

FIGHTING TALK

ORGAN OF THE SPRINGBOK LEGION

Vol. 8.//

NOVEMBER, 1953.

No. 10.

BEWARE!

DANGER!

THE Banning of Cecil Williams and other militant fighters for democracy by Mr. Swart, presents those of us who are left with a challenge. It is a challenge that must be met! Failure to meet it and to do so as vigorously and fearlessly as possible may place us in grave danger.

The challenge we have to meet is that of maintaining and strengthening our organisations. It is that of ensuring that the activity of those organisations is not lessened one iota, that it continues and is intensified.

We must recognise that the bannings of the militant leaders of our organisations are not directed against them as persons. They are a direct attack on our organised opposition and an attempt to cripple and destroy it.

The fact that the Nationalist Government attempts to crush organised opposition should have meaning for us. It indicates that they fear it. It should be taken as a measure of the value of organisation as an effective weapon of opposition. It should indicate to us some measure of the value of the organisations we have and the need to fight in defence of them. It points to the need to build and strengthen them so that they will be an even more effective weapon in the struggle for democracy.

This is the challenge that we have to meet. It is a challenge to each individual one of us. In the final analysis, each one of us must meet and deal with it by himself and for himself. Each individual must ask himself: "Am I doing enough in this critical hour?" "Can I do more?" "Can I give more time? effort? money?"

The very real and grave danger we may find ourselves in, is not that Mr. Swart will ban us, or send us to prison, or impose any of the other penalties within his power. No! The danger is that we will let our organisations go by default. That they will be destroyed because we, each of us as individuals, have failed to rally in defence of them. Because we have not been prepared to sacrifice some of the leisure, ease and luxury of the present for the sake of the future.

The consequence of failure to preserve our organisations is far more serious than anything that Mr. Swart can do to us.

Without our organisations we are disarmed. We are

lonely, isolated and ineffective individuals. Easily intimidated and made to conform to the patterns of the fascists, to shout "Heil" and "Down with the Kaffirs", "Down with the Jews", "Down with the Coolies" or whatever the Master Race wills.

Our children can be taken from us, taught to march in step, to sing the Horst Wessel song and other beastliness. Trained to spy on their parents and fellows and to become informers.

We can be herded into Ghettoes, made to work for long hours for whatever pittance employers choose to pay or the State dictates. We can be forced to participate in the crimes against humanity of the Nationalist Regime. Yes! we can be made to die in defence of that regime and its crimes!

We have seen it happen to others — to people no worse and no better than ourselves.

Yes! This is the real danger. It is one wherein we White Democrats in particular are the most vulnerable. Betrayed by the comfort and luxury of our living standards into a semi blindness to the urgency of the situation and lacking the same compelling need for relief as the Non-whites, it is difficult for us to respond to the need for strenuous activity and greater sacrifice. Yet it is we, because we are White, who are in the greatest danger of being forced to conform, to become partners in the fascist programme, and the crimes against humanity which are being perpetrated in the name of "White Supremacy".

We dare not think: "It Can't Happen Here". We must be resolved that it shall not happen here. We must defend our organisations. We must hold them, cost what it may.

We must recognise that we are literally "on the barricades" and we must hold them. Only the courageous and strenuous efforts of the rank and file members of our organisation can avert the danger. The rank and file are you and I and the other fellows. Those who have been doing and those who have been passengers. What we do or do not do *Now*, will decide the issue. You have been warned. Beware! Danger.

BANNERS FLY AGAINST THE WIND.

THREE months of hard and energetic work by Legionnaires and others came to fruition in Johannesburg on Saturday, 10th October, when eighty-eight delegates drawn from Legion, Congress of Democrats and Democratic League branches met together to form the South African Congress of Democrats. Delegates had come from Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and the Transvaal to this historic meeting, from which has emerged the first national body in South African history to proclaim its support for the UNO Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to declare that the Declaration applies to all South Africans without distinction of race or colour.

Under the chairmanship of Legionnaire Peter Beyleveld and Democratic League's Lee Warden, the conference discussed the nature and work of the new organisation, adopted a constitution and got down to business-like discussion of future activities and plans of campaign. After serious and careful debate, in which members of all three sponsoring bodies as well as other individual delegates joined, the future of the new organisation was formulated by resolution:

"That the main objective of our work shall be to win support for our policy amongst those sections of the population not catered for by the Congress Movement.

That to make its work effective and to achieve its aims and objects, the organisation shall strive to establish close fraternal relations with the Congress movement at all levels of branch, regional, and national organisation, and shall work towards close unity and alliance with the Congress movement in all its political activities."

A further resolution stressed the vital part to be played by the working class and trade union movement in the fight for South African liberty, and pledged the new organisation to active efforts to enlist the support of the trade union movement for its aims.

NO CURE-ALL

"The Universal Declaration of Human Rights cannot be peddled from door to door like a patent medicine" one of the delegates declared in the debate on future work. "Our organisation must campaign widely on each and every social and political issue that rises in South Africa; we must try to win our fellow citizens to support our policy on each and every issue; and we must work to lead them from that single act of support to a wider acceptance of our whole general aim, which is expressed in the

articles of the Universal Declaration!"

Delegates pinpointed what they considered the most urgent and vital problems now facing the country, and urged that the new organisation treat them as first priority in the new organisation's work. These were the revolting, genocidal attacks on the Indian people, under guise of the preparation of the

Group Areas Act; the attempt of the Government to turn the African people into permanent, docile carriers of wood and drawers of water, by the institution of "native education", directed by the Native Affairs Department, to fit the African for the station in life to which Dr. Verwoerd has seen fit to call him; and the bannings of leaders from every type of democratic, anti-Government organisation, spreading a creeping paralysis over all who challenge the Fascist way the Government is leading.

Headquarters of the S.A. Congress of Democrats, it was decided, will be Johannesburg. Peter Beyleveld was unanimously elected National President, Lee Warden Vice-President, and Jack Hodgson National Secretary. A strong executive committee was elected, and is already getting down to work to bring something new into South Africa's political life.

Preamble

WE South African citizens, united by a common belief in the right of all people to freedom and equality, proclaim our support for the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation.

WE are against all forms of inequality and discrimination and we repudiate as false the doctrines of racial inequality, of White Supremacy, "Apartheid", trusteeship and segregation.

WE proclaim our conviction that racial conflict and national oppression are linked with international conflict and war which threatens the advancing standards of life and liberty of all mankind.

WE therefore found this South African Congress of Democrats to advocate the principles of equality and the brotherhood of men, to strive for the maintenance of world peace and the ending of national discrimination and oppression, and to win South Africans to support a programme of extending rights and liberties for all our people.

From the preamble to the Constitution of the South African Congress of Democrats.

Sir,

I, _____, undersigned
of this address _____
hereby apply for Membership of the South African Congress of Democrats.
I accept and undertake the conditions of membership as laid down in the
constitution. I enclose herewith as a *subscription _____
as a donation _____

Date _____

Signed _____

*Payment of a monthly subscription of 1/- is a condition of membership.

THE RACIALISTS UNMASKED

It is consoling to savour the unalterable truth and wisdom to be found in most folk-sayings. Such a one is, "Truth Will Out!" Another runs, "Time Will Make Mention". And how reliable is, "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." With regard to the Group Areas Act, Time is, indeed, 'making mention' and Truth, indeed, is coming out. All the lofty phrasings, the concern of the common (white) weal, the references to the findings of (Stellenbosch) professors, the appeals to Holy Writ, which accompanied the introduction of that savage, ignorant Act, are now being revealed for what they were, eyewash!

The Group Areas Act was presented to the public as the cornerstone of apartheid, a policy, so we were told, dictated by God to be implemented by the righteous Nationalist Government. Here was an Act of Parliament guaranteed to keep our white-red blood pure: to save our daughters from 'marrying Kaffirs'. Here was an Act to keep the stream of our Western, Christian civilization unclouded by the crude culture of barbaric peoples; an Act to preserve the stability of our political 'democracy', our tried and tested social patterns. No Minister of State ever breathed that it was a piece of trickery to swindle the Indian commercial community out of its decades-old trading rights and profits and to hand those profitable undertakings at bargain, giveaway prices to white erstwhile business competitors. Not a whisper from the authorities of such nefarious intentions.

ECONOMIC SPOILS.

