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FIGHTING TALK

NATAL SOCIETY
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APRIL, 1952.
ORGAN OF THE SPRINGBOK LEGION.

Our Word

Bring The Pressure To Bear

THE result of the Appeal Court's decision on the Separate Representation of Voters Act is ancient history by now. A far bigger issue is facing this country — the threat of the Nationalist Government to override the highest Court in the land for its own political ends.

Regular readers of "Fighting Talk" are aware that the Springbok Legion was one of the pitifully few organisations which constantly warned the country of the fascist outlook and tendencies which are a BASIC feature of the Nationalist Party. There is no other reason for the existence of this party except the determination of a small group to seize control of this country.

In view of this, it is ludicrous indeed to appeal to the "sportsmanship" of Dr. Malan and his colleagues; it is also quite useless to remind these men of past pledges, however sacred or entrenched.

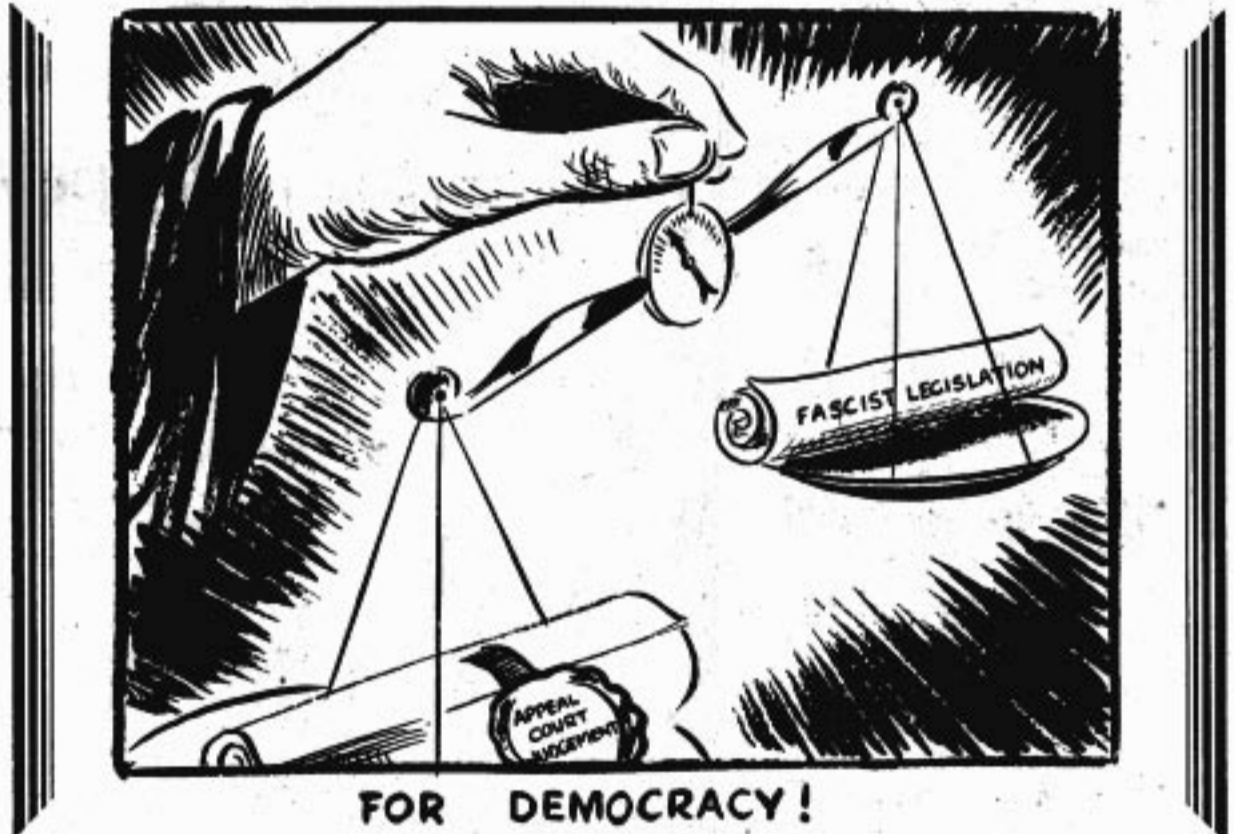
No, there is only one demand that we can realistically adopt — the Government must go, and go at once! Unlike the Torch Commando or the United

Party, we do not expect, even lingeringly, the graceful retirement of the Cabinet; what we do expect is that the wrath and exasperation of the mass of South African citizens will FORCE its overthrow.

There is much the people can do towards this end. Protest marches, strikes, and civil disobedience form a noble

chapter in the history of the struggle for freedom all over the world, and it may well be that South Africans will have to pay a sterner price for their liberty than they have hitherto been called upon to pay.

The Springbok Legion pledges itself and all the resources at its disposal to the fight for liberty and democracy.



Our Action

LEGION CALLS FOR ONE-DAY STRIKE.

Believing that the political "truce" was a grave mistake, the Legion convened a public meeting on the Johannesburg City Hall Steps to break the "truce". The speeches delivered dealt with the "Constitutional Crisis" and the "Crisis in Race Relations."

Dr. Guy Routh, Acting National Chairman of the Legion, said: "We feel that conventional methods to get the Nationalist Party out of power have failed and that all employees and employers who are against the Government should have a one-day strike to shock the Government into having a general election to test the will of the people."

Mr. Cecil Williams gave some facts on the Resistance Campaign undertaken by the Non-European people. He stated

that the campaign was directed against 'unjust laws' and not against the European population: that the methods to be employed were peaceful and that the Non-Europeans were not seeking social and political equality. He warned white South Africans against the danger that Dr. Malan would use the Campaign to scare all voters into accepting Nationalistic policies.

The speeches were well received by an enthusiastic audience.

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

By "OBSERVER"

It is only at a time of crisis, such as we are passing through now, that we become passionately interested in the question of civil liberties and our rights as citizens. It is essential to realise that if we ignore minor encroachments upon and diminutions of our rights we make it easier for the Government to destroy our basic liberties. It is for this reason that I feel we could learn a great deal from the work of the National Council for Civil Liberties in England — a group of men and women who wage a ceaseless struggle against all attacks on civil liberties; be they threats to freedom of speech on a national scale or proposed restrictions on the right of the inhabitants of a village to continue drawing water from a well which has been communal throughout the centuries.

