

CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE—ONLY NINE MORE DAYS

NEW AGE

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“SOUTH AFRICA’S REAL PARLIAMENT” —Says A.N.C. General Secretary

JOHANNESBURG.

THE voice of South Africa's real Parliament will be heard only two days after the Union House of Assembly and the Senate bring their 1955 session to an end, said Mr. O. Tambo, acting general secretary of the African National Congress in an exclusive statement to New Age. This real assembly of people's representatives will be the Congress of the People in Kliptown, now only nine days off.

The Nationalist Party tries to justify its vicious anti-democratic policies by talk of the “volkswil.” This “volkswil” is nothing more than the will of the Nationalist

Mr. Tambo said the week-end of 25th and 26th June would be a historic one for the African people, for all Non-Europeans and for democratic South Africans.

He was confident that the people would respond to the call of the Assembly as never before.

TREASURED POSSESSION

The Freedom Charter would become the most treasured possession of the people.

The Congress of the People campaign, said Mr. Tambo, had already proved a great unifying force among the African people themselves, and between the Africans and democrats of the other groups.

The campaign for the Freedom Charter, far from coming to an end at the Kliptown assembly, would only be the beginning of a mighty united and positive campaign of all sections of the people for their rights.

Mr. Tambo made a final appeal for full participation of the African people in the Congress of the People.



Mr. O. Tambo.

Party. The real will of the people will be expressed in the Freedom Charter and during the sessions of the People's Assembly.

UNEMPLOYMENT RISING IN JAPAN

TOKIO.

Unemployment is rising in Japan, according to statistics prepared by the Prime Minister's office. The figure reached 840,000 in March—180,000 more than in the previous month, and the highest figure since the war.

The increase is put down partly to the large numbers of university students graduating who find it increasingly difficult to obtain work owing to the effects of deflation on Japan's economy.

The official figures give no indication of the real extent of unemployment in Japan, as only those in receipt of full unemployment benefits are included. Nearly one million more are working for less than 48 hours a week, which is regarded as a sign of partial unemployment in this land of sweated labour.

The total of unemployed and “nearly-unemployed” is thus anything from 3 to 8 million, according to some estimates.



The Wheel of Freedom, the symbol of the Congress of the People, has appeared in suburbs and factory areas throughout Johannesburg. The four spokes of the wheel represent the forces of the African, Indian, Coloured and European people rolling towards progress and a free South Africa. This wheel has been chalked on the wall of the Vrededorp subway, and passers-by are here seen being handed leaflets about the Congress of the People.

ELECTIONS COMPLETED IN OTHER PROVINCES BUT JOHANNESBURG STILL AT FEVER PITCH

JOHANNESBURG.—WITH ONLY NINE DAYS TO GO TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE, THE OTHER PROVINCES HAVE COMPLETED THEIR ELECTIONS BUT JOHANNESBURG IS STILL ALIVE WITH PREPARATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND THE PARTICIPATION OF HUGE NUMBERS OF OBSERVERS IN THE FREEDOM ASSEMBLY.

SCORES OF LITTLE MEETINGS ARE TAKING PLACE SIMULTANEOUSLY EVERY DAY AFTER WORK IN JOHANNESBURG'S LOCATIONS AND TOWNSHIPS. OVER THE WEEK-ENDS MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS REACH A NEW FEVER-POINT.

This activity is not confined to Johannesburg alone. The Congress of the People has been carried right along the Far East and West Rand, and into one country town in the Transvaal after another.

At this moment elections for delegates are taking place in Sekukuniland, on the trust farms of the North-Eastern Transvaal, among the squatters of the Ermelo-Bethal area.

Final figures of delegates elected are only now beginning to come into C.O.P. headquarters. **ALEXANDRA—150 DELEGATES**

Alexandra Township was probably the first area to complete its elections and left not a street uncombined. In all, 150 carefully chosen Township residents will speak at the Assembly in the name of the people of Alexandra.

Newclare in the Western area, divided and again sub-divided into small units, has already elected 60 spokesmen, and Sophiatown 62. Moroka's tally is 45, and from Dube township will come 10 delegates.

Meadowlands residents, the first victims of the Government's forced removal scheme under apartheid, will have their spokesmen at Kliptown. **ERMELO, BETHAL—54 DELEGATES**

From Ermelo and Bethal farms, where probably among the worst conditions in the country obtain for labourers, there will be 54 delegates. Indians from Wynberg, near Alexandra, have elected 20 representatives, and the Indian population on the West Rand is now completing its elections for 50 delegates.

In the south-west regions of Orlando and Moroka and Jabavu district meetings are now in pro-

gress. The people are taking their election meetings with the utmost earnestness and seriousness. In most areas the people hold more than one street or block meeting. The first meeting is devoted to a discussion of the Congress of the People campaign. The second meeting is spent discussing the merits of respective candidates who are submitted for election, and then in closely briefing the successful candidate in the freedom demands of the people.

CONGRESS WHEEL EVERYWHERE

Congress of the People workers in Fordsburg and Vrededorp have adopted “surprise” publicity tactics. When residents awoke one morning they found their area plastered with huge four-spoked wheels. One can barely walk a half-block in these suburbs without seeing the wheel. A few days later leaflets were handed out to the people answering the question all had been asking: “What is this wheel?” The wheel is the symbol of the Congress of the People. It is the symbol of progress, the leaflet said and went on to explain in detail.

In the south-west regions of Johannesburg the African National Congress is aiming at the election of at least 50 delegates.

Minor delegates have been elected from the East Rand and there are enthusiastic reports from all towns from Germiston to Springs to Nigel, from which figures are not yet available.

The Congress of the People is everywhere the talk of the town (even if the daily Press has blacked it out) and excitement is mounting as the day for the Assembly draws near.

LEADERS ACCEPT FREEDOM AWARD

JOHANNESBURG.—Both Dr. Y. M. Dadoo and the Reverend Trevor Huddleston told New Age that they would accept the Freedom Award to be presented to them in the name of the national liberation movements at the Congress of the People at the end of this month.

Mr. FATHER HUDDLESTON told our reporter:

The reason why I feel greatly honoured and also greatly touched by this award is that it is the symbol of my identification with those who are struggling for the ideals of freedom in this country at this time. I feel more convinced every day of the immense need for unity in this struggle, and the dangers which we are facing can, in fact, only be met by a united front, not only in racial terms, of course, but in our determination to use moral and non-violent methods.

DR. DADOO said:

It has come as a surprise to me to find that my name has been chosen, together with those of the two great South Africans of our time, Chief Luthuli and the Reverend Trevor Huddleston, for the Freedom Award which the Congress of the People is presenting for what it calls “distinguished service to the cause of the brotherhood of the people of

South Africa and to the preservation and extension of their freedom.”

PLAIN AND SIMPLE DUTY
It is a very great honour indeed to earn in this way the affection of the people for what I considered to be my plain and simple duty to the people of our country in contributing my share in fighting for the noblest cause of all, the emancipation of the people from oppression and exploitation and the right to live a full and free life.

I only hope that I shall be worthy of this honour, and I pledge anew to fight unflinchingly in the grim battle which faces us to defeat the fascist police state of Strijdom.

Soviet Withdrawal

LONDON.

In terms of the Chinese-Soviet agreement signed last year, Soviet forces recently withdrew from Port Arthur a week ahead of schedule.



The Time Has Come

It is time, Africa, it is time; time to understand, realise and appreciate what we are and what we shall be. The cowards who attack the people's movement condemn the salvation of their own children. They forget that no leader can stand in front of the people without a cross. "Be faithful and I will give you a crown of life," said Jesus.

The time has come to show the world that this time is for heroes only.

Long live the leaders of the freedom movement! Freedom in our life-time! Africa!

G. MLANDU.

Nqamakwe.

Repression in British Guiana

From far-away British Guiana comes a letter from a friend—Mr. Rankarran, a former Member of Parliament of the deposed Jagan Government.

The terroristic and suppressive measures of the British rulers are growing, and in many cases are not same as in South Africa.

Mr. Rankarran writes—"I am permitted to visit the office (of the People's Progressive Party) under what Her Majesty's fascist Government calls the "emergency regulations" evoked since the suppression of the Constitution and the deposition of the Government, and under the same order meetings of five are banned, trade union and political leaders are restricted to their area of residence and police permission has to be obtained even for religious functions. Police raids go on, with frequent seizures and imprisonments.