But now the story is leaking out. The game is being given away by the spokesmen of small Afrikaner business interests in the Transvaal dorps, as they let their feelings run away with them before the two-man commission, representing the Land Tenure Advisory Board. So blatant is the greed for economic spoils at the expense of the Indian traders that local municipalities are quite stupidly putting up 'group areas' schemes which even the Commission cannot accept. As part of the pious trappings of the original Act, the Government inserted a clause that removal of race groups from one area to another must be effected with justice to all concerned. Small wonder then that the Commissioners are having to reject local plans on the grounds that the plans show a complete disregard for the safeguarding clause.

When the Commission sat for the first time last year at Lydenburg in the Transvaal to consider the group-areas-plan prepared by the local Municipality, the plan was opposed by the Springbok Legion in a written memorandum. The Legion objected to the Act in principle, holding that there was a mountain of

moral and democratic objections to a scheme, which discriminated against a group of people solely on the grounds of race. The Legion objected to the specific provisions of the Lydenburg plan in that they took away property, trading rights, religious and educational buildings, and the very livelihoods of the Indians of the town **WITHOUT COMPENSATION AND WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF EQUAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES.**

The Commission rejected the municipality's application on the grounds that the alternative scheme did not measure up to the demands of justice and equity.

Since then the Commission in the Transvaal has sat in Carolina, Nylstroom, Balfour and Wolmaransstad — and the Group Areas Act is very little nearer implementation.

THE NAZI SPIRIT.

What has emerged from these sittings is the clear outline of bitter racial hatred, based on economic self-interest on the part of the whites. Local councillors are prepared to run their municipalities into strangling debts so long as the 'Koe-lie' can be kicked out, removed as a business rival and his property taken over. It was an easy job for Advocate Dr. George Lowen at Nylstroom to show the Commissioners that the Municipality was bankrupt, that the figures of costs, submitted by the council's engineer, had been 'sucked out of his thumb', that the plan itself revealed no 'justice and fairness', that there were no signs of racial friction in the town and that the total scheme was a blatant attempt of local interests to grab the Indians' valuable property and trade.

What has shocked democratic South Africans has been the naked appeal to race prejudice and the unashamed references to the Nazi's filthy race theories and inhuman practices.

Speaking at the Nylstroom hearing, Adv. Hiemstra, a Pretoria advocate, on behalf of the Council addressed these words to Adv. Lowen, who was a Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany:

"My learned friend should know that

*William Whiting looks
at Lydenburg's
Group Areas Scheme.*

as soon as the Jews had reached a certain percentage of the population, animosities arose against them. You will find that right over the world. Especially if they concentrate on one profession. And the Indian need not expect that with him it will be different.' With these words, Hiemstra openly pleaded the precedent of Hitler's regime.

Dr. Lowen replied that Adv. Hiemstra had dragged in the fate of the Jews on the continent at the hands of "history, in the person of Hitler."

"I regret," Dr. Lowen continued, "that Advocate Hiemstra's knowledge of history has stopped with Hitler and that he has not learned what happened to those who trampled on humanity and ruined and destroyed those whom they did not like."

In a passionate vindictive peroration Hiemstra revealed the race hatred and cupidity of his clients. "From the day the Indians set foot in the Transvaal, the State, as distinct from the people in general, recognised him as a danger. If the outlook is dark for them, it is only because the sky is dark with the wings of chickens coming home to roost. The predecessors of the Indians we have today penetrated against the wish of the Government, and what do we get? Not penitence, but a presumptuous challenge to the owners of the country and we get clamours for equality . . . The position that a foreign and alien element dominates the commercial life of a town will not be tolerated."

It becomes increasingly clear that the Government is running into unexpected troubles as it tries to put the Group Areas Act into operation, so blind and stupid are the Transvaal Nationalists for whom the scheme was first prepared. It is not enough, however, that it should be left to a clever advocate to have the plans rejected on the grounds of their impracticability. Only when the whole country is warring against racial discrimination can we hope to rid South Africa of the evil, ignorant policies which can lead us only to the edge of ruin.

VIA BANTU SCHOOL TO BONDAGE

A COMPREHENSIVE survey of South African Native Education would involve a detailed examination of the existing system and a relay on the controversy with which any student of educational problems to some extent must be aware.

To give as complete a picture of the South African scene as I am here allowed I think I would best start with a brief survey of revealed conditions.

In South Africa there were in 1949 just under two million African children of school going age, of whom 38 per cent, or 760,000 attended classes. This as compared with the 800,000 European of the same age, of whom about 100 per cent. are at school in the Union. With this great disparity in mind we approach the problem of African education as it exists about is today.

Confronted with this situation the Union appointed a Native Education Commission in January 1947 under the chairmanship of Dr. W. W. N. Eiselen, Secretary for Native Affairs, and this Commission set to work almost immediately. The report of the Commission has given us an invaluable amount of data with which we may occupy ourselves, but it has also set in motion a nation-wide controversy. There is further, a bill passing through Parliament which will bring into effect recommendations of the Commission. We see, therefore, that this problem which confront us today is really one of no mean importance.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

To illustrate, let me give you a few more of the facts revealed by the report:

The wastage during the first few years of school life is very heavy indeed; three-quarters of the children in the first standard (sub A) do not reach standard Three, and only about 3 per cent. go on to secondary schooling of any kind.

The standard of achievement in the schools has been markedly deteriorating. Reasons for this were given i.e. a lack of qualified teachers (in the Transvaal 1,012 unqualified teachers were employed), the alarming number of one-and-two teacher schools (they comprise 54% of the schools in the Union), large classes, poor equipment, and lack of adequate supervision and guidance by Bantu supervisors and European Inspectors.

The Commission also considers that if greater use were made of the home language throughout Bantu schools there would be an improvement. However, although this principle may be practicable in homogeneous areas, it presents an increasing problem in those areas where classes are generally very heterogeneous. Nor would it be wise to divide the urban townships on tribal lines.

The complaint that the general orientation of school work is too academic

poses one of the fundamental problems of Bantu education. In the past occupational educational has met with too many obstacles, the chief of which have been the difficulty of placing skilled African workers, and the opposition met with from European interests.

Provincial control of education, the Commission feels, has had a prejudicial effect upon the development of Bantu education. It has divorced education from general development, and has led to anomalies and disparities among the different Provinces. It is felt that, unless a central authority administers Bantu education, equalisation among the Provinces will not be achieved. It should be remembered in this regard that the 1949/51 Commission is not the first to recommend the transfer of control to the Union, and many people engaged in Bantu education have supported this view on the condition that the transfer be made to an independent Education Department, and not to the Native Affairs Department. Contained in the bill

on Native Education, now passing through Parliament, is the provision to transfer Bantu Education to the Department of Native Affairs, and not to the Union Education Department. The main point of criticism against the bill has been that the emphasis is laid on the word "Native" rather than on "Education". The consideration of a possible divisibility in education has been raised, and is a point worth thinking of. The first main recommendation of the Commission deals just with this point.

The recommendation claims that Bantu education must be thought of in terms of "Social purpose". Further, that while the aim must be the development of a modern progressive culture, education is connected not only with the intellectual, moral and emotional development but also with the socio-economic development of the Bantu as a people. Professor Murray, a member of the Commission, is strongly opposed to this idea and says that "education is not there to prepare the individual to some preconceived form of society. Society follows the natural tempo of man who does not come into being for society's sake; the community will develop from the individual."

SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

All the Commissioners do agree though, that Bantu education will have to be something different from European education, as the pupil comes from

(Continued on page 14.)



Bug Bites Blikskottel

By ELWOOD C. CHOLMONDELEY.

I MUST protest at the injustice that the capitalist press has done Blikskottelberg, by ignoring our scheme for Group Areas. It may be true that Nylstroom stands at the source of one of the world's mightiest rivers, or that Balfour is named after one of its most two-faced Declarations; but I can say without boasting that what we, in Blikskottelberg, are doing about the problem, will be a beacon-light for all real South African patriots to follow — even though the jingo press boycotts us.

As one of its oldest inhabitants, I can claim to know what I'm talking about. I was in on the discussions, right at the beginning; which is only right seeing I'm the mayor. Piet Stoffel came straight to me, man to man, and said to me: 'Mr. Mayor' he said, 'I'm sick and tired of that bliksem.' 'Wat se bliksem is die?' I asked him, rather surprised; because Piet is not a talking man as a rule. 'Daardie bliksemse Cassim Naidoo' he said, spitting gently on the floor of the kitchen.

