

Million Signature Campaign Opens!

NEW AGE

SOUTHERN EDITION Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper
Vol. 1, No. 47. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1955 PRICE 3d.

"No Passes for Women — under any Conditions!" she says.



DURBAN WOMEN PREPARE ANTI-PASS CAMPAIGN

"We Will Never Su

From JACQUELINE ARENST

DURBAN.—Two hundred African women delegates a meeting of the Combined Women's Organisations at Cato N to oppose attempts by the authorities to force them to carry Population Registration Act.

The meeting was called as the result of widespread anxiety amongst the African women who are being subjected to continuous propaganda from the authorities to persuade them to accept the idea of carrying Population Registration certificates.

The authorities have not yet forgotten the successful demonstrations and campaign of the African women a few years ago which completely frustrated City Council plans to introduce passes for women then.

Now the authorities have resorted to different tactics, and are endeavouring to prepare the African women for the issue of certificates under the Population Registration Act instead of the Urban Areas Act.

PASSES "FOR ALL"

The Africans are being told that the Population Registration Act is for all people, white and black, and that Indian and European women will also carry these certificates which are not really passes.

But this propaganda, far from confusing the African women, has only served to rouse their anger and militancy, and their determination never to carry passes of any kind was made clear at the meeting.

What will you do if the Government gives you these certificates? asked them before the meeting started. Their reply was unambiguous, repeated by one delegate after another:

"We will never submit to passes."

"We know that these new certificates will put us at the mercy of every policeman, to kick about like our husbands," said Edith N.

"They can tell us that the Indian and European women will carry these passes too, but we know that they will be used to oppress us even more. We suffer enough without passes."

WHO WILL PAY?

"Who will pay for our passes? We haven't got enough money for food; from where will we get money for passes and registration?" interrupted Johanna N., as the women eagerly pressed forward to express their anger against passes.

"We have no pockets like the

"Win Support For The Freedom Charter!"

JOHANNESBURG. SUNDAY, 18th September, will see the first stage of the campaign to collect 1,000,000 signatures for the Freedom Charter.

The Transvaal Consultative Committee of the African National Congress, Transvaal Indian Congress, S.A. Coloured People's Organisation and the Congress of Democrats has called a mass conference for this purpose at No. 3, Trades Hall, Kerck Street, Johannesburg, to start at 10 a.m. on that day.

A WEEK LATER, ON SUNDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER. A SIMILAR CONFERENCE IS DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN CAPE TOWN.

The decision to obtain 1,000,000 signatures to the Freedom Charter by June 26 of next year, was taken last month at a special conference of the national executives of the four Congresses in Durban under the chairmanship of Chief Lutuli. In its invitation to the conference in Johannesburg, the Transvaal Consultative Committee quotes from the resolution taken at the historic Congress of the People rally in Kilmont on June 25 and 26 last, where the Freedom Charter

was adopted:—

"We pledge that when we return from here to our homes, we will at once make known to all our neighbours and workmates what we have done here, and we will win support for the Freedom Charter."

Reminding the people that the Transvaal is pledged to collect 450,000 signatures to the Freedom Charter: (Cape Target, 350,000; Natal, 150,000; O.F.S., 50,000 signatures) the Consultative Committee

calls upon organisations and individuals to undertake the following tasks:

Popularise the Freedom Charter; get signatures of people pledging themselves for the Freedom Charter; return the completed forms to their local Congress branches or to head office at 37 West Street, Johannesburg; distribute the Charter as widely as possible, and organise the people into the Congresses behind the Freedom Charter.

"A pledge for the Congress is a pledge for Freedom! Long live the Congresses, Mayibuye Afrika!" the invitation concludes.

MRS. BALLINGER ADMITS OPPOSITION TO SCHOOLS BOYCOTT

"No Confidence" Resolution Moved at Report-Back Meeting

From GOVAN MBEKI

PORT ELIZABETH.

"WHY did you not attend the Congress of the People?" angry questioners asked Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, M.P., Liberal Party leader, when she addressed a report-back meeting at the T.C. White Hall here last week.

Her reply—that she received so many invitations to meetings that she could not attend all—was received with great dissatisfaction.

There were gasps from the audience when Liberal Senator Rubin, who accompanied Mrs. Ballinger, advised Africans to become members of Verwoerd's school boards "to fight from within."

A questioner asked Mrs. Ballinger if she was prepared to state in Parliament that she supported the Freedom Charter and would fight for its implementation.

Mrs. Ballinger replied that she

DECIDED ON THE BOYCOTT OF COMMITTEES, SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLS TO WHICH DECISION MRS. BALLINGER IS OPPOSED. THIS MEETING RESOLVED THAT IT HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN HER AS THEIR REPRESENTATIVE."

When none moved a counter motion after the chairman had called for it, the meeting closed with the singing of Nkosi Sikeleli Afrika.

SHORT STORY COMPETITION RESULT

— See Page 8

Student Body Banned

JOHANNESBURG. A new student organisation, formed in August when the Students' Representative Council was dissolved by the university authorities in terms of the new statute providing for the election of a puppet student body, has been banned from the University of the Witwatersrand.

The aim of the new body, the Wits. University Student Association is to uphold, defend and advance the rights of the student body.

A poster at the university calling for elections for the new body's executive was torn down by the authorities, and the organisation prohibited from making use of normal student facilities.

The new student body has protested vigorously at its banning and has decided to continue to function — off the campus.

BA 320,05NEW S.83/113



NEW AGE LETTER BOX

Verwoerd's South West Visit

THE visit of Dr. Verwoerd to South West Africa has been represented in the press as having been successful but it was not.

At Windhoek he spoke to a meeting in the location but the address presented to him was not from the location dwellers. The members of the Advisory Board merely read to Dr. Verwoerd what somebody else had prepared for them. The people of Windhoek do not go to the polls for Advisory Board elections, for such a body is regarded as a government tool or as a toothless bulldog. The members of the Advisory Board who addressed Dr. Verwoerd do not have a mandate from the people.

Dr. Verwoerd also addressed a meeting of the Herero tribe in the Reserve but that was not reported in the press. It is here that he was given the true spirit and feelings of the people of S.W.A. proper. Here he was not welcome at all and Chiefs turned up only to come and tell him that they are not prepared to submit to his oppressive hand and that they will continue the fight against the oppressive and inhuman measures of the Union Government until freedom is won.

NGARIKOTOKE.
South-West Africa.

In a Hurry For Freedom

I agree fully with Mr. P. Ken Beikano of Petersburg (Letter-box August 25), when he asks why the national Congress leaders have not yet issued Freedom Charters for signature. We want to start now; and I suggest we should not wait for these slowcoaches any more. Let's get busy, duplicating, typing, or even writing out the Freedom Charter and going out from door to door, getting fellow-workers at factories, etc., to sign! A group of a dozen people (we can rope in the school children) can write out enough charters to start with. We are in a hurry for freedom—even if some of our leaders seem not to be!

UMLWELL.

Johannesburg.

When

NERVE PAINS

strike!

Mag-Aspirin is better. Its double action gives quick, safe relief. It calms nerve shock, gently soothes away the pain in the affected nerves and restores health-giving sleep. Thousands of sufferers have found Mag-Aspirin the ideal treatment for painful conditions like headache, bladder pain, earache, toothache, sore throat, sleeplessness and rheumatic pains.

MAG-ASPIRIN
is not ordinary aspirin

Mag-Aspirin Powders, 2/- per box. Also available in Tablets at 2/6 at all chemists and stores.