You who have lived under this sort of nightmare for years will appreciate what the restrictions mean to us. After a whole year I am now permitted to seek employment in the city—three miles away—on condition that I remain in the store all day and that I return to my area by 5 p.m. every day.

"Please give my warmest regards to Sam Kahn and other valiant fighters in South Africa. You may rest assured that your name will live wherever people respect freedom and justice."

PAUL JOSEPH.

Johannesburg.

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A.N.C. Wanted On the Farms

May I say that is taking place at a farm in the district of Bush-buidge? The Africans there are toiling hard under the direct control of a taskmaster who knows nothing of what an African person means. He uses a sjambok to force them to do what he wants.

The power of freedom is in our hands. I call upon the leaders and organisers of the African National Congress to send to those far-off places, farms, villages and reserves, their teams of organisers to call and shout with the voice of freedom inside and outside the home of every inhabitant.

In these places children are turned into orphans, mothers into widows by harsh taskmasters.

W. E. BOSHEILO.

Brakpan.

Imprisoned, Banished

I feel that a tribute should be paid to four outstanding freedom fighters, Langisi, Ilwun and Monare.

These men are suffering today so that their people and their children should be free from oppression. Their names will go down in the historical record of our struggle when the history of this country is written.

For you, my men, your struggle is a just one, you battle for truth;

Remain fearless of any evil. For truth will vanquish evil. We, the oppressed, owe you much. The day is coming

When we shall say "We are free people."

Your fight is the most sacred.

F. MQUDLWA.

Cape Town.

The Insulting Word "Bantu"

The term "Bantu" is an African word (Nguni) meaning "persons," whether they be black, golden or white. Its sinister term is U-muntu. But this word is being wrongfully applied as a substitute for the term "African."

In the Government's opinion it is the best name for the Black man. We all know that to them (the Africans) are Natives or Kaffirs.

Let us endeavour to counteract this root of malice, indignity and insult to our nationality.

I am of the opinion that names like "The Bantu Workers' Congress," "Bantu People's College" and the "Bantu News Agency" contribute much to the wrong use of the word "Bantu." I particularly regret to say that the name of a so-called national paper is The Bantu World.

M. O. K. SETLHAPALO.

Johannesburg.

O.F.S. President's Call

As president of the A.N.C. in the Orange Free State I call on all the Branches of the A.N.C. and all other bodies of African and all other races in the Orange Free State—to close their ranks and work hard and get ready for the Congress of the People. I call upon Congress volunteers in O.F.S. to work day and night to see that delegates are elected and demanded sent. Remember the clarion call of the President, Chief Albert Luthuli.

J. B. MAFORA, President, A.N.C. O.F.S.

It Became Dark In Our Eyes

Lilian Ngoyi, popular woman's leader now touring Europe and the People's Democracies, sends this moving letter on the 10th anniversary of the liberation of Europe from the Nazis.

We went to one of the largest Nazi concentration camps known as Buchenwald, now a museum in the German Democratic Republic. This was seeing real hell. We saw what it meant to be cruel. We then understood what is really meant by the struggle for peace.

Especially me, I was all the time not quite clear about peace, but now I took a new pledge that I shall tell my people that what I have seen should never happen to any human being no matter to whatever camp they belong to, not even to the Nationalists, because they are human and only need to be educated.

I was very proud when we were asked to join the procession of the men and women who carried the wreaths to the monument of those people who were so tortured to death. The reason for going to this horrible place was the celebration of the tenth year since liberation. The weather was very bad but there were delegates from all over amounting to 30,000. The honour which the people gave me more than I can in this letter explain.

It became dark in my eyes as mothers, when the orphans whose parents were killed came marching, and those who are the people who were also in the camp. And still these people had a song which they composed when they were being or their turn to be tortured. You can already picture how it was. A sad lay, but educative.

We were shown round by one of the men who served in this camp as a prisoner for four years. As he spoke you could read his mind. He said that we should never allow such camps to be erected for any people. I saw the gas chambers, I saw lathpades made from human beings skinned alive, I saw a cell as big as our toilets where people used to sleep nine in number. Then I said to myself rather die fighting than to be tortured kneeling on my knees. LILIAN NGOYI (now someone in Europe).

Group Areas

And Hitler

The aim of the Government to move the Coloured people from areas which they have inhabited since their birth is yet another phase towards our march to Hitlerite fascism. The forced removal of people from their homes as was displayed in the Western Areas and subsequently other areas come more reveals the stark fact that South Africa is already a police state.

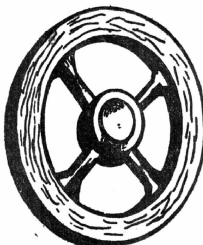
The people in Cape Town realise this, and for this very reason are not going to move voluntarily. We are once more reminded of those horrible days when Hitler was in power, when Jews, Poles, Russians and all other foreigners were forcibly removed from their homes and dumped into ghettos, which were later to be used as concentration camps and slaughterhouses.

We in Cape Town are determined not to fall into the same grave as did those, our unfortunate comrades. That is why we are rallying to our Congress. That is why we are sparing no energy in preparation for the Congress of the People.

Maybines! JAMES ISAAC FRANCIS. Lansdowne, Cape Town.

EDITORIAL

NINE DAYS TO GO



There are now only 9 more days to go before the Congress of the People opens in Johannesburg. Most of the delegates have been elected, and the preparations for the great meeting are entering their final stages.

Soon the Freedom Charter will have been written, and a new stage in the fight for freedom in South Africa will begin.

But the importance of the Congress of the People does not lie only in the vistas which it will open in the future. FOR ALREADY THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE CAMPAIGN HAS IN ITSELF SERVED A GREAT PURPOSE.

The campaign has helped to bring the leadership of the liberatory movement into closer contact with the needs and demands of the ordinary people.

And at a time when, after the great upsurge of the Defiance Campaign, there was a marked decrease in Congress activity and membership, the campaign has effectively served to put an end to the decline, to arouse new interest and enthusiasm among the members and supporters of the four organisations which are sponsoring the Congress of the People—the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress, the Congress of Democrats and the South African Coloured People's Organisation. In areas where Congress activity had become almost non-existent the movement was revitalised and active propaganda work was done.

Alliance Cemented

Yet another important success which the campaign for the C.O.P. has already had has been the degree in which it has cemented and emphasised the alliance, as full partners, of the four sponsoring organisations. On the firm and unbreakable unity of these bodies depends the future of South Africa as a democratic land free of all traces of racialism or national oppression, and the campaign for the Congress of the People has been a powerful means of forging that unity through joint and co-operative action.

THE CAMPAIGN HAS VIVIDLY DEMONSTRATED THAT IN THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM THE CONGRESSES STAND OUT AS THE UNDISPUTED LEADERS. OTHER BODIES WHICH HAVE MADE A PRETENCE AT SUPPORTING THE MARCH TO DEMOCRACY—NOTABLY THE PATHETIC LIBERAL PARTY—HAVE BEEN SHOWN UP AS BEING UNPREPARED TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE GENUINE DEMANDS OF THE PEOPLE.

The preparations for the Congress have taken place at a time when all democrats are being stirred into greater activity, both in defence of their living standards, as evidenced by the recent wave of small, courageous strikes, and in defence of their political rights, as shown by the campaign against Bantu Education, the Group Areas Act and the Senate Bill. The campaign has served to some extent to canalise these activities and to create the consciousness that South Africa's evil stem from the same source—the fascist Nationalist Government and its racist policies—and that the only solution is the defeat of that Government and its replacement by a truly democratic Government, freely elected by every South African, irrespective of the colour of his skin.

Only the future will show the extent to which the efforts of democrats are able to make the Freedom Charter an enduring landmark on the road to liberty.

BUT IT IS MOST HEARTENING TO SEE THAT THE EFFECT OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED THE CORRECTNESS OF THE DECISION TO CONVENE IT.

SOVIET-YUGOSLAV DECLARATION OF GREAT VICTORY FOR PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

LONDON.—The joint declaration signed by Marshal Bulganin, Premier of the Soviet Union, and Marshal Tito, President of Yugoslavia, following the recent negotiations between delegations of the two countries in Yugoslavia, represents another victory for the policy of peaceful co-existence.

The declaration said the negotiations, which "were conducted in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding," covered "an exchange of opinions on international problems" and also "a comprehensive survey of questions concerning the political, economic and cultural relations between the two countries."