It took some prying, because Piet is not a talking man as a rule; but at last I got it straight. It seems Naidoo, without so much as a 'If-you-don't-mind' told Piet bluntly, 'Sorry! No more credit.' Considering Piet's prospects — he does grave-digging for the Council on piece-work rates, and we've had a very healthy year amongst our ninety-seven citizens — I felt there was some justification for Naidoo's point of view. But before I had time to appear really bloody angry at his bloody cheek, Piet said calmly: 'Think I'll take over his shop; that'll teach the bastard!'

Well that rather rocked me, what with the slump in grave-digging this year. So I said 'Uh huh. And what'll you use for money?' I thought that would shake him; but he just looked at me with scorn and said 'Money? Money? Whose talking about money? Watter soort Nasionalis is jy? I'll use the Group Areas Act' he said shortly, and walked off.

Well that set me thinking. I was so busy thinking I had no time to do any work that day. And after supper I said to Hettie: 'Think I'll take over Moosa's shop. Damned sight better than walking my bloody feet off as locust control officer. Hettie just said calmly 'Ja, my skattie' in the way she has when she doesn't believe a word I'm saying, but can't be bothered to argue. So I thought 'Alright! I'll show you!'

And by golly I did. I got hold of this advocate fellow who writes the books about things like this, and took a few tips — strictly on the Stadraad's account. And at the next meeting of the Raad I showed them a thing or two as well. 'Doesn't it make you despair for the future of your children, to see this mixing of the races?' I asked them. 'Do you want us all to be a coffee-colour in ten years time?' I could see that shook du Plessis, what with his menagerie of coloured skeletons in his cupboards. I had them in my hand, like that! Piet Stoffel seconded, and we agreed to draw up a scheme for group areas.

It wasn't all plain sailing either. We all agreed to move Naidoo and Moosa out of the dorp; that was easy. We fought like hell over who was to take over their shops. Piet was for drawing lots; but I fixed him by proposing sealed tenders, the shops going to the highest bidder. I fixed a ring with van Heerden, who's the only man hereabouts with any money — he'd put up the cash and I'd pay him back from the profits.

That advocate fellow put up a fight at the Board, I can tell you. But some slimy Johannesburg lawyer got up and said that the Board couldn't even consider the scheme until we made proposals where the Indians were to go to. Seems we overlooked that, and it delayed matters a bit; and led to another hell of a fight on the Raad. Van Heerden had a piece of rocky outcrop on the top of the ridge; Robinson had a piece of brak-land next to the swamp; and Smit has that old quarry. They all wanted to sell to the Raad; well, I saw my chance and fixed it for van Heerden, on condition I didn't have to return the money he put up for me to buy the shops. Fair's fair.

This time we had a full session with the advocate fellow, and really gave him the works. I told him the story Oupa Piet always told me when I was a child, about how Moosa had given him a dud sixpence for change and then refused to take it back. I told him about how Naidoo charged us four-and-six for a hat for Lettie, and then sold one just like it to the du Plessis family for four bob, only a year later. I told him how Moosa had only been in Blikskottel for seventy-two years, not more than fifteen years before Oupa got there. But he seemed

to be getting tired or something, because he turned on me and said: 'Dammit! Which side are you on?' I didn't like the tone of that; but you have to hand it to him. He did a damn fine job at the next meeting of the Group Areas Board.

'Slimy Indians, infiltrating into European areas where they're not wanted' he told them. 'White population, race proud, up in arms' he told them. 'Safeguard our children's future, no bastard race for Blikskottel, this is justice better than they mete out in India to their untouchables' he told them. I tell you, Robey Leibrandt couldn't have done better. But Naidoo's shyster lawyer from Johannesburg stuck his dirty nose in. Wanted to know what two Indian families were supposed to live on, ten miles from town. And what about water on the van Heerden site? 'They can trade' our advocate came back, quick as a flash; 'and what's wrong with rain-water?' That had the shyster stymied for a minute; but then he wanted to know who was going to pay for houses for them. Van Heerden, who's the only fellow with any money hereabout, and the only local taxpayer, turned pale, said a few words to our advocate fellow and the hearing was adjourned for the time being, to let us sort that one out.

I must say that there are some Blikskottelers, who've got no patriotism, who think that the new owners of the Indians' shops should pay for the new houses. But I ruled the motion out of order. 'Remember what the advocate fellow told us' I said to them, and you should have seen them cower. 'This group areas Act will, in the words of our great leader and Prime Minister be carried through with justice and impartiality. No one will suffer, and all will benefit from separate racial areas!' Well, that fixed them. But for the moment the problem remains unsolved. Next meeting we're going to discuss a motion by Stoffel that the Government be asked to double the tax on the Jews to pay for this fine scheme of national uplift. The advocate fellow is all in favour — thinks we can't slip with that, so it will probably go through.

And then just watch Blikskottelberg. We'll set an example to the nation of a fine, purified, upstanding, Christian, god-fearing, honest, all-white community, with no more incense burning in our main-street shops. And then I can tell you, Nylstroom, Balfour and all the rest will follow where we have led. But by golly, this patriotism is an uphill struggle.

"WE WON'T BE YANKED INTO WAR!"

Writes George Cross — Secretary of Britains Ex-servicemen for Peace.

"There are ten million ex-Service men and women in this country . . . Isn't it time that we stirred ourselves and fought together in an organised manner to save Britain from the unprecedented horrors that threaten us and our families . . . What a force for peace we could be. . ."

From a letter written to the Press by Capt. Robert Gaitt—August, 1950.

The hundreds of letters of support which our founder Bob Gaitt received in response to his appeal gave clear proof that the ex-Service men and women of this country were determined to work for a peaceful Britain.

On October, 1950, the inaugural meeting took place in London and the Ex-Service Movement for Peace began its campaign.

We declared at that time that we were not in opposition to any other ex-Service organisation — our job was Peace, and for the past three years the Movement has been putting before the people of Britain, especially ex-service people, the idea of Peace by Negotiation.

Sometimes we have worked on our own. On other occasions we have co-operated with other peace organisations. We have always urged our Branches and Groups to co-operate with everyone who genuinely desires peace.

The majority of our membership being Reservists, we were in the forefront of the immense protest movement which swept through the country in the early months of 1951 against the call-up for training of "Z" and "G" class reservists. E.S.M.P. action on this question rallied public opinion, thus forcing the Government to think again and reduce the period of training from the suggested three months to 15 days. This year there has been no call-up of "Z" and "G" men — we remain vigilant!

FIRMLY ESTABLISHED

This was an early success, but it brought on the usual smear tactics of certain sections of the press and some persons in high places. However, these attacks failed to shake the membership and the Movement is now firmly and surely established.

As ex-Service men and women, some of whom have served in two wars against German militarism, we are naturally opposed to the rearmament of Germany and we consider that the premature release and reinstatement of Nazi war criminals a shameful betrayal of our dead comrades.

We ask the British people to consider the justice of a situation where Krupp is released from jail and compensated to the tune of millions of pounds when a totally disabled British ex-serviceman, who was probably maimed by a Krupp

weapon, is only paid a pension of fifty-five shillings a week!

Likewise we condemn the remilitarisation of Japan and the reformation of the notorious monopolies whose support for the Japanese war machine is well known.

Having spent 3½ years of my life as a prisoner of the Japanese working on the Death Railway, I feel very

Service men and women in all lands can serve the cause of World Peace, we have sent delegates to Poland, the Soviet Union, the Congress of the Peoples for Peace in Vienna. Our National Organiser, Allan Schafer is, at the moment, journeying across Europe making contact with ex-Service organisations in the countries through which he is passing. We maintain close contact with the American Veterans for Peace, the Australian Legion, The Association Republique des Anciens Combattants of France and, of course, the Springbok Legion.

One of our policy points which has become increasingly important is our stand for the independence of our country. At the second National Conference

Peace Credo

THE AIMS OF THE BRITISH EX-SERVICE MOVEMENT FOR PEACE.

- To revive comradeship of ex-Service men and women to work for Peace.
- To promote friendship between ex-Service men and women in all lands.
- That there is no issue in the world today that cannot be settled by peaceful negotiations, which therefore makes the recall of Reservists to the forces unnecessary.
- The Movement opposes the rearmament of Germany and Japan.
- The Movement stands for the independence of our country.

strongly on this question. My experiences and the terrible fate of many of my comrades in that Siamese hellhole have spurred me on in the struggle to stop that sort of tragedy happening again.

PRESS BOYCOTT

Because the majority of the British press boycott news of peace activities, we decided to start our own paper — "Ex-Service News" — and this has been appearing monthly since February, 1951. We came up against another boycott, as most newsagents would not distribute our paper and so our members have to go out on the streets and sell it. At a recent ex-Service rally in London over 200 copies were sold in a few hours!

