

contact

22nd MARCH, 1963

Volume 6 No. 6

5c 6d

REFERENCE
-1. APR. 1963
COPYRIGHT
LIBRARY

SOUTH AFRICA'S NON-RACIAL FORTNIGHTLY

"STOP ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA"

— Says British Labour Leader

MR. HAROLD WILSON, new leader of the British Labour Party, left no one in doubt about his views on South Africa when he addressed a mass anti-apartheid rally in Trafalgar Square, London, on Sunday 17th March. A Labour government, he promised, would ban the export of British arms to South Africa and would do all in its power to prevent these contracts being placed elsewhere. With the political trend in Britain strongly towards Labour, Mr. Wilson's speech must have had an ominous ring for South Africa's White racialists.

The rally was organized by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and commemorated the shooting of protesting people in Sharpeville on 21st March, 1960. Before the rally, two Labour M.P.'s—Mrs. Barbara Castle and Mr. Philip Noel-Baker—led a procession of over 2,000 people through the streets of London.

Mr. Wilson told the rally that under the late Mr. Gaitskell's leadership, Labour policy had been to oppose arms supplies to South Africa. He said that this had not changed and "when we are called upon to form the government of this country our attitude will remain the same".

Not in Public Interest

He had asked the present government for full details of arms exports to South Africa, but was told that this disclosure "would not be in the public interest". Mr. Wilson stated

that the Labour Party intended to adopt the same attitude towards Salazar and his government if the arms were intended for use in Portuguese territories in Africa. He said the issue was an urgent one and could not wait until Mr. Macmillan had called a general election.

"So I say to Mr. Macmillan today: Act now and stop this bloody traffic in weapons of oppression. How can he speak of the winds of change and yet supply arms to those who are brutally resisting change? Has he no conception of the harm done to Britain's name by this policy?"

Referring to the South African Government's threat to withdraw its arms contract from Britain, Mr. Wilson said that it should have been withdrawn long ago. "When Labour comes to power, this traffic will be stopped forthwith. We will take steps by international action to see



HAROLD WILSON

that the South African Minister of Defence does not place these contracts anywhere else."

Unholy Alliance

Mr. Wilson paid tribute to the memory of those who were killed at Sharpeville and said that despite UNO resolutions, the position had become worse in South Africa. "Dr. Verwoerd's regime had the odious trappings of a police state and every

(Continued on page 5)

contact

47 PARLIAMENT STREET
CAPE TOWN

P.O. Box 1979 Phone 2-4524

Telegrams:
CONTACT Cape Town

CORRESPONDENTS

Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban,
Pietermaritzburg, East London,
Port Elizabeth, Windhoek,
Maseru, Mbabane, Francistown,
Salisbury, Bulawayo, Lusaka,
Blantyre, Dar es Salaam, Accra,
and London.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

AFRICAN POSTAL UNION

Surface:

R1.40 (14/-) per year
R0.70 (7/-) per half year

Airmail:

R2.70 (£17/0) per year
R1.35 (13/6) per half year

ELSEWHERE

Surface:

R1.70 (17/-) per year
R0.85 (8/6) per half year

Airmail:

On application

Contact is independent. It works for non-racial democracy based on adult suffrage. It is against all forms of totalitarianism such as fascism, communism and apartheid.

GERHARD COHN

Photographer

For home portraits of distinction

P.O. Box 4716 Phone 45-4050

Johannesburg

VIEWPOINT

We shall Continue

DURING the past few weeks there has been considerable speculation over the future of *Contact*. The question has been asked: "Will this radical newspaper join the ranks of the silenced opponents of racialism in South Africa, a victim of shortage of funds, and of the suppression of people who have controlled it over the years?" This issue, smaller unfortunately than *Contact* has ever been, is our answer.

In order to continue, however, some re-organisation has become necessary. Mr. Patrick Duncan, founder of the newspaper, has relinquished control and his co-director, Mr. Peter Hjul, has had to resign because of an order issued to all banned people. The publishers of *Contact*, Selemela Publications, have, therefore, sold the newspaper to Insight Publications. From the next issue Insight Publications (Pty.) Ltd. will publish *Contact*.