6566-1

Report From Klerksdorp

An appeal by the Klerksdorp Town Council against a decision that certain location regulations were ultra vires and void was dismissed with costs by a bench of three judges in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, recently. The Town Council was given leave to appeal against the decision subject to the Council paying the costs of Simon Makhona, original applicant, on appeal.

When the matter first came up on May 23, Mr. Justice Hill found that the regulations made by the Municipality of Klerksdorp concerning Jouberton location were ultra vires and void, except those dealing with the constitution of an advisory board. The regulations affecting Jouberton published in the Provincial Gazette of April 15, 1953, were thereupon declared invalid and set aside.

Makhona had asked the court to set aside the location and native village regulations of the municipality on the grounds that they had not been referred for consideration and report to the Native Advisory Board before approval by the Administrator and the Minister of Native Affairs.

All this was reported to a well-attended mass meeting of residents held at Jouberton Freedom Square on 28th August.

Klerksdorp has a strong Congress branch and is planning to open a fully equipped permanent office.

NEW AGE AGENT.

Klerksdorp, Tvl.

Peace and Democracy

The third annual general meeting of the Natal Indian Congress, Merebank branch, held recently, reiterated its solidarity with the world movement for peace and declared its firm belief that all international disputes can be resolved without recourse to war.

"In reaffirming our support for world peace we pledge ourselves to continue to oppose racial discrimination in South Africa as an integral part of our activities in the cause of world peace and democracy," stated the resolution.

R. S. BALLI,

Hon. Secretary.

Merebank N.I.C.

EDITORIAL

THE NATS' BIG LIE

"The object of apartheid," said the Prime Minister, Mr. Strijdom, opening the Natal conference of the Nationalist Party recently, "was, by the separation of the races in every sphere where it was practicable, to eliminate clashes and friction between White and Non-White."

This sounds fine, but it simply isn't true.

It is not true that this is the object of apartheid. It is the excuse for apartheid, maybe. But the object of apartheid, as Mr. Strijdom explained clearly enough in a speech in Parliament last session, is to maintain White supremacy, "baasskap." The object of apartheid is to eliminate Non-White competition with Whites, to hold the Non-Europeans in a state of ignorance and subjection, to force back their natural development, and thus to perpetuate White domination.

It is also not true that apartheid eliminates clashes and friction between the races. On the contrary, it promotes hostility between one race and another, and prevents racial co-operation. Proof of this was provided last week by the superintendent of Kyaomandi location, Stellenbosch, who sent out a notice to all raterpayers warning them not to allow their Coloured and African servants to fraternise.

"Conditions existing in a number of premises in the town cause close contact between Coloured and Native people," said the notice. "There are, for example, cases where Coloured and Native employees work together as domestic servants, or where a Coloured person and a Native are housed on the same premises."

It is not illegal for Coloured and African to live together, to work together, to sleep together or to marry. But clearly the Council does not want these friendly relations between Coloured and African to continue. Why?

"The Town Council regards this close association as undesirable as it is possible that it may lead to a deterioration of the best characteristics of both peoples." How? The Council feels it may lead to "racial intermixture" or "illegal practices such as illicit trade in liquor."

Racial deterioration? How absurd! There is absolutely no biological evidence that inter-marriage leads to the "deterioration of the best characteristics" of both parties. Inter-marriage may annoy the Nationalists because it proves that people of different races can live together on a basis of equality without friction; which, after all, is the reason why the Mixed Marriages Act and the Immorality Act were passed.

But there is no scientific evidence at all that the children of a mixed marriage are in any way biologically inferior to the children of a "pure" marriage. They may be treated differently by prejudiced and benighted members of the community in which they are brought up—such as the members of the Stellenbosch Council who were responsible for that atrocious letter. But when they are given the same chance to get on as White children, they prove themselves just as capable as their fellows in every respect—indeed, one feels the very fact of their birth would produce in them more civilised feelings of toleration and respect for their fellow men than have been demonstrated by Stellenbosch Councillors.

Further, there is no proof that illicit trade in liquor by Africans is greater when they live in "close contact" with Coloureds than it would be if they lived alone. In any case, why shouldn't the Africans enjoy the same right to take liquor as the rest of the population? In no country has it yet been demonstrated that prohibition leads to a reduction of crime, or achieves any other useful purpose. On the other hand, there is plenty of evidence in the annual police reports to show that the South African liquor laws send thousands of Africans into gaol every year.

Thus we are reduced to the conclusion that the Stellenbosch Council wants to prevent close co-operation of Coloureds and Africans, not for the reasons stated, but because White supremacy is threatened by the unity and friendly relations which are developed between the various sections of the Non-European people. Just as it is the Nats' aim to smash all attempts to unite unity between Black and White, so it is their aim to separate one Non-European people from another on the well-known principle of divide and rule.

The disgusting violations of human decency which are daily perpetrated in this country by those in authority are proof that here is no link whatsoever between apartheid and civilisation.

The true bearers of civilisation in South Africa are those who stand firmly for the principles of friendship and co-operation between all on a basis of equal rights and opportunities for all—the principles which have been embodied in the Freedom Charter.

That the majority of our people are determined to build a truly civilised South Africa will be demonstrated in the coming year in the great campaign to collect a million signatures for the Freedom Charter.

FRENCH MASSACRES IN NORTH AFRICA

But Moroccan Resistance Groups Despite Terror

LONDON.

ALTHOUGH temporary agreement has been reached between Moroccan nationalists and the French over the constitutional future of the territory, nothing can assuage the bitterness which has been caused by the recent mass killings in North Africa.

The agreement seems to be that the quising Sultan of Morocco will retire and be replaced by a Regency Council. The French have refused to concede the nationalists' request that the Sultan of Morocco, Ben Yussuf, be allowed to return from his exile in Madagascar; but they agree to bring him to France for the time being.

This patchwork solution of the dyastic problem, however, will do little to pacify the Moroccan people, though the nationalist leaders may be satisfied. For the mass of the people, only the elimination of French rule will do.

SHOCKED

The French killings during the recent clashes were on such a scale and of such a brutal nature that even conservative press correspondents in North Africa were outraged.

In Algeria, the correspondent of the paper Le Monde reported, that the official figures on one night were 110 French and 521 "rebels" dead. But, he added, to get the truth "one must add a zero to the figure of rebels killed."

THIS MEANS THAT ON THAT ONE NIGHT, FOR 110 FRENCH KILLED, OVER 5,000 ALGERIANS WERE MASSACRED.

Describing one incident which he witnessed, the correspondent said: "About 50 old men, women and children were killed in the absence of their fathers and fled from the village the night before.

"And I have never known a more tragic sight than that which I saw after the departure of the (French) Commandos, with only the bodies of the only survivors of the massacre."

Despatches from Casablanca in Morocco, and Constantine in Algeria, made it clear that French troops were shooting at night, with

Enthusiasm in India

LONDON.

So great has been the enthusiasm of the Indian people at the friendly reception accorded to Premier Nehru by the Soviet leaders and people during his recent visit, that the conservative newspaper, the Times of India has been compelled to utter a word of warning.

In an editorial headed "India and Russia" in a recent issue, the paper said: "It would be foolish and dangerous, to work oneself up into a frenzy of apocalyptic fervour and hail those who hailed our Prime Minister as coming to the end of the demonstrating in their mammoth enthusiasm the resolve to march in step to the golden melody of Panch Sheel the five principles of peaceful co-existence worked out last year by Nehru and Chinese Premier Chou En-lai."