Our Branches and Groups have always been encouraged to put across the "peace point-of-view" from the platform and open-air meetings are held in many parts of the country every week. In London, for instance, three different meetings are organised every Sunday throughout the year.

Believing that friendship between ex-

opposition to the stationing in our country of foreign troops . . . The presence here of American troops not subject to British Law" they declared "is demoralising both for them and for our people." Just as we realise the importance of an independent Britain, we realise, too, that the independence of colonial countries is a vital necessity if world peace is to be assured.

In the three years of our existence we have turned into hardened campaigners. Many of our members who had never spoken on a public platform before are now "star" performers.

We have learnt that results do not come easily, but we are confident of the outcome of our struggle.

In conclusion, may I, on behalf of the E.S.M.P., send cordial greetings to our comrades in the Springbok Legion. We watch your activities with great interest — We admire your courage — We know that your work to defeat fascism and end racial strife in your own country is a most valuable contribution to World Peace.

DO SPIRALS LIE? by C. MILLS.

It is a common heresy, in times of inflation, that since prices are based upon costs of production, any increase in wages — in so far as they contribute to increased costs — must compel an upward movement in the cost of living.

On the face of it this point of view is not illogical. It would seem that, since the burden of a higher wage bill is almost invariably shifted by the producer to the consumer, a rise in prices must inevitably result.

But closer examination of this apparently inescapable proposition must reveal it as an absurdity. In the first place, if the above were true it must follow that no increase in real wages is possible, since money wages must always move in inverse ratio to the purchasing power of money. Secondly it makes no allowance whatsoever for variations in the degree of intensity and efficiency of labour and would almost seem to argue that the size of profits is a contrast so that, if an increase in the wage bill is not compensated by a higher price for the product, it must of necessity reduce profitability. Since, however, it is characteristic of inflation that wages, prices and profits all move in the same direction but by no means proportionately, profits often outstripping wages and prices, the above assumption is clearly too slick.

The fallacy in the whole argument is, I think, already clear. For while it is difficult to deny, in a capitalistic society, that wages prices and profits do, as a rule, move in the same direction, it would be a futile labour for any economist to try to argue that, there is an invariable relationship between these three factors. Thus wages may increase while yet comprising a smaller percentage of total costs, or wages may increase as an overall item in costs whilst dropping sharply in the cost per unit of production; or wages may increase as a monetary outlay while yet they fall in relation to the output per unit of wages.

Consider these examples:

(a) 10 men, receiving each £10 per week, produce 100 tables each priced at £5; Total wage bill—£100. Total value of output—£500.

Ratio of wages to output—20%.

(b) 10 men, each receiving £15 per week, produce 150 tables, each priced at £5. Total wage bill—£150. Total value of output—£750. Ratio of wages to output—20%.

Here one has a 50% increase in wages without any resulting increase in price of the product, since by means of a speed up of work as with the aid of more efficient machinery the productivity of labour has increased proportion-

ately to the increase in wages.

Or another example:

The price of a given product is £5 per unit, made up of the following factors:

Wages	£1
Raw Materials	£2
Overheads	£1
Profit	£1
	£5

As a result of a shortage of manpower wages increase, output increases due to a speed up of work, and therefore factors per unit of production alter thus:—

Wages £1 (since output increases proportionately to increase in wages).

Raw Materials, £2. (Since the amount of raw materials per unit is unchanged).

Overheads, 15- (Since overheads are spread over a larger output).

Profits £1 5/-.

Total, £5.

Thus an increase in wages, far from reducing profits, has led to an increase.

To go a step further: it is a fundamental principle of Economics that with the development of Industry, the ratio between labour costs and fixed capital is constantly altering in favour of the latter. Thus, with increasing mechanization or, to use the phraseology of Economists, with the development of more roundabout methods of production, the amount of labour required per unit of output is constantly diminishing. This is self-evident, for:

If 10 hours labour produce 10 units each unit has cost 1 hour, but

if the efficiency of labour, aided by more efficient machinery, doubles, so that

10 hours of labour produces 20 units, then each unit has cost half an hour.

Since however, the increasing efficiency of production is a law of capitalist development, the principle that the cost, in units of time, of labour per unit of production constantly diminishes may be stated as a generalization applicable to all forms of industry — even to agriculture, given that the quality of the soil is a constant.

Thus the position where an increase in the money wages of labour must of necessity result in increasing cost of prices, far from being the norm, is a very special case, and may, for all practical purposes, be discarded.

Of course, if wages rise without a compensating increase in productive efficiency, then a rise in costs and prices will probably follow. However, such a case cannot be general — except perhaps in the very short run — since those firms which do not increase their efficiency will eventually be forced out of business in the normal course of trade competition.

The thesis, then, that increases in wages "help the spiral of inflation" is a theoretical device, whereby the entrepreneur hopes to increase his profits at the expense of general incomes. It may be true that the immediate effect of a rise in wages is to raise prices or diminish profits, but this is not true in the long run.

It is quite true that the rate of profit throughout industry as a whole constantly tends downwards, but one must look elsewhere for the reason why this is so.

Phone 5-3493.

Locomotive Hotel

SALT RIVER

FAVOURITE
RENDEZVOUS



NELSON MANDELA, CONGRESS LEADER

BY the logic of the Native Affairs Department, Nelson Mandela, banned African National Congress leader, should have been a "good boy" and a "sensible moderate Native." A member of the Tembu tribal aristocracy, cousin to the Paramount Chief, he grew up in the Transkei countryside, untainted by town influences. Among his people he was being groomed for an important tribal post. He first came to Johannesburg in the 'forties and his first contacts with Europeans, he tells you with a smile today, averted and embarrassed him.

But the plight of the African people in this country, their intensified exploitation and deep misery in town and countryside, works against the wishful thinking of the Native Affairs Department.

Nelson Mandela's father, one of the Tembu Transkei chiefs and one of the first men to be elected to the Bangas in the days when this General Council was still an experiment, was deposed by the Government for his independent views in the early 'thirties.

Nelson's early education at mission primary schools, then Hillcrest College where he passed his matriculation exam, and finally Fort Hare where he remained just long enough to complete his first year of his Arts degree, was subsidised by one of his Royal cousins. Nelson's first interest in the legal profession was aroused while watching sessions of the tribal chief where the chief, aided by his councillors, presided over civil disputes.

His first individual revolt came, interestingly, over his refusal to have an arranged marriage thrust upon him. When his objections to the match to chief and councillors went unheeded and lobola had already been paid, Nelson took the plunge, hired a car and fled to Johannesburg.

He found a bed in Alexandra Township and penitence and cut off by his cousin the Paramount Chief, often had to walk from Alexandra to town for lack of fare money. He canvassed for a while for an estate agency and then was taken into a law office where he was eventually articled.

Some time later he was able to resume his studies, this time at the Witwatersrand University where he finally graduated in the Faculty of Law, setting up practice as an attorney in 1952, in partnership with Oliver Tambo, another brilliant young Congress leader.

POLITICAL INITIATION.

Nelson recalls that his first acquaintance with organized politics dates from his student days at Fort Hare. In 1940 the students took part in a food boycott as a protest against the unsatisfactory meals served them and against the autocratic powers of the University

authorities and Senate. The students decided on no participation in the elections to the Student Representative Council until more rights were given this student body. When elections to the Council were ordered by the authorities only twenty-five students of the entire student body attended the election meeting, so the principal ordered the next elections be held during the evening meal. Even then only a tiny minority of the students voted. From the Council declared elected by the authorities Nelson Mandela resigned and refused to serve.

It was at Fort Hare that he joined the African National Congress Youth League, at a time when the League was acting as a vocal pressure group on Congress policies. He was elected the League's national secretary, then its president in 1951.

He joined the Congress itself after coming to Johannesburg and soon his abilities as a speaker, an organizer and a negotiator and his impressive platform personality singled him out for leading positions in the organization. From this point the story of Nelson Mandela becomes closely interlocked with Congress history.

The intensified attacks by the Nationalist Government on Non-European rights placed the choice before the Congress and their people of resistance for survival — or succumbing to a vicious tyranny and racial oppression from which there would be no release. As the Nationalists attacked first one right of the Non-European people, then another through the years of 1948, 1949 and 1950, and the full picture of the state of eternal serfdom to which they were dooming all Non-Europeans became revealed, Congress branches and committees spent long months devising campaign methods and setting afoot extensive organisational campaigns.