The diversity of the Council's work may best be illustrated by this resolution which was passed at the last Annual General Meeting:—

1. This Annual General Meeting, whilst welcoming certain limited advances in the field of civil liberty in social questions, draws the attention of the citizens of this country to:—

(1) Colour discrimination, anti-semitism, discrimination on the grounds of sex and political discrimination in the field of employment, threatening the principles of equality of citizenship.

(2) The endangering of freedom of speech by:

(a) The growing use of discrimination by owners or managers of halls which are normally available for general public lettings, on grounds of objection to the viewpoint of the organisers, the names of the speakers, or the subject for discussion.

(b) The growing censorship of posters and advertisements and interference with open-air meetings.

(c) The barring of foreign delegates invited to enter the country to attend a conference, on the grounds of the contribution they were expected to make to the discussion.

(3) The extent to which bodies such as the B.B.C., the Board of Control and the Regional Hospital Boards are outside the reach of democratic control and cannot be checked by Parliamentary action.

"Observer" has recently returned from Europe, where he made a close study of civil rights.

It draws particular attention to the fact that many of these threats to civil liberty operate only in regard to particular areas, to specific callings or to limited interests and that, therefore, the full extent of these restrictions is not clearly seen.

It welcomes the growing willingness to reply to individual dangers amongst those sections of the population who have been confronted with these attacks, but feels it necessary to note that a democracy cannot exist without:—

(a) Equality of Citizenship.

(b) Freedom to acquire information and express opinion.

(c) Democratic control of all essential instruments of government and public service.

To implement a resolution such as this is a herculean task, but one in which the Council has achieved an enormous measure of success — through the investigation of cases, deputations to Parliament and local authorities, the lobbying of M.P.'s, public meetings and the wide distribution of pamphlets.

EQUAL PAY

I can give only a few examples of this. The Council is, for instance, foremost in the fight for equal pay for women and in the fight to secure political freedom of action for civil servants. It has had questions asked in the House about

firms which have refused to employ Jews; and has reported to the Home Secretary cases where non-Europeans were refused service in public houses and restaurants. It has protested to Dr. Geyer, the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa in the United Kingdom, against the opening of mail sent by a British journalist in the Union to his editor, and has also protested to the South African Government against the proposed banning of the newspaper "The Guardian."

When British subjects, wishing to attend a Youth Festival in Berlin, were obstructed by the Americans in Austria, the Council demanded a Government inquiry and when this was refused, the Council itself held a Public Inquiry which exposed the brutality and cynicism of the Americans responsible and showed up the ineffectiveness of the British Consul in protecting the rights of British subjects.

LEGAL ACTION

A dramatic example of the Council in action is the following. Two days before a ship was due to dock in an English port, the Council received a report that a British subject on board had had to leave the Dominion of his birth without a passport, and he did not know whether he would be allowed to land. The Council immediately arranged for him to be met by one of its Executive Committee members, a barrister, a friend who would identify him and a fourth person who arranged for the party to be given permission to board the ship. This formidable deputation interviewed the British immigration authorities on the ship, reminded them of the right of British subjects to land in England and the man in question was at once permitted to leave the ship.

At the moment, the Council's most intensive campaign is in connection with the detention of Mental Defectives. This campaign began with the investigation of a single case and has led the Council to uncover the scandalous definitions of Mental Deficiency "which lead to the indefinite detention of young people quite fitted for normal life, and the

(Continued on page 13.)

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'N BOODSKAP VAN DIE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

OP 6 April het die African National Congress, bygestaan deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Indiese Nasionale Kongres, organisasies van die Kleurlinge en demokratiese Europeane, massa-vergaderings byeengeroep in verskeie dele dwarsdeur Suid-Afrika. Hierdie demonstrasies sal ordelik en vreedsaam wees, maar hulle sal nogtans ons vasberade protes en die bittere ontevredenheid wat deur ons, die Nie-Blanke bevolking, gevoel word teenoor die baie maatreëls van onderdrukking en vernedering wat ons verplig word om te verdra onder die regering van die Nasionale Party. Hierdie dag merk die begin van die gedisiplineerde veldtog waarop ons besluit het om die hoof te bied aan onregverdige wette.

Uit die ondervinding van die verlede ken ons al te goed die soorte verdraaide en oneerlike propaganda wat teen ons gebruik sal word. Die publiek sal vertel word dat ons leiers „wilde opstokers“ is. Valse praatjies sal versprei word dat ons veldtog „teen die Europeane gerig is“ en dat dit gevolg sal word deur „opstotings en geweld.“

Ons het juis dieselfde soort bangmaak propaganda, op onwaarhede gebaseer, in die gebruik gesien teen die Fakkels Kommando en ander teenstanders van die huidige regering.

WAT IS DIE FEITE?

Die Bantoe en Indiese Kongresse is albei langbestaande en verantwoordelike organisasies wat reeds, vir lange jare, betuende en waardige uitdrukking gegee het aan die eise van hulle volke. Her-

haaldelik het ons verteenwoordiging aan die regering gerig om te vra dat die inbreuke in die regte en status van die Nie-Blanke bevolking 'n end moet kry — inbreuke wat die Nie-Blanke bevolking tot die uiterste grense van hulle verdraagsaamheid gebring het.

Aan al ons proteste en verteenwoordiging het die teenswoordige regering 'n dowe oor gekeer. Dit het maatreël en maatreël van rasse diskriminasie en onderdrukking uitgevoer wat die ellende van ons volke vererger.

„Apartheid“ is bewys om te wees, soos ons altyd geweet het, maar 'n oneerlike slagkreet om die verdere vernedering van die Nie-Blanke volke te verberg, en om deur geweld hulle huise en land van hulle te ontnem.

Ons voel daarvan verseker dat die doelwit van die Nasionale Party is om ons te onderdruk tot ons die status van knegte en slawe in ons geboorteland bereik.

Ons het geen stemreg nie. Ons het geen verteenwoordiging in die Volksraad nie. Selfs in die Kaap Kolonie, waar die Nie-Blanke totnogtoe 'n beperkte stemreg gehad het, word hierdie reg bedreig deur 'n regering wat bereid is om die Grondwet en Geregshoue uit die weg te skuif teneinde hierdie regte van ons te ontnem.

