say it was questionable whether the Council had ever presented the real needs of the Natives. "Matters affecting the everyday affairs of the bulk of the population, particularly the rural, received relatively little attention."

"On the other hand, the Council has turned its mind to politics, and in a demand for political equality insisted on the removal of all distinctions between blacks and whites."

"These distinctions include mat-

ters of policy which are of a protective nature for Natives, such as Native Land and Liquor Laws, to mention only two."

It was the Government's intention to encourage and develop the local council and bunga system throughout the Union, with due regard to ethnic and tribal affiliations. It was hoped these bodies would from time to time be granted powers and privileges which would eventually lead to a large measure of local self-government for Natives concerned.

Mr. Mears said the Government would make known its plans for the representation of views of urbanised Natives in due course. Meanwhile the Advisory Boards would continue to serve the purpose.

He added: "While the Govern-

ment recognises the fact that in every location a settled Native population is necessary for the labour needs of commerce and industry, it is firmly determined, in the interest of both Natives and Europeans, to control the influx to, and the illegal squatting of Native in, urban areas."

STOP PRESS

The N.R.C. in a special resolution passed on Wednesday morning, deprecated the failure of the Minister of Native Affairs to place before the newly elected Council before the new Government's policy of apartheid.

"In the circumstances," says the resolution, "this Council finds itself unable to proceed with the agenda of this session until the Government has through a Minister of the Crown, laid before the Council for its consideration and report the full details of its Native policy and its relevant legislative programme, and especially its own proposals to provide the so-called more effective connecting link between it (the Government) and the Native people."

BUSY SESSION

JOHANNESBURG. — According to Die Transvaler, the coming session of Parliament will be an unusually heavy one and will last much longer than usual.

The legislation envisaged by the Government includes:

1. Representation of South-West Africa in the Union Parliament.

2. Increase in the number of Cabinet Ministers.

3. Inauguration of a People's Register.

4. Legislation dealing with the qualification of Coloured voters.

5. The Minister's right to withhold passports.

6. Amendment to the first chapter of the Ghetto Act in connection with the right of owning property.

7. Control of the movements of Africans, particularly towards the cities.

HOME LANGUAGE

JOHANNESBURG. — The number of South African Europeans who use Afrikaans as their home language has increased, according to the 1946 census figures released.

In 1946, 628,000 Europeans under the age of 21 spoke Afrikaans. This constitutes 65 per cent. of all Europeans under 21. Only 322,000 (33 per cent.) indicated that their home language was English. Those whose home language was both English and Afrikaans totalled 11,000.

In the age group 25 to 74 52,000 were English-speaking and 46,000 Afrikaans-speaking.

The total number of Europeans of all ages whose home language was English was 930,000, compared with 1,380,000 (57 per cent.) whose home language was Afrikaans.

INDIAN PENSIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

The Johannesburg Indian Social Welfare Association is raising with the Minister of Social Welfare the exclusion of Indians from the recent small increases in maintenance allowances and old age pensions.

The Havenga budget raised the maximum figure for which maintenance allowances are possible to Coloureds by £1 to £7. The maximum for Indians is still only £6.

Old age pensions for Indians in urban areas are still £2 5s. and £1 5s. in rural areas, while for Coloureds these pensions are now £2 5s. and £1 15s. respectively.

S.A.I.C. Executive

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Indian Congress Executive is to meet in Durban on January 15 to discuss the South African Indian question and the April session of the United Nations.

Miners Killed In Faction Fights

No Outlet For Workers' Grievances

JOHANNESBURG.

SEVERE tribal fighting in which numbers of African miners have been stabbed, some fatally, has broken out on several Rand gold mines during the past few weeks. The fighting is said to have been between Union and "foreign" (Tanganyika) workers.

Discussing this tribal fighting, Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the African Mine Workers' Union, told The Guardian that during the peak years of the African Miners' Union, faction fighting had abated considerably. In the days prior to the formation of the union, there had been fighting in some compounds almost every Sunday. From about 1942 these tribal disputes became rare.

"This will be admitted by all honest compound managers, and by a great section of the police," Mr. Marks said. "It was one of the union's greatest achievements."

Rumours of growing disputes usually reached the union in time for it to take the matter up with the miners at a meeting, and find some way of settling their grievances.

NO ORGANISATION

"Today there is no form of organisation allowed the African miners," said Mr. Marks.

"Under War Measure 1452, more than 25 miners may not gather together to discuss their grievances. The union is banned from the compounds. The miners have no confidence in the so-called welfare inspectors appointed after the August, 1946, strike.

"Resentment against conditions on the mines is mounting," Mr. Marks added. "And there is no outlet for it." He said that at the bottom of tribal disputes was the divide and rule policy of the mines. The tribes were kept separate and propaganda conducted to discredit one tribe in the eyes of another.

Congratulations

JOHANNESBURG.—The South African Indian Congress has sent congratulations to Dr. Xuma and Professor Jabavu and their organisations on their efforts to forge African unity.

Boycotter Charged With Public Violence

JOHANNESBURG.—The Chairman of the Potchefstroom Indian Boycott Committee, Mr. Bosman, is one of those appearing before a Potchefstroom court on the 11th of this month on a charge of public violence.

The charge arises from a number of stone-throwing incidents at Indian shops and homes during November.

NEGOTIATIONS TO END BUS BOYCOTT

JOHANNESBURG.

While the people of Moroka and Jabavu continue to boycott their bus service, The Guardian learns that negotiations are proceeding to enable another private transport company to take over the service.

The African owners of the present company serving Moroka and Jabavu, The Guardian was informed, were called to a meeting on December 13 by the acting manager of the Council's Non-European Affairs Department.

Present at the meeting were two European directors of the Public Utility Transport Corporation which runs the bus services to Alexandra Township and several others.

The Manager of the N.E.A.D. put a proposition to the two African bus-owners. In order to save themselves from ruin they

should allow themselves to be bought out by the P.U.T.C., he suggested.

The offer was refused.

Meanwhile, certain Moroka advisory board members are reported to be busy in Moroka circulating a petition calling on the P.U.T.C. to take over the bus service.

"Peoples' Education" Plan

JOHANNESBURG.

A "broad scheme for peoples' education in all spheres" is being worked out by a committee and will be placed before the Minister of Education, according to Die Transvaler.

The initiative in the scheme came from the F.A.K. (Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenigings). Three Cabinet Ministers are said to have indicated their satisfaction with it.

The scheme divides peoples' education under three heads: religion, education and sport. The aim is to "make every member of society of more use to the nation (vir staat en volk), and to utilise energy and knowledge at present being wasted."

BALOYI LOSING HIS GRIP?

JOHANNESBURG. Mr. R. G. Baloyi, treasurer-general of the African National Congress, at a meeting of his Congress branch in Alexandra recently, proposed a vote of confidence in the Minister of Justice for taking away certain liquor rights given to Indians by the previous Government.

The meeting did not pass the resolution. Instead a vote of no confidence in Mr. Baloyi and his supporter Mr. S. Modise is expected to be brought forward at the next meeting of the branch.

Both these Congressmen are alleged to have done active canvassing for Mr. J. H. J. van Rensburg, the Nationalist candidate in the Senate elections for African representatives.

COMMUNIST BOGY IN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS?

JOHANNESBURG.

According to the political correspondent of a leading Sunday paper, the Nationalist Party will not contest the Provincial Elections purely on its colour policy. It is preparing a new election bogey—Communism.

The election cry of apartheid has spent itself, says this correspondent, and so the Nationalists have been hard at working building this new menace. The cry "Save South Africa from Communism" will be heard more frequently from election platforms.

Dr. Dönges and Mr. Schoeman are expected to lead off this campaign. It is likely, says this report, that "no more Communist literature will be allowed in the country."

MORE POLICE RAIDS ON RAND

JOHANNESBURG.

Police raids for illicit liquor and dangerous weapons continued the whole of last week. Pimville and Benoni were among the African areas raided by strong forces of police.

Each morning at the Johannesburg station, as the city's African workers alighted from their trains, groups of plain-clothes African and European detectives stood at the gangways and passages leading from the station to examine passes.

Arrested men were kept in custody in the station waiting room, from where they were taken to charge offices.

These raids at the station continued on some mornings till as late as 11 a.m.

UNABLE TO INFLUENCE PARLIAMENT

KIMBERLEY.

Delivering his presidential address at the 21st annual conference of the Location Advisory Boards, Mr. R. H. Godio said that in 25 years the Urban Areas Act had been amended 10 times, and each time the changes were of an oppressive nature.

"We have not been able to influence Parliament to do the 'right thing'," he said.

Mr. Godio said the minimum demands of the conference were for the right of the Africans to take part in local self-government granted to urban local authorities, their right to own a home in the urban areas, the right to come and go, the right to sell their labour to the highest bidder, the right to feel safe in their own homes, and the right to self-expression.

Bakers' Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

The 6th annual conference of the National Bakers' Union will take place in Durban on January 8 and 9. The conference will consider a resolution asking the Government to retain Wednesday as a breadless day, as this will maintain the 8-day working week in the baking industry.

Other resolutions to be considered ask that the provident fund scheme adopted by the Witwatersrand should be operated on a national basis; associate the bakers' union with the protests against the terms of reference of the Industrial Legislation Commission of Enquiry; and protest against the commission enquiring into the Garment Workers' Union.

THEY'RE DOING EINE

JOHANNESBURG.—Die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionaal Lewens Assuransie - Afp. (SANLAN) made a profit of over 900,000 last year, states the report to the company's 8th annual general meeting. This does not take into account any capital profit.

New business amounted to £21,122,000. The total funds of the institution are now £14,750,000.

NEW COMPANIES

JOHANNESBURG.—A record number of new companies was registered in the Union last year, according to The Star. Up to the end of November the total exceeded 4,000, including 27 foreign companies.

The capital involved totalled £25,000,000. Increases of companies' capital totalled £25,000,000.

AFRICANS DECLARE WAR ON APARTHEID

N.R.C.'s Reaction To Govt. Ultimatum

From Ruth First

JOHANNESBURG.

"NOW the fight comes out into the open," was the comment of more than one member of the Native Representative Council when the 10th abortive session of this body ended in Pretoria last week.

The duel between the Government and the N.R.C. had ended in a victory for the Council. The Government hoped, in disbanding the Council, to remove an instrument that helps to weld the African people into a whole.

INSTEAD IT RECEIVED WHAT IS TANTAMOUNT TO A DECLARATION OF WAR.

The speeches of the African members of the N.R.C. were excellent. Those by Dr. Moroka.

Mr. Mosaka, Professor Matthews, Mr. Selohe Thema, Mr. Chamption and Mr. Maimang were among the best denunciations of Nationalist policy I have heard for ages.

"Let no one misunderstand what I am saying," said Dr. Moroka. "We want nothing less than complete equality."

In a witty tirade against the Nats' colour policy, he kept even the Nationalist member of the Native Affairs Commission amused, as he dealt with the slogan: "Would you like a kaffir to marry your daughter?"

FAILURE OF SEGREGATION

Mr. Mosaka delivered a brilliant address, beautifully composed in lucid English. The failure of the N.R.C. was the failure of segregation, he said. The session had been called as a mere formality, as the Secretary for Native Affairs had admitted in his opening address.

Mr. Thema was bitter. He told

the Council how he had been sjamboked in his youth and how he had tried to forget these things.

"The Nationalists want us to go back to our kraals," he said. "But were not Bulawayo and Johannesburg and Wanderbosom things."

(Continued on page 8)

Cannot Be Justified

JOHANNESBURG.

"Indians cannot in any way have anything to do with the committees set up by Dr. Dierges to investigate Indian penetration," Mr. Y. Cachalia, secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, told The Guardian last week.

"The policy of repatriating Indians flows from the segregatory chapter one of the Ghetto Act, and the extension of this policy to the Cape and its intensification in the Transvaal and Natal cannot be justified on any grounds."

Mr. Cachalia warned that the continuation of repressive measures against Indians and all sections of the Non-European people, which is clearly the policy of the present Government, can only lead to great bitterness and racial disharmony, which will be to the detriment of South Africa.

"Nats. Responsible For Leibbrandt's Actions"

-Springbok Legion

JOHANNESBURG.

"THE Nationalist Party must take full responsibility for the actions and utterances of the men whom they liberated," says a statement issued by the national chairman of the Springbok Legion in the Robey Leibbrandt affair at Parys.

Leibbrandt, who, with other political prisoners, was released from Robenspoort in June, was charged with having used words calculated to cause a breach of the peace at a Christmas celebration in Parys.

The main charge was that he made use of obscene language, including: "You can go to hell."

Leibbrandt was found not guilty. "The Legion's attitude to the release of Leibbrandt and company was determined not only by the fact that the released men were traitors to their country and their release a betrayal of those ideals for which so many fought and died, but also by the conviction that the liberated traitors would prove a menace to the future peace of South Africa," says the Legion statement.

"Events are proving these fears to be well founded. The Legion has always maintained that the propagation of racial hatred is the most dangerous weapon of Nazism."

AFRICANS DECLARE WAR ON APARTHEID

(Continued from page 1)

here in Pretoria the kraals of Mshikazi? How must we go back? You have destroyed the roads leading to these kraals."

Mr. Chamption boomed through the hall, referring to the picture of Jesus Christ hanging on the wall behind Mr. Mears, Secretary for Native Affairs, he said it was good the N.R.C. was having its last session in the Apostolic Hall. Now Hertog's baby would have a decent burial in a church house. "Will you please lower your voice, Mr. Chamption?" said Mr. Mears.

"I am used to speaking at big political gatherings," replied Chamption, "and now I am practising for the meetings that will be held when this news of the abolition of the Council gets to the country." And he went on booming.

The Nationalists' decision to abolish the N.R.C. and its declaration through Mr. Mears that discriminatory legislation can never be abolished, have served to crystallise African opposition to the Government, as few other measures have done so far.

The Government was trying to "pass the buck," as Dr. Moroka said. It wanted to kill the Council, but instead of doing so it tried to give the impression that it was carrying out what the Council itself had pressed for.

THE DIFFERENCE

But there was a difference. The Councilors wanted the N.R.C.

abolished so that in its place the Africans could get full political rights, not village councils.

The Government charged that the Africans had not used the N.R.C. properly, that they had turned their minds to politics. "But the Council was established as a political body," was Professor Matthews' retort.

For the last time, with the threat of abolition hanging over their heads, the Councilors used their toy telephone to the Government. For the last time they made their protests against the land restrictions that were impoverishing their people. They warned that unrest among the African people was growing in all parts of the country.

PRELUDE TO FASCISM

They saw the abolition of the N.R.C. as a prelude to the muzzling of the African people, as a prelude to complete fascism under the Nationalist Government.

The co-operation of the African people in the development of the country was essential, they said. "You will need our help one day," said Councillor Selohe Thema. "But will you get it? We cannot co-operate with a people which tramples on us."

And it was Councillor Selby Maimang who ended his speech by saying: "The African people will have to look for friendship from outside to help them out of their danger."

SIX ARRESTED FOR STONING BUSES

JOHANNESBURG.

Six Africans, among them a woman, were arrested last week during the stoning of buses on the Moroka route.

The police on duty in the area made a charge and dispersed a crowd of Africans on the scene.

Meanwhile, the boycott of the buses continues. It has lasted now since the beginning of December.

N.E. TRADE UNION UNITY

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal and Free State Council of Non-European Trade Unions will make joint representations to the Industrial Legislation Commission.

This decision was reached at the special conference attended by representatives of the two bodies in Bloemfontein recently. A number of other resolutions for closer co-operation between the two organisations were passed. African unions in Natal and the Western Province are to be invited to take part in these joint representations to the commission.

DROUGHT

JOHANNESBURG.

Reports from Basutoland say the protectorate is experiencing the worst drought since 1933. The rivers are dry and crops are withering.

T.L.C. WANTS A 40-HOUR WEEK

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Trades and Labour Council is to ask the Industrial Legislation Commission to recommend the introduction of the 40-hour working week for all workers.

Long hours of work are not justified on moral, social or economic grounds, says the Council.

Industrial development in South Africa has made enormous progress in the last decade, and workers are entitled to share in the benefits of technical progress.

The Council records that in the Union the weekly hours of work under the first Factories Act were fixed at 50 a week, were reduced to 48 a week in 1930 and to 46 a week in 1941.

At least three very important industries—the building, printing and clothing—have, with very little opposition, accepted the 40-hour working week. In the latter two industries it operates from the beginning of this year, and in the building industry from 1951.

Among the capitalist countries in which the 40-hour working week operates, the Council quotes New Zealand, the United States, France, Belgium, Canada and Australia.

'BRITAIN IS TRYING TO ENSLAVE US'

Basuto People Complain To U.N.O.

JOHANNESBURG.

THE British Government, through the dramatic ritual murder trials which have been taking place in Basutoland during the past two years, has declared war against a peaceful nation and, under the pretext of suppressing murders, is trying to deprive the Basuto people of their rights, says Lekhotla la Bafo, the national organisation of the Basuto people, in a special petition to the United Nations Organisation.

Lekhotla la Bafo has appealed to U.N.O., the British Foreign Office and the Secretary of State for the Dominions to intervene. "Our chiefs have been ensnared in heinous crimes," says their petition. They allege that the three major cases so far held have been "based on fictitious evidence."

CHIEFS INVOLVED

Involved in these trials on charges of arson and ritual murder are the reigning house of Moshesh (a large number of important chiefs and sub-chiefs are already under sentence of death) and Lekhotla la Bafo. "It surprises us to find that in practically every murder case a chief is involved with ten or more of his subjects," states the petition, "all of whom are ultimately convicted in the High Court."

"In view of the terrible punishment meted out for ritual murders it is absolutely incredible that so many people should not have learned a lesson."

They then cite a number of cases in Basutoland courts. In one, all the accused were acquitted because the evidence of the accomplice was found to be false. In another the accused were acquitted because the Crown witnesses stated before the court that they were instigated by the police to give false evidence.

"It is distressing to find that the police have not made any serious attempt to improve their methods of investigation even after they have discovered the prevalence of perjury in these cases," says the petition to U.N.O.

BACK TO LIFE

Citing another nine cases, the petition refers to one involving the Paramount Chief on a charge of murder. Here the person alleged to have been murdered by

"This is no less than a declaration of war upon an innocent and peaceful people."

PEOPLE'S VIEW

The people of Basutoland have their own explanation for this spate of trials. The story has gone the rounds that the administration has recently asked that an area in the centre of Basutoland of 40 miles square be set aside for European settlers, and is building a new main road and planning hotels—all this preliminary to greater British settlement in the protectorate.

Others say that Britain is preparing to accede to Premier Malan's demand for the incorporation of the territory in South Africa but must first break down all opposition to this proposal among the Basuto people themselves.

Whatever the explanation, the story of the trials holds some secret not yet brought to light. Reports received in Johannesburg last week tell of more arrests at Buthe-Buthe, at Matsieng in Central Basutoland, Teyateyaneng in the east. New ritual murder cases are likely to open. The unrest among the people deepens.

KING'S EVIDENCE

Documents submitted to U.N.O. in support of Lekhotla la Bafo's petition show that in some cases important Crown witnesses admitted they were party to the murders, and that some of the Crown witnesses have given evidence in more than one of the trials.

No law of habeas corpus appears to be operating in Basutoland. Africans have been placed under arrest, kept in custody for months on end, and then appear in court to testify to statements made by them while in police custody.

"Another factor which shows that under the pretext of suppressing murders the British Government is at war with a peaceful nation," says the petition, "is that a new proclamation has been issued providing for the collective punishment of all people in a district where a person is murdered. The police quartered in the area in which a person is murdered are allowed by this proclamation to live at the expense of the people there."

Anti-Communist Drive A Threat To Trade Unions---Solly Sachs

Schoeman's Assurances Unacceptable

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. SCHOEMAN'S reassurance to the trade union movement that the Government will not interfere with their domestic affairs will certainly not be accepted by trade unionists, Mr. E. S. Sachs, general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, told The Guardian.

The Minister of Labour said in his statement that the Government's first aim was to eradicate Communism from the trade union movement, why have a commission?

"Mr. Schoeman cannot have it both ways," Mr. Sachs said.

"Either the trade union movement must have full freedom of organisation, as is the case in all democratic countries, where the rank and file must decide on policy and leadership; or the Government will dictate to trade unions."

"We know from experience that the definition of Communism can be very elastic."

THE COMMISSION

Mr. Sachs said the Minister of Labour had just appointed a commission with very wide terms of reference to investigate industrial laws, and that this commission would cost taxpayers many

thousands of pounds. If Mr. Schoeman had already decided the fate of the trade union movement, why have a commission? Mr. Sachs went on.

"I cannot find a single instance where the Nationalist Party has rendered any service to the trade union movement."

"On the contrary, for 12 years, the Nationalist Party, directly and through a number of subsidiary organisations such as the F.A.K., Die Raad van Trusteers, the Blankewerkers, Beeskermingsbond and so on, has conducted against the trade union movement a persistent campaign of disruption which today is being carried on with ever-increasing energy."

Mr. Sachs said Mr. Schoeman's true motive was to destroy the trade union movement so that the Nationalist Party might gain permanent footing in the industrial areas of South Africa.

ONLY ONE COLOURED PUPIL PASSED MATRIC

JOHANNESBURG.

IN the Transvaal this year only one Coloured youngster passed the Secondary School Certificate (matriculation) examination.

This was a pupil enrolled at the Bursarion Training Centre in Johannesburg.

Teachers and parents are demanding a full enquiry into this by the Department of Education. "The results have been getting worse year by year," a prominent member of the Coloured community told The Guardian. "Something must be done about it."

The feeling is that these shocking results are due to poor teaching.

The teachers were quite indifferent towards their pupils' progress, this parent said.

MRS. BALLINGER PROTESTS AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT COMMISSION REPORT

JOHANNESBURG.

Mrs. Ballinger, a member of the commission appointed to investigate the workings of the Unemployment Insurance Act, has protested against the report drafted by some of the members of the commission.

Only the four Nationalist members of the commission drafted the report handed to the Minister of Labour some months ago. Two of these members had not even heard the evidence submitted to the commission, being appointed only after the Nationalist Government changed the composition of the commission after May 26.

Since then the Labour member, Mr. John Christie, has handed in a minority report.

Mrs. Ballinger was invited by the Minister to do so as well, but she refused. She contends that the commission's procedure was illegal, and that the original members appointed to serve on the commission by the United Party Government had every right to continue with their work although they later ceased to be members of Parliament.

Rents Doubled In Coronation Township

JOHANNESBURG.

Coloured people living in Coronation Township, the sub-economic housing scheme, are up in arms about rent increases in a large batch of new houses recently completed.

The rents for the new houses are double those of the old ones.

Where previously the larger houses were 12s. 6d. a week, these are now £1 3s. a week. The rents for the 6s. 7s. 6d. and 10s. a week houses have also been doubled.

The African Peoples' Organisation is to send a deputation to the City Council to protest against the increases.

GC T'S NEW BILL TO CO TROL AFRICAN LABOUR

A NEW BILL affecting the recruiting and employment of Africans was placed before the 15th session of the Native Representatives

JOHANNESBURG.

Council last week.

The N.R.C. did not discuss it because it refused to proceed with

its agenda until the Government

is prepared to place before it

the Bill, to be known as the

Native Labour Amendment Bill.

The Bill, to be known as the

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Native Labour Amendment Bill.

T.L.C.'s Advice To Unions

JOHANNESBURG.

Trade unions will submit their

oral statements to the Government

only if subpoenaed to do so by

the Commission.

This is the advice given to

unions by the Trades and Labour

Council, following a special meet-

ing of the Council's standing com-

mittee towards the end of last

month.

A subpoena is issued by the

Commission, unions should submit

their balance-sheets to the T.L.C.

which will send them to the Com-

mission in bulk under a letter of

protest.

Drought May Affect Bread Supplies

JOHANNESBURG.

Although the Wheat Board has assured bakers that the supply

of flour for white bread will last, the fear of a shortage is ever

present.

Bakers are wondering how the

food supplies for Africans will be

secured, although wheat prices

are high. The wheat board is

understood to be leaving

authority for the United States to

States that the Union is looking

to her for help to maintain the

wheat supply position there?

CHIEFS PROPERTY

The new Bill tries also to over-

come a difficulty over the ques-

tion of chieftainship which the

Government has faced recently.

A new clause enables the Gov-

ernment-General summarily to

investigate, to make an order

awarding to the person the prop-

erty of the land, and the case

contains a note that two recent

cases (of ex-Chief Sibasa in the

Northern Transvaal and the case

of the Tondo Paramountcy) had

decreased or depressed.

The explanatory memorandum

contains a note that two recent

cases (of ex-Chief Sibasa in the

SIDESTEPPING

The union maintaining that the

demands of the workers for

a 12 per cent. increase.

The union memorandum de-

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MINERS DEMAND 30 PER CENT. WAGE INCREASE

JOHANNESBURG.

The Mining Union's Joint Com-

mittee is supporting the memo-

randum of the new executive of the

Union, submitted

to the Commission now investigat-

ing the wages and conditions of

the miners. The miners are demand-

ing a 30 per cent. increase in their

wages, compared with their previous

wages. The union memorandum

demanded for a 12 per cent. in-

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Eric Louw's Headache

JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. R. G. Baloyi, Treasurer-

General of the African National

Congress, has written to The

Guardian stating that a report in

the paper of January 9, 1949,

under the heading "Baloyi's

Headache" is incorrect.

Mr. Baloyi, it is alleged that I pro-

posed a vote of confidence in the

Government.

I wish to state myself of the

fact that I never said or did any-

thing of the kind.

I may say the quoted statement

was made by Mr. G. G. G. G. G.

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Moroka Schools May Close Down

JOHANNESBURG.

Two of the

largest primary schools in Moroka

which are being subdivided at the

end of 1949, may have to close

down because the Transvaal

Government has decided to

close them.

They have the right to appeal

against this decision to the Con-

sideration of the Transvaal

Government.

The action may be brought

before the Transvaal

Government.

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Government.

THEY LEFT HIM IN A POOL OF BLOOD

African Teacher Complains Of Assault By Police

JOHANNESBURG.

"ASSAULTS of this nature occur every minute of the day to thousands of the African people," is the comment of the Transvaal African National Congress on the complaint by one of their executive members, a teacher and Fort Hare graduate, that he had been assaulted by the police.

The teacher is Mr. A. A. Mathlare. The Congress states that it is trying to bring a civil action against the police for this alleged assault.

Describing what happened to him on the evening of December 19, the day on which he arrived back from the Bloemfontein conference, Mr. Mathlare says that he went to a cafe at about 9 p.m.

POLICE WERE THERE

"When I got there, there was a car opposite the door. One policeman was sitting in the car and one was eating beef out of a tin at the door.

"I entered the cafe and inside was a policeman. When I got to the corner this policeman asked me for a pass. In reply I said I did not carry a pass. He then asked me to produce an exemption certificate and this I did. The first policeman then asked me what my work was and in reply I said I was a schoolteacher.

"He remarked twice: 'school-teacher'. Then he said he was going to deal with me and he ordered me to go to the car. We drove off in the direction of the Newlands police station...

"All along the way he was insulting me and pulling me. When we got to the police station he pulled me out and pushed me into one of the rooms...

BRUTALITY

"There were some police inside but they left and a Native policeman was ordered to stand at the door. Policeman — (the number is given) got near me and the first policeman assaulted me severely. He told — to take off my spectacles and the latter remained threatening me... The assault was performed with all the brutality and cruelty imaginable.

"At the time I was trying to protect my swollen gums. I bled profusely. When I fell he used his feet, and all the time I used my hands to keep them away from my mouth.

"When he had finished I sat on a bench and bled terribly and there was a pool of blood where I was sitting. I have kept my suit, shirt, collar and tie as exhibits and I am sure anybody looking at them today will form a rough idea of how brutal the assault was..."

Mathlare goes on to describe in his statement how he was eventually brought before the court, that bail was refused him but that the charge against him was altered on instructions from the magistrate.

His case is still proceeding.

LITTLE TIME TO WASTE

JOHANNESBURG.—The African National Congress and the All African Convention have little time to waste, says Inkundya Ya Bantu in a recent editorial, if they are to work out an effective formula for a living unity between the two bodies.

"There will be legislation to abolish our representatives in Parliament. Unless our joint committee can give us a clear and unequivocal lead, we shall again find our people going various ways and speaking with many voices.

"All these things and many more call for an immediate meeting of the joint committee."

Diedrichs Lectures To Court

Garment Commission Given Definition Of Communism

JOHANNESBURG.

SOUTH AFRICA'S M.P. "expert" on Communism, Dr. N. Diedrichs of the Reddingsdaadbond, instructed the Garment Workers' Commission in the principles of Communist theory for five hours when the Commission resumed its proceedings at the beginning of this week.

He argued that one of the most important reasons for the trouble in the Garment Workers' Union was the fact that almost from the beginning this organisation had been under a Communist group which had, as its object, the spreading of propaganda for Russia.

"fascists, naris, hoodlums, rumpsters, fat-bellied landlords". He told the Commission all about the clenched fist salute.

Communists used the tactic of the trojan horse in trade unions, he said.

He named Ray Alexander and W. H. Andrews as examples of Communists who had gained control of workers in the unions.

Taking out of his black suitcase a pile of copies of The Garment Worker, organ of Sachs' union, Diedrichs proceeded to give the Commission readings from this journal dating back eleven years.

"GLORIFICATION OF RUSSIA"

The Garment Worker was used for the glorification of Russia, he said. From A to Z it was a periodical for Communist propaganda.

He read to the Commission the words of the songs, The Internationale, Red Army March and others. Afrikaner meises were expected to know these songs, he said in a shocked voice.

After giving his evidence, Mr. Diedrichs, M.P. for Randfontein, left for the opening of Parliament. He will have to be cross-examined during the Parliamentary recess.

A second subpoena has been served on Mr. Sachs to produce more union documents such as cheque vouchers, petty cash books and bank statements dating back several years.

The inquiry is continuing.

GAVE DEFINITIONS

Led by Adv. Oswald Pirow, K.C., who is appearing for Die Blankewerkersbeskermingsbond, Diedrichs, who had on the chair next to him a large black suitcase containing numbers of reference books, including the Webb's work on Soviet Communism, gave definitions of Communism, the class struggle, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie.

Claiming to quote Dr. George Sacks, Diedrichs defined socialism as a preliminary step to Communism. But the terms were interchangeable, he said, and both were really the same. Here the Commission's chairman, Mr. H. J. Graham Wolfraad, interrupted: "Isn't that Socialism is not quite so radical?"

"Yes," said Diedrichs.

HISTORY OF COMMUNISM

Diedrichs, the expert, said the father of Russian Communism was Karl Marx. He gave what he called a brief history of Communism in South Africa. Communists used special slogans that distinguished them, he explained.

Examples he quoted were

No More Bursaries For African Medical Students

JOHANNESBURG.

WHAT may be the forerunner of the introduction of complete apartheid in the universities is being seen at the University of Witwatersrand Medical School this year.

Under the United Party Government a number of Government scholarships (between five and seven each year) was made available to Africans wishing to do medical studies.

This year the Nationalist Government has made available only three scholarships, and has indicated that these are the last to be granted.

The previous Government intended to erect a medical school for Africans at Durban, which would absorb those African medical students at present admitted to the Universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand.

It is not known when this new medical school will be ready. Nevertheless no new bursaries will be granted after this year.

The stopping of the bursaries, at the moment, not prevent Africans with independent means from applying for admission to the medical school.

The Nationalists, however, have publicly stated their intention to introduce legislation to make the admission of Africans to the colleges illegal.

Pirow Knew Nothing About It

JOHANNESBURG.

THE New Order's fascist literature is being distributed in Britain by the most underhand methods. But its leader, Oswald Pirow doesn't know anything about it.

A reader of a newspaper in Britain sent its editor a specimen of what he received as a result of answering an advertisement in a well-known periodical of progressive tendency.

The advertisement asked for volunteers for some sort of work, undefined, but by implication connected with the principles of the journal.

Out of curiosity, this reader sent his name and address. For weeks he heard nothing. Then he began to receive bundles of literature from abroad.

NUREMBERG "MARTYRS"

The literature was fascist. One bundle, from South Africa, contained the weekly newspaper issued by Pirow. It was the issue of October 18, dedicated to the anniversary of the "Nuremberg massacre".

This was the issue which displayed a memorial tablet to the Nuremberg "martyrs", the Nazi criminals, whose names were displayed within a heavy black border.

These publications continued to be sent in large numbers. The reader was apparently expected to distribute the stuff.

When The Guardian correspondent described to Pirow, over telephone, the method by which his literature was being distributed, the first thing he said was: "I am very pleased to be asked."

He then disclaimed all knowledge of how this was done.

He had nothing to do with the distribution of his newsletter in this way, he said. "I know nothing of what goes on in Britain," he added.

"When I want to distribute a newsletter," he said, "I send direct through the post to individuals and organisations."

He said that some people in his mailing list received more than one copy. What they did with them after he had posted the did not know. That was his "business".

ALL S.A. CHURCHES CONDEMN APARTHEID

JOHANNESBURG.

ALL the churches in South Africa, including a section of the Dutch Reformed Church, have condemned apartheid as immoral and unchristian.

The churches' indictment of apartheid is based on racial distinctions is recorded in a pamphlet issued by the Civil Rights League.

"The policy of apartheid is not a purely political matter," says the introduction to the pamphlet. It affects the foundations of the relations of men to men, and involves our deepest values of human nature. It is primarily a moral and religious issue.

statements of what they consider to be the proper attitude of Christians in matters of race."

"The churches that have condemned apartheid are:

ANGLICAN. — The Episcopal Synod of the Church of the Province of South Africa.

BAPTIST. — The annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa.

CONGREGATIONAL. — The annual assembly of the Congregational Union of South Africa.

DUTCH REFORMED. — The Wynberg Ring of the Dutch Reformed Church.

METHODIST. — The 66th annual conference of the Methodist Church of South Africa.

PRESBYTERIAN. — The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa.

ROMAN CATHOLIC. — A letter by Bishop Henemann to the clergy of his Vicariate.

NOT SILENT

"For this reason the Christian Churches of South Africa, acting in accordance with their supra-political functions, have not been silent in a matter of such moment, and have made clear

ACTION GROUPS TO RESIST TRAIN APARTHEID

CAPE TOWN.

ACTION groups against train apartheid are being set up throughout the Peninsula, ready for the day when the newly-formed "Train Apartheid Resistance Committee" gives the signal for concerted opposition to Mr. Sauer's regulation.

Two days after the regulation came into force 100 delegates from 30 political, civic, trade union, sporting, social, educational and religious bodies came together to form the action committee. Its aim: To take active steps to render the regulation impracticable. Methods of carrying out this decision are in the hands of a working committee of 20.

An appeal for support has been made by the action committee and the Western Province Trades and

Police stood by at the station in the centre of town in case there should be any "incidents."

At Claremont, it is reported, police were sent post-haste to the station to intercept a group of Coloured men travelling in prohibited coaches. A number of Europeans continue to defy the regulation on all lines.

In an interview the secretary of the action committee, Mr. A. E. Abdurahman, said he wished to make it clear that this campaign was not an "anti-White war."

TRAIN APARTHEID

(Continued from page 1)

president of the Coloured People's National Union, talked to the daily Press about "useless defiance of apartheid." "To try to become martyrs through arrest would be ineffective," he said. He condemned an attitude of "aggression to authority."

To The Guardian, in a special interview, Mr. Golding spoke of the deep humiliation suffered by the Coloured people as a result of this new Government move. "Mr. Sauer's instructions must be strongly challenged," he said. The form of the challenge would depend on "the lead given the people following the expression of the considered opinion of Coloured organisations."

The C.P.N.U. should, of course, be included among these organisations.

Mr. Golding then went on to say that it might appear to the Non-European people that the day was lost. His answer was that they should not despair. "We are not alone in this struggle. In this moment of darkness, let us turn our thoughts to God and ask for His guidance."

Students React To Apartheid Threat

CAPE TOWN.

STUDENTS of the Universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand have reacted strongly to the Prime Minister's recent statement that segregation is to be enforced in South African universities. Elections taking place at both centres this week are being fought mainly on the question of apartheid at universities.

The Students' Representative Council of the Witwatersrand University has endorsed wholeheartedly the official statement issued by Mr. P. V. Tobias, N.U.S.A.S. President, vigorously opposing Malan's apartheid proposal.

The S.R.C. also condemned any attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of universities.

PRINCIPLES VIOLATED

Non-European students at the University expressed to a Guardian correspondent their opinion that the institution of apartheid in the universities would violate one of the fundamental principles on which university life is based.

"We go to university not only to take our degrees but to come into contact with people and try to get to know them," said Robert Crow, third-year B.A. student.

And Lionel Ngakane, also a third-year B.A. student, said Dr. Janse's statement that education for Africans would be provided on the "right lines" meant the authorities would provide education on the lines of the Pretoria University for Africans run by the D.R.C.

AT CAPE TOWN

The annual elections to Cape Town University's Students' Representative Council take place this week under the shadow of the Nussas crisis.

Several of the five main groups entering candidates in this election are probably temporary political alignments among the students: both the Students' and Liberal Association and the University Group having split from the Students' United Party on the Nussas issue. Also in the field are the Students' Socialist Party, and three Nat. candidates.

The Students' Socialist Party alone is making a stand on the right of students to free political organisation and a free Press on the campus.

On the Nussas issue, it alone offers the national student body unequivocal support.

Student Socialists have pledged to oppose any attempt to introduce apartheid in the universities. Also committed to opposition of such a step is the Liberal Association.

S.A. Made Safe For Hitler's Disciples German Deportees To Stay

From: RUTH FIRST

CAPE TOWN.

THE Union is speedily being made a safe place for Hitler's disciples to live in.

The Malan Government emphatically refuses to disclose the names of the 192 German Nazis last week removed from the deportation list. It will also not reveal the names of the four men against whom prima facie evidence has been found, and who have not yet been removed from the list.

The Minister of the Interior's secretary—the fourth high-up Government official to be approached—said that the decision not to reveal any details was final. The names would not be given to any newspaper.

Why? "It would not be fair to them" (the deportees).

Originally 254

At last the Malan Government is getting its way.

Remember Dr. Malan, then leader of the Opposition, speaking in the House in June, 1947, following the ex-service deputations and flood of telegrams urging the speedy deportation of these Nazis? He was against the Government's deportation decisions not through any "sympathy with the Nazi doctrine," he said, but because the decision was "due to the agitation caused by Communist leaders and a number of Jews who were out for revenge."

Originally 254 Nazis—197 from South-West Africa and 57 from the Union—were recommended for deportation. The Smuts Government Commission, after examining evidence against almost 1,500 enemy aliens, said it found 254 guilty not only of membership of subversive organisations, but of active participation in them.

Following appeals, and a storm of agitation in the Nat. Press against this "barbarism," the number dropped to 227, then to 196.

On July 7 this year, just over one week after the Nats. climbed into power, Dr. Dönges announced he had suspended all the deportation orders, while a new Com-

mission—this time his own—investigated afresh.

This Commission is reported to have found prima facie evidence against four of the 196 men. The deportation orders against the 192 (Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 1) have been withdrawn, and the men have already been notified of this.

Nazi Fuehrer

In Karl Hirsikorn, the South-West Africa Nazi Fuehrer, among the 192 to be allowed to stay in the Union? Or is he among the four that may have to leave. For even that is not certain. Dr. Dönges has promised the unknown four that they may look forward to a further inquiry into their cases. They, too, may yet be with us for good.

And what of Max Gutzecht, gauleiter in the Adana Camp reported to have been the liaison with high official circles in the Fatherland?

And Nazi youth leaders Beckurts, Wilhelm Buetow, and Otto Haeblich; Nazi propagandist Dr. Hanisch, appointed editor of the "Windhoek" German daily shortly after his visit to Germany just before the outbreak of the war in 1939?

Then there are the top South-West African Nazis: Ernst Bollert, Carl Heliwig, and Bornheimer.

What of the teachers, the exchange students, the botanist Dr. Helm, not South-West citizens, but men who came out to the territory on special missions when there was a chance South-West Africa might yet take her place again within the Nazi Empire?

SOUTH AFRICANS WILL NOT KNOW WHICH OF THESE DANGEROUS NAZIS REMAIN IN THEIR MIDST. PERHAPS ALL OF THEM?

THEY OPPOSE APARTHEID

R. M. KIES: As a member of the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee, I stand by all its decisions. This is a wonderful opportunity to set unity of action.

COUNSELLOR CISSIE GOOL: This measure must be fought tooth and nail—not by only one section, but by all. It affects not only first-class passengers and the Coloured people, but is a threat to all the Non-Europeans. The regulations must be resisted.

BETTY RADFORD: To those Europeans who feel shame at South Africa's race discrimination, this is an added disgrace. I know many Europeans will support resistance against this measure.

W. H. ANDREWS: This attack does not come singly but together with Government attacks against the trade unions, on the people's political rights. Action against segregation on the Cape trains is part of the whole struggle against an infringement of our liberties by the Nationalist Government.

M. E. TERHART, of the Cape Furniture Workers' Union: We strongly deplore apartheid on the railways. We are against apartheid in all spheres, including the industrial.

The Rt. Rev. S. W. LAYIS: It may be taken for granted that there are many Europeans of both white races who will show their disapproval of colour distinction on suburban trains and their sympathy with those who suffer by reason of such distinction by continuing to use unlabelled coaches.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN, at a meeting attended by representatives of 33 affiliated societies, deplored train apartheid as "an insult to the personality of the Coloured people." This stand was unanimous. Speakers suggested that people travel in mixed carriages as a sign of protest against the segregatory measures.

When, in face of Nationalist attack, General Smuts first wavered in his resolution to deport these Nazis, Parliament was nodded with protests, and deputations after deputations interviewed the Prime Minister. To-day only one organisation—the Springbok Legion—has protested.

Is this a measure of the extent to which democratic South Africa has been intimidated by Nationalist rule?

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Oust the Indian, Demand Tvl. Nats

Preparing The Ground For More Trouble

JOHANNESBURG.

THOUGH they have not said so openly, it is obvious that large numbers of Nationalist Party followers in this province welcomed the Durban attack on Indians by African mobs. Certain groups here are trying to prepare the ground for a similar outbreak.

The Indian boycott movement, under the auspices of the S.A. Protection Movement, has been calling boycott meetings all week to renew its campaign. Amongst the centres singled out for its agitation are Zeerust, Koster and Zwartkops.

In a leaflet calling the Zeerust meeting a call is made to "oust the Indian".

It says: "If you are a White man you ought to understand better than a Zulu what threatens you — you ought to organise and fight better".

Treasonous reports in a certain Afrikaans weekly persist in saying that trouble between Africans and Indians in the Transvaal is expected. They produce no evidence for this though.

ACTION WANTED

The Transvaal Indian Congress, alarmed by the inflammatory nature of the Boycott Movement's propaganda, has urged the government to take drastic action against groups spreading this dangerous racialism. It calls for action to be taken under the Riotous Assemblies Act to prevent unlawful violence against defenceless Indians, and for adequate and effective protection to be provided for the Indian community.

From information available, the Congress informed the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice, the whole anti-Indian movement is premeditated and planned by the Protection Movement.

The minutes of the executive committee of this body show that in October of last year the organising secretary of the movement said: "We must fight hard to make conditions so unpleasant for the Indians in South Africa that they will be eager to accept a voluntary repatriation scheme".

The preaching of open violence against Indians is creating a very serious situation which, if unchecked will be disastrous, the Congress warns.

The only incident in Johannesburg that seemed to be inspired by the Durban events was an attempt to blow up an Indian store in Newclare. The African watchman saw a jam tin with smoke issuing from it on the pavement beneath the window of the shop. He pulled it into the gutter, thinking it contained some child's cracker. Shortly after-

wards the tin exploded, shattering two plate glass windows.

Africans who were sitting on the pavement over the road have made affidavits to the police saying that they saw a blue car driven by a number of Europeans drive up to the shop just before the explosion. They claim that one of the Europeans got out of the car to plant the "bomb".

There have been no signs of African-Indian tension here. The African National Congress working committee issued a statement after an emergency meeting last week deploring the Durban events and hoping that further violence would be avoided.

CALL TO N.R.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

"There is only one course open to members of the N.R.C. They should abandon their ridiculous adjournment position and resign at once," says a statement issued by A. P. Mda, President of the African National Congress Youth League.

"They should hand over to the national peoples' organisations and come out openly with a declaration of boycott, paralyse and destroy the instruments for the oppression of the African people. Refusal to do this will open them to the serious charge of national treason, or stabbing the people in the back. I therefore call on the N.R.C. members to resign forthwith and to throw in their lot with the national

Worn Out Standing In Bus Queues

Factory Workers Complain

JOHANNESBURG.

PEOPLE are getting worn out by the length of time they have to stand in bus and tram queues each morning and evening, a group of African factory workers came to tell The Guardian.

They said it was always a struggle for them to be in time for work at their factory. "A couple of us were 15 minutes late this morning," they said. They start work at 7.30, but they have to queue up at 6 o'clock.

Many of them are really working longer than 12 hours a day. The queues in the evenings are also endless, and they reach home often as late as 7 p.m. "Every day is like this," they said, "except Saturday."

They were thinking of asking their factory to provide them with a factory bus, these workers said. They would be prepared to pay double the fares they were paying now if they could only get more satisfactory transport to work.

SURVEY

A transport survey at present being conducted by a group of

students reveals that the time a worker in one of the outlying African townships has to stand in a queue varies from 20 to 70 minutes. In the peak period it takes three hours to clear an Alexandra Township bus queue.

In that township some people who start work at 7 or 8 o'clock in the morning start queuing at about 3.15 a.m. They do this to make sure they have a chance of getting on to the early bus which are not as crowded as the later ones.

The bus takes about half an hour to town, and then some workers have to walk for another half an hour or 45 minutes to their place of work. The Noord Street terminus for Alexandra buses is very badly situated, as most factories are a long way from this area.

T.U. COMMISSION "UNBIASED", SAYS CHAIRMAN

But T.L.C. Still Objects

JOHANNESBURG.

A DENIAL that the Government intended taking certain measures "objectionable" to the trade union movement was made by Dr. J. H. Botha, chairman of the Industrial Legislation Commission of Enquiry, when the commission held its first public sitting in Johannesburg on Monday.

Dr. Botha was discussing certain "misunderstandings" which had arisen. "The Government contemplates nothing," he said. "It has an open mind and that is why it has appointed this commission. The members of the commission

have no bias. That you can take from me."

Dealing with the attitude of the trade unions to the request that their financial documents be

(Continued on page 6)

T.U. Commission "Unbiased"

(Continued from page 1)

handed over, Dr. Botha said the commission could not do its work properly without these documents. They would be treated as confidential.

NOTHING TO HIDE?

"I hope the suspicion will not be created that there is something to hide," Dr. Botha said, adding that no useful purpose could be served by any method of obstruction. The commission had been appointed to serve the labour and economic interests of the country. The first to give evidence before the commission was the South African Trades and Labour Council, and in reply to Dr. Botha, Mr. J. J. Venter, the vice-president, said that the trade unions' fears had been aroused by the commission's terms of reference, to which they still objected.

"Trade unions work democratically. If anything is wrong with their administration, it is within the power of the Industrial Registrar to investigate and take steps," he said.

L.C. ACT

Presenting the Council's evidence on the Industrial Legislation Act, Mr. T. C. Rutherford said the Council had demanded for many years that Africans be included within its scope.

The economic conditions in South Africa had changed considerably since the years when the Industrial Legislation Commission had decided against a national minimum wage, he said. There had been great industrial expansion and the number of African workers had trebled since 1945.

The quality of African labour had changed. It had become efficient, and Africans were now operating as semi-skilled and even skilled workers. It was essential in the African's own interests and those of the country as a whole, that he be brought within the country's industrial legislation.

Purifying The Unions

JOHANNESBURG.

Evidence about a group of garment workers who met an official of the Blankenbomskers Beskermingsbond in secret during July of last year, to plan a campaign to safeguard "white South Africa" in the clothing industry, was given to the Commission of Enquiry this week by Mrs. P. Moolman.

This witness spoke of a group of D.R.C. ministers, including the member of Parliament for Germiston, Mr. Du Pisan, and others who established the bond in 1944.

Their aim was not to break up the union, but only to purify it.

Mr. N. Phillips, appearing for the union, asked that the secretary of the Garment Workers' Action Committee be subpoenaed to hand in the minutes of all meetings of the committee from its formation to the present date.

He also asked for a subpoena to be served on the Blankenbomskers Beskermingsbond to produce all documents.

The chairman gave no ruling on this matter.

BRITISH T.U.C. TRYING TO INTERFERE IN S.A. POLITICS

Attempts To Start Anti-Communist Witch-hunt

JOHANNESBURG.

THE British Trade Union Congress is apparently trying to get its South African counterpart, the Trades and Labour Council, to copy its anti-Communist witch-hunt.

The T.L.C. has been sent a copy of the statement on Communist activities issued by the T.U.C. General Council, which requests that it be advised what action, if any, is contemplated by the T.L.C. The British circular refers to Communist influence in and outside the trade unions, which are seeking deliberately to "obstruct" and "disrupt."

Communist activities are carried on in servile obedience to decisions of the Cominform, says the British T.U.C.

Communists are "instigators of campaigns of sabotage," it goes on. The Communist Party is trying to wreck the recovery efforts of Britain and Europe, it accuses.

It is understood this circular is still to be discussed by the Trades and Labour Council.

"Govt. Has Done Little To Reduce Living Costs"

Criticism By N.U.D.W. President

JOHANNESBURG.

"OUR unions are the bulwark of democracy and any attack against them is an attack against democracy," said Mr. R. W. Blake, president of the National Union of Distributive Workers, when he opened the 12th annual conference of his union in Pretoria last week.

Little had been done by the Government to reduce the workers' burden of the rising cost of living, Mr. Blake said.

For the first time in many years the Trades and Labour Council was playing an effective role. Unity has become a practical issue, he said. With one voice the trade union movement had protested against the Government's anti-trade union policy.

Attended by 45 delegates from N.U.D.W. branches in all provinces, the conference adopted resolutions disapproving of the terms of reference of the Industrial Legislation Commission of Enquiry, protesting against the unwarranted attack on the Garment Workers' Union, and calling upon the Government to dissolve the commission investigating this union.

Proclamation 1890 (for the "financial Protection of Natives") should be withdrawn, said the

conference, as it would deprive the African of the right to form free organisations.

CAMPAIGN

The Government was asked to increase cost of living allowances so as to bring them in line with the actual increase in the cost of living. The union head office was instructed to launch a campaign on this question.

The Minister of Agriculture urged the Minister of Agriculture the present cost of foodstuffs.

Discussing soil erosion, the conference viewed with alarm the rapid deterioration of the soil and urged the Minister of Agriculture to take immediate steps to rectify this.

Mr. R. W. Blake was re-elected national chairman of the union. Miss B. Page national secretary. Mr. P. J. Fourie from Bloemfontein, vice-chairman, and Miss D. J. Treasurer.

Sachs Offers Secret Ballot To Test Workers' Support

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Garment Workers' Union has offered to allow the commission now investigating its affairs to conduct a secret ballot of all members to test the charge made by witnesses for the Blanketworkers' beskeringsbond that E. S. Sachs and his committee have not the support of the majority of union members.

The chairman of the commission, chairman of the Johannesburg action committee in opposition to the executive of the union, Van der Walt was still a member of the committee.

He himself was a member of the Nationalist Party, but he could not say whether Van der Walt would be accepted into the party as he might not be "quite right yet" for admission.

One of the main Bond witnesses, Miss Anna Knoetze, said in cross-examination last week that the majority of garment workers were afraid to oppose Sachs and those around him because they feared they would be victimised. She said a secret ballot would result in the defeat of Sachs.

During the tea interval she paged through copies of the issues for the period for which she had subscribed and, asked to point out examples of "Communist methods" (her phrase), she said there was a reference to Abraham Lincoln in the issue of September-October, 1947.

PROPAGANDA

Miss Knoetze read to the commission extracts from the magazine, The Garment Worker, to support her contention that it was full of Communist propaganda.

Mr. Phillips: Is that Communist propaganda?

Miss Knoetze: I feel that this man is one of the greatest Communists.

Mr. Daniel Vosloo, the next witness for the Bond, said he was the

definite plan to break up the general meeting of the union in the Johannesburg City Hall on September 16.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
Twelfth Year, No. 51. THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1949 Price 1d.

U.P. Should Boycott Malan's Commission

"JUST A TIME-SAVING DEVICE," SAYS BASNER

JOHANNESBURG.

THE United Party should refuse to have anything to do with Malan's "all-party commission" to settle the Native question. It should make it clear it will do nothing to help the Nats carry out their apartheid policy.

This is the view of Mr. H. M. Basner, representative of Africans in the Transvaal and Free State in the last Senate.

During the debate on the Ghetto Act in the Senate in 1946, Mr. Basner said he had pointed out that there was no essential difference between the Non-European policies of the two major parties in South Africa.

A political technique had been worked out whereby the world at large and the Non-Europeans in particular were bamboozled on minor aspects of the problem, rather than on the problem itself.

NOT ENOUGH

During the last six years the United Party had neglected the reserves, harried the African population, built no houses, and kept wages at a minimum. The Nationalist Party still shouted: "You are not dealing severely enough with the African population."

Now the Nationalists were in power and had to carry out their avowed aims, said Mr. Basner.

The reason why they could not carry out any of these promises was that in the 38 years since Union, all the restrictions and oppression which could possibly have been imposed on the Non-Europeans had been imposed, either by the United Party, or the Nationalist Party, or a coalition of parties ruling the country.

The best that any party could do for the exploiters of this country was to maintain the status quo. "That is what the Nationalists will try to do during their period of office," said Mr. Basner.

A DEVICE

The all-party commission the Nationalists proposed was merely a time-saving device to maintain the status quo for another year or two.

(Continued on page 6)

U.N.O. MUST ACT, SAYS DR. DADOO

JOHANNESBURG.

Dr. Y. M. Dadoo told a London Press conference last week that the Durban riots underlined the urgency for immediate action by the United Nations "if further and more dangerous calamities were to be averted."

He said he could not avoid the conclusion that the outbreak in Durban "had the resemblance of an organised attack."

"I make this urgent appeal to national organisations of the African and Indian people," said Dr. Dadoo, "to conduct an intensive organised drive to explain to the people the new situation, and to strengthen their organisational ties with the masses, to forge maximum unity for the struggle against apartheid and racial oppression and for full democratic rights."

Nat.-U.P. Front Against Indian Traders

MEETING WARNED OF "COLD ECONOMIC WAR"

(From Ruth First)

JOHANNESBURG.

FIGHTING one another bitterly up and down the country in preparation for the Provincial Council elections and even the next General Election are the United and Nationalist Parties. And yet in many of the same constituencies leading members of both parties are co-operating amicably on committees of the movement to boycott Indian traders—co-operating in a White Front of racialism.

The paid organiser of the South African Protection Movement told The Guardian after his meeting in Zeerust last Saturday that on his committee sit four Nationalists, one New Order man, two O.B.s, among them Potchefstroom Professor Labuschagne, and three United Party members, among them Colonel J. Rook of the Western Transvaal, who claims to be a close associate of Smuts and who is chairman of the movement, and the United Party Provincial Council member for Ermelo.

OPENLY HELPED

In Zeerust itself leading United Party members have openly helped to organise the boycott of Indians.

This performance is repeated in many of the 112 committees the organisers boast of having established in the Transvaal.

The United Party is helping to dose the voters with the rabid racialism which swung the Nats into power — a sure way of crippling its own chances in the elections.

In an issue of its Boycott News the Protection Movement carries a form which Provincial Council candidates are asked to sign. It pledges them, should they become members of the Provincial Council, to work for the repatriation of the Indians as the only solution to the Indian problem.

A dotted line is provided for

(Continued on page 6)

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Ex-Servicemen Organise Against Nats.

JOHANNESBURG. — Political action committees of ex-servicemen to defeat the Nationalists in the Provincial Council elections are being started at centres throughout the Union.

At a meeting of a Johannesburg group formed recently, Colonel H. W. Boardman said the idea behind the movement was to "organise ourselves, and then to offer our services to the United and Labour Parties in order to get the present Government out without delay."

Committees have been established at Brakpan, Germiston and on the North-East Rand, and plans for the formation of others at Krugersdorp, Pretoria, Nigel, as well as in the Cape Province are now being made.

The committees will concentrate on work in the border constituencies.

It was suggested at the Johannesburg meeting that the committees might even continue their work after the Provincial Council elections, in preparation for the next general election.

Ex-servicemen sensed a sort of frustration because the wrong Government was in power, Colonel Boardman said.

No Maternity Beds For Africans

JOHANNESBURG. — The Germiston Hospital Board has been informed by the hospital's medical superintendent, Dr. R. Pretorius, that except in abnormal cases, he cannot provide accommodation for Native maternity cases.