After setting out the basic principles on which co-existence between peoples of differing social systems must be based, the declaration specifically called for the inclusion of People's China in the United Nations and "the satisfaction of the lawful rights of the Chinese People's Republic in relation to Taiwan (Formosa)"; the reduction and limitation of armaments and the prohibition of atomic weapons; the establishment of general collective security; the utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes; a solution of the German question "on a democratic basis and in accord with the wishes and interests of the German people, as well as the interests of general security."

The declaration also expressed the intention of the two Governments to promote measures to re-establish normal relations between the two countries and peoples, to strengthen economic and cultural relations, "to support and facilitate co-operation of the public organizations of both countries by means of contact, exchange of socialist experience and a free exchange of opinion," and to conclude treaties to protect the rights of citizens of one country who reside in the territory of the other and, where desired, to effect their repatriation. "Both Governments are agreed that these treaties must be based on respect for the principles of humanity and on the universally accepted principles of free will in relation to the persons in question."

KRUSCHEV'S STATEMENT

Perhaps the greatest interest in the negotiations attached to the declaration, which was signed in Belgrade airport on the arrival of the Soviet delegation by Mr. N. A. Krushchev, leader of the delegation.

He said: "The Soviet delegation have arrived in your country in order, jointly with the Yugoslav Government delegation, to define the path of further developing and consolidating the friendship and co-operation between our peoples, to discuss our common tasks in the struggle to ensure that our countries flourish, in the struggle to lessen international tension and strengthen universal peace and the people's security."

"The peoples of our countries are bound to each other by ties of ancient fraternal friendship and joint struggle against the common enemies. This friendship and militant co-operation were particularly strengthened during the struggles and trials experienced in the struggle against the fascist invaders in World War II. During those bitter years all the Soviet people sympathized with the heroic struggle of their Yugoslav brothers, and wholeheartedly hailed the courageous combat actions of the People's Liberation Army and the Yugoslav people under the leadership of Marshal Tito.

"Our peoples will always remember that here, at Belgrade, the Yugoslav and Soviet warriors jointly delivered blows at the enemy and liberated this ancient Slav city from the Hitlerite occupiers. The friendship between the Soviet Union warmly greeted the establishment of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia. It is generally known that during those years excellent relations were established between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, between our States and our Parties. However, subsequently these good relations were ruptured.

SINCERELY REGRET

"We sincerely regret what took place and decisively thank side at that attended that period.

those principles in mind they should be able to "achieve complete mutual understanding because they have a common aim—struggle for the interests of the working class and the working peasants, for the interests of the working people."

In conclusion, Krushchev said the interests of the workers and peasants, the interests of the international working class movement and the common aims of the struggle for the consolidation of peace, for a better future for mankind, required that the leaders of the two parties establish mutual trust between those parties on the basis of their fundamental principles.

They would be failing in their duty to their peoples and the working people of the whole world if they did not do their utmost to bring about such understanding.

On the conclusion of the negotiations, the Soviet delegation visited Bucharest, capital of Rumania, where they had talks with Czechoslovakian, Hungarian and Rumanian leaders. A statement

"On our part we definitely associate with all this the provocative role played in the relations between Yugoslavia and the U.S.S.R. by the now exposed enemies of the people—Neria, Abakumov and others. We have thoroughly studied the materials on which were based the grave accusations and conclusions lodged at that time against the leaders of Yugoslavia. The facts show that these materials were concocted by the enemies of the people, despotic agents of imperialism who deceitfully wormed their way into the ranks of our Party.

"We are deeply convinced that the period of unhelpful relations between us is over. On our part we are ready to do everything necessary to remove every obstacle in the way of full normalisation of relations between our states and of strengthening friendly relations among nations."

HISTORIC FRIENDSHIP

Krushchev went on to state that the conditions for co-operation between the two countries existed "in the centuries-old historic friendship of the peoples and countries, the glorious traditions of the revolutionary movement, the necessary economic base and common interests in the struggle for the peaceful prosperity and happiness of the working people."

The Soviet Union, said Krushchev, built its relations with other countries on the "principle of the peaceful co-existence of peoples, upon the principles of equality, non-interference and respect for sovereignty and national independence, upon the principles of non-aggression and recognition of the inadmissibility of some states encroaching upon the territorial integrity of others.

"We hope that in future, too, the relations between our countries will develop on the basis of these principles, to the benefit of our peoples. And this will be a big new contribution to the relaxation of international tension, to the preservation and strengthening of world peace.

"Yugoslavia's desire to develop relations in all states, both in the West and in the East, meets with our full understanding. We consider that strengthening the friendship and ties between our countries will help to improve relations between all countries in respect of their social systems; will help to strengthen world peace."

The Soviet delegation had come to Yugoslavia "to discuss with you in a brotherly spirit all the outstanding problems. . . . We consider the establishment of mutual trust between our parties likewise desirable."

PARTIES BASED ON SAME PRINCIPLES

The parties of the two countries were based on the same fundamental principles, and if they kept

issued afterwards said the leaders of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania, welcomed the Soviet-Yugoslav agreement, which had contributed greatly to the relaxation of world tension, would deter the forces of aggression and strengthen world peace. A similar statement issued in Sofia declared Bulgarian support for the agreement.

GREECE IN TROUBLE

The economic situation in Greece is steadily deteriorating. According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Social Welfare recently, in seven prefectures in Western Greece there are some 310,000 people certified as destitute out of a total population of about 800,000.

During the first two months of 1955, 3,000 young Greeks emigrated to Australia, Brazil and other overseas countries, and it is expected that by the end of this year over 20,000 will have left Greece.

Prices and taxes are rising sharply, as the Government is facing a deficit of 1,800 million drachmas in its new budget. Proposed U.S. "aid" to Greece in 1955-56 will amount to no more than 15 million dollars worth of wheat and industrial finished goods.

Big Business Getting Bigger

NEW YORK.

Business and industrial mergers and acquisitions have been increasing steadily in the United States over the past seven years and are now almost as frequent as they were in 1946-47, according to a report of the Federal Trade Commission.

Two-thirds of the mergers have involved firms with assets valued at over 10 million dollars.

A total of 1,773 mergers were recorded since 1950. These figures are compared with the 2,303 mergers which took place in 1928-29, immediately before the depression.

The trend towards mergers was particularly noticeable in the food products industries. One Florida dairy firm with assets of 30 million dollars, had made 48 acquisitions and mergers since 1948—more than twice as many as any other firm in the country. Three of the most publicized mergers were in the motor industry, between Nash and Hudson, Packard and Studebaker, and Kaiser and Willys.

These, said the report, had "posed a dilemma for the anti-trust agencies," because it seemed that the only way to ensure continuing competition for the big three (Ford, General Motors and Chrysler) was to allow the smaller firms to join forces, even though this was apparently against the law.

After the release of the report, Senator Kilgore said that the Judiciary Committee of which he is chairman would begin a "full-scale investigation" of the entire anti-trust field, including merger activities.

SOVIET AHEAD OF U.S. IN JET BOMBER PRODUCTION

Hullabaloo in Washington After May Day Parade

NEW YORK.—American military circles have been greatly disturbed by evidence of Soviet jet bomber development which has filtered through to U.S. Intelligence. They have discovered that the Soviet Union is now producing in quantity, and operating, a heavy jet bomber which is at least as good as the latest American B-52—and the American plane is only just beginning to come off the production lines.

The newspaper *Aviation Week* reported that ten Soviet type-57 jet bombers were sighted at a low altitude over Moscow before and after the May Day parade this year. This discovery threw American military circles into a near-panic, because they have a real reason to concern that the U.S. has a lead in the production not only of atomic weapons but also of the planes to deliver them.

Senator Saltonstall, former chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said: "We've got to admit or agree that their production as shown on May 1 over Moscow is more than we had anticipated at this time."

General Twining, U.S. Air Chief of Staff, said: "The aeroplane that gives us real reason for concern in the United States is the Soviet long-range jet heavy bomber. Last year they showed us one. This year, in the rehearsal for May Day, there were flights of more of these long-range jets—enough that we have to accept that they are in production."

"The General added that although we have a lot of experience in building big bombers, it looks as though the Soviets are getting ahead in production."

The Air Force, through the Defense Department, then issued a statement drawing attention to Soviet progress in heavy and medium jet bombers. The statement said:

"This knowledge is evidence of the modern technology of the Soviet aircraft industry and the advances which are being made by them."

ULTERIOR MOTIVE

Politicians and newspapermen decided these statements were intended to have a bearing on the Senate's consideration of the military budget, but they had unforeseen consequences. Democratic Party Senators used them to attack the Eisenhower regime for failing to keep the U.S. ahead in the arms race.