There was the June 26 political strike in 1951 against Malan's policies; the historic Bloemfontein conference of the



A PROFILE OF A MAN WHOM SWART HAS BANNED

By R. S.

A Reason for Resistance . . .

"A shrewd conqueror will always enforce his exactions only by stages . . . The more numerous the extortions thus positively accepted, so much the less will resistance appear justified in the eyes of other people, if the vanquished nation

should end by revolting against the last act of oppression in a long series. And this is especially so if the nation has already patiently and silently accepted impositions which were much more exacting."

(Hitler, Mein Kampf.)

African National Congress in December of that year which took the decision to launch a massive, sustained resistance campaign; the dignified, compelling ultimatum by Dr. Moroka to Dr. Malan for the suspension of unjust laws; the April gatherings of the African and Indian Congresses which cemented African-Indian unity and won everywhere the people's endorsement and enthusiastic support of the resistance decision; and finally, on June 26 of last year, the launching of the Defiance Campaign. Simultaneously in several centres of the Union the first batches of carefully selected resisters went into action to open the first phase of what was to become the most militant, challenging and impressive political campaign of the Non-European people of South Africa.

FIRST ARREST.

Nelson Mandela was National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Campaign. He was arrested for the first time on the night of June 26 as he watched the first Johannesburg batch of volunteers defy the curfew regulations.

As armed police cordoned off the street, he, together with Indian Congress secretary Yusuf Cachalia, Flag Booklele, the leader of that first batch, and the other courageous volunteers, were ordered into the police troop carrier brought hastily to the scene, and all were driven

off to Marshall Square under strong police escort.

That was the first occasion during the campaign when Nelson was arrested. There were others.

As the Government, terror-stricken at this tidal wave of Non-European opposition, counter-attacked with police raids and intimidation, arrests and trials, banings and prohibitions under the Riotous Assemblies and Suppression of Communism Acts, Nelson Mandela was regarded as one of the plums of their captures.

He was one of the twenty leaders found guilty in the Transvaal Supreme Court of "statutory Communism" for his leadership of the Campaign, under an interpretation of the law which held that it was Communism to break laws in protest against it. Like 34 other leaders of the Congresses in the Union, Mandela has a nine-month suspended sentence hanging over his head following this conviction.

Immediately after the 1952 annual conference of the Transvaal African National Congress of which he was president at the time, Nelson Mandela had his first banning notice served on him. For six months he was confined to the magisterial area of Johannesburg and prohibited from attending all gatherings. His ban expired in June of this

year and during the short respite before his successor was served on him, he became the centre of a vigorous organizing drive of the Congress that took place up and down the Transvaal, and he took part in the historic Western Areas Protest Conference which decided on peoples' resistance to the removal plan.

In September when fresh Government assaults against workers', democratic, peace and national organisations were let loose, Nelson had his second banning order served on him, this time for a period of two years.

VICTIMISATION.

As an attorney he is barred from appearing in court anywhere but in Johannesburg, a serious obstacle in his practice and limitation on his rights as a professional and as a citizen.

Here is a man the very opposite of Mr. Swart's nightmare conception of an "agitator" — a bomb-throwing, well-poisoning "fire-bug".

Cultured, intelligent, calm and reasonable, Nelson Mandela advances the African case with the sure confidence that in South Africa as elsewhere in the world the claims of the disfranchised and underprivileged can no longer be ignored and stifled. Democracy must be given a new meaning for all in South Africa if it is to survive for any one group. First there were the banning orders on Dadoo, Marks, Sisulu, Kotane, Lutuli and Mandela. Now has come the turn of Fischer, Hayer, Williams, Selby, and scores of others.

First passes for the Africans, then population registration cards and fingerprinting for all others.

First locations for the Africans, now ghettos for the Indians; inevitably ensuing police control and surveillance, state intimidation and depressed living standards for all. This is the only way Fascism can work.

The pattern is becoming clear for all but those blinded by an insane racialism to see. Nelson Mandela was one of the first victims. If his story is brushed aside as of no concern to those yet untouched by the Nationalist terror, he will be followed by countless legions of others, White and Non-White.

HOW ABOUT THIS WAR PRISONER?

"It must have been set from the start . . . They wanted for a coloured officer to be the goat . . . The Court had made up their minds what the sentence was to be before I was ever tried."

—Lt. Leon A. Gilbert, in a letter to his wife.

Nearly three years have passed since Lt. Leon A. Gilbert was sentenced to die by a "Southern Justice" all-white courts-martial for refusing to lead 7 men to certain and useless deaths.

We remember well how the protesting voices of people all over the world forced President Truman to change Lt. Gilbert's sentence to 20 years. And thousands have continued to raise the demand for his release.

Now, with the bloody Korean conflict at last ended, a new testimony has been added to the weight of evidence in favour of Lt. Gilbert.

Morgan MacChain, one of the seven Negro infantrymen serving under Gilbert when he refused the death order, credits Lt. Gilbert with saving his life. He tells how 87 days of continuous combat had reduced Gilbert's outfit from 70 men to only 7 who had not been killed or wounded. The Army had not sent up a single replacement.

While war prisoners are being exchanged, let's not forget this prisoner, who carried a silver plate in his head while in Korea, having been twice wounded in World War II.

It is time to ask again why not one of the soldiers in Lt. Gilbert's company was allowed to testify in his defence.

It is time to free Lt. Gilbert.

The above is reprinted from "Vets Voice". It refers to an American Negro officer who was court-martialed and sentenced to imprisonment for failure to carry out orders at the front line.

JUNBLE WANTED

Johannesburg members who can collect Junble should contact the Office (33-0975) to arrange for its collection.

YOUTH FOR UNITY

Youth Festival - 1953, By A. P.

ON the week-end of the 26th and 27th September a camp was held on a farm outside Johannesburg with the motto 'Peace, Friendship, Racial Harmony' as its theme.

On Saturday afternoon people — and especially young people — began arriving. People of all colours and creeds, people with one idea in common — through meeting each other they could develop that understanding which could bridge the gaps between them. In his opening address Mr. Julius Lewin carried this theme further, and gave UNO as an example of how representatives of peoples and nations can meet, at a higher level, and achieve similar objects.

A varied evening's entertainment was about to start when, hey presto! the lights went out. All efforts to get them working again failed, but the good-natured audience — they had swelled to a thousand by now — demanded that the concert start anyway, and so by the light of a hurricane lamp and two fires the singers and dancers performed. Most popular of all were Legionnaire Guy Routh with his very topical songs, and the Devi Sisters, with their fascinating and still partly traditional Indian dances. At eleven o'clock dancing and much consuming of boerewors and steak began.

Round the fires were many cheerful groups, chatting whilst their meat cooked, whilst on the dance-floor the excellent band was soon being outdone by impromptu circles of singing and clapping youngsters. 'Mayibuye,' 'Freedom Song' and the song which came out of the Defiance Campaign 'Volunteer' were strong favourites. It was heart-warming to watch a young Indian lad take an African girl round the waist and tikkidraai with her in the middle of the circle, to see Africans, Europeans, and Coloureds, with arms linked, vying with each other to see who could sing the loudest. The warmth and the friendliness were quite overwhelming! A young African next to me said: 'I keep on thinking that this must be a dream, that I'll wake up soon. Why can't it always be like this for us in South Africa?'

REAL UNDERSTANDING

So great was the spirit that the dancing went on all night, and very few went to bed at all. Many remained chatting about the fires until first light. Through such informal gatherings is true understanding created. Early next morning the very young children came into their own. Team games and races were organised for them, and with great excitement they threw the balls and climbed through the hoops for their teams. At the end, when they all received prizes,

a little Indian girl turned to her pig-tailed European partner in the three-legged race (they were still tied together) and said, a little wistfully: "But it was *us* that won it, wasn't it?" The grown-ups would not accept their spectators' role for long, and soon, excited as the children, they were running as fast as they could in the same races. One Legionnaire, who shall be nameless, moved, as he thought, 'like Zatopek' but looked more like a puffing steam-engine, with arms flailing and knees at high-raised position.

The great event of the morning was the football match between the 'Old Crocks' and the 'Youngsters', followed by a more serious match. Dan Twala proved himself to be absolutely impartial as a referee, and as a result, al-

though Dr. Imje kicked the ball in the wrong direction once or twice, and Yusuf Dadoo seemed to spend the entire match vainly following the ball about, the 'Old Crocks' solitary goal by Advocate Slovo was allowed, and to everyone's hilarious congratulations, they came off the field the victors. The Alexandra High School team acquitted themselves well against a team which contained provincial University players, and then everyone returned to camp to picnic in the shade of the trees. In the afternoon we were regaled with an interesting display of gymnastics, and then the Festival closed with some fine singing by a choir a hundred and fifty strong.

STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Robert Resha, A.N.C. Youth leader, spoke on the need for the development of the spirit of the Festival, of our friendship with the youth of the world, and of our importance in the struggle for peace. This message has remained with us, and has increased our determination to make the next Festival an even greater success. Next time it will be the youth of South Africa we hope to see participating, and not only those of the Reef. Our week-end in September will always be remembered as a landmark in the cause of racial harmony in our country, and as a warm symbol of what can be.

Liberal Candidate States

A FIGHTING FAITH

The questions below were put by "Fighting Talk" to both candidates in this month's Johannesburg Municipal Elections. Dr. B. Wilson, United Party Candidate, failed to reply.

We are privileged to print the forthright answers of Mr. L. L. Cooper, the first Liberal Party Candidate to stand for public office in South Africa.

QUESTIONS.

- (1) What policy would you advocate with regard to the Government's proposals for the removal of the non-European Western Areas?
- (2) What policy do you think the City Council should adopt with regard to (a) the right of non-Europeans to lease the City Hall, Selborne Hall and Duncan Hall?
(b) The holding of public meetings on the City Hall Steps?
- (3) Do you consider that the City Council should accept the basic principles of the Group Areas Act and accordingly submit a scheme in terms of the Act?

ANSWERS.

I am opposed to the Government's proposals for the removal of Non-Europeans from the Western Areas.

Non-Europeans should have the same rights to lease the City, Selbourne and Duncan Halls as any other citizen.

I am in favour of citizens having the right of free speech and I think that the City Hall steps constitute a good citizen's forum.

I consider that the City Council should reject the basic principle of the Group Areas Act and therefore not submit any scheme in terms of the Act.

SUGAR over the CARIBBEAN

"B.B. VERSUS P.P.P.

Those initials tell in one line the harsh realities behind the astounding events in British Guiana. "B.B." stands for Booker Brothers, the sugar kings, who control three-quarters of the colony's principal product. P.P.P. are the initials of the Progressive People's Party.

Bookers are accustomed to lording it in British Guiana. In 1927 a British Parliamentary Commission described the colony as a "plantocracy, or government of sugar, by sugar, for sugar."

Like the Gold Coast, British Guiana has a phoney "democratic constitution", under which elections are held and a Parliament elected, but vital powers are exercised and veto rights reserved by the British-appointed Governor and his nominees. Unlike Dr. Nkrumah, however, the P.P.P. leader, Dr. Jagan, was not prepared to play nicely at the game of being nominal Prime Minister and thus to help British Imperialism in maintaining the fiction of independent self-government in his country.

The new Constitution came into operation last April.

Both before and after the elections last April, from which it emerged with flying colours and a sweeping majority, the P.P.P. agitated ceaselessly for constitutional reforms which would effect a transfer of real power to the people of the colony. Worst of all, from the point of view of the sugar kings, following the great 25-day strike of sweated labourers on the plantations recently, the Jagan ministry raised very sharply the question of trade union recognition and insisted that the sugar monopolies meet the leaders of the men for the purpose of collective negotiation of an agreement.

GREAT CAUSE.

Now this was clearly an act of high treason, sedition and *lesé majesté*. "Bookers is not merely a business, it is a cause," said Mr. J. M. Campbell, chairman of the company, recently announcing a tax-free bonus of 6d. per share over and above the substantial ordinary dividend. The sugar monopolies' backed by substantial aluminium interests owning mines in Guiana ("The United States, Britain and Canada should jointly take steps to prevent British Guiana from falling under Communist leadership," said Mr. R. F. Powell, chairman of the Aluminium Company of Canada which has £14 million assets in the colony) made representations to the Churchill Government.

Orders like that receive prompt attention in Whitehall. In short order a battleship full of troops disembarked at Georgetown to the astonishment of the inhabitants of this small colony — population 365,700 — where conditions of complete tranquility had till then prevailed. Governor Savage promptly suspended the Constitution, dismissed Parliament, Cabinet and all, and has since ordered the arrest of some of the Cabinet Ministers.

ACCUSATION.

After these discreditable operations were over, the Colonial Office issued an indictment against the Jagan administration, in order to justify its incredible actions in thus forcibly ousting a democratically elected ministry. Surely there can never have been a thinner case put forward for such serious actions! The People's Progressive Party, it said, had sent delegates to Peace conferences, and congresses of youth and women, and these conferences were "Communist." The Party had attempted to set up its own youth movement in competition with the Y.M.C.A. These and similar footling "accusations" make up the case of the British Government. No "Mau Mau." No bandits. No "Moscow agents." Really, Whitehall is getting soft in the head.

Though things were tranquil in Guiana when the troops landed, it's a safe bet that they won't be from now on. The oppressed people of that colony have given clear expression to their demands for freedom and independence, and the grim, heroic events of Malaya and Kenya show us that it is easier these days for imperialism to order its troops into a colony than to get them out again. The military resources of British imperialism are being spread as thin as its propaganda.

The population of British Guiana is mainly non-white, of African and Indian origin. Small wonder that during its brief six-month term of office, the Parliament voted there to condemn Malan's apartheid policy in South Africa. Small wonder, too, that the peoples of Africa and Asia have expressed in no

uncertain terms their solidarity with the people of that gallant little country.

The Guianese have written and are writing a not unimportant chapter in the story of the colonial peoples' march to freedom from imperialism which is one of the great realities of this second half of the twentieth century.

MAYFAIR ESTATE AGENCY (PTY.), LTD.

Sales of Property Negotiated.
Bonds Arranged. Insurance Transacted.

134 Central Avenue, MAYFAIR.
Phone 35-1191. Box 26, Fordsburg.

Tel. 22-9977.

Frederick Furnishers (PTY.), LTD.

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS
Metro Centre, Bree Street,
JOHANNESBURG

FIGHT T.B.

SUPPORT THE ALEXANDRA ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION,
14 Asher's Buildings, Joubert Street,
Johannesburg.

PLAY PRODUCTION.

The Regent Players are presenting R. C. Sheriff's "Journey's End" at the Library Theatre, Johannesburg from Thursday, 26th November to Saturday, 12th December. Cecil Williams is producing, and the fine cast includes Pat Trevor, Warren Sands and Maurice Horwitz.

GUILTY—

NOT long ago we were morbidly fascinated by the story of an apparently mild, inoffensive little man who quietly murdered women in unusually large quantities, and disposed of their bodies around his house and garden.

His trial raised the old question whether a man so obviously mentally ill can be held responsible for his crimes. The general principles on which British law operates in such cases are that: insanity is a defence if it can be proved that the person who committed the crime, at the time that he did it suffered from such a disease of the mind as not to know the "nature and quality of the act" he was doing; or if he did know, that he was not aware he was doing a moral wrong.

If the lunatic understands the difference between right and wrong, says the law, then the case for punishment is made out.

This is a difficult problem, for it is so hard to draw a line between sanity and madness. As Michael Maloney put it in the journal 'Family Doctor': "No completely normal man will commit murder, whether he kills little girls for perverted sex reasons or clubs a widow to death for gain. Questions of public safety also enter into a jury's calculations."

Perhaps the way that most people feel about it is that whether a man is insane or not may affect the type of punishment, but should not prevent the public from being protected from his possible insane acts of the future.

COMMON AILING.

These points come to mind when considering the South African political scene.

Obviously there is madness in a man who (as was alleged in a case in the press recently) gets annoyed when driving a car because an approaching car failed to dim its lights, sees two African cyclists a couple of hundred yards further on, says "Kom, ons ry die donders dood" (according to the evidence given), veers to the left and kills one of the cyclists. It is a common madness that afflicts thousands — hundreds of thousands — of people in South Africa, and evidence of which appears every day in our press, or in our daily lives.

Take for instance the question of blood. Scientists all over the world insist that there are only four different blood groupings, all of which are common to all races of mankind. Then what kind of madness is it in the South African mind that insists on special panels of Indian and Native blood donors, kept separate from European, and used exclusively for the racial group which

gives it? Think of any white South African dying for lack of his particular blood type, who (let's just imagine this situation) can only get blood from an African, or an Indian; what a terrible choice! And if it is said that in such a situation any man would accept the 'coloured' blood, does that not simply underline the insanity of our attitude towards blood banks?