This will be a fight against all the obstacles Nationalist racials will put in our way, and against serious shortage of funds. We are appealing for help to enable us to restore *Contact* to its previous size. In the meantime we hope our readers will understand our difficulties and accept this attenuated newspaper as a symbol of *Contact's* survival and of our determination to carry on the struggle for just and decent government in South Africa.

After Sharpeville

ON MONDAY, 21st MARCH, 1960, a burst of sten gun fire in a Transvaal township called Sharpeville sent a chill wind of horror throughout the world, and changed the whole character of politics in South Africa. Before Sharpeville, White racialism was opposed openly and fearlessly by recognised political movements. The Government was attacked and condemned in public places, demonstrations were organised and the radical opposition to White domination was seen and heard. Before Sharpeville the world knew it disliked apartheid and that the Nationalists stood for another form of detestable neo-Nazi barbarism. But its resentment was, if anything, vague and loosely defined.

After Sharpeville South Africa has stood alone — perhaps with the antiquated Salazar regime — in its pit, despised and unwanted because of a Government which has clearly shown how it means to enforce a policy long ago rejected by civilized nations. Before Sharpeville the South African government still attempted to claim some adherence to democratic rule. It was a weakly based claim, but nevertheless it was made. After Sharpeville, this country started along the path to Vorster. The opposition is steadily being driven underground, first the A.N.C. and P.A.C., then the Congress of Democrats and the newspaper *New Age*.

The General Law Amendment Act was brought in to darken the night and to throw all radical opponents into the hands of a man who has made no secret of how he means to handle them. As we move into our fourth post-Sharpeville year, it is the Liberals who are under vicious attack. But few victims of Vorster or his government have given up the struggle. This will go on, and, when it is remembered in the happier years still to come, Sharpeville will become a symbol of the sacrifices and suffering of those who erased the evil blot of Nationalist baasskap from our country.

Nats are Behaving like Burglars

By "Contact" Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH: Mr. Norman Bromberger, a member of the National committee of the Liberal Party, said here early this month that the leading Liberals banned recently suffered because they stood for a policy dedicated to a South Africa free from colour discrimination.

Mr. Bromberger said the free states of Africa were keen to "change and improve" the political situation of South Africa.

He was speaking at a meeting held in the Moslem Educational Institute Hall and arranged by the Port Elizabeth branch of the Liberal Party of South Africa to protest against the banning of Liberal Party leaders and against bannings in general.

Free Education

Mr. Bromberger said the banned Liberals fought to reduce the gap between the rich and poor. They tried to achieve what Britain and other civilized nations were doing, such as free education, national health services schemes and land ownership rights.

Mr. Peter Hjul and Mr. Randolph Vigne were banned because the Nationalists were scared of the policy for which they stood—the right of every individual to a share in the running of the country, irrespective of race, colour or creed.

Dolefully, Mr. Bromberger said, the Nationalists and all those in their laager reminded him of burglars. Men who had the audacity to acquire property by using strong-arm tactics; then defying anyone who questioned their acquisition by placing them under house arrests and bannings.

Will Never Die

Mr. Wilfred Brutus of Cape Town, vice-President of the Coloured Peoples' Congress, said many people were muzzled daily because they fought for freedom.

They were banned, imprisoned and banished. But the seeds of freedom had been sown and "this liberatory struggle will never die".

"I want to tell Mr. Vorster that for every person banned or muzzled, there are thousands to replace them.

"We don't want Black nationalism or White baasskap. We want everybody to have a share in the government."

Mr. Caleb Mayekiso, chairman on

the Regional Consultative committee of the South African Congress, said for the past forty years white South Africans had failed to heed the warnings of African leaders.

Now everybody felt the "sting" of the Nationalist Government. Matters had gone from bad to worse. The land with its vast mixed population was ruled by a handful of power-drunk men.