The paper complained of "the glow which threatens to overcome our Government and people, lost in rapturous contemplation of their inflated images in the Soviet mirror," and called for the maintenance of an independent foreign policy by the Indian Government.

AFRICAN RAILWAY staff associations, formerly permitted to function by the S.A.R. authorities, in the best traditions of company unions, have now been abolished and Works Committees, as provided for in the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act are to be set up in their place.

The staff associations in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town were notified in turn that they should immediately cease to function.

women and children in many cases the first victims. Villages were destroyed by French rocket-firing planes or razed to the ground by French armoured units.

MASS ARRESTS

Mass arrests were carried out and large numbers of those captured were shot out of hand. Near Oued Zem, French troops machine-gunned 500 prisoners on the plea that they were attempting to escape. When the troops stopped firing, "hardly a man was moving."

A Reuter dispatch told of a French attack on one village near Oued Zem. "Many Moroccans had held out long in isolated houses when the drive began. When the Legionnaires met concentrated fire from one house, a 75mm. gun was used to knock in its walls. Then a heavy tank lumbered forward to flatten what was left."

"LEGIIONNAIRES WHO FOLLOVED BEHIND HEARD CRIES FROM THE CELLAR. WHERE THEY FOUND MOROCCANS WITH RIFLES. 'WE COVERED THEM UP WITH RUBBLE' THE CAPTAIN SAID.

The Carrières Romaines area of Algeria, a French correspondent reported there were over 1,000 bodies in the common grave. In many areas where French troops went into action a censorship blackout was imposed, and no details of what happened have been allowed to reach the outside world. Worst atrocities were often perpetrated by roving bands of French

colonists, who were issued arms by the military and took the law into their own hands.

CONDEMNED

As against this, a group of Frenchmen in Morocco, known as the French Conscience, during the fighting issued a statement condemning the blind stupidity of the repression and slaughter of Moroccans. Warning that unless this policy was altered there would be an all-out insurrection in North Africa, the group said they had never known tension to be so high.

Among the people of North Africa themselves the recent events have produced, not cowed submission, but renewed determination to resist. Thousands of armed villagers have taken to the hills, where they are still conducting operations in an organised fashion. In the town of Morocco, all workers went on strike and shops were shut down during the clashes, even in Marrakesh, which the French have always regarded as being the town where their control was firmest.

The French terrorism has provoked international protest. It has been condemned by, among others, the Asian-African delegation to the United Nations, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, the Egyptian Prime Minister who described it as "a hostile act" against all Arabs, the Burmese Parliament and the French Socialist Party. In Jordan strikes took place and weapons were delivered in the mosques in protest against the French atrocities.

CHANG'S TROUBLES GROW

His Followers Turn To People's China

LONDON.

THE Chiang Kai-shek regime on Formosa is racked with factional conflicts. Last week Chiang's Chief of Staff, General Sun Li-jen, was deposed on the grounds that members of his staff had been assisting People's China without his knowledge.

Eight of General Sun's personal staff and about 300 other officers under his command were arrested on charges of "creating an incident of a subversive character" and "spreading disaffection."

Sun Li-jen, who was appointed Commander-in-Chief in 1950, reportedly U.S. instructions has been under house arrest by Chiang Kai-shek's agents since May. He is now prohibited from meeting anybody or taking part even in social activities. Chiang has ordered the formation of a "commission of inquiry" into Sun's case, to be conducted by his most trusted henchman, Chen Cheng. Meanwhile, new arrests are taking place in Formosa daily.

The correspondent of the New York World Telegram and Sun, recently reported that the situation on Formosa is going "from bad to worse." The morale of Chiang's followers "has nose-dived"; Chiang's troops have been "defecting out the back door," slipping from Formosa to "the unadministered islands south of Okinawa" and making their way back to the mainland. Even airmen have deserted, taking their planes with them.

RETURNING TO CHINA

According to Kennedy, United States planners were seriously considering the "stationing of American marines (on Formosa) for internal security and protection of the

vast stores of war goods," and "contemplating the day when United States troops might have garrison (Formosa) without Chiang's troops."

Chiang's ageing troops, denied security and a normal existence, hated by the Formosans, despised by their American overlords, have lost all faith in their so-called mission to "liberate the mainland."

More and more of them are taking the first opportunity to go home once they get to know of Premier Chiang Kai-shek's plans that all who return to China peacefully and in good faith will be amnestied and given employment.

DUMPING of 22 million dollars worth of U.S. surplus farm produce has aroused sharp opposition in the Philippines. The bulk of the surplus is reported to be tobacco, valued at 194 million dollars. The Chairman of the Industrial and Commercial Committee of the Philippine House of Representatives has pointed out that there are already 2 million pesos' worth of tobacco in government warehouses, and has urged the Government to halt the dumping forthwith.

Kenya Police Inspectors Gaoled For Assault on African Prisoners

LONDON.

PUBLIC opinion here has been shocked by the details of a number of cases in Kenya disclosing police brutality towards Kikuyu prisoners in their charge.

In one case two European police inspectors, Antony Fuller and Ormonde Waters, were charged with murdering Kamau Gichina, who died in custody at the Giathungu police station in the Nyeri district. Another inspector, Geoffrey Copen, and a South African, William Bosch were charged with doing Kamau grievous bodily harm.

The prosecutor said that Kamau and a youth named Ngare Mafuu were arrested following the discovery that tax money amounting to £375 was missing from a home guard police post. They were held in custody without trial, and were never formally charged with any offence. At the police station Kamau was questioned by Fuller, Waters and Bosch, and it was alleged that at various times during the day they beat Kamau with their hands and a rhino hide stick, and also assaulted him by putting his hands between his legs and manacling his wrists at the back of his head.

The next day there were further assaults, after which Ngare gave information which led to the recovery of £20. But Kamau did not admit the theft.

He was tied to a pole in a shelter which had a roof and no walls and was left for several days and nights, wearing only a blanket as a covering. During this time he was given no food.

Two days later it was noticed by some constables that Kamau was in a bad physical condition, had difficulty in walking, his body was marked, and his hands and arms were swollen. On the day of his

death he could barely move from his cell. At no time was he given medical attention.

After Kamau died, Fuller and Waters had the body washed, and later, according by Copen, took it to the mission hospital, where Copen told the doctor that Kamau had been poisoned. The Government chemist in Nairobi found no traces of poisoning, and the doctor said he considered Kamau died as the result of beatings, together with exposure and neglect during his days in custody.

SENTENCED

But because the doctor said the possibility of death from natural causes could not be entirely ruled out, the charge against Fuller and Waters was reduced by Copen, to which they both pleaded guilty. They were sentenced to 18 months hard labour.

Copen was fined £25 and Bosch £10 for causing bodily harm.

Commenting on the situation disclosed at the inquest on Kamau, the magistrate said it "was not merely gaoled and alarming but indeed astonishing." It would seem certainly police and administrative officers have deemed it more important to recover stolen money than to uphold the law and set a worthy example to others, even without taking into consideration the extremely serious repercussions conduct of such kind might have at home and abroad."

In another case a British sergeant, Alfred Pimblett, who was charged with murder, was said to have been so keen to "Ma Mau" that he offered members of his platoon £1 for each body.

Evidence was given that an African prisoner was taken off the road into the bush and shot by Pimblett after a corporal had refused to shoot him. Half the African's head was blown away. The sergeant later tried to claim the African had tried to escape from custody.

