

HERE THEY ARE—SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST NON-EUROPEAN SPRINGBOKS



Shown here is the first South African Table Tennis Team now competing at the Stockholm world championships. Mr. Cassim Bassa, manager of the side and president of the South African Table Tennis Board on the left chats with his team at the airport on the morning of their departure. (From the left): Ashwin Valjee, "Pappa" Mullah, P. R. Maistry, D. Groenewald. Seated is the captain, Cassim Meer.

SPORTING HISTORY IS MADE

From Robert Resha

ON Wednesday, February 28, South African sporting history was made. On that date the first South African non-white sporting team left the country to take part in an international event. The team is representing the South African Table Tennis Board at the world championships in Stockholm, Sweden, which began on March 6 and are scheduled to end on March 16.

It hasn't been easy to get this team to take part in the international competition. Firstly, because they are members of the internationally-recognised South African Table Tennis Board, which practices no colour or racial discrimination, as distinct from the "Whites only" South African Table Tennis Union, they haven't got the blessings of the Government. Secondly, it would have been almost impossible for them to get passports as a team.

Thus it was that the team applied for their passports as individuals and not as a team, and the departure of the team was kept a secret. But there was a real shock for the table tennis team at the airport. An official there told them that although they had booked their passages as individuals, it was known that they were, in fact, a team going to Stockholm.

The team is competing in the team events of the championships in a section in which the world champions, Japan, are included. Altogether 33 countries are taking part and have been divided into four sections. There are individual events as well.

From Stockholm, the team will travel to London where they will take part in the All-England championships.

No one who knows table tennis expects our players to reach world championship standard yet, but they are the best players we have. The experience they will gain from taking part in these great events will be passed on to the players in this country.

NEW PLAN TO END BUS BOYCOTT

From Michael Harmel

JOHANNESBURG.

NEW proposals are being formulated by boycott leaders in all areas to bring the bus dispute to an honourable settlement acceptable to the masses of boycotters.

The basis of the proposed settlement is believed to be a modification of the previous Commerce scheme to enable the people to travel at the pre-boycott fare pending a long-term solution of the fundamental problem of low wages.

It is understood no proposals will be submitted to the authorities without prior discussion and approval by public meetings in the various townships.

Last week walkers continued the long march along the busless streets determinedly and cheerfully enough, though with a strong undercurrent of bitterness and indignation at the continued police interference and victimisation.

Influenced by the one-sided presentation of the dispute in the local press, there were noticeably fewer Europeans giving lifts. But the Congress of Democrats distributed a leaflet entitled "The Other Side" to motorists at Clarendon Circle on Friday.

The leaflet appealed to the public to give support to the boycotters by demanding a reasonable settlement, supporting higher wages and helping the weary walkers with lifts. The leaflet was well-received, several motorists congratulating the European COD members for participating in the distribution.

COD is also taking steps to organise motorists in a regular free lift service this week.

Congress leaders are doing their utmost to preserve the united front achieved during the boycott, but there is a danger that Non-European Unity Movement and "Africanist" elements may attempt to create dissension for the purpose of furthering their own political ambitions.

"DON'T USE VIOLENCE"

Says ANC

JOHANNESBURG.

THE African National Congress this week issued an appeal to people in the boycott areas to remain calm and to resist all offers to involve them in violence.

This appeal followed the riot in Western Native Township following a clash between boycott supporters and boycott breakers.

Congress says it was disturbed to learn of the injuries inflicted upon members of the public. Black and White, who were in no way associated with these regrettable events.

"As is well known, the Congress firmly believes in the policy of non-violence and has consistently repudiated all forms of violence and intimidation. It strongly condemns all those responsible for these occurrences and extends its sympathies to those who fell victims to this hoodliganism.

"We further appeal to the authorities not to use this incident for intimidation purposes or as a pretext for perpetrating further violence and assaults upon the people."

GREETINGS TO GHANA

CONGRATULATIONS to the Government and people of Ghana state were sent last week by the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress and the Transvaal Youth Action Committee.

"The African people in the Union of South Africa will be happy to join with the countless numbers of the people of Africa and freedom-lovers everywhere, who on this day will be acclaiming the people of Ghana for their attainment of independence and wishing them every success in the coming years," says the message from the ANC, signed by Chief Lutuli.

"We would remind the Government and people of Ghana that the

cause of freedom they so successfully championed in their country will remain an unfinished task for them also as long as there are areas in the world that are not free."

A message cabled to Accra in the name of Dr. G. M. Naidker, President of the S.A.I.C., says: "The S.A.I.C., representing South Africans of Indian origin, greets Gory erment and people of Ghana on this auspicious occasion. As fellow Africans we are proud of your new status and share with you in the great rejoicings."

The Youth Action Committee, representing the youth sections of the various Congresses, said: "May your new found status inspire and lead peoples of continent to greater efforts for peace and freedom."

NEW AGE

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P.E. TURNED INTO ARMED CAMP

Schoeman's Efforts To Smash Dock Workers' Unity

From Govan Mbeki

PORT ELIZABETH.

THE greatest achievement by the P.E. stevedores and dockers is the unity they showed in action, and the highly disciplined manner in which they conducted their struggle.

For nine full days these workers held out against the combined onslaught of all the forces of capital and the greatest police intimidation that could have been brought to bear on the 600 workers who claimed a little more to enable them to live.

For a long time the stevedores (Continued on page 2)

Why New Age Is Down To Four Pages

THIS week New Age is forced to go down to four pages. We warned about this last week. Now it has happened.

Although you sent us £250 in donations last week, we still must have more, to pay off the backlog, to pay for a shipment of newsprint due to arrive next week, to pay our bills at the end of the month.