At the end of the meeting, a speaker from the floor proposed that the assembly send a telegram to Mr. B. J. Vorster, Minister of Justice, condemning his arbitrary methods based on the findings of the political police of South Africa, in banning the recognised leaders of the country.

The proposal was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

Pensioner Victim of Immorality Act

By "Contact" Correspondent

YET another elderly couple—this time man and wife who have been living together for nearly 25 years—appeared before the same Durban Regional Court, where not so long ago Syrub and Rose Singh appeared on charges under the infamous Immorality Act.

The pathetic details of the arrest were given to Mr. P. J. Cowan, the Magistrate, by the local vice witch-hunter, Det. Sgt. W. Morris, when 67-year-old railway pensioner, John de Lange, and an African woman, Dora Bhengu, pleaded guilty to a charge under the Act.

The quiet-looking pair told the Magistrate that they had no defence to offer; de Lange later said to the court: "I'm an old man; and Dora is an old woman. We are married and have been for 25 years almost."

The case was postponed to March, when judgment will be given.

Warning Against Government's 'Smear' Campaign

IN an "open letter" to its members in its newsletter, *Race Relations News*, the Institute of Race Relations warns against the Government's "smear campaign" directed towards liberalism.

The letter says that it is important to distinguish between liberalism and communism and that it must be made clear that liberalism is not the creed of a particular political Party, but a philosophy to which the Institute fully subscribes. Liberalism is diametrically opposed to the communist doctrine with which the Government is trying to equate it.

"Attacks on liberalism are not new," says the Institute. "What gives the current campaign against liberalism a special and sinister significance is the attempt to identify it with communism or to treat it as the forerunner of communism. The Government, it seems, is now acutely aware of the fact that the most trenchant and sustained criticism of its racial policies emanates from liberal quarters. By associating liberalism with communism, it presumably believes it can provide itself with a plausible excuse for taking action against liberals and applying to them the punitive measures which, we were assured, would be used exclusively against communists. Furthermore, this campaign, by employing the technique of the 'smear', is calculated to frighten many into disavowing their liberal sympathies or withdrawing their support from liberal bodies such as the Institute of Race Relations. Thus, by a dual process of suppression and intimidation, critics of the Government are to be reduced to impotence."

In the opinion of the Institute, liberalism has a vital role to play in this country. If the Government destroys liberalism it will destroy "the only force that can defeat communism in South Africa". The Government was busy creating the very conditions which favour the advance of communism.

"We who are concerned with the work of the Institute reaffirm our support for liberalism in the conviction that its enduring values will ensure the ultimate triumph of the cause to which we are committed," says the Institute.

Emergency Laws used to Gaol Liberals

THE SIX-DAY DETENTION in Umtata of four prominent Liberals has focused attention on two aspects of police activity in the Transkei. Messrs. Cromwell Nododile and Hammington Majija were first arrested in the Liberal Party office, York Road, Umtata on 20th February.

After five hours' questioning both men were released unconditionally. The following week — on 2nd March — they were rearrested while busy on Liberal Party work in the Party office and in taking affidavits from people who had allegedly been beaten up by the police during the investigations of the Bashee Bridge murders.

With them were Cape Liberal Party deputy chairman Mr. Terence Beard, senior lecturer in politics (and formerly of Fort Hare, from which he was dismissed at the Bantu Education takeover in 1959), and Dr. C. F. Goodfellow, lecturer in history, both of Rhodes University. The



Standing with Mr. Adrian Leftwich, a Party member, outside the Liberal Party office at Umtata, are two of the arrested Liberals, Mr. Nododile (left) and Mr. Majija (right).

four Liberals were searched and then taken to their hotels where their rooms and baggage were also searched. The police confiscated certain documents before taking them to the police cells. In jail they were

questioned on two successive days for periods of two hours. They were told that unless they answered all questions they could be locked up for an indefinite period under Proclamation 413 of the Emergency Regulations which have been in force in the Transkei since 1960. They were denied the presence of a legal adviser during the interrogation.