Giving evidence, the corporal said: "We were the only platoon in the company that had not had a kill. Sergeant Pimblett was always telling us to be on top of the job and to be keen."

In another case a member of the Royal Irish Fusiliers was charged with murdering a Kikuyu woman. He was alleged to have told a comrade that he had strangled her. After preliminary evidence, he was remanded for medical observation.

China Ready To Talk With Japan

LONDON.

People's China has offered to start diplomatic talks with Japan, it was announced in Tokio recently. This is taken as a further instalment of the international co-operation which was inaugurated at the Geneva conference.

The Japanese Kyodo news agency quoted Chou En-lai, the Chinese Premier, as saying to a Japanese peace delegation in Peking that China was ready for talks. The pretension is that Japan, at the dictation of the United States, does not recognise People's China, though the Japanese Government has been pressing for increased trade between the two countries.

Mr. Chou said Japan need not be reluctant to reply to talks. He already agreed to such talks. The Japanese Premier, Mr. Hatoyama, said later in Tokio that the Chinese offer was "worthy of consideration."



CHIANG KAI-SHEK

THE UNITED STATES has appropriated 24 million dollars for military aid to Thailand (Siam). It will be used to build military airfields, strategic highways and army barracks and to equip the so-called volunteers of the Thailand army.

A PICASSO ON THE WALL AND YOU LOSE YOUR JOB

THE extent to which civil rights have been violated during the McCarthy witch-hunts in America has been revealed in the first report of the Fund for The Republic issued recently. The report came to the conclusion that there has been an "alarming" flouting of such rights, though in some respects it feels the situation is better than it was five years ago—at the time the Korean war started.

The Fund for the Republic, ironically enough, was set up by the reactionary Ford Foundation, and has spent 2,500,000 dollars in the last three years "to advance the understanding of civil liberties." Issued by the Fund's President, Dr. Robert Hutchins, the report says:

"The misunderstanding of civil liberties, the indifference to them, and the violations of them to which we too easily grow accustomed, are still such as to give cause for alarm."

"The range of suspected persons has been enormously extended by resort to guilt by association. The evidence offered to show that a man is a danger to American institutions has often been farcically remote."

EXAMPLES GIVEN

Examples of the methods used to implement the Government's security programme were investigated by one group of lawyers working for the Fund. They cite the case of a postal clerk who was declared ineligible for permanent Civil Service appointment and barred from competing in Civil Service examinations for three years.

His crime? He was accused, among other things, of having "Communist" art on the walls of his home—reproductions of Picasso, Matisse, Renoir and Modigliani!

Another case concerned a Negro woman, who was employed by a Federal District Judge Edward White as a typewriter machine operator. She was questioned about her relationship with a suspected Communist, whom she said she had met only two or three times. She was asked:

"You say he was dark brown?"
She replied: "Yes."
"Do you say you are light brown?"
"No, but he was darker than I am."
"What would you say your colour was?"
"I would call myself dark brown."
"Do you call yourself dark brown?"

"Yes."
"And he was darker than I am."
"Considerably darker or just a little darker?"
"I would say two or three shades darker, I guess."
After some more of this interrogation, reminiscent of the reclassification procedures to which Johannesburg's Coloured citizens were recently subjected under the Population Registration Act, the woman was reinstated.

BLOW TO MCCARTHY

Perhaps the biggest blow to the witch-hunt was directed by a Federal District Judge Edward White recently, when he dismissed contempt indictments against the author-lecturer Corliss Lamont, lawyer Abraham Unger and engineer Albert Shadowitz, who had refused to answer McCarthy's questions on political matters. The three claimed the protection of the First Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech.

The judge held that McCarthy had "usurped the powers of the judiciary," that his committee "had no jurisdiction over a private citizen never employed by the federal government," and that the committee was "incompetent and illegal."

OPEN TO LABEL ACTIONS

The judge said there was no indication that any resolution had been passed authorising the appointment of McCarthy's Un-American Activities Committee. On a television broadcast after the case, Lamont said that since McCarthy's committee had no legal authority, then McCarthy himself had no Senatorial immunity and might now be open to label suits by the victims of his inquisition.

All other contempt indictments from McCarthy's inquiries therefore also are declared invalid.

This judgment may have the effect of halting the proceedings of the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee, which has been conducting a mission in New York "to ascertain and identify" actors and other entertainers "who were or are Communists, and who are arising or did use their

influence to promote the objects of the Communist Party within the entertainment field."

ACTORS QUESTIONED

The committee has so far called 19 men and four women, on each of whom it had a long dossier about their past activities. But it has got back from them more than it bargained for.

One witness, the radio actress Madeline Lee, charged that the Committee was officially attempting to elicit false testimony from witnesses to incriminate other screen and stage stars. But every time she tried to tell her story to the Committee, she was ruled out of order.

Afterwards she told the Press that she had been approached by Mrs. Dolores Scotti, official investigator of the committee, who told her that unless she talked, things would go hard with her. Mrs. Scotti had said: "Co-operate with us or we will tell your employers that you are a Communist. We've got plenty on you."

TO TELL LIES

Miss Lee said Mrs. Scotti "wanted me to come before the Committee prepared to make up what was not true." She gave details of other people in the U.S. entertainment industry who had been approached by Committee investigators to tell stories about an alleged "Communist conspiracy" in radio and television.

WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

Reporting the hearings, the Manchester Guardian's correspondent Alistair Cooke said: "The Committee did not produce on Broadway, any more than its greatly publicised hearings in Hollywood seven years ago, one vivid instance of a Communist or ex-Communist who had deliberately sneaked effective Communist propaganda or insidious matter into his work as actor, writer, director, producer or what he was."

"But it is the triumph of McCarthyism, in the decline of McCarthy, that decent men have come to accept standards of discrimination against actors, writers and directors and singers that would have shamed them into anger eight or ten years ago. Now they have a sign that McCarthy is no longer in the headlines. But when it is suggested that his working definition of Americanism is the practising qualification for employment in television or radio they look uncomfortable and turn to other matters."

Confirmation of this unwillingness of the American people to face the issue of civil liberties was provided by the deported author and journalist Cedric Belfrage in an interview after his arrival in England. "I think people here perhaps do not realise the weight of pressure on all people of radical views," he said. "I know that in Britain there is still a feeling of horror at the idea that any person should be imprisoned for his beliefs or that any man or woman should be refused freedom of expression."

VICTIMISED FOR OPINIONS

"But in America there is no longer any such feeling. People all over the country are being imprisoned for their opinions, victimised for their opinions. The American people have been frightened. People do not talk politics any more. They are afraid of getting into trouble. And if someone does start talking about politics, someone else changes the subject."

Nevertheless, the opposition of the American people to the growing influence of the Communist Party is growing. A hard core of people, some Communists, some not, have stood their ground and refused to be intimidated. As time goes on their number is growing. This new militancy is already a source of worry to the monopolists and their agents in the Government.

"THREE-WAY DRIVE"
Shortly after the Geneva conference, the American Department of Justice announced it was going to open a "three-way drive" against the Reds. The Department confessed that the drive had been "held up or watered down in the four months preceeding the Geneva talks" at the request of the State Department and the White House, but would now get under way.

This shocking announcement, so soon after Geneva, should serve to bring home to the American people the truth that the witch-hunt against Reds is a product of the cold war. International tension has been relaxed, but the American drive against the "Reds" is to be stepped up. Why?