Senator Stuart Symington, formerly Truman's Air Force Secretary, said the Eisenhower Government must be held responsible for losing "control of the air" to Russia.

A Senate committee was appointed to consider the whole question. The chairman of the committee, Senator Russell, said the growing strength of the Soviet Air Force could only be described as "alarming."

"The hearing thus far confirms my position held for some time that we have been consistently underestimated by the Soviet's ability to design and produce the most terrible weapons of destruction."

President Eisenhower, at a Press conference, tried to undo some of the damage. "To say that we have lost in a twinkling all of this great technical development and technical excellence, as well as the number in

our total aircraft, is just not true."

Unfortunately, the very same day Brigadier General W. M. Burgess, Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, before the Senate Air Defense Command, made a speech saying that the Soviet Union had plans as good as the American, and more advanced than them.

The next day his chief, General Twining had to eat his own words by way of answer to Burgess, who, according to Twining, "did not tell the truth. He was just saying 'I am confident we are ahead today.'"

General Gruenther, N.A.T.O. Supreme Commander, weighed in with the contribution that "Russia is quite a long way behind." Tactical Air Commander General O.P. Weyland said his forces were "one step ahead," and Defence Secretary Harold E. Talbot said the U.S. programme was "just about right."

THE RESULT

Outcome of the whole hullabaloo was a decision by the Air Force to order a 35 per cent increase in the production programme of its heavy jet bomber, the B-52. According to the Air Force, the B-52 has a speed of over 600 miles an hour and can reach a target 6,000 miles away without refuelling.

Mr. Talbot said the amended programme would enable the U.S. to produce the B-52 well ahead of the original dates.

ATOM TESTS HAVE ALREADY DAMAGED HUMAN LIVES

MR. LEWIS STRAUSS, the chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, said last week that "there is no evidence at this time" to warrant fears that A-bomb and H-bomb tests were poisoning the atmosphere with dangerous radiation.

In a speech to the American Medical Association, he said all the atomic tests to date—"ours, Britain's and the Soviet's"—have added only fractionally to the natural background radiation to which we have all been subjected since the beginning of time. The increase from the tests "has been about equal to that of one medical chest X-ray."

Real Dangers

In the light of the known facts, however, Mr.

WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

Strauss' own speech can be described only as an act of irresponsibility, for the world's leading scientists and medical men have been unanimous in warning against the perils of unrestricted atomic tests and the world-wide catastrophe which would result from an all-out atomic war.

Here are a few examples—The British Mission to Japan on the effects of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, published in 1946, stated—"The effects of gamma rays on human reproduction necessarily form a long-term study, which will continue for some years. Of the effects already detected, the most striking are those on pregnancies at all stages from two months onwards."

"At distances up to 1,000 yards from the centre of damage pregnant women had miscarriages. At distances of 14 miles from the centre of damage pregnant women who survived have had either miscarriages or premature infants who died very soon."

"Even beyond this range, up to nearly two miles only about one-third of pregnant women gave birth to what appeared to be normal children. Two months after the explosion, miscarriages, abortions and premature births throughout Hiroshima were nearly five times as frequent as in normal times, and formed more than one-quarter of all deliveries." On March 13 of this year Dr. Ray Lanier, head of the radiological department of the University of Colorado, and Dr. Theodore Puck, head of the physics department, jointly published a report on the fact that the fall-out of radio-active dust from this year's atomic tests in Nevada had reached a point where it could no longer be safely ignored.

Protests

Their statement drew furious protests from Governor Johnson and Mayor C. D. Johnson of Denver. The Governor called the scientists' report "a phony and a publicity stunt" and suggested they should be arrested. The scientists replied by pointing out that for the "first time in the history of the Nevada tests the usage in radioactivity measured here has become appreciable."

"The best guinea-pigs for so-called safe-dosage studies have been the radiologists themselves," they said. "X-ray doctors have nine times the (leukaemia cancer) rate of the average citizen. They have five times the incidence of skin, kidney and lung cancer. And they have more malformed children. Particularly for genetic damage, which may not show up for several generations, there is no known minimum safe dosage."

Dr. Linus Pauling, head of the chemistry department of the California Institute of Technology, was 1954 Nobel Prize winner, last March called for a halt to nuclear tests because dispersal of radio-active particles into the atmosphere was creating a "critical condition."

Radio-active rain had fallen in many countries as a result of the tests, he said, and the consequent irradiation of living cells may have started a new cycle of leukemia victims or set in motion new hereditary mutations.

"There is a real possibility that Strauss is too optimistic," he added, "and I prefer not to rely on his statement." (Strauss has been peddling the line that the amount of radiation is no more than one chest X-ray for almost a year now.)

Pauling said 10 cobalt bombs exploded simultaneously would be enough to destroy the world, and hinted that some of these bombs may already have been tested. Those who called for atomic war, he concluded, were a "danger to mankind."

The British Medical Journal—"Although the radiation doses from the nuclear explosions carried out so far are too low to have caused genetic damage, a continuation of the tests on the present scale over a period of years might constitute a serious genetic hazard."

The Lancet, British medical weekly, said recently that the possibility that the reproductive genes of some individuals have already been damaged by repeated test explosions of atomic and hydrogen bombs "cannot be entirely ruled out."

Japanese Victims

The journal quoted figures of the incidence of sterility among the Japanese fishermen who were caught within 100 miles of the H-bomb test last year. "Extensive studies on the spermatazoa of the 22 men showed in all cases a gradual reduction in the spermatazoa count, a diminution in motility and an increase in the amount of deformed spermatazoa." "By last December (nine months after the Bikini test) the spermatazoa count had in every case fallen to zero."

"The article continues—"That the real hazard is, of course, far more serious. Radio-activity of all kinds has been found to cause an increase in the mutation rate in all animals and plants in which it has been tested; and since most mutations of genes are harmful, the result of irradiation is that after several generations the incidence of abnormalities is raised. . . ."

"The evidence is far from complete. But whether it is the atomic tests or the application of atomic energy pollutes the atmosphere and may change climates, endangering the economy of neighbouring countries."

Professor F. Soddy, Nobel Prize-winning chemist—"Even the so-called peaceful application of atomic energy pollutes the atmosphere and may change climates, endangering the economy of neighbouring countries."

Dr. Robit, Professor of Physics, London University, has estimated that the explosion of 75 hydrogen bombs over 30 years would double the natural mutation rate. "Rough as the estimate may be," he said, "it certainly shows that we are sailing much closer to the wind than any of us thought."

Professor H. J. Muller, Nobel Prize winner, of Indiana University, said last April that radiation from the H-bomb tests could cause "tens of thousands" of harmful changes in the next generation of Americans.

Misleading

Mr. Franklin Hutchison, Assistant Professor of Radiation Physics at Yale University, said on a radio programme in America last week that the United States Atomic Energy Commission had given misleading information about the danger to mankind from atomic tests.

"If officials of the commission 'have data to back up their contention that there are no harmful genetic effects from the radiation, that's just wonderful. The trouble is I don't know of any such data, and neither does anyone else to whom I've talked.'"

He warned that the radio-active fall-out from atomic explosions was producing genetic effects in mankind that would be showing up "for thousands of years to come." At least 1,800 children had been born since last March (1953), he estimated, with an additional mutation caused by the H-bomb tests.

"If we go ahead and expose our children to the amount of radiation which later proves to have harmful genetic effects, we have committed our children and their grandchildren for many generations to a situation over which we can offer no control."

The Pope, in his Easter message, warned of "the horrors of monstrous offspring and, worse still, the hidden shock caused to parental genes. . . . This shock, he declared, "would . . . give indication of the revolt of nature against such violence."

He called for an end to atomic tests and for measures to prevent atomic war.



ELECT YOUR DELEGATES NOW! is the message of these young Congress sandwich-board men as they tour Johannesburg distributing leaflets for the Congress of the People.

"RACIALISTS—KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF CAPE TOWN!"

Leaders Send Open Letter To City Council

CAPE TOWN.—"We have been disgusted at the attitude of those city councillors who have offered their co-operation to the Administrator in implementing apartheid, and would like to ask them where they got their mandate to do so," states an open letter to all Cape Town city councillors signed by leaders of the African National Congress, S.A. Coloured People's Organisation and the Congress of Democrats.