From their intensive questioning the Liberals inferred

○ extreme police difficulty with regard to solving the Bashee Bridge murders and Poqo activity. The fantastic allegations made in the Paarl Riot Enquiry hearings in the Transkei by Mr. Cas Greyling, M.P., and by sections of the Afrikaner Nationalist press, seemed to inspire some of the questions asked. For example, Messrs. Nododile and Majija were asked, on the subject of the Liberal Party Organization School they had just attended in Johannesburg: "Were you taught to make petrol bombs there?"

○ anxiety at the prospect of an exposing of allegedly tough police

methods used in investigating the Bashee murders.

After being held for six days, during which time they were not badly treated, they were taken to the Commissioner of Police, Colonel Rossouw, who said that he had been instructed to release them under certain conditions which would be explained by Captain Rossouw of the Special Branch.

The prisoners were then taken to Captain Rossouw's office where he told them he had no objection to "you gentlemen" coming to the Transkei, but that it appeared that when they were there, they started counter investigations after the police had conducted inquiries into serious crimes. He said that he was not prepared to tolerate this. He had received instructions from Mr. Vorster and Mr. De Wet Nel that he should release them provided they undertook to leave the Transkei immediately.

Mr. Majija asked whether they would be able to visit the Transkei in the future and was assured by Colonel Rossouw that they could return there any time provided they did not interfere with police work.

Mr. Nododile, Mr. Beard, Mr. Majija and Dr. Goodfellow all deny that they in any way interfered with police work or investigations.

South Africa asking for Trouble

REFERRING to her recent visit to South Africa, Muriel E. Burton, prospective Liberal Party Candidate for Oldham East, England, in a letter to *Contact* has said that only the most blind and ignorant visitor to South Africa could fail to understand the appalling state the country was in. She doubted whether she could have stayed here for a full year had she not met Liberals who allowed her to realize that not all South Africans judged every issue on colour and tried to maintain the *status quo* for their own comforts.

In a statement to *Contact* she said: "After a year spent working in South Africa, I came quickly to realize the sickly condition of the country.

From landing at the Cape Town Docks in January to leaving Jan Smuts Airport in December, 1962, the whole structure of South African society, which is based entirely on colour, thoroughly sickened me.

"Although there is a vast potential for good in your beautiful country, it is rapidly being destroyed by White Nationalist fear. Unless White South Africans quickly come to their senses and move with the rest of the world, they are asking for serious trouble. To my mind the South African Liberal Party is the only group working for a truly non-racial society which could save the country from extreme nationalism — be it White or Black."

NON-RACIAL VICTORY FOR CANNING WORKERS

By a Reporter

A DISPUTE between Canning Workers and their employers was recently settled in favour of the workers because of united action among Coloured and African employees. More than 600 employees of the Langeberg Ko-operasie Beperk factory at Dal Josafat stood firm in their demand that one of their colleagues be reinstated after being dismissed because of an alleged fight with the foreman.

The trouble started when the fruit canners complained to Mrs. L. Abrahams (General Secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union) that their foreman, Mr. Laubscher,

used abusive language in his dealings with them.

On Sunday, 10th March, Mrs. Abrahams, accompanied by Miss D. Hartogh (Paarl Branch Secretary), interviewed Mr. Laubscher to arrange a lunch-hour meeting. At the meeting the employees expressed their dissatisfaction, particularly at the allegedly abusive language used by the foreman, and at the dismissal of two workers, who, they demanded, should be allowed to return to work.

The Union officials discussed the matter with Mr. Laubscher who agreed to take back one of the dismissed men. The other worker, who, it is alleged by the Trade Union, was assaulted by Mr. Laubscher, was not reinstated because his work of late had been "unsatisfactory".

At a second lunch-hour meeting the Union members instructed their officials not to deal with the foreman, but to negotiate directly with the General Manager, Mr. G. W. Richards. They demanded that if their colleague was not reinstated "then the foreman who assaulted him should also be dismissed". A meeting with Mr. Richards was requested.

The General Manager did not attend the workers' meeting but instead told the Union officials that the workers were conducting an illegal strike. It was pointed out to him that his employees merely wanted to discuss the problem with him.