FRONT AGAINST INDIAN TRADERS

(Continued from page 1)

the signature of the candidate. The competition is on. Who can be more anti-Indian — United Party or Nationalist candidates?

THE MAIN AIM

The main aim of the Indians in South Africa was not complete equality. Mr. N. J. Deacon, the boycott organiser, told the Zeerust meeting.

The Indians were not really interested in equality as in India they made the lives of Europeans impossible.

Their main aim was one of territorial ambition in Africa, and he proceeded to quote population figures of Indians and Europeans in Kenya, Uganda and other African territories, statistics showing the percentage of trading licences held by Indians in towns of the Union, and birthrate figures for the Indians.

The Indians, he said, had declared a cold economic war on the Union. Every man, woman and child should be repatriated.

There was no applause, no questions from the audience. The Zeerust meeting was a great disappointment to its organisers. A thousand had been expected, a hundred had attended.

From the meeting many members of its audience walked into the Indian shops over the road to do their Saturday morning shopping.

DANGER REMAINS

But the danger of this movement must not be underestimated. These are the people who published a leaflet in Pretoria

last year: "Compel your African servant never to put his foot into the shop of an Asiatic."

In Zeerust itself the cry this time was: "If you are a White man you ought to understand better than a Zulu what you are worth — you ought to organise and fight better."

And yet Mr. Deacon told The Guardian that his movement did not try to influence the Africans to support the boycott of Indians. His contention was that they were conscious enough to do this themselves!

Asked about the Durban attack by Africans on Indians Mr. Deacon said he thought the underlying reason was the growth of nationalism among the Africans. This was a good thing, he thought.

FASCIST-HATE TECHNIQUE

A more virulent type of racism than that spread by the Boycott Movement it would be difficult to find in the Union.

A wave of intense anti-Indian feeling is being worked up in this province, in the east and the west, in all the small country towns. Every hate technique perfected by the Fascists is being used.

The boycott will probably fail, as all past attempts at boycotting the Indians have.

But the blame for the bitter racism that will be spread by it must rest finally on the shoulders of the Government which silently watches all this going on here and whose leading members are in many cases the brains behind the boycott.

Blankewerkers Refuse To Toe The Line

JOHANNESBURG. — The Blankewerkersbeskermingsbond opposed the application of the Garment Workers Union before the Government commission that it should produce documents of its activities.

The garment workers asked the commission to subpoena the Bond to produce this information. The union's application was based on the allegation that the September meeting in the City Hall at which disturbances occurred, was engineered by sinister influences to create an "incident" to justify the Government enquiry.

The Bond argued that it did not only concern itself with the affairs of trade unions. It was a cultural organisation of very wide activities. It was unthinkable that it be called upon to produce its records. The commission was appointed to enquire into the affairs of the union and there was no mention of the Bond in its terms of reference.

Arguing for the union, Mr. N. Phillips said that behind Van der Walt, Anna Knoetze and Kareel Meyer, sinister influences had been at work. Their business had been to stoke up agitation on the strength of minor grievances so that the Minister could tell Parliament a case had been made out for an inquiry.

The commission Chairman said he would give a ruling later.

"PLAN TO DESTROY TRADE UNIONS"

Commission's Terms Of Reference Compared With "Mein Kampf"

JOHANNESBURG.

GIVING evidence to the Industrial Legislation Commission for his Union, handed in extracts from "Mein Kampf" by Hitler on the subject of trade unions, which, he said, showed from where the idea of trying to control trade unions came.

The Commission chairman told Mr. Sachs that he could not agree with his interpretation of the Commission's terms of reference.

Mr. Sachs said in these terms the "destruction of the trade union movement." The Minister of Labour did not, however.

Mr. Sachs told the commission that more workers had been killed, imprisoned, fined or assaulted as a result of industrial disputes in this country than in the whole of the British Commonwealth, America and the Scandinavian countries.

This, he said, was because of the Union's approach to trade union workers.

RECOMMENDATION

The Garment Workers' memorandum recommended the appointment in every industrial area of a conciliation commissioner and a permanent conciliation board.

The industrial council system should be maintained and improved, the memorandum said.

Minimum wage legislation should be placed in the hands of an industrial court. Labour laws should be redrafted in clear and simple language.

Earlier the Trades and Labour Council delegation protested at the commission's procedure in questioning them on an 18-page questionnaire on the Industrial Conciliation Act which the delegation had not previously seen.

After some argument, the commission agreed to submit the questionnaire to the delegates and give them time to study it. Other witnesses would have the same opportunity.

"PUBLIC INTEREST"

One of the questions asked was: "Do trade unions or employers' organisations under the existing practice satisfy the requirements of the public interest?"

Dr. Botha, the commission chairman, said it had been claimed that the public interest required that a secret ballot should be taken before a strike was called. There should also be proper provision for the investment of union funds, and for a responsible governing body of the union.

Miss A. Scheepers wanted to know whether these requirements would apply also to agricultural unions, tennis clubs, the Rand Club, church councils and political parties.

The chairman replied that the commission had nothing like that in mind.

"A MATTER FOR THE UNION"

Mr. I. Wolfson said a union's rules were a matter for the union itself. The chairman said he was propagating a Fascist or Nazi regime.

Mr. Wolfson replied that he was doing nothing of the sort.

He said he based his claim on the convention recently passed at San Francisco which stated that unions and employers' organisations should have the right to draw up their own rules without interference from public or the State.

Giving evidence on the Factories Act, the Trades and Labour Council suggested the introduction of separate acts, one to deal with the registration of factories, a second on maximum working hours, a third on paid leave, and a fourth to protect women workers and provide for confinement and maternity allowances.

40-HOUR WEEK

A 40-hour week was necessary, said the Council, because modern methods caused more nervous strain. The act should provide for four weeks' annual paid leave.

Dealing with the Wage Act, Mr. A. G. Forsyth urged uniformity in wage standards, and the inclusion of all workers in the provisions of the Act.

Miss B. Page said the act was not worth the paper it was printed on, as it excluded such large groups of workers.

Mr. Forsyth said the Government imposed on private enterprise conditions it was not prepared to carry out itself.

UNITY MEETING IN PRETORIA

JOHANNESBURG. — A hall in Pretoria was packed to capacity last Sunday when Africans, Indians and Coloureds gathered to urge unity of the three groups.

Dr. Willie Nkomo warned the audience that the common enemy of South Africa was apartheid. "Peace and apartheid are contradictory," he said.

A resolution, saying violence among the Non-Europeans would only strengthen the chains of slavery, was passed. It called for the setting up of machinery which would bring members of the three bodies into friendly co-operation.

UNITY RALLY



Vote of Confidence In Modise

JOHANNESBURG. — A meeting of the Alexandra Branch of the African National Congress last Sunday passed a vote of confidence in Mr. S. Solomon Modise, the branch secretary.

Mr. Modise together with Mr. Baloyi had been expelled from Congress by a previous meeting of the branch executive. The general meeting, in reversing this decision, held that the previous meeting had been improperly constituted.

There will be another meeting of the branch on Sunday, February 6.



"What has happened in Durban must not be allowed to happen elsewhere" European, African and Indian speakers urged the audience at a Communist Party rally in Johannesburg shortly after the Durban riots. Top right, Mr. Y. Cachalia, joint honorary secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, addresses the gathering.

"EDUCATION FOR SERFS"

Mr. Mosaka On Dangers
Of Apartheid Commission

JOHANNESBURG.

AMONG the African people, teachers and educationalists especially, there is great concern over the commission appointed to reform the system of Native education.

The terms of reference seem to indicate that Africans are to receive education suitable for serfs. Mr. P. R. Mosaka, member of the Native Representative Council, told The Guardian.

The commission would probably try to carry out apartheid in the field of education, he said.

Chairman of the commission is Dr. W. W. M. Elselen, of the University of Pretoria.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The first of its five terms of reference is to formulate the "principles and purposes of education for Natives as an independent race, with due regard to their past and present, their racial characteristics and their changing social circumstances."

The commission will report also on the financing of Native education.

Mr. Mosaka said there was no such thing as a separate African society. The urban African had to be adapted to urban conditions, the rural African to rural conditions, in the same way as the rural White had to be

adapted to his own surroundings.

The commission seemed to assume a false educational principle, accepting so-called racial differences.

The Africans feared they would be offered an inferior type of education, based on this kind of reasoning.

Professor Elselen, Mr. Mosaka recalled, has been the professor who expounded the scheme of apartheid recently in lectures and articles.

NO STATE FUNDS?

The commission would very probably fall back to the principle that Native education be entirely self-supporting and should not receive any funds from general revenue, Mr. Mosaka thought.

It would also probably tend to discourage industrial education for Africans as this fitted them into the country's industrial structure.

Mr. Mosaka deplored the fact that no African educationalist had been appointed on the commission.

MINERS' UNION JOINS SPLINTER BODY

T.L.C.'s Rival Gets
New Strength

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Mineworkers' Union, captured during its last election of shaft stewards by the Nationalist-inspired United Mineworkers' Committee, has decided now to affiliate to the Pretoria Co-ordinating Council of South African Trade Unions, which has set itself up as the rival to the Trades and Labour Council.

The Pretoria Council is controlled by the Blankewerkers-beskeringsbond, whose aim is the creation of "Christian National" trade unions on fascist lines. The miners' union walked out of

the T.L.C. last April, when it gave three months notice of disaffiliation because, it said, no union plebiscite on African trade unions would take place, and in protest against T.L.C. policy on the organisation of African workers.

FIRST BIG UNION

The miners' union is the first body of any size to join the Pretoria Council. Previously it consisted of nine unions and union branches, mostly in Pretoria, all of them organising no more than a few hundred workers.

An official of the Council and one of its founders is Mr. L. J. van den Berg, whom the Government appointed to the commission now investigating industrial legislation.

The Trades and Labour Council some time ago warned unions against the splitting activities of the Pretoria body.

It was confident, it said, that unions would continue to give their support to the T.L.C., which for the last 18 years had been the mouthpiece of organised labour in the Union.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1949

"Schoeman Is Staging A Reichstag Trial"

Solly Sachs Gives Evidence
To Garment Commission

JOHANNESBURG.

UNDER cover of legal processes Hitler staged the Reichstag Fire Trial. Under cover of legal processes Schoeman is staging something similar in South Africa. One of the leading characters of that great drama was a certain Von der Lubbe, and by the time this enquiry is finished it will probably be found that there is a parallel in the present affair.

This is an extract from the preliminary statement submitted by Mr. E. S. Sachs to the Commission investigating the Garment Workers' Union when the union commenced to give evidence before the Commission this week.

Mr. Sachs drew a forceful parallel between the methods and rise of nazism in Germany and the methods of the present Minister of Labour.

CROWDED COURTROOM

The courtroom was crowded this week as the union's lawyers,

with chief witness Sachs in the box, began to expose the activities of dissentient groups in the Union who, they said, were acting on behalf of "outside sources" and received support from the Government now in power.

In his statement Sachs told the Commission that for many years, and more especially after the rise of nazism in Europe, reactionary pro-fascist organisations in this country tried to disrupt and destroy the trade union movement.

These disruptive bodies gave special attention to the Mine Workers' and Garment Workers' Unions. Methods employed to disrupt the trade union movement were typical of the Nazi examples of slander, libel, vilification, distortion, mob-violence, threats and assaults upon trade union leaders. The general secretary of the Mine Workers' Union was assassinated. The general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union was twice assaulted and the president was also threatened.

"WE ACCUSE"
"We accuse the Minister of Labour of appointing this Commission not to ascertain facts but merely to provide a tribune for the agents of the Blankewerkersbond to vilify and slander our union," said the statement.

Outlining the events leading up to the appointment of the Commission, Advocate Rosenberg said yesterday that the day before the City Hall meeting on September 16, there had been meetings in Germiston attended by Van der Walt, Louber and Meyer, where careful arrangements were made to transport Germiston mobs to Johannesburg.

At that meeting a statement was made: "We have the support of the Ministers of Labour Justice," said Karel Meyer blood will flow."

TWO BASUTOLAND CHIEFS

Condemned To Death For Murder--Now Face 2nd Charge

JOHANNESBURG.

THERE has been an extraordinary development in the Basutoland "ritual" murder cases. Two prominent chiefs, Gabashane and Bereng Griffiths, who, together with some others, are under sentence of death for murder and are awaiting an appeal to the Privy Council, are being charged with a second murder.

The new case of these men, now in the condemned cell, will open in Basutoland on February 14.

This is thought to be something without precedent in any court in the British Empire. This dramatic development takes place at a time when sharp criticism has been levelled at the way in which justice is administered in Basutoland, and when it appeared likely that the Secretary of State for the Dominions in the British Labour Government would agree to the request of the Basuto people for a judicial commission to inquire into the background to the series of ritual murders, and the way in which investigations into the murders have been conducted.

It is felt that there is a good chance of such a judicial commission being sent out fairly soon.

CHIEFS WARNED

Meanwhile a gathering of chiefs and members of the Basutoland General Council called by the Paramount Chief at Maseru towards the end of January decided, by a majority vote, to appeal to the United Nations against the decision of the Basutoland Government to hold a whole village responsible for any crime committed by any of its members, and to quarter troops on any village held responsible.

But when this majority decision was reported to the Resident Commissioner he decided that the most the chiefs and Basuto people

The Basuto people, including those on the Rand, organised in the organisation called "The Sons and Daughters of Basutoland" are very perturbed about this stand of the Commissioner. They hold that Britain is directly responsible for the goings-on in the protectorate and feel that a deputation to Government circles on this matter could achieve little.

In any case they point out, an appeal to UNO was a majority decision of the gathering in Maseru, attended by almost 100 chiefs.

FOOD NEEDS OF COMMON PEOPLE

JOHANNESBURG.

"No attention is paid to the food needs of the common people," said Mrs. Thornton Archer at a special conference on food problems, called by the National Council of Women.

Mrs. Thornton Archer said the public had submitted to control boards, but new ways had to be found to get a more economical distribution of food.

Among the suggestions she placed before the meeting were plans for communal feeding, municipal mobile markets to be supported (there should be at least one in every suburb), the establishment of a channel for complaints, and better supervision to ensure the hygienic handling of food.

Some of the speakers said that since the introduction of white bread, brown meal had been unobtainable, and many people still wanted brown bread.

TRADE UNION'S PLAN TO MAKE S.A. SELF-SUFFICIENT

JOHANNESBURG.

A MASTER plan to solve South Africa's adverse trade difficulties is suggested by the National Union of Commercial Travellers in a memorandum on import control now being submitted to the Government.

The union thinks the authorities did the wise thing in deciding to limit imports from certain countries to a basic minimum and to concentrate available currency resources on priority requirements, but criticises the method applied in determining priorities as completely inadequate.

For the authorities to decide on the best application of currency resources, they must have an over-all picture of the problems facing the country. "Otherwise only chaos can result from the haphazard allocation of currencies."

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

"It is also essential to keep in mind the urgent necessity to plan the increased production of food-stuffs in this country so that a

great deal of the money which is at present spent abroad could be diverted locally. Similarly we must intensify our plans for the utilisation of local raw materials in local industries," the memorandum states.

All bodies requiring dollar imports should be asked to prepare a summary of their requirements. These would be the railways, the public works department, municipal and provincial authorities, the various industries, the mines, commerce and farming.

The plans drawn up should then go to a Central Planning Committee consisting of economic experts and scientists, as well as representatives of the Trades and Labour Council and industry and commerce.

This research and planning is essential, the union feels. Otherwise only harm can result to the ultimate ideal of making a South Africa as self-sufficient as possible.

CHRISTIAN NATIONAL EDUCATION FOR SLAVERY

F.A.K. Policy Exposed

CAPE TOWN.

"WITHOUT our consent no Government has the right to act; and to this outrageous policy we cannot give our consent.... We who are the people must not permit it," reads the introduction to a pamphlet "Blueprint for Blackout" issued by the Education League (Opvoedingsbond), in which a policy for Christian National Education is analysed and condemned.

This policy was recently outlined in a pamphlet issued by the Institute for Christian National Education (I.C.N.O.), under the auspices of the Federation of Afrikaans Cultural Societies (F.A.K.).

This policy has not yet been officially adopted by the Government, but its sponsors include two of our sharpest-minded and most energetic Cabinet Ministers, Dr. Dönges and Dr. Jansen, the Education League points out. It is likely to be implemented by the present Government with the least possible delay—unless the people protest.

EXTREMISM

"Blueprint for Blackout" states that the I.C.N.O. policy aims at "forcing upon all children of white Afrikaans-speaking parents, and upon all non-white children the kind of 'education' that will make them know, believe and feel only what the extreme Nationalists want them to know, believe and feel."

The Education League goes on to warn the English-speaking section of the population that they, too, are not safe, and that if the I.C.N.O. policy were to be adopted, South Africa would, in one generation, be spiritually destroyed.

History, geography, chemistry, physics, etc., would have to be expounded in a "positively Christian light," with the Bible regarded as a scientific text book. The church would exercise discipline over the life and doctrine of the teacher. This would be done through the parents.

INTOLERABLE

"The ridiculous and intolerable state of affairs that would result, a sort of petty spying system, destructive of dignity, amity and honour, is exactly paralleled in Erica Mann's books describing her native Germany under Nazi domination."

Further, says the Education League, "every sincere Christian

must blush to read the final sentences of Articles 14 and 15 (of the I.C.N.O. pamphlet): 'The education of Coloureds (and of Natives) must not be financed at the expense of white education.'"

By "education," the I.C.N.O. pamphlet "means not developing the mind, but enervating it," the League sums up.

EDUCATION FOR FREEDOM

In contrast, the Education League gives its policy:

"We believe that all teachers should have absolute freedom of conscience and that all Government school and state-aided university education should be secular...."

"We should act with equal charity towards all men, no matter what their race, colour and creed.... The child should learn to be independent and courageous, relying on his own sense of truth, not blindly following a leader or a beaten track...."

Among the sponsors of the Education League are Professors J. Y. T. Greig, G. H. Durrant, T. J. Haarhoff, J. J. Smith and Van Braam, Miss Eleanor Howard, Dr. A. Keppel-Jones, Dr. M. D. W. Jeffreys, Mr. Uys Krige, Mr. Leo Marquard and Mr. Alan Paton.

NAT. PROPAGANDA FOR THE MINE WORKERS

JOHANNESBURG.

DR. ALBERT HERTZOG, M.P., the Nationalists' expert on trade union affairs, is "the best friend of the miners. He fights for the social and economic upliftment of all South African workers."

This is according to the Nationalist, captured Mine Workers' Union, which published the first issue of its new Journal last week.

November, 1948, is a month that will go down in history as the most important in the history of the miners since 1922, says the Nationalist. It will be known as the beginning of a new epoch in the trade union movement. Because this was the month when "the new leadership" captured the miners' union, through a "democratic election".

The Journal reads as though it were issued by the Nationalist Party. It carries photographs and praise of Ben Schoeman and Albert Hertzog, attacks on all the other political parties, and an enthusiastic build-up of all the Nationalist leaders of the union.

It attacks, too, the Mining Union's Joint Committee, and Ben Caddy and George McCormick in person.

The paper is printed by Voorrekkers, the printing firm that owns the Nationalist Party's official organ, Die Transvaler.

INTER-RACIAL SOCIETY

JOHANNESBURG.

An inter-racial society, to look after the social, educational and economic progress of the Non-European peoples in particular has been formed in Evaton, near Verreniging.

At a recent meeting of the Evaton Non-European Friendly Emergency Committee, a provisional committee of 15 was elected to draft the constitution of the society, which will be discussed at a meeting on February 12.

Dr. J. M. Ntshole, Dr. Vaheer Mehar, A. T. Habbet, I. M. Jada, T. D. Zulu, S. M. Ntshole, W. Twala, S. Ntshole, Ngoyi, C. Demas, Mkwana, Noge, Hoeyani and Mashabane and the Rev. Pule are members of the provisional committee.

Louis Bromfield To Visit S. Africa?

JOHANNESBURG.

Louis Bromfield, the American author and soil reclamation expert, has been invited to visit South Africa to study the Union's soil erosion problems by T. C. Robertson, one-time editor of Liberia, who brought Dr. Hugh Bennett to South Africa some years ago, and fought, through his paper, for C. J. J. van Rensburg's campaign to save the soil.

NAT. HOOLIGANS BREAK UP U.P. MEETING

Brutal Attacks On Individuals

JOHANNESBURG.

NATIONALIST hooligans gave the Johannesburg suburb of Newlands a sample of fascist "election" tactics last week. They turned up in force to an open-air election meeting called by the United Party in support of their candidate for the Provincial Council elections, Mr. Louis Wessels.

Trouble started right from the start of the meeting. The chairman, Mr. Bailey Bekker, introduced the speaker both in Afrikaans and English.

The English set the crowd off from interjecting to a continuous howl. Screamed insults at the speakers, at "Jode", "Kommuniste" and the rest of the Nationalist list of terms of abuse, formed a background to the interrupted speeches and music that came over the microphone.

SCREAMED ABUSE

One harridan in front of the microphone screamed abuse and waved her hands in the faces of the speakers.

Her attempts to start a fight (including a false allegation that a United Party supporter had hit her) did not succeed, however, until after the meeting. The first Nationalist attack was made on the loudspeaker van, which she tried to overturn. They nearly succeeded, but were stopped by a number of United Party supporters.

Frustrated here, the hooligans turned to individual anti-Nationalists, who were brutally attacked.

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

Two men were later admitted to hospital, and about a dozen others treated in the casualty ward for bad injuries resulting from blows with knuckledusters and from kicks.

Groups of hooligans set on isolated individuals, beating and kicking them.

One United Party supporter walking away quietly from the meeting was attacked by a shirt-sleeved Nationalist with a leather thong with metal teeth at the free end.

The United Party supporter ducked under a swing of the home-made weapon; "Jy's tog vinnig" cried the other, wrapping the weapon round his hand as a knuckleduster.

SAVAGE FANATICISM

Many of those who were at the meeting remarked on the incredible, savage fanaticism shown on the faces and the voices of the Nationalist hooligans.

Their behaviour was that of completely bestialised individuals.

As a footnote one may remark on the complete absence of police at the meeting, until just after the trouble was over. The meeting lasted for about an hour in a continual uproar; it was clear that trouble might start at any moment.

COMMUNISM WILL NOT BE MADE ILLEGAL THIS YEAR

JOHANNESBURG. — This year the Government will not pass legislation making the Communist Party illegal as this would only drive it further underground. Instead, Communists will be prohibited from disseminating their propaganda and laws regarding incitement between different races will be more strictly observed. This information was carried by a newspaper, "Dagbreek en Son-dagmus," which claims it has the information from a reliable source. Minister Swart is to let the Government caucus into his plans to combat Communism in the next few weeks. They will then probably be announced by him to Parliament.

TAKING TIPS

The Government is to take tips from methods used in Canada and the United States, and will work on the theory that the most active and energetic Communists are not members of the Communist Party, so that to ban it will not have the necessary effect.

Practical anti-Communist measures outlined are four: first, Communists are to be deprived of use of state facilities to disseminate their propaganda. Second, close watch is to be kept on immigrants entering the Union, including those holding British passports. Thirdly, methods to end Communist influence among non-Europeans, regarded to be their strongest source of support, are to be found; and fourthly, an investigation is to be conducted into money sent to South African Communists from outside the country.

Feb. 17, 1949.

"Blankewerkers" To Produce Books

JOHANNESBURG.

THE commission investigating the Garment Workers' Union has decided that the constitution, membership list and accounts and minutes of accounts of the Blankewerkers-skeringsbond should be made available to the commission.

If necessary, the chairman ruled, a subpoena would be issued.

It has also been ruled that the documents handed in by the union should be open for inspection by all parties.

T.L.C. Protests Against Evidence In Camera

JOHANNESBURG.

The Trades and Labour Council has protested strongly against the decision of the Industrial Legislation Commission to hear the evidence of witnesses in camera, should they request this.

The Council secretary, Mr. A. G. Forsyth, said this might mean that witnesses made all kinds of statements and allegations against the trade union movement, which the unions would have no opportunity to refute.

"Even a murderer is allowed to hear the evidence against him," he said.

He thought the commission's decision on this matter was contrary to the principles of natural justice.



Orlando residents have to "run the gauntlet" of eight railway lines to reach their home from the station.

Orlando Death Trap

Africans Forced To Walk Across Railway Lines

(From RUTH FIRST)

JOHANNESBURG.

TWICE a day about 40,000 people in Orlando run the risk of losing their lives. They are people who live in West Orlando and have to cross into East Orlando to board trains to the city each morning.

On the station lying between these two main sections of Johannesburg's biggest African location is a sign "Cross by the Bridge only."

We asked an African railway policeman where the bridge was. The only one he could think of was a motor-bridge over a sloop about half a mile away from the station.

NO BRIDGE FOR PEDESTRIANS

The truth is that there is no railway bridge for people to get from one side of the lines to the other.

So the people have to walk over the railway lines, eight in all, taking care that they don't cross over while a train is approaching.

Two people didn't get safely across only a month ago. An African woman, crossing the lines at 6.30 a.m. one day had her view of the line obliterated by a stationary train. As she walked towards the opposite platform a train moved up on

the next line behind the stationary one, and hurled her a few hundred yards along the line. She was killed instantly. Barely a month before a man going home in the evening was seriously injured at the identical spot.

COULD HAPPEN AGAIN

The same thing could happen to any of the thousands who cross the lines each day.

This is not a lonely spot, crossed by only a few travellers each day.

Continually, all day, it is used by schoolchildren, housewives and working women using the trains or crossing into East Orlando, by working people coming home in the dusk of the evening when the lines are congested and it is difficult to see approaching trains.

Only the most elementary precautionary measure, a railway bridge, is needed. Will the administration build one?

TVL AFRICAN CONGRESS TO MEET

JOHANNESBURG.

A special provincial conference of the Transvaal African National Congress will be held on Sunday, March 6, at 9 a.m. at the Trades Hall.

The conference will discuss the present political situation facing the African people.

It will discuss also the programme of action recommended at the Congress annual conference in Bloemfontein last year.

Democratic Basis Of Garment Union

SOLLY SACHS EXPLAINS REASONS FOR EXPULSIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

CONTINUING to give evidence to the commission investigating the Garment Workers' Union last week, the union's general secretary, Mr. E. S. Sachs, said the union's constitution was "one of the most democratic in the world."

Supreme power was in the hands of the general meeting and members' rights were fully protected. During the last twenty years over 100 general meetings had been held.

"At times," said Mr. Sachs, "we had very spirited debates, but the only occasions when disorder was created were at a meeting in the City Hall in March, 1944, when a band of hoodlums, many armed with dangerous weapons, tried to force their way into the meeting; at a meeting on July 7, 1948, when Miss Anna Knoetze and a few others tried to seize control of the microphone; and at the meeting of September 16, 1948, when an organised gang arrived from Germiston and broke up the meeting."

VOTING PERCENTAGE

The highest number of members ever to have voted against the policy and leadership of the union was about 70 or 80, and these came from different factories.

Discussing the small number of members expelled from the union during the past years, Mr. Sachs said they could easily have obtained employment in non-union shops, of which there were always 60 or 70.

One or two preferred to remain unemployed so as to use their "martyrdom" to discredit the union and to assist the disrupters of the union.

The union's information was that these self-styled martyrs received pay from the Blankenwerkersbeskermingsbond or other bodies. Expelled members were always told that as soon as they ceased their subversive activities they would be readmitted as members.

Mr. Sachs has submitted comprehensive evidence giving details on how the union is administered.

LABOUR PARTY AFFILIATION

Dealing with the question of the Garment Workers' affiliation with the Labour Party, and the participation of trade unions generally in politics, Mr. Sachs said his union had at first affiliated to the Labour Party in 1925.

Later this affiliation lapsed and there was a further affiliation later.

"I want to make it clear," said Mr. Sachs, "that we are not wedded to any particular political party, and will support any party which we consider will further the interests of trade unionism and fight for decent wages and social security for the workers."

BASUTOLAND'S SEDITION CASE

Maphutseng Lefela On Trial

JOHANNESBURG.

FOR eight days Maphutseng Lefela, secretary of the Basutoland organisation, Lekhotla le Bafo, and brother of its founder Josel Lefela, has been conducting his defence in Maseru, Basutoland, on a charge of sedition, alternatively contempt of court.

Last year articles by him were published in a South African paper, alleging serious miscarriages of justice during the Basutoland murder trials and the trial of members of Lekhotla le Bafo on the charge of arson in burning down the Roma College.

Lefela has called into court to give evidence six men at present in Basutoland jails, who have testified to their experiences while in custody. These men and others from outside the prison told the court how they were ill-treated, and of attempts made to persuade them to give

false evidence to implicate themselves and others.

The court later adjourned to inspect in loco the cells in which these men were confined.

Witness Kelebone Rametse from Putside gave evidence that when he was arrested he was clearly told he would not be faced with the charge of burning down Roma College, although he was later told this with his own hand. He said he had been told he was arrested so that he would implicate others, among them Josel Lefela.

He told the court in the case now proceeding that he was before a magistrate in a certain area, facing a charge relating to

some village offence, during the period when Roma college was burnt down, when he was supposed to be on the spot and part of the plot.

This man then told the court that when he refused to implicate others, he was placed in solitary confinement, denied food for four days at a stretch, and when taken out of the cell, was so weak he could not walk a step without the aid of two men.

A number of witnesses, suffering the after-effects of prison treatment, appeared before the court, and a doctor called by Lefela said they were suffering from rheumatism as a result of confinement in cold, damp cells in winter.

I.L.O. CONFERENCE

T.L.C. OPPOSES NEW METHOD OF ELECTING WORKERS' DELEGATES

JOHANNESBURG.

THIS year, for the first time, the Government is trying to change the method by which workers' delegates to the International Labour Conference are chosen.

In the past, two workers' representatives were chosen by ballot of the unions affiliated to the Trades and Labour Council. This year the Secretary for Labour has written to the council announcing that he is calling a conference of workers' representatives at which nominations will be considered.

(purely consultative bodies on the railways).

The letter from the Labour Department suggests that eventually the workers' delegation may have to be cut down, it is presumed from the customary figure of two delegates to only one.

The Trades and Labour Council feels that it is not for the Government to decide who shall represent the workers.

It has decided it will take part in the meeting to elect workers' representatives, but under protest and without any prejudice to "its rights and privileges in the selection of a workers' delegate and adviser to the conference".

BODIES INVITED

The bodies to be represented are the Trades and Labour Council, the Western Province Federation of Labour Unions, the Co-ordinating Council of Trade Unions, (the Pretoria body influenced by the Blankenwerkersbeskermingsbond) and the Federal Consultative Committee of the S.A.R. and H. Staff Association.

GERMAN SCIENTISTS TO SETTLE IN S.A.

"Influential" Deputation Sees Minister

JOHANNESBURG.

OVER 2,000 highly trained German scientists, technicians and artisans might come to South Africa, if Dr. Dönges and the Cabinet agree.

This is according to the newspaper Dagbreek, which reports that a delegation of "influential Union citizens" was due to see the Minister of the Interior to place before him these applications.

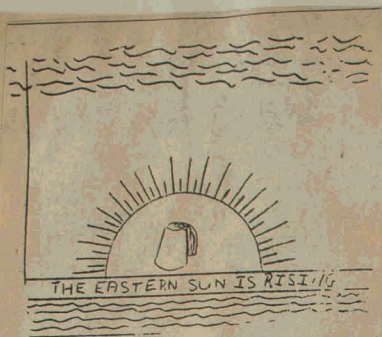
Although, says the paper, Britain, America and the Soviet Union, among other countries, admitted immediately after the end of the war, leading German research workers, especially those working in the sphere of the atom, so that their specialised knowledge could be used for the development of the industries of these countries, South Africa let the opportunity slip by.

It appears, the paper continues,

that thousands of German technicians did not make use of the invitation of other lands, and that a large number of them began to make enquiries about the possibilities of emigrating to South Africa.

Many individuals and organisations in the country received letters from Germany asking for information about this.

These enquiries were assembled and sorted out. As a result a long list of names was compiled, and it is these particulars of German specialists willing to do a "service" to South Africa that will be placed before the Minister by the "influential" deputation of citizens.



"EASTERN SUN IS RISING"

Incitement Against Indians

In Rustenburg

RUSTENBURG.

LAST week the boycott movement aimed against the Indians reached Rustenburg. Primitively-prepared stickers of a Moslem fox on a rising sun, with the caption: "The Eastern Sun is Rising!" appeared on walls of buildings in the town.

Cars carrying loudspeakers from which anti-Indian slogans were shouted toured the town and entered the African location nearby to incite the Africans against the Indians. A public meeting was held in the Town Hall.

DR. MALAN INFORMED

Rustenburg Indians wired Drs. Malan and Dönges and General Smuts urging intervention to stop

the spread of racial hatred by this group.

None of the members of the Indian community to the Government have even been acknowledged.

Indians in many of the smaller Transvaal towns are living in fear as the boycott movement extends its activities, choosing each week one or two towns in which to whip up anti-Indian feeling.

HUNDREDS DEPORTED TO FARMS EACH DAY

JOB-SEEKING AFRICANS HARASSED BY PASS LAWS

JOHANNESBURG.

EACH day in this city 400 Africans, eager and looking for work in industry, are bundled off to the farms. African labour has probably never before here been so harassed, so fenced in by restrictions.

In November last year Johannesburg became a "closed area" under the Urban Areas Act. Then the deportations of Africans began.

ORDERED TO LEAVE

The Council's manager of Non-European Affairs Department

Hundreds Deported

(Continued from page 1)

has reported that since that date 2,457 Africans have been refused permission to enter the area. They have been ordered to leave immediately.

At the pass and unemployment offices, a special team of municipal officials is kept busy doing a double check on all Africans applying for passes to look for work and enter into service contracts.

Take the case of Lawrence I. He worked for a firm in Johannesburg for several years until two years ago when he went home for a holiday.

He stayed away from Johannesburg in all for two years. Then he came back to the city. He found a firm prepared to employ him. He and his prospective employer went down to the pass office to register.

NO PERMISSION

He was told by the pass office he would not be given permission to remain in Johannesburg unless he could prove he had accommodation. He could, Lawrence said. He would be able to stay with his uncle in Sophiatown.

The municipal official ruled this accommodation was not satisfactory, and as he could not produce a letter from a location superintendent to show he had a house in some location, he would have to leave the city.

(Continued on page 6)

It was of no account that he had a job ready for him. He had no accommodation and that was that. Nothing could be done about this.

Lawrence lost his chance to get this job. He is probably outside the city area already, perhaps back at his home in Newcastle, desperate for a job, perhaps working for a pittance on some farm.

The African needing work in the city is today caught in an impossible situation.

MAY NOT ENTER CITY

He may not enter the city unless he has work waiting for him. Then he may not commence work unless he has a house.

But there are no houses available today. Johannesburg is suffering from the most chronic housing shortage in its history.

It is like asking an African to produce the moon by demanding from him that he get a municipal house or satisfactory accommodation.

The only chance for him is to find work with a firm that provides accommodation. But how many do that?

SOLVING FARMERS' PROBLEM

This fence of restrictions to keep the African out of this city, and others where the same regulations operate, is obviously to try to solve the farmers' problem of a labour shortage.

It is not doing that, as the growing shortage of farm labour shows.

Meanwhile, the fate of thousands of African breadwinners is decided each month by a municipal official who takes an arbitrary decision on whom he is going to permit to remain in the city, and who is to be given 48 hours to get out of the area.

How he is to travel no one worries. Where he is to get work with pay sufficient to keep him and his family alive is not the concern of the official.

The African is eager to work, to learn skill in industry. He is not given the chance.

Things have come to a Pretty Pass!

The Nationalist Government plans legislation which will make it compulsory for all white men and women to carry a Pass which will prove that they are of European descent.

Stop the coming of the Gestapo!

★
VOTE

UNITED PARTY

—return a
Democratic Government!

★

PASS THIS ON

Issued by V. van Betsburg, Tryn Buildings, Pretoria.
Printed by Free Press Printing & Publishing Co.,
40 Kruger Street, Johannesburg.

These are the front and back pages of an arresting four-sided leaflet issued by the United Party in Pretoria in their campaign to defeat the Nationalists in the provincial elections. The inside of the leaflet gives the details of the "pass" the United Party believes the Nationalists will introduce for Europeans. On the top left-hand corner is a space for the holder's right thumbprint; below, the name, address, occupation, religion, sex, country of origin and constituency must be filled in. There is a special column for ancestry, paternal on the one side, maternal on the other, in which the names and race of the grandparents and parents must be given. "This card must be produced on demand by police and government officials," reads the top right-hand corner, with, below, the passport number, schools won and your children attended, investments outside the Union, home language, number of radio sets, stipulated. Then, too, you must state which party you voted for in the last elections. The "pass" is startlingly realistic — no wonder Die Burger does not like it!

APARTHEID-REGULASIES APARTHEID REGULATIONS

IDENTITEITS-

PAS

VIR BLANKES

IDENTITY

PASS

FOR EUROPEANS

Houer/Holder JAN GEHARDUS SANNMAN

Ras/Race EUROPEAN

No. 14826

Hierdie Pas bly slegs 12 maande geldig, in die
This Pass is valid for 12 months only, in the
Provinsie waar dit uitgereik is, en moet heraan
Province of issue, and must be renewed on expiration
as dit vervall. Straf op oorskryding van termyn
Penalty for failing to renew: £30 FINE, on
£30 BOETE, of 6 maande, by veroordeling,
conviction, or six months.

NEW BODY TO TAKE PLACE OF T.L.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

ON counsel's opinion, the Trades and Labour Council is to be wound up at its April annual conference in East London. A new national body will then be formed.

This decision has to be taken in view of the legal difficulties which have arisen in connection with the Council's constitution. The present constitution makes no provision for amendments to the constitution, which means that all amendments passed since 1930, when it came into operation, are illegal.

ONE DELEGATE OBJECTED

The Council tried to remedy the matter at its January emergency conference, when it asked unions affiliated to it unanimously approve the adoption of a clause enabling amendments to be made.

Only one union delegate, from one of the Pretoria unions, refused to agree to this clause being passed, and his refusal meant that it had to be dropped. The winding-up of the Council is now the only way out of the difficulty.

The new body formed in April will take its place as the body representing the vast majority of organised workers in the country.

Lefela Sentenced

MASERU.

MAPHUTSENG LEFELA, secretary of Lekhotla in Bafu, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour or a fine of £50, last Monday in Maseru for contempt of court.

The District Commissioner, delivering the Court judgment, described as "scandalous" the accusations Lefela levelled in an article published in a South African paper last August, to the effect that miscarriages of justice were being perpetrated in the Protectorate.

Lefela based his charges on the treatment Harold Velaphi, now serving a term of four years in Maseru jail, was alleged to have received at the hands of the police after his arrest on a charge of arson.

The judgment of the Court found that Lefela had "wilfully

tried to bring the administration of justice into disrepute."

The District Commissioner said there was no direct evidence that Lefela had written the article, but he had never denied having done so. The article appeared when judicial proceedings against Velaphi were pending.

Conducting his own defence, Lefela said in a statement to Court that he had not written the article while the proceedings were pending.

After hearing the judgment, Lefela gave notice of appeal.

"We Want Land"

ORLANDO AFRICANS' NEW MOVE

JOHANNESBURG.

STARTING in Orlando is a new movement of a group of African people for land. They are demanding that areas bought for the African people under the Land and Trust Act be opened for purchase and occupation by them.

The move was started by Mr. James Sofasonke Mpanza who led the first squatters' movement some years ago under the slogan "We Want Land," and members of the Orlando Advisory Board.

HUGE AREAS VACANT

Mr. Mpanza maintains that there are huge areas of land, bought under the Native Trust Act, which have not yet been settled.

"I have been shown these areas on a map," he told The Guardian. "And I travelled for a day with officials of the Trust Fund seeing land lying vacant. We could have travelled seeing these farms for fully four days." Mr. Mpanza says the areas he saw there are available for African settlement and are yet lying unused near Hamanskraal, Bultfontein, and the Pienars River.

According to other reports, this land is dry and infertile, but Mr. Mpanza maintains that if the Government will provide boreholes, tractors and farm implements, they could be cultivated and settled.

NATIVE COMMISSIONER APPROACHED

So, towards the end of last year, the Orlando Board placed before the Native Commissioner its demand for the right of Africans to purchase some of this land.

The matter was discussed, and the Board wants for the decision of the Government.

Mr. Mpanza says many Africans living in Orlando would like to buy some land.

"We cannot own our home here," he explained. "When we lose our work we cannot pay our rent, and then we are thrown out. Daily our sons are being sent to the farms of Europeans to work because they have no chance to find work in the towns. Why should they not have their own land to farm?"

NAT. EDUCATION POLICY UNDER FIRE

JHB. MEETING ASKS FOR MINISTER'S ASSURANCE

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister of Education and provincial directors of education have been asked to give an assurance that the F.A.K. policy of "Christian-National education" will not be carried out.

A monster meeting in the Selborne Hall, attended by teachers and parents of this city, condemned this education plan propounded by the Institute for Christian-National Education as contrary to the spirit of Christianity and alien to the best traditions of South Africa.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

This resolution was passed unanimously after speeches by poet-playwright Uys Krige, Miss Mary McLarty, former headmistress of a leading girls' high school, Sister Frances Mary, former principal of the Teachers' Training College at Grahamstown, Dr. A. E. H. Blesley, lecturer in astronomy at the University of the Witwatersrand, and students from the Witwatersrand and Pretoria Universities.

Miss McLarty said that certain paragraphs contained in the F.A.K. pamphlet were merely statements of a creed, using the language of indoctrination. "No one can teach without bias," she said, "but one's idea must be to lead the pupil to examine facts and draw his own conclusions."

Miss McLarty quoted from the pamphlet the passage reading: "We will have no intermingling of languages, no intermingling of

It is suggested the fares should be raised from 2d. to 3d. to offset the loss last year of £72,000.

At the last meeting of the Tramways Committee, Mr. C. F. Bekett, M.P.C., objected to any increase in fares, as he said Africans were in a worse position financially than before the war and less able to pay a 3d. fare.

JHB. FARES TO GO UP

JOHANNESBURG.—The City Council is to discuss this month the advisability of raising fares on the Western Native Township route.

It is suggested the fares should be raised from 2d. to 3d. to offset the loss last year of £72,000.

At the last meeting of the Tramways Committee, Mr. C. F. Bekett, M.P.C., objected to any increase in fares, as he said Africans were in a worse position financially than before the war and less able to pay a 3d. fare.

How could the terms "African", "Christian" and "national" be defined, he wanted to know.

He wondered what would happen in South African universities where there were students of many nationalities, creeds and religions if this plan were carried out.

These places were the homes of a great educational and cultural future for South Africa.

The attendance at this meeting, one of the largest for some time, is an indication of the harm aroused here in educational circles by the F.A.K. plan.

PLANS TO SMASH TRAIN APARTHEID

CAPE TOWN.

THE Train Apartheid Resistance Committee will try to make unworkable the regulations enforcing separate coaches for Europeans on Cape Town suburban trains, by packing the reserved coaches with Non-Europeans. This was announced by the Committee last week.

Almost immediately Mr. Sauer had Die Burger carry a stern warning from him, threatening drastic Government action against organised defiance of the apartheid regulation.

Meanwhile the Resistance Committee has been recruiting volunteers to go into action at meetings throughout the Peninsula.

"While the South African Government is sending an envoy overseas to explain that the new South African Government is not a threat to democratic rights in South Africa, the same Government has already launched a frontal attack on the few remaining rights of the Non-European peoples," said the Resistance Committee, in a press statement.

RESISTANCE AGAINST TRAIN APARTHEID. Great demonstration on Cape Town's Grand Parade, Sunday, September 5, at 2.30 p.m.

Individual infringements of the regulation would go unpunished, the Minister announced. He was aiming at educating the population in the operation of the regulation. But deliberate, organised contraventions would meet with stern treatment.

The Women's Food Committee has unanimously condemned the introduction of apartheid on the trains.

Coloured missionaries, at a meeting in Cape Town of interdenominational Coloured ministers, declared themselves willing to associate with other organisations. (Continued on page 5)

PLANS TO SMASH APARTHEID

(Continued from page 1)
sations to break up the machinery of apartheid.

ONLY A FORETASTE

The same week Mr. Eric Louw, Minister of Economic Affairs and Mines, addressing a Nationalist celebration at Beaufort-West, said the application of apartheid on the suburban railway services in the Cape Peninsula was only a foretaste of what was to come.

Apartheid would be carried out in all its aspects, and in all parts of the country.

A resolution expressing concern at the introduction of train apartheid was moved on the Cape Town Council last Tuesday by Councillor Sam Kahn.

Discussion was adjourned till the next Council meeting while the Mayor took legal opinion on whether the Council could validly discuss this motion.

CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

CAPE TOWN. — In this year's municipal elections only 3 of the 15 wards in which Councillors are retiring are being contested. Twelve of the sitting Councillors have been returned unopposed.

Strongest fight of all is being waged in ward 6 where the sitting Councillor A. Ismail is being opposed by Mr. S. Dollie, an ex-Councillor who lost his seat in 1943.

Councillor Ismail has been in the Council for 9 years. Mr. Dollie became a member of the Coloured Advisory Council — its vice-president — just after its inception, but subsequently lost both his seat in the City and Divisional Councils, and he then resigned from the C.A.C.

In ward 9 (Mowbray) two new candidates make their appearance — Messrs. Malcolm Taylor and F. G. Treleven, secretary of the Mowbray Ratepayers' Association; both of whose views on most questions are unknown.

Mr. C. T. Villet, the sitting member for ward 13 (Wynberg) is being opposed this year by Mr. R. Burton. This election is the continuation of an old feud between two United Party supporters. Dr. Villet some time ago formed a new Ratepayers' Association in opposition to the existing one in the area.

Resistance To Nat. Aggression Growing

CHURCHES REJECT APARTHEID

RESISTANCE to the Nationalist Government is growing. Day by day, with each new blow against the people's rights delivered by the Cabinet, with each new near-fascist speech from the Nationalist benches in Parliament, opposition to the Malanist Government is stiffening.

On Sunday 10,000 people showed their opposition to apartheid in one of the most militant demonstrations ever to be held on Cape Town's Grand Parade. Hundreds of Non-Europeans, after the meeting, spontaneously occupied railway carriages set aside for "Europeans only," and hundreds more volunteered to take part in an organised campaign to smash apartheid on the trains.

Liberals, led by former Deputy Prime Minister J. H. Hofmeyr and Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, M.P., have formed a Civil Rights Action Committee, demonstrating European support for the Non-European people struggling in defence of their existing rights. Organising a deputation to protest to the Minister of Transport against train apartheid is the Cape Town branch of the National Council of Women.

A CITIZENS' RALLY under the auspices of the Civil Rights Action Committee will be held in the Cape Town City Hall on September 14 at 8.15 p.m. The rally is to express opposition to attacks on the rights of Non-European citizens.

The fight has entered the churches, and from a number of pulpits last week-end carefully-weighted denunciations of apartheid as un-Christian were delivered.

M.P.s Restless

Some of the younger M.P.s on the Opposition benches are said to be growing restless under the sluggish leadership of their parties, and are pressing for the Opposition to dig in its heels and put up a stern fight against such attacks by the Government as the removal of Coloured and African representation in the House.

These M.P.s are impatient with a defence based merely on the constitutional issues involved, and feel that the fight should centre round the maintenance of those principles themselves.

Since May 26 Malan's Cabinet has had a good, steady innings. Punch-drunk with power, and true to the "black bogey" manifesto with which the Nationalist Party stumped the polls, the Nat. Ministers have been impatient for one day to give way to the next so that they could make some new declaration of policy—almost every one being an attack on the rights of one section or another of the people.

Now, resistance to these attacks is taking shape.

Civil Rights Action

Committee

The newly formed Civil Rights Action Committee says in a statement: "No civilisation can flourish on the foundations of increasing

SWART PROVES NOTHING

COMMUNIST PROBE A "PROPAGANDA STUNT"

JOHANNESBURG.

SWART'S exposure of Communism has had a singularly flat reception here. The Nats have promised facts about the extent of the Communist danger. All the Minister's departmental commission succeeded in doing, people are saying, is rake up as a report the usual catch-phrases about the Communist menace and Communist penetration. But they have certainly produced nothing to prove their case.

Actually there is much puzzle, ravings of the Nats against Communism. But they could not succeed. The Communist - controlled organisations they have conjured up "are known only to them."

"PROPAGANDA STUNT"

"The commission investigating communism is just a propaganda stunt, to cover up their thuggery at Newlands, where the followers of the Government used pick handles and knuckle-dusters against the people," Mr. du Plessis went on.

"The Government is using pick handles and knuckle-dusters on the constitution and the freedom of the individual in South Africa."

Mr. du Plessis warned that attacks against Communism should be recognised as attacks on the freedom of speech and organisation.

"FINANCED BY INDIAN MONEY"

The Minister said it "stood for the co-operation of all existing Non-European organisations," that it was "financed by Indian money" and had "a connection with the Trotsky movement." But what organisation is this? Nobody knows.

Similarly with the new Bantu Union of Africa which, according to the Department of Justice, demands an increase of 1s. a day for African miners, and threatens sabotage on the mines unless it gets it, no one I have met knows of the existence of this body.

Where has Mr. Swart found them?

"Die Transvaler," Nat organ here, has fallen over itself in its glee about the exposure of Communism.

So much so that in its account of the parliamentary debate although the English Press reported that Mr. Sam Kahn's interjection to the letter supposed to have been written from a Johannesburg to a Cape Town "revolutionary" was: "That is a fake. I can read the nazi handwriting in that." "Die Transvaler" told its readers that Mr. Kahn's comment was: "Oh, so you know about that!"

"FANTASTIC"

Mr. Danie du Plessis, secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party told The Guardian Mr. Swart's statements were fantastic.

The Commission investigating Communism, appointed by the Department of Justice, seemed, he said, to be spending its time trying to corroborate the political

"VIOLENCE WILL BE MET BY VIOLENCE"

AFRIKAANS PAPER DELIGHTS IN GOVERNMENT POLICY

JOHANNESBURG.

SOME time ago the weekly Afrikaans newspaper, "Dagbreek en Sondagnuus" decided to do its readers a service. Following Minister Swart's warning in a speech that crimes of violence would be met with violence, this paper got the special permission of the Department of Prisons to take photographs of how the cat o' nine tails and other forms of corporal punishment were administered.

The photographs were published, the main one of the triangle and cat o' nine tails taking up half the front page. With them went a careful, complete description of how warders went about their work administering lashes accounts by people who had had this experience of what it felt like. Descriptions of how the cat and canes were prepared before use.

"With a powerful flourish the inch-thick cane whistles through the air, draws deep strokes over the buttocks of the cowering man; a second, third and fourth cane stroke sweeps down; from the strokes that lie so neatly alongside one another like the fingers of a hand, oases blood," the paper says.

"UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE"

"It is an experience they never forget," and "The cries of pain of one man rang throughout the

The cat o' nine tails "burns like hot irons" when applied to the skin, says Dagbreek.



prison" were the comments of warders interviewed.

One of the pictures not reproduced in The Guardian shows a warder lashing a dummy — to practise. Dagbreek explains it needs a special kind of stroke to do this. It is not always the most muscular man who is best at it. A nervous person is not suitable for the job.

In another picture, a warder shows how supple the thick cane is. The evening before it is to be

used, says Dagbreek, it is soaked in a special solution so that it does not splinter. Where it lands, it draws blood, usually.

South Africa is, of course, not the only country in the world where corporal punishment is still practised.

But is it not perhaps unique in that it has a Government which seems so proud of this practice that it gives a newspaper, known for its Nationalist sympathies, a free hand in delighting in it?

Dagbreek en Sondagnuus

DIT WAG GEWELDEPLEGERS: Ten einde krag te sit by Justisminister Swart se waarskoning dat geweldplegers voortaan met geweld gestraf sal word, is Dagbreek toegestaan om foto's te neem van 'n demonstrasie hoe 'n straf van negen slaags met die kat o' negen staaf.



A Dagbreek reporter demonstrates how the prisoner is "put into position" for the lashing.

MAR 14 3. 1949.

GARMENT ENQUIRY

R.D.B. Chief admits Paying Van der Walt

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. J. C. B. SCHOEMAN, acting "hoofleier" of the Reddingsdaadbond, last week admitted to the Wolfard Commission investigating the affairs of the Garment Workers' Union that the money (£11 18s. a week) which was paid to Mr. G. H. van der Walt by the Blankewerksbeskermingsbond from July 1, 1948, was advanced by the Reddingsdaadbond.

Mr. Schoeman is also an executive member of the B.W.B. During a lengthy cross-examination by Mr. N. Philips for the union on the interlocking directorships of the R.D.B. and Afrikaans business undertakings, Mr. Schoeman admitted that one of the R.D.B. directors was a director of Unie-winkels Beperk.

Two directors of the R.D.B. were directors of the Ekonomiese Instituut, and another was a director of Volkshemde, a garment factory. He preferred that questions on the directorships held by Dr. N. Diederichs, his predecessor as "hoofleier" and still an executive member of the R.D.B., be put directly to Dr. Diederichs when he is cross-examined on his evidence about Communism.

"TO EMANCIPATE AFRIKAANS VOLK"

Mr. Schoeman said that the Reddingsdaadbond existed for the purpose of "economically emancipating the Afrikaans volk" by

mobilising Afrikaans capital. Their interest in the affairs of the Garment Workers' Union was purely altruistic and calculated to ensure that the democratic of the garment workers did not suffer.

Mr. G. H. van der Walt, who led the agitation against the Garment Workers' Union last year, was paid a weekly wage from July 1 while he was still the vice-president of the union, said Mr. Jasper Louber, organising secretary of the B.W.B., when he gave evidence before the commission.

He used Mr. Van der Walt to obtain information on the inside workings of the union executive but denied that he employed him as a spy and a disrupter.

ADVISED VAN DER WALT

Mr. Louber admitted under cross-examination that it was he who advised Mr. Van der Walt to organise for the holding of a general meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

R.D.B. Support For Van der Walt

(Continued from page 1)

He did much of Mr. Van der Walt's typing, gave him the use of his motor-car, and accompanied him to the houses of 30 or 50 dissatisfied clothing workers.

It was also Mr. Louber who ordered the special train to bring garment workers from Germiston to Johannesburg to attend a meeting of the union in the City Hall. He contributed a sum of money towards their train fares.

During the uproar at the meeting he stood outside and at one stage advised Mr. Van der Walt to calm the crowd, which he did.

Questioned on the composition of the executive of the B.W.B., he admitted that it consisted largely

of Dutch Reformed predikants, of whom one was an employer in the clothing industry.

Mr. Schoeman said that the money paid to Mr. Van der Walt was for the maintenance of his wife and child and partly to enable him to find redress for his grievances against the union.

He thought that Mr. Van der Walt could give guidance to the disgruntled garment workers.

The money was also paid to Mr. Van der Walt so that he could help Mr. Louber to gain information.

Mr. Van der Walt is still receiving his £11 18s. a week from a special fund set aside to combat Communism.

I.L.O. DELEGATION: DEADLOCK OVER NOMINATIONS

T.L.C. To Take Own Ballot

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Union Government's interference in the election of workers' representatives to attend the Geneva session of the International Labour Organisation this year is likely to have international repercussions.

Despite the opinion of the Department of Labour to call a meeting to select delegates (thus departing from the 20-year-old practice of leaving this to the most representative body of organised labour in the Union, the Trades and Labour Council), the T.L.C. is proceeding with arrangements for a ballot of its affiliated unions to elect delegates.

The meeting called by Department of Labour officials was attended by representatives of the T.L.C., the Western Province Federation of Labour Union, the Co-ordinating Council of South African Trade Unions and the Federal Consultative Committee of S.A.R. and H. Staffs' Association.

The T.L.C. delegation lodged a protest at this procedure, submitting that its interpretation of the constitution of the I.L.O. is that the Government must consult the most representative organisation of workpeople in the member country and, although it must submit its final nomination to the I.L.O., it has no power to appoint on its own initiative without such consultation of the most representative body, its own delegate or adviser.

The T.L.C. cited the case of German and Italian delegations whose credentials had been challenged some years ago on the grounds that they were not representative of the working people of their countries.

It was pointed out that the Minister of Labour had only recently spoken of his insistence on democratic elections within the trade unions, and that this pro-

cedure was a complete departure from that policy.

The representative of the all-way Staff Association said the meeting that he was in no position to make nominations, but had to refer back to his committee.

The organisations invited to the meeting have still to inform the Department of Labour whether they are prepared to accept its suggestions for a way in which delegates could be appointed.

NATIONALITY RIGHTS OF WOMEN

JOHANNESBURG.