The signatories to the letter, Messrs. John Mluti, Reg September and Len Lee-Warden, M.P., representing the above organisations, place on record their "total and unalterable opposition" to the proposed Provincial Council Ordinance, which will give the Administrator the power to force local authorities to apply segregation and race discrimination in any municipal land, public buildings, parks, bathing resorts and other amenities.

Western Province Local Committee of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council at the time had also shown that the majority of Cape Town citizens were opposed to apartheid.

"It has been a small Nationalist-minded minority, and in particular a noisy coterie of Nationalist politicians from other centres, who have wished to upset the situation in Cape Town and import here their beastly doctrine and practices, as enforced in their apartheid 'Europeans only' cities of Pretoria and Bloemfontein," the letter continues.

"We are satisfied that the vast majority of Cape Town citizens are prepared to live and let live, and do not in any way desire the racial separation which it is proposed the Administrator should be empowered to enforce upon us."

"The letter states that evidence to this effect had been placed before the Bus Apartheid Commission and that a public referendum by the

U.S. Policy

How, then, in the face of this massive evidence to the contrary, can Admiral Strauss, representing the American Government, try to pretend that there is no evidence to warrant fears that the atomic tests are poisoning the atmosphere with dangerous radiation?"

The answer is to be found in the American Government's policy of "negotiating from strength" in the cold war. Rather than throw away what they consider to be their only effective weapon, they are prepared to endanger the whole human race by refusing to take effective steps to halt the tests, destroy existing stocks of atomic weapons and make atomic war an impossibility.

"The repeated doses of soothing syrup poured out by Strauss are deliberately intended to quieten public alarm and so prevent the development of a powerful, world-wide campaign which would force the U.S. Government to abandon the atomic weapon. . . ."

GROUP AREAS BOARD MUST DECIDE WHETHER GHETTOS ARE DESIRABLE

Would Mean Ruination of Indian People

JOHANNESBURG.—The Group Areas Board must consider the question of the desirability of recommending group areas, the chairman of the Board stated after hearing an address by the representative of the Transvaal Indian Congress.

Over one million words of evidence and argument by dozens of witnesses and legal representatives have been recorded in this Johannesburg inquiry, which is now drawing to a close.

Mr. J. Slovo representing the Transvaal Indian Congress and he argued that in terms of section 27 of the Group Areas Act, a case must be made out for the establishment of group areas in Johannesburg. The City Council, which is the author of the largest and most comprehensive scheme for group areas had not considered this question of desirability.

Dr. G. Lowen, appearing for Indian communities and traders, said that in relation to other groups, particularly the European group, the Indians were being asked to make disproportionate sacrifices.

Other groups which have led evidence and argued before the Board have been the Lenasia Townships Board, Mr. M. Jajbhaj who was Diepkloof declared an Indian township and who opposes Lenasia; and the Waterval Islamic Institute, a Muslim educational establishment on the Pretoria Road which the Peri-Urban Areas Board is suggesting should be removed.

"USED INFLUENCE" In his evidence Mr. Jajbhaj said that certain City Councilors had

LADY SELBORNE—NEXT "BLACK SPOT"?

JOHANNESBURG.

IT seems that the Government already has its eyes on the next "black spot" which is to be forcibly removed in the interests of apartheid. This is Lady Selborne, Pretoria's freehold area which was given to the Africans in 1905.

An official of the Native Affairs Department said only last week that the position of Lady Selborne was really no different from that of Johannesburg's Western Areas. The Africans moved from Lady Selborne would not get freehold rights again. Lady Selborne standholders are to lodge objections to their removal with the Land Tenure Board, and their memorandum was recently adopted by a residents' meeting.

The residents say that they unanimously oppose the government's intention to remove them.

IMPROVED TOWNSHIP The 3,000 standholders today enjoy rights granted them with the establishment of the township at the beginning of the century, and during the last fifty years its African residents have improved the township from a water-logged marsh to a modern habitable township which boasts of some of the finest houses in Pretoria.

Lady Selborne, says the memorandum, is undoubtedly one of the best African townships in South Africa. "It was with hard labour, toll and sweat and almost blood that its residents, with their hard-earned money, improved it to its present status." At present the township is valued at over £2 million, according to the residents.

All the changes in the Township, whose amenities have improved steadily, have been made possible by the high rates and taxes paid by the residents. The residents maintain that previous governments, and the present Government, have allowed Euro-

pean townships to grow up around Lady Selborne. "This encroachment on us having been allowed to take place, the blame should not be placed on us. We have remained and developed within our bounds and, threatened with removal, are being subjected to a great injustice."

The past fifty years have also shown that race harmony between the inhabitants of the township and other race groups has been good. "Rather than destroy this hard-earned heritage as removal will undoubtedly do, it should be fostered and nursed for the general good of all freedom and peace-loving South Africans. We are for racial harmony and our removal from our legitimate homes, where we have cherished and loved for years, might do a lot of harm to this great gift."

The residents submit that the forced removal of these homes will be a disgraceful breach of faith. "We protest vigorously and reject and oppose in unequivocal terms the removal scheme."

BECKY LAN ACQUITTED

CAPE TOWN. BECKY LAN, acting general secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, was acquitted in the Tullbagh Magistrate's Court last week on a charge of attending



a meeting in contravention of the Minister of Justice's banning order.

Immediately after the close of the case, two of the witnesses who gave evidence against Miss Lan were arrested and charged with giving conflicting statements under oath.

It is alleged that they made statements to the police that Miss Lan had addressed the workers of a Tullbagh factory, but in the course of giving evidence later, said that she had not been at the meeting nor had she addressed the workers. Other witnesses also gave evidence that Miss Lan had not been present when the meeting took place.

AFTER STRIKE

Mr. Sam Kahn, for the defence, said the evidence of the Crown was inconsistent and contradictory. The meeting was alleged to have taken place on December 30, 1954, but Det. Sergeant Sauerman had begun his investigations only at the end of March, 1955, after a strike had taken place at the factory. This was the first time the witnesses had been asked to recall the events of that day.

Mr. Wehrman, factory manager, had stated that he had accompanied the accused to the place of the meeting and had left just before she addressed the workers. Other witnesses who were denied having seen him there at all.

Finding Miss Lan not guilty, the Magistrate said there was no reason why he should prefer the Crown evidence to that of the defence.

U.S. STEEL PROFITS SOAR

NEW YORK.

United States steel profits in the three months ending March 31 were the highest for any first quarter in history, the Wall Street Journal reported.

"Per share, the net income was \$2.49, compared with \$1.48 in the corresponding three months of 1954," said the Journal.

The profit to gain over 1954 was about 60 per cent, "both before and after the Federal income tax." Sales, however, rose only 5 per cent. Thus the huge leap in profits did not come from a corresponding increase in the volume of business but from a greater return from the labour of each worker and price reported.

The net profit for the 1955 first quarter was \$72,652,406, as compared with \$44,830,376 in the corresponding quarter of 1954. The steel industry is operating at only about 80 per cent. of capacity at present.

Toy Workers Strike

JOHANNESBURG. The deadlock in the strike of workers at the Jolly-Dolly factory did not seem to be close to intervening. The workers are still out on strike and the employer is still refusing to negotiate with the Toyworkers' Union. The Department of Labour has up to the present refused to intervene. This is a matter, it says, for the Native Labour Settlement Board.



COLOURED AND AFRICAN WORKERS' SOLIDARITY

JOHANNESBURG.—Coloured and African workers at a Fordsburg factory, Peanut Products, are standing solidly together and demanding wage increases although the management is threatening to dismiss the Coloured workers. If the Coloured workers are sacked, say the Africans, we will come out on a sympathy protest.

The dispute in this factory arose when the workers demanded a wage increase last week. The highest wage in the factory is £2 13s. a week for African men, African men who have six and ten years' experience earn £2 6s. 9d. a week, and women workers earn £1 9s. 6d. a week.

Approached by the workers for increases, the employer said he would dismiss all the workers who were "not satisfied."

When officials of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions and the Food Workers' Union arrived at the factory they found an official of the Native Labour Settlement Board and a member of the Special Staff had been called in. The workers flatly refused to accept the proposal of the representative of the Native Labour Board, who suggested they elect three workers to form a committee with him to negotiate for an increase.

The workers then turned to listen to the representative of the Congress of Trade Unions. They then agreed to return to work while their union submitted their demands and negotiated for them.

When three Coloured workers were told by the Native Labour Board that they should report the following day for their pay-off the whole factory again left their work and joined the three Coloureds.

If Coloured workers are victimised the factory has decided all the workers will stage a protest.