Labour Department officials then arrived at the factory and told the workers that their strike was illegal and they would be prosecuted. They wished to see all African employees separately, but the canning workers would not agree to this and insisted on settling their dispute as a united body and negotiating directly with the management of the factory. They would have no dealings whatsoever with the Department of Labour.

After four hours of negotiation with Union officials the management agreed to reinstate the other dismissed worker and to take no further action in the matter.

Throughout the dispute there was complete unity among all workers.

The Paarl Branch of the Food and Canning Workers' Union was established in March, 1941, when it organised the workers at Dal Josafat factory (then known as Associated Canners Ltd.). At the launching of this branch, it was not possible to obtain a hall for the purpose, so the workers met quietly on the banks of the Berg River, passed resolutions and signed application forms to join the Union, by car headlights.

Wilson Attacks Apartheid

(Continued from page 1)

vestige of human freedom is being suppressed."

Although Roy Welensky had now dropped out, the "unholy alliance" between Dr. Verwoerd and Dr. Salazar was being tightened. "We meet to condemn the policy of the British Government which not only condones the apartheid policy, but also provides the South African Government with the sinews of oppression." Mr. Wilson reminded the rally that British-made Saracens had helped to administer the brutality necessary to maintain the regime in South Africa.

"We cannot tolerate the help that Western countries are giving in building up the forces of a country which has put itself beyond the pale of human civilization and which has earned the censure and condemnation of the civilized world," he said.

South African Speaker

Mr. Duma Nokwe, former secretary-general of the now banned Africa National Congress, said that the crisis in South Africa had been created by Dr. Verwoerd's government. He said that the South African government was building an army and also arming the White population. These moves were supported by British industrialists and many British working men who claimed to be against racialism.

"This attitude of the British Government and British industrialists is regarded as a hostile act by our people which is designed to protect White domination."

END APARTHEID DEADLINE

South Africa and Portugal were both voted out of the E.C.A. (UNO Economic Commission for Africa) when it met in Leopoldville recently.

The Commission passed a resolution which recommended that South Africa be kept out of the E.C.A. until it had set a deadline to end its policy of racial discrimination. Portugal was required to bring African representatives to the conference table. Spain, France and Britain voted against.

South African and Spain were not present at the conference.

PEACE NEWS

the international weekly for non-violent action against war and tyranny, carries articles and news about the struggle for freedom in Africa, and has carried exclusive information about Britain's arms deals with the South African Government. In addition, *Peace News* reports on the non-violent movements for racial integration and for peace in all parts of the world.

Contributors include Lewis Nkosi, Michael Scott, Lionel Morrison, Jariretundu Kozonguizi, Bertrand Russell and A. J. Muste.

Airmail edition R4.60 (postal order please) or 3 months' trial for R1.

"PEACE NEWS",
5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1

BECHUANALAND**"Contact" Correspondent
Warned by Police**

By MATTHEW NKOANA

FOLLOWING THE REPORT, "Mpho Group Fails to Gain Public Support" (*Contact*, 21st February), I have been strongly warned by the police here, as a political refugee, not to "abuse our hospitality". The police complained about a 15-word sentence in the report.

Referring to Mr. Motsama Mpho and his public meeting held here on 27th January, the first of its kind since he was expelled from the Bechuanaland People's Party last year, the offending sentence read: "He had applied for police protection at the meeting, and they were much in evidence."

I was summoned to the office of

SWAZILAND**A NIGHTMARE FOR
WHITES**

MANZINI: In a statement to *Contact*, Dr. George Msibi, leader of the Mbhanzdeni National Convention, said: "The outcome of the constitutional talks which ended at Mbabane on the 4th March, has become the most controversial issue in the history of Swaziland. Mr. C. F. Todd's statements have converted the issue into a nightmare for our White community.

"In one master stroke Mr. Todd has created uncertainty and panic among the people he is supposed to serve, and in our economics, a state of fluidity. Mr. Todd must have known what the result of his statements would be, they will be tragic for Swaziland and all her people, both Black and White.