A resolution urging the Government to give women the same citizenship rights as those enjoyed by men, particularly in regard to nationality, was passed by a meeting arranged by the League of Women Voters together with the National Council of Women, the Association of University Women, and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Mrs. W. A. D. Russell, the national president of the National Council of Women, said that a deputation which interviewed the Minister of the Interior three weeks ago, had been told that he might introduce a Bill concerning the nationality of South African women within their own country. This would safeguard the nationality of women within the bounds of their own country.

Union-Rhodesian Spy System?

JOHANNESBURG.

HAVE the Governments of the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia some secret arrangement by which they supply one another with information about persons who move from one country to another?

Events concerning a young South African teacher who settled for a while in Southern Rhodesia certainly seem to point that way. And his is not the only instance in recent months.

The young teacher is John Rex, a graduate from a South African university, who worked for five weeks at an African mission school in Bulawayo this year.

He was informed after the five weeks that he was ordered to leave forthwith under the Aliens Act, "on the recommendation of another government." He had no right of appeal.

John Rex is now back in Grahamstown.

Why was he undesirable to the Rhodesian Government?

Because he was a member of the Springbok Legion in the Union?

Because in Rhodesia he had been working on an M.A. thesis on "the strike in the settling of racial conflict," and had made a special study of the general strike in Bulawayo last year?

Only a few months ago two South Africans who settled in Rhodesia were told they were undesirable and ordered to leave. In that case one of the two had at one time been a trade union organiser.

RAND BAKERS OUST NAT. AGENTS

MR. ROSENBLATT RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN

JOHANNESBURG.

MOST recent attempts by Nationalist agents to capture the trade unions were made in the Witwatersrand Bakers' Union. But on this occasion their attempts were frustrated and their group completely ousted from the union executive committee.

The Nat. tactic was to confront the chairman of the union, Mr. S. Rosenblatt, who has occupied his position for ten successive years, with the charge that he was a Communist.

cliques operating in the union with trying to undermine the hard-won conditions of the workers.

Prominent in the efforts to white-wash the Bakers' union are two secretaries of Nationalist Party branches, Mr. Du Pisanie, the Germiston M.P., one of the Nationalist "experts" on trade unionism; especially in the Garment Workers' Union, has made appearance at workers' meetings at Johannesburg bakers.

MAY TRY AGAIN

It is thought that, sore at their crushing defeat in these union elections, the Nat. group may try to force re-elections within the next few months.

Meanwhile, one of the Nat.'s leading members in the union has resigned from the Nationalist Party, probably disgusted at their tactics.

Mr. Rosenblatt, against whom the brunt of the attack was levelled, was re-elected national president of the Bakers' Union at their Durban conference this January.

Mr. R. Bradley was elected vice-president of the Witwatersrand union.

STUDENTS DEPORTED

CATRO.

Many students are being deported to concentration camps, as a result of the recent military decree which forbade students being members of a political organisation.

NATIONALITY RIGHTS OF WOMEN

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IN BASUTOLAND



Josiel (holding book) and Maphutseng Lefela, founder and secretary of Basutoland's Lekhotla le Bafa, discuss Maphutseng's defence outside the court of the District Commissioner in Maseru, where Maphutseng was last week found guilty of contempt of court for publishing allegations against the way in which Basutoland trials are conducted.

On the left, the wives of men condemned to death for ritual murder, their sentences later commuted to 15 years imprisonment, wait outside the Maseru jail before being allowed to see their husbands.

ATTEMPT TO UNSEAT BALLINGER

JOHANNESBURG.—The Prime Minister, Dr. Malan, and Mr. Harry Lawrence, Ministers of the Interior in 1928 and in the last Government respectively, have been subpoenaed to appear as witnesses in the hearing of the petition in which the validity of the election of Senator William Ballinger to the Senate is being challenged by the Ficksburg farmer, J. H. J. van Rensburg, who lost his deposit when standing against Mr. Ballinger in the last Senate elections for Native Representatives.

The hearing took place in Pretoria this week before a full court of three judges.

Mr. Van Rensburg alleges the election was irregular because Mr. Ballinger was not a Union National, and did not possess the necessary qualifications for the Senate.

Mr. Ballinger says in his petition that he is a Union National. He has been endeavouring to get from the Department of the Interior copies of the original documents relative to this matter, but had not yet received these documents.

In his passports he was described as a Union National of British birth.

In a supporting affidavit, Mr. Harry Lawrence says that Mr. and Mrs. Ballinger had for a number of years been treated as Union Nationals, and should be regarded as such.

The hearing has been postponed sine die.

WORKING FOR OPPOSITION PARTIES

JOHANNESBURG.

The Ex-Servicemen's Political Action Committee wishes to state that there is no connection between the Committee and the Springbok Legion as alleged by Dr. Malan recently.

A spokesman for the Committee stated here last week that the aims and objects of the Committee were purely to assist the Opposition parties in the provincial elections with canvassers, transport on election day, etc.

The Committee appeals to all ex-servicemen, irrespective of their membership in any ex-service organisation to come forward and assist the Committee in their work.

(News by Col. H. W. Boardman, Africa House, Rissik Street, Johannesburg.)

BUS BOYCOTT VICTORY

JOHANNESBURG.

A four-day bus boycott by the people of Albertville has ended in a victory.

A protest meeting of residents decided on the boycott of the service, operated by a private company, as no notice was taken of their grievances.

They complained that the service was quite inadequate. There was no proper time-table, the buses were hopelessly overcrowded, and when there were breakdowns no transport was provided to take the people home.

On one occasion after a weekend breakdown, the people reached their homes at 5 o'clock in the morning.

So for the four days, the people of Albertville, mainly Coloured, walked about three miles into Sophiatown, and there caught other buses.

The Transportation Board subsequently ruled that the service should meet the requirements of the people or it would be taken off the road.

When the company agreed to introduce a proper time-table and take steps to end the overcrowding, the boycott was called off.

SAM KAHN MUST GET OUT

Nat. Leaflet

JOHANNESBURG.

"We say SAM KAHN MUST GET OUT," says an election leaflet of the Nationalist candidate for Mayfair.

"The result of U.P. policy," it announced, "is that Sam Kahn, a red-hot Communist, is today a member of Parliament. (How would he have come there if the Native had no representative in Parliament?)

"Every vote for the U.P. is a vote that Sam Kahn must remain.

"Therefore, vote for the Nationalist Party candidate."

Departmental Delay Causes Hardships JHB. T.L.C. COMPLAINS TO LABOUR MINISTER

JOHANNESBURG.

THOUSANDS of pounds are being lost by workers because of delays in the registration of new unions, the granting of affiliation boards, and the publication of new agreements of the Department of Labour.

The Southern Transvaal Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council has submitted to the Minister of Labour details of these delays, and asked that these proceedings be speeded up.

The Committee pointed out that the Minister of Labour assured a deputation from the Trades and Labour Council last year that he had no knowledge of these delays, but where cases were brought to his attention, they would be dealt with expeditiously.

DEPT. ADMITS DELAYS

Replying to the Local Committee, the Department of Labour now admits "some measure of delay," but only in certain instances. The Local Committee quotes a number of instances to show that months elapse before applications are scrutinised by the Department.

An application for the registration of a union was submitted in July 1948. The comments from the Department were received in November 1948.

The documents were in the hands of the Department for four months before they were dealt with. The Union is still not registered.

CONCILIATION BOARD

Another union applied for a conciliation board in April, 1948. The Department replied that an employers' association had been

registered, so the union must have to reserve its demand for improvements.

But when the second application was submitted, the Dept. said the employers' association was not representative of the concerned in the dispute.

This board was eventually approved eight months after original application was made.

The Act provides that a board must be approved or refused within 21 days, after which period a union may strike.

To yet another application the board was refused on the grounds that the union was not representative, when in fact it was almost one hundred per cent. representative of the classes of workers on whose behalf improvements were demanded, and who constituted the great majority of the workers in the industry.

The Department also advises unions that where queries arise in respect of agreements submitted for publication, these will be disposed of one by one.

This holds up the publication of the agreement, and causes immeasurable loss to the workers.



MR. S. ROSENBLATT

But Mr. Rosenblatt was re-elected for his eleventh period of office, and the Nat. band, which came strongly organised to the recent annual general meeting, next witnessed the defeat of their candidate for the post of vice-president.

REFUSED TO ACCEPT SEATS

They refused to accept seats on the executive, because the union was submitted, the Dept. said, was "Communist dominated," and then walked out of the meeting.

In his opening address, Mr. Rosenblatt charged organised

N.U.D.W. WANTS SATURDAY AFTERNOON CLOSING

TVL EMPLOYERS WILLING

JOHANNESBURG.

As you prepared to support Saturday afternoon closing in a special pre-election campaign being run by the National Union of Textile Workers.

Of all the provinces, only in the Transvaal is Saturday afternoon closing not provided for by quite voluntary employers keep open or closed on Saturday afternoon.

Companies closing on Saturday afternoon has long been a demand of the Distributive Workers Union.

At the recent years shops in Johannesburg have begun to close on Saturday afternoon. Most shops become quite deserted, more decentralized and it is not a problem for the housewife or even working people to do their shopping during the week.

To the shop assistants who spend half her week-end serving in the store it would be a boon.

ordinance".

The Transvaal Administrator is being petitioned for Saturday afternoon closing, as part of the campaign.

The union recalls that in 1937 a motion introduced in the provincial council got a majority vote, but was later defeated in the executive committee.

Already a large number of election candidates have given assurance that if they are elected they will work for Saturday afternoon closing.

This is something which affects women workers in the distributive trade very acutely, a union representative said.

She explained that many of the women are married and have families and that while their husbands who work in many cases, in industries where the five-day working week is observed have Saturdays free, they themselves are unable to spend much

of their week-ends with their families.

NO PROBLEM FOR HOOSWITZ

The public would easily fit into a five and a half day shopping week. It is felt in other provinces there has been no difficulty.

Further, while talks in the present location are as far as a month, it is proposed to make tents in the new location almost double that amount.

The people maintain that there is plenty of unoccupied land in the present location which can be used to meet the shortage of houses.

"Towns should be provided at how rates of interest to enable us to obtain and renovate our houses, build our own homes," says the memorandum.

They urge also that the streets be properly laid out, sewerage, water and light installed.

"The rights of the residents of Klerksdorp should not be interfered with," they warn, "as the people will be entitled to resist."

RENTS TO BE DOUBLED

town, will cause great hardship, location, very much further from Klerksdorp are low. The new day to save lives, as wages in many people walk into work each mile from the centre of the town.

The present location is only one dozen as their home.

upon exercising their human right to reside in the place they have chosen as their home.

"The people, as citizens, insist upon exercising their human right to reside in the place they have chosen as their home."

Administration.

of the location. Members have been without consulting the steps proposed by the authorities without consulting the people," says the memorandum.

"We wish to record our emphatic protest against the steps proposed by the authorities without consulting the people."

never took place.

promise that such a meeting was held, reminding the Superintendent their depuration to hear their Minister of Native Affairs meet the residents are that the are not allowed to purchase in rent and have by this time paid the value of the land which they have been living in the present location for something like 30 years, and each month many times the majority of the residents incapable demands by the municipality to remove them from the land on which they are entitled.

The people of Klerksdorp location are up in arms at the Town Council's attempt to move them to a new site, four and a half miles out of the town.

JOHANNESBURG.

Want Interview With Minister

Eviction Move

Klerksdorp Residents Fight

WEST INDIAN SEAMEN GAOLED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Treated As Prohibited Immigrants

JOHANNESBURG.

TWELVE regular seamen, 10 British West Indians and two Poles, were "shanghaied" on to a ship bound for a trip down the East Coast of Africa. In London they signed British articles but when already out to sea found they were on a Canadian ship, supposed to pay higher rates but adhering to terms for British ships.

They learnt later that this ship that they did not know they were to be imprisoned.

When they reached Beira they saw the British Consul to whom they protested, and insisted that they be signed off and allowed to return to London. It was agreed that they take the ship as far as Durban and then be paid off.

IN DURBAN

At Durban it was arranged that they be sent back to London by plane. That agreement they signed too.

In Durban they stayed in a hotel for two weeks. Then they were told they should leave for Johannesburg to board a plane to London. At the station as they left Durban they noticed they were under escort and that these men were with them continually in their compartments. They later learnt they had a police escort.

In Johannesburg, met by another escort, they were told they would be taken to Marshall Square to see the immigration authorities.

When they arrived there some of these seamen suggested that Marshall Square was a gaol and

THREATENING ATTITUDE

They were told they were not going to be put in a gaol. Their escort, they said, adopted a threatening attitude. When they asked for legal assistance, he asked them whether they wanted to "riot."

Eventually they were put in cells after being told they would leave the Union by air on February 28 at 2 o'clock in the morning.

At the appointed time they were still in the cells. When they banged on the cell door a warder told them they were not booked on that plane and it was not certain when they would leave.

For two days they remained in the cells.

RELEASED ON SECURITY

Then one evening they were released on the security of a friend who had learnt of their plight and guaranteed to accommodate them at his home until they left the Union.

Every day, as prohibited immigrants, they had to report to the immigration authorities.

Their attempts to see a British representative were unsuccessful.

"We didn't know we were prisoners," they told The Guardian. "We were not told we were to be arrested." "In fact," one added, "we were tricked and falsely arrested."

These were their impressions of the Union of South Africa during their brief "visit" here.

Then they left to settle a score with the ship that had had them falsely signed on in London.

EX-SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION CONDEMNES F.A.K. PLAN

JOHANNESBURG.

"If these people succeed in the attempt, we will get a twentieth-century inquisition," writes Professor M. C. Botha, formerly Union Secretary for Education and later Rector of the University of Pretoria, in an article on the attempt to introduce a scheme for Christian-National Education. The article is reprinted by the Education League, formed to combat this scheme.

Professor Botha writes that the interpretation given to the words "Christian" and "national" in the F.A.K. plan is completely unacceptable to him.

"I even find it un-Christian, because it is intolerant, unnational and pitifully narrow."

He adds, "I must in all charity protest against any attempt to 'Potchefstroom' our whole system of education."



The house above has been vacant for 8 months, the one below is near 5 other vacant houses. The pictures were taken in the suburbs of Johannesburg.

Thousands Homeless While Houses Remain Empty

JOHANNESBURG.

THOUSANDS of families in this city are desperate for homes. Yet in many suburbs houses, new and old, have been standing empty for months.

Official figures supplied by the Secretary of Social Welfare were quoted in a Council debate on housing recently. On the waiting list for accommodation are 22,000 families.

One out of every 16 of this city's European population is unsatisfactorily housed. The speaker said he shuddered to think in terms of statistics when it came to African housing.

EMPTY HOUSES

In a string of suburbs in Johannesburg's newest areas stand the empty houses. Built on speculation, their owners are in large numbers of cases holding out for higher prices than people can pay today.

House owners are waiting for buyers. They are unwilling to rent their houses because once tenants have been moved in, they cannot be ejected if a higher bidder comes around the corner.

Houses that tenants move out of today, because they have to move to new centres or for some other reason, remain vacant. Again the owners are looking for their highest price.

There is a law, passed some

years ago, which gives the Minister or letting control authorities the power to commandeer empty houses that have remained vacant for a certain period and to install tenants in them. The Minister has the power even to effect repairs if the homes are not fit to be occupied, and to submit the account to the owner.

But this power has rarely been used, and so the contradiction in housing goes on: endless queues outside the offices of the Social Welfare Department waiting for accommodation, families living in garages and overcrowded in rooms—and rows of empty houses standing and more going up each month.

This housing mix-up and all the malpractices and abuses that flow from our systems of letting control are due at bottom to the very real shortage of homes.

Private enterprise has shown that it is not prepared to build homes for letting. It will build flats, but the ordinary working man, the civil servant, the artisan, the factory worker with a family,

cannot afford to and does not want to live in a flat.

Only building by the Government can provide the homes for the people.

The National Housing Commission started to fill in these gaps. It started to build homes at 17 or 18 a month. But it had time only to touch on the problem.

When the Nationalists came to power, even its meagre programme was dashed to pieces.

Before the elections the United Party Government had at last been persuaded to agree to a large scheme at Crown Gardens. Since the change of government tenders for only a few hundred homes have been called for.

APPEASING VESTED INTERESTS

The Government is not prepared to spend the money needed on housing. And it also doesn't want to offend vested interests in the building field: big builders who didn't want to see schemes for 28-a-month houses.

So the queues of the homeless grow longer, the thousands of homes that are needed throughout the country just never get built, and the houses that are ready stand empty at prices that soar above the man-in-the-street's means.

African Women Cannot Enter Towns

JOHANNESBURG.

In future African women in the countryside may not proceed to any town unless they have the permission of a Native Commissioner.

This is the effect of a Native Affairs Department circular sent to all chiefs and members of local councils.

A woman wishing, say, to join her husband in town must see her induna who will in turn ask the Native Commissioner to issue her with a letter authorising her to leave.

Without this letter she will not be sold a ticket at a railway station.

It is almost impossible for her to obtain leave to seek work in a town, and if she wishes to join her husband she must furnish details of his address.

These instructions were contained in a Government circular that tried at the same time to discount reports that the Government was a "bad" one for the African people. It wants to help the Native people, the circular said.

A Worker's Notebook

I WONDER how many workers are aware of the real meaning of the latest doings in the South African Reich headed by Dr. Malan.

By the South African Citizenship Bill, which passed the Senate by one vote on June 27, any citizen may be deprived of his nationality at the will of the Minister without any possibility of appeal.

This, of course, gives the Minister powers which Hitler or Himmler themselves would have envied.

Secret investigations into the records of all persons suspect of any sort of democratic opinion are rife, and the Minister apparently has power to act without giving any reasons.

Passports refused

In the meantime, Mr. Sam Kahn, the Communist M.P., has been banned from addressing or attending any public gathering in Johannesburg or its environs for a year. He has also been told by the Minister of Justice that the ban may extend to other areas, and that he will not be the only one.

Another bright measure is that no non-white is to be issued with a passport to leave the country and that no Communists, even

white ones, can get such a passport.

The word "Communist" is not defined; of five recent passport refusals, not one applied to a member of the Communist Party.

These facts, or at least some of them, have been briefly reported in the Press, but so far I have not heard of any comments about totalitarianism or the Police State.

What if these things had happened in Hungary!

Colonel's boost

OUR friends everywhere are making noble efforts to increase the Daily Worker circulation, but I must confess that I did not expect to find among their number Lieutenant - Colonel R. A. C. Radcliffe, secretary of the Management Research Association.

In an address to a meeting of industrial personnel managers (reported in the May-June number of the Journal of the British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education) he said:

"One cannot hope to understand the Left-wing shop steward or the Communist in the works consultative committee unless one sees the papers they read, such as the Daily Worker, Labour Research and the Tribune."

We are very grateful to Colonel Radcliffe for his efforts to push up our sales, but I wish he would not associate us with the Tribune.

Trevor trips

I NOTICE in the Daily Express a report of the annual conference of the National Union of Mineworkers under the signature of Mr. Trevor Evans.

After announcing the defeat of a resolution calling upon the high-ranking officials of the union to submit themselves for re-election every five years, Mr. Trevor Evans goes on to say that many of Sir William Lawther's friends believed that the resolution was aimed at him and recall his controversy last winter with the general secretary, Mr. Arthur Horner.

The point is, of course, that a large section of the Mineworkers' Federation has for a long time believed that high officials should submit themselves for periodical re-election, and an identical resolution was moved last year before there was any controversy between Sir William and Mr. Horner.

If carried, the resolution would apply to Mr. Horner as much as anyone else.

Naturally, Mr. Evans cannot be held responsible for the beliefs of Sir William Lawther's friends, but he might at least have pointed out that they were based on a fallacy.

Any brick

ANY brick seems good enough to throw at the U.S.S.R., but I certainly never expected to see it accused of anti-Semitism.

We used to read that it was a country dominated by Jews.

However, certain bright lads on the other side of the Atlantic have had a new idea, and, ignoring the fact that any kind of racial discrimination is punishable by law in the Soviet Union, have come out with a definite accusation of anti-Semitism.

The allegation is based on the fact that in a recent article in the Soviet Press, criticising the work of certain Jewish writers, their family names are given alongside their pen names. This is called "exposing them."

In fact it is the invariable custom in the Soviet Union, when printing the name of any writer who uses a pseudonym to also give the original family name. Thus a recent issue of Pravda contains: "Boris Nikolaevitch Polyevoy (Kampore), Elizabeth Turevitch Malisev (Popko)," etc.

In the Soviet Union there are no races, colours or creeds, there are only citizens.

Tories all?

MR. ANTHONY EDEN presented the prizes to our Dumb Friends League in Battersea Park on Monday.

Guest writer,
WILLIAM WINTER

RADIO TODAY

Recommended:

The Prague Music Festival, 7.0 (Third); "Blood Wedding," 7.30 (Third); The Piddingtons, 9.0 (Light); "Sister!" 9.30 (Home); "Drama School," 9.30 (Scottish).

HOME SERVICE—342.1m.

6.30 Bright and Early.
7.0 News; 7.15 Morning Music; 7.50 Lift Up Your Hearts!
8.0 News; 8.15 Twentieth-Century Serenaders.
9.0 Felix King's Orchestra; 9.30 Bertha Hagart (piano); 9.50 American Commentary.
10.5 Schools; 10.15 Service; 10.30 Music While You Work.
11.0 Schools.

12.0 Eric Winstone's Orchestra; 12.20 On Your Farm; 12.30 Workers' Playtime.

1.0 News; 1.10 Jose Norman's Rumbaleros; 1.45 Golf; 1.55 Cricket.

2.0 Schools.
3.0 Far From the Madding Crowd—5; 3.30 Bird Song of the Month; 3.45 B.B.C. Northern Orchestra.
4.30 Records at Four-thirty.

5.0 Children's Hour.
6.0 News; 6.30 Farming Today.
7.0 Working Songs; 7.30 The Thursday Concert.

8.30 Twenty Questions.
9.0 News; 9.15 Questions of the Hour; 9.30 Story of Dame Agnes Hunt.

10.15 Bach and Chopin; 10.45 Parliament Today.
11.0 News.

LIGHT PROGRAMME

1.500m., 261.5m.
11.0 Hawaii Calling; 11.45 Mrs. Dale's Diary.
12.0 Hullo Children!; 12.30 B.B.C. Welsh Orchestra.
1.15 Oscar Rabin's Band.
2.0 Woman's Hour.

3.0 Music for the Housewife; 3.30 Music While You Work.

4.0 Mrs. Dale's Diary; 4.15 The Silver Lining; 4.30 B.B.C. Scottish Variety Orchestra.

5.15 Out-of-Doors; 5.30 The Scarlet Pimpernel (recording).

6.0 Bandstand; 6.30 Concert Party.
7.0 Radio Newsreel; 7.30 Opportunity Knocks.

8.0 Follow the Blue Light (Mystery Playhouse); 8.30 Family Favourites.

9.0 The Piddingtons; 9.30 Vera Lynn.

10.0 News; 10.15 Stump the Storytellers; 10.35 Paul Fenoulhet's Orchestra.

11.15 Jack Byfield's Players; 11.56 News.

THIRD PROGRAMME

514.6m., 203.5m.

6.0 New Music; 6.40 The Art Criticisms of Stendhal (T. W. Earp).

7.0 The Prague Music Festival; 7.30 Blood Wedding.

9.15 Orchestral Concert.

10.15 The Art Criticisms of Stendhal; 10.35 Brahms; 10.50 Ballads of the English Border.

11.20 Handel.

SCOTTISH

12.20-12.30 Lillie Bentley (mezzo-soprano).

3.0-3.30 The Heart of Midlothian.

6.15-6.30 News, sport; 6.30-6.45 Country Music; 6.45-7.15 Oidhche' Air Cheilidh.

7.15-7.30 Story; 7.30-8.30 B.B.C. Scottish Orchestra.

9.30-10.0 Feature: Drama School.

10.0-10.15 Essay on Kerry.

TELEVISION

11.0-12.0 Demonstration Film.

3.0-4.15 Kicking the Moon Around.

8.30 The Ends of the Earth.

10.0-10.15 News.

SOVIET CONSUL REPLIES TO LOUW

No Basis For "Propaganda" Charge

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Soviet Government was anxious to promote healthy and cordial relations between South Africa and the Soviet Union through the Soviet Consulate, said the Soviet Consul in Pretoria last week after Mr. Eric Louw's attack on it. But Mr. Louw's statements just did not correspond with the facts.

Mr. Louw told an election meeting at Middelburg that it had been established that thousands of Communist pamphlets being distributed in the Belgian Congo had originated from the Soviet Consulate in Pretoria; that the staff of the Consulate was inordinately large; that trade relations and the presence of Russian subjects did not warrant the size; and that the Consulate was a centre of a Communist propaganda drive.

What happened outside the Union in the Belgian Congo or anywhere else did not concern his office, the Consul, Mr. P. S. Atroshchenkov, said.

QUOTED MALAN'S STATEMENT

The Soviet Consul quoted statements made by Dr. Malan which reflected the true position at the Consulate.

The Reverend D. C. Thompson, chairman of the South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union, asked to comment on Mr. Louw's attacks, said: "The Minister of Economic Affairs last week found a new election stunt."

"His impetuous charge that the Soviet Consulate is a hive of Communist propaganda, is in line with the attempts of the Nationalists to stampede the people into voting for them to get rid of the unreal bogies conjured up by Mr. Louw and his colleagues."

The allegations were irresponsible and far-fetched, the Rev. Mr. Thompson said. "But they are also menacing in so far as good relations between the Union and the U.S.S.R. are concerned."

LOOKING FOR EXCUSE?

"Is the Nationalist Government looking for some excuse to break off diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union?" he asked.

"South Africans must be on guard against all attempts to actively ally the Union against the forces of peace headed by the Soviet Union, and attempts to line them up with those nations advocating new wars of aggression against the New Democracies and the world's first Socialist country."

"The man in the street today wants peace and security," said Rev. Mr. Thompson. "The use of the red bogey tries to prepare him for a new war and to distract his attention from his real social and economic needs."

Commenting on Minister Louw's charges that the South African Communist Party takes its orders from Moscow through the Soviet

World Youth Festival In Budapest

JOHANNESBURG.

The International Union of Students and the World Federation of Democratic Youth will hold a new World Festival of Youth and Students in Budapest from August 14 to 28 this year.

The Festival will be held on Margaret Island in the middle of the Danube, between Buda and Pest, where Hungarian students are already building an open-air theatre, sports stadium and swimming pools.

At least 10,000 young people from all over the world are expected to take part in the Festival.

The tenth World Student Summer Games will take place at Budapest at the same time as the chief sport event of the Festival. Britain plans to have 1,000 participants at the Festival, of whom 400 are to be students. The National Union of Students and the International Youth Council are together making preparations.

JEWELLERS FEAR UNEMPLOYMENT

Effect of Gold Restriction

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Jewellers' and Goldsmiths' Union sent an urgent wire to Minister Havenga last week, requesting him to suspend the proposed scheme to restrict gold to the jewellery industry until full discussions had been held with representatives of the trade.

Serious unemployment in the industry was threatened, the union warned.

All members of Parliament are being approached by the union on this question.

A large section of the jewellery industry works solely with gold so the restrictions will hit it very hard.

EFFECT OF CLOSING DOWN

The union has asked how the Government can propose plans for the opening of a special factory to work in semi-processed gold while at the same time other developments will have the effect of curtailing employment in the industry.

They will want to know also how many cases of smuggling by manufacturers, referred to by Mr. Havenga, have actually taken place, and what Government action, if any, was taken.

The union further points out that the year 1942 on which

Legal Aid Bureau May Be Reconstituted

THREAT OF WIDE CONTROL

JOHANNESBURG.

THE future of legal aid work in Johannesburg is to be decided at an urgent meeting this month of the Bureau to consider the acceptance of the constitution submitted by the Law Society of the Transvaal.

Unless the Bureau is registered soon it will be illegal for it to carry on its work. Registration will not be achieved without the adoption of the Law Society's constitution.

To-day the Bureau is an independent organisation controlled by a committee of 17.

OPPOSED TO CONTROL

During the years 1943 to 1945 the question of the control of legal aid was raised but the Bureau was strongly opposed to any control which would deprive it of its independence and the Government abandoned for the time being legislation to give control of legal aid to the Law Society.

The Social Welfare Department has refused the Bureau an annual grant from 1943.

The Minister promised at the beginning of 1945 to renew the

grant when the Bureau was registered under the provisions of the Welfare Organisations Act which prohibits the activities of any welfare organisation unless it is registered.

A Legal Aid Bureau require the consent of the Law Society of the province before it can be registered.

The Law Society of the Transvaal has said it will consent only if a new constitution is adopted.

WIDE POWERS

The proposed constitution gives the Law Society wide powers over the Legal Aid Bureau.

The management committee, it proposes, should consist of nominated members.

The Bureau staff is to be appointed in consultation with the Law Society and the Department of Social Welfare.

Its estimated expenditure must be submitted to the Government (through the Department of Social Welfare) which has the right also to examine its books and inspect its activities.

The present proposals involve the loss of the Bureau's independence and its subjection to the control of the Law Society and the Department of Social Welfare.

The Bureau will have either to accept control or be dissolved. The fate of the Bureau is to be decided at a general meeting on March 11 at the Carlton Hotel at 8 p.m. The meeting will consider a resolution that the Bureau adopt the Law Society's proposed constitution.

SCHOEMAN AND AFRICAN UNIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

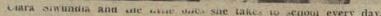
The Minister of Labour, Mr. Ben Schoeman, has been at it again.

At an election meeting in the Boksburg Town Hall he said that he had positive proof in his possession that there were 100 non-registered African trade unions in existence, all of which were under "Communist" influence.

"Bulwark Against Communism"

JOHANNESBURG.

At a meeting in Port Elizabeth, Major Piet van der Byl suggested that the United Party wanted to encourage the Natives who sought education to form their own middle class, which would serve as a bulwark against the spread of Communism in their own race.



African Woman's Mechanical Aptitude

JOHANNESBURG

Such a woman is 36-year-old Clara Siwundla who today drives a nursery school van taking the children to and from school each morning because she likes to work with the "little ones."

With her brothers she helped run her father's business in Orlando.

DROVE FACTORY LORRY

She proved this quite easily. She is almost resentful each time the van is handed over to a garage for repairs. Those she can do herself, she insists.

She grew up on the land, herding cattle, and taking an interest in the things boys worked and

For her own daughter, now 12 years old, and attending Orlando High School, she plans a university education. "I would like her to be a doctor," she said. And part of her earnings at the school each month go towards her daughter's future medical training.

JHB. COMMUNISTS' ANNUAL REPORT

JOHANNESBURG.

Describing the problems of the people of the Union's largest city, the report says:

The report describes the endless police raids for passes and beer. "An African is never allowed to forget the physical presence of the police. Since the Nats. got into Parliament, the raids—always a feature of Johannesburg—have been intensified to dimensions previously unknown."

ORDER OF THE DAY

The report goes on to estimate the struggles of the Non-European people for democratic rights. "The Nationalist Government must be defeated," says a proposed conference resolution. "A genuine South Africa must emerge. The demand for votes for all; the solution of the land, housing, low wages and the rising cost-of-living problems; the provision of better and cheaper transport and struggles against Government attacks will win true democracy and political freedom, the Johannesburg District maintains.

DR. DIEDERICHS CROSS-EXAMINED

JOHANNESBURG

Books on the Soviet Union by the Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Diederichs described as superficial. He had also read Kravchenko, Eugene Lyons and Walter C. Dill Scott.

Dr. Diederichs said he studied Communism for a number of years. His first book on the subject had been written in 1938. He was a member of the Anti-Communist Committee of the American Lutheran Churches. He had given evidence because he was requested to do so.

Mr. Boshoff read to Dr. Diederichs a Press account of a speech he was reading and had made to a branch of the Hand-

He is reported to have told the meeting that "Germany was happy in its unity . . . If there is one country about which gossip is cir-

He is reported to have said that Germany was the only country that had solved the unemployment problem. Also that "Germany went out from the ..."

"COMMUNIST METHODS"

Asked what practical experience he had of "Communist methods", Dr. Diederichs said he had listened to speeches made on the Grand Parade.

Mr. Boshoff then detailed the subjects on which he would cross-examine Dr. Diederichs when he continued on March 25. The chairman of the commission suggested this was not necessary and Mr. Boshoff was taking up needless time. Dr. Diederichs said he welcomed this list of subjects on which he would be questioned.

"Are you satisfied?" Mr. Boshoff asked the chairman.

T.L.C. CONFERENCE WILL BE DECISIVE

Executive Report Marks Defiance of Nat. Policy

JOHANNESBURG.

THE conference of the Trades and Labour Council, to be held at East London this April, promises to be one of the most decisive conferences in the history of the trade union movement of this country.

This nineteenth conference faces a government hostile to the trade union movement as no other in the Union has ever been, and the report of the Council marks a rising defiance of the Nationalists' anti-democratic stand.

"The year under review," says the report, "has been one of the most difficult experienced since the formation of the Council. There has been a greater measure of unity, too, it records.

GRAVE CONCERN

Shortly after the new government assumed office, "pronouncements made by Ministers of the Crown caused grave concern in trade union circles and were interpreted to mean that it was the intention of the Government to exercise a greater measure of control of trade unions."

The report traces interviews with Ministers, and its stand on this issue that "workers have the full right to manage their trade unions in terms of their constitutions, and are entitled to determine policy and elect officials in accordance with the wishes of the membership."

A disturbing feature of Government policy was the publication of draft proclamation 1890 which limited the collection of moneys by Africans.

Council representations were met with the assurance that nothing further would be done with this proclamation until all interested parties had been consulted.

In a year of government commissions investigating industrial laws and the Garment Workers' Union, the Council next had to face the grave constitutional difficulties which arose from the fact that the Council's constitution made no provision for amendments, and all amendments passed since its adoption were illegal.

The Council's executive circulated unions asking them to agree that an enabling clause be inserted in the constitution. One organisation representing 300 members refused to agree to this.

The whole matter will now be submitted to the April conference. A new draft constitution has been prepared for discussion.

Discussing the Industrial Legislation Commission, the report records the apprehension of the Council at the decision to hold evidence in camera if witnesses wish, and the request that unions' financial accounts be submitted to the commission.

REFUSAL OF PASSPORTS

During 1948 the Council also expressed grave concern at the Government's decision, reported in the Press, to refuse passports to "agitators." Its protest to the Minister received no reply or acknowledgment.

Amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act were prepared during the year, and a memorandum on the cost of living circulated to members of the House of Assembly.

The Co-ordinating Council of South African Trade Unions was formed in Pretoria during the year as an opposition body to the S.A.T.L.C. The membership of this body was said by the Minister of Labour to be in the region of 8,600. This was before the affiliation of the Mine-workers' Union.

A large number of branches of national unions are still affiliated to the Council in Pretoria, and it is suggested that a Local Committee be reformed there by the S.A.T.L.C.

Disputes to which the Council devoted attention during the last year occurred in the Jewellery, Manufacturing, Industry, the Cape Town Gas Light and Coke Company, the Port Elizabeth Tailoring Industry, the Glass Industry, the Mineral Water Industry, the Sweet Industry and the Port Elizabeth Laundry Industry.

Another Grievances Commission

JOHANNESBURG.

Dr. Dönges, Minister of the Interior, has announced that there is to be a committee to enquire into the grievances of the personnel of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

The names of the committee are to be announced shortly.

Is this commission to follow in the footsteps of the Railways enquiry, investigating the grievances of the £2,000-a-year boys?

"Grossly Unlawful" Methods of Recruiting Africans Kidnapped And Imprisoned

JOHANNESBURG.

"GROSSLY unlawful" methods used in recruiting Africans for work on farms and other places was severely criticised by Nylostrom's assistant magistrate when he sentenced a farmer to a fine of £50 or three months' hard labour for assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

"The court feels that the time has arrived when the whole method of recruiting Natives should be revised and ways and means found by which this unlawfulness can be stopped," was the assistant magistrate's comment.

He added: "This is the natural outcome of methods used by recruiters in the Waterberg district — methods which are used with a total disregard to their legality."

Evidence was given that the farmer, having had information from his runners that a group of tropical Africans had crossed the Limpopo River on their way to find employment at the Thabassimbi mine, went out at night with his runners and found the Africans encamped.

He was armed with a 22 rifle and carried an electric headlamp.

The Africans stampeded and fled when the lamp was flashed in their faces. One received gunshot wounds in both legs.

PROTECTION.

The farmer pleaded not guilty. He said he was a recruiter, but never used unlawful methods. He carried the rifle only for protection.

He held a recruiter's licence, he told the magistrate.

He claimed his party was attacked. If his runners stated in evidence that they were not attacked, they stated an untruth.

Summing up, the magistrate said in the two years since he had been a magistrate in the district several cases of this nature had come before him. "Recruiters have been guilty of kidnapping Natives and forcibly removing them to Johannesburg, imprisoning them, and of impersonating the police."

GREEKS ORDERED TO QUIT S. AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Union Government, probably acting in co-operation with the Greek Consulate, is rounding up all Greeks who came to South Africa as refugees or ex-servicemen and who have not permanent residence rights, and is ordering them to leave the country.

This is in line with action taken by the governments of Britain, the United States and the Argentine recently. Greeks who support the Royalist forces are needed as cannon fodder, and those who oppose it will probably be "suitably dealt with" on their return.

About 50 Greeks in the Union, who came here as a result of an agreement with the Smuts Government during the war, have been given about six weeks now in which to leave the Union.

Originally they were ordered to leave by the end of March, but the date has been extended.

Many of them have been here for six or seven years. Some have married South Africans, set up businesses and established homes.

Although the Union Government is not concerned where the men go so long as they leave South Africa, they have no option but to return to Greece. Their passports, issued by the Greek Consulate, are valid for Greece only.

Bid To Save Condemned Basuto Chiefs

UNREST IN PROTECTORATES

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Basuto people have appealed to the British Government to stay the execution of all death sentences for ritual murder pending the report of the judicial commission which is being sent from Britain to investigate the background to the murders.

In the last 18 months, as a result, an improvised courtroom, 37 men, of 11 murder trials of chiefs and commoners that have been held, 29 men have been hanged, others are serving terms of imprisonment, and still others, hoping to be allowed to appeal to the Privy Council, are waiting in the condemned cells. One appeal, has already succeeded, and the accused in another case were acquitted.

Involved in the series of trials have been Basutoland's second, third and fourth most important chiefs in the hierarchy of 27 of the House of Mosheh.

BROKE DOWN

Sitting on the cement steps of the condemned cell, in her red prison dress with a red blanket draped round her shoulders, blinking into the sunlight of the little jail courtyard, Chieftainess Mamakhahane Petse, Basutoland's third most important chief, was allowed to interview some of her people who came to discuss with her the sale of some of her cattle to pay the costs of her appeal to the Privy Council.

Mamakhahane, in the condemned cell already for seven months, broke down as she talked about her case. "Our witnesses were not given a chance to give evidence in court," she said. At that stage she had only another week before her appeal could reach the Privy Council.

In another part of the Maseru jail were the 12 men sentenced to death, their sentences later commuted to 15 and 7 years' imprisonment. "I was the last to be arrested," said an old man when his turn to speak came. "A policeman said if you don't give evidence we will hang you. You will leave your children on earth. That is what brought me to this place," he ended simply.

Another prisoner said he was shown a bag of basunotes and told he could have them if he would say Mamakhahane and others had committed the murder.

EXECUTED

Five days later in the same prison a headman was executed for another murder.

Over the road from the jail, under two huge tents erected as

DISCONTENT ON THE MINES

JOHANNESBURG.

Since the advent of the Nationalist Government, the struggle to organise the trade union of the African underground and surface miners has suffered severe setbacks, says the annual report of the union's Organising Fund Committee.

The right of the worker to organise, which exists in all but fascist countries, has been taken from these miners. Every kind of anti-trade union activity is employed against the African miners' union.

Organisers have been terrorised and assaulted when they have tried to visit the mines. Miners who are members of the union have been spied upon and victimised.

African miners' real wages and conditions have remained substantially the same for the last 50 years. The average for underground miners is about 2s. 6d. a shift, plus unpalatable food, compound quarters and medical services.

"Discontent and dissatisfaction are rife," says the report.

The importance of helping the struggle of the African Mine Workers' Union will be dealt with by the Reverend Douglas C. Thompson and Senator W. G. Ballinger (Native Representative for the Transvaal and the Free State) at the annual general meeting of the Organising Fund Committee on Thursday, March 24, at the Public Library, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

New Regulation Will Stop Building Loans To Africans

JOHANNESBURG.

A NEW regulation ostensibly to protect the Africans, but really one that will try to put a stop to their building and buying properly, has begun to operate. This limits the rate of interest on loans to Africans at 5 per cent.

The way for this regulation was cleared in 1945 with an amendment to the Urban Areas Act when the Minister of Native Affairs was given power to gazette a sample mortgage bond to which all bonds to Africans had to conform. This applied to all areas declared "areas predominantly for the occupation of Natives."

Last month this sample bond was published, so that in future no non-African loaning money to an African can charge more than five per cent. interest.

Professional moneylenders have been charging Africans exorbitant rates of interest.

But in an effort to put an end to this unscrupulous exploitation of Africans, the regulation will freeze all sources of loans to Africans.

When current rates of interest are as high as eight per cent who is going to loan Africans money at 5 per cent?

It is interesting that the publication of this sample bond coincides with the proclamation of Sophiatown, Newclare and Martindale as areas predominantly for the occupation of Africans.

With this obstacle in the way of Africans getting loans the value of these three townships, the last freehold areas for Africans in Johannesburg, will drop by millions.

The regulation will stop future building and improvement as Africans will have the utmost difficulty in getting building bonds.

It is significant, too, that these areas have for long been marked out by the Johannesburg Council for expropriation as African areas. The plan was to extend European settlement there and move the Africans into the Orlando area Black Belt set out for them.

The Government is probably reasoning that with the African property-owner undermined in this way and all possibilities of his improving his property frozen, he might be in a more reasonable frame of mind in years to come when the proposal for expropriation is put before him.

Africans have been robbed left and right in their efforts to get loans. Today it will be almost impossible for them to raise bonds at all.

NEW INDIAN ORGANISATION?

JOHANNESBURG.

An Indian organisation that wants to "co-operate" with the Government and will be quite content that the Indian people live under White guardianship, is due to be formed here soon.

First news of this organisation appears in the Africans weekly, Die Weekblad. The organisation is to be launched, it says, on April 2.

The new group will "seek no political rights and will support the Government's policy of residential apartheid."

All they will ask for is an advisory council so that Indians will have some say in their affairs.

An organizer of the movement told Die Weekblad that the names of the movement's founders could not be disclosed until it was properly launched. "The reason for secrecy is that the leaders are mostly Indians of the working class, and a great number of them are Christians, descendants of immigrants from Madras."

The movement is afraid that their efforts will be frustrated by "influential Hindus and Moslems." Indian Congress organisers are not at all worried about this move. It will probably come to nothing, they say.

GARMENT UNION COMMISSION

JOHANNESBURG.

For part of last week the Wolvaardt Commission continued its investigation into the Garment Workers' Union. For the rest of the week the appeal was heard in Bloemfontein of the union's case arguing that the Commission's work should be stopped, because it was interfering with the domestic affairs of the union.

oppression, friction and unrest which will inevitably flow from the withdrawal and whittling down of the rights of citizenship of the Non-Europeans.

"South Africa will be led inexorably to ever-increasing intolerance and oppression until, sooner or later, Western civilisation will collapse under the unbearable strains."

Signing the statement are the Moderator Bishop of Cape Town, the Right Rev. S. W. Lavis; Dr. Shella van der Horst; Mrs. W. F. Grant, a prominent member of the National Council of Women; Mr. Leo Marguard; the Reverend H. O. Leveroni; Mr. A. Jenner, secretary of the Cape Town Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council; Mr. O. E. Williamson, a former president of the Chamber of Industries.

Among the speakers at the Action Committee's first rally will

(Continued on page 6)

We Have Our Own Ku Klux Klan

A SHORT while ago a Coloured teacher at the English Mission school in Calvinia, Mr. J. J. Carelse, won a legal action against a Dutch Reformed Church minister. He sued the minister for flogging him with a sjambok. He won his case and was awarded £116 damages.

Last Tuesday evening, as Carelse was reading in his room—he was in pyjamas—three men came in and kidnapped him.

They took him to a car and drove into the veld. There he was thrashed.

The newspaper reports say: "Carelse's body was badly lacerated. He is now in hospital."

Just before midnight, the reports go on, "the police had a suspicion that something was wrong, and found that Carelse was not in his room." They searched for him, and found him just before dawn about a mile from Calvinia.

The kidnapers were not dressed in white gowns and hoods. They burnt no fiery cross on a hillside.

But otherwise they are no different from United States Ku Klux Klan members whose favourite pastime is lynching and terrorism.

There are people who regard it as a crime for Non-Europeans to stand up for their rights in a court of law. That crime can always be punished by three men against one on the lonely veld, on a dark night.

TRICK TO DISFRANCHISE THE COLOURED

— Mrs. Gool

"This is just another form of disfranchisement of the Non-Europeans — by a technical trick," was how Mrs. Cissie Gool described the amendments to the Electoral Consolidation Act, announced recently by Dr. Dönges.

One of these proposed amendments will make it necessary for a Coloured man who applies for registration as a voter to appear personally before a police-sergeant, magistrate or electoral officer to demonstrate he has the required qualifications for the franchise.

Die Burger says that Coloured voters already on the roll will also have to appear in person to prove their right to be there.

These qualifications will remain the same: the Coloured man must be over 21 years, must occupy property worth more than £75 or earn more than £50 a year, and must be able to write his name, address and occupation.

FASCISM BY THE BACK DOOR

Sept. 16, 1948

Govt. Move to Cripple African Trade Unions and Communist Party

(By RUTH FIRST)

CAPE TOWN.

MOST South Africans probably didn't notice it. But on September 10, with the announcement in the Government Gazette of the draft proclamation for the "Financial Protection of Natives" the Malan Government sneaked in, through the back door, a measure which can easily snuff out all African trade unions, the African National Congress and all political and national bodies, including the Communist Party; and which, in the hands of an unscrupulous government, can pave the way for open Fascism in the Union.

The Secretary for Native Affairs, through his chief clerk, in a conversation with The Guardian admitted as much.

This draft proclamation, promulgated under the 1927 Native Administration Act, and now awaiting only the signature of the Governor-General, makes the collection of moneys from Africans by all except Government-authorised bodies, illegal.

The proclamation, number 1890, has been interpreted in the Press as being introduced ostensibly to stop the Native banks which have sprung up over past months, mainly in Natal. But there is no mention of Native banks in the proclamation which simply states that no organisation or individual will be allowed to collect moneys unless

- (1) it is a business registered or licensed under the law;
- (2) it is a state-aided school or approved religious body;

(3) written permission has been obtained from a Native Commissioner or magistrate.

An applicant refused such permission may appeal to the Minister of Native Affairs, but the Minister's decision is final, and there is no appeal in a court of law.

THE SNAGS

Fine, you might think. There must be a law against racketeering.

But the Secretary for Native Affairs, asked whether the terms of the proclamation will apply also to African trade unions and political and national bodies, answered, "Yes".

"And to the Communist Party?" "Yes".

"Was the proclamation prepared knowing it would affect these organisations too?" "Yes".

(Continued on page 6)

BACK-DOOR FASCISM

(Continued from page 1)

As a further explanation the Secretary's clerk added that these bodies would fall under the third provision: they would have to obtain permission from a Native Commissioner to collect moneys from Africans.

"Has the proclamation been on the books for long?" was the next question. "Do you mean it is due to the change in Government?" the clerk asked. "Yes," was our reply.

The clerk hurried to ask the Secretary for Native Affairs. On his return: "I am not permitted to reply to that question," he said finally.

CRIPPLING POWERS

Perhaps for the moment the Malan Government will use the provisions of this proclamation only for the "financial protection of Natives".

But with this proclamation on the books, this Government or any other, without passing any new law aimed at stopping the work of any political group, can completely cripple the development of organisation among the African people.

Miss Ray Alexander, general secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union, told The Guardian her union was protesting to the Minister, and demanding the immediate withdrawal of the proclamation. "The measure aims at stifling the efforts Africans are making to develop their organisations in the struggle for a better life," she said.

Malan's fascist backers rev in 'cat' floggings Afrikaans paper features vile pictures of jail torture

By a Special Correspondent

SOUTH AFRICANS who picked up the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Dagbreek recently found themselves looking at these "exclusive" photographs.

Taking up half the front page was the picture, reproduced below, of a man stretched out on a triangle being lashed by a prison warder with the "cat."

The newspaper received special permission from the Department of Prisons to take and publish the photographs in Pretoria Jail. It was the first time the South African Press had carried anything like them.

A good story for the yellow Press? Not only that, of course. The paper was trying to do Malan's Government a good turn.

Only a week before, in a speech on crime, the Minister of Justice, "Blaauw" Swart (who refers to all immigrants as "outlanders" or foreigners, and who in 1939 attempted to deny a report that at a small-town meeting he was greeted by the Hitler salute), had announced:

"Violence will be met with violence. Physical assault will be punished by floggings."

Minister Swart, this past week has also banged the anti-Communist drum very loudly, appealing for "joint and unanimous front" against it.

This can be set side by side with the disgusting Dagbreek article. The reader was spared no details either of the cat or the cane in the text.

Drawing blood

"With a powerful flourish the arch-back cane whistles through the air, draws deep strokes over the buttocks of the cowering man; a second, third and fourth cane stroke sweeps down; from the stroke that he so heavily alongside one another like the fingers of a hand, oozes blood," the article gleets.

"It is an experience they never forget" and "The cries of pain of one man rang throughout the prison" were the comments of words interviewed. Two and a half pages were devoted to the disgusting photographs and text glorifying this brutal corporal punishment.

It is worth noting that last year judges at the Witwatersrand criminal sessions ordered the imposition of more than 900 strokes with light and heavy canes.

A former judge-president of one of the provinces of the Union, a

man with almost unrivalled knowledge of the administration of justice and prison conditions, has described the South African prison system as barbarous.

"In our prisons today," he wrote in 1939, "you will still hear the clank of leg-irons, you will still be startled by the cries of distress and pain of those who are tied to the triangle."

Brutalising

"You will still observe one of your fellow creatures, half starved, walking up and down a dark and gloomy jail cell, harbouring thoughts of revenge and despair."

The frightening aspect of this affair is the depraved satisfaction with which the newspaper, representing one of the Fascist groups supporting Malan's Government, commends the brutality of the cat o' nine tails, exalts these barbarous practices and appears to delight in making its account as gruesome as possible.

More and more, this is the Dachau and Buchenwald stuff with which South Africans are being regaled today.

The cat o' nine tails, shown here "burns like hot irons applied to the skin," says the newspaper's caption. The nine plaited ropes are each one-eighth inch thick. The evening before the cat is to be used it is soaked in a solution of salt and lime water, "so that the tails remain stiff and rigid when used."

**Dagbreek
en
Sondagnuus**

DE BUREAU VAN HET NIEUWSBUREAU
Dagbreek, 15 November 1948, uitgave 2, No. 2, Prys 20.

DET WAS GEWELDFLEGEN: Vier van gewondene verdagte met op naam van 'n demonstrasie teen 'n dagbreek in die voorste van 'n

was bring op by die bewaarder Swart as waarskuwing
gewondene verdagte met op naam van 'n demonstrasie teen 'n dagbreek in die voorste van 'n



This awaits criminals, who commit crimes of violence, says Dagbreek's caption to its front-page spread. The photograph is taken in the courtyard of Pretoria prison.

SWART'S BAN ANGERS AFRICANS

Bitter Resentment At Treatment of Kahn

A WAVE of bitter anger has spread through the African people in Johannesburg, Pretoria and on the Reef as a result of the Government's action in banning the meetings of Mr. Sam Kahn, Native Representative, last week.

The people feel that the Riotous Assemblies Act was invoked on the flimsiest of pretexts to muzzle the voice of one of their representatives in Parliament, and that the Government's action was a blow aimed not only against the Communist Party, but against the system of African representation in the House of Assembly, and against the whole principle of free speech.

Already preparations for a protest meeting are under way in Johannesburg, and in Cape Town Mr. Kahn will address a protest rally on the Grand Parade today (Thursday) in the lunch hour.

Last Thursday afternoon Mr. Kahn mounted the platform at the Market Square, Johannesburg, to the cheers and applause of a large crowd of workers who had gathered to listen to him.

After the acting chief magistrate, Mr. Maurice Isaacs, who climbed on to the platform as Mr. F. Mofutsanyana was about to declare the meeting open, had read in English and then in Afrikaans the two sections of the

Act under which the meeting was being banned, shouts of "Why?" and cries of "Shame" came from the audience.

THREE CHEERS

And after the police commandant had given the gathering ten minutes in which to disperse, the crowd, led by Solomon Mogomotsi, district organiser of the Communist Party, shouted "Three

cheers for the Communist Party and for Sam Kahn," and began singing "Nkosi Sikelele I Afrika."

The same feeling of confidence in and friendship for Mr. Kahn was displayed that evening in Springs when Mr. Kahn's car was stopped from entering the Payneville location. Hundreds of police brought from Reef centres in troop carriers armed with revolvers and some with rifles slung over their shoulders, were stationed at the location gates. On the other side of the fence, hundreds of Africans broke into cheers as Mr. Kahn arrived.

BANNED FOR A WEEK

Colonel Kriek of the Witwatersrand police presented him with a letter banning him from speaking

PROTEST

MR. SAM KAHN, M.P., will address a meeting of protest against the banning of his meetings in the Transvaal, on the Grand Parade, Cape Town, at 1 p.m. today (Thursday), March 24.

at any meeting in the vicinity for a week. The Africans started shouting when the notice was translated, and when Mr. Kahn moved to his car, they cheered him and clapped until he was out of sight.

"I will come back again," he told the Springs people. That night, a location resident told our Johannesburg correspondent, the Springs location did not seem to go to bed. All night long the people clustered in groups, discussing the banned meeting.

On Friday afternoon, Mr. Kahn was due to address a meeting in the Trades Hall, Johannesburg. When the audience, almost entirely European, arrived at the

(Continued on page 6)

NORTHERN EDITION

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Thirteenth Year, No. 6. THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1949 Price 1d.



The Acting Chief Magistrate (left) reads the notice banning Sam Kahn's meeting at the Market Square, Johannesburg, last Thursday. Below: Part of the crowd that gathered to hear Sam Kahn speak. In the left foreground are two plain clothes detectives.



hall, they found pinned on the bolted door, copies of the police notice banning the meeting. Around the corner was a force of police.

When the crowd started to sing the Internationale and other working class songs, the police officer gave them five minutes to disperse.

IN PRETORIA

Mr. Kahn's meeting at the Pretoria Orient Hall was similarly banned. Later his car was followed out of Pretoria by a car of plain clothes detectives. In Benoni on Sunday morning all entrances to the location were barred by cordons of armed police. The banning of the meetings was a flagrant act of abuse by the Minister of the powers delegated to him by Parliament under the reactionary Riotous Assemblies Act," Mr. Kahn told The Guardian in an exclusive interview on his return to Cape Town last Monday.

GOVT. ACTION CONDEMNED BY TRADE UNIONISTS

JOHANNESBURG.
While the Government cold-bloodedly drafts plans for excluding Africans from the Unemployment Act, the bulk of unemployed Africans are prevented by order of the Minister of Labour from drawing in benefits more than a fraction of the thousands of pounds they themselves have contributed to the Unemployment Fund.

Each week Africans are compelled by law to give up a certain proportion of their pay to the Unemployment Fund. But if an unemployed African worker refuses farm work, he is disqualified from drawing any unemployment pay.

FOR EUROPEANS ONLY

What is to happen to this money that the Africans have paid in, they are asking? Is it to be reserved as a dole for unemployed Europeans when more and more of them begin to lose their jobs?

Miss Betty du Toit, member of the Trades and Labour Council national executive and secretary of the Laundry Workers and Food and Canning Workers here, told The Guardian that the Government's action was nothing else but "roguery". It was quite indecent, she said, to make the African worker subscribe to the fund week after week and then to cut him off from its benefits.

"In amending the Act the Government is once again," she continued, "going against the wishes of the trade union movement, which has repeatedly fought for the right of Africans to be included in the Act."

Miss du Toit said that employers in her industry had always, even under the old Act which excluded Africans, urged that they be included. The Government's move would go against the wishes not only of the unions, but also of large sections of the employers.

GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

"It is the responsibility of the Government to provide for the unemployed," she said. "This was one of South Africa's social security promises after the war."

Trade unions of the Cape strongly oppose the majority report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Unemployment Insurance Act. Mr. A. P. Jenner, secretary of the Western Province local committee of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council, said last week.

"It is considered that if the Government acts on the basis of this report serious injustice would be done to the workers in South Africa," Mr. Jenner went on.

"The majority report appears to be an ill-considered and biased statement of the opinions of the signatories rather than a balanced analysis of the conditions which the Commission was required to investigate."