S.A.R. CHAOS.

Or take the new Johannesburg Station. Perhaps you have stood in awe before this vast, elaborate, far-flung maze of roads, platforms, entrances, offices, — all infinitely complicated because of the necessity of providing 'apartheid' for all

sections. All this elaborate arrangement, and then when the train comes into the station, almost invariably the Europeans and non-Europeans get completely tangled and mixed together as they dash from one end of the platform to the other finding their sections. (Because of course the white and non-white entrances to the platform are always in the same place, but trains come from both directions!)

"The necessary apartheid requirements have of course, been thoroughly observed" wrote a Staff Reporter in the "Star" about the station loudspeaker system, "the Native announcers have a separate microphone to themselves and do their announcing from a special cubicle attached to the outside of the trains enquiry office. Their voices, however, will for the time being travel over the same network of wires and loudspeakers. On the new station there will be a separate network for European and

non-European announcements."

I say: Is this not a form of insanity?

Then take the Immorality Act. There were several cases reported in the papers when the Act first became law. One was of an old European man of 67 and a non-European woman of 70 who were arrested at 3 o'clock in the morning. They had been living as man and wife for the past twenty-five years; another was of a European man and non-European woman who had lived together for 15 years, and had three children. They were given a comparatively light sentence, but for a second offence, said the judge, the punishment would be more severe . . . "the accused must realise they must not consort together as man and wife in the future." Let the family be broken, let their lives be destroyed, but uphold the 'morality' according to white South Africa. I say: Is this not a form of insanity?

NORMAL?

In just over a month, three years ago, I noted the following cases down that appeared in the press:

BUT INSANE!

A young Malay school teacher was convicted in Cape Town of leaning against a bench reserved for Europeans.

A European man was found guilty of using a native lavatory on a Railway Station (he said he had only a few minutes to catch a train). "Today we are trying to keep the races apart, and you can surely see the difficulty you are creating by doing a thing like this," said the Magistrate.

A man was fined £2 for shooting a flat servant who had not finished cleaning his flat to his satisfaction.

A man was fined £10 for firing at a 15-year-old native employee who asked him for his wages.

A man was fined £10 for whistling at a non-European woman. (He pleaded he was drunk at the time). *Can one read such cases and claim that we South Af-*

(Continued on page 13.)

BUT INSANE

(Continued from page 12.)

ricans are normal and sane?

"Doctor Says Blacks Sleep Better Than Whites" said a newspaper headline one evening. "I believe that school feeding is not necessary for Natives," said Dr. J. C. Coetzee, chief medical inspector of schools, in a memorandum to the commission of inquiry investigating school feeding. The need for feeding at school was greater for Europeans, he said, for Native children were acclimated to South African conditions; the native's mental make-up did not allow him to use up unnecessary energy, and at nights he went to bed early and was refreshed after adequate sleep. Dare a sane person suggest that a hungry child is hungry in any race or colour, or would that be simply uninformed lay opinion. Or am I right in saying: this is insanity?

There is the Western Areas Scheme. The hundreds of thousands can rot in hessian shanties or indescribable slum 'shelters' erected as a temporary measure nearly nine long years ago. But 60,000 people must be removed from their homes in an area, comparatively speaking, well-provided with shops, schools, transport and other facilities and moved to bare veld seven miles further out, where comparable facilities would not be available for years — if ever — to satisfy this peculiar form of insanity that afflicts South Africans.

MADNESS—TO GENOCIDE

Or the Group Areas Act. Lydenburg, Nylstroom, Brits, Balfour, Dundee seek to uproot peaceful, law-abiding communities, to seize from their means of livelihood, to set them out in bare veld where they could no longer trade or make a living, to deprive them of everything they have built up — because they are 'Asiatics'.

This insanity of which I write is the insanity that grips those who believe any man is less than human if his skin is not white; that makes assault and murder seem reasonable and right if committed against a black man; against which reason cannot prevail.

South Africa is being tried before the bar of the world for crimes against non-white people. Indignantly the Government spokesman cry "We are not guilty: these things we do are reasonable, normal, correct."

"The law is not really concerned with insanity as such, but with criminal responsibility," writes Maloney. For there remains the fact that humanity must be protected against those who are insane, even if they consider their actions are not wrong, and cannot be made to see their moral responsibility. Society must try to cure the insane, but until they are cured, it must protect itself against them.

Let humanity take steps to protect itself against the insanity of apartheid-madness in South Africa. I say South Africa can only plead before the United Nations: *Guilty — but insane!*"



For All Your
JEWELLERY
and Fancy Goods Requirements
Consult
**WHOLESALE JEWELLERS
ASSOCIATION**
(PTY.), LTD.

Maitland Street,
BLOEMFONTEIN

A MOUTHFUL ON GERMANY.

"To appreciate Dr. Adenauer's policy, it is instructive to make a comparison between Western Germany and South Korea. Both are satellite States with a vested interest in the East-West conflict; both were created by an arbitrary act of partition; both are dependent on American support; both dread the prospect that peace might break out. Syngman Rhee is as resolutely opposed as Dr. Adenauer to any settlement except the unconditional surrender of the enemy.

"Once Dr. Adenauer is permitted to have his way in frustrating Four-Power talks and a peaceful solution of the German problem, Europe might become a vaster and more horrible Korea. But with this difference: The Federal Chancellor (or his successor) would be no expendible puppet. It would be he who pulls the strings while the rest of us dance mechanically to his tune." (*New Statesman and Nation*—5/23/53).

Differing proposals for 4-Power talks on Germany have come recently from both sides in the cold-war dispute. One thing is for sure. It's getting late. If Europe is not to "become a vaster and more horrible Korea," there must be a new kind of Germany — united, peaceful, democratic. The U.S.-British-French-Soviet talks must be held now — and they must not fail.

APOLOGY.

The caption underneath the picture of a scene from "The Comedy of Errors" which appeared in the September issue, should have read, "By courtesy of 'Bantu World' and Foto-Art, Main St., Johannesburg."





Sir,

I read with regret that our Chairman has been banned, but I suppose it was to be expected, as it is perfectly clear that it is a long-range policy of fascist ideology to break up democracy by starving the masses of information and leaders, so that the rank-and-file will be easily confused and blind to what is going on here and in other parts of the world.

The Broederbond and the K.K.K. of the U.S.A. are fostered by the same sponsors who have their claws hidden in certain financial circles and even church circles, well protected by camouflage and cant. I feel time is against them.

We lost a great wave of public spirit by the faulty amateur Torch Commando movement, which really had the reactionaries worried. Too many brass hats and safe and comfortable people kept democracy from developing in the movement, which had a rare chance to stop the rot and reverse the trend . . .

I have a proposal to make, if it can be supported by others. I am prepared to send you £1 a month to help our ex-chairman live and meet your usual commitments. If 60 or 100 others can be induced to do likewise, it will relieve him of anxiety. I would offer more but I am only an artisan, married with a family of three children and no reserves. Fraternal greetings,

Yours etc.,

O. R. MANN.

Cape Town.

(We have conveyed Reader Mann's generous proposal to Mr. Williams, our ex-chairman. Mr. Williams thanks Mr. Mann most warmly for his comradely thought and kindness offered. He suggests, however, that all those readers who might have wished to contribute to Mr. Mann's scheme should send a monthly contribution to the Legion in order to keep the essential work of democracy going. In so doing readers will best express their sympathy for

Mr. Williams's inability to make his maximum contribution to the struggle. —Editor.)

* * *

Sir,

Everyone I have spoken to about the banning of Cecil Williams has had the same reaction as I had — this is the end! The pattern of events is absolutely parallel to what happened in Hitler Germany. Ask any German-Jew living in S.A. They know what happened and they recognise the repetition here. There are hundreds of us wanting to crack this beastly system before it is too late. The trouble is there does not seem to be a strong rallying point to direct us. The Legion is not strong except in Johannesburg, and the Liberal Party and Federal Party both seems to have started off on the wrong foot as far as real struggle is concerned. Where do we go from here?

R. W. COOPER.

Port Elizabeth.

(We believe the answer lies with the newly-formed South African Democratic Congress, with its policy of full equality, a policy which makes it an immediate partner with the African and Indian Congresses. We suggest that in addition to your Legion membership you start working with the Democratic Congress in Port Elizabeth.—Editor.)