"Referring to Mr. Macmillan's 'wind of change' a psychologist of Witwatersrand University said that this change was in effect 'the evolution of the Black man' and nothing in the world could stop this. Today we are able to see the result of this evolution in most parts of the continent, and we in Swaziland have to consider and examine fully whether this evolution is intrinsically destructive or whether there are environmental factors that make it so? If the latter, then what can we do here in Swaziland to eliminate this destructive element?

"The mistake of the Whites elsewhere in Africa has been their failure to identify themselves with this

Major J. King, Officer Commanding, Francistown District, who said the report was inaccurate and created the impression that the police in Francistown were taking part in politics; further, it made the politician look like a coward.

Major King then warned that should I fail to correct "these wrong impressions" he would report to Government headquarters at Mafeking that I was taking part in politics in violation of a declaration that I had had to sign as a condition of political asylum in Bechuanaland.

While not denying that Mr. Mpho did in fact make an application for police protection, Major King stated that the police did not grant it. He pointed out that there were neither uniformed police nor the C.I.D. at the meeting, yet the report which referred merely to "police" gave the impression that they were there.

I was astonished by the vigour with which the complaint against me was made. The warning regarding my position as a refugee seemed to me to magnify the complaint out of all proportion to the offence. Notwithstanding my willingness, expressed early in the interview, to correct whatever wrong impression was created, I was wrapped over the

evolution. In Swaziland the situation has shown trends towards being different, but the acceptance of a 50-50 stopgap, no matter how temporary, forms a deviation from this healthy trend because it is not in keeping with the evolution. It creates an obstacle, the results of which could very well be tragic.

"The contribution of our White community, at the rate of progress today, is indispensable. For its survival and for the progress of Swaziland, there should be no obstacles placed in the path of this evolution. Therefore let us all stop and consider before we act. The Convention is still, and always has been, prepared to guarantee the security of all the citizens of Swaziland."

knuckles about the alleged "abuse of our hospitality".

I have considered the whole matter carefully and cannot help coming to the conclusion that a grossly unfair advantage is being taken of my position as a refugee. Circumstantially it is quite clear that pressure is being brought to bear on the authorities to get rid of the "ungrateful refugee", as I have been described by the Mpho group.

I had been in Bechuanaland six months when all of a sudden it was demanded of me to sign a declaration that I would not take part in politics. Since the fact cannot be disputed that I had never taken part in politics here, the only deduction I could make was that someone was worried by my newspaper reports and wanted to stop them.

This would remove my sole means of livelihood. I therefore sought and was pleased with the assurance, given locally by the officer who had been instructed by headquarters about the declaration, that the restriction only affected active participation in party politics and would not hamper my work as a newspaper correspondent.

But, while the officer himself has not gone back on his word, it now appears that after all the motive behind it all was precisely to tamper with my freedom to report on events as I see them. It is not lightly that I make this statement, and I wish in all sincerity that I could see the matter differently. What is more, I am fully aware of the undercurrents in some circles against refugees generally.

Whatever substance there was in the police complaint, there is certainly no justification for them to impute unworthy motives behind the 15 words which carried a simple and straight-forward meaning. I am left with a strong feeling that there is more to it than a desire on the part of the police to correct an alleged "false impression".

**'CONTACT' NEEDS
YOUR SUPPORT
NOW!**

Subscription Rates appear
on page two

○

Donations Should
be

Addressed to
"CONTACT"

P.O. Box 1979 Cape Town

Hawkers, Pedlars Hit by B.A.D.

By a Reporter

A DRASTIC CLAMP DOWN on trading by Africans in White town areas has been announced by the Department of Bantu Administration. Municipalities have been told they are not to allow hawkers, pedlars or speculators in livestock or produce to carry on business in White areas.

This means an end to the licensing of flower sellers and hawkers who go from door to door with vegetables in the White residential townships.

Africans will not be allowed to go to stock fairs in the country towns.

These instructions are given in a circular which stresses the Department's policy that Africans must be encouraged to go to their "homelands".