The report devotes less than one page to the Commission's findings and another half-page to its recommendations.

Generally no reasons are given for the opinions expressed by the Commission, says Mr. Jenner, more attention having apparently been paid to the number of persons giving evidence than to the weight of opinion represented by witnesses.

DISTORTIONS

"The statements that the Act encourages idleness in an increasing measure and that there are a large number of workers, mostly Non-Europeans, seasonal labourers 'who did not work the large part of the year' are not substantiated in any way, and rather completely distort the true position," Mr. Jenner points out. The Commission has drawn its conclusions "for the purpose of vilifying the Non-European workers and excluding them from benefits of the Act," he added.

The National Executive of the Trades and Labour Council is still to discuss its attitude to this question of the amendment to the Act. It is expected to take a strong stand against the debarring of African workers from benefits.

When an attempt was made some time ago by the Smuts Government, in response to pressure from farming circles, to amend the Act in this way, it was the opposition of the trade union movement which prevented this. Afterwards the Commission to inquire into the Act was appointed.

later to be packed by the Nationalists when they came into power.

SECRET RAILWAY COMMISSION

JOHANNESBURG. — The Government, we understand, has appointed a secret commission to recommend on retrenching in the railways. This is probably to be the forerunner of similar investigations in other branches of the civil service.

These steps are to be taken in view of the Union's deepening economic crisis. The Government is considering how it can economise and cut down expenditure in its own departments.

International Club

Opened

JOHANNESBURG. — Johannesburg's International Club was officially opened last Saturday by its honorary president, Mr. Alan Paton.

S.A.'s ECONOMIC CRISIS AND THE BUDGET

(By Our Industrial Correspondent)

Although the Government tries to deny it, there can no longer be any doubt that the Union is sliding into a severe economic crisis.

And Mr. Havenga's Budget last week will do nothing to remove the causes of this crisis, though it may temporarily conceal some of the effects.

Let us look at the situation in this country as a whole.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in on the up-grade and firms in many industries are beginning to retrench. Each week the list of bankruptcies mounts, and the ever-increasing cost of living is crushing the lower-income groups.

More and more orders for the attachment of property are being taken out by building societies. People cannot pay their instalments on goods bought on the hire-purchase system. Furniture firms are going under, and the building trade is entering a difficult period.

These are the signs of a crisis that the ordinary man notices. But there are deeper indications. There has been a disastrous slump in share prices on the Stock Exchange. The share price index of the London Financial Times shows that the index figure rose from 100 in 1931 to 121 in January, 1948, and then fell fairly steadily to 87 in December, 1948, and 85.3 in January, 1949.

Share prices are an indication of the confidence of investors in the stability of the system, and also an indication of the profitability of the industry at that particular time.

WORLD CRISIS

South Africa's economic troubles must be seen as part of the world economic crisis.

Fast precipitating this world crisis is the policy of the United States of trying to become the world's greatest exporter. This policy has brought about the collapse of the stability of all those European States which have made themselves dependent on imports as a means of reconstruction.

Dollars have, through this policy, become the only stable currency. Yet at the same time, countries importing American goods are draining their dollar stocks, and pouring them back into the United States.

The majority of countries are today in the position that they can no longer import from the United States. The source of their dilemma is their shortage of dollars.

South Africa's main exports are gold and agricultural produce. Gold is the only commodity in the world whose price has been stationary. This is fixed by international agreement.

This has meant that while the prices of all the Union's imports have gone up and up, the price of her gold exports has remained stationary. What was before the war a favourable balance of trade for the Union has now been reversed.

EXPORT DRIVES

Countries in Europe with similar unfavourable trade balances are organising export drives to try to solve this dilemma and to earn more dollars. They are cutting down expenditure on public works, cutting wages and the costs of production in an effort to compete on the world market.

In South Africa an export drive is not a feasible proposition. The price of gold is fixed, and the increased mining of gold is a long-term plan. Agricultural production can also not be increased overnight. Manufactured goods are still a very small proportion of our international trade.

South Africa first placed a ban on imports from dollar countries because of the shortage of dollars. The import orders then switched outside the dollar bloc to the sterling countries, such as Britain and France. But now our sterling resources are running low, so the ban on certain imports has been extended to the sterling countries. Temporarily this might balance our books but it does nothing to overcome the causes of the crisis.

In this position the Government recently found it impossible to float a £20,000,000 loan. Eventually the money was borrowed from

Government funds. Investors have shown no confidence in the stability of the Government. Money is not circulating rapidly, and the general working of the system is slowing down while South Africa moves deeper and deeper into the crisis.

It has been suggested that a way out would be to increase the price of gold, but the United States is in a position where she can veto this, as such a change has to be unanimous by the countries party to the international agreement. America is quite likely, if South Africa attempts to sell her gold at a higher price on the free market, to disinter her gold from Fort Knox and flood the market till the price falls drastically.

THE SOLUTION

The only solution to this crisis for South African industry to be developed and to find its market at home. In an export race with Britain the Union is doomed to failure. A plan of industrial development and decent wage legislation, so that South Africans may buy the goods they manufacture and need, is the only way out.

Our top-heavy, wasteful system that restricts the proper use of our manpower will only plunge us deeper into the world crisis, which will probably see a repetition of the 1929 slump, with the burning of coffee in Brazil, wheat in Canada and mealies in South Africa, while the workers of the world go hungry.

And now the Budget—"a conservative Budget", as it has been

called a Budget "without imagination".

We can truly call this Budget a stop-gap Budget. Mr. Havenga finds himself faced with an annual gap between revenue expenditure of £2,223,000, immediately increases this £2,450,000 by making concessions to private companies, plant owners, the mines, etc.

To cover this estimated deficit he increases income tax and a tax by 20 per cent, and imposes a tax on shipping and also exploitation. This will bring £1,800,000, leaving a final deficit of £650,000, which Mr. Havenga says will "disappear during the year."

Those are the bare bones of Budget. A Budget is a Government's means of shaping the economic future of the country. All Mr. Havenga has done is to take steps to preserve the quo, balance his books and for the best. He has given guidance. He has no plan, even a little one, for the reconstruction of the country.

Mr. Havenga can be sure of one thing. He will be faced with same problems as I have outlined in this article, magnified by neglect of one year, when he is to make another Budget next year's time.

If he is still Finance Minister that is! Maybe the mass of people, on whose shoulders economic burden falls, and who are being driven deeper into poverty, will be prepared to suffer and before taking steps to put right.

Wits. May Train

Non-European Dentists

JOHANNESBURG. — Students of the University of the Witwatersrand, at a general meeting held last week, adopted a resolution requesting the University authorities to admit Non-European students to the Dental School as soon as clinical facilities are available.

In moving the motion, the proposer, Mr. P. Tobias, pointed out that a Dental Clinic had recently been started at Orlando which could probably provide these clinical facilities.

There was a crying need for Non-European dentists in South Africa, said Mr. Tobias, and there was no other feasible method of training them in the immediate future except by admitting them to the existing Dental School.

Only seven votes were cast against the motion.

Typhoid On Rand

JOHANNESBURG.

An outbreak of typhoid fever has occurred in the Germiston location, where 20 cases have so far been diagnosed.

The Medical Officer of Health said his department was faced with the colossal task of inoculating the 30,000 inhabitants against the disease, but this was being done as quickly as possible.

SACHS QUESTIONED ON RELIGION

JOHANNESBURG.

BEGINNING his cross-examination of J. Solly Sachs, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, before the Welford Commission last week, Advocate Oswald Pirow insisted on knowing from Sachs such things as "Are you an atheist?", "Do you believe in a personal God?", and "Do you think it desirable that the vast mass of Natives should come under the influence of the Communist Party?"

When Mr. Sachs said these questions on his religious views had nothing to do with the disturbances at the September meeting in the City Hall, Mr. Pirow suggested he was trying to defy the commission.

Mr. Sachs: I strongly resent that impertinent submission. The chairman ruled that the question of Mr. Sachs' religion might have a bearing on his possible Communist inclinations and was relevant.

Mr. Sachs protested against the ruling.

Mr. Pirow told the commission the gist of his cross-examination was to show that the Garment Workers' Union had had trouble for many years owing chiefly to its domination by a Russian Communist clique sharing the official religious view found in Russia.

Mr. Pirow suggested that Mr. Sachs had attacked the Dutch Reformed Churches because his philosophy was that of Lenin and Stalin.

Mr. Sachs: I deny ever having attacked the Dutch Reformed Churches. I attacked only those prelatists who interfered in trade union affairs.

Mr. Pirow then wanted to know from Mr. Sachs whether he associated with Non-Europeans on an equal footing. Mr. Sachs told the commission he had no racial prejudice and was opposed to all forms of race discrimination.

BLUNDERS

Mr. Pirow questioned Mr. Sachs on statements in an article in the Garment Worker. In this article Mr. Sachs had stated that the Communist Party had made "terrible blunders" and that the leaders did not understand the teachings of Lenin and the decisions of the Comintern.

The article was written with the idea of giving advice to the Communist Party. It was a polemic against Mr. E. Roux's biography of S. P. Bunting. Mr. Sachs said he stood firm to the principles of Communism as advocated by himself.

He differed with the leadership of the Communist Party in South Africa. Mr. Sachs said on major international issues he supported Soviet policy.

THIS SOUTH AFRICA

How Did They Breathe?

JOHANNESBURG.

An informant writes about a scene he witnessed at the Pretoria Gaol earlier this month.

"Six African convicts were hired out to a farmer," he writes. "They were led into a two-seater car which came to collect them. Three were squeezed into the seat, and the other three were simply bundled into the luggage compartment at the back of the car and locked in. The car then drove off at great speed.

"How those three could breathe was a mystery."

Commando Raids — In Peace Time

JOHANNESBURG.

In the most recent police raid on the Denver African Men's Hostel, 182 were arrested. The District Commandant commanded 200 police in the raid.

The offence committed by most of those arrested was that they were in the hostel without permission. They were employed, but had no other accommodation.

The raid was perfectly timed and organised by the Jeppe area officers," says a Press account. It lasted 45 minutes.

Johannesburg's flying squad is now one year old. Its crews have made more than 20,000 arrests in this period.

ROWING DANGER TO DEMOCRACY

made 24
alg

C.P. Conference Warning

JOHANNESBURG.

"THIS conference takes place at a time when freedom of speech and assembly are gravely endangered. The suppression of meetings that we have witnessed in the last few days is a sign of the development of fascism in this country," said Edwin Mofutsanyana, opening the annual conference of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party last week-end.

He added that this growing danger should not be minimised, or soon no democratic organisations would be in a position to meet.

Thirty-nine delegates attended the conference.

The conference noted, in a special resolution, that the Union's economic crisis had been brought about by the character of South African capitalism, coupled with its close links with British and American imperialism.

WASTEFUL

"The effects of the capitalist crisis upon South Africa are sharpened and intensified by the exceptionally wasteful and unstable character of our economy, which has been aggravated by the election of the Nationalist Government.

"The Nationalist Government and the capitalist class," the resolution goes on, "are shifting the burdens of the crisis on to the shoulders of the workers and the middle class by attacking their standards of living by such means as the refusal of unemployment pay to African labourers, the forcible eviction of Africans from the towns, and the refusal

of the Government funds for sub-economic housing schemes."

Conference called on the workers to unite in the fight for a living wage for all, reduced living costs, and the right of all people to work or to maintenance at full rates for the unemployed.

A primary task in the coming year, the conference decided, would be to make clear to the South African people the role being played by the Soviet Union and the Eastern Democracies in the struggle for world peace, and to answer the distortions of facts by the capitalist press by publishing the inspiring example of the U.S.S.R. in the solution of racial and class conflicts.

Conference protested against the "unprincipled action of the Minister of Justice in using the Riotous Assemblies Act to ban peaceful and orderly meetings called by the Communist Party on the Witwatersrand, and to prevent Sam Kahn from addressing the public.

"We declare that the Nationalist Government banned these meetings in order to silence its political opponents. We warn that unless effectively checked by the democratic public, the Government will proceed ultimately to the suppression of all views contrary to its own, and the complete abrogation of the right of freedom of speech and assembly."

The conference called on all workers and democrats to answer these attacks with an "uncompromising struggle for the right of democratic South Africans, opposed to the Government, to meet freely and express their views."

"Conference demands that the iniquitous Riotous Assemblies Act, which places dictatorial powers in the hands of the Government, should be abolished."

Unanimously elected District Chairman and Secretary respectively were Dr. Y. M. Dadoo and Daniel du Plessis.

TRADE UNIONS PROTEST

JOHANNESBURG.—The Building Workers' Industrial Union has drawn the attention of the Trades and Labour Council to two resolutions recently passed by the South African Agricultural Union's executive committee and sent to the Prime Minister.

The first resolution asks for the repeal of the Unemployment Insurance Act because it tends to encourage "widespread unemployment among non-Europeans."

The second resolution asks that the Industrial Conciliation Act be amended so as to make it possible for certain industries to be exempted from the provisions of agreements and determinations. The building industry is mentioned as one that should not have to operate under an agreement or determination.

The Trades and Labour Council has asked all trade unions to protest direct to the Government.

MOTOR REPAIRS

JOHANNESBURG.

The National Union of Commercial Travellers has written to the Price Controller suggesting various items to be included in the scale for price control on motor repairs.

The union suggests also that rates for breakdown services should be laid down, and also the hourly rate for motor repairs.

Community Centre For Moroka

JOHANNESBURG.

Moroka is to have a community centre. It will be established by the National War Memorial Health Foundation.

In the beginning it will provide food cheaply, open a creche for the children of working mothers and rooms for educational purposes.



These are the five British West Indian seamen who, after being shanghaied on to a Canadian ship, were arrested as prohibited immigrants when they arrived in South Africa on their way back to London. They were "tricked into arrest", they alleged at the time.

Basutos Opposed To Incorporation In Union

JOHANNESBURG.

IN Basutoland there is deep concern at the suggestion that the Union Government may again this year begin to agitate for the incorporation of the Protectorates.

"The Basuto people think this would be disastrous," Miss Monica Whately, who is visiting Southern Africa to compile a report for submission ultimately to the United Nations, and who has just returned from a visit to Basutoland, told the Guardian.

FOR DEFENCE

Recently the Minister of Defence said in a speech that the incorporation of the three Protectorates was essential for the effective defences of the Union. Other sources have suggested that the Union is now busy drawing up its case for incorporation.

Its arguments are said to be that geographically the territories are part of the Union; economically they are linked; some of the Union's important water sources are in the territories; bad farming methods in the protectorates affect the Union's agriculture detrimentally, and other such arguments.

It has been suggested also that when the Union submits its demands for incorporation, it will draw up a referendum which will be submitted to the inhabitants of the territories. Is this to be on the lines of the much discredited South-West Africa referendum?

STORM OF PROTEST

If the Union does press the issue again this year it will be the first attempt since the one in 1923 and 1924, which raised a tremendous storm of protest in Britain. In 1925 Britain said her Government was pledged not to transfer the territories until the inhabitants and Parliament had had a chance to express an opinion.

Miss Whately said that when she returned to Britain she would do what she could to make the British people realise what a crime it would be to hand a voiceless people over to a fascist state.

"We don't want," she said, "to commit again the crime of

Czechoslovakia just to earn a pat on the back from Dr. Mahan." Everyone she had met in Basutoland, "traders, farmers, men minding the cattle, all felt that although the British Government was not perfect, it was a far better government than the Union where the Non-European people were concerned.

TOLD ERIC LOUW

"Those of us who have lived so close to fascism are infinitely more sensitive to its resurgence than the people here who are apparently largely oblivious to the way in which the Union is going," said Miss Whately, adding:

"I told Mr. Eric Louw that I couldn't agree with him that South Africa's issues were domestic, because fascism is always followed by war, and war would involve not only South Africa but the whole world."

A high Government official in Basutoland told Miss Whately that an attempt to hand the territory over to the Union would cause an internal revolt which would "make the situation impossible."

WHO NEXT?

JOHANNESBURG.

Die Transvaler wrote an editorial on the banning of Sam Kahn's Rand meeting.

Criticising the Opposition for its attitude towards the Government's attempts to curb Communism, the paper said: "The public will have to consider where there is any difference between the Opposition's misplaced liberalism and Communism."

LOCKED IN THE LUGGAGE BOOT

TWO AFRICANS POISONED AND BURNT

(By RUTH FIRST)

JOHANNESBURG.

TWO Africans are lying in a Johannesburg hospital, one of them still dazed and unable to talk after four days in hospital, with carbon monoxide poisoning and body burns.

Most people won't believe their story at first. But this is what I managed to piece together.

Last week a car drew up outside the casualty station of the hospital. Two Europeans got out. They went to the back of the car and opened up the luggage compartment.

INSIDE WERE LYING TWO AFRICANS, CURLED UP IN THE RESTRICTED SPACE, UNCONSCIOUS.

They had travelled in the luggage compartment from a town 60 miles away from Johannesburg.

The hospital admitted them hastily. They had to be given oxygen in the casualty station. They were admitted to wards. The Europeans, farmers, drove off.

DID NOT TALK

I saw the men later in hospital. One did not talk at all. The

other, in faltering English, could not say much. His mouth was sore, he said.

Both were from Nyassaland, I learnt, as, with an interpreter found in the ward, we began to piece together the story.

One had been in the Union three years, working as a garden boy in Linden. One day, while he was walking in Newlands, he was arrested. He was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment.

He could not say why. Perhaps he couldn't explain himself properly, or perhaps he really didn't know why.

He found himself in the Fort. Then a farmer came to fetch him and others to work on a farm as convict labour.

BECAME SICK

He was on his way back from the farm when he became "sick," he said.

"How were you brought to the hospital?" we asked him.

Sitting up in bed, hunching his shoulders and drawing his legs up to his body, he demonstrated how he had been forced to crawl into the luggage compartment of the car, leaving room for a second man in the same position.

"It was too hot; we couldn't breathe," was his simple description.

And now they lie in hospital, with carbon monoxide poisoning and body burns.

31 March 49

Sachs Complains Of Chairman's Bias

JOHANNESBURG.

"I COMPLAIN bitterly about the chairman's conduct of this commission," said Mr. Solly Sachs, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, giving further evidence to the Wolfard commission last week.

Mr. Sachs said he had no complaints as far as one of the members of the two-man commission was concerned. But he drew his conclusions about the commission chairman because of the way he handled certain evidence, and because the auditor's report on the administration of the union was published in the Press before the auditors were even cross-examined by the commission.

Mr. Sachs said one of his reasons for believing that the chairman was biased was a statement by a certain M.P. in Parliament about a rumoured friendship between the chairman and Mr. du Pisane, Nat. M.P. for Germiston.

The chairman, I have never met Mr. du Pisane. Mr. Sachs said the commission was not an objective investigation but a "smear and slander commission".

CROSS-EXAMINATION

These statements were made during the cross-examination of Mr. Sachs by the commission's legal adviser, Mr. M. J. Hart.

Mr. Hart asked Mr. Sachs: You are seriously suggesting that the object of the Minister in appointing this commission is to dissipate the Garment Workers' Union? — Not only the Garment Workers' Union, but the whole trade union movement.

Mr. Sachs said the Nationalist Party was perfectly entitled to organise politically, but it had descended to typically Nazi methods. It had organised to inculcate in the minds of the workers distrust of the union by spreading slanderous allegations about maladministration of union funds.

INCIDENTS

He charged the Blankewerkers-beskeringsbond with issuing statements like "Mr. Sachs is a Jew", "Miss Schoepers is stealing money and getting fat on the proceeds of the union".

There would have been no trouble among Germiston workers had it not been for "incidents engineered by Mr. du Pisane", said Mr. Sachs.

Mr. Hart: Have you any evidence that Mr. du Pisane was concerned in these "so-called incidents"? — We had reports from military information which I firmly believed. The authorities were covered with preventing trouble in the industry which would interfere with the war effort.

During cross-examination by Mr. Pirow last week, Mr. Sachs was questioned about a delegation of garment workers that had visited the Soviet Union during the thirties. The garment workers had come back, Mr. Pirow said, "as extreme propagandists for Russia." (Laughter in the court room.) "That is what you are trying to educate garment workers up to," he said to Mr. Sachs.

Referring to a letter published in the Garment Worker from a group of garment workers in

Uzbekistan, Mr. Pirow wanted to know: "How did they get to know about you unless you had connections there?" The letter was "pure propaganda," Mr. Pirow said. The union, he told the commission, found it necessary to tell Germiston garment workers how wonderful life had become in the Soviet Union since the October Revolution.

"Yes," interjected Mr. Sachs, "we would like the government of our country to do more for the garment workers too."

Mr. Pirow said the May Day slogan "Workers of the World Unite" was a Communist slogan. The Mr. Wolfard, he said, was the revolutionary song of the International.

Garment workers went to the Soviet Union, he said, to be inspired by the fight, and when they came back, to "do battle".

GARMENT UNION'S APPEAL DISMISSED

JOHANNESBURG.—The appeal of the Garment Workers' Union against the decision of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court that the appointment of a commission to inquire into the union's affairs was valid, was dismissed by the Court last week. It held that the matter was not a matter of public concern as such the inquiry was not a matter of public concern.

TO BE VICTIMISED FOR WAR SERVICE, EX-SOLDIERS FEAR

JOHANNESBURG.

"IT IS becoming more apparent day by day that with the Nationalist Government in power there can be no security, either political or economic, for ex-servicemen and, for that matter, for any other citizen of South Africa," said the chairman of the Johannesburg Branch of the Springbok Legion, Mr. L. Cooper, opening the sixth annual conference of the branch recently.

In addition it would seem, he added "that the service rendered by soldiers during the war, instead of being a matter for congratulation and pride is to become a liability and a cause for suspicion and possible victimisation."

"The Provincial Council Election results indicate that the democratic forces have not lost ground," the report continued, "but rather that they have consolidated and gained slightly. The present indications are that the tendency on the part of the floating vote to swing away from the Nationalist Party is likely to increase."

"Because the results of the Provincial Council elections were not decisive, there will probably be much talk in democratic circles in the forthcoming months of re-

grouping, new parties and similar escapades."

NO ROOM

"We should be clear in our own minds that on the evidence of the election results there is no room for a new political party."

"The democratic forces are too weak to stand division and any new re-grouping that takes place can only be the result of compromise of fundamental principles and must be reactionary in character."

"There is need for more clear-cut progressive and inspiring policies from the democratic political parties, but that is another matter."

"The possibility of a general election at any time and even earlier, the new year should be considered seriously," the report concluded.

T.L.C. Constitution

"NO INTENTION TO TAKE AWAY RIGHTS"

—A. G. FORSYTH

JOHANNESBURG.

"THERE has been no intention by those drafting the new constitution to deprive any section of rights and privileges enjoyed under the old constitution," was the reply of Mr. A. G. Forsyth, secretary of the Trades and Labour Council, to the suggestion in last week's Guardian that the membership clause in the Council's proposed new constitution might be interpreted to exclude African unions.

In a special statement to The Guardian Mr. Forsyth said it was most unfortunate that this interpretation, "never intended," had been placed on Section 5 (1) of the new draft constitution "without any prior knowledge of all the circumstances that had to be considered when preparing the new constitution."

CONSULTATIONS

"In drafting the new constitution," Mr. Forsyth said, "attention had to be paid to the delicate nature of the subject. Consultations took place between all schools of thought within the council, and an honest and sincere attempt was made to produce a constitution which would be acceptable to all."

Never in the history of the council, he said, was so much thought and attention given in

the preparation of any important document, and "no pronouncement judgment before all the facts have been submitted to conference is to say the least of it, indiscreet and certainly not in accordance with the facts."

Mr. Forsyth said that in any case it was not the function of the national executive to set down any line of future policy. That was the sole prerogative of the conference.

The conference before which this constitution will be placed will take place in April in East London.

How To Spot A Communist

I HAVE to on excellent authority, says our Parliamentary Correspondent, that Mr. Swart, Minister of Justice, divulged to the House only a portion of his Special Report on the Activities of Communists in the Union.

The Cabinet is now considering the remaining portion, which includes detailed notes by a secret police official on "HOW TO SPOT A COMMUNIST". Here are some points:

1. A Communist can be spotted by his frequent use of foreign words like "peace", "democracy" and "trade unions".
2. A Communist frequently uses the word "South African". This is derived from the Russian "South Africanity".
3. Communists attend trade union meetings on time. Such behaviour naturally throws the meeting into confusion and is very disruptive.
4. Communists do all their work in secret. On election day, for example, they insist that everybody cast his vote in a closed polling booth.
5. The Communist believes in violence. But he cunningly conceals his belief in violence by never practising it.
6. The Communists get their policies adopted in organisations by introducing resolutions—such as against fascism—written in Russian. The rest of the members of the organisation usually vote for the resolution because they are ashamed to admit they are not versed in foreign languages.
7. Communists who have party membership cards are probably Communists, Communists who don't have membership cards are probably Communists. Communists who admit they are Communists are probably Communists. People who deny they are Communists are probably Communists. All people who aren't Communist are probably Communists.
8. Communists conceal their ultimate objective, which is socialism, by proclaiming they are for socialism. Naturally this confuses people.

(With apologies to the New York Daily Worker)

VICTOR MBOBO, ON WAY TO CONCERT, ARRESTED, GAOLED

JOHANNESBURG.

LAST Friday night Victor Mboob, African delegate to the Prague Youth Festival who toured Europe as the ambassador of African youth in 1947, was supposed to be present in New York at the opening of the Cultural and Artists' Conference for World Peace.

Instead he spent the night in a police cell, arrested for a pass offence.

Mboob in evening dress, was on his way with his niece to a symphony concert at the Bantu Social Centre.

At the Orlando station he took a taxi. As it pulled out of the taxi rank it was stopped by the Flying Squad. "We were bundled out of the car," Mboob said, "literally lifted out of it."

The taxi-driver was carrying some liquor, but as he could produce a permit for it, he was left alone.

Mboob says he himself was then lifted by three of the

police into the police van, and carried off to the police station. His niece was left standing in the road.

At the station he was charged with having no pass.

NO BAIL.

He was not allowed bail. His wallet, watch, tie and spectacles and everything he had in his pockets were taken from him. Some of the police taunted him because he was in evening dress and because he said he was a law student.

Then he was locked into the cells. Only later, when a lawyer took up his case, was he allowed out. He was asked to sign an admission of guilt, but refused. His case will be heard at the Magistrate's Court next month.

Emergency Conference For Freedom Of Speech And Assembly

JOHANNESBURG.

AN Emergency Conference for Freedom of Speech and Assembly will be held here on April 10. It will discuss measures to fight for freedom of speech in South Africa, and will protest against the banning of the Sam Kahn meetings on the Rand under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

Mr. Sam Kahn will attend the conference.

"This attack and intimidation by the Government cannot be allowed to go unchallenged," says the call for the conference. "Tomorrow it will be the liberals and those who are Communist-inclined."

All democratic and anti-fascist organisations are invited to participate in this conference, organised by the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party.

JUST THE BEGINNING

Mr. Daniel du Plessis, secretary of the Johannesburg Communist Party, told the Guardian the Communist Party was a legal party, and Sam Kahn a representative of the people elected according to the constitution.

This Government action was just the beginning of a full-scale attack against the whole labour movement.

The conference was being held to enable all organisations — the Church, women's bodies, national movements and trade unions — to make their concerted protest against this alarming development.

As part of this campaign prominent citizens are signing a petition protesting against the banning, and demanding the abolition of the Riotous Assemblies Act.

During the last two week-ends dozens of protest meetings against the banings have been organised in all the township locations and in all the areas.

AFRICAN LEADERS TO DISCUSS UNITY

JOHANNESBURG.

ON April 17 leaders of the two premier African organisations in the Union, the African National Congress and the All-African Convention, are to meet again in Bloemfontein to continue their unity negotiations.

Last stage in these unity efforts was reached in December at the annual conference of these bodies, also in Bloemfontein. A joint meeting of the two organisations, presided over by Dr. A. B. Xuma and Prof. D. D. T. Jabavu, agreed on unity "in principle".

Deadlock was reached, however, on the form which this African unity should take.

The meeting this month will probably discuss again the Convention's four unity conditions: that unity should be based on the Convention's 10-point programme; that the federal structure of the Convention should be retained; that there should be unity of all the Non-European groups; that unity should be based on the policy of "non-cooperation with the oppressor".

CONGRESS STAND

The Congress stand is that the African people must first unite

into one single political body. This body will then be able to form a federal union with other Non-European national organisations.

It is not known whether either side will bring new proposals to the meeting.

Mr. Moses Kotane, a member of the executive committee of the African National Congress, told the Guardian that he stood strongly for a single national organisation for the African people.

"A federal organisation as proposed by the Convention is too loose a body," said Mr. Kotane. "Affiliated members cannot be forced to carry out the instructions of the executive committee."

"The weakness of such an organisation has been seen in the South African Trades and Labour Council, the Anti-Cad, the Non-European Unity Movement, and the All-African Convention itself."

Mine Dispute Referred To Arbitration

JOHANNESBURG.

AFTER 80 per cent of the workers on the Springs Mine had voted last week to take strike action, negotiations between union officials the Gold Producers' Committee and the Minister of Labour, Mr. Schoeman, resulted in the dispute being referred to arbitration.

A special plane was plied at the disposal of the disputants so that they could argue their case before Mr. Schoeman in Cape Town.

In a statement last week, the secretary of the miners' union, Mr. D. E. Ellis, head of the group the recently captured the union's said his union was fully aware of the importance of the mining industry, and did not wish to do anything to harm it. The policy of the union was to improve relations between employers and employees and to act in the interests of the country.

PRINCIPLE

But the dispute at the Springs Mine involved an important matter of principle. During the war certain underground workers undertook to carry out the duties of examiners, trimmers and other workers in order to release men to join the armed forces.

Contractors, especially on the Springs Mine, he said, were having to continue under these conditions without any extra remuneration. Similar conditions existed on other mines, and the union wished the matter to be cleared up.

SACHS-STUART LIBEL CASE SETTLED

JOHANNESBURG.

SOLLY SACHS, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, and R. C. Stuart, secretary of the Cape garment workers, came to a settlement in a libel action by Mr. Stuart against Mr. Sachs, to have been heard in the Supreme Court here last week.

Mr. Stuart was claiming £2,000 damages from Mr. Sachs for defamation alleged to have been contained in a letter written by Mr. Sachs to Mr. J. C. Bolton, secretary of the Natal Branch of the Garment Workers' Union.

The letter was dated March 13, 1945.

It said that a certain employer "told me quite openly that the bosses called 'n' Mr. Stuart to organise the union for them as they were afraid of Sachs and the Transvaal union. Both Mr. Stuart and the late Mr. Evans, when they appeared before the Wage Board in 1935, advocated lower wages."

The letter continued: "The fact that the Cape Town workers receive about 40 per cent less in wages than our members is of most importance to us, far more so than to Mr. Stuart, and Mr. Stuart has done everything possible to keep the workers divided

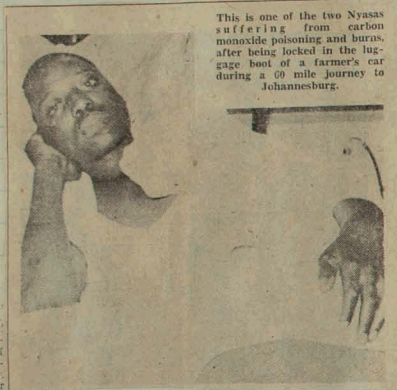
and to keep the wages of the Cape Town workers at a low level."

In his declaration to court Mr. Stuart said Mr. Sachs conveyed that he had used his union as a bogus union, to divide the garment workers, and that he was not fit to hold his trade union post.

The action was withdrawn and Mr. Stuart undertook to pay £300 towards Mr. Sachs' costs.

The terms of settlement state that Mr. Sachs and Mr. Stuart met, and "after personally discussing their differences arrived at an amicable settlement as they felt that this was not a time for trade union leaders to ventilate personal matters in court."

In this spirit Mr. Sachs withdrew certain allegations against Mr. Stuart, and both parties expressed the hope that the way will now be open for full co-operation among the garment workers in South Africa.



This is one of the two Nyasas suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning and burns, after being locked in the luggage boot of a farmer's car during a 60 mile journey to Johannesburg.

NATS. TO CONTROL AFRICAN UNIONS?

Report To Miners' Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

It is fairly certain legislation will be introduced by Parliament in this session or the next to give special recognition to African trade unions," Senator W. G. Ballinger told the annual meeting of the African Mineworkers' Union Organising Fund Committee.

"African unions," he added, "must do in a few years what it has taken European trade unions 100 or 150 years to do."

Presiding over the meeting the chairman, the Reverend D. C. Thompson, said: "We know everyone taking part in the Fund is being watched. The ardent trade unionist finds the cause is a necessary cause."

"If you wish to see some of the harmful effects of migrant labour study the Wage Report and the

Fagan Report. White South Africa should be alive to these things. We owe it to the miner and his family, the population involved in the whole set-up, our economic future and the world of the future."

The meeting passed resolutions protesting against the banning of Sam Kahn's meetings, and pledging continued support to the African miners' union.

The outgoing committee was re-elected with one addition.

CONFERENCE FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

JOHANNESBURG.

Enthusiasm is mounting for the April 10 conference for Freedom of Speech and Assembly, which is to discuss measures to fight the Government's action in banning Sam Kahn's meetings some weeks ago.

A large number of organisations will be represented at the conference. Mr. Danie du Plessis, secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, told The Guardian.

The conference is to be attended by Mr. Sam Kahn, M.P. It will open on April 10 at 10.30 a.m. at 46a, End Street, City and Suburban.

CZECH GOODS AT RAND SHOW

JOHANNESBURG.

The Czechoslovak Metal and Engineering industry will for the first time be represented at the Rand Show this month where a wide range of machines, tools and other products will be exhibited.

Swart Strikes Again

Bans Peace and Friendship Meeting in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG.

LAST Sunday evening the police used the Riotous Assemblies Act again, this time to impose a ban on a meeting called by the Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union in a Johannesburg cinema.

Who next? is the question being asked here. This latest banning has borne out the warning made after the ban on Sam Kahn's Reef meetings that the Malan Government's repression of free speech would soon extend beyond the Communists.

Three out of four speakers billed to address last Sunday's meeting are non-Communists.

AUDIENCE DISPERSED

By the time the speakers, ex-Senator Beamer, Mr. Yusuf Cachalia, secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, and Miss Hilda Watts arrived at the Cinema hall the audience had already been dispersed on police orders.

A large lorry and three carloads of police stood in readiness round the corner with officers in charge.

The door of the cinema was locked and on it was pinned an order of the acting magistrate, banning the meeting because he apprehended public peace would be seriously endangered.

The chairman of the meeting, Miss Hetty du Preez, had a magistrate's order served on her earlier in the afternoon.

"OPENING SHOTS"

"Our banned meeting is one of the opening shots in the Government's campaign against the democratic system in South Africa," says a special statement issued by the Society for Peace and Friendship, following the ban.

The Society says it finds it impossible to believe that the Minister of Justice had any grounds for the ban.

"The South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union is a non-political organisation which numbers senators, M.P.s, churchmen, medical and legal practitioners among its patrons and eight of the most important trade unions among its affiliated societies," says the statement.

"Its one aim is to foster friendship and understanding between the people of South Africa and the USSR."

"We will do what we can to guard our own liberties and arouse other South African citizens to guard theirs."

Miss Hilda Watts told the Guardian that no one, by any stretch of the imagination, could have believed that the meeting would disturb public peace.

"Not unless there was a deliberate, organised attempt on the part of someone determined to prevent the organisation holding meetings," she said.

"WILL GO ON FIGHTING"

Miss du Preez said that the meeting was banned to prevent the word from hearing what the Nationalists are doing in South Africa. "This won't worry us. We will go on fighting," she said.

Miners' Union Wants Nationalisation

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Mine Workers' Union wants an enquiry into the gold mining industry, with special reference to nationalisation. This it sees as the only permanent solution of the industry's problems. It told the commission now investigating wages and conditions in the mining industry.

The union, which is demanding a 30 per cent. increase in the basic wage of miners and other improved conditions, sets out proposals for a measure of joint responsibility for the industry for the increased costs which would result if the union's claims were granted.

A "wage equalisation fund" is suggested. Its benefits should be limited strictly to European mine workers, says the memorandum. The fund would not serve to stabilise or increase the present profits of shareholders of any company, contributing or non-contributing.

Three types of contribution are

suggested: a levy on profits above a certain percentage, a levy on a sliding scale, a levy of either type to finance the needs of those companies unable to meet the demands of the union out of profits.

NOT FOR AFRICANS

The union denies the contention of the Gold Producers' Committee that an increase to daily-paid men would mean an increase to officials and African miners.

The Africans, being housed and fed, says the union, do not feel the rise in the cost of living. Anyway, they say, Africans received a 20 per cent. increase a few years ago.

Wits. Against Co-operation With Fascists

JOHANNESBURG.

The Students' Representative Council at Wits University has voted against the proposal that Nuss should make efforts to co-operate with the fascist, Christian-National, "Europeans Only" Afrikaner Studentebond.

Co-operation between the two student organisations though they are fundamentally opposed to one another on matters of principle, has been suggested in an effort to build "national student unity."

But the Wits SRC decided that there should be no unity with a body that restricts its membership to only one group namely, Europeans, and that in any case the Nuss constitution has a clause that it should not work with bodies whose aims are inconsistent with its own.

Rand Protest Against Swart's Ban

Campaign To Defend Free Speech

(From RUTH FIRST)

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Witwatersrand made its protest last week-end at the banning of Sam Kahn's meetings and the Government's abuse of its powers under the Riotous Assemblies' Act.

"Abolish the Riotous Assemblies' Act," "Ensure us Freedom of Speech" were the demands of the 89 delegates from 38 organisations representing over 70,000 workers of all races, at a conference to defend freedom of speech convened by the Johannesburg district Communist Party.

Mr. Sam Kahn, M.P., received a great ovation from the conference, which later elected an action committee of 20 to continue the struggle in this province.

Mr. J. B. Marks, who presided, said the Government, by banning people's meetings, had thrown out a challenge.

Introducing the resolution calling for the abolition of the Riot Act, Mr. Daniel du Plessis, the secretary of the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party, said with the use of the Act "the police are being turned into a military occupation force. We are being ruled by a conqueror, not by the elected government of the people."

FROM THE FLOOR

Speakers then rose from the floor to add their protest. Pretoria trade unions and mass organisations pledged their support for the campaign.

Said a delegate from the East Rand: "Our fight for freedom of speech is a fight for the right to live." In Payneville and Brakpan locations it was not possible to hold any political meetings, he told the conference.

A delegate from Krugersdorp told how the African National Congress branch there had been refused permission to meet in a public hall.

An African miner from Randfontein said: "We will be prepared to die rather than to be oppressed by a few. We are in the majority. We who have elected Sam Kahn are more than those who elected Dr. Malan."

A trade union delegate referred to the employment offices of the Native Affairs Department as a "slave-market."

"Many of us are not members of the Communist Party," said another delegate. "But when a house is on fire all are affected. Today we are burning."

The Action Committee of 20 elected by the conference was instructed to prepare plans for further steps in the campaign.

"Are we prepared to accept it?" he asked. "The battle has been declared, the war is on."

Since the Reef meetings had been banned, he said, the police on the Reef had become very active. They now attended all meetings, even "those of trade union members. Attempts were made by the police to intimidate people who attended meetings."

HOUSEHOLD WORD

"On the Reef," Mr. Marks went on, "Sam Kahn's name has become a household word overnight. The African people regard Sam Kahn as one of their national representatives."

Mr. Kahn told the conference that the Malan Government had declared a cold war against the working class, in particular the Non-Europeans.

"South Africa is being converted into a police state under our very eyes."

The Government would soon take steps to convert the emergency war measures limiting the right to hold free gatherings into a permanent Statute. Then meetings would be held only with police permission.

NOT A KRAAL

Referring to Dr. Malan's "explanation" that his meetings on the Reef were banned because he was speaking outside his constituency, Mr. Kahn said, "My constituency is not a kraal, a location, a concentration camp out of which I cannot go. Dr. Malan and his supporters can hold meetings anywhere in the country outside their constituencies."

"I don't go round like the Nats, do inciting race hatred, sowing the deadliest race poison in the hearts of the Europeans. The views of M.P.s should not be subject to censorship by a fascist like Mr. Swart."

BOYCOTT SMASHED

JOHANNESBURG.

The boycott of Indian traders at Kempton Park has been smashed by joint action of the Transvaal African and Indian National Congresses.

The boycott of the two Indian shops there, whose trade is entirely African, started one Saturday afternoon some weeks ago.

Asked why they had stopped buying from them, the Africans said they had been told the Indians were putting poison and ground glass into the meal and sugar.

The boycott continued for some weeks.

Then meetings were held at Kempton Park by the president of the Transvaal African National Congress, Mr. C. S. Ramahano, and other executive members.

The explanations given at the meetings succeeded in breaking the boycott.

This was one of the activities of the joint committee of African, Indian and Coloured organisations set up here after the Durban riots.

FOR FREE TRADE UNIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

Trade unions will submit their balance-sheets and financial statements to the Industrial Legislation Commission under protest.

"We submit," says the Trades and Labour Council in a letter to the commission, that "the sole control over trade union funds should be vested in the members of the trade union in terms of their constitution."

"Any suggestion of outside control over the affairs of trade unions, financial or otherwise, is contrary to all traditional democratic trade union principles, and this Council is committed to unrelenting opposition to any control of trade unions other than by their members."

"The S.A.T.L.C. repudiates the right of any Government or commission to arrogate to itself authority to control or otherwise interfere with the democratic decisions of properly constituted committees and general meetings of trade unionists."

Nat. Control Over Settlement Schemes

No Priority for Ex-Servicemen

JOHANNESBURG.

HAVE the Nationalists already started to tamper with the Vaal-Hart, Lookop and Rietvlei settlement schemes established under the Land Settlement Act? Only a few days after the general election, it is said, the membership of the Lookop Committee of Control was changed to put the Nats and their sympathisers in the majority.

The old Lookop selection board is said to have consisted of four United Party men and one Nationalist. It was changed to consist of three Nationalists and two United Party men, these two both specialists on the scheme who could not be replaced at the time.

Then 50 new lots on the Lookop scheme and 50 more at Vaal Hart were allocated, all on the Government's principle that ex-servicemen were no longer to be given preference in land allocations.

EX-SERVICEMEN

Strydmon announced some time ago that ex-servicemen were no longer to receive special con-

sideration. The Department of Agriculture for its settlement scheme no longer differentiates between ex-service and civilian applicants.

The announcement in the House, even by the previous government, that ex-servicemen would no longer receive special consideration raised an uproar among ex-service organisations. This principle is now being rigidly applied by the Nationalists. How much fruit is there in the suggestion that in the most recent allocation at Lookop the great majority of the 50 plots handed out went to Government supporters in the neighbourhood?

Perhaps that was just a coincidence.

Ex-Soldiers Call For United Front

Only Way To Stop The Nats.

JOHANNESBURG.

THE anti-democratic direction of the Government's policies can be reversed only by the forces of the democratic parties, organisations and peoples combining in the form of a united front on the basis of their common allegiance to fundamental democratic principles," says a resolution adopted at the annual conference of the Springbok Legion last week-end.

The resolution condemned efforts to form a new democratic party, and to achieve regroupings of parties. These would be achieved only at the expense of fundamental principles, it said.

"Hitler did not introduce his most extreme policies as soon as the Nazi Party came to power."

RULE OF LAW

"The rule of law and the constitution are being tampered with," he said, giving as examples the South-West Africa issue, the Coloured vote and the very existence of the Broederbond. Government commissions recently appointed had been partial, he added, and freedom of organisation was being tampered with, and threats made against the freedom of the Press and of movement.

Discussing the menace of war the conference decided no problem between the nations could not be settled by peaceful means. "There exists in the United Nations Organisation the only instrument capable of preserving the peace."

Sectional pacts entered into between Nations outside UNO "serve only to weaken the authority and prestige of that organisation and to increase the danger of war."

COMPLACENCY

The conference dealt with problems of building control, letting control and rents.

It viewed with alarm "the prospect of large-scale unemployment in the immediate future." The complacency of the Government was condemned.

Discussing the freedoms of speech, assembly and movement the conference called on the Government not to use existing laws to create new laws to curtail the civil liberties of individuals and groups, merely because the latter stand in political opposition to the Nationalist Government.

"FREE SPEECH IN DANGER"

—Civil Rights League
JOHANNESBURG.

"NEVER in South Africa have freedom of speech and publication been in greater danger," says a policy statement issued by the Witwatersrand Civil Rights League.

"Never, except in time of war, has free association been more seriously threatened. Established constitutional rights of Non-Europeans are threatened. Open racial antagonism has become intensified. The provincial elections were punctuated with violence."

"It is the purpose of the League to defend these freedoms and to forward the democratic interests of all people in South Africa, irrespective of colour."

As its immediate programme the League will defend civil rights of all people in South Africa and resist changes contrary to the spirit of the constitution and to liberal democratic principles.

Membership forms can be obtained from P.O. Box 4118, Johannesburg. The minimum annual subscription is 10s.

APARTHEID ON MAY DAY

JOHANNESBURG.—This year the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions is organising May Day celebrations. The United May Day Committee which has for many years organised joint celebrations for all workers, this year decided in favour of separate demonstrations for European and Non-European workers.

"This is a negation of the significance of May Day," says the Transvaal Council of Non-European Unions. "Workers of all races will be welcome at our celebration."

INDIAN TRADERS LEAVE ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP

JOHANNESBURG.

Some African traders in Alexandra Township are beginning to whip up agitation against Indian traders there. Indian traders are "infiltrating" into the township, they told the Alexandra Native Commissioner.

A deputation sponsored by a body called the Alexandra African Traders' Association took the Native Commissioner a list of 45 names of Indian traders in Alexandra. But the Commissioner later told a reporter that the number was nearer 70.

Giving a Press statement after the interview, this Commissioner said he had told the standholders they had themselves to blame for the hostilities because they had let enemies in. He advised them to give the Indian traders notice to evacuate their premises.

A later investigation by his office had shown that only 17 traders remained in the township. "The

rest, having taken heed of developments against their presence in the area, had decided to leave."

First glimmerings of this anti-Indian trader movement appeared in the Afrikaans paper, *Dagbreek*, which some weeks ago hinted that something like this could be expected.

EDUCATION COMMISSION

CAPE TOWN.

The Commission of Enquiry into Native Education, appointed by the Nationalist Government to consider inter alia how to "prepare Natives more effectively for their future occupations," will visit a number of main centres in the Union after August of this year, to collect oral evidence.

This was announced in a recent issue of the *Government Gazette*.

RED CAPITAL OF AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG.

The O.B. journal of the Ossewa Brandwag, has located the Red Capital of Africa. "According to informed circles" (the usual formula) Communists are making efforts to establish Abyssinia as a Communist base and from there to launch a campaign to spread propaganda to Kenya, Uganda and other territories in Africa.

In Addis Ababa a Communist newspaper is already being published, they say.



This giant figure of a worker makes the imposing front to the pavilion at the Easter Rand Show of the Czech Skoda Works.

14 CHARGED FOR OPPOSING TRAIN APARTHEID

CAPE TOWN.

FOURTEEN leaders of the resistance movement against train apartheid will face triple charges in a Cape Town court on Tuesday, September 21. They are charged with incitement to public violence, incitement to break railway regulations, and the promotion of hostility between Africans and Europeans.

Among those to be tried are Moses Kotane, general secretary of the Communist Party; Communist Party Central Committee members H. A. Naidoo and Fred Carneson; Communist Councillor Sam Kahn, and Communist Party members J. Laguma and J. Nkomo.

The charges arise from a protest meeting of the Communist Party held a few days after the announcement of Minister Sauer's train apartheid regulation. Facing charges arising from the Grand Parade demonstration organised by the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee are Councillors Cissie Gool and R. E. Viljoen, Dr. H. Gool, the Reverend

(Continued on page 5)

14 ARRESTED

(Continued from page 1)

D. M. Wessels, Mr. H. R. Abrahams, Mr. A. E. Abdurahman, who is secretary of the African Peoples' Organisation; and Messrs. Z. Gamlet and B. M. Kies. Also summoned for speeches at this meeting are Fred Carneson and H. A. Naidoo, who thus face two sets of charges.

THE CHARGES

A formidable set of charges. On what are they based?

Here, in the language of the summons, is one of the charges against Fred Carneson: "Accused number 5 did say that he hopes all the organisations will stand together to fight all oppressive laws by organised resistance. That apartheid will also be introduced on buses. Further, unless these actions of the Government are resisted, you will have no further rights."

Councillor Viljoen's crime, again quoting the summons is that he "... being the chairman of the meeting, did open the meeting, and preside over the meeting."

D.R.C. PROTEST

Latest church body to express concern at apartheid is the Executive Church Council of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa, which appeals to the Government to "act prudently and wisely" with its apartheid because of the unsettled feeling of some members of the mission church.

The trial period on the train is now over. Any Non-European who enters a "Europeans Only" coach will be prosecuted.

Detachments of South African police are being kept in reserve to help the railway police "clear the station" in the case of any mass demonstrations.

The Women's Food Committee representing thousands of women organised in Cape Town Food queues, has written to the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee suggesting that individual members of the Committee "should themselves become the leaders of the different groups". They added "People will then see and the young volunteers will feel that their leaders are prepared to take the initiative when it comes to action, which should not be delayed."

Following a meeting called by the Train Apartheid Resistance Committee in Woodstock last week, at which Dr. J. H. Gool condemned the interference of the "liberal-minded" European in the affairs of the non-European — in particular the Civil Rights Action Committee — Mr. Fred Carneson, secretary of the Cape Town District of the Communist Party, issued a statement to the Press dissociating the Communist Party from these attacks.

The Train Apartheid Resistance Committee, said Mr. Carneson, was formed to defeat the Nationalists' train apartheid measures and not to attack needlessly, and thereby alienate, European liberal opinion.

UNIONS MUST FIGHT APARTHEID

VENTER

T.L.C. Committed To No-Colour-Bar Policy

CAPE TOWN.

MR. JAN VENTER, Vice-President of the South African Trades and Labour Council, does not agree with President Calder's suggestion that a "parallel co-ordinating body of Non-European trade unions" should be set up.

Mr. Calder was voicing his own personal opinion when he spoke along these lines to the recent conference of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, Mr. Venter said. Mr. Calder himself had made this clear during his speech.

NOT OFFICIAL VIEW

It was certainly not the official view of the Trades and Labour Council. The Council stood committed to its conference decision rejecting apartheid in the unions. "Economically," said Mr. Venter, "the country cannot be divided on grounds of race, colour, or creed. The trade union movement should fight any attempt to divide it on this basis."

Referring to Dr. Malan's recent statement that the Government would allow no "mixed unions", Mr. Venter said the Council had already made it clear to the Minister of Labour that it would

brook no interference in the domestic affairs of the trade unions.

Mr. Venter suggested that Minister Schoeman was probably now beginning to see the difficulties in enforcing apartheid within the country's economic set-up — something which he had probably never previously studied!

Mr. Venter thought the organiser of the trade union movement was fully alive to the dangers of apartheid and saw that it would have serious effects on the trade union movement should it be carried out.

CRISIS IN BUILDING INDUSTRY

Thousands Homeless, But Artisans Face Unemployment

From RUTH FIRST

JOHANNESBURG.

SOUTH AFRICA'S deepening economic crisis is going to hit the building industry hard during the next few months. This view is shared by building workers, trade unionists, architects, town-planners and master builders alike.

The Witwatersrand Master Builders' Association has said publicly that a "recession" in the industry has set in.

Foremen on building jobs in the city say that each day about a dozen bricklayers come round looking for jobs. After finishing one job, men are unemployed for several days, even a week, before they find another.

This time last year, a union organiser said: "The jobs were chasing the men. Employers telephoned daily for bricklayers, painters and the rest. Today the men are chasing the jobs." Till quite recently building workers were being paid above the standard rates for the industry. This is happening on very few jobs today.

LOSSES

Houses built by speculation builders are being sold at a loss.

so speculation building has stopped. It is estimated there are 2,000 "spec" homes standing empty in Johannesburg today. Some have been empty for six months or longer, and have dropped in value from £8,000 to £6,250.

The banks and building societies are not giving loans easily so there is no finance for big building projects.

The official figures for the number of plans passed in the Johannesburg area show a drop over the last six months. In November, 1948, 583 plans were passed, in February of this year the figure was 470.

But these figures are not a true indication of the building position, for recent statistics produced by the Building Controller show that of the plans for flats passed during 1948, only a tiny fraction were started on. The overwhelming majority fell through because the finances were later found to be unavailable.

BANKRUPTCIES

In the last few months there have been a number of financial failures in the building industry, some of large firms. A Germiston firm, one of the biggest shopping undertakings in the country, has been placed under judicial management. So too has a very large parquet-flooring firm.

The real test of the position of the building industry in a few months' time is the amount of new work coming into architects' offices. One architect said, "If the position continues, we won't have work for a builder in six months' time."

And yet Johannesburg is short of accommodation for 20,000 Africans, according to the City's Non-European Affairs Department. There is very little, if any, building going on in the African townships.

COUNCIL SCHEMES

The City Council's schemes to provide 1,000 economic and sub-economic homes at Dewetshof, Roosevelt, Ark Extension and South Hills, have been knocked on the head by the shortage of money. Building societies refuse to loan more than 70 per cent. of the total cost, and at Dewetshof require borrowers to find a deposit of £1,000. Few borrowers for this group of housing schemes can make substantial down-payments.

WORLD CONGRESS FOR PEACE

PARIS.

THE World Congress for Peace, convened by the International Liaison Bureau of Intellectuals for Peace and the Women's International Democratic Federation, opens in Paris on April 23.

Among the leading citizens of many countries who are sponsoring the Congress are Louis Aragon, Joliot-Curie, Louis Salliant, Madeleine Braun, Pierre Cot and Pablo Picasso, all of France; from the United States, Arlie Shaw, Howard Fast, Johannes Steel, Ella Winter, and Dr. W. E. B. du Bois; from Britain, Prof. J. D. Bernal, Dr. Olaf Stapledon, the Dean of Canterbury, and Professor John Boyd Orr.

The City's loan fund is exhausted.

These are the prospects for the building industry, part only of the general slump into which the Union is sinking.

Building workers will soon be unemployed in large numbers if this trend continues. How will they exist on the £2 10s. a week from the Government's unemployment scheme, and the £2 1s. they will draw each week from their union's own unemployment fund?

How long will it take for the crisis in this country to reflect itself in other industries allied to the building industry, or dependent on the buying power of the 14,000 Witwatersrand building artisans?

"DOUBLE GOLD PRICE" ---DR. BRUWER

Only Solution To S.A.'s Economic Problems

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Union is facing a very severe economic crisis, the end of which we haven't seen yet, said Dr. A. J. Bruwer, the leading economist, addressing a meeting here last week.

South Africa's economic policy should be a "forward-rushing one instead of one of economic restrictions," he said. Post-war wage and price levels should be higher than the pre-war levels because the national debt had multiplied several times. It was imperative that the price of gold should be increased.

Speaking on "The Economic Position of South Africa," Dr. Bruwer gave figures to show that the year 1948 had been one of all-time records in several directions. Agricultural production had risen to £177,000,000, compared with £62,000,000 ten years ago.

The index of employment showed a steady rise. Business was on the upgrade in 1948. Mining production for 1948 amounted to £126,000,000, but this was lower than the peak figure of £132,000,000 in the record year of 1941, as gold output had declined.

Coal production reached an all-time record by the end of 1948.

FOREIGN TRADE

"But it is in the Union's foreign trade that we must look for the germs of a less glamorous state of affairs," said Dr. Bruwer.

The Union's main export was gold, he said. It continued to be sold at the pre-war price.

The Union's imports (at post-war inflated prices) rose in value from £98,000,000 in 1946 to £354,000,000 in 1948. Exports in merchandise, on the other hand, were only to the value of

£134,000,000 in 1948. In 1938 the Union sold gold for £35,000,000. In 1948 the figure was £99,000,000. The Union had to draw on its wartime gold reserves. It had also to introduce import control.

"If the Union had had an enlightened economic outlook and had demanded an adjustment in the price of gold it could have had a favourable balance of trade," the speaker continued.

The present policy of economic restrictionism applied not only in the sphere of import control, but extended also to the curtailment of credit. It was on the appeal of the Government that the banks began to curtail credit for non-productive and non-essential industries.

BRITISH CAPITAL

The quantity of money in circulation rose from £99,000,000 in 1938 to over £421,000,000 in 1947 and then declined to £313,000,000 in 1948. This would have been much more pronounced if not for the flow of British capital to the country.

In January alone of this year, the amount of money in circulation declined by over £16,000,000. "Economic rot has set in."

Dr. Bruwer went on: "South Africa refuses to admit that after every war the only safety valve for the economy is a higher price and wage level than before the war. The theory of disinflation, 'little recessions' is a fallacy."