Cape Town Preparations For C.O.P. Reach Climax Torchlight Rally as Send-off For Delegates

CAPE TOWN.
A TORCHLIGHT rally on the Grand Parade, delegates' conference in the Banqueting Hall, S.A. Coloured People's Organisation special meeting in the Fidelity Hall, and a Modern Youth Society meeting were the four highlights of the Congress of the People campaign in Cape Town over the past week.

Spirits were high at the torchlight rally when the great crowd assembled there wished their delegates successful deliberations in Johannesburg on June 25 and 26 and voted to include the following demands in the Freedom Charter:

The end of race discrimination, peace in South Africa and the world, votes for all, freedom of movement for all, compulsory free education for all, repeal of the Urban Areas Act, and "repeal of all legislation which bars the way to a free South Africa."

The audience also heartily endorsed speakers' demands for a national day of protest to fight the Senate Bill.

CHEERS FOR ALWYN

"Three cheers for John Alwyn, our heroic leader in jail," were also given with gusto.

At the delegates' conference in the Banqueting Hall, delegate after delegate rose to state his or her demands.

The Cape Town Peace Council representative was cheered when she said: "We demand that uranium be used for peaceful purposes only, to make a better life for all our people, and not for atomic war."

SNAKES

A delegate from Paarl: "They told me to tell you that 'we want a government that will drive away all

the snakes from this country. The present government is composed of snakes."

An African: "We demand that white and black should be encouraged by Government to live together in harmony. White and black children should be taught how to live together and how to play together."

Another: "We want no race restrictions on the buying of land and property."

"We want the right to marry whom we please."

A Coloured delegate from Wellington: "The words 'ayah' and 'kaffer' must be excluded from the school books. These things do not make for racial harmony."

FREEDOM CHARTER

The conference adopted a draft Freedom Charter for the Western Cape, which will be forwarded to Johannesburg. "All men are equal in value; entitled by reason of their common humanity to equal rights and duties," states the charter.

"We pledge ourselves to strive for a government of the people composed of every race and nation in South Africa, and, by extending the vote to all, prepare the way for a real democracy with all its principles."

The S.A.C.P.O. meeting and demands are reported elsewhere on this page.

SACPO FRAMES DEMANDS FOR FREEDOM CHARTER

18 Delegates to go to Johannesburg

CAPE TOWN.

THE major long-term outcome of the Congress of the People should be the final merger of the four main organisations in the camp of liberation into a composite whole, is one of the demands adopted by the South African Coloured People's Organisation for inclusion in the Freedom Charter.

At a meeting last Saturday, ten delegates were elected to represent the Cape central area of S.A.C.P.O. In addition, three have been elected in Mowbray, two in Kraaifontein and three in Wellington. Elections at other S.A.C.P.O. branches are also taking place.

At Saturday's meeting, too, some 35 demands covering every aspect of the people's life, were adopted for the Freedom Charter. Here are some:

- That the right to elect and to be elected to any-state, local or regional body be extended to all people unconditionally.

- That all industries of the country be nationalised and handed over to the people; that education for all people be free and compulsory; that all forms of prohibition in force on the people's leaders in the form of naming, banning and banishment be revoked; that the basic freedoms

needed for the maximum development of the country (speech, movement, religion, assembly, etc.) be immediately extended to everyone.

- That at all places of work: equal pay for equal work, equal opportunities, protective clothing, canteens, creches, cultural and sporting facilities, free health services be immediately provided.

- That political prisoners, fighting for a free South Africa, be given better facilities than criminals.

- That the preaching and/or practice of racial discrimination in any form be punishable by law.

- That all teachers should receive the same salary; that all trade unions be recognised and strikes legalised; that the Mixed Marriage Act be repealed immediately; that there be no apartheid on buses, public thoroughfares and places of business.

RAILWAY AUTHORITIES DISSOLVE WORKERS' ORGANISATION

DURBAN.—In what was termed by one railway worker "as a most high-handed and dictatorial action," the Natal Non-European Railway Staff Association has been dissolved by the authorities.

Last week the General Secretary of the Staff Association received a telegram from the Minister's Office asking him not to leave his office on Tuesday, the 7th June.

"On June 7 the General Manager was telephoned by the Natal System Manager and asked to attend a meeting of the Executive of his Union which was being held at the Office of the System Manager. Without being told the reason for this meeting all members of the Executive were also asked to attend.

This meeting, which was attended by Mr. du Plessis, the General Manager of the S.A.R., Mr. F. J. Opperman, the General Superintendent of the non-European Staff, two inspectors from the general office of the Railway Administration and several local officials, decided in terms of Section 25(1) of its Constitution to dissolve the Union.

A member of the Executive of the Staff Association in an interview with New Age said, "We were all quite surprised and did not know what was happening when we were told of the meeting. You can imagine how shocked we were when the General Manager of the Railway Administration told us that the Minister wanted us to dissolve our Association.

"When we overcame our shock," continued this worker, "many

members of the Executive opposed the dissolution. Each objector was told that the Minister had decided that the Association should be dissolved and that all facilities including the Subscription stop order will be stopped forthwith. We were all naturally very disturbed, but were afraid that we would be victimised if we opposed the proposal to dissolve the Association.

"Had we been left to decide the issue on our own we would definitely have rejected dissolution. Our Association is not the best trade union in the country for it is—no should I now say it was—very much under the thumb of the Railway Administration.

"This shows us," continued this worker, "that the more we pander to the wishes of the employers the greater is their contempt for us."

"I was once a member of the S.A.R. & H. Workers' Union but left it because the Railway Administration was either transferring or dismissing active members of this Union," said another member of the Association.

"When I joined the Staff Association I thought, although the

Association was very conservative and never at any time militant it would do something to obtain higher wages and better conditions for us. I realise now how mistaken I was.

"Maybe it is for the best. This has awakened me and I am sure as soon as the rank and file members hear of this decision they will also awaken to the realisation that you cannot compromise with your oppressors without eventually losing what little you have."

S.A.C.T.U. COMMENT

Mr. Steven Dhlamini, Provisional Chairman of the Local Committee of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, commenting on the dissolution of the Staff Association, said that the leadership of this Association should be condemned for "meekly submitting to the dictatorial action of the Minister of Labour."

"All along the line this Association has never co-operated with other Trade Unions and in fact opposed the militant S.A.R. & H. Workers' Union."

"I wish, on behalf of the progressive Trade Union Movement, to appeal to all railway workers to reorganise their original Trade Union and to unite and defeat the Government's plans to exploit them."

Today, when all over Europe the people have learnt the need to break away from American "leadership," we should not let ourselves forget the great act of heroism of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the anniversary of whose execution by the American Government two years ago, falls this week.

It was the murder of the Rosenbergs which first opened the eyes of many people to the vicious inhumanity of United States policy. In this article, written two years ago, the great French writer, JEAN-PAUL SARTRE, expresses his horror at hearing the news of the execution.

velops everywhere with the same rhythm and fabrication of bombs is a concern of the industrial potential.

By killing the Rosenbergs, you have just tried to stop the evolution of science through human sacrifice. Magic, witch-hunting sacrifices: here we are, your country is sick with fear. You are afraid of everything: the Soviets, the Chinese, the Europeans; you are afraid of another, you fear the shadow of your own bomb!

What wonderful allies you make! And you would like to be boss! You draw us to war by terror and you would lose it by panic at the first bombing. I know there are in your country some courageous people: the advocate of the Rosenbergs, the one who said yesterday, "I am ashamed to be an American" the members of the Rosenberg community, hundreds of thousands of others; but what can they do if not run to their martyrdom?

And there are the masses who stayed healthy and whom you mislead, there are the Negroes whom you oppress and above all there is this weak voice that has been killed to-day and said those admirable words:

"We are young and we do not want to die, but we do not accept to pay that price for our lives."

THEY ARE AMERICANS

After all, the Rosenbergs are Americans and if you can retain some hope, it is because your country gave birth to this woman and this man, you killed.

One day maybe, all those good faiths will cure you from your fears: we wish that because we have loved you.

Meanwhile, do not be amazed if we shout from one end of Europe to the other:

"Careful, America is sick with rabies."

Let us cut all the bonds which tie us to her otherwise our turn will come to be beaten and infested with rabies.

U.S. IS SICK WITH RABIES

THE Rosenbergs are dead and life goes on. That is what you wanted, not so? Yesterday, we were still their comrades and you have killed them swiftly to make us their survivors. You believe that time will make us a little more forgetful every day, a little more guilty towards them, to make you look less cruel. Of course, you will have expensive windows and your embassies will be broken, but they will be replaced and with a bit of luck, the police will fire into the crowds of Europe and we will have fresh deaths. OUR deaths, to keep us from thinking about yours.