GEEN ANDER KEUSE.

In die toestand het ons geen ander keuse as om na vreedsame massa aksie oor te gaan nie. Ons sal 'n beroep op ons

volk maak om deel te neem in ons gedisiplineerde veldtog teen sekere onregverdige wette, soos die „Group Areas Act“, die Paswette en die poging om die name van die Gekleurde stemgeregtiges van die algemene stemlys weg te neem.

In hierdie stryd teen onderdrukking, en vir 'n beter toekoms vir ons volk, maak ons 'n beroep vir die ondersteuning en simpatie van elke inwoner van ons land, wit of swart, wat die ideale van vryheid, demokrasie en regverdigheid van waarde ag. Hierdie stryd is nie afsonderlik nie van die groot beweging wat nou onder alle dele van die bevolking ontwikkel teen die Malan-regering op hulle pad na diktatorskap.

Die antwoord aan die rassehaat van die Malaniete is nie meer rassehaat nie, hetsy dit van die anti-Nie-Blanke soort, of die anti-Blanke soort is nie. Hierdie weg het Suid-Afrika tot sy teenswoordige toestand gebring, waar rassehaat tot 'n voorheen ongekende hoogte gegroei het; waar swart sowel as wit bedreig word deur ekonomiese ondergang en waar die naam Suid-Afrika 'n sinoniem geword het van rassehaat, onderdrukking en diktatorskap.

Suid-Afrika is groot genoeg dat al ons inwoners in vrede en ordentlikheid saam kan woon, en almal kan deel aan die vrugte van die land en die een die ander kan help om die lewe vir almal makliker te maak.

Ons staan op die vooraand van 'n groot nasionale krisis.

Ons maak 'n beroep op elke ware Suid-Afrikaner vir sy ondersteuning.

Die dreigende skaduwee van diktatorskap moet van ons lewens verwyder word.

Laat ons 'n vrye Suid-Afrika Bou!

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A STRAIGHT TALK ON THE BUDGET

by *WAGE EARNER*

AT the time of writing it has just been announced that the price of maize has been increased by 3/6 to 30/- a bag and the price of wheat by 3/7 to 54/- a bag.

These are staple commodities, affecting in various ways the standard of living of every single man, woman and child in South Africa. In economic parlance, the demand for these products is inelastic. That is to say that the average man in the lower income groups cannot resolve to counter such price increases by consuming less, because the commodities made from these products are basic parts of our diet. So that for the average man these price increases mean simply that his already overstrained budget is split wide open.

Now this has a very important bearing on Mr. Havenga's new budget proposals announced last week. The Nationalists, you will remember, widely proclaimed beforehand that the 1952 Budget would be our anti-inflationary measure. When, at the end of last year, Dr. de Kock, the Governor of the Reserve Bank, reviewed South Africa's Economic position, he impressed most strongly upon us all the overriding need to check the dangerous upward spiral of prices. He stated that it would be necessary, in order to check inflation, to curtail the amount of money in circulation, to reduce the scale of public and private investment and so relieve the pressure of demand for all those war materials and finished products which were in short supply.

Well, Mr. Havenga has taken Dr. de Kock's advice. He has, in the first place, raised the Bank Rate, i.e. the rate of interest yielded by Government and other first class securities, from 3½ to 4 per cent. This is calculated to have two results:

- (a) It will encourage people to buy securities and thus "drain the market of surplus money" and
- (b) It will raise the interest which the business man will have to pay on money which he borrows to run his business, thus making enterprise less profitable and thus reducing the rate of Industrial expansion in the Union.

There are other measures in Mr. Havenga's budget calculated to reduce the amount of money in circulation. Firstly, of course, the increases in normal taxation result in the fact that the average man has less to spend. Secondly, there is a flat instruction to the banks to "contract credit", i.e. to lend less, and such bodies as local and provincial authorities have been asked to curtail expenditure on their capital construction program-

mes on the score that there is an all-over shortage of capital and further that money so spent will find its way into the peoples' pockets as incomes and so increase the demand for goods, resulting in further rises in prices.

In conjunction with these monetary measures are the increases in indirect taxation which affect you and me more immediately, although in the long run the monetary measures will probably affect us more profoundly. There are the increases in excise duties on cigarettes, beer, mineral-waters and sweets; there are the increased stamp-duties and telephone charges; the increase in the duty on films, which will have a considerable adverse effect on the budget of the cinema-goer, etc.

So, on the one hand Mr. Havenga has seen to it that we shall have less money to spend; on the other hand he has made sure that what money we have shall not go as far.

CONTRADICTION

Now, having read thus far, it becomes immediately apparent that there is a sharp contradiction between the theoretical side and the practical side of the budget. *Firstly*, there are the measures designed to decrease the amount of money in circulation and thus ease the inflationary trend — i.e. by halting the rise in prices; *Secondly*, there are the increases in duties which have the immediate effect of sending prices more rapidly skyward! *Thirdly* — the first results of the budget are increases in the price of maize, wheat and other cereals!!

Well — what gives? Does one, we ask in our simple-minded way, combat inflation by increasing the prices of basic necessities?

And another point: hand in hand with the monetary measures considered above import restrictions will have the effect

of decreasing the volume of goods available to the public. Goods will become scarcer, so that though we will have less money wherewith to make our purchases, there will be less to spend it on, and one does not need to be an Economist to know that however one may manipulate the currency, if goods are scarce, prices will not fall.

So, what is the answer? Is it to be inflation or deflation?

Well, for once shall we give Mr. Havenga a handout and say, "Yes, brother, you are combatting inflation, prices will probably fall, all will be well"?

No — not well. Do you remember about three years ago, shortly after Mr. Havenga became Finance Minister, he told the opposition in Parliament that he could bring inflation to an end — if the country was prepared to take what went with a programme of deflation. And what he meant thereby is that one must choose between two alternatives, between 1952 and 1932, between inflation and depression. And, within the narrow scope of Mr. Havenga's brand of Economics, he is quite right — those ARE the only alternatives.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Take these monetary measures: it follows quite clearly that among the consequences which follow upon a policy of "dear money" (brought about by the rise in the bank-rate, etc.) is the fact that business becomes less profitable; the business man who intends to expand his business; the manufacturer who was contemplating the erection of new plant; the wholesaler who was going to increase his stocks; the chap in the corner shop who was going to move to larger premises — all these types change their minds and decide to hang fire. This, in turn, results in the fact that the builder and engineer who were about to get started on the new factory or warehouse roll down their sleeves again, because the contracts they were about to sign are scrapped.