"We need economic tailors, not economic surgeons," he said, explaining that the post-war economic body was larger than the pre-war body. It was bursting at the seams for development. The body should not be cut in an effort to reduce its size, but a new covering should be tailored for it.

GOLD PRICE

"It is absurd that the price of gold should remain the same as it was before the war. We have steered ourselves according to the big stick of the United States. This restrictive policy holds South Africa in a stranglehold."

There was a great market for gold in the East, Dr. Bruwer said. It was a tragedy that the two leading countries in the world continued to make South Africa produce her life blood, gold, at an uneconomic cost.

"We can only solve our problems by practically doubling the price of gold," he concluded.

Klerksdorp Location

KLERKSDORP.—The African people of Klerksdorp are protesting against the Council's plan for a new location, miles away from the town, where the rents will be much higher.

The people are suspicious that certain town councillors have a financial interest in the speedy establishment of the township.

A NEW CHAPTER

JOHANNESBURG.—Afrikaans teachers' organisations are jubilant at the election to the Transvaal Provincial Council of a large number of their members who will help carry through the programme of Christian-National Education.

"Now begins a new chapter in the history of education in the Transvaal," says the journal.

THEY DON'T WORK

"BOTH Red and Louwvoet have been Fiascos!" Dr. A. J. Bruwer, leading South African economist,

Tvl. Congress Adopts Non-co-operation Plan

JOHANNESBURG. The Transvaal African Congress has adopted the programme of action, calling for the use of the weapons of the boycott, strike, civil disobedience and non-co-operation in the African liberation struggle, during the annual conference of the African National Congress in Bloemfontein last December.

The programme was referred to the provinces, and the Transvaal is the first to recommend its adoption.

The programme claims the right of the African to be represented in all the governing bodies of the country. It aims at the establishment of a single African political organisation.

MENACE TO AFRICANS

The Transvaal's special provincial conference resolved, after having studied the carrying out

of the policy of apartheid by legislative and administrative actions of the Malan Government, that it was a menace to the future of the Africans. It resolved to intensify the struggle for the recognition of African trade unions, and compulsory education for all citizens of the Union.

It demanded from the Government "better wages, houses, land, health and living conditions."

The conference was attended by 150 delegates from 52 Congress branches.

PRETORIA.

Over three hundred people at a meeting at Riverside last Sunday adopted a resolution supporting the united front of Non-Europeans against racialism and discrimination.

A resolution condemning apartheid was also adopted.

Mr. Nana Sita spoke on behalf of the Transvaal Indian Congress.

Nat. Miners Want Urban Workers' Party

(By Our Political Correspondent)

In Johannesburg the general secretary of the miners' union, Mr. D. E. Ellis, is a man fostered by the Nationalist, who owes his political position to them. His group's revolt focuses sharp attention on the Afrikaans workers' growing apprehension and restlessness at Nationalist-Government policies towards the working class.

A leading article in the union's official journal, *The Mine Worker*, says that at the root of the proposal for a new party "lies disappointment—disappointment bordering on exasperation at certain Ministerial actions, or lack of action."

The Nats. are struggling with the problem of how to keep this rebellious group in tow. To address the miners' General Council came Nationalist Party labour and trade union expert, M.P. for Randfontein, Dr. Albert Hertog.

Clearly worried by these developments, Hertog warned in his speech that the catastrophes of 1922, when the workers were estranged from the rest of the "vols," should not be repeated. The bond of friendship between the miners and the Afrikaner volk should be maintained, he said. The Afrikaner was the greatest friend of the mine worker.

(Continued in next column)

The new Nationalist workers' party threatens to jeopardise the Nationalist chances in the risky Mayfair by-election, for the new party will contest provincial, municipal and parliamentary seats, and Mayfair might well be the first fight they embark on to test the urban workers' support for their move.

Another sharp pointer to the growing anti-Government outburst against Malan's labour policies, is a recommendation of the miners' secretary for a special strike fund of £250,000, "in the event of a clash with the Chamber of Mines."

Asked about the aims of the new party, should the plans to set it up go through, Mr. Ellis told *The Guardian* it would "further the aims of the working class."

"The need for a new party was 'general talk' in the trade union movement, he said. The Labour Party was finished. The gap had to be filled. Neither of the two bigger parties consistently guarded the interests of the workers. When the United Party or the Nationalist Party was in opposition, they spoke for the workers, but when in power, they just passed the buck to the new opposition.

Travellers Want Better Roads

JOHANNESBURG.

The National Union of Commercial Travellers has protested strongly to the Minister of Transport against the cut of £2,000,000 in the allocations for road purposes.

"Many years ago," says their letter to the Minister, "motorists in this country were encouraged to believe that a five-year plan for the building of 5,000 miles of National roads would be introduced, and they willingly consented to an additional tax on petrol which was to be diverted to a Roads Fund."

"This tax and many similar taxes have now been paid for some 14 years and not only have the 5,000 miles of National roads not yet materialised, but this important work will now be still further hampered by a cut of £2,000,000 in the financial allocations for roads."

DISSATISFIED

"Members of my union are highly dissatisfied with the existing state of the roads in many parts of the country and we feel that any further restrictions of road building activity will have disastrous effects upon the safety of our members and other motorists, who use roads in a deplorable state of disrepair."

The union asks the Minister to meet a deputation to discuss the matter.

HAD TO PAY DOUBLE FARE

Incident At Doornfontein

JOHANNESBURG.—A Coloured family went to the Doornfontein station where one of the women joined the long queue of Africans before the ticket window.

Three trains passed by and still the European attendants in the ticket office did not attend to the queue. The African girl at the head of the queue kept tapping at the window for attention, but there was no response.

Eventually the Coloured woman left the window and her family walked along the platform intending to catch the train and pay for their tickets on it.

As they walked along the platform an African policeman stopped the woman's husband and insisted he go back under escort to the ticket window. When he finally arrived there one of the Europeans asked him why he had called him an O.B.

The man denied that he had. A police van was called. Witnesses appeared. And after a long while the family was told it could leave and the police van drove off.

Meanwhile the queue had been standing there for almost two hours, many trains had already pulled out, and those who caught the trains in desperation had to pay the cash fare which is almost double the ticket price.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper. THIRTEENTH YEAR, No. 12. THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1949.

Price 1d.

S.AFRICA STUNNED BY RAIL CRASH

An enormous crowd waited for hours below the track while the rescue crews toiled to free the men, women and children trapped in the coaches.



Mass Funeral of Victims

(From RUTH FIRST)

THE Reef is still stunned by the tragic Orlando train disaster, the worst rail accident in the Union's history. Sixty-eight Africans, Coloureds and Indians lost their lives, among them 20 school children. Two Europeans, the driver and the guard of one of the trains, also died.

The catastrophe has plunged many families into mourning and has focused attention on the state of the railways, especially the Non-European in the outlying areas are exposed on the old transport system. The accident has thrown electric passenger trains travelling towards the city on the Midland line into chaos. The last Thursday, when the coaches were crowded with men and women and children, the train was travelling to school in the centre of the city, brought to a stop at the signal outside New Canada, just after Orlando, and derailed. The train was carrying 100 passengers, many of them high school children, and many of the second train and passengers were killed.

RELIEF FUND

JOHANNESBURG.—The Mayor of Johannesburg has opened a Relief Fund for victims of the Orlando train accident. Contributions should be sent to the Relief Fund.

THREAT AGAINST DADOO?

JOHANNESBURG. "If Dr. Dadoo is to be stupid enough to return to South Africa he must know that he will be the target of an editorial in 'The Traveller', commenting on the London transport strike, and a train against Dr. Malan."

The accident completely disrupted the transport system of Orlando and adjoining areas and the rescue crews worked through the night to free the trapped passengers. The afternoon of the following day the rescue work was still in progress. Many workers had to walk home on the Thursday night, and the rescue work continued for early hours of the morning. (See Casualty List on page 6.)

JOHANNESBURG.—According to the Medical Graduate Association of the Witwatersrand University, the bodies of the victims of the Orlando train accident are being kept in the hospital at Johannesburg for identification.

TRAIN SMASH VICTIMS

JOHANNESBURG.—Sixty-eight people died in the Orlando train smash last Thursday the worst railway accident in the Union's history.

These are the names of the 59 persons whose bodies were identified at the time of going to press: Anderson Gambi, African, 35 years; Ernest Nyandeni, African, 30 years; Sheila von Willing, Coloured, 19 years; Abdul Samad Motale, Indian, 14 years; Ismail Ibrahim, Indian, 18 years; Clifford Wigglesworth, Coloured, 13 years; Leonard Minnaar, Coloured, 18 years; Frank Sams, Coloured, 18 years; James Kinsman, 12 years; Joyce Kamp, 16 years; Dorothy Wera, Coloured, 15 years; Fred et, African, 25 years; Yousup a Loonat, Indian, 16 years; h Banane, African, 30 years; Maxwell Johannes Brown, 41 years; Bessie Mabuse, 32 years; Wallace Thompson, 9 years; Ebrahim Mla, Indian, 16 years; Gavin Mams, Coloured, 12 years; Ray Miller, Coloured, 45 years; the Keller, Coloured, 19 years; Mium Allie, Indian, 14 years; Ahmed Amin, Indian, 9 years; Abel Petrus, Coloured, 33 years; Ehan Gumedede, African, 40 years; Larina Pretorius, Coloured, 42 years; Edward Basties, Coloured, 48 years; Johanna Elizabeth Mohamedeen, Coloured, 33 years; Catherine Fick, Coloured, 50 years; Eugene Langefeld, Coloured, 20 years; Adam Henry Adams, Coloured, 45 years; Minnie Petrus, Coloured, 49 years; Lazarus Noku, African, 60 years; Elizabeth Roberts, Coloured, 49 years; Tullip Benjamin, Malay, 45 years; Lena Martin, Coloured, 71 years; Richard Cornelius, Coloured, 14 years.

Freddie Andrea van Niekerk, Coloured, 15 years; Timothy Augustus Adams, Coloured, 13 years; Petrus Nkupane, African, 28 years; Andrew du Preez, Coloured; Dime Sampson, Coloured, 35 years; Shirewa Ebrahim Ally, Indian, 16 years; Jennifer Jeanette van der Blank, Coloured, 14 years; Angelina Longmax, Coloured, 16 years; Abdul Samad Surtee, Indian, 14 years; Violet Minnaar, Indian, 27 years; Allybhai Moosa Gange, Indian, 16 years; Ledie Radebe, African, 51 years; Peter Daniel van Niekerk, Coloured, 17 years; Gerrit Philagand, Coloured, 16 years; Adolph Daniels, Coloured, 22 years; James Misselbrook, Coloured, 18 years; Dawood Ebrahim, Indian, 13 years; Gulian H. Ebrahim Laher, Indian, 11 years; Jimmy Hika, African, 34 years; Beo Kinsman, Coloured, 17 years; Minnie Johannes Petrus, Coloured, 13 years; Martha Zwane, African, 31 years; Elias Nkosi, African, aged 35; Benjamin Mtsiane, African, aged 65; Philemon Phakone, African, aged 58; Esther Moloi, African, aged 35; Norensi Kolo, African, aged 70; Fred Vellie, African, aged 22; Johnny Johnson, Coloured, aged 46; also J. A. Marais and G. Fick, train driver and guardsman.

UNEMPLOYED

JOHANNESBURG.—The unemployed in the Union increased by 311 to 11,011 during March, according to the figures published by the Department of Labour.

Applications for employment during March increased by 340 to 7,254.

Support For Sam Kahn

JOHANNESBURG. — African flat workers, angry at the ban on Sam Kahn's Johannesburg meetings, collected £1 7s. 6d. among themselves and brought it into the offices of the Communist Party last week. They pledged their support for the party's work, he said.

INDIANS FACE NEW RESTRICTIONS

Travel Facilities Hindered

JOHANNESBURG.

GRADUALLY the Government is tightening up its travel and freedom of movement restrictions on Indian citizens in the Union.

The refusal of the Dadoo and Naicker passports made world history. But each week the freedom of travel of lesser known Indians is being revoked.

Previously if Indians wished to travel to India on holiday or business visits they applied to the Department of Immigration and Identity, which were issued without delay, generally on the spot in the Department's offices.

CONSIDERABLE DELAY

No certificates of identity are today issued without considerable delay. The reason is that each application must go direct to the

Secretary for the Interior, Dr. Donges' department.

Many people, having applied weeks ago for certificates, have heard nothing. Police reports on them have still to go through as no certificates are issued today without thorough police scrutiny.

Recently an Indian who wanted to go on holiday to Madagascar where his family is living, was refused a passport.

Pilgrims wanting to go to Mecca get no travel documents without police reports. This is unusual as previously pilgrims were given every facility to leave and return to the country.

PROTEST AT MAY DAY BAN

JOHANNESBURG.

IT is Durban today. Tomorrow it will be the whole country," said Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, referring to the banning of the May Day celebrations in Durban last week-end.

The May Day meeting organised by the Council passed a unanimous resolution of protest at the banning of the Durban meeting, and the use of the Riotous Assemblies Act by the Minister of Justice to stop these gatherings.

On this May Day our answer to the Government must be 'Hands off the trade unions!' said a resolution at the May Day meeting in the Selborne Hall on

Sunday, organised by the United May Day Committee.

"We reject the principle of apartheid as a weapon of the ruling class against the unity of workers," reads another resolution.

The meeting supported the Trades and Labour Council in its demand that workers have the full right to manage their own trade unions.

"So long as we are divided on lines of colour and fight one another, we will not be strong enough to fight the common enemy," warned Mr. Danie du Plessis.

Other speakers included Mr. E. S. Sachs, Mr. R. Hamilton and Miss Hilda Watts, who, referring to the 1949 decision to have two separate May Day demonstrations, said that apartheid had crept into this meeting.

"Appeasement of reaction, even in our ranks, will get us nowhere," she said.



Students at the University of the Witwatersrand met to protest one lunch hour last week against the Government's decision to abolish bursaries for African students at the Medical School.



WITS. ANGERED BY GOVT.'S MEANNESS

"To Serve Our Fatherland"

JOHANNESBURG—Die Kerkbode, welcoming the appointment of the commission to investigate native education, says that five of the seven members of the commission are members of the Dutch Reformed Church.

The commission, it feels sure, will work out an education policy for Africans which "will take into account the particular characteristics and disposition of each of the groups, and allocate to it the specific domain and living room (lewenruimte) that is calculated to serve our fatherland in the best way."

Students Will Pay To Train African Doctors

(From RUTH FIRST)

ANGRY at the Government's decision to abolish bursaries for African students at their medical school, students at the University of the Witwatersrand will, within the next few weeks, make plans for a special trust fund to enable African doctors to continue their training.

At a protest meeting called on the steps of the University last week by the Students' Liberal Association, Mr. S. Brenner said the abolition of the medical scholarships might mean the abolition of professional training for Africans in the field of medicine.

NIGGARDLY

The Government, he said, was introducing apartheid in this way in a niggardly and mean manner. There was talk of a separate medical school for Non-Europeans at Durban. But this plan seemed still to be on paper. The building for the school was still being used for storing juke bags. What could it be but a warehouse?

"The institution of a medical school can't be done in a flash. It takes years of planning," said Mr. Brenner.

"To restrict the entry of Non-Europeans into this University, an Act of Parliament must amend the University Statute," Mr. Brenner said. Not wishing to proceed this way, the Government was resorting to the insidious

method of introducing administrative measures to bring about apartheid at the university.

"I am prepared to predict that we will see further schemes to restrict Non-Europeans to this University," he said.

COUNTRY'S NEED

The country required 10,000 doctors. At present it had about 3,000. The cost of keeping five African students at the medical school for five years was only 66.50.

Mr. D. O. Cindi, an African medical student, told the meeting that this move of the Government had been anticipated. When in 1941 Africans were admitted to the University the opposition in Parliament had come from the group that now formed the Government and laid down the country's national policies.

At subsequent student meetings called by the Students' Representative Council, plans for inviting students at the rate of 10s. a year, to be added to their annual fees, were outlined.

The resolution approving this in principle was passed by an overwhelming majority, only a small if noisy minority voting against.

The issue on which students were voting, the proposer of the resolution said in summing up, was whether students were in favour of or against apartheid. Their answer, reflected in the voting, was clear. They rejected apartheid.



A mannequin parade of South African merchandise under the slogan "Made in South Africa — and Proud of it!" campaign being run by a leading Johannesburg department store.

"MADE IN S. AFRICA — AND PROUD OF IT"

JOHANNESBURG.

LAUNCHING a great display of South African merchandise under the slogan "Made in South Africa — and Proud of it!" the managing director of a leading Johannesburg store hinted at the need for industrialists to co-operate with the Government in the present set-up "in the best interests of South Africa".

"The economic circumstances in which South Africa now finds itself must not be a part of the political arena," said this leading businessman.

"We are going through the kind of crisis which demands wholehearted co-operation from industry, commerce and from the buying public. The economic health of the country is the main consideration now; and in our own interests we must energetically pursue what is in the best interests of South Africa."

There has been no comment from industry on this outlook thus far.

PROGRESSIVE FUTURE

The managing director of this store, a public company with funds totalling more than £4,000,000 and owning freehold sites estimated at over £5,000,000, thought South Africa was "on the threshold of a progressive future."

"Our market is Pan Africa," he told the Press conference assembled at the opening of the "South Africa Can Make It" exhibition.

"There is no reason why all South African manufacturers should not expand with an eye to this market," he recommended the formation of a Bureau of Research and Investigation by South African industry, to study the requirements of the African continent.

The largest range of South African products ever displayed

together makes up the exhibition to be featured by this store during May. The products include knitting wool and worsted materials, the first to be processed from raw wool in the Union; locally-made batteries and electric globes, the import of both of which is now prohibited; a wide range of canned foods; pipes, of which one Johannesburg factory produces half a million a year; kitchenware, one of the Union's products now being exported to other countries; paper products and glassware; women's clothes and furniture; suitcases and travel goods and cosmetics.

Sympathy With Victims Of Train Disaster

JOHANNESBURG.

The Johannesburg District of the Communist Party of South Africa, in a Press statement, expresses its deep and sincere sympathy with those who suffered in the recent Orlando train disaster.

"The minds of the African and other Non-European people have been deeply stirred by this tragedy, following as it does close upon the collision of a bus with a train at the level crossing on the road from Moroka to Jabavu," the statement continues.

"In such circumstances it is natural that the whole problem of transport to the densely-populated segregated areas in which the Non-Europeans live, be reviewed and discussed."

Segregation has invariably meant that Non-European workers are shifted to places far from their work, and these crowded locations provide a heavy drain upon transport facilities, the statement points out, calling upon the authorities to provide far more adequate transport for the people of Orlando, Pinville, Noordgesig, Moroka, Jabavu and other nearby areas, including a municipal bus service. The statement also demands that the dangerous level crossing on the Potchefstroom Road be done away with.

The Congress Youth League of South Africa, in a statement, extends the heartfelt condolence of the African youth of South Africa to the bereaved families and wounded victims of the calamity. The national working committee of the League calls for an immediate inquiry which will include Africans, Coloureds and Indians in its personnel, and ask South Leagueurs to support relief funds and all relief measures on behalf of the victims of the train disaster.



Five members of the Swazi National Council among them (seated extreme left) the Private Secretary to the Paramount Chief Sobhuza II.

WILL OPPOSE INCORPORATION

Swazi Councillors Perturbed At Malan's Statement

JOHANNESBURG.

THE three Protectorates, Swaziland, Basutoland and Bechuanaland, should work together in their opposition to the Union's incorporation demand, five members of the Swazi National Council told The Guardian in an interview recently.

With the Swazi Paramount Chief, these Councillors were in Johannesburg for a while. They were greatly perturbed, they said, to read in the Union's newspapers about Malan's repeated demand for Swaziland.

A few days ago the Prime Minister had written to the Ermelo Development Committee that the matter was "receiving continued attention."

The paramount Chief's private secretary said that in his own opinion the Swazi nation was totally against incorporation.

"FREEDOM FIRST"

"The African people of the Union must first be given their freedom," he said, "before the Union can attract outsiders."

Incorporation without Swazi

consent "would be a frightful position," he said.

The Swazi were totally against the repressive colour policies of the Union Government. In the Protectorate their Council was recognised and even listened to. All this would vanish if they were brought into the Union.

In Swaziland the people had not been told anything about the Union's demands. The people were greatly concerned that the British Government would discuss the matter without consulting them. Britain had promised that this would not be done. "Britain will go against the law and will damage her prestige in our eyes and those of the world if she does not consult us," said the members of the National Council.

Non-Europeans Forbidden To Go Overseas

—SCHOEMAN

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Government was not prepared to allow Non-Europeans to attend conferences overseas, said the Minister of Labour, Mr. B. J. Schoeman, in the Senate last week.

"I think it is wrong," he said. "Our conditions in South Africa are such that we cannot."

"I think it is unfair to the Non-European himself to allow him to go overseas, especially in a country where there is no colour bar and no discrimination, to attend a conference there and then have him come back to our conditions here."

"While there is a Nationalist Government I don't think that will be permitted."

PROTEST

Commenting on the Minister's statement, Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, told The Guardian:

"We must protest against this new threat to further restrict the movement of the Non-European people."

The Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions was affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions, he said, and had received an invitation to participate in its Milan Congress later this year.

"How will international bodies view this wide ban?" Mr. Marks wondered.

This move was in line with the Malan Government's anti-democratic policies, he said. The Government was obviously prepared to take all possible steps to prevent the case of the Non-European people from being voiced to the world.

INDIA WILL NOT DROP CHARGE AGAINST S.A.

—CACHALIA

No Hope Of Truce In Trade War

JOHANNESBURG.

THE news from London that the Union and India might arrive at a truce in their trade war as a result of talks between Pandit Nehru, Liaquat Ali Khan and Dr. Malan was described by Mr. Y. Cachalia, secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, as "richful thinking".

Mr. Cachalia said the policy of the government of India on the South African Indian question had always been very clear. As recently as March 23, he told The Guardian, Pandit Nehru had said that unless the issue of racial inequality typified by the treatment of Indians in South Africa was satisfactorily solved, "conflict on a big scale" might ensue. The treatment of Indians in South Africa he added was "a continuous challenge to the self-respect of a vast number of people in the world and they will not put up with it."

NEW PROBLEM

Dr. Malan's visit overseas "must have broadened" his mind considerably," Mr. Cachalia thought. His stand on the Commonwealth had completely

changed. "Now the Indian policy of the Nationalist Party has become a problem for Dr. Malan."

"The next move in resolving deadlock with India lies with Dr. Malan."

Mr. Cachalia recalled that the governments of India and Pakistan, in favouring a Round Table Conference on the South African Indian question, had always insisted it be on the basis of the removal of the Ghetto Act and anti-Indian laws.

Mr. Cachalia thought further that the Communist bogey, unscrupulously used by the Union Government, would not influence India in any way, as it was well known that the Union Government used this bogey as a smoke-screen behind which to attack the legitimate struggles of the Non-European peoples of this country.

N.U.D.W. SUBMITS NEW PROPOSALS

MINIMUM WAGE SCALES

JOHANNESBURG.

THE National Union of Distributive Workers has submitted proposals for a new agreement to over 1,000 employers in the trade in all the major centres of the Union.

The present agreements are due to expire in November of this year.

The minimum wage scale for male shop assistants should vary from £9 a month in the first year to £14 after the eighth; for women £9 a month in the first year to £13 12s. 6d. after the fifth; labourers under 18 should get £1 13s. 6d. a week and those over 18 £2 8s. 6d. a week, the union suggests.

TRADE UNION FACILITIES

A clause on organisational facilities proposes that an employer

shall grant to the union organisational facilities by admitting union representatives to the premises not more than twice a month during the lunch hour and tea intervals.

A clause prohibits intimidation of the workers and recognises the union as the body authorised to make representations on behalf of the workers eligible to belong to the union.

A compulsory training scheme under the guidance of the union and employers' organisations should be established, the proposals suggest.

S.A. Alarmed by Proposed Book Ban

"Will Do Immeasurable Harm"

JOHANNESBURG.

THE proposed total ban on the importation of all books except technical and educational books prescribed by schools and colleges, has aroused the greatest misgivings amongst the general public.

"As soon as there is a limitation on books, which is tantamount to censorship, there will be mental stagnation," says a statement issued by the Associated Booksellers of South Africa.

"The economic savings envisaged are out of all proportion to the immeasurable harm that this cultural ban will effect."

"Books are treated as a luxury commodity and not as a necessity. This view is understandable in a primitive community, but in a progressive country such as South Africa, isolated by thousands of miles from contact with the outside world, it is of vital importance that the flow of books of all kinds should be encouraged."

UNBELIEVABLE

Mr. H. B. Timmins, a publisher's representative, said the ban was hardly believable.

"It will mean that every bookseller in the country will have to close, bringing unemployment to thousands of South Africans," he said.

"I believe I am right in saying that books are the only commodity that is not taxed in any country of standing."

Mr. D. H. Varley, Chief Librarian of the South African Public Library, said that if the threatened ban were put into effect for any length of time, it would have the same effect as a stringent literary censorship. The reported intention to limit

together all books other than prescribed text and technical books as non-educational was a view admitted in no civilised country today, whatever its economic difficulties.

A SIN

"It is a sin against the light to prevent the people of a nation from being kept in touch with books as they are issued," said Mr. J. L. Hodson, novelist and member of the management committee of the British Society of Authors, who is in South Africa in connection with a film on the Great Trek.

Books were the real ambassadors of the world. In Britain a war to keep books free of purchase tax.

NO STATEMENT

No public statement has yet been made on the ban, but the Booksellers' Association was told last week that, after July 1, no funds would be allocated for the importation of books other than minimum requirements of prescribed text books for educational establishments.

In the House of Assembly the Acting Minister of Economic Affairs, Dr. Dönges, said everything would be done to cushion the effect of import control on the entry of essential books from overseas. But as the Cape Times remarked in a leader entitled "Cultural Savagery", who is going to decide which books are essen-

tial and which are not? The paper hoped the Government would be adult enough not to make the attempt.

HONOUR FOR S.A. ARTIST

JOHANNESBURG.

Judith Gluckman, the young South African woman artist, had three of her pictures selected by the Women's International Democratic Federation for the great exhibition organised at the Paris World Congress for Peace.

Miss Gluckman was the only South African artist exhibiting, and her work appeared alongside the paintings of such artists as Picasso, Matisse, Crome and Diego Rivera.

A FINE GESTURE

JOHANNESBURG.

STUDENTS of the Witwatersrand University have agreed, by an overwhelming majority, to levy themselves 10s. a year to help continue the bursaries for African medical students, for which the Malan Government recently announced were to be abolished.

A public fund will also be launched for this new trust fund.

African Blind Seem "Past The Help of Man"

Malan's Message To London Students

LONDON.

African students from the Union, now studying in London, had an interview with Dr. Malan's private secretary when the Prime Minister was in Britain for the Commonwealth Conference.

The Prime Minister's secretary, in his reply, is reported to have advised the students that the Government "is on its way to establish a better educational scheme for the African, under separate conditions—not only education but other trades, so that the Africans may develop along their own lines, but this plan would take time and people were becoming impatient in not realising this."

Appalling Conditions In Sekukuniland

JOHANNESBURG.

A GRIM picture of the spread of blindness among the people of Sekukuniland, the Transvaal's north-eastern Reserve, is painted by the report of the South African National Council for the Blind, which recently conducted an ophthalmological survey there.

Next to tuberculosis, blindness was becoming the most serious menace to African health, the chairman of the Blind Council said last week. He added that the incidence of blindness seemed to be closely linked with malnutrition.

In the Council's Sekukuniland survey, doctors examined as many cases as possible at widely separated centres in the area.

WILL BE BLIND SOON

In the Schoonoord area, of 46 cases examined, 37 had eye disease. "A high percentage of the cases requiring treatment will be blind if not treated at an early date," is the comment.

In the Matlala centre 83 cases were examined. Seventy-six had eye disease. At Moolfontein of 118 cases examined, 106 had eye disease.

At the "best area" visited, Mebo, 82 cases of 154 had eye disease. "It was interesting to note that from an agricultural point of view this area was also far better than others," comments the survey report.

At Magalies 132 of 139 cases examined had eye disease.

"Nearly all the miserable collection of Natives seen at this centre suffered from eye disease."

"The ravages of syphilis were obvious, as numbers came forward with no noses, or other unmistakable signs of the disease."

NO SPIRIT

"There seems to be no spirit in these people and they just do not seem to care. They just herd together like aimless, tired, sick animals. They appear to have lost all interest in themselves and their surroundings."

"The surrounding area is bare, fields are almost completely eroded with stunted crops and sand wastes. There appears to be very little water and whether many of them would walk a few yards to obtain it, unless driven by thirst, is hard to imagine."

"In a group the number we saw looked like the very lowest dregs of humanity, past the help of man. The most tragic are the blind children with no hope or aim, for they are considered total burdens by their parents. No jobs for the girls and no revenue from the sons perhaps influence this attitude."

THE WORST CENTRE

The Mholaise area, the report comments, "is the worst centre so far come across in the Union for blindness and serious eye diseases."

"A normal eye among the cases examined was the exception . . ."

"Often it is a case of husband and wife with a child on her back, all blind, led by another with a minimum of sight in one eye."

"Is it just coincidence that this area is the worst from the point of view of agriculture too?"

Discussing the need to tackle the problem, the Council's report says the existing machinery is absolutely inadequate to cope with so vast a problem. "To stem disaster, firm steps and adequate capital are required before real progress can be achieved."

Among the steps suggested are the speeding up of soil and water conservation work, better African education, mobile eye clinics and better eye treatment facilities, and the general education of the population.

Dönges Let Him In

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister of Interior, Dr. Dönges, has a chance to prove that he was serious when he stated in the House recently that not Communists, but also Fascists and Nazis are not welcome in South Africa.

In Pretoria, publishing a journal containing pictures and glorification of Hitler, is a former Mosleyite, Mr. J. L. Batterby, who wears a swastika in his buttonhole.

He came to the Union from Britain in February of this year. During the war he was interned in Liverpool for three years under Regulation 18b for demanding a negotiated peace with Hitler.

Today he says he is no longer a Mosleyite, but wants to be called a "Christian-Nationalist".

In the first issue of his quarterly magazine he prints a panel of speakers who are available for engagements in the Union. Enquiries should be made, he says, to the Hillierian Centre, Newcastle, Natal.

"Learn the Divine Mission of Hitler, the chosen of God to redeem the world from Mammon," he invites.

His publication supports the Nationalists, praises Pirov,

THEIR HOPES OF HOUSING FADE

Effect Of Govt.'s Policy

JOHANNESBURG.

THE cut in Government housing loans to individuals who want to erect their own homes, and the stoppage of housing schemes for Europeans and Non-Europeans in Vereeniging because of the lack of funds available to the National Commission, were last week's two new blows to the people's housing hopes.

The reduction of State loans from £2,800 to £2,000 will mean that many people will be unable to use the loan at all, an architect told The Guardian.

Smaller homes will have to be built if the loan is to be of any use, but they will in many cases be too small to house a family comfortably.

A family man wanting to build may not borrow more than £2,000. If he builds a home on the 90 per cent plan (and the maximum cost must be £2,400 under the loan scheme), he has still to find an additional £600 - £700 to buy his stand. For the small man, this places a home out of reach.

NO MONEY

The Mayor of Vereeniging reported to his Town Council that he had been told by the National Housing and Planning Commission that the commission was so short of money it could not undertake a single national housing scheme for the next 12 months.

The Commission has applications for 700 individual loans before it.

Among the housing schemes that Vereeniging will have to shelve are those for Non-Europeans in the new location, housing for steelworkers, municipal economic housing schemes, housing for the aged poor and the individual housing loans scheme.

A leading member of an executive organisation told The Guardian that in the Union there were 50,000 people needing accom-

modation. The number able to build for themselves, and thus affected by the restriction in the Government loan, was small, but it was an indication of the very meagre progress in housing, which, even now, was being still further cut down.

T.L.C. LOCAL COMMITTEE

CAPE TOWN.—At a meeting of local trade unions affiliated to the S.A. Trade and Labour Council, 1949, on Tuesday evening, a unanimous resolution was passed to establish a Western Province Local Committee in this area.

The meeting was made necessary following the recent S.A.T.L.C. conference where the old council was dissolved and a new body established.

Mr. E. A. Deane of the Cape Town Furniture Workers' Union, was elected chairman, Mr. E. A. Harper, S.A. Society of Bank Officials, vice-chairman, and Mr. A. P. Jenner, secretary.

to assist the Canadian seamen on strike in every way possible and to ask the National Executive Committee of the S.A.T.L.C. to circularise all National Unions for donations.

The management committee was instructed to call a public meeting to protest against the increased mark-ups for distributive firms, and the freezing of cost of living allowances and wages.

GARMENT WORKERS UP IN ARMS

Minister Won't Publish Their Agreement

JOHANNESBURG.

GARMENT workers are up in arms at the decision of the Minister of Labour not to publish their industry's agreement until after the report of the commission investigating the union.

The union's constitution contains a clause for a closed shop which, the Minister says, "permits of the funds of the union being used to support some political party or other" and forces union members to belong to a party at the threat of the loss of their employment.

"At no time in our history of making collective agreements with our employers have we had a Minister treating the vital interests of over 12,000 workers with such callous indifference," protests the union. "We did not ask the Minister for any favours — we merely asked him to publish an agreement which we and our employers have reached after a great deal of trouble, and which concerns only the employers and workers in the industry who have unanimously endorsed the terms of the agreement."

NO FOUNDATION

The Minister's statements are without foundation, the general secretary of the union said. "No member of our union has yet been or could ever be subjected to disciplinary measures for opposing the assistance rendered by the union to any political party."

"The Minister's reason for not publishing the agreement is so untenable as to warrant our conclusion that he is trying to force our union to delete a provision in our constitution in a most irregular manner — not with a view to giving effect to the provision of any law, but only in pursuance of his vendetta against our union for party political reasons upon which he has acted since his appointment."

continues the union's protest. The union says that it has been built on the loyalty and understanding of its members. It is quite prepared, it offers, to insert in its closed shop clause a provision that members who resign from union membership are not affected.

Once again Mr. E. S. Sacha repeats his offer to the Minister to hold a secret ballot of the union on his post. "If the union votes against me I shall resign the secretaryship of the union immediately. If, on the other hand, the overwhelming majority of the garment workers express confidence in me, the Minister and his friends must undertake to leave our union alone."

May 19

SACHS' PASSPORT WITHDRAWN

Prevented From Attending T.U. Conference In France

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister of the Interior has decided to withdraw the passport issued to Mr. E. S. Sachs, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, who was to have proceeded to France to attend a trade union conference at Lyons.

The passport was issued by the Minister's department only two weeks ago.

The principal immigration officer called at Mr. Sachs' office last Friday to ask him to hand back the passport.

This Mr. Sachs refused to do without a court order.

The South African Trades and

Labour Council has protested strongly to the Minister of the Interior and urged that Mr. Sachs be allowed to proceed to France to attend the international conference of the textile and garment workers as a delegate from his union.

Miss Anna Scheepers, president of the Garment Workers' Union, points out in a letter to the Minister, Dr. T. E. Dönges, that it is essential that Mr. Sachs attend the conference in France.

"I wish to lodge a most emphatic protest against any attempt to interfere with our lawful trade union activities and more particularly at the peculiar (to use a mild term) manner in which the whole matter has been handled by your department," Miss Scheepers says in her letter.

"Our general secretary is a citizen of this country and has the full right to travel freely to any country that will admit him and to serve our union."



This man was sentenced to seven days' hard labour for a minor offence. He was one of a batch of 13 African convicts hired out—without his consent, he said—to a farmer in a Western Transvaal district. From Johannesburg he and the other prisoners were driven to the farm in a van. He bears on his right arm and leg scars from lashings he received while serving his term. He and other convict labourers were struck with belts and punched in the face with fists from the moment they arrived on the farm. One night, unable to stand the treatment, he escaped from the farm a few days before he was to complete his term, and walked through the night back to Johannesburg. On the farm his and the other convicts' shoes had been taken from them to prevent their escape. He came back without these shoes. Thirty three years old, this man has lived in a Johannesburg location for over a third of his life. He has been a mine labourer, factory worker. He is an ex-serviceman. He has a wife and three children. He was originally arrested for breaking a railway regulation by taking a short cut across the line. On this charge he was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment. On a charge of having given a fictitious name, he was acquitted.

Garment Commission Ending

JOHANNESBURG.

Not even 1,300 workers could be found in the industry to vote against the president or general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, Miss Anna Scheepers, president of the union, told the Wolfraad Commission during its proceedings last week.

The fact, she continued, that barely 20 witnesses had come to the Commission to testify against their union showed that there was little dissatisfaction. The workers were not prepared to give "false evidence," she said.

The work of the Commission, after many months, is now drawing to a close.

STRIKE APPEAL

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Trades and Labour Council has appealed to all its affiliated unions for funds to aid the Canadian seamen on strike in Cape Town.

IS THIS APARTHEID?

Nats. Want Africans To Boycott Indians

JOHANNESBURG.

THE apartheid policy of the "pure-white" Malan Government places non-Europeans beyond the pale of civilisation. Yet there is definite evidence that one of the Nationalist Party's offshoots—the S.A. Protection Movement which organises the boycott of Indians—is manoeuvring for African support.

The Protection Movement is holding private meetings to encourage Africans to take part in the boycott against the Indians.

One such meeting was held barely a fortnight ago in Portersburg. Invited to attend were members of the Bantu Methodist and Dutch Reformed Churches, African traders, an African headmaster of a secondary school, even employees of the Native Affairs Department. Also present were the Africans, Domingo and Sebese, of the African National Improvement League, which in the past has had dealings with the Ossewa Brandwag.

Star speaker was the full-time paid organiser of the boycott movement, Mr. N. J. Deacon, who, only a few months back, said at a meeting in Zeerust that although it was desirable that Africans boycott Indians, his organisation would not do anything direct to organise the Africans for this purpose.

"The Indian must be ousted" is the slogan of this campaign. Some sections of the African trading community are receptive to this anti-Indian propaganda.

The Bantu section of the D.R.C. will make a great concession in its work to make African converts, said Die Burger. Couples married under the lobola system will even be accepted into the Church so that the African is not torn too violently from his tribal customs.

Govt. Capitulates To Property Owners

—Springbok Legion

JOHANNESBURG.

YOU have allowed your department to be forced by property owners and agents to de-control certain accommodation, thereby imperilling the whole letting control system in our country," the Springbok Legion has written to the Minister of Housing, criticising the recent decision of the Government to remove from control dwellings rented at £15 a month and over.

The Legion asks the Minister to prevent new money in building, they argued. "But we fail to see how the partial relaxation of letting control can in any way make the building of housing accommodation more attractive to investors, unless we are prepared to accept the view that uncontrolled accommodation could bring in handsome returns through the black market."

FALLACIOUS

At that time property owners were asking for the relaxation of letting control by the imposition of a rental ceiling. The Legion described as fallacious their argument that this would result in the building of more accommodation for those who could afford higher rents.

"For years," they wrote to the Minister, "property owners have agitated for the abolition of rent control, since this control limits the return on their investments."

"Abolition or relaxation of this control would induce the invest-

ABUSES

The abuses of the system were that owners of decontrolled accommodation could demand premiums from tenants, even though the rent would remain the same as that fixed by the board; that flats whose rentals fell below the ceiling could be "furnished" and a higher rental demanded, thereby placing the flat beyond the controller's jurisdiction; and that tenants could agree to pay each month a sum above the rent fixed, confident that exposure would be unlikely.

The Legion admits that some of these practices are common today, "but for the Minister to legalise them would be intolerable."

House-hunters, of whom ex-servicemen still form a considerable proportion, would in desperation pay higher rents to get some accommodation, although they could not really afford to do so, the letter to the Minister points out.

HIGH PROPORTION

"It has probably not escaped the notice of property owners that all accommodation built in the past two years and all likely to be built in the near future will fall above the ceilings proposed. The proportion of decontrolled accommodation on the market—with the dangers of black-marketeering—would be enormous."

The Minister is asked to receive the Legion's arguments in the presence of other interested parties.

Alexandra Workers Batoned By Police

Reasons For Bus Boycott

JOHANNESBURG.

POLICE baton-charged Alexandra Township workers forced to march 9 miles into work last Tuesday, as a protest against their buses being operated on the holiday schedule, although thousands were expected to work.

Police charges took place in the Highlands North main thoroughfare when the flying squad and mounted police intercepted the steady stream of Africans walking the long stretch. Africans fled down side-streets and over fences and gardens to escape their batons.

The incident brought to a head the deep dissatisfaction of the Alexandra people with their inadequate bus service.

The demonstration was completely spontaneous. Some buses were stoned by angry groups.

NUMBER HURT

A number of people are reported to have been hurt. In Alexandra police fired shots into the air to frighten the crowd.

The bus queues formed as usual just after 3.30 a.m. The first buses drove up two hours later. By then thousands were already waiting. It was obvious that the service was quite inadequate and the crowd moved towards the transport company's garages to demand more buses.

At this stage, the company began a frantic search for bus-drivers and conductors.

Ground-nut Scheme A Failure

BRITISH TECHNICIANS DISCUSS WAR PREPARATIONS IN EAST AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG.

THE idea of Britain's White Paper that planned the Tanganyika Ground-nut Scheme was that ultimately the scheme would be handed over to the people. There isn't the slightest sign of that happening — it won't happen in generations," were the comments of a group of technicians who have been working on the scheme, and who passed through South Africa on their way back to Britain recently.

These technicians thought that the link up between the scheme and Britain's defence preparations in Kenya were an answer to many of the developments in East Africa today.

The port being built at Mikindani in Tanganyika's Southern Province would be the biggest port on the east coast when completed, "big enough to hold a whole fleet", they commented. The railway line now being constructed would link the Union with Uganda.

ENGINEERING BASE

McKinnon Road in Kenya was already a huge engineering base, and all the material evacuated from the Middle East had been poured into it.

America's preparations for war on the African continent

were the four-engine-bomber bases in the Congo, and also in Madagascar, it was rumoured.

The groundnut scheme was to produce badly-needed fats for Britain and to raise the level of the African population. The crops had been "puny and pathetic up to the present".

STATUS QUO NOT DISTURBED

Little had been done to raise the standard of living of the African. These men said the scheme did not try to disturb the "status quo". Wages on the groundnut scheme for labourers were 13s. a month, in line with current wage rates.

More and more British supervisors had been brought out, and the tendency was to develop along these lines rather than to train Africans to take on responsible positions.

Little semi-skilled labour had been trained.

Education and social welfare services were lagging far behind. The mass Basic English campaign had been dropped, probably for economy reasons.

Model villages planned existed only on paper.

In two years the plan had not fulfilled its first year's target.

REASONS FOR FAILURES

The first crop of any size was now expected in 1952.

Discussing the reasons for the failures, these technicians talked of inadequate scientific preparations made.

Some of the areas where planting had begun had been found later to have inadequate rainfall. Activities were now to be directed to the southern province where there were far better prospects.

This province also had great mineral possibilities.

Great obstacles had held the scheme up and the expenditure on it would have to be far greater than was at first intended.

The scheme was overloaded with ex-army personnel from India and the Middle East, they said.

Appeal for Mission School

JOHANNESBURG.

Johannesburg's St. Monica's Mission at Kiptown, one of the city's shanty schools struggling against great odds to provide schooling for Non-European children up to Standard IV, appeals for donations of school books and old desks.

Reverend M. Malsko told The Guardian that last year's appeal for assistance had brought in much appreciated help, but the school still needed more.

Donations of books and school equipment should be sent to St. Monica's Mission School, Kiptown, Johannesburg.

NURSES STRIKE

LOVEDALE.

Ninety-five African probationers nurses of the Lovedale Hospital, Alice, went on strike last week.

Only a few nurses have remained on duty.

The strike started, according to a statement from the principal of the institution, after a probationer had been suspended for insubordination.

The hospital authorities are insisting that the nurses return to duty before negotiations for a settlement are opened.

JO'BURG'S HOUSING NEEDS

JOHANNESBURG.

Johannesburg is faced with the expenditure of not less than £22,500,000 for immediate African housing, a Council deputation told the Minister of Native Affairs last month.

The city has decided it will embark on no further African housing schemes until the State shoulders a heavier proportion of financial responsibility.

Govt. Aid For Nat. Union-Busters

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"Thin End Of The Wedge"

—Says Colin Steyn

THE action of the Minister of Labour, Mr. Ben Schoeman, in appointing a one-man commission to investigate the activities of the Garment Workers' Union, following scenes of mob violence on the Rand last week, have aroused widespread misgivings as to the intentions of the Nationalist Government towards the trade unions.

Dr. Colin Steyn, former Minister of Labour in the Smuts Government, told the Guardian in an exclusive interview that the Minister's action was "totally unjustifiable". This, he said, was the "thin end of the wedge of State interference in the internal working of trade unions".

He was wholly opposed to such Government action. He thought this interference should be stopped, and hoped the commission into this union would not be a precedent for further interference.

Minister Schoeman has said, commented Dr. Steyn, that the commission was requested by members of the trade union. "This was a request of only a minority, and as such, not justifiable," he said.

The government further argued that this commission was based on the example of the previous government's commission into the Mineworkers' Union. The difference, Dr. Steyn emphasised, was that the commission into the Miners' Union was based on the consent of the union and its co-operation. This was not so in the case of the Garment Workers' Union.

(Continued on page 3)

Nat. Union-Busters

(Continued from page 1)

This opinion is supported by the secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, Mr. E. S. Sachs.

"We are not the mine workers' union," Mr. Sachs said in an interview with The Guardian. "We are a democratic organisation whose constitution is one of the most democratic in the world. All decisions in our union are made in accordance with the wishes of the majority."

The Minister justified his action in appointing the Commission into the Union by attempts of a small Nat-inspired clique to disrupt a union general meeting a few days before in Johannesburg.

While an hysterical mob outside yelled "send the Jew-Communist Solly Sachs back to Russia," about 2,500 members of the Garment Workers' Union at a meeting in the City Hall last Thursday night passed a vote of full confidence in Mr. Solly Sachs, the general secretary, Miss Anna Scheepers, the president, and the executive committee. Less than 100 voted against the motion.

CITY HALL STORMED

The meeting was called for the Johannesburg No. 1 branch of the union, only. Nevertheless, worked up for days in advance by Mr. G. H. van der Walt, the expelled vice president, Germiston workers, who had been brought in by a special train, stormed the City Hall.

They were stopped by workers barricading the doors. Many were injured in the scuffles that ensued, glass in the doors was splintered, and people's hands and faces were cut by the particles.

The dangerous mood of the crowd outside (by this time the Germiston workers had added many passers-by to their number) was continually being inflamed by violent trades, in the Nazi fashion, delivered by speakers through a public address system. After the motion of confidence had been adopted and numerous telegrams from well-wishers read, including one from loyal workers in Germiston, the meeting was declared closed and the doors to the City Hall opened.

HITLER SALUTE

In streamed the Germiston mob, arms raised in the Hitler salute. Van der Walt was carried shoulder high. He mounted a table on the platform, yelling and gesticulating. In the pandemonium it was impossible to hear him—the loudspeakers had been removed. There was another uproar when the table collapsed under him.

At the request of the police, and of their leaders, the mob went outside, surrounding the van der Walt and Karl Meyer, chairman of the Germiston branch, then proceeded to hold a meeting, during the course of which a motion of no-confidence in Mr. Sachs was passed.

Judging by the voting, there were not more than 300 anti-Sachs garment workers present. The rest of the crowd were loyal members of the union, and passers-by.

The meeting broke up with the adoption of a resolution calling upon the Government to "intervene" in the trade union.

This call was repeated in a leader in Dr. Transvaal, mouthpiece of the Government in the Transvaal, on Saturday, which said: "One wants to express the hope that the Minister of Labour who has personally done so much to settle the difference in the mine workers' union will also give this matter his attention."

Withdraw Draft Proclamation 1890

Wide Protest At New Threat To Africans

CAPE TOWN.

DRAFT proclamation 1890—for "The Financial Protection of Natives"—is causing a deep stir, as its wide and drastic powers to stem African development become clear.

Threatened with a knock-out blow are not only African political and national organisations and African trade unions, but also—and this is now beginning to dawn on the country—sports bodies and cultural societies, independent churches, and night and "self-help" schools among the Africans.

More than these—benefit and mutual aid societies, private nursery schools, youth clubs, and burial societies—in fact any organisation whatsoever which collects money, in the form of subscriptions or donations, from Africans.

The Guardian understands that, following representations by the Trades and Labour Council secretary, the Secretary for Labour has promised to take the matter up with the Department of Native Affairs. The SATLC has received protests against the proclamation from many affiliated organisations.

"If this draft proclamation becomes law it will have far-reaching repercussions not only on unregistered, but also on registered unions and industrial council and conciliation board agreements," said Mr. A. G. Forsyth, SATLC secretary, in an interview with The Guardian.

NO INTERFERENCE

He pointed out that this draft proclamation came after the Minister of Labour's assurance to a deputation from the Council that African trade unions would not be interfered with until a thorough investigation had been made.

"This strikes at fundamental principles of trade unionism," Mr. Forsyth concluded, "and if it becomes law will cause serious embarrassment apart from grave discontent."

All affiliated unions have been circumspect about the matter. The Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions is conducting a campaign to enlighten members on the implications of the draft proclamation. The campaign will culminate in a mass rally on the Market Square, Newtown.

[Native Affairs Department opposing the placing of the proclamation on the Statute Book.

"This new law will affect adversely all amateur sporting organisations run by Africans, and we are asking all the affiliated organisations of the Bantu Sports Club, the J.A.F.A., the Transvaal A.F.A. and the S.A.A.F.A. and the War Dance sections to send in protest resolutions," Mr. D. R. Twala, Manager of the Bantu Sports Club, told The Guardian.

C.P. STATEMENT

The proclamation is framed ostensibly for the purpose of protecting Africans against financial sharks and swindlers, but in reality threatens all endeavours to African self-improvement and progress, says a Communist Party central committee Press statement on the proclamation.

"We refuse to believe that the draft proclamation is the result of clumsy wording by an incompetent official. We are convinced it has been formulated in pursuance of the policy of apartheid, a policy of oppression, suppression, humiliation and exploitation of the African people, and of preventing them from organising themselves to improve their economic, social and political conditions."

General secretary of the Communist Party, Moses Kotane, in protesting to the Minister of Native Affairs, demanded the immediate withdrawal of the proclamation.

CHURCHES TOO

The churches are also vitally affected, there being between 500 and 600 Native separatist (unregistered) churches, a fact that is known to the Native Affairs Department, the Reverend E. E. Mahabane, secretary of the Temperance and Social Welfare Department of the Methodist Church, told The Guardian.

Not only churches, but community private schools, African benefit and mutual aid societies, private nursery schools, etc., are all brought under control by this draft proclamation, the Reverend Mr. Mahabane pointed out, adding that the majority of the people running these organisations were probably unaware of the proclamation.

"There should be a thorough investigation of the position before the Minister puts this measure into force," he added.

SPORTS BODIES

Officials of football and other sporting organisations in Johannesburg, at a meeting to discuss the draft proclamation, decided to organise meetings of protest and to send resolutions to the

JO'BURG'S "SLAVE MARKET"

Arrested Men "Persuaded" To Take Farm Work

(From RUTH FIRST)

JOHANNESBURG. DR. JANSEN, Minister of Native Affairs, talks about setting up labour bureaux, Africans call them slave markets.

A new phrase has been coined by Africans this year. A man arrested for a pass offence who is sent to work on a farm will tell you: "I was sold to a farmer at the jail", or the court.

Reports from all over the country received by The Guardian show that today the pass offices and the courts are becoming part of a huge organisation for forcing African workers out of the towns and on to the farms. A vast new recruiting agency for farmers is being set up.

At the Native Commissioner's Court in Fordsburg hundreds of Africans are charged each day with pass offences. Only a handful manage to evade conviction, which means prison or hard labour on the farms, because most cannot pay their fines.

Lining the streets outside this court can be seen cars and lorries with an assortment of plateland number plates. From the maize and potato belts come the farmers looking for cheap labour.

In a shed near the court, as they wait, Africans are pressed to accept farm work.

POLICE RAIDS

Early each morning the pick-up vans drive up. They bring the men—and some women—picked up by the police raids the night before, men arrested for different kinds of pass offences, from being out ten minutes after curfew time, to entering the area illegally in search of work.

Each man is given a number, his particulars are recorded. About two hours later the accused are addressed by some official.

No outsider is then allowed within hearing distance of the shed.

The prisoners, none of whom have yet appeared before the court, let alone been found guilty, are told about the attractions of work on farms. For over an hour they hear about "free quarters, free clothes and food". They are offered a six-month contract at the rate of £2 to £2 10s. a month.

IF THEY ACCEPT WORK, THEY ARE TOLD, THE CHARGES AGAINST THEM WILL BE WITHDRAWN.

THE ALTERNATIVE

A further bait is the belief that when they have finished their contracts they will be allowed six days in the city to find work and become registered.

The alternative for the prisoners is obvious, as they have no money to pay fines. They are liable to heavy fines, conviction for weeks or months under Section 29 of the Urban Areas Act—even three years in a work colony.

Some fall in with the plan. Perhaps 20 will sign contracts one day, 40 the next. But the vast majority will spend a few weeks doing hard labour in prison.

And even then they may end up on a farm, under the convict labour system being used more and more in the farming areas which experience labour difficulties.

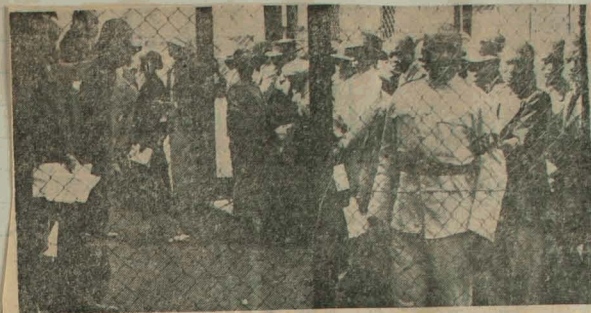
IN COURT

The negotiations in the shed over, the men are marshalled into line and move slowly from a series of wired cages into the court room dock. They wait in the open for hours till their turn comes.

On mornings when the roll is heavy—and when is it not?—the clerk of the court and the prosecutor get worried. Two hundred and sixty-two cases to be heard, and it is usual for the court to sit only a few hours.

"262-263 cases," mutters the clerk of the court, striding up and down. He turns to an African constable: "We'll have to do one a minute."

One after another the cases are brought forward. Some take 60 seconds. Then there is a youngster (Continued on page 6)



JO'BURG'S "SLAVE MARKET"

(Continued from page 1)

of 17 who takes 21 minutes explaining that he was born in an urban area and has lived there all his life. In a few staccato sentences thrust at the hurrying interpreter, who shoots them over to the magistrate in terse Afrikaans, he manages to prove he cannot be endorsed out of the urban area.

He is ordered to bring his mother and birth certificate the next day to substantiate his statements. That case exceeded its limit.

MAKING UP

The next three go through in 120 seconds. Hard labour or a fine for not having a proper service contract. Fine or a week in prison for being out late the night before. Heavy term or a fine for entering the town illegally.

The court sometimes takes £100 a day in fines from those lucky ones whose relatives have traced them in time and can push notes to the arrested men through the wire fence as they wait to appear before the magistrate.

In April a total of £1,530 was collected in fines, of which the municipality received £838 because a proportion of the accused were guilty of breaking municipal regulations like the curfew.

But last Monday there was a tragic incident. A mother rushed up to the prosecutor with the money to pay her son's fine. She was too late. He had already put his thumb-print to a farm-labour contract, and the prosecutor would not let him go.

The court must have one of the heaviest rolls in the country. As on a conveyor belt in a great modern factory the arrested men are brought forward, a few hurried sentences said, a conviction noted. Dusty records lining the dingy, improvised courtroom bear witness to the court's volume of work over the last few years. Over 700 cases a week, then more and more.

SEEN TREMBLING

The Africans lined up in the dock can be seen trembling, the sheets of paper with their details shaking in their hands, as they wait their turn.

Can they say quickly enough the facts that will get them off before the prosecutor waves for the next man, and he is pushed towards the clerk to have his term and fine noted in the book?

There is no time for argument. Those who plead not guilty are remanded and pushed aside. The work of the court must go on. The gaols and the farmers are waiting outside. The country has a chronic farm labour shortage.

HERDED LIKE CATTLE: Africans arrested for pass and other offences wait hours in these wired cages outside the Native Commissioner's Court in Fordsburg, before their turn for trial comes.

POLICE USE FORCE TO SMASH KAHN'S MEETINGS

JOHANNESBURG.