"Reds" is to be stepped up, not because of the cold war, but because the drive is part and parcel of the drive of the American monopolists to retain their power and privilege in the face of the growing people's protest in the United States.

The very intensity of the witch-hunt reveals the panic fear of the monopolists that their day is done, that a new era of full and free democracy is coming despite all they can do to stop it.



"Bear up, old chap—believe me, we're doing our best to keep you alive."

"UNDER WHAT LAW ARE YOU ACTING?"

Coloureds demand answers from Census Director

JOHANNESBURG.—THE DIRECTOR OF CENSUS HAS BEEN CHALLENGED TO PRODUCE LEGAL JUSTIFICATION OF THE METHODS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN USING IN CLASSIFYING COLOURED PEOPLE.

The representative of about 160 Coloured men recently written to the Director, putting to him ten questions so that the 160 can have the necessary information to proceed with their objections to the classification.

- These are some of the questions asked:
 - Is a Population Register in existence and if so what entries have been made in respect of the 160 to regard to their race?
 - Can the Registrar be inspected?
 - Under what statutory provisions have Coloured persons been arrested and taken to the Pass Office?
 - In terms of which statutory provision did officials tell Coloureds that they are only days in which to appeal against their classification?
 - Under what statutory provision or authority was interrogation
- and physical examination of Coloured persons carried out?
- Were arrests carried out by officials of the Department of Census or, if not, under whose authority were they acting?

DEMAND RETURN OF CERTIFICATES

Five Coloured men have also written to the Director of Census demanding the return of their Coloured Certificates, issued to them under Act 41 of 1925. The certificates were taken from them in most cases at the pass office. In addition, the fingerprints of all five were taken by the officials dealing with them, and the letter from their

re-classified as Africans has also of the fingerprints. The letter says that unless there is an undertaking within three days to return the documents and prints, or some explanation is received, the five will apply to court for relief.

THE CONFERENCE OF COLOURED ORGANISATIONS TO DECIDE ON POSITIVE PROTEST ACTION AGAINST THE POPULATION REGISTRATION ACT AND THE METHODS IN WHICH IT IS BEING APPLIED, WAS POSTPONED FROM LAST WEEK-END TO THIS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

ACQUITTED ON ILLEGAL STRIKE CHARGE

After 10 Years £2:12:0 a Week

JOHANNESBURG. ALL the workers formerly employed at Peanut Products, Fordsburg, who were charged with striking illegally under the Native Resettlement Act, were acquitted in the Magistrate's Court last week.

Their one-time employer admitted in court that the majority of these workers were earning only 2s. 6d. a week; that a worker who had worked for him for ten years earned £2 12s. a week, and that for the three hours that the workers did not work, during the dispute, they had the sum of 1s. 6d. deducted from their pay envelopes.

The 27 workers charged were Africans, Indian and Coloured and the prosecution joined all in the charge under the Native Settlement of Disputes Act, arguing that section 18 did not apply to Africans alone. The court upheld the defence argument that the Act could only apply to Africans.

TOOK BOSS'S WORD

The six African workers were acquitted because the employer A Department of Labour Inspector gave evidence for the crown

KLERKSDORP GHETTO SCHEME "AN INSULT TO BOARD'S INTEGRITY"

"Move Indians Out into the Veld" says Council

JOHANNESBURG.—More and more as the Group Areas Board sits in small plateland towns in this province, it is clear that the primary purpose of the municipalities is to drive the Indian communities out of the towns, and as far away from them as possible. These days little effort is being made to disguise this main purpose and the removal blueprints that are produced make no effort to provide sites that will be reasonable alternatives to the areas today occupied by Indians.

When the Group Areas Board sat in Klerksdorp last week, the Town Clerk admitted that the only reason why the Council proposed removing Indians five miles out of the town was that the Council conceived that this was the spirit of the Group Areas Act!

Appearing for the Klerksdorp Indian community, Adv. L. A. Maiseis said that there appeared to be a copy of the Group Areas Act circulating in country towns which he had not been able to secure and which did not appear to be published in the statute book. From what he had seen of the group areas investigations in country towns this copy of the Act appeared to have only two sections. Section one obliged the municipalities to remove all Indians from the town, and section two said they should be moved as far away as was possible.

The Klerksdorp hearing of the Board from Adv. Hiemstra, who appeared for the Klerksdorp municipality. Adv. Hiemstra conceded

at the outset that there was enough room in the town for everyone to carry on their trade and business without affecting anyone else. But he said: "I don't want Bombay next to the City Hall just as Nehru doesn't want Goa on his doorstep."

What had been called "economic rationalisation" by the council for the Indian community, said Adv. Hiemstra, would take place over a number of years and that would give the Indians an opportunity to adjust themselves to a new way of life. "Much has been said about Indian traders starving, but nobody has ever starved in South Africa. It is a condition peculiar to India. Why should the Indian not sell his hands by being a labourer?"

"TO GET RID OF INDIANS"
In his address to the Board Adv. Maiseis said that the scheme proposed by the Council was an insult not only to the intelligence of the Board, but an insult also to its integrity. He said that the Board which was charged with the fair administration of the Act was being asked to recommend a scheme for the wiping out of the Indian community, because the Board was clear from the admissions made by the Town Clerk, "and he has been very frank" that the basic purpose behind the scheme was to get rid of the Indians.

Dr. G. Lowen said that one had a faint suspicion that the proposals were dictated at least in part by the desire not only to get the trading stands of the Indians, but also to get custom away from the Indians. "The

In this address to the Board Adv. Maiseis said that the scheme proposed by the Council was an insult not only to the intelligence of the Board, but an insult also to its integrity. He said that the Board which was charged with the fair administration of the Act was being asked to recommend a scheme for the wiping out of the Indian community, because the Board was clear from the admissions made by the Town Clerk, "and he has been very frank" that the basic purpose behind the scheme was to get rid of the Indians.

Dr. G. Lowen said that one had a faint suspicion that the proposals were dictated at least in part by the desire not only to get the trading stands of the Indians, but also to get custom away from the Indians. "The

Dr. G. Lowen said that one had a faint suspicion that the proposals were dictated at least in part by the desire not only to get the trading stands of the Indians, but also to get custom away from the Indians. "The

Dr. G. Lowen said that one had a faint suspicion that the proposals were dictated at least in part by the desire not only to get the trading stands of the Indians, but also to get custom away from the Indians. "The

Half-a-Crown or Fifty Pounds — MAKE THE SACRIFICE

"I enclose 10s. donation to keep 'New Age' going forward not backward." That letter came from an African reader who lives and works in a small Transvaal district. His sentiments were echoed by two other workers who called in at our office, one with 2s. 6d. and the other with 4s. 6d. A European reader sent us £50.

These readers have proved that they understand that freedom cannot be won without sacrifice, that it is not enough side by side to stand on the side line and cheer.

Remember our address: Cape Town: Room 20, Chames Buildings, Barrack Street, Johannesburg: No. 4 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street, Durban: 6 Pembroke Chambers, 472 West Street, Port Elizabeth: 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street.

These readers have proved that they understand that freedom cannot be won without sacrifice, that it is not enough side by side to stand on the side line and cheer.

These readers have proved that they understand that freedom cannot be won without sacrifice, that it is not enough side by side to stand on the side line and cheer.

These readers have proved that they understand that freedom cannot be won without sacrifice, that it is not enough side by side to stand on the side line and cheer.