And the wholesaler or retailer who, on the one hand finds that he has no permit to import, and on the other hand finds that his old customers are buying less because Mr. Havenga's budget has

(Continued on page 15.)

WELFARE IN PROFILE**“EX-SERVICE JIM”**

| LOOKED up from my desk at well over six feet of manhood and in the usual routine fashion said, “Can I help you?”

Our interpreter helped the visitor to unfold his story. After months of looking for a job Jim had at last found employment. When, however, he went to register at the Pass Office, his pass was taken away from him and he was issued with a piece of paper which said amongst other things: “Not to be employed in the Urban Areas of Johannesburg”: “To be employed in Rural Areas.”

I phoned Influx Control and learned that Jim was a foreigner — he was born in Alexandra Township, and for all intents and purposes he might as well have been born in Alexandria, Egypt. I glanced over at Jim while I was speaking to Influx Control and all his sorrow at our shameful system was there in his dark eyes.

Something of what I felt must have crossed the wires of that telephone because eventually Influx Control relented and agreed to issue Jim with the necessary permit if his job was still open to him. After some negotiation this was arranged and Jim was issued with a permit to seek work.

It was necessary, however, for Jim to see the employer again before commencing work and for days he travelled a few miles from the place of employment to the Legion Offices to report that he had “not started yet.”

Each time I saw him I was filled with a resentment against the callous manner in which this ex-soldier was asked to call again and again, but Jim — his patient resignation seemed to express itself in the very leanness of his tall frame, a dignity that was biding its time.

Finally one morning I was assured by the employer that Jim could start work and he would give him a note right away to the Pass Office. Jim left our office at approximately 10.30 a.m. with his little boy of four years old. They returned from the Pass Office at 4 p.m. having spent almost 5½ hours in what

should have been a simple process — obtaining a document giving him the right to work.

We know, we read, we hear of cases a hundred times worse than this one. We are moved by poverty, oppression, injustice, which our Non-European people undergo all the time, but for some of us with a conscience I believe it is the individual case that hits home strongest. I pictured Jim and his boy hanging around that pass office for hours and compared it with my ten minutes impatient stampings at a bus stop.

I could visualise his anxiety during all that time, because of his past unpleasant experiences at the same offices. I imagined the little boy tired and hungry—such a lovable little chap. Strange too — this little black boy was clinging to his dirty dishevelled father, loving him just as much as my boy loves his father. And Jim — why he was smiling down at the boy very lovingly. Previously it had been Jim's malnourished and ill-clad body that worried me. That day I felt with Jim the hurt he must feel at not being able to do more for his child.

Today Jim's problems are very real in my mind. Today the very ordinary comfort of my home can jolt me into thinking of what Jim and his boy went home to. I can think of Jim's torn shirt, his bedraggled waistcoat — which he wore instead of the jacket he obviously did not possess — with a pang of shame at the number of times I have seen Africans dressed like this and not stopped to think about it.

Today there is not much pleasure for me in anything lovely. But shortly, I fear, my perspective will be distorted again and I'll be accepting the inequalities quite easily.

The Michael Scotts remember always and today I wish I were of their calibre.

“YETTA”,

Springbok Legion Welfare Officer.



The Future of Western Civilisation

MUCH has been heard of late about saving white or Western Civilisation in South Africa by adopting various degrees of apartheid. The exponents of such views are grossly ignorant that the continuation of Western Civilisation depends upon the Negro. He alone is physiologically fitted to stand the strain of modern civilisation. The white races are beginning to perish under it.

A few facts will make this point clear. To-day heart failure is, among Europeans, one of the main causes of death. It is far commoner among men than among women. The explanation is that it is the man to-day who carries most of the stresses and strains created by our economic and cultural set up. He carries the worries, the astringents, the anxieties to a greater extent than the woman. This stress creates a continued high pressure pumping by the heart, for the brain to work quickly must have a much increased supply of blood. The heart of the European fails under this stress because its structure is that of the ordinary mammalian heart. The heart is a powerful muscle but in order to work efficiently it must have a good supply of blood. The heart muscle is supplied with blood by the two coronary arteries. One goes to the left ventricle and the other to the right. This pattern of blood supply is basic to all mammalian hearts which we share with the sheep and goats, horse and cow. This heart already fails under the stress of Western Civilisation and the tempo of this stress is steadily increasing. The arteries of the human heart degenerate under this persistent strain and one gets a long series of sudden deaths of men in the fifties from coronary thrombosis. The ultimate end is that the present carriers of Western Civilisation will be destroyed by it.

SUPERIOR?

Now let us turn to the Bantu. He works hard in the mines but he does not die of coronary thrombosis. The reason will be given later. In the meanwhile an examination of his physical and metabolic efficiency repays investigation. The little evidence that is available shows that under the hygienic conditions of life of the European the Bantu is much longer lived than the European. During

the war physical tests were carried out by the South African Institute of Medical Research with the following results: "The physical efficiency of our Bantu population is not only equal to that of the Europeans, but that in spite of the generally known deficiencies in their environment, in spite of their poor housing conditions, in spite of their bad food, in spite of the manifest insufficiencies

This article was contributed by
M. D. W. JEFFREYS,
M.A. Oxon., Ph.D. Lond.,
of the University of the Witwatersrand.

of their health services and their education, the Bantu's physical abilities are superior to those of the Europeans. The black man's and the black woman's basic labour capacity is higher than that of all other races so far studied in South Africa." This basic efficiency was put to good purpose during the last war. A practice-bomb factory was set up at Durban and almost all the labour used was African: "and so remarkable was the output that every similar factory in the Empire was closed . . . One African drilled 4,000 holes a day, or nearly one every 10 seconds."

What then lies behind these achievements? The first point that must be realised is that the European is the oldest human line. Skeletal remains, e.g. Swanscombe man in England, Boskop man in South Africa and CroMagnon man in France, are all European types, not Negro. There are no known ancient Negro skeletal remains and the conclusion is being reached that the Negro is a late mutation from us. Sir Arthur Keith writes: "The typical Negro is not an old but a relatively new form of humanity."