ALL the brutality of fascist rule was demonstrated in Johannesburg last Sunday when the police resorted to force to ensure the banning of the second series of meetings to have been held there by Sam Kahn.

All three meetings—at Alexandra, Newclare and Moroka—were banned under the Banning of Assemblies Act, and mounted police and flying squads used baton charges to scatter the peaceful crowds at Alexandra.

Alexandra residents were charged by the police for the second time in one week: First on Tuesday in a peaceful march to town as a protest at their hopelessly inadequate bus services, and then again last Sunday when their gathering was banned.

"PRESERVING THE PEACE"

The three Sunday meetings were all banned by the acting chief magistrate of Johannesburg, under the pretext of preserving the "public peace."

In Newclare the banning notice was pinned on a board staked in the centre of the meeting square. After singing national anthems and cheering enthusiastically for Sam Kahn and the Communist Party, the crowd drifted quietly from the square. Plain clothes detectives, but no uniformed police, were evident at this stage.

At Alexandra, a great crowd gathered on the open square adjoining the bus terminus towards the middle of the morning. Large portions of the crowd were dispersed by mounted police rushing into them even before Sam Kahn arrived.

The notice banning the meeting was pinned on to a cinema notice-board.

When Sam Kahn arrived, he and sections of the crowd clustered round to read it. After some minutes they were ordered to disperse. This they did.

But after this, while isolated groups were standing at the fringes of the square discussing

the banned meeting, police were formed up behind their lorries and vans by their commanding officer, Captain Eybers, and suddenly, without warning, began a rush on to the square, their batons whirling. The constables spread out fanwise towards the small groups of people dotted here and there, attacking indiscriminately people crossing the square or in the road alongside it.

Men, already in the roadway, and running to escape the flying batons, had blows aimed on their backs by one policeman after another who aimed deliberately at them as they dashed past, already yards from the square. At the furthest side of the square a group of traders were holding a small, quite separate and unrelated meeting of their own. A group of police waded into them with their batons.

PRESS INTERFERED WITH

Two men fell to the ground. One was instantly hustled to a police car. As The Guardian photographer attempted to get near to take a photograph of the injured man she was stopped by the police commander. "I refuse to let you take that photograph," he said. "I have taken that man into my custody."

Her attempts to photograph the police charges were also stopped by the police and private detectives who warned her off the square. A second injured man, the blood streaming from his left eye, was helped into Sam Kahn's car. The car was surrounded by a large group of police, who ordered it away "quickly." One policeman waved his baton threateningly at the driver of the car.

In Moroka the great crowd was ordered to disperse by the Johannesburg District Commandant of Police, surrounded by mounted police and a large force, some time before the meeting was scheduled to begin.

MINOR BATTLE IN NEWCLARE
Meanwhile, in Newclare angry crowds had surrounded the flying squad vans of police following the banning of the meeting.

Stones began to fly and suddenly a battle developed between the police and bitterly angry men and women. Large buildings were rolled into the street to stop the advance of the squad vans. The mounted police rode their horses through the crowds, chased people left and right, and rode even up the young girl was arrested.

Later the police withdrew. The banning of these meetings and the police attacks have left Africans in this city furious and in a state of angry rebellion.

"Where will the Government attack stop?" they are asking. Never before has their condemnation of Malan's Government policies been so determined.

"I will be back again in three weeks' time," Sam Kahn told The Guardian last Sunday.

Engine Drivers To Resign From T.L.C.?

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association Executive is to ask branches whether or not it should resign from the Trades and Labour Council and, together with other interested unions, try to form another co-ordinating body whose membership will be confined to industrial Conciliation Act.

This resolution was adopted by the executive because the constitution of the T.L.C. was said to be at variance with the policy of the union on this question.

A number of new bodies are understood to have applied for affiliation to the Trades and Labour Council in recent weeks.

ORLANDO SMASH ENQUIRY

JOHANNESBURG.

The board of inquiry into the Orlando railway disaster held public sittings in the Magistrate's Court last week.

The board held an inspection in loco, and listened to evidence from people who had witnessed the accident, passengers on the train, and officials from the railway.

O.F.S. LEGAL AID BUREAU

BLOEMFONTEIN.

A legal aid bureau, subsidised by the Department of Social Welfare and controlled by a board representing the Law Society of the province, the Bar Society and the Government and welfare organisations, has been established for the Free State.

The Crime List

NATIVE SHOT DEAD IN ACT OF THIEVING

A NOTHER Native was shot dead in Johannesburg early yesterday morning while hauling clothing through the fanlight of a window with a wooden pole to which an iron hook had been tied.

Five Europeans, three of whom were alleged to have been arrested by the influence of the liquor, were arrested by the police during the alleged incident in the fanlight area. The alleged use of five revolvers.

The Crime List

NATIVE SHOT DEAD IN RUNNING FIGHT WITH POLICE

A NATIVE was shot dead in a running gun battle with detectives and policemen on a municipal afternoon. The Native had been seen in the Klipfontein area, yesterday.

The Crime List

SHOTS FIRED AFTER BURGLARS

Shots were fired at two Native burglars who tried to break into a house in the northern suburbs of Johannesburg early yesterday morning.

These cases of fatal shootings all took place last month. The Witwatersrand is said to be becoming the Wild West of the Union, because of the growing number of gun battles and shootings. In some suburbs, there is said to be a revolver in every second house. A Transvaal judge commented last year: "Most householders possess firearms these days."

In Johannesburg in 1948, 10,689 licences to own firearms were issued, compared with 8,625 the year before. This year there has been an average of 25 firearm transactions a day.

Africans complain that police treatment of their people in frequent mass raids for passes and beer is becoming harsher than ever before. Relations between Africans and the police are full of bitterness today.

"Marriages Bill Will Not Stop Race Mixture"—RACE RELATIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Mixed Marriages Bill will not reduce the incidence of miscegenation, and legislation is totally unnecessary. This is the view of the South African Institute of Race Relations.

The 1939 report on mixed marriages and marriage statistics showed that mixed marriages were a very minor element in miscegenation and that they were, in fact, decreasing in number, says the Institute's statement.

The major element in miscegenation was illicit intercourse, which might well be increased by the prohibition of mixed marriages.

HOUSING
As the Commission of 1939 showed, factors such as poor housing promote miscegenation. These factors should be tackled before any attempt is made to interfere with marriage.

Legislation that interferes in personal relationships such as those that are involved in marriage

JOHANNESBURG.

Summing up the union's case before the Graham Wolsford Commission into the Garment Workers' Union in its final week after months-long sessions, Mr. N. E. Rosenberg, K.C., suggested that the Commission should recommend the prosecution of Mr. Van der Walt and others against whom there was evidence that they committed offences against the law.

He also said that those responsible for law and order should be strongly criticised for not affording the union adequate police protection at the meeting on September 18, 1948, that on the basis of evidence submitted to it the Commission should state in its report how inadvisable it was to have interference in the internal affairs of the unions.

UNION'S AFFAIRS.

He urged upon the Commission to recognise that the affairs of the union had been conducted in accordance with its constitution. The union, in its final statement reaffirmed its protest against the appointment of the Commission and said it was unnecessary and unwarranted.

Relating the events leading up to the September disturbance that preceded the appointment of the Commission, the union argued that the disturbances were brought about by outside influence.

SMALLPOX IN TVL.

JOHANNESBURG.

New cases of smallpox continue to be found in Benoni and Boksburg. The epidemic now affects three East Rand towns.

T.B. In Pietersburg

JOHANNESBURG.

"The Pietersburg area which is inhabited by many Natives, is becoming increasingly infected with tuberculosis, not only in the municipal area, but in the locations and Native reserves," says a report by the local medical officer of health.

"The housing problem for Non-Europeans aggravates the position, and unless something is done quickly we shall be faced with a very serious national health crisis," adds the report.

BRITISH SPONSOR RIVAL TO W.F.T.U.

S.A. Delegates To Attend Both Conferences

JOHANNESBURG.—The Trades and Labour Council delegates to the session of the International Labour Organisation in Geneva and the conference of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Milan will also attend a rival world trade union body to be held in the S.A.T.L.C. The I.T.O. delegates are expected to leave London within a few days for Geneva. The W.F.T.U. delegates are expected to leave London within a few days for Milan. The S.A.T.L.C. delegates are expected to leave London within a few days for Johannesburg.

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Transport Workers Want More Pay

JOHANNESBURG.—Municipal Transport workers are demanding increased allowances of 40-hour working week. The City Council has refused to grant the demand.

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'FORCE WILL BE MET BY FORCE' — POLICE CHIEF

JOHANNESBURG.—A SEVEN-MAN delegation from the African National Congress reported to the Deputy Commissioner of Police and the District Commissioner of the growth of serious discontent among the people because of mass police raids, was told last week that a mass raid will go on.

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WORKED HIS WAY UP

JOHANNESBURG.—Among the students who are doing a year's practical work at the recent graduation ceremony of the University of the Witwatersrand was a student who worked his way up from a school boy to a student.

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Africans Robbed Of Unemployment Pay

JOHANNESBURG.—Thousands of Africans are asking what is to happen to the Unemployment Fund over the past two and a half years by Africans.

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Move To Oust Communists From Travellers' Union

JOHANNESBURG.—At the seventh national conference of the Commercial Travellers' Union to be held in Johannesburg at the end of this month the main branch of the union will again try to start a witch hunt against Communists.

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SACHS TOLD HE CANNOT LEAVE

JOHANNESBURG.—Mr. Justice Malan, of the Witwatersrand Division of the Supreme Court, was told last week that he cannot leave the country.

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DÖNGES ON THE WAR-PATH

More Passport Privileges Withdrawn

JOHANNESBURG.

THE struggle to preserve individual freedom in South Africa was carried a stage further last week in a series of clashes between anti-Nationalists and the Minister of the Interior, Dr. Dönges, over the question of passport facilities.

Dr. Dönges withdrew the passport of Miss Dulcie Hartwell, elected to replace Mr. E. S. Sachs as Garment Workers' delegate to a conference of textile workers in Lyons.

He also withdrew the passport of Mrs. H. Calvert, secretary of the Non-European section of the Garment Workers' Union, who was elected by the Transvaal Council of Non-European trade unions to attend the congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Milan on June 26.

The Minister, however, failed to act in time to prevent the president of the Garment Workers' Union, Miss Anna Scheepers, leaving by air last Tuesday to attend the Lyons conference.

He cancelled the endorsement of the Union Passport Office on the passports of Senator and Mrs. Ballinger which would enable them to land on Egyptian territory en route to Britain. This will have the effect of preventing the Ballingers from travelling to Europe by air.

In the face of refusals by Miss Hartwell and Mrs. Calvert to hand over their passports, the Minister has instituted court actions to compel them to do so.

The Minister last week also appeared in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, against part of a judgment given last September ordering the Minister to return a passport (Continued on page 6.)

port seized from Dr. Dadoo by the immigration authorities at Palmietfontein. Dr. Dadoo was on his way to UNO at the time, and later left South Africa without a passport.

The Trades and Labour Council sent a three-man deputation to interview Dr. Dönges on the question of passports in Cape Town last week. The results of the interview, which lasted an hour and a half, have not been made known. Members of the deputation were Messrs. C. Rehun, A. O. Furoth and H. Terhies.

Miss Hartwell also interviewed the Minister last week to find out whether she would be able to leave for Europe as planned on June 7. She reported that Dr. Dönges had said he would investigate her case before deciding on her position.

Miss Hartwell told the Press in Johannesburg that she inferred from Dr. Dönges' remarks during the interview that the granting of passports to Union nationalists with suspected Socialist or Communist tendencies would in future be subject to special scrutiny by the Department of Justice.

The application of the Minister of Interior for an order directing E. S. Sachs to produce his passport for cancellation is being heard before the Supreme Court this week.

In his affidavit, Mr. Sachs, who came to the Union in 1914 and has been secretary of the Garment Workers' Union since 1928, describes the nature of the trade union conference in Lyons he was elected by his union to attend.

and the importance to South African garment workers.

"In modern times and under present-day conditions," says the affidavit, "the issuing of a passport to enable a person to travel abroad is not a privilege but an absolute necessity, and every law-abiding citizen has a right to travel from one country to another on his lawful occasions."

The affidavit refers to the Charter of Human Rights which lays down that "everyone should be free to leave any country including his own and free to return to the country of which he is a national."

The Garment Workers' Union central executive committee in a letter to Dr. Dönges this week said that by cancelling Mr. and Mrs. Sachs' passports, Dr. Dönges was "cancelling the freedom of every South African citizen to travel freely, a principle recognized by embodied in the U.N.O. Charter of Human Rights."



This man was injured in the police baton charge at Alexandra last week. He was not even attending the meeting when the police charged. He was just walking across the square on his way to the bus terminus. Here he is in the Alexandra clinic, his name being taken down by a detective.

Protest Against Ban On Kahn's Meetings

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement has protested to the Minister of Justice against "your unconstitutional and unwarranted attack on freedom of speech and assembly" by the banning of Sam Kahn's meetings on May 23.

These meetings, the committee comments, were held in areas where no person could possibly claim there could be race friction. The Minister's action deprived the people of the right to consult with their lawful spokesman in Parliament.

It points out the committee came into being at a special conference representing 63,668 organized workers on the Witwatersrand and in Pretoria.

A WARNING

The committee warns that this action, together with the brutal action of the police in attacking innocent bystanders, is leading to strained race relations, and will have serious consequences.

"Ours is a legal organisation and has every right to call meetings to oppose any undemocratic force or individuals who abuse their powers to attack and destroy the limited liberties which we have acquired in this country through years of struggle and hardship." The committee further protests at the renegeing of the committee "The Action Committee of the Communist Party" by the magistrate who signed the notice banning the meetings.

NEW COURSES FOR AFRICANS

JOHANNESBURG.

When instructors are available, courses for Africans as engineering assistants (a two-year course), and engineering surveying assistants are to be added to the Fort Cox Agricultural School syllabus.

War Measure 1425

JOHANNESBURG.

Among the war measures recommended to remain in force for some time to come by the Select Committee on War Measures is the proclamation limiting the assembly of people on gold proclaimed land on the Witwatersrand.

This measure 1425 is hamstringing the work of the African Mine-workers' Union.

It is clear that the Nationalist Government is determined to put every obstacle in the way of the attempts of African miners to organize for better conditions, was the comment of the union president, Mr. J. B. Marks.

A BLESSING?

WINDHOEK.

"Die Suidwester" commenting on the Union's Mines Marriages Bill, considers its implementation cannot be effective unless accompanied by a population register.

"Such a system," says the paper, "will certainly also be a blessing for South-West." It will help the Administration in its attempts to ensure that no Coloureds will enter the territory from the Union.

GARMENT COMMISSION

EVIDENCE BY VAN DER WALT REJECTED

JOHANNESBURG.

"WE will approach this matter with the objective view of a trial," said the chairman of the commission investigating the Garment Workers' Union when it wound up its proceedings after eight months of deliberation last Saturday morning.

The commission chairman said that Mr. Van der Walt's evidence would not be accepted.

The day before Van der Walt, summing up himself before the commission, asked it to find that he had organised opposition against the union central executive committee because of the dictatorship which it had imposed on the workers.

PIROW'S TIRADE

Mr. O. Pirow, summing up for the Blankewerkersbestemmingsbond, engaged in another tirade against Communism. "We have here to do with the ideology, practice and philosophy of Russian Communism," he said. "The strike by Sachs in the Garment Worker could not have been bettered," he said, by Pravda or ASS.

Mr. S. Kentridge, appearing for the union, said that the allegation that the central executive committee was a dictatorship and that anyone who attacked it was unimpaired, was disproved by the fact that in 30 years, only eight of the union's 40,000 members had been expelled.

MAY SUE JO'BURG MAGISTRATE

JOHANNESBURG.

The South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union is considering taking action against the Johannesburg magistrate, arising from the banning of one of their meetings in a cinema at the beginning of April.

The society may sue the magistrate for damages. After the banning of the meeting the Minister made a statement in which he said he had not instructed the magistrate to ban that particular meeting.

A.N.C. MEETINGS

JOHANNESBURG.

A meeting of the Alexandra branch of the African National Congress will take place on Sunday, June 17, at 8 a.m. At the new Plaza Theatre. A regional conference of A.N.C. areas branches will be held in Pretoria early in July. On May 29 at a Congress gathering in Ermelo a large number of people, including six Chiefs, joined the Congress. Delegates from Ermelo, Breyten, Mahabane, Sheppstone and Port Relief attended. Mr. M. P. Nkomo was the main speaker.

AFRICAN T.U. CONFERENCE

JOHANNESBURG.

A special emergency conference of African trade union leaders and executive members has been called by the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions to discuss the danger to the trade unions from the present Government.

The conference call appeals to all trade unions to sink their differences and help avert the danger of the liquidation of the unions. The Industrial Legislation Commission and the new Unemployment Insurance Bill will be discussed by the conference, to be held at the Trades Hall on Sunday, June 12, at 10 a.m.

A wide response to the conference is expected from all African unions.

I.L.O. Asked To Veto Govt. Nominee

T.L.C. OBJECTS TO WORKERS' DELEGATE

JOHANNESBURG.

BASED on objections lodged by the South African Trades and Labour Council, the credentials committee of the present session of the International Labour Organisation at Geneva is examining in closed session the credentials of the South African workers' delegates.

Mr. T. E. C. Maasch, of the Federal Conciliative Committee of the South African Railways and Harbours Staff Associations, whom the Government made workers' delegate, went to Geneva in the face of strong opposition by the S.A. Trades and Labour Council. The T.L.C. lodged serious protests to the Malan Government at the manner in which the delegate and observer were selected this year.

This argument of the Council is borne out by the rulings of the I.L.O. in 1928 when M. Jouhaux, of France, made this point during the debate challenging the appointment of the Czech workers' delegate.

The Trades and Labour Council goes on to point out that numerical strength is not the only determining factor in de-

(Continued on page 6.)

T.L.C. BALLOT

The Trades and Labour Council man, Mr. R. M. Haldane, is adviser, and also present at Geneva is Mr. Isaac Wolfson, elected in the T.L.C. ballot as workers' adviser.

The Trades and Labour Council insists that Mr. Haldane be delegate and Mr. Wolfson his adviser, and that Mr. Maasch's appointment be cancelled.

In their objections addressed to Geneva to the Credentials Committee of the I.L.O., the Trades and Labour Council says that the Government of the Union, in appointing the workers' delegate, failed to carry out the provisions of the I.L.O. constitution.

The Trades Council argues that where in any country more than one workers' organisation exists and where it is impossible to secure agreements in the selection of delegates and advisers, the Government must consult the most representative organisation.



Our picture shows the close proximity of the water tap and washing slab to the communal latrine in Benoni's emergency tent town. Human excrement leaks from the conservancy tank slabs (centre back).

Appalling Conditions In Benoni Tent Town

BENONI.

IN Benoni's month-old Emergency Tent Town exist sanitary conditions that would make public health and medical authorities writhe in horror. They are conditions that call for an immediate public outcry.

The tent town houses 1,500 African families, living in shacks of their own construction.

Serving the population are 12 latrine blocks. The latrines are communal, there being no separate partitions; and the conservancy tank system is used.

The latrines, communal water taps and concrete washing blocks are built in common units.

OVERFLOWING

The latrine conservancy tanks are overflowing on to the washing slabs and around the water taps. In the swirl of the filth lying around the slabs one can see human excrement floating.

Children play on the spot; women wash clothes; and cooking and drinking water is fetched from here.

The flood of filth has spread to surrounding shacks. One woman whose home is nearest the latrine block showed where it had trickled into her shack. She has dug a makeshift ditch to divert the flow.

ACTION NECESSARY

Some explanation seems to be called for from the authority that agreed to the construction of latrine, tap and washing facilities in one block. Apart from this, the conservancy tanks are cleared only once a day from a lorry-tank that has to serve all 12 blocks.

As a result they are never properly emptied. In these shocking, repulsively unhygienic conditions live the people of the tent town. Action by the local authority is urgently necessary.

JHB. NOT TO TAKE OVER PASS LAW ADMINISTRATION

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Johannesburg City Council decided at a special meeting last week not to take over the registration of service contracts from the Government. Only two Nationalist councillors supported the proposal.

The leader of the Nationalist group, Dr. Ross, said the two advantages of the Council administering the scheme would be that the "influx of Natives" (a phrase to cover all sins) could be "controlled" and the Council would be in a better position to deal with its housing crisis.

His colleague, Mr. de Bruyn urged that "not a single Native not eligible to be here be allowed to remain in the city."

U.P. ANSWER

The United Party didn't bother to deal with these arguments, although one U.P. Councillor, discussing the position should the Council have to control the pass system, mourned the passing of the Civic Guard which could have been a force to control vagrants.

The main tenor of the United Party argument was that the promised profit from the Council taking over the system just wouldn't materialise.

The Councillors rejected the calculations of their own officials that their profit on the scheme would be over £97,000 a year. Figures from Pretoria showed it cost 22s. 6d. a year to register each African, they said.

VAGUE

To quote Labour member Reg Smith: "The proposition is so vague that no businessman could possibly vote on it."

Mr. Smith argued further that the scheme was part of the Government's apartheid plans and the Council could not afford to be mixed up in an issue still undecided.

United Party Councillor G. E. Gordon of the Finance Committee, struck a realistic note when he said that the Africans hated the pass system and the Council should not put its head in a bee hive.

WHY MARGARINE IS SCARCE

Butter Monopoly For Dairy Farmers

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Johannesburg Social Welfare Department which distributes margarine to lower-income families (those earning less than £15 a month) is tightening up on supplies, on orders from the Government.

Factories which get margarine in bulk to supply to their workers have to hand in to the Department streams of information about the wages of the bread-winners, the number of dependants, the size of the families, etc.

This, officials explain, is to make sure that only the poor will get margarine. Also, mobile vans and food depots which sell it operate only in the poorer areas of the city.

Johannesburg distributes about 35,000 lbs. of margarine each week.

THE FIGHT

The margarine battle is about a decade old. It has been a battle first to produce margarine at all in the Union, and now to produce more, because there is a far greater demand for it than there are supplies today.

South Africa can produce enough margarine for its people, manufacturers and officials told The Guardian. The Union can grow the vegetable oils needed for its manufacture, and in the Northern Transvaal particularly farmers are turning to the cultivation of the necessary crops.

But it is admitted Government policy, swayed by the interests represented on the Dairy Board, not to produce more than a set quota — even in times of butter shortage, and regardless of the demand.

Hundreds of thousands in the Union could afford margarine, but cannot buy butter, because it is almost twice as dear. Experts say there is nothing to choose between the two for nutritional value.

OPEN MARKET

In both Rhodesias, and at times in Portuguese East Africa, South African margarine is sold on the open market. But not everyone can buy it here.

This year the four firms making margarine are allowed to produce no more than 12,000,000 lbs. altogether.

When the Government agreed to the manufacture of margarine a few years ago, a howl went up from the dairy industry. The quota to be produced was fixed in a special decree, issued as a regulation under the War Emergency Act, at 7 million lbs. a year.

REFUSED TO LISTEN

South Africa is one of the only two countries in the world that places obstacles in the way of margarine manufacture. The other is the United States.

The dairy industry has refused to listen to the argument that Holland and Denmark, which are both large dairying countries, are also large producers of margarine and that this has not affected their dairy production.

Determined to retain its monopoly, the Dairy Board keeps firm control over the margarine industry and makes sure that even in times of butter scarcity people shall not be allowed to buy margarine.

For the poor it means virtually no fats at all, and that can be a very serious thing for the health of the people.

GREAT VICTORY FOR TRANSVAAL SHOP WORKERS

Provincial Council Grants Saturday Half-Holiday

JOHANNESBURG.

A BATTLE which has been waged for over a decade by the National Union of Distributive Workers culminated in an overwhelming victory for the shop workers when the Transvaal Provincial Council last week resolved by 46 votes to two to amend the Shop Hours Ordinance to make Saturday afternoon closing of shops compulsory.

An addendum to the motion making Easter Saturday a closed day for shops and stores was also adopted.

Shop workers throughout the Reef are in a triumphant mood, and in spite of the continued antagonism of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce, it is confidently expected that the Ordinance will be promulgated almost immediately.

The motion for Saturday afternoon closing was introduced by a United Party member.

Mine workers and the Dutch Reformed Church were reported to be in favour of the scheme.

Up to now the Transvaal has been the only province in which Saturday afternoon closing has not been compulsory.

KAHN OUTWITS SWART

Addresses Peaceful Meeting In Jo'burg

JOHANNESBURG.

THIS meeting is proof of the fact that Communists do not preach racial antagonism between Europeans and Non-Europeans, but on the contrary, that they are the only political party advocates racial harmony in South Africa.

This statement was made by Mr. Sam Kahn, Communist M.P., when he put in a surprise appearance at a meeting of Africans in Newclare, Johannesburg, last Sunday, called by the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement, to raise funds for the defence of the African girl who is being charged with throwing stones at a flying squad van during the recent bannings of Mr. Kahn's meetings on the Rand.

The attendance at the meeting increased as the news of Mr. Kahn's presence spread. The arrival of a hastily summoned force of police cars, flying squad vans and motor cycles brought another few hundred Africans to the hall. The police did not interfere with Mr. Kahn or prevent him from speaking.

"TELL THE MINISTER"

To the one detective taking verbatim notes, Mr. Kahn said: (Continued on page 6.)

MASS PROTEST AT BAN ON SAM KAHN

Application To Court For Order Against Swart

MR. SAM KAHN, Native Representative, is applying to the Supreme Court for a declaration of rights and for an order setting aside the notice of the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart, banning him from attending meetings in the Transvaal for 12 months.

Mr. Kahn alleges that the Minister's action is unreasonable and an arbitrary interference with the rights of the individual.

CAPE TOWN.

Meanwhile reports from the Rand show the Minister's latest ukase has intensified the resentment of democratic South Africans against the Government.

July 3, which has been chosen by the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement for a report-back conference on the campaign against the Riotous Assemblies Act, will be turned into a gigantic protest against the banning of Sam Kahn from the Rand.

The call to the conference has gone out to democratic organisations on the Reef and in Pretoria. "The Government's attack on civil liberties threatens the existence of all progressive bodies," says the Action Committee's statement.

By these attacks on democratic rights the Government hopes to weaken its opposition and divert attention from the problems of increasing unemployment, high cost of living, shortage of housing, and the whittling down of unemployment benefits to the workers, says the committee.

The conference will take place at the Trades Hall, 30 Kerk Street at 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 3.

"The possibility of racial clashes is being used as a subterfuge to gagging a representative of the African people," was the comment of Mr. J. B. Marks, president of the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement, on the banning of Sam Kahn from the Rand for a year.

Mr. Marks said the talk of race clashes was "nonsense". The ban was quite unwarranted. "Unlike many other parliamentarians," he said, "Mr. Kahn has never made a racial pronouncement. The Minister has abused his powers under the Riotous Assemblies Act." The Government was afraid to let Mr. Kahn speak because he gave expression to the real demands of the African people.

ANGER

Mr. D. U. Mistry, joint secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, said this ban was a most dangerous precedent. Would all who opposed the Nationalist Government be in danger from Mr. Swart?

FINED FOR INCITING

RANDFONTEIN.

An African was fined £15 with the alternative of three months' hard labour in the Randfontein Magistrate's Court last week for inciting at a meeting in the Ventersburg Location last October. He was charged with inciting people to assault the location police and the South African Police by striking them with sticks and by pouring boiling water over them.

The African, Daniel Sudimedi, has given notice of appeal.

The magistrate in his judgment said it was clear that at the time the offence was committed feeling was running high in the location about the residential permit system introduced there.

T.L.C. Committee On African Unions

JOHANNESBURG.

The Trades and Labour Council has established a special sub-committee to help African trade unions and to examine the relationship between them and the council.

Chairman of the sub-committee is the T.L.C. general secretary, Mr. A. C. Pongy. Members are Messrs. J. J. Venet, T. C. Ruthersford, J. D. F. Briggs, I. Wolfson and Miss B. du Toit.

Unemployed Queues

JOHANNESBURG.—The Southern Transvaal Local Committee of the Trades and Labour Council is to suggest to the Unemployment Fund Committee here that to obviate workers having to stand in long queues every second day to claim unemployment pay, the trade offices be authorised to register workers.

GOVERNMENT OUT TO RUIN INDIANS

Transvaal View Of New Bill

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Asiatic Land Tenure Amendment Bill is described by the Transvaal Indian Congress as the practical application of the Nationalist policy of apartheid for the Indians.

Protest meetings against the Bill are to be held throughout the Transvaal, as part of the South African Indian Congress campaign against it.

The Bill will be economically and commercially disastrous for Indians, says the Congress. It provides the Government with machinery with which to ruin the Indians economically and gives autocratic powers to the Minister of the Interior.

SOLE ARBITER

Congress says that the Ghetto Act vested in Parliament the power to create separate locations, but the amendment gives this power to the Governor-General—in effect, the Cabinet or the Minister of the Interior. Thus the Minister may become the sole arbiter of where the Indians shall be segregated in trade or residence.

The present Bill sets up machinery for the confiscation of properties held by Europeans for Indians. The mere allegation that certain fixed property is held by a European for an Asian or Asian company is enough to warrant forfeiture. The onus of proving innocence is left on the company.

The definition of "Asiatic" in the Bill has been widened.

STRAIT JACKET

The trading community, says the Congress, "has been put in a strait jacket".

INDIANS HAVE TO WAIT FOR TRAVEL PERMITS

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal Indian Congress has brought to the notice of the Department of Interior the difficulties Indians are experiencing in getting travel documents to leave the country for business, holiday or even religious reasons.

Long delays are now quite general before certificates of identity are issued. Police reports on the applicants are made first, whether they are adults or children under 16.

Businessmen are being handicapped in pursuing their business interests in the Rhodesias, Portuguese East Africa and the British East African territories, says the Congress in its letter to the Secretary of the Interior.

DURBAN VIEW

The Natal Indian Organisation has protested to Dr. Malan and Dr. Dönges against the Bill to amend the Asiatic Land Tenure Act. The Bill will cripple the Indian people of South Africa and will further estrange the Union's relationship with India, states the N.I.O.

Girl Charged With Throwing A Stone

JOHANNESBURG.

Incidents with the police in Newlands the Sunday morning Sam Kahn's meetings were banned were recalled in the Magistrate's Court last week at the trial of a 16-year-old girl, Babie Pakwane, on a charge of "throwing a stone". Babie Pakwane was found not guilty. Mr. J. Levitan appeared for her.

In cross-examination the constable who had made the arrest said that under the circumstances that day the police would not have been justified in using force. He denied that the police had used force.

The police, he said, pushed the people "gently down the road" after the meeting had been banned. "The mounted police did as we did."

The constable did not know that some Africans had been injured that morning.

He told the court he had seen Babie Pakwane throw the stone. Others were throwing stones at the

time. He gave chase after the girl. At one stage he lost sight of her. Later he arrested her when she fell. Other Africans had also begun to run when he gave chase.

Transvaal Nats. To Admit Jews?

JOHANNESBURG.

The ban against the admission of Jews to the Transvaal section of the Nationalist Party is likely to be eliminated soon, according to a correspondent of a Jewish weekly here.

This correspondent says Nationalist leaders are trying to "find a formula for membership" whereby the ban will fall away.

The party's official organ, Die Kruihorning, recently published a lengthy interview with Mr. J. Nossel under the title "Reasons for Jewish Support of the Nationalist Party."

MINISTERS' USE OF ARBITRARY POWERS

Solly Sachs To Appeal

JOHANNESBURG.

"WE are rapidly approaching the position where the whole country might be ruled by Ministers' prerogatives," said Mr. E. S. Sachs, general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, in an interview with *The Guardian* last week, after the judgment against him in his passport case.

The Court ruled that Mr. Sachs had in his passport to the Court Registrar within 24 hours. He was further ordered to pay the costs of the action.

Mr. Sachs, who is preparing to note an appeal against the decision, told *The Guardian* he is prompted not only by the desire to secure freedom of movement for himself and other officials of his union, but also more and for all to get the highest court in the land to determine the powers of Ministers under the so-called prerogative.

UNQUESTIONABLE

Referring in the Sachs case to the judgment in the Dadoo passport case last September, Mr. Justice Roper said the issue, refusal or revocation of a passport was an act of State and the courts could not question it.

The issues involved here, Mr. Sachs told *The Guardian*, "vitally affect every citizen of the country. They may mean that the Minister can arbitrarily prohibit any citizen from travelling abroad."

"Indeed," he continued, "if the judgment of the Court is correct, then every Minister of the Crown will be in a position to deprive citizens of this country of elementary liberties under the guise of 'prerogative'."

"Today the Minister may arbitrarily deprive a citizen of a passport, tomorrow a Minister, abusing the power of the prerogative, may interfere with the rights of citizens to buy postage stamps, coins of the Realm or any of the other services supplied by the State, which are not regulated by acts of Parliament."

RELIC OF THE PAST

This very prerogative had been described by Justice Malan only

T.L.C. Objection

JOHANNESBURG.—The Trades and Labour Congress's objection to the appointment by the Malan Government of the workers' delegation to the I.L.O. conference now in session in Geneva will be the first of the six complaints to be heard by the I.L.O. Credentials Committee, writes *The Worker* from Geneva. The Government ignored the election by the T.L.C. of Mr. R. B. Haidane as delegate and Mr. Wotton as adviser, and appointed Mr. Haidane only as adviser.

a few days earlier in his judgment in the Dadoo appeal as "that undefined, nebulous relic of the autocratic power of kings in the dim past—which is still alleged to exist, and which is usually invoked in modern times by those who have arrogated to themselves autocratic power, and who, on being challenged, are driven to seek refuge in its very questionable existence."

Mr. Sachs said his union was launching a special fund for this appeal case. Donations should be sent to the Treasurer, Garment Workers' Union, P.O. Box 6779, Johannesburg.



This Malay family—typical of many—has lived in Vrededorp for many years. Recently they appeared in court to answer an eviction order, for the landlords have given them notice, but they have nowhere to go. Landlords of premises in Vrededorp often demand goodwill before they accept tenants, and even then rents are very high. Up to six days before they were due to move, these people had still found no new home.

School Feeding Scandal Exposed

African Children Get Less

JOHANNESBURG.

ILLUSIONS that Dr. Stals, Minister of Social Welfare, had abandoned his intention to abolish African school-feeding were shattered by the Rev. T. Huddleston at a meeting of the African Children's Feeding Scheme here last week.

It is now clear that, although the Minister said he had come to the conclusion that African school-feeding should be extended to the country areas, no further allocation of money is to be made for this purpose. Instead, the original amount of money voted by Parliament is to be spread more thinly over the African school-going population. The grant for African pupils has accordingly been reduced from 2d. to 1d.; and no child over 13 years of age is to be given a meal at school. These are the latest instructions from the Government.

A campaign to mobilise public opinion and to demand the full restoration of the school-feeding scheme for African children in town and countryside is to be launched shortly.

An African woman present at the meeting, who spoke of a parents' campaign among Orlando residents for the restoration of the scheme, said: "Before we are to see our children die we must do something". The campaign will include representations to the Government, a monster petition, propaganda on the health conditions of African children, and work among both Europeans and Non-Europeans.

A SUGGESTION

A speaker from the floor suggested that European children should refuse to accept the food until African children were allowed to share in it.

An Action Committee of the School-Feeding Scheme will direct the campaign.

Dr. F. W. Fox, a member of the Government committee whose recommendation that £1,200,000 be spent on African school-feeding this year was ignored by Cabinet, spoke of the grave conditions of the Africans.

The argument that children went to schools just by they could get food they Fox described as "taken out long before the scheme was introduced, he said."

Miss M. McLarty, M.P.C., asked whether in view of the abolition of school-feeding for children over 13, it was surprising that the people suspected the Government's policy on this question was connected with considerations of the labour market.

"We must make certain this grave injustice does not go unchallenged," summed up the Rev. Huddleston.

In Cape Town a conference of African organisations has sent a memorandum to the Minister of Social Welfare, Dr. Stals, protesting against his decision to exclude farm schools from the school-feeding scheme.

(Continued on page 6)

MALAN ASKED TO POSTPONE ASIATIC BILL

JOHANNESBURG.

The Transvaal Indian Congress has wired the Prime Minister to postpone further progress of the Asiatic Land Tenure Amendment Bill to give the Indian people an opportunity to make representations on it.

The Bill delegates autocratic and arbitrary powers to executive and administrative authorities, says the Congress. It brings about forcible segregation and will lead to the economic ruin of the Indian people.

BASUTO LEADER QUESTIONED BY S.A. POLICE

JOHANNESBURG.

A LEADING member of the Sons and Daughters of Basutoland, which has been making representations in Britain for a commission to investigate the recent ritual murders in the Protectorate, has had his home searched by the South African police and has been subjected to detailed interrogations.

"Are you a Communist?" he was asked when police came to fetch him at his work-place to produce copies of letters he had sent to England on the position in Basutoland.

He was escorted to his home by the police, who examined his personal correspondence files and then removed them for some time to police headquarters. This man was at one time the president of the Sons and Daughters of Basutoland. His home was searched without the production of a warrant by the police. Among the questions he was asked was "Do you agree with ritual murder?" He was also asked for names of other leaders of the Basuto organisation. Some days later police returned to ask for the address of his family in Basutoland, so that there could be "further investigations."

NO JOBS FOR COLOURED IN JO'BURG

JOHANNESBURG.

THE unemployment position for Coloureds in Johannesburg is becoming most difficult, records the report for the years 1944 to 1948 of the City Council's Non-European Affairs Department.

The city's employment bureau is able to place very few Coloureds. The position is worse for youths and those who want unskilled jobs.

In the Coloured township of Noordport these employment difficulties are reflected in the increase of poverty and sickness, and the large number of tenants (as high as 30 per cent. at times) who fall in arrears with their rent for from one to four weeks.

FEW FINISH

Reporting on its vocational training centre for African youths, the department shows that while large numbers of youngsters complete the first stages of the courses in building, tailoring and carpentry, almost none manage to complete the final stages. This is due, says the report, to the difficulty in placing boys in employment at the end of their training.

"These difficulties are very real in view of the restrictions placed in the way of the employ of Native builders and carpenters and the fact that the Council does not employ Natives in these capacities.

"There are at present only a limited number of openings with private builders in peri-urban areas or with the Transvaal Education Department building Native schools with Native labour.

"Many boys who have received training at the school have to be content with jobs as errand boys."

GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

This barrier against trained African builders practicing their trade is to become even more effective when the Minister of Labour introduces his measures to "protect European builders."

According to reports the Minister is considering measures to prevent African builders from

working on any projects other than those for Africans in their 'own areas'.

Mr. David Rapud, chairman of the Pretoria District of the Communist Party, told The Guardian that at present independent African builders must obtain permits in Pretoria from the District Industrial Council to build certain structures of not over 75 feet. The builder must own not less than 1400 before he gets such a permit.

His building activities in the urban area are already restricted. The effect of the added restrictions would be great unemployment among small independent African builders, and the closing of even those few avenues of employment still open to them.

Affiliated To T.L.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

Among the new trade unions that have recently affiliated to the Trades and Labour Council are the Photographic Employers' Union and the Pruning Workers' Union.

Govt. Out to Suppress All Opposition

-CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister is flaunting all democratic traditions in placing this blanket ban on Sam Kahn," said Mr. Cecil Williams, treasurer of the Civil Rights League here.

In the first place, Mr. Williams commented, "the ban represents a violation of the freedom of speech which every citizen should possess."

"Secondly Mr. Swart's declaration that this is part of his declared war against Communism shows that the government is using its government powers to suppress its political opposition in the country."

The Civil Rights League, he said, considers its function to be the securing for all people of the recognised machinery for democratic struggle, the freedom of speech, assembly, movement and organisation.

Whilst the league has no comment to offer on Mr. Kahn's views, it would be falling in its duty if it did not protest at the Minister's latest action."

Mr. Williams said the League foresaw in the banning of "communists" dangers for all progressives and liberals, even those who merely professed themselves as

anti-Nationalists. The Minister had as yet given no clear definition of the term "Communist."

CAPE TOWN STATEMENT

The Cape Town Civil Rights League, in a statement condemning the ban, says "there is a serious danger that those who regard communism as itself a totalitarian and anti-humanist system may be relatively indifferent to this assault on the liberty of Mr. Kahn."

The Minister of Justice has indicated that it is not specifically Mr. Kahn's Marxism that he opposes; for he has also given warnings to "religious" and other non-Communists.

"The attack on the political freedom of Mr. Kahn, whether his views be regarded as ultimately dangerous or not, thus establishes a precedent by which the liberty of the subject may be curtailed and the voice of those who defend political rights silenced."

"The Civil Rights emphatically condemns any such dictatorial steps against democratic rights."

T.U. PROTEST AT CITIZENSHIP BILL

JOHANNESBURG.

At a general meeting of the Witwatersrand branch of the National Union of Distributive Workers a resolution was passed unanimously protesting against the Citizenship Bill.

There was great enthusiasm among members for Saturday afternoon closing. The meeting resolved to resist any attempts to worsen their conditions and pledged themselves to fight for a new agreement when the present one falls away towards the end of this year.

The Union has served demands on employers throughout the country and will shortly apply for a conciliation board to settle the dispute.

"Swart's Statement Untrue", Says Sachs

Real Reason For Passport Cancellations

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. SWART'S reply to Mr. Davidoff regarding the cancellation of passports may be read propaganda for the backside but it is not the truth," was the comment of Mr. K. S. Sachs, general secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, on the Minister's statement in Parliament last week that Mr. Sachs had been refused a passport because he was a self-confessed Communist.

Mr. Sachs said the Ministers of Justice and the Interior both knew that he was not a member of the Communist Party. "Nor is my wife who was also refused a passport," he added. "We are both members of the Labour Party."

"The real reason that prompted Mr. Dinges to cancel our passports arises from the determination of the Nationalist Government to destroy the Garment Workers' Union of which I am secretary."

"The Nationalists want to do to our union what they did to the miners' union. They know full well that as long as African workers are impressed in trade unionism they will not readily become voting cattle for the Nationalist Party."

THE HISTORY

Mr. Sachs traced the efforts of the Urban Government to destroy the Garment Workers' Union—the building of Van der Walt as an opposition leader to Sachs, the appointment of the commission which wasted six months of the workers' time and cost it 15,000 in legal expenses, the refusal of the Minister to publish the Garment Workers' agreement and, finally, the refusal to grant Mr. and Mrs. Sachs passports to represent their workers at an international conference.

"Today the overwhelming majority of garment workers are loyal to the union as never before."

Mr. Sachs told The Guardian: "Their standards we will protect by trade union action if necessary," he said.

NAT. OBJECTIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

In Mayfair, now preparing for the forthcoming by-election, the Nationalists have lodged many objections against names on the voters' list.

Technicalities are being seized on by the H.N.P. to thin out the number of United Party supporters on the roll.

JOHANNESBURG.

An African Blood Transfusion Service is being planned here. Discussions of its establishment are now taking place between the South African Blood Transfusion Service and a committee drawn from African staff members of the Coronation Hospital.

Non-European Miners Should Have More Responsibility

—RACE RELATIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Institute of Race Relations, in a memorandum to the Mine Wages Commission advocates the revision of regulations under the Mines and Works Act to give Non-Europeans increased responsibility on the mines.

Barriers to the better paid and more highly skilled employment of Non-Europeans cannot be defended, says the Institute memorandum, which argues that it is possible to find a way of providing for Non-European advancement without impairing the standard of life and security of the skilled European population.

Giving comparative figures, the memorandum shows that the output per employee in South Africa is low by world standards. This is partly accounted for by the use of a large number of relatively unskilled Non-European employees as,

well as by inadequate mechanisation.

"As Natives progress to semi-skilled work," says the Institute, "their purchasing power is extended, the internal market grows, industry expands and more Europeans are needed for the higher skilled posts."

In order to keep at the mines those Africans who have been trained to a higher pitch of efficiency and responsibility, the Institute recommends the supply of married quarters for those who need them.

THE COMMUNISTS REPLY

JOHANNESBURG.

"You Communists actually want to see war and depression, because you believe that will bring about revolution." "Communists are out to suppress all personal liberty and freedom of religion." These familiar accusations and other misconceptions will be answered by Communist Party speakers at a series of four lectures to be held at 64, Progress Buildings, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, on July 6.

The series starts on July 6 with a talk by Mr. M. Harmel on "The Party's attitude towards religion and personal freedom." On the following Wednesdays, the speakers will be Mr. J. B. Marks on "War and Depression," Mr. L. Bernstein, "Do Communists believe in Russia, Right or Wrong," and Mr. S. Butskoi on "All Men are Equal."

The lectures will begin at 6 p.m. and admission is 6d. per lecture, or 1s. for the course of four.

NEW COURT FOR ALEXANDRA

Alexandra is to have its own Native Commissioner's Court. The establishment of this court and one for Germiston was gazetted last week.

A Native Commissioner's Court has the same functions as a Magistrate's Court in dealing with criminal, civil and administrative matters, except that it deals only with Africans.

Badge of Slavery

JOHANNESBURG.

TIGHT or casual labourers in urban areas will have to wear metal badges in future, says a proclamation issued under the Urban Areas Act, and gazetted at the end of last month.

The metal badge which he must "display in a prominent position on his person at all reasonable times," will have on it his name, the name of the proclaimed area in which he is working, and his number.

If he loses the badge, the labourer must buy another for 2s. 6d.

AFRICANS STRIKE TO KEEP THEIR CATTLE

Resistance To Limitation Of Stock

NELSPRUIT.

AFRICANS in the Nelspruit-Barberton area went on strike last week following the impounding of their cattle. Pickets guarded the four entrances to Nelspruit from dawn onwards and the authorities were forced to open negotiations with the strikers.

The magistrate, the mayor, the Native commissioner and the police commandant were met near the location by several thousand strikers carrying banners with the slogans: "We protest against the order to impound our cattle," "We demand the release of the cattle," "We want justice."

An offer by the municipality to return the cattle if the owners signed an acknowledgment of debt to the municipality was refused by the Africans.

About 40 African cattle owners have had their stock impounded. The authorities were trying last week to arrange a meeting with the cattle owners.

A correspondent from Nelspruit says the cattle were driven by the police from the dipping tanks to the pound. The next day the Africans went on strike.

Cattle grazing fees, dipping costs and dog licence fees have recently been raised. Dog licence fees, once 5s. and 2s. for a bitch are now 20s. and 4s. for a bitch.

Cattle taxes each year, including dipping costs, are as high as 36s. per head of cattle.

The Town Clerk has told the African people the fees have been raised in an effort by the town to clear a debt, but they would be reduced again next year when the debt was cleared.

Although the authorities insisted the people should return to work before negotiations opened, the strikers stood firm. But by the end of last week their cattle were still impounded.



In the few weeks that the Benoni Council's Emergency Tent Town for African squatters has existed, four people have been killed at this rail crossing. It is not possible to enter the Tent Town except by crossing the line, and people have to mount the stairs and descend on the other side if they are to get over the fence. People crossing the line are completely unprotected from oncoming trains. There is not even a system of signals at this crossing.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Thirteenth Year, No. 20. THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1949. Price 1d.

Africans Angered By Station Ban

"Nats. Will Reap What They Sow," Says Xuma

JOHANNESBURG.

NON-EUROPEANS in this city are bristling under the Nationalist Government's latest insult — the introduction of apartheid at Park Station.

On Monday morning "Europeans Only" boards appeared barring Non-Europeans from the station concourse and station platforms.

The Railway and South African Police stood on guard to enforce the new regulations.

The president-general of the African National Congress, Dr. A. B. Xuma, told The Guardian: "We strongly protest against apartheid."

He said there seemed to be some delight in high places to cause pain to others. "The insults, humiliations and restrictions which are being piled upon the Non-Europeans will have far-reaching results."

"They cannot reasonably be expected to cause the Non-Europeans to have any respect for Europeans who resort to such cowardly methods to retain their questionable superiority."

"Railway apartheid and similar practices are intended to bolster up their claim to superiority. Our idea of superiority is associated," he added, "with consideration, courtesy and dignity."

Dr. Xuma concluded by saying that it was not for him to say at this stage what will happen, but he was "as sure as fate that South Africa will one day reap what she sows in colour-conflict and race antagonism."

COMPLAINTS

Originally the demand for station segregation arose from complaints that Europeans were jostled by Non-Europeans in Joubert Street subway running through the station.

But the Joubert Street subway cannot be reserved for any one section only as it is a public thoroughfare. So Mr. Sauer's department has been satisfied for the time being to introduce apartheid in the main station square and on platforms on the west side and in the main subways.

Now Non-Europeans may enter or leave platforms only from the Non-European entrance in Wanderers Street, the small entrance at Noord Street or from the Joubert Street subway.

If they enter from Eloff Street they may not walk through the concourse to the subways or use the western end of the station but have to use only the eastern side gallery which leads into Noord Street and then to the overhead bridge from which steps lead to the Non-European section of the station. The eastern side of the station, at which section trains reserved for Non-Europeans will now stop.

It is already extremely congested. At peak hours the steps leading to the overhead bridge of the Non-European section of the station and then the narrow corridor leading down the steps again to the Noord Street exit are very difficult to negotiate in the midst of a thick hurrying crowd.

NUSAS Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

More than 300 students from 12 universities and colleges will attend the annual conference of the National Union of South African Students at the University of Cape Town next week.

Wolfson At W.F.T.U.

Mr. Issie Wolfson, of the South African Trades and Labour Council, and Mr. Desmond Buckle, delegate by proxy of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, have been elected to the conference committee of the W.F.T.U. Congress in Milan.

RAND COUNCILS TO RUN PASS LAW SERVICE

JOHANNESBURG.

The Krugersdorp Town Council is to take over the registration of Native service contracts from the Government on October 1, and to set up a Non-European labour bureau.

Five Reef municipalities have already done so—Germiston, Boksburg, Springs, Alberton and Nigel. Benoni Town Council has accepted the scheme in principle and it is under discussion by the Brakpan, Randfontein and Roodepoort Town Councils. Johannesburg recently rejected the scheme.

Krugersdorp's old abattoir building, built in 1907 and now used for storing fodder and brewing kaffir beer, is to be renovated and used as the registration depot and labour bureau.

Will U.D.F. Be Used To Break Strikes?

JOHANNESBURG.

Deep concern is experienced by trade unionists here at the amendment to the Defence Act which empowers the Minister to call out the Union Defence Force to "prevent or suppress internal disorders" even before the Governor-General has proclaimed that a state of emergency exists.

The clause in the Bill says the whole or a portion of the U.D.F. may be called out before the issue of a proclamation and may remain in action for four days before the proclamation.

Mr. C. H. Grompton, of the Iron-moulders' Society and a member of the national executive of the Trades and Labour Council, said his immediate reaction was that the least any democratic government could do was to issue a proclamation beforehand.

This power might be misused for the suppression of strikes, he feared.



HAPPY ATMOSPHERE AT NEW SCHOOL OPENING



Dr. E. A. LAWRENCE.

Gay, blaring music; green and yellow streamers fluttering in the wind from the roof of the new building; rows of proud parents, little brothers and sisters; the boys and girls, trim in their white uniforms, lined up in fours, on tenterhooks for their procession to start and looking over the school wall and overflowing into the quad range, well-wishers from Kensington and Windermere — this was the scene of a gala occasion: the opening of five, airy, modern classrooms at the St. John A.M.E. Primary School in Kensington.

At last! The procession of 500-odd schoolchildren, in step, all of them, round the quadrangle and then into a pattern of lines and squares and stars; the members of the church, in slow march, dignified; the choir, in long gowns, morris-boards.

And then, with a great flourish of music over the loudspeaker, the school song started up, to the time

of "Hallelujah":
"Schoolchildren are we of the A.M.E.
A part of it we are proud to be."

And so we learnt the history of the school: 19 years ago a wood-and-iron building housed the first 13 pupils. Now a roll of 500, a staff of 12, the whole school under one roof, the infants no longer in hired buildings half a mile down the road.

The celebrities were there: the Administrator's deputy, Mr. A. Sinton, M.C. He spoke about Coloured education, how much had been done in the Cape, how far it had still to go. "The time will come," he said, "when the

days of barriers and apartheid will disappear."

Also in the special chairs for Important People were the president of the Teachers' League of South Africa, the Rev. J. S. Kroneberg, the African Peoples' Organisation representative, the doctors from the clinic, the architect of the new classrooms, the people from the area and further afield who had watched and helped the school grow up. All were there to celebrate the opening.

And, officiating, introducing the celebrities, skillfully seeing the programme through, and yet another monument to his own work was the principal, Dr. E. A. Lawrence, managing, in the midst of everything else, to snatch time every few minutes to use his movie camera to see that Kensington had a permanent record of the Great Event.

NON-EUROPEAN RIGHTS TAKEN AWAY

SCHOEMAN ON PROCLAMATION

1890

What Apartheid Really Means

(By Our Parliamentary Correspondent)

Sept 30 6 46

THIS week, in a Parliamentary session being hurried towards its close, the Nats. were able to chalk up two more victories over the people.

The 47,000 Coloured voters in the Cape will be able to exercise their 100-year-old right to vote on the common roll only under police supervision, when the Electoral Act Amendment Bill, passed in its second stage by 5 votes, goes through.

The Nationalist Government's vicious attacks against the Indian people were continued during the debate on the Asiatic Laws Amendment Bill, as the Prime Minister, his voice trembling with hatred for the Indians, said that if Indians wanted to continue to live in the Union they would have to be content to live under restrictions.

Meanwhile, said Malan, the Government had already opened negotiations with India on the subject of repatriation. If, as he expected, these negotiations failed, the Government would open new ones "with other countries," possibly through U.N.O.

Repatriation is to be the first

(Continued on page 5)

NON-EUROPEAN RIGHTS TAKEN AWAY

(Continued from page 1)

line of attack. Then there is to be a commission of inquiry to decide whether the Ghetto Act land restrictions should be extended to the Cape; a new commission into Indian "penetration." The United Party minority vote against this Asiatic Laws Amendment Bill was reduced to a mere 54 when four Natal M.P.s, rather than vote against Malan's Bill, walked out of the House.

The clause in the Electoral Act Amendment Bill, requiring all Coloured voters to testify to their qualifications for inclusion on the roll before an electoral officer, magistrate, or police officer of a rank not lower than a second-class sergeant, is a quite blatant move on the part of the Nats. to destroy a section of their opposition among the electorate before the provincial council elections are held in March, 1949.

Minister of the Interior Dönges said these provincial council elections in particular were the reason for the Government's haste with this Bill and its refusal to let the Bill go to a select committee of the House. Dönges

may also have had in mind the common roll, the replacement of direct representation by limited indirect representation in both Houses, and finally — the most satisfying step to the Nats. — the elimination of all franchise rights of the Coloured people and the creation of that nebulous and non-existent "something better" Malan is always talking about — a Coloured Representative Council.

Dr. Dönges said this registration clause for Coloured voters will apply only to new voters wishing to be included in the roll. But what is to prevent the Government from insisting on the compilation of a new voters' roll (as was done for the last general elections)?

"IF YOU DON'T WANT US, WHY DON'T YOU SHOOT US?"

Passless Africans Complain To Police

JOHANNESBURG.

A SPONTANEOUS outburst against the harsh administration of the pass laws occurred in Jabavu township last week.

A group of young unemployed Africans, when they saw police enter the shack town, went up to them in a body to ask whether they were to be arrested. "You

arrest us in town, you arrest us in our homes in the location," they are reported to have told the police. "If you don't want us anywhere why don't you shoot us?"

The group of young men then went to the office of the superintendent to demand they all be issued with passes. They were unable to find work they told him, and were being arrested wherever they were.

The superintendent listened, and noted down some details.

The police have now begun to stop Africans even in the streets of Jabavu and Moroka. The Guardian learns. Africans are searched without knowing why the police are searching them, and then they find themselves under arrest for being in possession of penalties.

Alexandra was subjected to a mass police raid last week.

I.L.O. REJECTS GOVT. NOMINEE

JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. T. E. Maasch, Government nominee, has been displaced as South African workers' delegate at the conference of the International Labour Office in Geneva by Mr. R. Haldane, Trades and Labour Council nominee, on instructions of the I.L.O. Credentials Committee.

Mr. Maasch, however, has been given status at the conference as adviser to Mr. Haldane, a position for which the T.L.C. had nominated Mr. L. Wolfson. Mr. Wolfson's claims have apparently been ignored by the Credentials Committee.

Mr. Haldane has also accepted a position on the constitution-making committee of the new anti-Communist international trade union body which was formed at a conference called in Geneva by the British T.U.C. Mr. Haldane and Mr. Wolfson were instructed to attend this conference as observers only. The T.L.C. has not yet decided whether to affiliate to this body or to the World Federation of Trade Unions, whose conference in Milan Messrs. Haldane and Wolfson were also to attend.

SCHOOL-FEEDING

JOHANNESBURG.