"DON'T FILL IN THIS FORM!"—Indian Congress Advises

JOHANNESBURG. SIDE by side with the offensive against the Coloured people under the Population Registration Act, the Department of Census and Statistics has started to issue discriminatory forms to the Indian people. The forms purport to be in terms of the Population Registration Act. The Transvaal Indian Congress says, however, that the information sought in the forms is not only irrelevant, but irregular, and the forms can clearly be used for motives other than to compile the Population Register. The forms are issued with eight-page questionnaires, which probe into every possible aspect of their residence and citizenship in the country.

The Transvaal Indian Congress last week decided to advise Indians not to fill in the forms.

Filing in the forms, they said in a leaflet widely circulated in Johannesburg and country towns of the Transvaal, "Will trap you into giving unnecessary and irrelevant information which can be used against you."

"DON'T FILL IT IN"
The Department of Census and Statistics, say the T.I.C., has used the Population Registration Act to degrade and humiliate the Coloured people, and to force many to carry passes. "Do not fill in the forms."

Indians furnished with these eight-page forms have been advised to write the following letter to the Director of Census and Statistics:

"I have been advised that there is no necessity for me to fill in this form. I am I have made to do so if I do not want to, as is the case. If you challenge my view, namely, that the filling in of this form is an entirely voluntary matter, kindly let me know immediately in order to protect my rights."

Government teams photographing the population register have of late visited Nigel, Ermelo, Klerksdorp and Rustenburg.

Special Branch Capers

JOHANNESBURG. Detectives of the Special Branch (Political Police) immersed in an investigation into the Congress of the People, had to tear themselves away from the perusal of the thousands of copies of papers, magazines, books, agents and Freedom Charters which they seized at Klipfontein in June, to undertake an important investigation.

For during the last two weeks they have been busy investigating the Case of the Slashed tyre.

Shortly after a dance held in a Vrededorp Hall, detectives visited a number of Coloured and Indian witnesses who had been at the dance. The tyre on a car standing outside the hall had been slashed, they said, and they were anxious for any information about who might have been the culprit.

The people they questioned told the detectives they knew nothing of any slashed tyre. Then the detectives came across what they hoped was a "hot" tip as casual queries: "Who was taken to the dance?" "Who was So-and-so there?" "Did anyone make a speech?" "Who danced with so-and-so?"

One Coloured woman who had her house searched said, in reply to a question that it was not her own affair who she danced with . . .

"RESIST WAGE CUTS!"

Textile Workers' Resolution

JOHANNESBURG.

A HUGE rally of about 1,000 textile workers from factories and attempts of the employers to cut present wage rates, to win an increase in wages and better working conditions, to win their demand for a 44-hour week, and to resist the retrenchment of workers and fight against victimisation.

In the factories, workers are already putting into operation their campaign for these demands, and trade union agents are catching on and being started up at work, deputations to employers and a blitz of lunch-hour meetings being organised.

The textile rally also launched a Fighting Fund for the union, and the workers are selling shilling stamps for this £1,000 fund.

BOSS'S THREAT

On the Witwatersrand, textile workers, specially blanket workers, face a threat by employers to cut their wages by about 20 per cent.

The attack on workers' standards is now in full swing, and the agreement in the industry has been seriously undermined by the decision of the Minister of Labour to exempt the Standerton Mills from it. At these mills workers are being paid considerably less than the agreement provides, but textile workers everywhere have taken this as an attack upon their own standards.

The Standerton Mills claimed exemption on the grounds that they manufacture a different type of canvas, not covered by the agreement, and that they cannot pay agreement wages and, being in the countryside, are entitled to pay a lower rate.

The Standerton firm originally applied to the industrial council for exemption, but their application was refused. Then they appealed to the Minister who made known his decision the last week.

This is more or less an open invitation to factories in the country to claim special conditions and therefore exemption from the agreement.

Standerton workers gave the best answer to their employers' claim. "The bosses say we are satisfied

with lower wages but we have been telling them every day that we would increase. We will continue to fight for increases."

Women Demonstrate

GERMISTON.

A demonstration of African women in black marched from the Germiston Location to the office of the Manager of the Non-European Affairs Department last week to protest against the removal of the location to Natalapur.

The Department Manager was invited to a meeting of his with women at the Fulton Hall on August 31. About 300 women waited outside the hall for two hours, but the Manager did not put in an appearance. Then a messenger came from the superintendent's office to instruct the caretaker of the hall not to permit the women to use it.

Later, a municipal policeman delivered to the women a letter from the Manager. He was unable to attend the meeting, he wrote. The delegation which marched in procession to see the manager was organised by the Women's League of Justice, No. 2.

FOUR NELSPRUIT AFRICANS employed on the Hall fruit farm and estate, where about 3,000 labourers recently went on strike, were fined by the Nelspruit Magistrate's Court last week when they were charged under the Masters' and Servants' Act with a breach of their contracts. The prosecution was unable to prove that any contract had been entered into with the employer.

Recent almost 200 workers signed admissions of guilt for similar breaches under the Masters' and Servants' Act.

TWO CASE HISTORIES

JOHANNESBURG.

New Age has received details from very many Coloureds reclassified as Africans. Here are two case histories taken from the affidavits made by the young Coloured men concerned.

S. was stopped in Ferreirastron one day recently and asked for his pass. He produced his Coloured Certificate. He was told that that was not "right" and he should go to the Pass Office. When he arrived there he was given a slip of paper as a temporary pass, and told to return the following day. On his second visit he was asked various questions. He was asked to produce his Coloured Certificate. He was told for the second time that it was "no good" and officials kept it. He was asked what "nation" his parents and grandparents were. He was asked to produce the birth certificates of his grandparents which he said were quite unobtainable. "They never asked for my birth certificate."

"They made me turn around and looked at the back of my head. A pencil was run through my hair. They asked me if I belonged to a football club. I said yes. The A-club. They said that I must have an African, because only Africans play soccer!"

S's elder brother has been classified as a Coloured. He himself worked formerly as an electric scale operator, and was registered

as a Coloured worker with the industrial council in his industry. Africans are not permitted to do such work, so he will not be able to get the same sort of work again. He is at present unemployed and drawing unemployment benefits, which he would not be entitled to as an African.

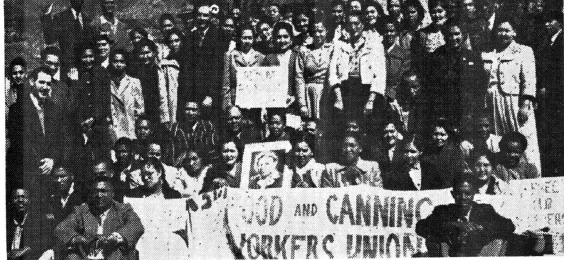
S. is 20 years old. A second young man who was classified as an African has been in the Police Force for three years as a Coloured.

He was stopped while walking in the street by one of the Colovans touring the streets on the look-out for Coloureds. "What are you?" he was asked. "I am what I am," he replied. "A Coloured." He was asked for proof. Later he went voluntarily to the pass office to be classified. He was told he was to be classified as an African. I produced my Coloured Certificate which they took. I don't know what they did with it, but it was now given back."

"They had worked formerly as a radio operator."

He is married to a light-complexioned Coloured woman. He is a member of a Coloured church, he works in the African Training Centre, a Coloured school.

After his classification he went to look for employment, again with a radio firm. He had to produce a card given him and was told he could not have the job as he was for a Coloured only.