As a new form he should show variations from us and he does. If we take the Gorilla as a standard of reference then we get the following tabulation:

THE LEGION WRITES A LETTER

25th March, 1952.

Secretary to the Land Tenure Advisory Board,
Lilri Buildings,
Private Bag 190,
Pretoria.

Sir,

In terms of the Notice, dated 1st March, 1952 and published in the "Star" of March 7th, my National Executive Committee formally lodges its protest against the application of the Group Areas Act in Lydenburg. Our objection is based on the following general grounds:

- The Act and its proposed application are based on Colour discrimination. This is arbitrary, undemocratic and calculated to intensify the developing crisis in relations between white and non-white. The effect will be to establish Ghettos with all the unsavoury and inhuman consequences as were witnessed in Hitler's Germany.
- The application of the Act in this instance, or in any other, constitutes an interference with the basic rights of domicile of all sections of the community and especially those of Indians and Coloureds, whose standards and conditions of living will be further depressed with incalculable consequences to them and to the country as a whole.
- It does violence to the property rights of all sections of the community and since there are no provisions for adequate compensation, it is inevitable that serious financial loss will be imposed on individuals and possibly on the community itself.
- It constitutes an interference with the basic human right of the individual to follow the trade or profession of his choice and directly deprives some individuals of the means of livelihood hitherto enjoyed by them. Not only does it do this but it does not even provide an equal opportunity in any alternative sphere. The effect is that many Indians, and perhaps Coloureds, will be compelled to seek new occupations and they will have to do so in a much more restricted field.
- The application of the Act in this instance also directly affects and interferes with the religious rights of the individual, since the areas defined for the different groups remove the Indian Community from easy access to their Mosques and other sections from ready access to the Catholic Church.
- The doubtful benefits that might accrue to a few Europeans, the removal of Indian competition in commerce, the acquisition of property by forced sale and therefore cheaply do not warrant the cost of this experiment to the South African Taxpayer. The cost in unpredictable consequences to the economic structure of the country is also a matter for consideration.

Yours faithfully

F. J. HODGSON,
National Secretary.

Gorilla	European	Negro
Hirsute	Hairy body	Glabrous
Straight hair	Straight to wavy hair	Curly hair
Hair section circular	Hair section circular	Hair section elliptical
Hair emerges normal to the skin	Hair emerges normal to the skin	Hair emerges oblique to the skin
Thick lips	Medium lips	Thick lips
Light eyes	Light eyes	Dark eyes
Small number of sweat glands	Large number of sweat glands	Greater number of sweat glands
Bone structure coarse	Bone structure coarse	Bone structure ivory like
Bones heavy	Bones heavy	Bones light
Great orbital ridges	Strong orbital ridges	No orbital ridges
Skull thick	Skull not so thick	Skull thinner still.

A NEWER VARIETY.

Now it is quite clear that as *Homo Sapiens* is a single species and the Negro variety shows variations not found in gorilla or European, the Negro must be a newer variety.

The final evidence is the one that explains his longevity, his greater physical efficiency, his immunity to coronary thrombosis. The Bantu has a more efficient heart. Recent investigations in the Medical Schools have revealed: "A difference between the coronary artery pattern in the Bantu and in the European. In the Bantu, more than three-quarters of the hearts examined by the injection and dissection technique of Schlemmer show that the left coronary artery divides into the anterior descending branch and the circumflex branch, and immediately distal to this division there is, in over three-quarters of the cases, a third large artery, supplying the wall of the left ventricle . . . It would from this appear that the Bantu heart, having a better coronary artery circulation to the left ventricle can afford to have coronary artery sclerosis better than the European, without developing myocardial infarction."

In other words the Bantu has a heart which differs from the ordinary mammalian heart. Now mammals preceded man in their appearance on the earth and when we Europeans evolved we evolved with the old mammalian heart pattern. The Bantu has a different pattern and therefore it must be a newer, not an older, pattern than ours. This newer, more efficient heart bestows on the Bantu greater length of life; greater physical efficiency and what is more, a heart that is better able to stand the stress and strain of Western Civilisation than is that of the European. Hence, in order to prevent Western Civilisation from perishing when it has killed off the present carriers by becoming a load they can no longer carry it is essential to hand it on to the Bantu to ensure its continuation.



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THE WORLD TODAY

by BEN GILES

HOTTING UP THE COLD WAR

IN America, where they talk loudly of 'booms' and spend the nights worrying gloomily of 'busts', the "Eisenhower for President" boom is getting under way. But the C. in C., North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, sits silently in his headquarters in Europe and says nothing. In fact, despite the boom and ballyhoo, Eisenhower is not yet a candidate.

Only in the U.S.A. could it happen this way. The great political machines are getting under way, holding their election-before-the election — their so-called "primary" election — in which each party selects its own candidate to run for office. Eisenhower's name does not appear on the ballot papers of the Republican Party; but his name is being written in and voted for. But Brer Dwight, he says nuffin.

WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

As the papers have it, it's still anybody's race in the Republican primaries. And it is a race run to the beating of martial drums. In the dim and not very hopeful background, stands the sinister figure of Douglas MacArthur, discredited spokesman for all-out war in the Far East. Nearer the tape, is Senator Robert Taft, leader of the anti-Communist drive, tub-thumper of the "bring our boys back from Korea and let Chiang fight our wars for us" line: and for my money, way out ahead, the military leader of the cold war in Europe, chief organiser of the military preparations for the hot war of tomorrow.

I tip Eisenhower to win the Republican race, because the cold war is big business, America's biggest. It is the money spinner which has sent corporation profits sky-rocketing along the golden stream of Marshall Aid, war orders and the Korean war.

These primaries are not popular elections as we know them. They are the swinging into action of great political machines, of political bosses whipping up the votes of henchmen and job-seekers, of back-stage intrigue, bargain and quid-pro-quo arrangements. And in these machine-operated campaigns big business calls the tune, Republican and Democrat. And big business is for the cold war, and for its chief of staff, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

ARE THERE DEMOCRATS?