The annual conference of the Transvaal African Teachers' Association, meeting at Bopong in the Rustenburg districts this week, has before it a resolution from its Witwatersrand district urging that the association fight for the retention of the African school-feeding scheme in its entirety.

Orlando Smash

TRAIN DRIVER TO BLAME

JOHANNESBURG.

The Orlando rail disaster on April 28, in which 69 people were killed and 141 injured, was caused by the train driver, who was also killed in the accident, according to the findings of the board of inquiry into the cause of the crash.

The report says that Acting Driver A. G. Fick, after stopping at an automatic signal, failed to proceed cautiously past it and was not prepared to find the section ahead occupied or obstructed at any point between the signal just passed at "danger" and the signal next in advance.

The board, under the chairmanship of the Acting Chief Magistrate of Johannesburg, was satisfied that everything possible was done immediately after the accident to help the injured.

Red-Baiters Rejected By Travellers' Union

JOHANNESBURG.

ATTEMPTS to eliminate "Communists" from the Commercial Travellers' Union failed miserably at the Union's national conference, just completed in Johannesburg.

The Natal members, who sent forward an anti-Communist resolution, did not even come to the conference.

The delegates passed a unanimous resolution reaffirming that all members of the union, regardless of their political views, racial origin, religious denomination or sex were entitled to the benefits of membership providing they were in good financial standing.

Union employees would be engaged on the basis of their ability, and not for political, religious or other attachments, the resolution went on.

The outgoing union president, Mr. C. Tucker, said that they had been nothing constructive in the Natal resolution. The movers were trying to "throw a spanner in the works," he said.

UNDEMOCRATIC

In his presidential address Mr. Tucker said he was alarmed at the agitation for greater control over the affairs of trade unions.

"This is a dangerous and undemocratic tendency," he said. "It

IMPORT CONTROL

The conference deplored the failure of the authorities to control the trade union movement on import control which, it said, "can only be helpful to the country in its present emergency if accompanied by thoughtful planning."

Mr. L. J. Cooper was elected president of the union, Mr. L. Blecher vice-president, Mr. R. Channell chairman of the national executive, Mr. L. M. Krossin vice-chairman, Mr. M. H. Goodman treasurer, Mr. A. Gelb national secretary and Mr. E. Weinberg

"WORKERS MUST ENJOY NAT. TYRANNY"

Sam Kahn Addresses Jo'burg Meeting

JOHANNESBURG.

DELEGATES representing 149,611 people heard Mr. Sam Kahn, the Communist M.P., who has been banned from speaking at public meetings on the Rand for one year, address the private conference of the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement held here last week-end.

"To demand political rights is becoming a crime in South Africa," he told the 98 representatives from advisory boards, national and political movements, trade unions and churches. Present also were a number of chiefs from Transvaal reserve areas.

Great rounds of applause greeted Sam Kahn, when he rose to speak. He told the gathering of the Government's intention to amend the Riotous Assemblies Act so that meetings in halls as well as in public places could be banned by the Minister. This amendment to the Act had been withdrawn towards the end of the long drawn-out session.

He sounded a warning that this measure could be used to ban United Party election meetings as well as Communist meetings.

"This Government is a Nazi government," he said. "It has terrific powers under such measures as the Riotous Assemblies Act. Power must be challenged by power. That challenging power is in the working people of South Africa, united among all races. Our task is to wield that force into a mighty power that can smash the Government and its fascist legislation." (Applause.)

Secretary of the Action Committee, Mr. Danie du Plessis, made a call to all organisations and individuals to be "loyal to the struggle for freedom." All organisations, he suggested, should invite Sam Kahn to address meetings of their members.

RESOLUTIONS

The conference adopted resolutions protesting against the ban on Sam Kahn and demanding its immediate repeal. The resolution protested against the refusal of passports to South Africans who intended to go overseas and also demanded the repeal of the Riotous Assemblies Act.

Mr. J. B. Marks, who presided, said the Action Committee had been forced to make this a private conference to which only accredited delegates were admitted. The Government was trying to make it impossible for the oppressed people to raise their voices, to have their meetings, to meet their Parliamentary representatives.

The conference dispersed with the words of Sam Kahn ringing in their ears: "To accept these restraints on freedom of speech and assembly is identical to accepting the pass laws, the slave labour bureaux and all the other oppressive laws."

Refused Pass To See His Lawyer

Lefela's Appeal

JOHANNESBURG.

Maphutseng Lefela, one of the leaders of Lekholo le Baso in Basutoland, who earlier this year was sentenced to one year's imprisonment or a fine of £50 for publishing allegations about the conduct of the ritual murder trials in the territory, was prevented from consulting his Johannesburg lawyer in connection with his appeal by the refusal of the Basutoland Government to grant him a pass.

This was brought to light at Lefela's appeal before a judge of the Basutoland High Court.

The judge asked the Attorney-General whether he knew of this. Then the judge said that although he had no right to force the Basutoland Government to permit the accused to see his lawyer, he would postpone the case to allow him to make arrangements for his defence.

The Attorney-General promised to make efforts to see Lefela was granted a pass to visit his lawyer.

The appeal will now be held in October or November of this year. The bail of £25 stands.

NATAL DISTRESS RELIEF FUND

DURBAN.—When the "pound for pound" Government grant came to an end on June 30, the Natal Distress Relief Fund catering for the victims of Durban's racial disturbances had received £88,408. The largest donation was £1,100 from the Transvaal Indian Congress.

The Natal Indian Organisation has sent a telegram to the Prime Minister asking him to extend the subsidy scheme for a further period.

NEW JOB FOR SMUTS?

JOHANNESBURG.

Die O.B. reports that it is rumoured General Smuts is on the point of accepting a post with an international organisation.

His delay in returning to the Union is interpreted as an indication of his displeasure with the Opposition's handling of the Citizenship Bill.

EUROPEANS ONLY SLEGS VIR BLANKES



PROTEST AT STATION BAN

JOHANNESBURG.

The African, Indian and Coloured people have together, through a joint committee of the Transvaal Indian Congress, the Transvaal African National Congress and the Transvaal A.P.O. protested against the introduction of apartheid at Park Station.

The new regulation is described as an inconvenience and "a direct insult to our people", as well as a piece of propaganda of the Nationalist Government directed towards the voters in the Mayfair by-election.

"Such attacks on the Non-Europeans have become a convenient device for avoiding the main social, economic and political issues of the country and to inculcate the belief in the minds of the voters that the prosperity of the country depends on vigorous attacks on the Non-Europeans."

The Johannesburg Station ban, says the statement, is not an isolated incident. It is not, as the public is made to believe, merely part of the apartheid plan designed to bring about racial harmony, but instead a plan to intensify discrimination against non-whites so as to render their exploitation and oppression more easy.

Police guarded the "Europeans Only" entrances to Park Station, Johannesburg, after the introduction of apartheid there last week. Non-Europeans now have only one entrance to and exit from the station. At peak times the congestion along the overhead bridge is most acute. Furthermore the underground subways (left, inset) have been closed to Non-Europeans, with the result that many miss trains which are switched over from one platform to another at the last moment. An interesting sidelight on the introduction of apartheid at the station is that Europeans are now complaining that they cannot send their African servants to book seats for them.

HIGH FEES AT WITS.

JOHANNESBURG.

The tuition fees in all faculties of the University of the Witwatersrand have risen by an average of 50 per cent since 1959, and by 150 per cent since the inception of the university in 1922, according to a survey by a research group of the National Union of South African Students. The fees at this university are the highest in South Africa, and probably come close to being the highest in the world.

Music Competition

JOHANNESBURG.

This year's music competition run by the Johannesburg Bantu Music Festival committee will be held from October 3 to 8.

Shortage Of Labour On Gold Mines

JOHANNESBURG.

The gold mines and coal mines employed 297,766 Africans during 1948 as against 315,268 in the previous year, according to a report of the Chamber of Mines.

Labour organisations recruited 76,800 Africans in Portuguese territory, 165,202 "British South African" Natives and 41,550 Africans in tropical areas—altogether 283,572 in 1948 as against 295,506 in 1947.

While the number of Africans recruited diminished, the death-rate among African workers increased during the year from 2.71 per thousand in 1947 to 3.13 per thousand in 1948.

"Any increase in mining operations was largely dependent upon the supply of African labour available," said Sir George Alibi at the annual meeting of the General Mining and Finance Corporation recently.

The financing of present mines in the Free State and other new mines would require large additional capital, he added. To secure this the confidence of overseas investors would have to be regained.

WAVE OF TERROR IN MOZAMBIQUE

JOHANNESBURG.

THE political police in Lourenço Marques have begun a new offensive against democrats, and have arrested and entered the homes of numbers of "suspects". Among those arrested is Joaquim Comes da Costa, a member of the central committee of the Democratic Unity Movement.

These raids and arrests are aimed at intimidating the people and preventing them from registering on the voters' roll. Since the presidential elections in Portugal in February the Democratic Unity Movement has been urging the people to register so that they may vote in the next elections. Every possible kind of obstacle has been put in the way of democrats who try to register, while members of the fascist Popular Action group are given every facility.

Some of the police raids have taken place in broad daylight in the streets. This was the case when a stationery shop was invaded by the police. Neither the proprietor nor employees were allowed to enter the premises, and the mobile men were kept outside for

close on an hour while the raid proceeded.

IN PORTUGAL.

In Portugal, too, persecution of all groups that opposed President Carmona in the farcical February elections has been intensified.

Those who oppose Salazar, who try to fight against his policy of allowing extensive American investment in Portugal's African territories, are being arrested and sent to penal colonies or the concentration camp of Tarrafal.

Portugal's chief of police has been dismissed because he was too "lenient" during the election period when General de Matos, who tried to stand against Carmona, was eventually forced to withdraw in the face of the obstacles put in the way of his candidature.

Garment Workers Protest Against Wage Cuts

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Garment Workers' Union has launched an all-out attack on employers in the trade who are trying a new stunt to cut workers' wages by applying for exemptions from the conditions laid down in wage agreements.

Exemptions, a union official told The Guardian, are generally granted only in the case of sick or old workers whose wages may, in special cases, be less than the full rate provided in the agreement.

One dress factory tried to cut the wages of a large number of workers by, in some cases, as much as 40 per cent. The union refused the applications for exemptions, and the workers were then dismissed.

A meeting of garment workers summoned one lunch hour outside the gates of this factory demonstrated against cuts in their wage standards, instructed their union representatives to refuse applications for exemptions unless they were on grounds of illness or for some other special reason, and resolved to "stand united against any attempt by any employer to reduce the wages of any worker in the industry."

The factory gate demonstration was attended by hundreds of workers from neighbouring factories in this area.

Police patrolled the area from 7.30 a.m. in the morning until after the meeting and van loads of them stood by during the demonstration.

N.U.D.W. Demands

JOHANNESBURG.

A crowded, enthusiastic meeting of distributive workers, who met last week to discuss their union's demands for a new agreement, decided to resist any attempt by employers to worsen the conditions of shop assistants or to retrench union members for unjustifiable reasons.

The N.U.D.W., which recently circulated over 1,000 employers with proposals for a new agreement, asks for a cost-of-living allowance of 50 per cent on basic salaries, a 40-hour week, 26 days' paid sick leave (instead of the present 12), and an extra week's annual leave after five years' service in the same firm.

Shop assistants on the Reef are in a militant mood and determined to press the union's demands for improvements, among which the most popular are the increased cost-of-living allowance and prolonged sick leave.

D.R.C. Anti-Everything

JOHANNESBURG.

The Dutch Reformed Church Congress on social evils, to which D.R.C. ministers from every part of the country flocked for a three-day session, has decided that apartheid is Christian.

Its resolution lays down that the "Scriptures indicate the separate existence of races and peoples, and condemn peoples and races mingling in a manner that can harm the Christian religion and civilisation."

The Minister of Justice opened the congress and promised a police campaign to wipe out social evils, new divorce and liquor laws, and steps against Communism.

Chief performer in the debate on Communism was the "expert" from the Reddingsdaadbond, Dr. N. Diedericks, who made his usual tirade against Communism.

The Congress resolution asked the Government not to recognise the Communist Party, to prohibit the distribution of Communist propaganda, to introduce stronger legislation prohibiting the incitement of Non-Europeans against Europeans, and to discharge Communists from the public service and Education Department.



Sam Kahn addressing the conference of the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement in Johannesburg recently. With him on the platform are (from left to right) Mr. J. B. Marks and Mr. Danie du Plessis.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
Thirteenth Year, No. 22. THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1949 Price 1d.

BECHUANALAND CRISIS

S. AFRICA PRESSING FOR INCORPORATION

Opposed To Seretse's Marriage

(By RUTH FIRST)

JOHANNESBURG.

SHAMELESSLY exploiting the domestic affairs of the Bamangwato people of Bechuanaland, the Union Government is trying to strengthen its case for the incorporation of the protectorate by bringing pressure to bear on the British Government to prevent Seretse Khama's accession to chieftainship.

The South African Government, it is understood, has made representations to Britain to withhold recognition of Seretse as paramount chief of the Bamangwato because of his marriage to a white woman. The Governments of Northern and Southern Rhodesia are believed to have made similar representations.

Eager to retain his powerful position of authority by ousting his nephew Seretse, for whom he has held the regency, Tshekedi Khama, by threatening to leave the tribe, has given Malan a splendid opportunity to force the hand of the British Government over the question of incorporation.

As Die Burger put it: "The Union cannot stand idly by in the face of developments of this kind on our borders—a sentiment echoed by the recent conference of the Dutch Reformed Church.

And Die Vaderland, organ of Haverenga's Afrikaner Party, said this week that developments in Bechuanaland were further evidence that it was necessary the protectorates should be incorporated in the Union without delay.

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Discussing the constitutional issues involved in Seretse's marriage to a white woman, an informant told me that the judicial commission for which Tshekedi is now asking cannot upset the decision of the kgotla, which was in favour of Seretse being allowed to become chief with his wife.

The kgotla, my informant said, was the equivalent of the parliament of the tribe. Its decision could not be regarded simply as a "mob decision", as Tshekedi had referred to it.

A High Commission Territory proclamation of 1934, explaining the powers of the kgotla in matters of succession to the chieftainship, had said that it fell to the tribal kgotla to tell the government who was the rightful successor to the chieftainship according to Native law.

The decision was then submitted to the High Commissioner for recognition and to the Secretary of State for confirmation.

This proclamation put the tribal custom on a legal basis.

In any case, my informant explained, the fact that Seretse had married out of the house from which he should select his wife, would not affect his right to succession, but only the future of his heirs.

Bechuana customary law makes no race or colour distinction, he added.

Tshekedi had also not married according to tribal custom, and (Continued in page 4)

the same applied to other ruling chiefs in Bechuanaland.

Among those who have signed Tshekedi's petition to Britain for a judicial inquiry are chiefs not of the Bamangwato, which is the tribe concerned in the dispute, but of other tribes of the territory, of which there are six in all, each with its own paramount chief.

Britain, meanwhile, faces a ticklish problem.

Overturning the kgotla's recognition of Seretse will face her with the administration of a hostile tribe. Consenting to Seretse's succession would mean Tshekedi would in all likelihood carry out his threat to split the tribe and fight Seretse to the end. More serious for Britain, it would arouse the antagonism of the Union and the Rhodesias.

BANNED FROM STUDYING IN LONDON

JOHANNESBURG.

James Phillips, the Coloured singer known as South Africa's Paul Robeson, has been refused a passport to proceed overseas to enter the Royal College of Music.

Mr. Phillips had planned to study singing for several years in London. The Minister has given no reason for his decision.

Mr. Phillips complied with all the requirements of the immigration authorities. After he had made his application the police authorities called him in for questioning.

Some time later he was told he would not receive a passport.

Investigation Into Ritual Murders

JOHANNESBURG.

A Cambridge University lecturer on anthropology, Mr. G. J. Jones, has been appointed by the British Commonwealth Relations Office as a one-man commission to inquire into the Basutoland ritual murders.

STARVATION IN THE CISKEI

JOHANNESBURG.

THE 14-month-long drought in the Ciskei is now so acute that special Government food vans, last used in the severe 1945 drought, are being sent into the reserves.

The District Surgeon at Peddie has said that very few Africans who are suffering from tuberculosis, even in the primary stages, will survive the drought. The high mortality rate from tuberculosis in June this year is attributed to the disappearance of wild plants, like the dandelion, which formed an important part of African diet.

BAD EFFECTS

In the reserves Africans who have been existing almost entirely for many months on samp and mealie meal are showing the effects of the prolonged period without green vegetables, milk and other essentials.

Children are suffering from pellagra and many of them, blown up like balloons with oedema, are being admitted to the various Ciskeian hospitals. Whether it rains or not there will be huge losses of sheep and cattle.

A newspaper correspondent, describing a visit to the Ciskei, says: "Nobody who has not seen it can possibly appreciate the devastation."

tion the 14-month drought has brought. It is exactly as though vast armies have driven through the area and carried out a scorched-earth policy.

BROWN DESERT

"Thousands of acres which only a year or so ago were good mealie and grazing lands are now a brown desert stretching as far as the eye can see and on which sand swirls and eddies."

"Cattle, with some exceptions in the betterment areas, are merely animated bags of bones and have worn out their teeth trying to find grass the parched fields."

"Not once," continues this correspondent, "did I see in any Native village a single young man." He explains they had all been forced to leave in the past few months or the Union's larger labour centres so that they could send money home to buy their people mealie.

"The old men and women just sit in the shadow of their huts watching the skies. It is useless to try to work the lands because the ground is as hard as iron."

PROTEST AT STATION APARTHEID

JOHANNESBURG.

Protesting against the introduction of apartheid at the Johannesburg Station, the Johannesburg District of the Communist Party says that, timed as it is so close to the Mayfair by-election, it can only be concluded that this measure is another attempt by the Nationalist Government to divert attention from the economic plight into which it has plunged South Africa by making yet another racialist attack on the Non-Europeans.

The proposal to extend these apartheid measures to other stations in the Transvaal and throughout the country at enormous expense at a time when the railways are losing money and are faced with a large deficit at the end of the financial year cannot be too strongly condemned, says the statement.

Compared with pre-war excursion fares, passenger fares have increased by 75 per cent, or more. "The public cannot afford to stand by without protest while their money is wasted to satisfy the race prejudices of a minority of the population."

The Communist Party demands the withdrawal of the regulation.

SCHOOL FEEDING

GRANT FOR WHITE CHILDREN TO BE DOUBLED?

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Transvaal Provincial Council has decided that in future all European schools should be given the opportunity of serving their pupils with a 6d. sit-down meal.

Last week the African Children's Feeding Scheme Committee was still waiting to hear whether the Minister of Health and Education would receive their deputation on the subject of African school-feeding. African children are now receiving only 1d. a day for school meals.

The African Children's Feeding Scheme is writing to every European school under the Witwatersrand School Board to ask that all European schools receiving the 6d. a head grant should ask the parents to give 3d. on behalf of each of their children either to their fund or to some African school in one of the city's townships.

The scheme will ask Minister Stals, if he receives their deputation, to provide the £1,200,000 necessary for African school-feeding.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Discussing the Provincial Council's decision to give 6d. a day to European children, Mr. R. Feldman, Labour member of the Council, said he would support the granting of a uniform amount of 6d. to each child as this would

help the poorer European, Indian and Coloured children.

However, he said, since the proposal was still merely an ideal to be striven for, the Administrator's announcement was ill-timed. There would be considerable misunderstanding and resentment that while the grant for African children—the country's hungriest—was reduced, there was talk of doubling the amount for other children.

The Labour Party's other member on the Provincial Council, Mr. D. H. Epstein, said a long struggle had been waged in the Council for the recognition that school-feeding was an essential part of school education. The Labour Party's agitation had now been successful.

DISAPPROVAL

The Rev. T. Huddleston, chairman of the African Children's Feeding Scheme, points out that £1 million will be spent in the Transvaal alone for European school-feeding, while £600,000 is to be spread over all African children in the whole country.

He told the Press he wished to express his strongest possible disapproval on the grounds of Christian principle on this matter.

Another Rebuff For Jansen

JOHANNESBURG.

An attempt to give Native Affairs administrators even mightier powers than they have at present under the Native Administration Act has been foiled by a decision in a court case concerning the Rentpayers' Association in the Nelspruit location.

Earlier this year the secretary of the Rentpayers' Association, Mr. C. Ndhlovu, was ordered to hand over his organisation's books to the authorities to be audited.

The order was made in terms of a 1939 Proclamation 272 under the Native Administration Act. This proclamation allows for the prohibition of gatherings and assemblies in locations, compounds and Native villages. It gives powers too for "other purposes considered necessary for the protection, control, improvement or welfare of Natives, and the furtherance of peace, order and good government."

Under this omnibus clause the authorities tried to make the Nelspruit Rentpayers hand over their books. The organisation refused to do so. Its secretary was brought to court and fined £25.

The case was taken to appeal by Mr. F. Boshoff, acting for Mr. H. A. Jansen, of Pretoria.

The appeal was upheld, the Judge holding the regulation was outside the powers given the Minister under the Native Administration Act.

Railworkers Alarmed At Recognition Of Sporbond

JOHANNESBURG.

AMONG railwaymen and railway staff associations there is perturbation at the announcement that the Sporbond has been officially recognised by the Government. It will replace the Railworkers' group and will probably also take over members of the other groups of railway employees.

The six staff associations now represented on the Federal Consultative Committee are satisfied with the group method of representation which came into effect in 1941. The Sporbond was excluded as it refused to fit into the grouping system.

The Consultative Committee protested immediately the Cabinet decision to recognise the Sporbond was announced, and will probably meet soon to consider steps to be taken.

Six thousand organised railworkers now have a new Nationalist-inclined leadership imposed on them from above. Political motives undoubtedly influenced this decision.

REPRESENTATION

The secretary of the Consultative Committee said last week that railway employees must be clear that the Sporbond will not

be free to enrol and represent any member of the railway staff, irrespective of the grade in which he is employed. It will not be allowed to represent members of the salaried staff, artisan staff, or the running and operating staff. As far as the Locomotive Engineers' Mutual Aid Society—LEMAS—is concerned, it will be able to represent the cartage drivers, road motor drivers and the drivers of certain small vehicles.

The Minister of Transport's figures of Sporbond members showed that only 224 railworkers belonged to it. These figures were given to the Consultative Committee. Sporbond had in addition 425 members of the Salaried Staffs, 313 of LEMAS, 341 of the running and operating staff, 321 of the artisan staff and 889 of the Employees' Union.

A further departmental circular on the subject is to be issued soon.

Friendship With Russia Needed

JOHANNESBURG.

"Friendship with the Soviet Union was possible in war, it is possible and necessary now," says a resolution adopted at the annual general meeting of the Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union.

The Rev. D. C. Thompson was re-elected chairman of the society. Mrs. E. Chames is the secretary. A new committee was elected.

BEER HALL FOR ALEXANDRA?

JOHANNESBURG.

A residents' meeting held in Alexandra Township has opposed the Health Committee's proposal that a beer hall be established in the township. Members of the Temperance movement spoke at the residents' meeting. One speaker wept as he lamented the extent to which people had become liquor addicts.

T.L.C. TO LEAD DEPUTATION TO SCHOEMAN

JOHANNESBURG.

Representatives of the Trades and Labour Council are to head a deputation to the Minister to press for the publication of the new agreement in the garment industry.

In April the Minister of Labour told the Garment Workers' Union he would not publish their agreement, to which the workers and employers were already party, until he had received the report of his commission investigating the union.

The commission is still busy drafting its report.

Mr. Schoeman objected to the closed shop principle incorporated in the agreement.

Officials of the union say that some employers have already taken advantage of the non-publication of the agreement and have locked out workers who were not prepared to work for lower wages.

Feeding Scheme For Council Workers

JOHANNESBURG.

The City Council will probably start once again to feed the African employees in its compounds. Departmental heads report that since the council discontinued the feeding of its employees there has been evidence of increased malnutrition and a decrease in efficiency.

The Transvaal Municipal African Employees' Union, which previously opposed the feeding of African employees and demanded a basic wage of 10s. a day, is now supporting the feeding scheme.

DAIRY WORKERS' MEETING

JOHANNESBURG.

A general meeting of African dairy workers of Johannesburg, Reef towns and Pretoria is to be held at the Trades Hall, 30 Kent Street, on Wednesday, July 27, from 1 to 6 p.m.

The workers are to hear a report on the new award for the industry which comes into effect from this month.

MASS UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Worst Crisis In Ten Years

CAPE TOWN.

AT the very moment when the Commonwealth Finance Ministers were formalising their agreement in London last week, calling for "the most effective use and development of the resources" of the Dominions, hundreds of workers were being laid off in South Africa, thus highlighting the innermost contradictions of the entire capitalist world.

Building workers, the first to suffer under capitalism's periodic crises, are already tramping the streets of the country's main cities in their hundreds looking for jobs.

Not only in the building industry, but to a varying extent also in the clothing, sweet, furniture, fishing, motor assembly and a number of other industries, unemployment has become a real problem.

HIGHEST IN TEN YEARS

In Cape Town, last month's unemployed figure of 3,456 represents the highest during the last ten years. And this by no means effects the true position, for it excludes Africans and those who have not registered with the labour Department.

Of the 3,456 persons unemployed, Coloured males numbered 1,562, European males 970 and Coloured females 790.

Unemployed building artisans in Cape Town numbered 420 on July 15, of which 60 were Europeans.

According to Mr. A. W. H. Rose, secretary of the Western Province Building, Electrical and Allied Trades Union, there has been a further increase of unemployed in the building industry this week.

"MAY GET WORSE"

He said that the position was serious "and it may well get worse."

"The winter is always a bad season in the building industry, especially for painters, but this alone does not account for the rising unemployment."

Mr. Rose said that the shortage of money was the main trouble. He hoped for some improvement as a result of the announcement made by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Ben Schoeman, that the Government had decided to relax temporarily all building control, providing the applicants for permits have the money to build immediately.

TOO MANY FISH?

In the trawler-fishing industry in Cape Town 25 men are without

jobs. Miss K. Augustyn, secretary of the Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union, told The Guardian that by next week she expects the figure to rise to 120.

Trawlermen have been told by their employers to reduce their catch because of a falling off in the demand for fish.

SPREADING

The present building slump is already beginning to spread into unemployment to other industries, writes our Johannesburg correspondent. Brickmaking firms, timber and joinery works, building material merchants, travellers and architects are all feeling the recession in their turnover.

A dispute between the building unions and the Labour Department on unemployment figures in the building industry has cast some doubt on the accuracy of the Government's unemployment figures generally.

CONFLICTING FIGURES

The Department of Labour says there are 146 unemployed building workers on the Rand and 138 in Pretoria. National officials of the Building Workers' Industrial Union say the figure is 1,560, and that that is a conservative estimate.

Mass Unemployment

(Continued from page 1.)

The number of men registered with the Department of Labour is only a fraction of those out of work. Rather than queue for hours at the Labour Office, unemployed building workers are queuing daily at the union offices to draw unemployment pay and appeal to union organisers to find them work.

Between September, 1948, and January of this year the union paid out, on the average, £780 in unemployment benefits. The average for the five months from February to June was £1,210, and the figure for June was £1,580.

FLIGHT OF SKILLED MEN
Highly skilled men who formerly commanded high wages are now accepting the minimum in order to remain in work.

Bricklayers who previously drew £15 a week are now offering to work for £5 a week, and others are trying to get work with the Railways at 10s. 6d. a day.

Building trade workers in Pretoria say unemployment is at its highest level for 18 years.

The Department of Labour says there is plenty of work for artisans in the goldfields area of the Northern Free State. When union officials made enquiries from major construction firms in the Free State they found one firm could take no men at all, another wanted only two specialists.

The union is considering calling a meeting of unemployed building workers to demonstrate the urgent need for the Government to release capital for building works.

MINERS' DEMANDS
The crisis is not only hitting the building industry and its related industries.

The Mineworkers' Union have demanded a wage board inquiry into conditions in the industry. Apart from a few concessions, says the letter of the miners' general secretary to Minister

Schoeman, basic wages have remained the same since 1927, whereas practically every other industry has been granted a wage board.

The mineworkers are not prepared to wait for the result of the Van Eck Commission of Inquiry because "it is only a fact-finding commission."

Among railwaymen there are growing economic difficulties since the Department of Transport ordered the cessation of all overtime.

IMPORT CONTROL BLAMED

In Port Elizabeth last week 300 European and 70 Non-European workers were paid off by the Ford Company of South Africa. In a letter to the employees, Mr. C. A. Smith, the managing director, said that owing to import control restrictions the firm was unable to maintain a full staff.

More than 2,000 unemployed in Port Elizabeth are already drawing benefits under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

An official of the Labour Department said in an interview that it would not be easy to find jobs for all those out of work. "We have so many unemployed qualifying for insurance," he said.

From Durban comes news of the threat of unemployment in the clothing industry. Mr. E. R. Savage, chairman of the Natal Clothing Manufacturers' Association, said that unless the Government permits the importation of cloth or curbs the flooding of South Africa by Southern Rhodesia manufacturers, the clothing industry, third largest in the Union, will be doomed.

Mr. Savage said that rough figures showed that the imports from Southern Rhodesia into the Union leapt from £10,000 in January this year to £72,000 in March and £81,000 in April.

Mr. Simon Roy, chairman of the Cape Clothing Manufacturers' Association, told the Press that many clothing firms in the Union were starting branch factories in Southern Rhodesia, because of the lack of controls there and low wages.

Travellers Suspend Natal Branch

JOHANNESBURG.

The Natal Branch executive and officers of the branch have been suspended from office by the central executive of the Commercial Travellers' Union.

Among the reasons are the failure of the Natal Branch to send delegates to the seventh meeting of the central executive committee, thus depriving its members of representation, and the failure of the branch executive to secure the proper payment of subscriptions by members.

S.A. APOLOGISES

JOHANNESBURG.

The Union Immigration Department has had to send an official apology to the Northern Rhodesian Government for the removal from a train in Bechuanaland of an African scoutmaster on his way to Britain for a training course.

The scoutmaster, Ngandi, was in possession of papers showing that he was on his way to Britain. He was, in fact, travelling on a British passport.

The Union Government has now to try to recover the costs of Ngandi's fruitless train journey, paid for by the African Scouts' Association. His sea voyage had to be cancelled when he was taken from the train.

* Except where otherwise stated B. P. (Bunting, 6, Barrack Street, Cape Town, appearing in this issue.

58,000 FAMILIES WITHOUT HOMES

Jo'burg's Housing Problem

JOHANNESBURG.

JOHANNESBURG'S African housing bottleneck is reaching bursting point. The City Council has clamped down on further schemes because of financial difficulties, yet at the same time it is prosecuting African property owners in the western areas for the existence of 18,000 squatter's shacks on their stands.

The 1946 housing crisis caused areas, with the result that "homeless families virtually took the law into their own hands and erected temporary shelters on the stands of property owners."

The memorandum of the property owners says it would have been an act of the greatest inhumanity for them to evict the squatters.

"Apart from the humanitarian aspect, it would have been impossible by means of legal proceedings to have achieved complete eviction, because as fast as one squatter was ejected another took his place, and each lawsuit for eviction meant that legal fees would have to be paid by the property owners, already impoverished by high rates of interest on their mortgage bonds and by reductions in rental by rent boards."

Today over 58,000 families need homes, a deputation of property owners from Sophiatown, Newclare and Morningside told a City Council Committee last week.

NOT THEIR FAULT

The deputation from the three areas told the Public Health Committee that property owners were being prosecuted under the Health Act because of a situation which they neither caused nor were able to prevent.

For some years the property owners had been inundated with demands for accommodation by homeless families. Saturation point had been reached in their

COURT CASES

Recently the Public Health Department began to initiate proceedings in the criminal courts not against the squatters but against the property owners. They were called upon under the Health Act to abate an alleged nuisance.

The representations of the property owners to committees of the City Council were for the cessation of these proceedings until the homeless families had somewhere to go.

Various Council committees are now to get together to formulate some policy.

Benoni U.P. In Revolt

JOHANNESBURG.

The Benoni branch of the United Party is threatening United Party headquarters on the Witwatersrand with a "revolt" over the Benoni parliamentary by-election issue.

The branch is determined to nominate its own candidate for the seat, although ever since the death of Madeley, Benoni has been reserved for Labour by agreement between the two parties.

Mr. T. Lovell has just been nominated as Labour's candidate for the election.

The Benoni United Party branch maintains that the constituency is a "revolt" for them, "and it is no longer prepared to hand it over to Labour or any other party." They maintain Benoni was a "Walter Madeley seat" and not a Labour seat.

The vacancy is caused by the death of Dr. T. W. B. Osborn.

NO MUSIC IN THEIR SOULS?

JOHANNESBURG.

"According to the radio broadcast, 'Highlights by the Cape Malays', practically all the songs which our young people of today sing originate among these Non-Europeans. What gets me down is, must we bring up our posterity on folk-songs which were brought into the country years ago by this bunch of Non-Europeans?"

Where are our Afrikaners who shine in music and song? Can't they give us a lead and compose a few genuine Afrikaans songs?"

—Letter to Die Transvaler.

Communists In Moroka Elections

JOHANNESBURG.

In Moroka-Jabavu's second annual elections for the advisory board, to take place this month, one of the Communist Party's candidates is expected to be returned unopposed. He is Aaron Madide, in whose favour candidates of all shades of opinion have been withdrawing.

Madide was one of the leaders of the Alexandra squatters and has been in the forefront of the struggles of the people of Johannesburg's official shanty towns.

Moroka-Jabavu elections are operated as an experiment on the ward system, and the contest is expected to be heated in most of the 24 wards. There are no nominated members on this board. The chairman may be either European or African, and is selected by the board from a list of Council-approved names.

Nominations for the board close on August 12 and the elections will be held ten days later. In most of the wards there are expected to be several candidates.

The other Communist Party candidates standing so far are D. Manell and K. Nkwad, also leaders of the Alexandra shanty movement.

"Unemployment Getting Worse"

Workers Disagree With Labour Dept.

JOHANNESBURG.

ALTHOUGH Mr. S. D. Mentz, Divisional Inspector of Labour, told a Press conference last week "there is not one indication that there will be a depression in South Africa," his statement is flatly contradicted by the national organiser of the Building Workers' Industrial Union, Mr. P. Huyser.

"There is absolutely no improvement in the serious unemployment situation," said Mr. Huyser this week. "In fact, things seem to be getting worse."

Saying he saw no reason to alter his estimate of 1,500 building workers unemployed, Mr. Huyser said more and more men were coming into the union offices in search of work, and members of the Union had been spreading throughout the country looking for jobs.

In his statement last week, Mr. Mentz said the official unemployment figures for July compared favourably with the July 1947 and July 1948 figures. Only when juvenile and cheap labour could not be placed would it be possible to say the country was heading for hard times, he added.

NOT THEIR HOME TOWN

Discussing the employment situation generally, Mr. Mentz said it was very difficult to place Coloureds in employment in Johannesburg. Of 982 Coloured men registered in Johannesburg in July, only 229 had been placed.

The difficulty, he said, was that Johannesburg was not the natural home of the Coloured, who had European and African competition against him.

1,000-AFRICANS TO BE EVICTED

JOHANNESBURG.

About 1,000 Africans who have been living on a farm near Fontainebleau for more than 20 years will be evicted during the next six months under the Urban Areas Act.

They are the tenants of a European landlord in an area known as Caspar's Location, and have lived in the area with the knowledge of the local health board for many years.

The European owners of the ground were charged in a Johannesburg court with leasing ground to Africans in an area not set aside for their occupation under the Urban Areas Act.

They were found guilty, but sentence on them was postponed on condition that all the Africans were evicted within six months.

U.P. Wants An Afrikaans Daily

JOHANNESBURG.

Delegates to the Witwatersrand General Council of the United Party have unanimously passed a resolution demanding "that the Party establishes an Afrikaans daily newspaper on the Rand."

APPRENTICESHIP

BENONI.

The East Rand Juvenile Affairs Board is to make representations to the Department of Labour for steps to expedite the indenting of apprentices and on the need for an apprenticeship committee for the area.

NATS' "RED SCARE" CAMPAIGN EXPOSED

Crooked Tactics In Mayfair Election

WILL BREAD COST MORE?

JOHANNESBURG. The National Federation of Master Bakers says that the bread-baking industry faces a financial crisis because the fixed profit of less than a farthing a loaf allowed to bakers is uneconomic. Every loaf, they say, is manufactured and delivered at a loss. Negotiations between leaders of the industry and the Wheat Industry Control Board are reported to be taking place. Whether the public is to be asked to pay more for bread will have to be decided by the Government.

Dadoo Determined To Return

KARACHI.

Dr. Y. M. Dadoo said here last month that although he was without a passport he was determined to find his way into the Union.

"After all," he said, "South Africa is my homeland and I must return although the Malan Government has deprived me of my passport and has refused to give me travel documents of any kind."

STOP THIEF!

JOHANNESBURG. The International League for the Rights of Man has asked for intervention by the United Nations Security Council to prevent South Africa from "swallowing up" the mandated territory of South-West Africa.

The request, presented by the Reverend Michael Scott, asked that the International Court of Justice be called on to decide whether the South African Government's unilateral decision to claim terminate its mandate and the territory.

JOHANNESBURG. Disappointed at the reluctance of the Mayfair electorate including some hundreds of unemployed workers to swallow their routine apartheid propaganda, the Nationalists have been indulging in an orgy of unashamed and lying slanders against the Communists and the Soviet Union.

They have obviously been trying their hardest to "red scare" the voters into their fold. Unfortunately for them, two of their biggest lies were nulled this week.

LIE NO. 1

Last week Die Vaderland, Havena's Afrikaner Party organ, came out with forbidding front-page headlines "Police Have Proof of Soviet Plan Against US". There followed an amazing story.

The police have established "beyond all doubt," said the report, that the Soviet Consulate in the Union is the centre of widespread Communist propaganda throughout Africa. Detectives have discovered that one of the Soviet diplomatic representatives attended important Communist meetings among Natives to investigate the effects of Red propaganda amongst them.

IN THE KREMLIN

Even more serious, the report adds, is that this diplomatic representative is one who recently returned to Soviet Russia. And in a featured position, in big type, Die Vaderland proclaims:

"In the Kremlin with Marshall Stalin today is a Russian diplomat who until recently was a member of the Soviet Consulate in the Union in Pretoria. When he left he took with him a briefcase containing information about Communist propaganda among our Natives."

Minister of Justice Swart is likely to take "exceptionally drastic action," the paper announces, and the matter will probably be discussed at the next Cabinet meeting.

THE LAST TIME

At the time of the Provincial elections last March it was Mr. Eric Louw who launched the attack on the Soviet Consulate. In reply the Soviet Consul-General in South Africa, Mr. P. S. Atroschenkov, described Louw's allegations as "sheer invention" and "a conscious effort to mislead public opinion."

The same can be said of the present report, which claims to come from the police and official circles.

BUT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT IT, an official told the Guardian.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner of Police in Pretoria, whose department would normally handle such an investigation, at first said he had no comment to make, and then added he didn't know where the newspaper got its information from.

The Deputy Police Commissioner for the Witwatersrand told the Guardian he knew nothing about the report.

LIE NO. 2

Under the heading "Bantu Gives Red Support to Swemmer" (the U.P. candidate), the Government paper Die Vaderland recently published a statement by Mr. M. D. C. de Wet Noh, the Nationalist M.P., that the General Secretary of the South African Communist Party, Mr. Moses Kotane, had appealed to the voters of Mayfair to support Mr. Swemmer. Die Transvaler seized on this piece of "news" with joy. It reported that Mr. Swemmer, very embarrassed by his new "allies," the Communists, had denied all

(Continued on page 4.)

"RED SCARE" CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 1.)

knowledge of a statement by Kotane. And it published a cartoon of Mrs. Jessie McPherson, former Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. Solly Sachs, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, and a black man intended to look like Moses Kotane, being thanked for their help by the United Party organiser, who, however, asks them please to come into the "United Party House, Mayfair" by the back door.

TYPICAL METHODS

"This is typical of the crooked methods used by the Nationalist Party to gain votes," said Mr. Kotane in an interview with the Guardian. "The fact is that I have issued no statement to the voters of Mayfair, nor has the Communist Party taken any part in the election."

"It is evident that the Nationalist Government will use any tactics, however despicable and undemocratic, to deceive the people and keep in power."

Will the "season of the lie" be learnt in South Africa, or must the experience of Europe be repeated before the fascist danger is understood in its full significance?

SWAZIS WANT HIGHER WAGES

JOHANNESBURG.

The Swazi National Council, meeting recently at Enkahlini, asked for wage increases in the protectorate, control of prices and profiteering, and representations to the Union Government for some alleviation in the restriction of passes to Swazis wishing to enter the Union.

On the pass question, councillors talked of cases where Swazis were unable to visit relatives who were ill in the Union, of fathers unable to enter the Transvaal in search of sons "stolen" by Europeans to work for them. Another speaker said there was a shortage of food in Swaziland and many people needed to find work in the Union's labour areas.

The Council was promised that the authorities would try to stop the use of the word "kaffir" in Swaziland.

In post offices, the Council said, Africans should be served by Africans. The Government's first assistant secretary said the Union Government ran the post offices in Swaziland and no satisfactory reply had been received from it on this matter.

TWO BASUTO CHIEFS EXECUTED FOR RITUAL MURDER

JOHANNESBURG.

A SHUDDER ran through Basutoland at the news last week of the execution, for ritual murder, of the second and fourth most important chiefs in the land.

The executed chiefs were Bereng Leretholi, second in seniority, and Gabashana Masupha, fourth in seniority. Also executed were five other men, all convicted of murder last November.

There was an uprising in the prison at Maseru last week when the prisoners tried to release the chiefs. The prison has since been heavily guarded by Basutoland mounted police.

Meetings of traders, teachers and chiefs were being hastily summoned to petition for a reprieve of the condemned men when the executions, hitherto unannounced, took place.

SECOND TRIAL

Gabashane and Bereng, both staunch supporters of the Roman Catholic Church, were to stand trial for a second murder, together with 31 others, on August 9. The trial against the 31 others will still proceed.

Both important chiefs were among the leading opponents in the protectorate of incorporation in the Union.

Meanwhile, the Privy Council has dismissed an appeal by another 11 Basutos against their convictions for a March, 1948, murder.

Garment Industry Agreement

JOHANNESBURG.

Three recent meetings of members of the Garment Workers' Union asked for the extension of their present agreement until August 31, 1950.

The meetings decided on the establishment of a Wage Protection Fund to support members who become unemployed because employers' requests for exemptions from the wage standards are refused. Each member will contribute 6d. a week to this fund.

Now Sells Dresses

Van der Walt, the union-breaker who tried so undermine the Garment Workers' Union, is reported to have opened a dress shop at Polterstraat.

August 11
1949

WILL TRADES COUNCIL REJOIN W.F.T.U.?

JOHANNESBURG

THE question whether the South African Trades and Labour Council should affiliate to the World Federation of Trade Unions or to the rival break-away federation sponsored by the British T.U.C. is likely to cause controversy in trade union circles within the next few weeks.

The T.L.C. is awaiting the return of its two delegates, Messrs. R. Haldane and I. Wolfson, from the conference of the W.F.T.U. in Milan and of the other federation in Geneva, before coming to a final decision.

The former T.L.C. was affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions, but the new T.L.C. set up after the adoption of the new constitution at the East London conference last April, did not consider itself bound by the decision of the old body, and decided to go into the matter afresh.

A FIASCO

The Geneva conference of the break-away union is reported to have been a fiasco, largely because the delegations from America and Britain disagreed about its aims and objects.

The Americans wanted to make the new body a mere tool in the anti-Communist campaign, whereas the British insisted it should have a positive programme as well.

Delegates to this conference from many countries, among them China and Greece and some South American States, were not sent by the major workers' organisations in those countries, and many even were government-sponsored. The Chinese delegates, for instance, came from Chiang Kai-shek China.

COMPETITION

In some cases there were two delegates, both claiming to represent the workers of their country, and in competition with one another.

Delegates from Japan, granted travel facilities by the United States General MacArthur, attended this conference. Delegates from liberated China and Japan who wished to attend the W.F.T.U. conference in Milan got no further than Prague because they were denied visas through France and other countries.

While the real representatives of the Indian trade union movement, including Mr. S. A. Dange, president of the Indian T.U.C. and an executive member of the W.F.T.U., have been kept in prison without trial for over a year, the Nehru Government sent its own stooges from the so-called "national" trade unions to represent Indian workers at the Geneva conference.

The president of the Garment Workers' Union, Miss Anna Scheepers, who has just returned from a conference of the W.F.T.U. trade secretariat in Lyons and who acted as an observer at the Milan Conference, said she was convinced the W.F.T.U., representing 70 million workers, had "come to stay".

She was greatly impressed by its conference. "There was no bickering, no wire-pulling," she said.

The workers were all very much opposed to the Marshall Plan, whose effects she saw clearly exposed in Italy. In

Milan, workers in a motor car factory had all been dismissed and the factory closed down on the insistence of the Americans, as one of their chief exports to Italy was to be cars.

Miss Scheepers said there was close co-operation between workers in the same types of industry in different countries through the W.F.T.U. trade secretariats. At the W.F.T.U. conference the delegates showed "a real spirit of co-operation and a determination to fight for the interests of the workers."

'CIVILISATION'—BY MALAN



Police savagery in the Union of South Africa was always a permanent feature of life for the African people. Today, under the Malan Government, it has been stepped up.

This African was walking across a square in the town of Alexandria when the police charged a peaceful meeting. Their batons bruised and cut his face before he was able to get away.

The meeting was one of a series held by Sam Kahn, only Communist M.P., which the Government has been breaking up. Scores of Africans were injured.

"T.U. APARTHEID" WOULD LEAD TO CHAOS"

Trades Council's Replies To Industrial Commission

JOHANNESBURG.

"WE say emphatically that any attempt to divide trade unions into racial groups would result in chaos."

This is the reply of the South African Trades and Labour Council to the questionnaire of the Industrial Legislation Commission, which asked whether the T.L.C. favoured separate employers' and employees' organisations for Europeans, Coloureds and Asiatics.

"Any attempt to divide trade union membership on racial lines would introduce problems far graver than those with which we are confronted today," states the T.L.C. reply.

"Not only would such a policy create many legal complications, but it must be borne in mind that Non-Europeans who are members of trade unions today have certain entrenched rights and for many years have been contributing towards benefit funds."

"In addition such division would not be conducive to peace and harmony within an industry."

THE QUESTIONS

In its questionnaire the commission asks for detailed information of the Council's attitude to the Union's labour laws, the position of African unions, Industrial Councils and Wage Boards and many other related labour matters.

At the outset, the T.L.C. says the Industrial Conciliation Act definition of "employee" should be extended to cover all workers. Analysing the composition of the Council it is pointed out that

19 affiliated unions are solely European and 52 have European and Non-European membership. These figures suggest that the majority of European employees

have no serious objection to mixed unions. Separate branches of the same union for European and Non-European members are often established, observes the S.A.T.L.C. memorandum.

It adds: "We would observe that many unions of African workers would be organised if they were covered by the Industrial Conciliation Act."

Asked to discuss the position of Non-European employees or em-

(Continued on page 4)

T.U. APARTHEID

(Continued from page 1.)

ployers on industrial councils the S.A.T.L.C. says: "It is essential that Non-European employers and employees should be represented on industrial councils in their capacities of employers and employees and not on a racial basis. If separate councils for Europeans and Non-Europeans are established the position will resolve itself by the gradual elimination of Non-Europeans from commerce and industry and to the detriment of Non-European workers."

The S.A.T.L.C. strongly warns against any interference in the domestic affairs of industrial councils. "The parties to a Council decide the financial affairs of the Council in a democratic manner," it states.

AFRICAN UNIONS

The commission asks a long series of questions about African trade unions.

"Have Natives reached a stage when they can benefit fully...? Give reasons."

Are the executives of such unions truly representative of the

majority of members? "Can you generally say that Native trade unions are the result of spontaneous effort of the workers?" "Should they (African unions) be allowed to continue to function uncontrolled as at present, or be prohibited?"

To these and many other similar questions the S.A.T.L.C. replies it will deal with them on general lines as it is not in a position to answer many of the questions submitted for the reason there are sharp divisions of opinion among its affiliated organisations. "We submit that the information required can be secured through the medium of evidence which will no doubt be given by individual trade unions."

"On one point, however, the Council is unanimous, and that is that the definition of 'employee' should be amended to include all workers. In those cases where the existing trade unions decline to accept Africans as members, the Council recommends that provision be made in the Industrial Conciliation Act for the establishment of African trade unions on a parallel basis to those catering for European and other Non-European workers, on condition full legal recognition be accorded these unions, and provision is made for them to make representations to industrial councils, the Wage Board or conciliation boards."

"The Council submits that the interests of all workers, including those of the African workers, will be served by the adoption of these proposals." Further oral evidence on these matters will be led by the council when the commission returns to Johannesburg.

More Unemployed

DURBAN.

According to unofficial estimates there are over 15,000 unemployed Africans in Durban. The Indian figure exceeds 8,000.

Last week the Secretary of the Liquor and Catering Union told the Press that unemployment in his industry was on the increase and was creating a serious problem.

JOHANNESBURG.

All trade unions have been asked by the Pretoria Chamber of Commerce to supply it with figures of unemployment in their industries.

NO POINT IN COMMISSION

JOHANNESBURG.

"There does not appear to be any point in requesting the appointment of a Judicial Commission of Enquiry on a matter already covered by customary usages," Mr. Ishak G. Khamaana, fourth in succession to the Bamangwato chieftainship, commented to the Guardian on Britain's commission of enquiry into the Bamangwato chieftainship.

He said that the issues raised by Chief Tlokezi to the High Commissioner, his request for the commission and the work of other pressure groups within and outside the Union borders were dictated solely by political expediency.

The matter had now become a test of the extent to which tribal institutions would be respected by the European rulers.

Mr. Khamaana commented on the absence of African representation on the Judicial Commission.



Coloured people in Johannesburg, through a petition now being widely circulated, are offering the Coloured voters of the Cape their support in opposing the threats to the Cape Coloured franchise. "We pledge ourselves to support the struggle for the protection and extension of our democratic rights," says their petition. The petition also protests that the remarks of Minister Ben Schoeman at a Vrededorp meeting, when he described the Non-European people as "Hot'nots, Coolies and Kaffirs," are a gross insult to the majority of the people of this country. "We regard such utterances as indicative of the fact that Mr. Schoeman is neither desirable nor competent to discharge his responsible position as a Minister of the Union Cabinet." Our picture shows a Coloured resident signing the petition.

TOBACCO WORKERS MAY STRIKE

JOHANNESBURG.

Four series of discussions between workers and employers on a new agreement for tobacco workers have broken down already because the employers refuse to meet the workers' demands. The workers are determined on improvements and if necessary will take strike action, a union official told The Guardian last week. A new series of discussions was then due to open.

The workers have informed their union that they are not prepared to work any overtime in the industry until there has been some settlement of the dispute.

The workers are demanding a 7½ per cent. increase in wages, a reduction in working hours from 44 to 42 from September 30, 1949, and a further reduction of 2 hours in 1950. They demand further all paid public holidays, and an increase in their annual leave.

Recession In Hotel Industry

JOHANNESBURG. The hotel, bar and restaurant trade on the Reef is falling as a result of a recession in the catering industry that began after the war and is being accelerated by present-day economic conditions. "The fact that employers are able to get employees at cheaper rates of pay speaks for itself," secretary of the Liquor and Catering Union told The Guardian.

ISCOR OFFERS WAGE RISE TO MECHANICS

JOHANNESBURG.

WITHIN the coming few days the Mechanics Unions' Joint Executives are likely to accept Iscor's offer to men employed at Pretoria, Vaal Park, Thabazimbi Mine and the Dolomite Quarries, which will give them an increase of 4½d. an hour, new gains in overtime pay and back payments, a new holiday bonus and a 20-minute eating break.

This offer, if accepted (as there is little doubt it will be), will form an agreement to continue probably until November, 1951.

This development must be seen against the background of manoeuvrings started by the Nationalist-controlled Yster- en Staalbedryfsvereniging. This body, busy today trying to set up a rival organisation to the Trades and Labour Council, largely duplicates the work of existing mechanics' unions in the steel industry.

It obtained an arbitration award for its members which places some semi-skilled workers on the same level as some artisans.

NEW DEMANDS

The five unions constituting the Mechanics Unions' Joint Executives then placed before Iscor their demands for increases. They have been successful so far in that Iscor's offer is acceptable, and in the end their members will receive increases under an agreement to which the employers are committed for at least two years, while the arbitration award achieved by the Nationalist body is likely to be challenged by Iscor and in any case operates for a comparatively short period.

The award to the Nationalist union was made, incidentally, by Dr. J. H. Botha, at present chairman of the Industrial Legislation Commission. The Department of Labour has issued statements denying that the award was made for political motives.

Dr. Botha has since relinquished his position as Wage Board chairman and has accepted an appointment on the Railway Board, an advisory body to the Minister of Transport.

AID FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

JOHANNESBURG.

The International Union of Students, which has headquarters in Prague, has voted £50 from its relief funds to the fund started by students at the University of the Witwatersrand to maintain medical bursaries for Africans.

The students' fund here was formed after the announcement by the Minister of Health that no more medical bursaries would be provided by the State after the end of this year.

MINE STRIKE IN SECOND WEEK

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Springs mine strike—a test case involving a principle of great importance to all European miners—has entered its second week.

Discussions with the Acting Minister of Labour are due to open this week, after which the matter is likely to be referred back to arbitration.

Over £800 in strike pay was handed out last week to the 125 strikers. The Secretary of the Mineworkers' Union, Mr. D. E. Ellis, told The Guardian the Mineworkers' Union would fight the principle involved in this dispute "with all the means at its disposal". The S.A. Trades and Labour Council last week adopted a resolution supporting the strike. Explaining the issues involved in the strike, Mr. Ellis said attempts were being made on many mines today to eliminate certain skilled employees. Previously all contractors on the mines were assisted by competent men called early examiners who went underground two hours before the contractor to do preliminary work such as watering, putting in supports and starting up machines. This assistant knocked off then two hours before the contractor.

During the war period 6,000 miners went on active service and owing to the acute shortage of European miners the early examiners were eliminated and the contractors assumed additional responsibilities. At the end of the war the employers tried to impose these additional responsibilities permanently on the contractors, giving them the jobs of two men without adequate remuneration. A conciliation board a year ago ended in a deadlock.

Subsequently the Gold Producers' Committee agreed to voluntary arbitration, and the arbitrator held two separate jobs were involved, both full time. The present strike arises from the amalgamation on August 17 last year of Springs mine and West Springs mine. After amalgamation these mines altered the conditions of service of the miners, and their interpretation of the arbitration award is that Springs mine only is affected and not West Springs, as the award was made before amalgamation.

Mr. Ellis said the arbitrator, asked for elucidation, said he ruled both mines were affected, as if he had wished to exclude one he would have said so clearly.

The Gold Producers' Committee has stated it will meet a union deputation only after the strikers return to work.

20 MILLION TEXTILE WORKERS UNITED

JOHANNESBURG.

WITH the formation in June of the Textile and Clothing Workers' Trade Department of the World Federation of Trade Unions, over 20 million textile and clothing workers will have, for the first time in history, an international trade union body for the defence of their common interests.

Reporting to the Garment Workers' Union on the Lyons Conference of this Trade Department, delegate Anna Scheepers said the headquarters of the department would be in Poland. Among the countries that participated in the Lyons Conference or are represented on the Trade Department Committee were Rumania, South America, Italy, the Soviet Union, Germany, Holland, Hungary and France. The delegates of Yugoslavia and China were refused visas to France. Miss Scheepers was elected one of the Lyons Conference vice-presidents.

HARD WORKER
Miss Scheepers investigated the conditions of clothing workers in a number of European countries. In France, she said, "the workers in the factories work very hard, in my opinion much harder than the workers here. Women are employed on the big steam pressing machines and press with 14 lb. iron."

Women's wages in France range from £2 15s. to £3 a week. "How the French workers live it is difficult to say, because the cost of living is so high and the wages are very bad."

Bunga In Revolt Wants Africans To Sit In Parliament

CAPE TOWN.

EVEN the Bunga, probably the closest to Malan's ideal of an Apartheid Parliament for Africans only, is in revolt. During this year's session at Umtata, councillors moved:

"That the Union Government be respectfully requested to amend the existing law in regard to election of members of Parliament so as to allow Africans to represent Africans in Parliament."

The motion was carried. The daily Press published no reports of the debate or decision.

The mover of the resolution, Councillor E. C. Bam, said: "We now realise the Native people are being removed further and further from Parliament. It is in Parliament that laws are made, laws which affect us. We have men amongst us sufficiently educated to be capable of representing us directly."

Another Councillor, Mr. T. Pongwe said: "Western civilisation brought with it freedom, it was intended to improve peoples of all nations, but when it came to our country it had other intentions, and it came with a desire to close the door and leave us outside."