The circular says in their "homelands" they can "serve their own community, not only in their own interest, but also for the development and the upliftment of that community, where they, as citizens of such homelands, will have the fullest right and can aspire to the highest levels in all fields of human endeavour."

The reference to the homelands is meant to refer more particularly to "big Bantu towns" taking shape, and where there is an "urgent need for competent Bantu to enter into the service of their own people in commerce and other spheres".

Apply for Guidance

Among six towns mentioned are Mdantsane (East London) and Zwelitsha (King William's Town).

Any Bantu who wishes to transfer his business from the White areas to the homelands can apply to the Bantu Investment Corporation for financial help or guidance.

The Department says it is the "only and primary policy" not to allow the Bantu residents of White areas who are not employed, to increase.

Therefore, where it is possible for existing (White-owned) businesses in the town to meet the requirements of the Bantu without much inconvenience, no reason exists for further businesses within the Bantu township.

If it is necessary to provide shops in Bantu townships, this must be done on the following basis:

- Only Bantu born in the area, those who have worked for one

employer for ten years, or have been legally resident there for 15 years, may be considered for trading rights.

- The carrying on of more than one business, whether of the same type or not, by the same Bantu may not be allowed.

- Only shops which confine themselves to the provision of the daily essential domestic necessities will be allowed.
- Dry cleaners, garages and petrol filling stations are not regarded in this category. Existing businesses of this kind may continue till the opportunity arises to close them or to persuade the owners to transfer to a Bantu town in the Bantu homelands.
- Bantu companies and partnerships with the object of combining their resources to extend their businesses must not be allowed in Bantu townships in the White areas.
- The establishment of Bantu controlled institutions, industries and wholesale concerns must not be allowed.
- Bantu will not be allowed to build their own shops. Municipalities must build and lease them.

Minister refused Entry to University

By "Contact" Correspondent

DURBAN: Three Methodist ministers fasted for five days here recently in protest against the prevention, by the ill-named "Extension of University Education Act", of one of their number from attending the University of Natal to continue his studies in Theology.

The Ministers, Reverends James Moulder of the South Coast parishes, Thami Gladstone Ntlabati of Lamontville, and James Polley of the Amanzimtoti - Athlone - Doonside areas, started their fasting vigil on the steps of Howard College on the morning of 5th March.

Explaining the reasons for the vigil, the Rev. Ntlabati told me: "I was refused permission to enter the University here to continue my studies in terms of the Proclamation of 1960. I hold a B.A. Hons. degree in Theology. In addition several other African students who had been studying here may not come back. We felt that this vigil would be an outward expression of our personal feelings. I wish to make it clear that this was a matter for individual decision—the church is in no way involved."

Support for the student ministers grew as the fast went on and at one time several scores of students spent various periods of the day with the

three men. Well-known citizens here also spent an hour or two with them. One such was Mr. Alan Paton.

On the third day of the vigil the Hon. D. G. Shepstone unveiled a plaque in memory of academic freedom in the University. The plaque reads, "that academic freedom was removed from the University in 1956 and restored . . ." (the date of restoration is left blank).

An unfortunate aspect of the demonstration was that members of the non-White Students' Representative Council boycotted the ceremony declaring that "it was a bit too late in the day for ceremonies such as these".

READ TUESDAY'S
EDITION OF THE
DAILY DISPATCH
EAST LONDON
WITH ITS SPECIAL
AFRICAN PAGES
P.O. Box 131 80c. (6 months)

READERS GIVE THEIR VIEWS . .

Incentive to Learn

SIR,—The critics of the Progressive Party qualified franchise policy choose to overlook the fact that such a policy is bound to give a fine incentive to the masses of our population to achieve a fairly good standard of education.

The Progressives have pledged to make every effort to educate every citizen regardless of race or colour.

S. H. Exter,
Durban.

Train the Swazis!

SIR,—I would be pleased to know what steps the Swaziland Railways have taken to train and apprentice Swazis in order that they may be prepared, when the railway starts operating, to run the line efficiently without having to import foreign labour.