Against the flamboyant challengers from the Republican ranks, the Democrats have little to offer. More significant than is the sudden "bombshell" announcement by President Truman that he would not stand again for election, an announcement made at the height of the Eisenhower boom.

It cannot be that Truman has stepped aside in the belief that any one of the colourless selection of Democrat aspirants has a better chance of victory, for seldom has there been so undistinguished a collection of candidates. His decision can only be a manoeuvre designed to make the election of Eisenhower inevitable, and so bring to its fruition the policy of the cold war and anti-Soviet bluster in international affairs which was fathered by Truman and completed by Eisenhower.

To South Africans, steeped in the traditions of bitter party strife, the idea may seem fantastic. But not in America, where the two main parties are as distinguishable as Tweedledum and Tweedledee on a dark night. No arguments on foreign policy; no arguments on home policy; this has long been the fact of the two major parties of the American scene. Differences, where there are any, revolve around whose loyal supporters are to be appointed to which lucrative jobs. For the rest, a Southern Democrat votes more often in the house with the Republicans than with his own party.

Truman, Democrat, commences: but Eisenhower, Republican dispenses.

ALL CUT AND DRIED.

That at least is as big business sees it in America. The policy of stockpiling is reaching its end, with the first signs of a crack in war commodity prices. The policy of cold war and rearming is reaching its saturation point, with hot war boiling over in Korea, Tunisia, Egypt, Malaya. The state of war hysteria and tension which has been whipped up will begin soon to let down if it proves to be all caused by shadows.

And so the Truman regime of the cold war must end too. The reins of state must pass to the hands of its reigning military genius; and the military domination of American state affairs must be completed. The hierarchy — as big business plans it — will be presided over by General George Marshall and General Dwight Eisenhower. The cold war and its leaders must give way to the hot war and its generals.

But like all these calculations, they omit one thing. And that thing is the people. Their voice will not be heard yet; but it will be heard in the Presidential elections later in the year. And it is here that the plans of big business may go astray, as they did last time, when all the power of the press, radio and the Gallup Poll sought to tell the American people that Dewey could not lose.

And yet he lost, decisively and handsomely. Not that any fundamental differences of foreign policy divided Dewey from Truman — just the people, not prepared to be herded into support of the more violent and outspoken propagandist of war.

It may happen again, if the American people can still think for themselves, and have not been drugged with their ruler's dreams of American domination of the world, and the "American century". If anyone can beat Eisenhower, it is, the virtually unknown Senator Estes Kefauver, who had greatness thrust upon him as leader of the Corruption investigations which sent several of Truman's toadies to a well-earned rest in Federal penitentiaries.

He may not be the answer to a peace-lover's prayer. It is certain that he supports the Truman doctrine of the cold war. But every vote registered for him will be a vote against the conspiracy to bring America under military rule; and it will be a vote of protest at the frantic efforts being made to hurry up a new world war which is the logical end of the Truman road.

BRANCH



ITEMS

THE political crisis has inevitably brought the Johannesburg Branch a good deal of work, albeit work of the most worth-while nature. The newly-elected Branch Committee had its first meeting shortly after the decision of the Supreme Court invalidating the Separate Representative of Voters Act. The Committee immediately decided to call a Branch Meeting on Monday, 7th April to discuss with our members our attitude to the decision and Dr. Malan's statement, and also the non-European resistance to the Nationalist Government's unjust laws.

* * * *

IN addition, the Branch has applied to the City Council for permission to hold a public meeting dealing with these issues. A big leaflet distribution is planned, and the Branch is hopeful of having a really successful meeting, which would incidentally expose the half-hearted stupidity of the Anti-Nationalist organisations who are "observing the truce."

* * * *

ON Monday, 31st March, Dr. Y. Dadoo addressed a meeting for the public organised by the Branch on: "The Non-Europeans and the Nationalists." Dr. Dadoo explained the reasons which lead the Joint Council of the Non-European National Organisations to plan a campaign of resistance to the Government's "Apartheid" policy. He particularly emphasised the fact that the campaign is directed against oppressive laws, and not against the European section of the population.

Dr. Dadoo outlined the new laws introduced by the Nationalists and the old ones which they have stringently applied to oppress the Non-Europeans. He spoke with passion and sincerity of the desperate position of the Non-Europeans, the forcing of African Labour to farms, the culling of their cattle against their wishes and interests, their abandonment

to a shocking housing position, and the application of the Group Areas Act, which clearly intends to make the position of Indian South Africans so desperate as to drive them from the country.

Dr. Dadoo told the meeting of the joint plans of the Non-European National Organisations. First they had asked the Government to repeal six unjust laws which discriminated against Non-Europeans. This request had been rejected by the Government. On April 6th demonstrations of support for the resistance plans would be held all over the country, after which small units would invite prosecution by openly defying discriminatory laws.

Several questions were put from the floor by Legion members. It was announced that the Legion would discuss its attitude and plans at the Branch Meeting on the following Monday.

* * * *

BRANCH members are busy collecting jumble for the next jumble sale. It is gratifying to see members accepting the responsibility of raising funds and realising that without sufficient finance the Legion will be crippled in all of its planned activities, such as producing pamphlets, holding meetings, etc.

A Gem from the New World

West Virginia, U.S.A.: Wheeling city fathers seized every penny-candy machine in town when it was discovered that among the miniature geography lessons enclosed with the candy were ones which read: "U.S.S.R. Population 211,000,000. Capital Moscow. Largest country in the world."

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

THE attention of all Legiannaires is drawn to the Ninth Annual Conference of the Springbok Legion, which will be held at the Trades Hall, Kerk Street, Johannesburg, on the 26th and 27th April, 1952.

Whether you are a delegate or not, we will be very pleased to see you in attendance, since it hardly needs stressing that our organisation faces a grim struggle in the ensuing year — a struggle which has been made doubly severe by the set-backs, both economic and political which this country is experiencing.

Don't forget the date, time and place.

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BOOK REVIEW

THE TROUBLED AIR

by Irwin Shaw

HERE is a book I cannot recommend, for it falls far below the high standard set by Mr. Shaw in "The Young Lions". It has a spurious and shaky political standpoint: it reveals a contempt for human beings in general: it is noticeable for shoddy, unconvincing characterisation and its narrative style is smarmy. I would not review the book at all, so disappointing is it, but for the fact that many readers, remembering "The Young Lions", will be tempted to buy "The Troubled Air."