You have already done the same to us with Sacco and Vanzetti, and you succeeded. But this time you will not succeed.

On one point you will have won; we wish no harm to anyone; we refuse to twist into hate that contempt and horror you inspire in us. But you will not be able to make us believe that the execution of the Rosenbergs is a "regrettable incident" nor even a judicial error. It is a legal lynching, which covers a whole lot of people with blood and which denounces one and for all, with a crash, the failure of the Atlantic Pact and your incapacity to assume the leadership of the Western World. I will tell you your mistake; you have believed that the assassination of the Rosenbergs was merely the settling of a personal account. A hundred thousand voices repeated to you: "THEY ARE INNOCENT," and you answered stolidly, "We are punishing two of OUR citizens according to OUR law. It has nothing to do with you."

IT IS OUR AFFAIR

Like Hell! Of course the Rosenberg affair is our affair. Innocents that are killed are the concern of the whole world. From all over it was shouted to you: "Be careful, you judge yourself when you judge them; you must decide whether they are men or animals."

Do you now understand why we have begged you for a re-trial? When we asked you justice for the Rosenbergs, it also meant: be fair to yourself. When we asked you to spare their lives it also meant: spare yours. As we have been made your allies, the destiny of the Rosenbergs might well be our future destiny. You, who assume to be the masters of the world, you have the opportunity to prove that you were first of all masters of yourselves. If you surrender to your criminal madness, that same madness will in the future throw us into a war of extermination. Nobody made the mistake in Europe; in giving life or death to the Rosenbergs you were preparing peace or war for the world.

WE DID NOT ASK FOR YOUR DOLLARS, NOR YOUR WEAPONS, NOR EVEN YOUR SOLDIERS. JUST TWO LIVES, TWO INNOCENT LIVES.

Did you understand at all the importance of this extraordinary truth? Class-conflicts, old rancours, everything was put aside; the Rosenbergs had achieved European unity. Just one word from you and you could also draw the benefit of this unity: the whole of Europe would have been thanking you sincerely: "Europe, we did not give a damn about Europe." All right. But do not come and talk about alliance after that. Allies consult each other, discuss,



girl is carrying a placard which reads:

"Try them and send their bodies to the U.S.S.R."

You have seen those people walk in your streets while a man and a woman lived their last hours in a prison, while two desperate children asked in vain for their parents to be returned to them. You have seen them laugh, shout, brandish the placards and their banners and there was no one amongst you to go and break their necks. Obviously there is something rotten in America.

And why this unleashing of fury against a man and a woman just before their death? Why this hate which stifpled the world?

For sure, it is because you have been convinced that they wanted to take your bombs. You will be left in tranquility only when you will be alone to be able to destroy the world. President Eisenhower has counted the innocent victims of the Rosenbergs in tons of thousands; every one of you feels he is already a victim of the next war, ... it is the doomed who asked for the death, on Thursday, for the thieves of atomic secrets.

SCIENCE DEVELOPS EVERYWHERE

Unfortunately, when we look at you from Europe, we do not think you are innocent, nor dead; we only see two innocent dead: your victims. And regarding the atomic secret, it is the fruit of your discordant imaginations: science de-

arrange mutual concessions, every-one influencing the others. If you answer "no" when we ask you simply not to dishonour yourself for nothing, how could we believe that you will ask our opinions when important interests are concerned?

ALLIES OR SERVANTS?

We are allies? Like hell! Our Governments are your servants to-day. Our people will be your victims tomorrow, that's all! Of course, you will bring up shameful excuses; your President could not afford to pardon the Rosenbergs, he had to throw out the ballast to impose his views in Korea.

In Korea? Like hell! He is made a fool every day there by his Generals and old Syngman Rhee. And what a country that his War Chiefs have to commit ritual murders to be forgiven for stopping a war!

Like know from now on what our weight is on your scale. On one tray you have put the world ... and on the other one MacCarthy. At the moment when the Rosenbergs sat on the electric chair, the scale leaned to MacCarthy's side.

Do you believe that we are going to die for MacCarthy? That we are going to shed our blood to give him a European army? Do you believe that we want to defend MacCarthy's culture? MacCarthy's freedom? MacCarthy's justice? That we will change Europe into a battlefield to allow this bloody fool to burn all the books and to have the innocents executed and the judges imprisoned because they protested?

Don't bluff yourself; never shall we give the leadership of the Western world to the assassin of the Rosenbergs.

You say that MacCarthy will pass, and that secretly they are trying to do away with him? And then? Your MacCarthy has millions of heads, cut one off, a hundred others will grow.

A YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL GIRL. Here I have on my table a photo

taken on Thursday in Washington: well-fed and dressed men, elegant women, march to demand the heads of the Rosenbergs, in the first row a young and beautiful

NATAL GARMENT WORKERS DEFEAT BOLTON LEADERSHIP

President and Vice-President Forced to Resign

DURBAN.—Militant Natal garment workers were overjoyed last week when an order declaring certain individuals no longer union officials was granted in the Durban Supreme Court.

The dispute arose as a result of a challenge to the existing leadership of the Garment Workers' Industrial Union of Natal by a large section of the members, who had formed themselves into the "Defend the Constitution Group of the Garment Workers' Union."

Application was made to court by union member Mr. Marimontbo Mathews for an order declaring that Tommy Peters and Solomon Shadrach had ceased to be president and vice-president respectively of the union since March 11, 1955. It was contended that, although they had handed in their resignations at a meeting of the Executive Council in February, Peters still presided over, and Shadrach attended and participated in, executive meetings.

The secretary of the union, Mr. J. C. Bolton, and others were cited as the first respondents.

TO THREATEN MEMBERS

Peters, Shadrach and the Executive Council admitted that the resignations had been handed in, but submitted that the purpose of the resignations was to threaten the general membership that if nothing was done against the militant group within the union they would resign.

By handing in their resignations they hoped to cause the general

membership to take disciplinary action against them.

In his affidavit Bolton submitted that after consultation with the militant and vice-president, they had all agreed to resign for the purpose of threatening the general membership into action against the opposition group. Bolton subsequently withdrew his resignation.

The judge said he was satisfied that the resignations of Peters and Shadrach were in fact handed in, and even though the intention of the president and vice-president may have been merely to threaten to resign, the court held that their act in handing in letters of resignation amounted to resignation from their posts. The respondents were ordered to pay the costs.

DEFEAT FOR BOLTON

The judgment is a great defeat for the Bolton leadership, and is the culmination of a long-standing

dispute between this leadership and the militant union members.

It began with three members of the union requesting permission of the executive to go through the minutes of the union in order to investigate what had been done by the Executive Council in regard to the dismissal of one of the most militant members of the union.

After the investigation these members alleged that certain matters in connection with the secretary's salary were not reflected in the minutes.

ORGANISER DISMISSED

Subsequent to the investigation an organiser of the union, Mrs. Myrtle Mathews, was dismissed.

This dismissal led to widespread dissatisfaction amongst the members, but a petition signed by hundreds of members calling for her reinstatement was ignored. A general members' meeting later unanimously passed a vote of no confidence in the executive.

When the president and vice-president continued to perform the functions of their office even after they had resigned, it was decided to take the matter to court.

DEMOCRACY HAS NO ALLIES IN PARLIAMENT

By PETER MEYER

WE can all learn a valuable lesson from the Parliamentary session now ending.

Two important things have happened: Strijdom's fascists have accelerated the pace towards dictatorship; and the Parliamentary Opposition has revealed its hand under the stress of Nationalist attacks the different groups have shown more clearly than ever before where they stand.

The fact that stands out most vividly is that the Opposition is not merely a useless ally of the democratic forces, but a positive enemy. It does not only let the democratic organisations down; it deliberately obstructs them and undermines them.

Examine the record of the Parliamentary parties since the start of this session:

● **NATIONALIST PARTY:** Under Strijdom, fascism has climbed the spiral. The Opposition has been ruled out as a factor of any importance. The few liberties still exercised by the citizen are being destroyed. The police net closes tighter and the preparations are being made for a frontal attack on the democratic organisations. Verwoerd (Native Affairs) and Swart (Justice) are moving swiftly in for what they think is the kill. Grim days lie ahead.