Delegates to the recent conference in Cape Town of the Food and Canning Workers' Union photographed holding the picture of their banned leader, Miss Ray Alexander. Delegates are also holding posters with the names of other banned leaders.

FOOD AND CANNING WORKERS HOLD ENTHUSIASTIC CONFERENCE

"Intimidation Cannot Rock Our Union"

CAPE TOWN.

THE Freedom Charter was endorsed amidst great enthusiasm by all delegates to the 14th annual conference of the Food and Canning Workers' Union shortly after the conference had been officially opened by Mr. George Peake, chairman of the S.A. Coloured People's Organisation.

Held in Cape Town recently, the conference was attended by 66 delegates representing 14 branches from the Western Cape, Port Elizabeth, East London and the Transvaal.

On the second morning of the conference three members of the Special branch of the C.I.D. walked in saying that they were looking for banned leaders of the union. Delegates immediately started singing Nkosi Sikelele, and continued singing till the detectives left. Subsequently, conference issued a vigorous protest against the police raid.

RAY RE-ELECTED

The fighting spirit of the union was also demonstrated in conference's unanimous re-election of Miss Ray Alexander as general secretary and Mr. Frank Marquard as president. Miss Alexander and Mr. Marquard are two of the union leaders who have been banned under the Suppression of Communism Act.

"The place of our banned leaders is here, and we must get them back," Mr. C. Kibwani, acting president, said. "Intimidation cannot rock our union."

Altogether, eight leaders of the union have been banned or proscribed by the Government, and in a special resolution conference expressed full confidence in the banned leaders and undertook to work for their re-employment. Miss Becky Lan and Mr. Oscar Mpetsha, who have been prohibited from attending gatherings, were unanimously re-elected acting general secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union and general secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union respectively.

WITHDRAW BANS!

Conference demanded the withdrawal of the banners, notices and also called upon the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, the S.A. Trade Union Council and unaffiliated unions to demand the withdrawal of banning orders against trade unionists. "These banning orders are a means to weaken trade unions, intimidate the membership and drain union funds," stated the resolution adopted.

A number of delegates emphasised the need to organise the unorganised workers and a resolution pledging to do this was adopted, as was a resolution promising all possible help in organising farm labourers and a resolution working for starvation wages and under shocking conditions."

In yet another resolution, conference protested "against the growth

of the police State, and the arbitrary and undemocratic powers given to officials over the lives of South Africans who have been deprived of security and are subject to arrest without warrant, expelled from their jobs, their homes are raided and searched.

ABOLISH OPPRESSIVE LAWS

"We appeal to all freedom-loving people to work for the abolition of these oppressive laws, such as the Group Areas Act, the Urban Areas Act, Population Registration Act, Suppression of Communism Act, etc."

New P.E. Unions

PORT ELIZABETH.

In a special statement to New Age, the secretary of the Port Elizabeth local committee of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, reports that two new unions have been established recently—the African Iron, Steel and Metal Workers Union and the African Battery Workers' Union. The Tin Workers' Union has been put on its feet again and the S.A.C.T.U. secretary reports, strongly condemn the attitude of the employers who are opposed to any wage increase. "They are proud of the fact taken by the Randfontein workers (who won wage increases by their united action) and are preparing to take a similar stand when they have to negotiate in this area."

Condemning the classification of Coloureds on the Rand, S.A.C.T.U. declares that these shocking measures will only serve to bring the oppressed people into closer unity and will ultimately lead to the defeat of the fascist rule.

PASS OFFICE officials in Johannesburg who have to issue Coloured men with Pass Reference Books after their classification as Africans are finding themselves in a quandary.

On the first page of the pass book, where the name of the holder is entered, there is a space for his "tribe" and "group." In the case of Coloureds the officials are writing merely "Native!"

as a Coloured worker with the industrial council in his industry. Africans are not permitted to do such work, so he will not be able to get the same sort of work again. He is at present unemployed and drawing unemployment benefits, which he would not be entitled to as an African.

S. is 20 years old.

A second young man who was classified as an African has been in the Police Force for three years as a Coloured.

He was stopped while walking in the street by one of the Colovans touring the streets on the look-out for Coloureds. "What are you?" he was asked. "I am what I am," he replied. "A Coloured." He was asked for proof. Later he went voluntarily to the pass office to be classified. He was told he was to be classified as an African. I produced my Coloured Certificate which they took. I don't know what they did with it, but it was now given back."

"They had worked formerly as a radio operator."

He is married to a light-complexioned Coloured woman. He is a member of a Coloured church, he works in the African Training Centre, a Coloured school.

After his classification he went to look for employment, again with a radio firm. He had to produce a card given him and was told he could not have the job as he was for a Coloured only.

That afternoon he went back to the pass office with his mother, to have his classification altered. An official said he was "hardtagged" to try to appeal. The official called to an African constable to arrest him. "I asked why, and was pushed away. I then left."

Ambulance Men Refuse To Help

Last week Regina Ndebe lay in her shack at Cato Manor giving birth to her baby while two European ambulance men refused to attend to her.

The ambulance was called to take Regina to hospital but when it arrived the two men got out and stood watching a meeting of African women instead of going to Regina who was suffering acute labour pains.

Regina's friends appealed to the driver to put her in the ambulance but they were told to do it themselves.

When they asked for the stretcher on which to place Regina, the driver refused to give it to them. As a result of this incident the meeting of 200 African women which was being held at the time, presided over by Miss B. Mkiye, president of the African Women's Association, passed a resolution condemning the behaviour of the ambulance men and demanding that in future Corporation ambulances operating in Non-European areas be staffed by Non-Europeans.

Results of New Age Short Story Competition

Publication Will Begin Next Week

HERE ARE THE RESULTS OF THE NEW AGE SHORT STORY COMPETITION

First Prize-Winning Story:

THE NEW PIPE by D. A. Leonard, Johannesburg

Special Commendation for Creative Ability:

DAGGA SMOKER'S DREAM by Richard Moore, Grassy Park, Cape

Special Commendation for Promising Talent:

FUTURE FULL OF DARKNESS by Sharon Davis, Fordsburg, Johannesburg

Recommended for Publication:

WASHERWOMAN ANNIE by Alfred Hutchinson, Johannesburg

THE DEMONS BEWARE by A. Qaise, Hanover Street, Cape Town

BLACK AND BROWN SONG by S. Steemele, Veeplaats, Port Elizabeth

THE judges—Jack Copie, Uys Krige and Dr. R. van der Ross, have issued the following report:

"The 'New Age' short story competition has been an eye-opener on the fine and exciting possibilities possessed by people of all races on the eve of new departures in self-expression. We should say at once that most of the entries must really be regarded as the raw material of literature; they lack the craftsmanship, the polish and the complete command of language that go into the art of writing.

But what is impressive is the heart-searching, the high aims, the human warmth, humour, criticism and love that go into this work. If these thirty-odd stories are any indication of the spiritual reserves, the strength and hope of South Africa's peoples, then the future is full of promise.

We hope the competition, the publication of some of the stories with critical notes and the discussion and thought they will arouse may be a practical school of writing. Those who have already started and others who wish to start on the serious and difficult career of authorship may benefit. At the same time, readers in general will be able to judge the work, sympathise with the writers and form their own opinion on whether the adjudicators have been just in their selection.