A radio-director of programmes is ordered to sack five members of his team on the grounds that they are Communists or fellow-travellers. Archer, the director, is shocked and gains time to investigate personally the political leanings of the accused. He discovers that his musician, a refugee from Austria, in addition to being a Jew, was a member of the Austrian Communist Party for two months in the twenties. The musician commits suicide after his dismissal.

Alice Weller admits to having spoken at a Peace Meeting. Atlas, a Negro comedian, declines to answer questions on the grounds that he is being victimised because of his colour. Frances Motherwell admits she is a Communist, because the man she loved was killed in the war and he was a Communist. Vic Herres, Archer's friend, denies Communist sympathies, but is revealed finally as the leader of a "cell."

The interest of the book is, of course, the reactions of an average man to the practical application of the 'Red Witch-hunt' in the United States and Shaw shows well enough the insidious effects of the underhand methods employed. This aspect of the book is effectively fulfilled and we can take warning from the grim U.S. example.

Shaw falls down just on the very point which must have moved him to write the book: namely, the disappearance of civil liberties in America in the process of the 'witch-hunt'. As a writer formerly considered 'liberal', he has attempted to make his protest against the narrowing of freedom, but he reveals how much afraid he himself is of the 'smear' tactics by the denouement of the novel.

After spending four-fifths of his book in proving that it is un-democratic to deprive citizens of the freedoms of speech, publication, criticism, employment, fair trial and so on, he ends his book quite unexpectedly by savagely denying all these rights to 'Communists'. In so doing he completes the vicious circle, for once again he is confronted with the question: What is a Communist? where are the dividing lines? who can define a 'fellow-travel-

ler'? who and on what grounds can condemn an organisation as 'subversive'?

It is this artificial ending to the book which suddenly compels him to turn his characterisation upside down. In particular the reader cannot accept the sudden revelation of Herres's "true" character. Pictured as a strong, independent, generous, warm-hearted, loyal individual, we were at the last invited to believe him to be ruthless, dishonest, without loyalty to his friends, without intellectual integrity and with a touch of sexual perversion!

It just won't do. It is neither good politics nor good literature.

C.W.

CIVIL RIGHTS

(Continued from page 3.)

growth of a staffing policy which has led to the use of these definitions in order that the unpaid labour of high-grade or normal patients may be used to reduce to the tax-payer the cost of the care of the low-grade patients."

The Council has investigated countless individual cases; in each they have obtained independent medical and psychiatric opinion. They have been instrumental in obtaining the release of numbers of people wrongly certified as mentally defective; and they are now pressing for a public inquiry. Their pamphlet on this subject — "50,000 Outside the Law" — has been widely distributed and is arousing intense interest and indignation.

Miss Elizabeth Allen, the General Secretary of the Council, wrote in her last annual report that opponents of the Council have accused it variously of being in the hands of Conscientious Objectors, Communists and Fascists and they are now waiting for the accusation that the Council is controlled by Mental Defectives.

If, on reading this, you imagine that the Council has vast resources and a large well-paid staff, you would be completely wrong. The Council is very badly understaffed and is desperately short of money. They have launched an appeal for funds among their members and sympathizers for the demands made on them increase daily.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The composition of the Executive Committee is a source of strength for it consists mainly of representatives of affi-

liated organisations, and has only a few members who act in an individual capacity. Among the affiliated societies are Trades Councils, the Association of Scientific Workers, Civil Service groups, Teachers' Unions, Lawyers' Associations, etc. In her latest letter to members Miss Allen writes:

"This week we have been called upon to take emergency action to protect the rights of organisations showing 16 mm. films against new threats of licensing and censorship and have been able to bring together, as no other society could have done, organisations so diverse as the Gas Council, the Church Missionary Society, and the Co-operative Wholesale Society."

Finally, let me quote a resolution to be submitted to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Council:

"This Annual General Meeting welcomes the formation of the Australia-New Zealand Civil Liberties Society in London, and supports the efforts of this Society to oppose the increasingly large number of restrictions on, and violations of, civil liberties in these two Dominions; this meeting also recognises that the defence of civil liberties in the various countries of the British Commonwealth is closely inter-related and that vigilance in one Commonwealth country assists the cause of civil liberties in all others."

Those interested in obtaining literature or making a donation can do so by writing to The National Council for Civil Liberties, 46, Westbourne Grove, London, W.2. (Membership of the Council is 10/- per annum).

YOU'RE TELLING US

Letters to the Editor



The Editor,
"Fighting Talk."

Dear Friend,

How are things at home? From all the news and reading between the lines I gather things are moving fast and you will be busy with a campaign that the Appeal Court decision must have started.

Folks over here are pretty interested in all the developments but they have a naive belief that the Nats. will resign out of sheer embarrassment. People don't seem to realise how close we in S.A. have been and still are to Fascism.

One feels closer to war here but fortunately most people are pretty conscious of it, so that the Peace Movement is getting stronger and stronger — they reached 1,000,000 signatures last week and the campaign is getting broader as the drive to war affects more people. Aneurin Bevan's position is such that he cannot help but support and present left-wing policies, which are extremely popular with a growingly-militant section of the people.

The Ex-Service Peace Movement has held large meetings all over the country protesting against German re-armament and getting good publicity. In general the situation is encouraging, except among the South Africans here, who all seem to subscribe to the theory that S.A. affairs will all be settled outside the country as a result of world events. This seems wrong to me and I believe that the struggle for freedom lies only in the hands of the South African people themselves. Is this correct?

ALAN LIPMAN.

London, England.

OUR REPLY:

Thank you for your informative letter. It is indeed encouraging to know that the struggle for the prevention of war is meeting with success and that ex-service-men in Britain — as Legionnaires in South Africa — are pointing the way.

We do not think for one moment that South African affairs will automatically be righted by developments in internat-

ional affairs. It would be stupidly erroneous for South Africans who can see more clearly than ever the pattern of a fascist dictatorship developing in this country to fold their hands and await for salvation from the outside world. The struggle is ours. It will never be won except with our own efforts.