"I submit we are condemned not because the Africans are not educationally qualified, but because we happen to be a certain race of people wearing a certain kind of skin, but if we dwell on that point, it would mean that we are blaming our Creator."

"We appeal to the Government that we also should enjoy democracy which is being enjoyed in all civilised countries."

TRAIN APARTHEID

CAPE TOWN.

The case in which members of the Communist Party are appearing on charges arising from the Train Apartheid Resistance Movement has been remanded to October 18.

The case of the second group of accused continued on Wednesday. The defence objected to the use in a detective's evidence of speeches not referred to in the indictment, and the Crown agreed it would restrict its evidence to what does appear in the indictment.

NO PASSPORTS for AGITATORS?

THE IRON CURTAIN BEGINS TO DROP

CAPE TOWN.

ACCORDING to the "Vaderland Bulletin" (Havenga's English bi-weekly) the Cabinet has decided, by unanimous vote, that "no person, no matter who he may be, will in future be granted a passport if the Government has sufficient information that such a person is an agitator who has made himself guilty of activities contrary to the best interests of the country."

This paper reports that the Minister of Justice was asked to give instructions to the police to be on the look-out for such persons and to keep a careful record of their activities. The police will be asked to keep a record of their public speeches which may go to show that they are "hostile in their sentiments to their native country."

DONGES' ACTION ENDORSED

Dr. Donges' action in confiscating the passports of Drs. Dadoo and Naicker was endorsed.

Dr. Malan is reported to have said that the day was past when agitators who were South African

FOOD WOMEN LAUNCH FAIRSHARE CLUB

CAPE TOWN.

WORKING together, John Morley and the energetic women of Cape Town's food queues have started the Fairshare Club.

"People Before Profits" is their slogan; they hope that this club will be the cornerstone of a full-scale workers' co-operative.

Such a co-op. has been John's dream for years. Now it is being built by the women who stand in the food queues from Bellville to Simonstown; who marched with their banners when there was a danger the mobile vans would be removed; who protested when rice was being sold under the counter, and butter for 3d. a slice.

In the beginning the Fairshare Club will sell clothing for cash or on the lay-by system. Entrance fee is 1s.; plus 3d. for the co-op. membership card. Of the club's income 20 per cent. will be allocated to its development, and members will draw a 5 per cent.



JOHN MORLEY

sell their handwork through the club.

Run at present by the finance committee of the Food Committee, the buying section is open every Wednesday afternoon, and all day Saturday at 5, Queen's Road, Woodstock.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Thirteenth Year, No. 23 THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1949. Price 1d.

Unemployment Crisis Continues

T.L.C. DELEGATION TO SEE MALAN

JOHANNESBURG.

ALTHOUGH the Minister of Social Welfare, Dr. Stals, announced last week that there was no fear of unemployment in this generation or the next, and although the Department of Labour continues to issue statements that unemployment in the Union is not serious, the figures tell a different story.

The number of European males unemployed in July was 5,095 as compared with 4,259 the previous month; and the number of unemployed registered with the Department of Labour in July this year—16,302—is almost 1,300 more than in June and 3,000 more than in July last year.

In Cape Town, the unemployment among builders jumped to 771 at the end of last week—almost 300 more builders being out of work than at the end of July.

SHORT TIME

The furniture industry in Johannesburg and Cape Town has been working short time for some months though the position in Cape Town, The Guardian learns, is not as serious as in Johannesburg.

Anger At Jo'burg Tram Fare Rise

JOHANNESBURG.

After discussing the matter for some weeks and meeting a deputation representing the African residents of the Western area, the City Council Finance Committee has recommended that tram fares on the route be increased by 1d. from September 1. This means adults will pay 3d. and children 2d.

The City Council has still to consider this recommendation.

People in Western Native Township are very angry at the proposal and their mood is ugly. A huge meeting called last week decided that yet another deputation to explain their economic difficulties be sent to the Council. Other methods of opposition to the increase are now being worked out.

An informant told The Guardian that many people are likely to use the buses of the private company operating in the western area, as the fare is also 3d. and they are much faster than the trams. The bus company is reported to have agreed to put more buses on the route.

Western Native Township, Sophiatown and Newclare are now awaiting the outcome of the full Council meeting.

T.L.C. DELEGATION

Faced with these pressing problems, the South African Trades and Labour Council has asked Dr. Malan to receive a deputation to discuss the revision of cost-of-living allowances, the fixation of price levels, the relationship between the Council and the Government, the non-publication of the industrial council agreements, the registration of trade union constitutions and amendments, and the Government's policy on the issue of passports.

The Council has suggested that the Minister of Labour, the Minister of Economic Affairs, and the Minister of the Interior attend the discussions. Members of the S.A.T.L.C. deputation will be Messrs. J. J. Venier, R. M. Haldane, J. D. F. Briggs, C. Rehn, B. Weinreb, A. G. Forsyth and Miss Anna Schepers.

Trade unions have been circumspect and asked to comment on the subjects to be discussed, and the S.A.T.L.C. is also sounding the opinions of its affiliated unions on a suggestion that cost-of-living allowances be incorporated into the present basic wage.

Winning African Business Men For Nationalism

NEW ORGANISATION LAUNCHED

JOHANNESBURG.

USING money loans as a bait, a new organisation styled Die Randse Onderlinge Hulpoorganisasie has been launched to win the African business and trader class for Christian Nationalism. The Broederbond's economic and political expert, Dr. Diederichs, is reported to have connections with the movement.

The Guardian has in its possession a copy of the "Regulations for Bantu Committee" of the R.O.H.O. This Bantu committee consists of six Bantu representatives and three representatives from the R.O.H.O. executive.

AIMS AND OBJECTS

The work of the committee is to be carried out by the regulations, "under the control of the R.O.H.O. executive".

Its objects are "to further the social interests of the Bantu community; to assist the Bantu in maintaining and cultivating a sound Bantu culture on a Christian National basis; to guide the Bantu youth in the profitable use of their leisure time; to further the welfare of the Bantu on economic and industrial grounds; to further the establishment of Bantu co-operative undertakings, companies and sole proprietorships; to furnish the Bantu with advice in economic and industrial matters; to support the Bantu in his struggle against foreign ideologies and undesirable influences; to cultivate a better understanding between the Bantu and Afrikaans-speaking South Africans."

SOCIAL WORK

In further clauses the regulations talk of raising funds for "social interests" (those affecting the youth and a Bantu Christian National culture) from socials, street collections and grants from the Department of Adult Education.

The economic aims of the organisation will be furthered by "loans, investments and shares". The R.O.H.O. Bantu Committee has held a number of small meetings of African businessmen, traders and some teachers at a Fordsburg meeting place.

Known to be busy with the movement are Domingo, the Coloured supporter of the Ossewa Brandwag, who some years ago tried to launch a fascist organisation for Africans, the African National Improvement League; and his henchman Jerry Shese, also from the League, who is reported to be

busy in Pretoria finding capital for Nationalist-minded business groups.

A well-known Alexandra Township businessman is known to be interested in the R.O.H.O. African Committee and to have attended the Fordsburg gatherings.

INCENTIVE SYSTEM AIDS EMPLOYERS

—A. M. MERKEL
JOHANNESBURG.

MINISTER OF LABOUR SCHOEMAN'S incentive bonus scheme (first proposed for the building trade) is being discussed by the organised trade union movement as a result of a memorandum on the subject prepared by the secretary of the Transvaal Furniture Workers' Union, Mr. A. M. Merkel, and now circulated by the

Mr. Schoeman said he realised, there might be opposition by the trade unions to a productive incentive bonus system in industry because of their fear that it might lead to sweated labour. He thought, though, that that danger was non-existent.

"The workers will be protected by minimum wage legislation of their industry. They can only benefit by increasing their remuneration as a result of increased production."

SALES TALK

In his memorandum Mr. Merkel says talk that incentive bonus schemes have no relation to sweated labour "is pure sales talk from those who stand to derive benefit from it."

The plan, says Mr. Merkel, is partnership in the incentive bonus scheme, and to use shop stewards to ensure that every worker makes an increased effort. The obvious result is that all so-called slackers will be weeded out. In fact, it will then be regarded as the duty of the union to eliminate them.

"Consequently, the trade unions will be expected to reorganise the shop steward system from that of custodians of workers' interests at the point of production, to guards of capitalist motives so that profits may rest on a sounder basis than under the time-work system, which is based on the trade union policy of a fair day's pay for a fair day's work."

Two Unions For One Job

A.E.U. Applies To Court

JOHANNESBURG.

In an appeal being heard before the Pretoria Supreme Court, the Amalgamated Engineering Union is asking the court to decide that the Suid Afrikaanse Yster en Staalbedryfsvereniging is not entitled to registration as representative of fitters, turners and riggers at the Thabazimbi mines. The appeal is being made under the Industrial Conciliation Act.

The Minister of Labour is the first respondent in the case, the Yster en Staalbedryfsvereniging the second.

The A.E.U. says in its affidavit that in April, 1948, it applied to the industrial registrar for an extension of its scope of interests to include certain classes of workers at the Thabazimbi mine. This was granted some eight months later, but meanwhile the Yster en Staalbedryfsvereniging asked for a variation of its registered scope of interests to include a portion of the same workers.

The A.E.U. was then asked by the registrar to object, which it did. Then came a letter from the registrar saying the earlier invitation was an error. There was no dual registration of both unions.

SELL-OUT IN N. RHODESIA

Ransom For Cecil Rhodes

JOHANNESBURG.

BRITAIN'S Labour Government has once more betrayed its principles and its people in an agreement with the Northern Rhodesian Government on the royalties payable to Cecil Rhodes' British South Africa Company.

Since the last century, when Rhodes' Company took a leading part in the scramble for Africa, the company has enjoyed the right to royalties on all minerals mined in the territory. With the present high prices enjoyed by minerals the company has been getting an annual sum of something like £2 million. On the Copper Belt, the company itself does no mining; it just enjoys the rake-off.

TAX PROPOSAL

Some time ago, Mr. Roy Welensky, leader of Northern Rhodesia's White Labour Party, proposed on behalf of his Government that a 50 per cent. tax be levied on the company's annual takings.

In London, the shares of the company dropped alarmingly at this news. The company's chairman, Mr. Douglas Maitland, came hurrying out to South Africa. Leading articles supporting the company's case appeared in Union newspapers. Then a conference was called in London by the Colonial Office so that these threatened taxes on the company's royalties could be discussed.

Mr. Welensky went to London as one of the political leaders of Northern Rhodesia to put forward his Government's case.

THE AGREEMENT

The spirit of that old empire-builder Cecil Rhodes must have presided over the discussions in Crech Jones' offices.

For Northern Rhodesia has now agreed to a proposal that for the next 27 years (there seems to be no explanation why the year 1956 should have been chosen) it will be content with 20 per cent. of the company's mineral revenues.

Not even conservative British journals have been able to support this betrayal by Northern Rhodesia of the interests not only of her African population, but also of her White workers. Britain's Labour Government is clearly trying to forget or ignore her own declared policy on mineral rights, laid down in her White Paper of just three years ago. In this document the Government pledged itself to the policy of nationalising mining. All mineral rights should belong to the Crown, proclaimed the White Paper.

THE POSSIBILITIES

All the legal cards are in the hands of Mr. Welensky's Government, of course. It could tomorrow pass a Bill extinguishing the Company's rights.

It could have followed the example of the Southern Rhodesian Government which some years ago bought out the company's rights for a down payment of several million pounds.

But the spirit of the old empire-building days is still alive in Britain, and Northern Rhodesia is to continue to pay a yearly ransom to the company which "persuaded" bewildered African chiefs to part with their land in the 19th century in exchange for a few cases of whisky.

SPRINGS STRIKE

JOHANNESBURG.

In the strike of 128 miners at Springs there have been no new developments in the past few days. Officials of the Department of Labour are negotiating with groups of employers.

The Prime Minister last week sent for the Minister of Labour to return to duty to deal with the strike. Mr. Schoeman was big game hunting in Portuguese East Africa during the strike.

A Real Grievances Commission

JOHANNESBURG.

Officials of the City Council and the Native Commissioner attended large meetings of residents in Western Native Township last week to discuss the people's grievances.

The meeting was called by the advisory board and the vigilance association.

The meeting complained about summonses issued to a number of residents for the demolition of verandahs which they had built on to their houses in a last effort to cope with the overcrowding in their homes; the installation of asbestos chimneys over the last few months which smoke so much that whole families are driven into the open when the fires are lit in the early mornings and the time-lag between the demolition of old lavatories and the construction of new ones, during which period residents have to walk about a mile in some cases to the public conveniences.

The Council officials said they would go into all these complaints, hold on-the-spot investigations and then report back to the people.

Minister Swart On Violence

JOHANNESBURG.

For the second time this year, the Minister of Justice has advocated whipping and corporal punishment for offenders who commit crimes of violence.

"Offenders should be made to feel some of the pain they themselves inflict," he told a conference of Northern Transvaal magistrates last week.

Tobacco Workers Want Higher Wages

JOHANNESBURG.

TOBACCO workers here have decided they will go on strike on September 36, when their present agreement expires, unless they can achieve their minimum demands. Their dispute with employers in the tobacco industry has been submitted to the Industrial Council.

The tobacco industry, says a statement issued by the union, is one of the most profitable secondary industries in this country. The profits of the International Tobacco Company for 1948 were almost £129,000. Those of the United Tobacco Company for the same year were £1,127,591.

The industry, the statement continues, will not be affected by import control, and no other cigarettes are to be imported. The industry has become highly mechanized and where four workers were used previously to operate one machine, the number has now been reduced to two or even one. The workers feel they should benefit by these developments.

WORKERS' DEMAND

In March of this year the workers demanded a 15 per cent.

increase in wages, a 40-hour working week, all public holidays on full pay, and three weeks' annual leave on full pay.

After a series of discussions the employers offered a reduction in working hours to 42½ a week, with Boxing Day as an additional paid holiday, but they also want to reclassify a large section of the workers into lower grades.

The workers decided to accept no reclassification. They decided to accept as a minimum a 42½ hours working week to be worked in 5 days at 8½ hours a day. They decided also to accept Boxing Day as a paid holiday and to concede the other two public holidays for which they asked, but to demand a 7½ per cent. increase in wages. The union secretary, Miss Anna Scheepers, told The Guardian the workers were in a most militant mood.

Transport Dispute For Arbitration

JOHANNESBURG.

The City Council rejected the Johannesburg Municipal Transport Workers' Union's demand for shorter hours, ten days' occasional leave and an all-round increase of 3d an hour on basic pay when the conciliation board dealing with the dispute met for the third time last week.

The dispute will now go to arbitration.

During the discussions before the conciliation board on the union's demand for shorter hours, Mr. J. J. Venier, secretary-adviser of the union, brought in a conductor and a motor-man to show the board the physical effect on the men's legs of standing for long periods.

He told the Council the general tendency was to reduce working hours, and said the Council's clerical staff worked only 39 hours a week.

The Council representative said that by reducing hours there would have to be more men to carry on the transport service, thus increasing costs.

COMMUNISTS WIN MOROKA ELECTIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

Both Communist Party candidates who stood in the Moroka Advisory Board elections this week were successful. They are Aaron Masidie and Karl Nkwadi, well-known leaders of the original shanty-town movements.

Polling in these elections was amongst the heaviest in their two wards. As the election was held on a working day, Monday, instead of Sunday, the usual day for advisory board elections, polling could begin only in the late afternoon and evening when the workers began to stream back to their homes. Women armed with their rent receipts who tried to vote during the day to avoid the later congestion were not allowed to.

No election was held in the one ward where the prospective candidate got a court interdict preventing the holding of the election until cause was shown why he was disqualified.

"GRAVE INFRINGEMENT OF PERSONAL LIBERTY"

TWO NATIONS

JOHANNESBURG.

The Education League, criticising the Draft Education Act (Language) (Amendment) Act 1949, says it will "separate our children instead of bringing them together; will divide our national heritage; and will create two nations instead of one."

Unlawful Treatment Of Africans Exposed

JOHANNESBURG.

HARSH and unlawful treatment meted out to African were exposed in two cases in the Supreme Court here last week. Illegalities committed since 1947 by the Johannesburg City Council in the administration of pass regulations were brought to light when it was held that Africans who have found work in the city cannot be refused entry into the urban area.

Thousands of Africans have already been turned away from the city under these regulations since Johannesburg was proclaimed a closed area, in terms of Proclamation 81 of 1947.

The court judgment spread like wildfire among Africans, and threw the Council's administrative officers into a flurry. Officials at the pass office went into small huddles to discuss the development which had upset their machinery for arbitrarily expelling Africans from the city.

The test case was that of a 17-year-old African, Joseph Kotsokwane born in Alexandra Township.

The day following the court decision the endorsement was cancelled and Kotsokwane started work. At the same time two further petitions of a similar kind were filed and the pass office was visited by a number of Africans, in the same position as the successful applicant, seeking a reversal of the orders against them.

In giving judgment Mr. Justice Clayton said that Africans from outside the urban area who had jobs to go to in Johannesburg had a right to enter the area.

The actions of the City Council in preventing Kotsokwane from entering the urban area and en-

(Continued on page 4)

Donges Wants To Deport Him

PRETORIA.

An Indian, China Rayvee, is seeking a court interdict preventing the Minister of the Interior from deporting him to India.

Earlier this year he was convicted of being in possession of unwrought gold. Later he was told the Minister had deemed him an undesirable inhabitant and a warrant for his deportation had been issued.

Rayvee's petition said he had come to the Union in 1924, since when, except for a holiday in India, he had lived continuously in the Union. He had lost all contact with the country of his birth, he petitioned.

The judge granted an interim interdict to prevent him from being forcibly deported.

WANTS SEPARATE UNIONS

PRETORIA.

The Co-ordinating Council of the South African Trade Unions broke away from the breakaway trade union centre in Pretoria, the Industrial Legislation Commission last week that it was evident that the African could not adapt himself to trade union principles.

While the council did not want to remain unorganised, such organisations as did exist must be "in conformity with the temperament and background of the Native," it said.

SEMI-SLAVERY ON THE FARMS

Reply To Agricultural Union

JOHANNESBURG.

THE entire economic development of the country is stultified by the low level of agricultural productivity, and if "prodding" legislation is necessary, it is certainly in farming," was the comment of Mr. E. S. Sachs, General Secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, on the evidence to the Industrial Legislation Commission by a deputation of the South African Agricultural Union.

Among the representations made by the S.A.A.U. was that there should be flexibility in the application of labour legislation; that labour legislation should be devised to provide the labourer with the "incentive to do more and better work"; and that the employer should be protected against being exploited in the same way as the labourer was protected.

The Commission chairman, Dr. J. H. Botha, commented the S.A.A.U. memorandum to a section of the Press.

NOT CLEAR

Just exactly what virtues Dr. Botha saw in the S.A.A.U.'s evidence Mr. Sachs could not see clearly.

South African agriculture, he said, was centuries behind more modern countries like Canada, the United States, the Argentine and Australia, owing to the Union's reliance on cheap semi-slave labour.

Higher wages, better conditions, the absolute right of trade union organisation and freedom of collective bargaining for agricultural workers would be of tremendous benefit to the worker and to the country as a whole and would make the farmers realise that their production problems could be solved only by well-paid, well-treated labourers.

From a reading of the Native Economic Commission (1939-1942) Report and of many official and

AVERAGE WAGES

"About a million African workers are employed on farms in the Union and their average income is under £20 a year, many earn less than £5 a year."

"Conditions generally, apart from wages, border on semi-slavery. The result of such a state of affairs is not only endless social misery for the mass of workers, but hopeless inefficiency in agricultural production," concluded Mr. Sachs.

CATTLE RELEASED

NELSPRUIT.

Last week the Nelspruit Council released 100 head of cattle belonging to residents of Nelspruit which it had illegally seized for grazing arrears when the cattle had gone for dipping on June 20. Owners of animals injured, lost or dead while in possession of the Council were told to report to the Town Clerk.

As the cattle were driven into the location, a man stationed at the entrance blew a fanfare on the ram's horn until the last animal had passed through.

TRAM BOYCOTT IN JO'BURG

JOHANNESBURG.

The people of the Western areas of Johannesburg, at meetings held over the past week, have unanimously declared a boycott of trams, the fares of which were increased by the City Council from the beginning of September. The increase raises adult fares by 50 per cent, and children's fares by 100 per cent.

Feeling in the townships is running high. As one speaker said at a mass meeting on Sunday: "We are not looking for a fight. We just can't pay that extra penny."

Working together for the boycott, which is due to start on Thursday, are the Western Native Townships Advisory Board, Vigilance Committee and Civic League, the Sophiatown Tenants' Organisation and the Communist Party.

The slogan of the people is: "The trams must be empty," and they are demanding a return to the old fares.

MINE STRIKE OVER

JOHANNESBURG.

One hundred and twenty-five miners involved in the Springs dispute returned to work last week after a strike that began on August 8.

During the strike the men drew £3,000 in strike pay from union funds.

The dispute was over an interpretation of an arbitration award. Terms of the settlement were that the men could choose between the new contract and the one in force before the award.

STALS TOES THE LINE

JOHANNESBURG.

Although press reports have created the impression that Dr. Stals has withdrawn his threat to abolish bursaries for African medical students at the University of the Witwatersrand, it is now definite that no new bursaries will be awarded.

A letter from the Secretary for Education to the Students' Representative Council states that the Government's obligations to Africans studying on bursaries will be met, but the scheme will cease when the present students have graduated.

The Government has as yet taken no decision about awarding bursaries to African medical students at the University of Natal.

The African Medical Scholarship Trust Fund Committee of Wits University is to begin to collect money immediately to maintain the continuity of the training of African doctors.

NUSAS is to co-operate in the fund-raising schemes.

It is estimated that to maintain three students in each year of study (a total of 18 students) £4,500 a year will be required.

Mail was again fixed at 12 and those faced two cases of trespass based on identical grounds, to be heard in the same court on the same day. Those remained in jail as there was no money with which to bail him out. He was later released following a comment by another Supreme Court judge, before whom the matter first came, that it was a pity he should be kept in detention.

CONTINUAL RAIDS

Marcia Toose's petition said that all the people on Rietvlei farm were being persecuted by the police who made continual raids at all hours of the day and night, arresting them for trespass and other offences.

dorsing his pass were described as wrongful and unlawful and as constituting a grave infringement of his personal liberty.

RAIDS ON SQUATTERS

In the second case police raids on African squatters on the Rietvlei farm in the Krugersdorp district were described by a Supreme Court judge as "punitive" and as "unlawful interference with the liberty of the subject."

Mr. Justice Dowling granted an order restraining the police from making any further arrests of squatters.

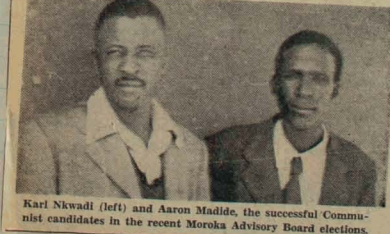
The case was one in which Marcia Toose, whose husband, Abel Toose had entered into a labour contract on the farm in 1932, brought proceedings against the Minister of Justice, the Transvaal Attorney-General and the Krugersdorp District Commandant of Police.

ARRESTED AFTER RAIL

In the early hours of the morning of July 21 Abel Toose was arrested for contravening a section of the pass law. He was released on payment of £2 bail, and his case remanded to August 10.

Two days later, again in the early hours of the morning, Toose was arrested for the second time.

In her petition, Marcia Toose said a police sergeant told her that morning that even if her husband were bailed out "he would again arrest him until the last penny of his money had been used and he was obliged to leave the farm."



Karl Nkwadi (left) and Aaron Madide, the successful Communist candidates in the recent Moroka Advisory Board elections.

LEFELA FUND APPEAL

JOHANNESBURG.
Some time back Mr. Maphuis, the general secretary of the Basuto national organisation, Likhola, la Bafo was charged, together with two members of the staff of the Johannesburg newspaper Inkhuleko, with contempt of court or alternatively sedition, arising out of an article which appeared in Inkhuleko alleging ill-treatment of prisoners in Basutoland.

The two members of the Inkhuleko staff, being Union nationals, were acquitted when they appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court for extradition to Basutoland. Lefela, however, was sentenced to a fine of £50 or six months' imprisonment when his case was heard in the Commissioner's Court in Maseru.

Mr. Lefela has appealed against this decision and, after a postponement, the case is due to be heard by the Basutoland High Court in October or November. Mr. Lefela is to The Guardian, Mr. Edwin Mofutsanyana, editor of Inkhuleko, appeals for donations to help Mr. Lefela conduct his defence which, he says, is at the same time the defence of justice and freedom and the right to criticize.

Donations should be sent to Lefela Fund Committee, P.O. Box 4178, Johannesburg.

FURNITURE INDUSTRY

JOHANNESBURG.
Unemployed furniture workers have formed a committee which will organise unemployed workers and those on short time to demonstrate outside factories employing non-union men, or factories where men have been dismissed without reasonable cause or excuse.

There are 11 furniture workers unemployed and 340 are working short time.

Jo'burg To Abandon Housing Schemes?

JOHANNESBURG.
The abandoning of all municipal economic and sub-economic housing schemes — both European and Non-European — has been recommended to the City Council by the Special Housing Committee, in view of the present financial stringency.

The committee agreed to investigate the possibility that private enterprise might take over the council's economic housing schemes under specified conditions.

This matter must still go to the full Council.

ELECTION OF T.U. OFFICIALS

Labour Dept. Objects

JOHANNESBURG.
Several trade unions, trying to register amendments to their constitutions, have had disputes with the Department of Labour over the position of presidents and secretaries who are full-time officials.

In terms of our industrial legislation, unions are defined as associations of workers in a particular industry. When leading trade unionists are elected to full-time positions, they no longer fall strictly within that definition, as they have left the industry.

In the case of the Transport Workers' Union a small group of trouble makers tried to obtain a court interdict to prevent the union's popular leader, Jan Venter, from holding office. Venter fore- stalled them by being elected full-time organiser-adviser to the union with union members as chairman and secretary.

FASCISTS ROUTED

The small fascist-minded group who tried to make capital out of this issue were completely routed at many hundreds of tramwaymen, and were not even given a hearing.

The Bootmakers' Union, whose constitution was registered in 1916, had similar difficulty when it came before the Department of Labour to register amendments. The Labour Department eventually agreed to allow for the appointment of associate-members, into which category full-time members could fit.

AFRICANS STAY IN TRAM BOYCOTT

Sept. 8
1949

Bitter Resentment Of Police Tactics

from RUTH FIRST

THE attempt to smash the Johannesburg tram boycott by terror tactics has completely failed. The African people in the Western areas of Johannesburg are solid in support of the boycott, which is becoming one of the largest African struggles in this city of recent years. If anything, the action of the police on the first and second days of the boycott has stiffened the determination of the people to see the boycott through to the end.

GHETTO ACT PROSECUTIONS

JOHANNESBURG.
A number of prosecutions of Indians for contraventions of the Ghetto Act are taking place in the Transvaal.

Some of the areas affected are Bethal, where six cases are pending. Piet Relief, Volksrust and Samkhalof.

With the 1949 amendments to the Act, it is now the onus of the prosecuted individual to show he is not guilty of an offence under the Act.

Germiston Backs Garment Union

JOHANNESBURG.
The Germiston branch of the Garment Workers' Union, despite the noisy opposition efforts of Karel Meyer's group, is swinging back to the union.

Germiston was previously the centre of the Blankewerkers-beskeringsbond opposition.

At a general meeting of the branch held last week Meyer and Mrs. Moll, expelled in 1944 for causing trouble in the branch, could rally only 50 supporters from among the 600 workers present.

This was the first general meeting called since the dissolution of the branch by the union central executive committee in September, 1948.

The meeting passed a resolution that the present agreement operating in the industry be extended until August, 1950.

The boycott began last Thursday when the people of Western Native Township, Newclare and Sophiatown embarked upon a disciplined and orderly demonstration against the increase in fares introduced by the City Council against the advice and warnings of the area's Advisory Board.

By Thursday evening, because of blatant provocation by the police and other outside elements, and also because of the obstinate refusal of the Council to see that the people genuinely cannot afford the increased fares, the demonstration had been turned into a tragic incident in which one African was killed, over 20 were treated in hospital, a number of police were injured, and the tram terminus area became a battle-ground of flying stones, baton charges, revolver shots and fierce clashes between Europeans and Africans.

The Government Press, trying to heat the blood of their European readers, waded in with the wild charge that the riot was a Communist plot. The public prosecutor, it said, was studying the Johannesburg Communist Party's "rooi pamphlet" in support of the boycott, and steps might be taken against the Communists under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

COMMUNIST REPLY

In a statement the Communist Party has denied these imputations. "The boycott has been a justifiable and legal response of the people of the area to the shameful act of the Council in raising the fares for this low-paid section of the workers compelled by segregation to live far from their places of work," the statement said.

"We uphold the call of all responsible leaders to avoid violence or disturbance. At the same time it is our view that the incidence of violence has been due to police action where no action was called for and to other provocations."

The Party says the authorities should remove the source of the trouble by restoring the 2d. fare instead of trying to make scape-goats of the Communists and others who have given conscientious and responsible guidance to the people who have no city councillors to speak for them.

BITTERNESS

Bitterness against the police has reached a new level of intensity among the African people. From the outset of the boycott the presence of a large force of mounted men, flying squad and pick-up vans, constables on foot, and patrolling police cars, and the insulting behaviour especially of the younger recruits, acted as a continual provocation to the people.

The boycott opened quietly in the early hours of Thursday morning when at about 5 a.m. the people either caught buses or the train instead of the trams, or walked into town in small groups. The trams were so deserted that the Council later withdrew them altogether.

Police were seen, however, travelling on the trams and inviting Africans to climb aboard with shouts of "Get on. Get on."

Tram drivers stopped along the route as well as at the regular stops, hopeful of gathering passengers, but the boycott went on.

FIRST DISTURBANCES

At the Sophiatown terminus a fairly large crowd collected on Thursday afternoon to boo the few passengers using the tram.

The police began to disperse the crowd, and the stoning of passing cars, the trams and the police started just afterwards.

Fighting raged for several hours. The people were later charged up Sophiatown's side streets, into the very yards and houses, by the mounted police. They retaliated.

(Continued on page 4)



One of the meetings in Western Native Township which voted unanimously for a boycott of the Council trams after the increase in fares.

Dönges Deports A "Foreign Native"

Wits. Students Protest

JOHANNESBURG.

THE Minister of the Interior, Dr. Dönges, has hit on a new way of forcing apartheid on the University of the Witwatersrand. His department has refused to renew the immigration permit of a Mozambique African student, who as a result had to leave the Union for Laurence Marques last Friday, half-way through his studies for a social science degree.

A mass meeting of students, held the day before his enforced departure, expressed the fear that the Minister's action would set a dangerous precedent for the expulsion of all non-white students from other territories.

The resolution asked the Minister for a statement of policy on this question, asked him to permit the Portuguese African student at least to complete his first year of study, and authorised the Students' Representative Council to take further action on the issue. NUBAS was called upon to assist in the campaign.

The proposer of the resolution, Mr. P. Tobias, said the Government's action was a "convenient administrative measure" to remove Non-European students from a university that refused to accept apartheid.

The Mozambique student is a lay preacher and was at the university on a bursary granted by the Mozambique Christian Council. He had previously studied in the Union at a Transvaal mission school and the John Hofmeyr School of Social Work.

His permit had to be renewed every six months and when he last applied for a renewal it was returned to him marked "refused". He was permitted to remain in the Union on sufferance while legal and diplomatic representations were made on his behalf, but was finally told he had to leave the Union by the end of last week.

His professor testified in a letter that he was "a rare student" of high moral character and integrity.

Jo'burg Tram Boycott

(Continued from page 1)

with stone-throwing. The windows of passing cars were shattered. The police opened fire in Gerty Street.

On the outskirts of Newlands, further down the tram line, large groups of Europeans began assaults on isolated Africans. The police dispersed the attacking Europeans and removed the wounded Africans.

One or more civilians are reported to have used fire-arms during the incident.

The police patrolled the area right through the night.

PUNITIVE ATTACKS

The boycott went off quietly again on Friday morning. But later the police began punitive attacks against isolated people in the location streets. All small groups of Africans were broken up, and individuals standing about the streets were singled out for baton blows.

Pass raids and liquor searches were conducted all morning.

A member of the Boycott Action Committee standing at a street corner in Western Native Township was ordered by a passing policeman to take his hands out of his pockets. When the man refused he got a baton blow across the legs. The policeman's parting shot was "Tonight we won't baton. Tonight we'll shoot the bloody kaffirs."

FREE LABOUR FOR FARMERS?

JOHANNESBURG.

The president of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, wants young South Africans to give one year of free service to the State by means of a Youth Service Corps. He spoke of a service corps of tens of thousands of European, thousands of Coloured and more than 1,000,000 African youths assisting agriculture.

"Thus many white youths will be saved from loafing; the Coloureds from becoming skollies and the Natives from becoming amathas," he said.

T.L.C. CALLS FOR ACTION

Growing Menace Of Unemployment

JOHANNESBURG.

THE time has arrived, says the Trades and Labour Council, for framing a national policy to prevent further sharp increases in unemployment.

Immediate measures suggested are the introduction of long-term policies of capital expenditure on public works, housing and other social services, instead of "pruning" expenditure purely in order to "balance the budget," a policy which only sharpens and deepens the crisis.

Unless steps are taken to combat the rise in unemployment, the T.L.C. writes to all affiliated trade unions, "the position of the workers who have to bear the heaviest burden of any unemployment crisis, will become grave indeed."

Meanwhile the Prime Minister has refused to meet a council delegation to discuss the cost of living, the relation of the T.L.C. to the Government and other trade union affairs. The Prime Minister's reply suggested that all the questions mentioned fell in the purview of other Ministers and discussions should take place with those concerned.

The S.A.T.L.C. is likely to approach Ministers Schoeman, Louw, and Dönges for discussions.

With the help of trade unions the Labour Department is only now beginning to compile more accurate figures of actual unemployment.

employment in the Union. But will the country ever know the size of its Non-European army of unemployed?

Many Africans, knowing they are not eligible for unemployment benefits and that if they call at the pass offices, they are likely to be shanghaied out to work on the farms, are not registered as unemployed.

Yet even the figures that are available show a staggering rise in unemployment over the last three months. Three months ago about 320 African men drew unemployment benefits each fortnight. Today the figure has jumped to 1,360.

Unemployment among Africans is particularly noticeable among men who worked in the building trade.

Only a fraction of those who lose their jobs in any industry manage to find new employment today.

GRAVE PROBLEMS

A trade unionist told The Guardian that the first months of 1950 would undoubtedly bring grave problems of unemployment and short time. Many trades, he explained, are today only kept going by the approaching Christmas trade.

In the furniture industry in this city the number of men on short time soared last week to 400. Over 148 are unemployed. Short time for many men means they work a one- or two-day week.

In one factory, where the workers staged a stoppage of work following repeated threats by the management that if they did not speed up they would be sacked, 24 workers are being prosecuted for the illegal stoppage.

The Furniture Workers' Union is taking up with the Department of Labour the chronic position in the industry and demanding that where work in a factory is short it must be distributed evenly among all the men.



A candidate for the vacancy on the Native Representative Council, caused by the Cape Councillor Xiniwe's death, is the veteran fighter from Herschel in the Ciskei, Mr. H. L. Phiso. Mr. Phiso, for years a member of the Ciskei General Council, told The Guardian that he would fight the election to prevent the entry to the N.R.C. of a "good boy". He is one of Professor Mathews' strongest supporters in the Cape. An old teacher, he has in turn been dismissed from service from the Education Department and the Native Affairs Department for his part in the first anti-pass movement years ago. Nominations for this bye-election will probably be in September, and the elections in November.

Refused To Marry Them

JOHANNESBURG.

At the Randfontein Magistrate's Court last week a magistrate refused to marry a couple on the grounds that the parents of the would-be bride were described in their marriage certificate as being of mixed race.

The magistrate told the girl's mother that under the Mixed Marriages Act her daughter could not marry a European. The mother protested but the magistrate repeated his refusal and the three left the court, the girl weeping bitterly.

EX-SERVICEMEN UNEMPLOYED

JOHANNESBURG.

The Springbok Legion is investigating the number of unemployed ex-volunteers in all industries, with a view to the safeguarding of ex-service interests in the period of economic recession now creeping over the Union.

BLOW TO TRADE UNION UNITY

Typos Secede From T.L.C.

JOHANNESBURG.

At a time when the official trade union movement is being subjected to repeated Government attacks and when the facetious unions are receiving State encouragement, the decision of the Typographical Union to disaffiliate from the Trades and Labour Council strikes a hard blow to the unity of the South African working class movement. This is the opinion of many trade unionists here.

Neither the Typo Union nor the T.L.C. have made public the reasons for the Typo decision, which was taken at the union's bi-annual conference last week. The T.L.C. appointed a deputation to interview the Typo leaders to find out why the decision was taken and to discuss the position generally.

The union has a membership of 13,000.

A similar resolution of disaffiliation was defeated at a previous union conference. It appears that the resolution was steamrollered through this year, sponsored chiefly by Cape Town delegates.

NO WARNING

No resolution suggesting disaffiliation was placed on the agenda of the Johannesburg branch conference, which elects and mandates delegates to the national conference. The membership did not know of the resolution until the decision was announced in the Press.

The Johannesburg members' experience was probably repeated in other parts of the country.

Mr. A. J. Downes, at one time president of the Trades and Labour Council but replaced some years ago because of his extreme right-wing views, has written publicly criticising the World Federation of Trade Unions and opposing the affiliation of the T.L.C. to it. Some time ago the Typo Union asked that money it had contributed to the T.L.C. should not be used for delegates' expenses to the recent

W.P.T.U. conferences. It is reported here that apart from the Typo Union a number of other large unions are to decide whether to remain affiliated to the T.L.C. through ballots or conferences to be held this month or next.

TORN FROM THEIR FAMILIES

Pass Law terror against Africans

Daily Worker Special Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG, Friday.

SOUTH AFRICA is being swept by an unprecedented wave of anger and bitterness against the notorious Pass Laws.

These laws provide that all Non-Europeans shall carry special passes issued by the police. Anyone found without one is liable to immediate deportation to a farm.

In an effort to reduce the African population of the towns, the Maian Government is tightening the Pass Law terror against the Non-Europeans.

Workers who have lived in Johannesburg for ten or 15 years are being separated from their families and driven into the countryside.

DENIED WORK

Those losing their employment are being forbidden to take another job in the city.

Unless they can prove that they occupy a house—and official figures show that 100,000 Africans in Johannesburg are homeless—they are denied permission to work and are promptly driven out by the police.

An African who has lived in the Orlando district for the last seven years lost his job at a local hospital.

When he went to the Pass Office to register he was told that he could not work in the city any longer because his house was registered not in his name, but in his mother's.

His pass was endorsed and he must leave immediately. At home in his family. They have nowhere to go and no money to start a home elsewhere.

There is no appeal against the decisions of the Clerks at the Pass Office.

FORTUNES OVERNIGHT FROM NEW GOLD MINE

By the FOREIGN EDITOR

VAST new fortunes were piled up yesterday in Johannesburg and London as news broke of the "most fabulously rich" gold strike ever made.

It was at Farm Erfdeel in the new goldfield of the Orange Free State, and the shares of the Free State Gold Areas Co., which controls the field, soared in a few hours from 14s. to 36s. and more.

The market value of the company reached £3,700,000 during the afternoon.

The news brought jubilation to speculators and financiers. It brought nothing to the Africans who dig the gold.

DRIVEN BACK

They are part of a 300,000-strong army of oppressed ruthlessly exploited labourers from the Union of South Africa and nearby territories.

They earn 2s. 5d. per day and have not had a single increase since 1914.

When they struck for decent wages in 1946 the army was called out and actually drove them back underground at the point of the bayonet. They killed 20 miners and wounded hundreds.

HALF-BABIES DIE

These gold-miners live communally in compounds surrounded with barbed wire, and to leave these concentration camps they require official permits.

To prevent trade union organisation a war-time statute forbidding the holding of all meetings is kept in force.

Their expectation of life is only 36 years. And the infant mortality rate in the mining communities has reached the fantastic figure of 500 per 1,000.

The big rise in the shares yesterday, according to sources in the City, was even more than the speculators had dared to hope for.

GUARDIAN

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

Thirteenth Year, No. 25, THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1949 Price 1d.

WORKERS WANT UNITED TRADE UNION FRONT

T.L.C. Split Deplored

JOHANNESBURG.

THE threat of a large number of trade unions—some reports say a dozen—to leave the Trades and Labour Council has aroused grave concern among trade unionists here. Only the Nationalists could benefit from such a split in the ranks of organised labour, they say.

Some trade unionists are urging the calling of a special emergency conference. In the meantime, however, a special meeting of the Council's national executive will be held shortly to discuss the main controversial issues—the organisation of African workers, the question of parallel unions for European and Non-European workers, affiliation to the World Federation of Trade Unions, and the status and financial responsibilities of the Council's local committees.

(Continued on page 4)

WORKERS UNHAPPY

Large numbers of rank and file members of the larger unions, among them some leading officials, are known to be unhappy about the threatened disaffiliations. They want maximum unity among workers to deal with the grave problems of unemployment and the rising cost of living which are facing them.

Last week, for example, the Minister of Transport assured the Transvaal Nationalist Congress that the possibility of discontinuing cost of living payments to Non-European railway workers would be investigated. Trade union officials fear this may be a prelude to abolishing cost-of-living allowances for wider groups of workers.

How can such threats as these be met with a trade union movement split into three or more sections, they ask.

T.L.C. To See Schoeman

JOHANNESBURG.

Minister Schoeman has been asked to receive a Trades and Labour Council deputation on the non-publication of Industrial Council agreements, the registration of trade union constitutions and amendments, the revision of cost-of-living allowances and the relationship between the Government and the Trades and Labour Council.

APARTHEID HYSTERIA AT CONGRESS

Bread-and-Butter Problems Ignored

JOHANNESBURG.

N^O "agitators" are needed to expose to the outside world the fascist character of the Nationalist Government. The resolutions on the agenda of the Transvaal Nationalist Congress held here last week are enough for that.

Over 500 delegates, most of them bearded in accordance with Edict met at the Seiborne Hall to discuss this agenda. The atmosphere was incredible. The Nationalists have swallowed the poison disseminated by their leaders and gone crazy over apartheid. They breathe, smell, search for it day and night. They spent every minute of the conference hysterically trying to improvise new ingenious ways of implementing it.

As with the myth of Aryanism it has caught on, restores their self-respect, gives them confidence they are "better", more powerful than others. It is a convenient slogan for a bankrupt government.

Separate telephone booths for Europeans and Non-Europeans was the brainwave of one branch. Buy back the Trust Land owned by the Africans, was another (where does the apartheid come in?).

Discharge African clerks holding posts in the Public Service. This was impracticable, Dr. Jansen said. Prohibit Non-European medical practitioners from attending White patients.

Provide legislation to stop Africans or Coloureds from driving European-owned motor cars. Prohibit Africans from owning dogs.

PROPAGANDA RALLY

The two-day gathering was not really a party conference. It was a giant Transvaal propaganda rally bringing loyal Nats from all districts to see and hear their leaders, let them blow off a bit of steam on some of their minor grievances, and then send them back home to tell their fellow-Nats they had heard Malan speak, asked Swart a question about when the Communists would be banned, told the Government what next it should do.

Not once did the conference vote. A good proportion of the several hundred resolutions were not even discussed. Everything was amicably settled from the platform.

The Ministers present spoke on the resolutions dealing with their Departments, told the congress what was already being done, and what was still not falling within their department, and what they would "look into".

On each large group of resolutions there was barely any discussion. A few "distractions" here and there, a halting speech by an Outislander who had a bitter grievance over his pension, a reassurance requested by some railwaymen that they were not being forgotten by Minister Sauer.

BAN THEM ALL

Had a vote been taken, the congress would have shown it was unanimous that all "Communists", the Sons of England, Nussat, the Springbok Legion, the Garment Workers' Union and the Communist Party should immediately be banned. Swart was quite correct in assuming this was their view when he promised "action", as he did at last year's conference. "But I can't reveal my plans right now."

But what was the conference view on cost-of-living problems (for Europeans only, of course), the unemployment menace, or the building crisis? None of the delegates knows because these matters were not discussed.

They were shoved into the background while the congress asked for the closing of the U.S.S.R. consulate, the application of apartheid to banks and public places, more convict labour, the banning of Sunday meetings, the placing of Indians in reserves, no permits for the purchase of measles by Indians, the removal of import restrictions on coffee because it is a national drink, that no unwilling

immigrants serve on letting control.

On labour problems resolutions read that "every district's kaffirs should remain employed in their

How To Solve The Problem!

JOHANNESBURG.

A resolution on unemployment on the agenda of the Transvaal Nationalist Congress read:

"The Government must ensure work to all workless people who are prepared to work."

own district", and that "the wage of Native labourers on the railways of 57 a month is too high and takes Native labour from the farms".

"Nothing must stand in the way of the Whites" was the theme of the conference. Nothing and nobody, come what may.

Another School Feeding Inquiry

JOHANNESBURG.

There is to be another "exhaustive examination" into school-feeding, the African Children's Feeding Scheme has been informed.

The Scheme recently asked the then Minister of Education and Health, Dr. Stals, to receive a deputation. Dr. Stals replied that "while he was prepared to hear the deputation's views he could see no prospect of amending the existing arrangements on Native school-feeding." He added the whole question would be examined exhaustively soon.

Owing to the reshuffling of portfolios the deputation will now have to see Mr. Swart, the new Minister of Education.

At present African children in school are getting only an orange and a few peanuts daily. This is all that can be bought with the penny and one fifth allowed for each child under 13 years, the Rev. T. Huddleston has stated.

AFRICAN STUDENT DEPORTED

JOHANNESBURG.

The Mozambique African student at the University of Witwatersrand whose immigration permit has been cancelled by the Government, has had to return to Portuguese East Africa.

The Minister of the Interior, Dr. Donges, has not yet replied to representations made to him by the Students' Representative Council of the university, asking him to reconsider his decision and allow the student at least to complete his first year of studies in the social sciences.

Airport Apartheid

JOHANNESBURG.

Apartheid has now been introduced at Palmietfontein, South Africa's only international airport.

A separate lounge-restaurant and toilet room have been built for Non-European travellers on South African Airways domestic routes. Yet another is to be constructed for Non-Europeans flying on international services.

Palmietfontein staffs have been asked to use their own judgment when it comes to deciding which travellers are "Non-European".

TRAM BOYCOTT REMAINS SOLID

JOHANNESBURG.

DESPITE all attempts to play it down, the boycott of the trams in the Western Areas is continuing as solidly as at its outset.

The Council is forced to run after 46 hours detention in these trams are deserted, as the African people prefer to catch the train or buses or walk to and from town.

The City Council, asked by a peoples' deputation to reconsider the fare increases, has replied that it will not revert to the old fares.

Two of the boycott leaders, members of the Action Committee, were arrested last week at the Diagonal Street terminus. One, Mr. Nkandimeng, the Action Committee secretary, was soon after released, but called for questioning to police headquarters several times the following day. Some documents in his briefcase were retained by the police.

P. Q. Vundla, member of the Action Committee, was released after 46 hours detention in Marshall Square under suspicion of having committed an offence under the Riotous Assemblies Act. No charge has yet been framed.

Vundla alleges he was severely assaulted while in custody. The Action Committee is taking this matter up.

A great mass funeral of the victim of last week's riot, Emmanuel Khonkhobe, took place on Sunday amidst thousands of mourners from the boycott area.

The Minister of Native Affairs, asked at the outset of the boycott to get a reversion to the previous fares, has referred the matter to the Native Commissioner.

Police are still standing by in the area but not in such large numbers.

HOUSING IS JO'BURG'S PRIORITY NO. 1

JOHANNESBURG.

A call to the City Council to declare housing the city's urgent priority has been made by the Labour Party. It demands that the Council rescind its decision to abandon the provision of housing for its citizens.

"In difficult times such as we are now passing through," says the statement, "the provision of housing, at reasonable cost, and within the means of the workers, is more than ever urgently needed."

The Labour Party states that it welcomes in principle the Government's decision to reduce the rate of interest on housing loans from 31 per cent. to 1 per cent.

It believes, however, that unless the Government makes its contribution towards the cost of essential services in sub-economic townships, and makes money available at a low rate of interest, for economic housing, the rate of home-building will remain inadequate.

"The Labour Party is of the opinion that a primary cause of the high cost of housing is the

exorbitant price of land." The Government is called upon to stop the speculation in land. The local authority is urged to exercise its power to expropriate land required for housing schemes.

STELLA JACOBS LEAVES FOR U.S.

CAPE TOWN.

Miss Stella Jacobs, the first Non-European woman to obtain the Master of Science degree in Botany at the University of Cape Town, left last week to take up an International Foundation Research scholarship for the University of Syracuse, New York.

The scholarship is tenable for one year.

Miss Jacobs has been enabled to take up the scholarship with the assistance of the Cape Peninsula Joint Council for Europeans and Africans which, through a public appeal, raised the necessary money for travelling expenses and other costs.

Miss Jacobs told The Guardian just before she left that she hoped to fill a research post on her return. However, as research openings were few and far between, she might eventually have to go back to teaching. "But that is only my second choice," she said.



The Malan regime in South Africa is introducing complete segregation of white and coloured peoples on all railway stations. Picture above was taken at Johannesburg's main station. The notice reads in English and Afrikaans: "Europeans Only—Slegs vir Blankes."

It bars the way to coloured people using the main station concourse, principal entrances and subways. Only the west part of the station is for them.

Fighting against Malan's segregation policy (Apartheid) is South Africa's first Communist M.P., Sam Kahn, who represents Cape Africans in the House of Assembly.

He recently spoke (lower picture) at a Johannesburg conference of the Action Committee for Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Movement. Because he is barred from addressing or attending public meetings in the Transvaal, he had to attend this closed meeting as a delegate.

Picture on the wall is of Kier Hardie.

NAT. TACTICS AGAINST COLOURED VOTERS

Administrative Action To Curb Opposition

CAPE TOWN.

THE Nats don't waste much time, in abolishing of the Coloured vote. First, they pushed through Parliament the Electoral Law Amendment Bill which makes it possible to disfranchise the Cape's 47,000 Coloured voters.

And now already Nationalist party organisers are busy in this province on a mass campaign to lodge objections to Coloured voters and so have them removed from the roll.

500 OBJECTIONS

In the Paarl constituency, it has been reported, over 500 objections (among 2,640 Coloured voters) have been lodged during the past few months.

The Nats are said to be con-

centrating mainly on the seven constituencies of Paarl, Vasco, Paarl, Malmesbury, Hottentots-Holland, Stellenbosch and Caledon.

In all these constituencies the Coloured people hold the balance at elections.

With their eye on the provincial council elections, the Nats are going all out to destroy a section of their opposition.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

"When the Nats find they can't achieve their aims swiftly enough by legislation, they turn to the

(Continued on page 3)



Unemployment queues (above) in Cape Town and (below) in Johannesburg.

SHOCKING ADMINISTRATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT ACT

THE unemployment position is "normal" and "nothing to be alarmed about," said a Divisional Inspector of Labour last week, commenting on the latest unemployment figures issued by his office.

He disclosed that there were 2,450 unemployed in Johannesburg (1,232 of whom were Europeans); but this figure did not include African unemployed.

SEETHING DISSATISFACTION

But — unemployment figures apart — walk up and down any unemployment queue in any part of the country, outside the offices of the Departments of Labour or Native Affairs, and you will begin to feel something of the seething dissatisfaction among all classes of workers with the Government's administration of the unemployment benefit scheme.

At Langa, African workers are complaining that they have reached the stage when they would rather forfeit their benefits than continue to spend long days in the queues, to be told at the end they may not draw benefits.

Miss P. Podbrey, of the Sweet Workers' Union, said in her industry there were long delays, any-

thing up to two months, in paying out benefits. Heavy indiscriminate penalties were imposed on the workers; but they were often not informed of these in time to lodge the appeals to which they were entitled.

PENALISED

She quoted cases of women offered work after their first three months' unemployment which they had to reject because it was unsuitable. They were then penalised.

One such case was of a sweet worker who had a breast-fed baby, and was offered domestic employment where she had to sleep on the premises.

Miss Podbrey said her union had protested to the local committee of the Trades and Labour Council about the administration of the act; and the decision of the department to grant benefit to Africans only in "extreme cases".

TOO MUCH AUTHORITY

Miss Nancy Dick, secretary of the Textile Workers' Industrial Union, told The Guardian her union thought too much authority was vested in the claims officers, who could decide whether or not penalties should be imposed, and to what extent.

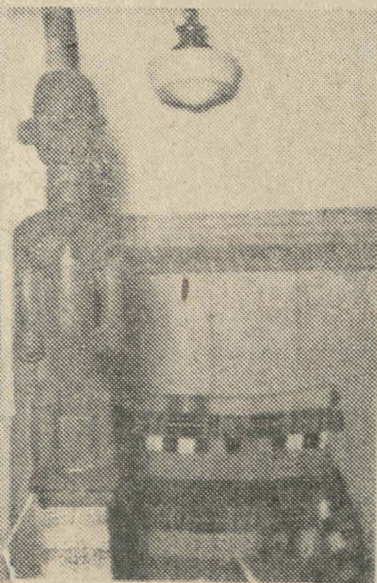
"There are many cases where penalties are imposed when, in our opinion, the worker is not entirely to blame," said Miss Dick.

"It seems unnecessary for the claims officer to take upon himself the duties of inflicting further punishment on those who have already been penalised by losing

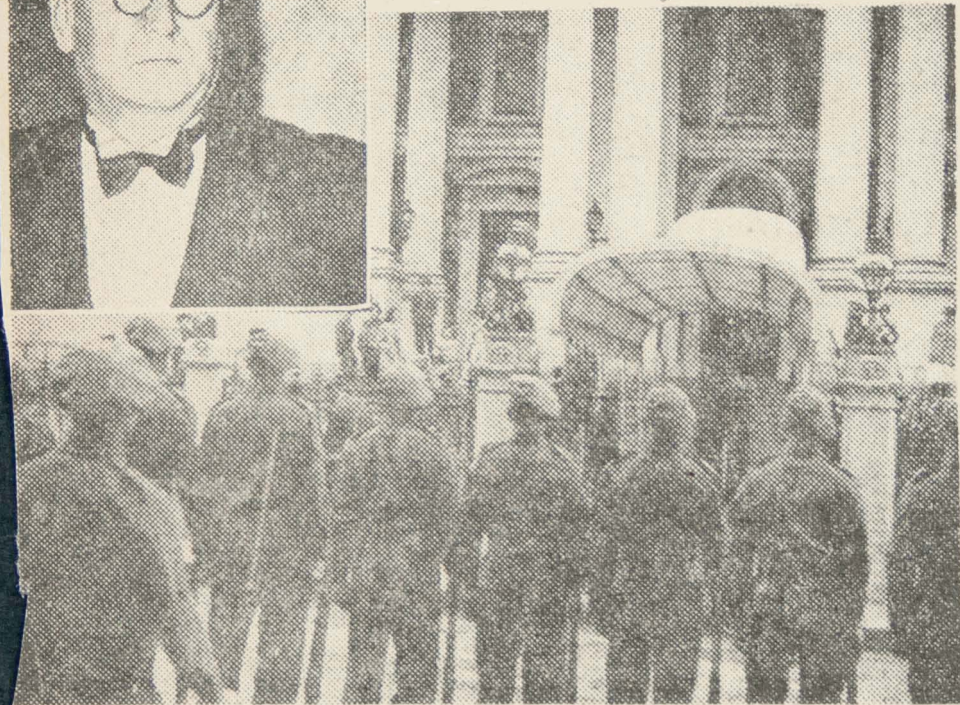
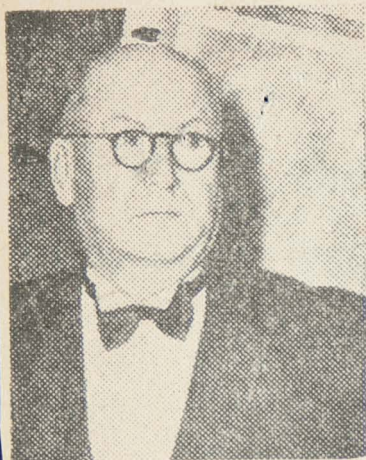
AFRICAN ART



Some examples of the ritual art of the Negro and Bantu people are presented in an exhibition now at the Argus Galleries, Cape Town. Top: Bakuba sculpture from the Congo. Lower: Sculpture of the Iho people of Nigeria.



Malan's Red-Tabbed Guard Of Honour



Malan's Great Day — the opening of Parliament was gloomy and overcast. A crowd lined the streets, but was still and silent. No cheers. Malan himself looked miserable.