● **UNITED PARTY:** It no longer opposes apartheid seriously. The "Cape Argus," in an editorial last Friday, summed up the new attitude—as revolting a piece of journalism as we have ever read: "It is obvious that the struggle must continue until the next general election but... there is no need now for cool realism and energising reappraisal. It was Mrs. Margaret Ballinger who originally said that all our politics are Native Politics. It is true, but it is too true a truth."

"The lesson of this debate, like the lesson of the past elections, is surely that all our politics are Afrikaans politics. In the broader field of human rights, the Non-Europeans must now assume greater responsibility for working out their own destiny."

"The United Party, although upholding the principle, cannot, for example, pledge itself to restore the Cape to the common roll once they are removed, any more than Nationalist republicans can pledge themselves to restore the old separate republics. The kind of loyalty can be pushed so far as to become absurd and make continuity of orderly government impossible. The electorate, not the party, must be the sovereign power in such reversals and restorations."

S.A.C.P.O. "RALLY" APPEARS

CAPE TOWN.

The first issue of "Rally," official organ of the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation, made its appearance last week.

"We who are struggling to achieve equality cannot stand aside and see our rights being trampled underfoot without going to battle with the person or persons responsible," states the editorial, which deals with the Coloured vote.

The back page invites members and readers to write songs of freedom, and elsewhere the S.A.C.P.O. flag is introduced.

"Thank you! It is absolutely ludicrous. It means that the United Party's embarrassing days of pretending to fight for the rights of non-Whites are over. Now it's each man for himself, and the devil take the Coloured. At least the United Party has had the honesty to publicly surrender to Strijdom."

It will now stumble along miserably behind Strijdom, trying to keep alive on the pickings from his table. As someone wrote recently, it will wait for the miracle that will pluck Strijdom from Groote Schuur and put Strauss in his place. But fight! No. That era has been ceremoniously buried.

● **CONSERVATIVE PARTY:** This party hardly deserves mention, except that it has undergone considerable stress, too. Strijdom has no intention of feeding it with little tit-bits, the way Malan did. He is not going to be a party to helping it to stand on its own feet. He wants slave labour, not by-ones.

Consequently, the Conservative Party has been forced to turn on its former colleagues in the United Party with renewed violence. As a party, it is historically important only in the sense that it represents the first of what inevitably will prove to be a large number of surrenders to Nationalism.

● **LABOUR PARTY:** As a political organisation, it is collapsing. It embraces many points of view, and as Strijdom sneezes so these points of view fly in all directions. But in Parliament the former member Labour Party team has at least attacked more strongly than ever before.

It seeks its destiny, of course, with the strictly "White" groups, and this automatically excludes it from playing any real part in the struggle for democracy.

● **LIBERAL PARTY:** Bearing in mind that the president of the Liberal Party, Mrs. Ballinger, represents the ultra-right-wing of the party and is clearly an embarrassment to some of the more conscience-stricken members, there is nevertheless no doubt that the parliamentary Liberal Party is rapidly discarding the few elementary principles adopted at its congress.

Mrs. Ballinger herself has moved steadily to the right over the past few years, even before the Liberal Party came into existence. She has cut herself off more and more from the African people. Her attacks on apartheid have become increasingly flaccid. Instead of seeking points of divergence, she has tried to avoid them. Instead of facing Ver-

woerd squarely, she has tried to reason with him.

Most important of all, she has skirted around one main issue after the other. This is no accident. Mrs. Ballinger is manoeuvring for position, quite definitely.

She is leading the Liberal Party away from the Native Representatives' seats to the "White" seats, away from the Africans to the exclusive White world. It is impossible to propose a policy that is acceptable to both Africans and the White electorate (in its present state of prejudice); the vague idealism of the Liberal Party's programme simply cannot embrace both the African aspiring for human rights and the "brain-washed" White voter. The Liberal Party had to choose.

EYE ON UP SEATS

So Mrs. Ballinger has abandoned the Africans. I wish I could even say "is abandoning," but the deed was already done. Mrs. Ballinger has her eyes on those at comfortable constituencies that are returning United Party M.P.s.

The Liberal Party, politically speaking, is a scavenger party. It wins its Native representative seats because Swart has barred democratic candidates from the field; and it hopes (like the Conservative Party) to win "White" constituencies when the United Party decomposes.

It is plain to everyone that the Liberal Party has hopes of doing a deal with the U.P. "liberals." Hence its new policy of "let's be nice to the United Party." Just as Strauss wants to keep the gap between the U.P. and the Nationalists as narrow as possible, in the hope of making it easy for "disgruntled" Nats. to step over to him, so Mrs. Ballinger is keeping the gap between the Liberal Party and the United Party as tiny as she can to make the jump easy for the U.P. "liberals."

But I wonder how successful the Liberal Party will be? That the U.P. will break up, sooner or later, is obvious. And then? Will the Friedman and Copes and Szaans retain their seats and throw in their lot with the Liberal Party? The mistake that the Liberal Party makes is to assume that constituencies like Hillbrow, Parktown and Houghton, because they return so-called "liberals," are populated with liberal-minded citizens. This fact is that they are brimming over with good, old-fashioned business men who know exactly on which side their bread is buttered.

Therefore, in the scramble for seats, the Conservative Party and the U.P. right-wingers are without doubt going to get the bigger share; and if any "liberal" constituencies escape their grasp, anyone who gets elected in such a constituency will have to tone down his liberalism quite a lot. So if the Liberal Party plans a fusion with these U.P. "liberals," as we all know it does, then it still has a long road ahead of it in its journey to the right.

To sum up: there are no allies of the democratic organisations in the Parliamentary Opposition.

But now we know exactly where we stand. To quote the "Cape Argus," the democratic forces (this is what the paper really meant when it said the "non-Europeans") "can no longer assume greater responsibility for working out their own destiny." It is a challenge that is gladly accepted.



Workers voting in support of their demands at a recent meeting of the Port Elizabeth branch of the National Union of Laundering, Cleaning and Dyeing Workers. The union is demanding substantial increases, three weeks' leave, a 44-hour week and a sick fund in place of the existing unsatisfactory determination. The employers have been given until July 8 to reply.

More Students Protest at Fort Hare Witchhunt

CAPE TOWN.—Resolutions supporting the students of Fort Hare and condemning the closing of the university were passed last week at students' meetings at the Universities of Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg. These follow the previous week's protests by the students of the Witwatersrand University and by the Natal University Non-European S.R.C.

The Cape Town resolution requested that all students be readmitted to Fort Hare without prejudice and that a commission of inquiry be instituted, on which students would also sit, to investigate students' grievances and the events leading to the closure. The resolution, which was passed by 99 votes to 59, condemned the action of the police in helping with the closure.

"The questionnaire which is being sent out to Fort Hare students forcing them to inform on one another is clear proof that the authorities are trying to collect evidence to justify their action after and not before they took the drastic step," said Mr. B. I. Sacks, introducing the motion.

The students rejected an amendment proposed by the president of the Students' Representative Council which admitted that the reasons given for the closing did not justify the drastic action, but which requested further information before agreeing to the resolution.

A further amendment "sympathising with the innocent students" but expressing "full confidence in the sagacity of Professor Dent and the authorities" was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

MILNERTON RACING

Juvenile Handicap — MANRICO. Danger, Ignorant.

Milnerton Handicap, A — DEEP PURPLE. Danger, Acontius.

Milnerton Handicap, B — GHOST STORY. Danger, Noct.

Ascot Handicap — ASPERION. Danger, Xmas Cracker.

Progress Twelve—TETRA SOPHIA. Danger, Chonistic.

Progrt

Dang

Three—

CON

Juvenil

Dang

Pul

Street,

Street,

issue by

The resolution adopted by the Pietermaritzburg students requested their S.R.C. to support the Wits. S.R.C.'s appeal for a commission of inquiry on which students are requested to clearly and publicly describe conditions at Fort Hare.

The resolution further expressed the Pietermaritzburg students' regrets that the authorities of Fort Hare considered it necessary to close the college without any explanation to the students concerned and without a clear picture of conditions at Fort Hare being available to the public.

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CHURCH AGAINST THE H-BOMB

Manufacture and use of nuclear weapons are "contrary to the purpose of God and the mind of Christ," the Congregational Union declared in a resolution adopted in assembly at Westminster Chapel, London, recently.

The resolution moved by Dr. Aubrey Russell Vine, of Bradford, said the assembly associated itself with the appeal of the second assembly of the World Council of Churches to the governments and peoples of all countries to make continued efforts to reach understanding and to refrain from aggressive and subversive acts.