* * *

Sir,

It is sad that the Legion's analysis of the United Party should have been proved so dead right. The spectacle of the U.P. in the past few months squirming on the Nationalist hook has been to say the least unedifying. When will they realise that the ONLY alternative to the false ideology of "apartheid" is equality? It has disgusted me beyond words to see the crawling of the "rebels" to the Nats., and to read of the ultimate compromise the U.P. made when Malan re-introduced the Separate Representation of Voters Bill. Why didn't the U.P. throw it out, so that the Nats. couldn't get the two-thirds majority? Such cowardly and unstatesmanlike behaviour makes me more than ever convinced that only full political, civil and economic rights for all South Africans will ever be able to bring peace and prosperity to South Africa.

Yours etc.,

B. WEINTRAUB.

Johannesburg.

... To Bondage

(Continued from page 4.)

a different background. This is stated against the assertion that the African child has a physical and mental endowment similar to the European child, and while the educational technique, especially in the primary schools, should be adjusted to cater for the different cultural backgrounds, the values to which education should be directed are almost identical. This point is naturally more true in the integrated urban life of our growing industrial and commercial cities.

One of the most hopeful statements in the report is: "Although the general socio-economic development plan advocated by the Commission occupies an essential position in its recommendations, it must not be assumed that until this plan has been worked out in detail it will not be possible to proceed with the reform of Bantu Education." If the advice of the Commission is followed, and the practical matters dealing with school life are dealt with immediately — if the size of classes is decreased, the quality of the teaching improved, inspection put on a new basis, and all the other necessary things done, then the report could mark a new era in the story of Bantu education.

The educationist remembers, though that many of the excellent recommendations of the 1935/36 Inter-departmental Committee on Native Education have still to be implemented and wonders if this is to be the fate of the educational, if not the socio-economic, recommendations of 1949-51.

Support the
ALEXANDRA
Anti-
Tuberculosis
Fund

BOOK REVIEW:

REST IN THE MIDST OF STRUGGLE

By G W.C.

BARROWS Dunham, the author of *Man Against Myth*, has just published an unusual and most stimulating book on philosophy, *Giant in Chains* (Little Brown & Co., Boston, U.S.A.). It appears at the very moment of his interrogation by the Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, and his subsequent dismissal from the Professorship of Philosophy at Temple University, Philadelphia.

Professor Dunham on March 21st was presented by the Teachers' Union of Philadelphia with an award as "the one who had done most for education during the year." His brief and deeply moving speech of dignified acceptance reflects the spirit of the man, and by its sincerity and simplicity wins not only admiration for its author, but indignation and detestation for the enemies of freedom who are persecuting him and many others.

"The alternatives offered me constituted really no choice at all. I could either repudiate my past and my principles and with them the integrity of the teaching profession. The first of these alternatives had as little power as if it did not exist, and I followed the second with an ease which seemed almost mechanical. The second path was not without its thorns. I will not pretend not to have known anxiety and uncertain sleep . . . But I found myself comforted by many things and I would like to report to you what those comforts were . . .

There was an awareness, amounting almost to serenity, that I was following the right course and that its issue, however it might affect me, could not fail to benefit my profession and my country. With a feeling like that, as I have now learned, a man can do almost anything. There were the comforts that came afterwards, when the deed was done, the struggle joined, the bridge to

the past torn down for ever. I must tell you that in the past three weeks I have come to know a happiness deeper and, as it seems to me, nobler than that of my previous years. It springs from the joy of discovering that one can do what must be done, from the further joy of conquering old fears, and from the finest joy of all, of living amid the renewed and overbrimming love of friends.

I say these things so that you may

sense the true values of the contest. Our persecutors try to make the crisis one in which virtue is punished and vice becomes its own reward. But really they are powerless to do so.

Fear they may cause, but not invincibly; hate they can exite, but not for long.

There is something singular about us, their adversaries. We have bosomed ourselves upon the future and in the midst of the struggle we find rest."

**THE CIVILISED FRANCHISE
CAN THE LEADERS BE
WRONG?**

"Take, for example, the disfranchisement of American Negroes. Our imaginary antagonist says that he is democratically fond of Negroes, but he does not think they should vote until they have been educated. Very well, let us admire his democratic fondness. But the Negroes will not be adequately educated until they have adequate access to schools. They will not have adequate access to schools until there are adequate legislative appropriations. There will be no adequate legislative appropriations until legislators are elected who will really represent the disfranchised. Few such legislators will be elected until the disfranchised are allowed to vote.

Thus, our friend, in postponing the suffrage, postpones also the education which is supposed to qualify voters for the suffrage. The change he says he desires is one which he has rendered impossible, and cynics may surmise that he never really desired it."

(From *Man Against Myth* by Prof. Barrows Dunham.)

"THE LAND IS BRIGHT."

"There is no reason to suppose that the great progress which is history will linger for ever at its present stage. In our day, indeed, events have attained so formidable a tempo that a single lifetime, if one is lucky enough to prolong it sufficiently, will seem to contain more than there once appeared to be in history itself. The speed of events, however, is not altogether blinding. One can discern something of the direction and flow. One sees especially the common man, moved by his very humanity, by the old unalterable need for food and shelter, into the acquisition of new skills, new knowledge, new modes of behaviour by which his wants are now to be satisfied. One sees him discovering that when a more co-operative social behaviour provides an ampler

**SUPPORT
the
RED CROSS**

SUPPORT THE .. 
**NATIONAL WAR
MEMORIAL
HEALTH FOUNDATION**

**Standard Furnishing
CO. LTD.**

New Address: 30d, 30e Voortrekker St., opp. United Building Soc., BENONI.

See our
**CONTEMPORARY (SWEDISH)
DISPLAY!**

!! IT'S DIFFERENT !!

Woburn Pharmacy

Henry Moss, M.P.S.

17 Wanderers St., JOHANNESBURG.
Telephone 22-8324 P.O. Box 4018

Telegraphic and Cable Address:
"PORTERGERM"

DRAPERS AND COMPLETE
OUTFITTERS

HERBERT PORTER & CO., LTD.

At the Subway — Germiston.
Phones 51-466 (3 lines) Box 37.
And at Witbank, Standerton and
Malvern.

TRUMP CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS

(PTY.) LTD.

1 CENTRAL ROAD — FORDSBURG.
Phone 34-4529.

Makers of:
TREET'S TROUSERS
— and —
ACROBAT SUITS.

Support the . . .

POLIO FUND

ADELSON BROS. (PTY.) LTD. BAKERS

71, Booyens Road, BOOYSENS
Phone: 33-5556.
and 40 Commissioner Street,
Phone: 33-5552,
JOHANNESBURG.

MEET YOUR FRIENDS

— AT THE —

BROADWAY HOTEL

The Sportsman's Rendezvous

Juno Furnishing Co.

64 KNOX STREET.

Phone 51-1106 - - GERMISTON.

FOR A SQUARE DEAL
CONTACT US

BARRIS BROS.

WHOLESALE MERCHANTS AND
DIRECT IMPORTERS

120 Victoria Street — GERMISTON.
P.O. Box 146. Phones 51-1281; 51-3589.

Support your
EX-SERVICE MEMBERS

LET

PROMPT

PRINTING CO. (PTY.), LIMITED
Print it For You.

BETTER — PROMPTLY AND AT
NO EXTRA COST.

7 Harris Street, Westgate,
JOHANNESBURG.
P.O. Box 2225. Phone 33-7671

STEWART'S REXALL PHARMACY S. Joffe, M.P.S.

DISPENSING CHEMIST
PHOTOGRAPHIC SPECIALIST

280a, Louis Botha Avenue,
ORANGE GROVE

Day Phone 45-1810 Night Phone 45-1576

Bedroom Suites by

ANGLO UNION FURNITURE MNFRS. LTD.

Stocked by
LEADING FURNITURE
STORES

Amper Alles vir Motor Voertuie —
Almost Everything for the Motor Vehicle

MILLERS UNITED MOTORS (PTY.) LTD.

WHOLESALE FACTORS TO THE
MOTOR TRADE

104 Marshall Street, Motortown,
JOHANNESBURG.

Telephone 33-1319 P.O. Box 5462
Tel. Address: "MUMILA."

Day Phone 25-3963.
Night Phone 25-3796.

Malvern Pharmacy CHEMIST AND OPTICIANS

Jules Street, Malvern,
JOHANNESBURG.

SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST
DELICIOUS SWEET PACKET



Unless otherwise stated, J. Podbrey, 5 Somerset House, Fox Street, Johannesburg, is responsible for all political matter in this issue.