New Language

What is a short story? That elementary question was in many cases not understood by the entrants. Again, some of those who had wonderful experiences and ideas for stories fell short because they were not at home with the

TUNISIANS STARVING

PARIS.

Wheat and other foodstuffs must be sent to Tunisia immediately to prevent the inhabitants dying of starvation, Mr. Habib Bourguiba, the Tunisian Nationalist leader, said in an appeal published in the French Press recently. He also asked for the release of all Tunisians imprisoned by the French, and called for the election of a Constituent Assembly by universal suffrage to draw up a democratic constitution.

Racing at Kenilworth

Damon's selections for Saturday: Kenilworth Plate, 5 furlongs: 1. DESERT MAN. Danger, Miss Conquest. Kenilworth Handicap, 5 furlongs: 1. FUNAMBULIST or Neapolitan. Danger, Ignorant. Kenilworth Handicap, 1. OVER-DRESSED. Danger, Mr. F.N. Maiden Stakes, 1. PHILHARMONIC. Danger, R.A. Apprentices' Maiden Plate, 1. FISSON. Danger, Numpalms. Wenberg Plate, 1. OUTSIDER. Danger, Carnarvon. Kenilworth Thousand Handicap, 1. GREENGRASS. Danger, D'vulge. Wenberg Mixed Handicap, 1. TEMPEST. Danger, Silver Thimble. DAMON TIPPED 3 WINNERS LAST WEEK.

methods of telling stories, that is, technique. Quite a high proportion of entries came from writers whose home language is not English. It is remarkable to what an extent they are finding self-expression in the new language and to how they are in command of it we see great potentialities with idioms, rhythms, cadences, images of their home languages assimilated into English.

With the greatest emphasis we urge all those who are interested in writing to study ceaselessly the masters of the short story. Perhaps special efforts should be made to have these works available, but in any case the writers should not spare the time and expense to get their hands on the work of the great story writers.

A feature of the entries was the remarkable interflow of sympathy and understanding between the various racial groups in South Africa. Indians wrote about Africans, Africans about Coloured and Europeans, Europeans about the other groups. This is praiseworthy, but it is evident that the most authentic and convincing touch usually comes from a writer handling his or her own scene and environment and people. The writer knows the subject from the inside. And what subject-matter there is in South Africa! The writers of the different groups have lying ready for them almost untrodden mines of richness that will make the Kimberley pipe look like a jackal's hole.

Sophiatown Families Succeed in Court

JOHANNESBURG.

Applications by the Natives' Resettlement Board for a court order directing the immediate removal of two Africans from Sophiatown to Meadowlands were objected to last week by Mr. H. Wolpe for the two Africans, and the magistrate upheld the objections.

These two applications to court were the first attempt of the Resettlement Board to move to Meadowlands Sophiatown families who have refused to go voluntarily.

In making our assessment we were up against the difficulty that none of the stories seemed to achieve the full possibilities of the subject and ideas behind them. Some of the best-written stories also had the greatest fault: some faltering efforts nevertheless contained the flash of something exceptionally fine.

Our Difficulty

Re-writing is one of the essential parts of the writer's craft. As adjudicators, we considered that

S.A. TRADE UNION CONGRESS local committee has been formed in Durban and the campaign for the organisation of workers who have no trade unions has already begun.

According to Mr. B. Nair, secretary of the local committee, a General Workers' Union has been formed which any unorganised worker may join and as soon as a number of workers from one industry have become members, an independent trade union for the particular industry will be established.

Already a large number of garage employees have joined the General Workers' Union as well as workers from various factories here.

No Bridge—Until Group Areas Decision!

DURBAN. Several hundred Indian and African residents in the Palmiet Road area of Clare Estate must suffer considerable inconvenience and hardship because the City Council refuses to construct a bridge across the Palmiet River until they are sure whether or not the residents must be expropriated under the Group Areas Act.

It might be another 10 or 20 years before a decision is finally reached on the matter, as opposition to the authorities requesting that the bridge be erected, but the reply has been to wait until the Group Areas plans have been decided upon.

Constantly the authorities are using the excuse of Group Areas plans for not providing essential amenities and services in Non-European areas, especially when Indian communities are concerned.

none of the stories should be printed before giving the writers the opportunity of extensive revision and re-writing on the basis of fair-minded criticism. The editors have suggested an alternative that the stories be printed as they were received side by side

AFRICANS REJECT "ETHNIC" GROUPING

JOHANNESBURG.

New Age approached a number of Africans in different walks of life for their views on "ethnic grouping." All were unanimous in condemning it.

Mr. J. J. Lesolang, a prominent business man said: "Ethnic grouping is bad in every respect. It will create divisions among the people, and will encourage children to grow up in the same way. But it is a clumsy effort on the part of the government to create tribal feeling. It can never be applied in the full sense. It is a good few decades too late to even try. The African is past the stage when he thinks of himself in terms of tribes."

The Rev. N. B. Tantsi of Pretoria: "This is a most crude method employed by the government to try to divide the people and suppress them even further. There has been so much inter-marriage between the tribes that the scheme will be just foolish. The African people will never voluntarily accept such division."

Mr. G. Xolile, leader of the Orlando Advisory Board: "I cannot find words to condemn ethnic

with critical notes. This seems fair and will give the writers the benefit of public discussion and analysis of their work."

The selected stories all scored unanimous votes of the adjudicators. At times as many stories again were liked by one or other of us but the opinion on them was not unanimous. The editors may well choose to publish some of these.

PUBLICATION OF THE WINNING STORIES WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK WITH D. A. LEONARD'S "THE NEW PIPE"

WOMEN'S SECTION of the African National Congress is to hold its first National conference this year. The conference, the first in the history of the A.N.C., will elect a national executive and discuss ways and means to "assist their menfolk in the struggle for the liberation of the African people," says a statement by Miss N. Ngoma, national secretary of the A.N.C. Women's League.

The conference will take place this December, though the actual dates have still to be fixed.

grouping sufficiently. I have not yet met an African who supports it."

Mr. E. P. Moretsele, president of the Transvaal A.N.C.: "This is a bad scheme. It will try to divide the Africans back to the days of tribalism. Our unity as the African people is the weakness of the government. Our name, Bantu, in our own language means 'people'. We will not accept divisions. Ethnic grouping and the Bantu authorities are being introduced to control us because the people are not agreeing to this government control of their own free will. The A.N.C. will fight ethnic grouping."

Peace Petition

CAPE TOWN.

Citizens of Cape Town will be asked to sign a peace petition calling for the banning of atomic warfare at tables in the city on Wednesday, September 14.

There will also be tables with petitions in Claremont and Sea Point. The Cape Town Peace Council is organising the signature collection.

PARENTS REJECT SLAVE EDUCATION

CAPE TOWN.

VERWOERD once more faced defeat when his Native Affairs Department last week failed to persuade the great majority of African parents of the Cape Peninsula to elect Bantu school committees.

At all election meetings parents spoke angrily from the floor against the slave education Verwoerd wishes to impose on their children, declaring they would take no part in it.

In Nyanga last Friday night a hall full of people rejected the very idea of having the elections, only two people voting in favour.

On the previous eve

Athlone, parents also rejected elections, voting being by secret ballot.

In Langa, only parents of children at the Dutch Reformed mission school agreed to form a school committee. Parents at three other schools voted against elections with a big majority, while at one school referred for about

Published by Real Print Street, Cape Town, and Pi Street, Woodstock. Unless issued by L. Forman, 6 Barrack

y) Ltd., Forgate matter in this