It is the wish of every Swazi that they should have first preference in their own country in filling vacant posts. This has not been the policy up till now. The Swaziland Railways must be made to understand that Swazis are anxious to be trained to operate in every field on the railway.

We cannot afford to serve as unskilled labourers and handymen for the rest of our lifetime.

L. Emuva-Hlatikulu,
Bechuanaland.

R160 for Apartheid Stories

SIR,—The Nats. are certainly taking their ventures into African journalism seriously. Agents for their new Zulu-language daily *Elethu* are offering jobs with R160 (£80) a month starting salaries. Certainly *Elethu* is a remarkable achievement, despite the loss of prominent reporters who refused to file stories with the proper apartheid ingredients. Though advertising is only trickling in, my best information is that the paper is selling well. I also learn that in the near future there will be a Sotho-language daily too, from the same stable.

The recent take-over of Bantu Press shares by the Argus group was done in a hurry, I learn, to forestall any attempt by Nationalists to get in first.

If the Nats. have failed to take over the Bantu Press shares they

have not failed everywhere. Mr. R. R. R. Dhlomo, a distinguished journalist who is retiring from the Bantu Press, is said to be joining *Elethu*. Mr. Dhlomo made a stir some years back when he became the first African journalist admitted by the Nats. to the parliamentary press gallery.

Geo. O. Lejowa,
Francistown.

TO ALL READERS OF "CONTACT"

- This is your page, for your letters, for your opinions
- We like short letters on any topic

World-Hated Ideology

SIR,—On Saturday evening, 12th January, 1963, a white motorist accidentally knocked down an African lady with a motor scooter amputating her foot. The accident took place in front of the Savoy Hotel, corner of Church Street and Du Toit Street.

A young European pedestrian yelled, "Jy moes haar doodgery het." Did he say this because he has a personal grudge against her? Or because his hostility had been aroused by the collision between the two colours (black and white)? Certainly he said it because she had a black colour and the gentleman had a white colour. Had she been a white-skinned lady he would not have made such a provoking remark.

The hotel housekeeper then said to me, "Ek het die Here bedank . . ." She thanked God because the unfortunate lady did not work at the Savoy. Can this be the reason why she thanked God? Does she value the services of a person more than the life of the person herself?

We learn a serious lesson from this episode. That "colour difference" breeds racial hatred and hostility. The outcome of all this will be bloodshed. Why therefore do not we eradicate this world-wide hated ideology of apartheid?

Spectator,
Pietersburg.

Slaves in Our Own Country

SIR,—I want to tell the sons and daughters of Africa that this is 1963, the year for Independence. I believe that it is time for us to tighten our belts, roll up our sleeves and follow the Bechuanaland People's Party.

The B.P.P. stands for complete national independence NOW, under an African government. I appeal to all Batswana to march forward to freedom. You and I are slaves in our country, you and I are not free in our country. Brothers and sisters, no man is good enough to govern another man without that other man's consent. Better die free than live as slaves.

I call on all our people, wherever they are, to join the B.P.P. today, because our mother Botswana is pregnant and it is now time for her to give birth. We want to celebrate our baby boy, Independence, before the end of this year.

G. O. Lejowa,
Francistown.

Forward to Independence

SIR,—On the 18th February, the Bechuanaland Protectorate Government showed the Batswana people that it was irresponsible when it called people from all over the country to give evidence about discrimination in Bechuanaland. The thing it practises day in and day out.

Of the 26 witnesses giving evidence there were none for the Bechuanaland Democratic Party, but instead there were judges who cross-questioned people in the course of the session, which took four days. The most outstanding of Government stooges left after the first day. He felt guilty no doubt when he glanced at some of the people who gave evidence.

Away with this Bechuanaland Government and forward to Botswana independence in 1963.

Moses Vinco Ramokate,
Lobatsi, B.P.



Published by the Proprietor,
Selemela Publications (Pty.)
Ltd., 47 Parliament Street,
Cape Town. Printed by Lincey
& Watson (Pty.) Ltd., 364
Voortrekker Road, Maitland,
Cape Town.