Nevertheless, the liberation of subject peoples in India, China, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaya: the increasing political powers achieved by Africans in other parts of the continent must have their effects on the non-white people of the Union. As Dr. Dadoo has said it is up to white South Africans in the interests of themselves and the destiny of South Africa to move with the times towards a day when all sections of the population can live and work together in harmony and prosperity.

Yours, etc.,

EDITOR F.T.

The Editor,
"Fighting Talk."

Dear Friends,

Why haven't you written to me? I take the dimmest view of you! Events like these would have deserved a personal line just to put me in "the know". Do you realise what it means to me to be completely cut off like this, when I really have my heart and soul back home with you chaps . . . I'm not being dramatic — so give out all your views!

Perhaps I'm more excited than necessary because I'm so far away. I want to know how far those beauties can go. What is the Legion doing about Malan's refusal to accept the Court's ruling? and what about the Torch Commando? I didn't like Lou Kane-Berman's little 'Apartheid' scheme over the Alamein Meetings.

Hope you are all fit and fighting.

Yours,

SAIDEE PRAGER

London, England.

(Continued on next page)

SNIPPETS

Croydon East: The local Conservative Association has expelled member, Mr. Geo. Green (ex-Royal Marine) because he is a committee member of the Ex-Service Movement for Peace. Said Mr. Green, "The way to world peace and happiness does not lie in amassing huge stocks of armament, and if that is the policy of the Conservative Party, then I shall feel much happier to be relieved of any responsibility for it."

Ottawa: Former S.S. General Kurt Meyer was transferred to Germany from Canada last October to serve out the remainder of his life sentence for war crimes against Canadian P.O.W.'s. Meyer was allowed ten days "leave" from prison soon after his arrival in Germany. His transfer has caused a storm of protest from Canadian Ex-Service organisations.

Hundreds of post-cards have been sent to the Prime Minister urging him "to bring Kurt Meyer back to Canada so he can never kill again."

Meanwhile in Germany Meyer in a press interview said: "Marshall Manstein and Marshall Kesselring and myself study English very hard every day. We believe in a European army and we are preparing ourselves to serve in it."

Arizona: A Phoenix cemetery announced a change in its policy to allow the burial of a Negro soldier killed in action in Korea.

London: Last month it was reported that it was intended to show the film "Rommel — Desert Fox" in Western Germany. It is now learnt that the film is not to be shown.

World-wide protest has made "the powers that be" think again and chalked up another victory for the Peace forces.

Nottingham delegates at British Legion Midland Area Conference protested against British Legion apathy in not protesting against B.B.C. ban on El Alamein Reunion broadcast and substitution of excerpts from the Rommel film. Delegates from 1,250 branches carried the resolution unanimously.

OUR REPLY:

By the time you read this, you will have received all the "gen" on the Constitutional Crisis, the Legion's plans and what the Commando are doing. We are glad your interest and enthusiasm are still with us.

All the best,

Yours, etc.,

EDITOR F.T.

REPLY TO MISS POCOCK—see February issue.

Dear Friend,

You said in your letter: "Though I feel the Western Democracies are all you say, I find myself in agreement with H.H. and his attitude to Russian Communism."

May we repeat that the Legion's fight for the preservation of World Peace has nothing whatsoever to do with the merits and demerits of Communism or Capitalism, nor for that matter with the demerits of Nazism. However evil any one of the systems may be, we firmly believe that opposition between Capitalism and Communism can be confined — it does not require a horrible war to solve the ideological conflict.

Wouldn't it have been better for us to destroy Nazism without resort to war? If the democratic nations had firmly applied sanctions — including the breaking up of international cartels which as-

sisted Germany to make war — Hitler and his ideology must have collapsed . . . without war. Similarly today a programme of Big Five Agreement over a Pact of Peace, disarmament, destruction of A-bombs, international inspection — which, let it be carefully noted, Russia proposed at U.N. early this year and which was rejected through the bloc-vote of the Western Powers — then neither side could possibly wage war. Then at last the virtues of the conflicting economic systems could be left to reveal themselves in peace.

It staggers and horrifies me to read the cold-blooded words of H.H. in the February issue of "Fighting Talk" — that he would prefer to fight in a third world war than submit to Communism. H.H. is free to fight Communism for all he is worth, day in and day out until he succeeds, but how can a man who went through World War II, who has some concept, one assumes, of Atomic warfare, who has any intelligence at all, how can such a man so lightly accept the prospect of a third world war???? His attitude is less than adult. Let him spend his time fighting all the evils in the world, INCLUDING THE GREATEST OF ALL — WAR.

Yours fraternally,

EDITOR F.T.

THE BUDGET

(Continued from page 6)

left them short of money, takes fright and decides to reduce the scope of his business because he does not want to get his fingers burnt. The builder and the engineer decide that the time has come to employ fewer artisans; the wholesaler and retailer go to their staffs, put on their most charming smiles and say, "Well, we don't like to do this but — well you know how it is . . ."

Listen to Professor Richards:— "The days of rising prices, a plethora of jobs and easy money would appear to be over and in all probability a period of recession now faces the country."

And, again, "A recession in business would mean that every factor of cost must be reviewed and, if possible, reduced."

So — now you have it! Before prices can start falling, "factors of cost" must be reduced, and among these factors is the wage of the workers. Either fewer people must be employed or the wage-rate must be pushed down. That's the start of it. Later on it will not be one or the other — it will be both.

And now — to wind up — what of the extra 3/6 per bag of maize and 3/7 per bag of wheat? What of the higher cost of cigarettes, sweets, lemonade?

As to the maize and wheat — well, Mr. Havenga is not as honest today as he was three years ago. He will not say to his friends on the platteland, "Look boys, I have just started a nice little depression — soon you won't need higher prices for your mealies". No, he hands them out a nice little bonsella and then runs and hides behind the apartheid chesterfield, waiting for the bomb to burst.

And the excise duties, the stamp duties and the like? That, no doubt will go into the Defence Reserve Fund. Didn't you know there was a war on?

The "disinflationary" process will be slow, but it will be painful. The reduced imports means that other countries will earn less money to buy from us: We will sell less, and buy less, and so on, until the whole economic machine has wound down. And Mr. Havenga will say, "See, I have killed the dragon of inflation."

Of course there is a third alternative, but we'll discuss that after the political truce!



THE REAL BOGY

(Cartoon by Ex-Gnr, Frank Hogshaw)



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