WE ARE STILL NOT OUT OF DANGER. If we do not get a substantial increase in our revenue, there is still a chance that New Age may not be able to appear after the end of this month.

Remember—we make no profits out of New Age. Every penny we get is swallowed up by the cost of producing the paper. We cannot get advertising, because big business is afraid.

Readers, the future of New Age is in your hands. Only you can save us. You must decide.

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS:

Cape Town: Blaauvelde Readers 14/14; Women's Federation £1.56; Sundries £34.16.

Port Elizabeth: Doc £1; Friend £2.

Johannesburg: New Sympathiser £100; Rebecca £5; Friend £2; Orange Grove £6; Sundries £45.

Total—£247 14s. 1d.



NEW AGE

THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE FRANCHISE

The footnotes you insist on appending to Miss Junood's letters about the Liberal Party franchise policy are, quite frankly, discouraging to those of us who are working for a United Front against apartheid.

When she denied that the Party's franchise policy was a "major issue" at the recent Congress, Miss Junood was merely denying what you had stated. To look for a hidden meaning in the word "major" is to quibble. Quite clearly if the franchise had been discussed at all, it would have been a "major issue."

May I make it absolutely clear that the franchise policy was not discussed at all at the Party Congress. There is no "mystery" about this, except that which you have created for reasons that are a mystery to me.

The Party is, and for two years has been, unequivocally committed to the universal franchise. If Mrs. Ballinger did indeed say in Parliament what you report, I have absolutely no hesitation in repudiating her statement, which was not an enunciation of the Party's policy, but presumably merely of her own viewpoint.

You would be doing a service to the cause of multi-racial co-operation in the struggle for a democratic, non-racial South Africa if, instead of looking for dissension where it does not exist, you emphasised, for example:

1. The Party's decision to seek co-operation with other progressive organisations, and its unqualified endorsement of the Bloemfontein Conference; and
2. The growing participation of Liberals in joint activities with Congress members such as the Group Areas Vigilance Committee, the women's anti-pass demonstrations in Maritzburg, the Natal Civil Liberties Defence Committee, public meetings immediately after the treason arrests, and work connected with the boycott.

It is the fine work of Leslie Rubin in the Senate recently, where almost alone he has carried the burden of Opposition which Alex Hepple and a handful of others have so magnificently borne in the House of Assembly.

Let me be in the fight together or not?

JOHN DIDCOTT
Durban.

THE LAW AND YOU!

An outstanding New Age pamphlet explaining YOUR RIGHTS under the Law Clear and simple explanation of:

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129 Adderley Street.

Mass Arrests In Grahamstown

Several letters of protest have been sent to all leading newspapers in Grahamstown protesting against the high rents in the new Makana's "Kop housing" scheme. The ANC branch also protested. People must pay £2 10s. and £2 15s. a month rent, whereas almost all African males are earning only £1 10s. a week. The condition of the houses is not good as they are made of cement and have no ceiling.

The police on February 26 used three vans to go from street to street and arrested hundreds of Africans for permits, passes and poll tax receipts. The location pass office was packed to capacity by the poor Africans, young and old, who were rounded up.

We want freedom, not serfdom, in our lifetime.

FRANK MAKANA
Grahamstown.

HUNGARIAN WOMEN'S APPEAL

LONDON.

The National Council of Hungarian Women has appealed to women of the world to assist them in securing the return to Hungary of the thousands of young girls and boys who left the country during the recent disturbances.

"Many Hungarian families and mothers are weeping for their children and would do anything to be able to embrace them once again. A great number of these unthinking and misinformed young people would return to their homes if they knew that there was no reason to flee, and that their family, their friends and the whole country were

waiting for them with affection and understanding."

The appeal concludes: "Help them to learn the truth, to know that they are waiting for them and that they need have no fears... We do not promise them an easy life, for our country has still to overcome many difficulties, but we promise them understanding and affection and we promise to help build up a country which will correspond to the desires of the best among them."

HELP SELL NEW AGE!

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GO! PLANNING ACTION AGAINST THE A.N.C.

MR. "Blackie" Swart is the most extraordinary Minister of Justice I have ever seen.

When complaints were made about the behaviour of the police at the treason hearings, Mr. Swart not only rushed to the defence of his gallant young men, but virtually encouraged them to keep up their hoodligan-like behaviour.

What was a policeman to do, asked Mr. Swart indignantly, if a "kafferned" spat in his face?

And now, Mr. Swart is remarking that, if violent action is taken by Africans against the boycott leaders in Johannesburg, it must not be "taken amiss."

Have you ever heard anything more provocative? Mr. Swart read out to the Assembly a message stating that Africans in one location had taken action against boycott leaders and burnt their houses, a business and a car. Then Mr. Swart made the astonishing statement that he did not approve of this, but it was only to be expected that Africans who did not want to take part in the boycott and had been intimidated, should take up trouble with those people. One could not take it amiss, it was the natural outcome.

end to political and other activities by Africans in the towns and cities. The Bill will enable the Minister of Native Affairs to place a total ban on all multi-racial demonstrations in the towns and cities, on all meetings attended by Africans, and on all contact be-

on the South African situation that, at a time when multi-racial co-operation and contact have been firmly and permanently established. Dr. Verwoerd should be trying to thrust the African into the role of a political infant? This new Nationalist campaign—to break the ANC, reduce African political activity to ashes, and crush the spirit of the African people—cannot possibly succeed. Nevertheless, the Government is in a desperate mood, and everyone must be on their guard against the coming attack.

C.P.E.

LOOKING AT PARLIAMENT

tween White and African except in the capacities of "guardian" and "ward" (and, of course, employer and employee).

Speaking in the Assembly on February 12, during the debate on Mr. Hepple's plea for an inter-racial national convention, Dr. Verwoerd had this to say about contact between Whites and Africans:

"The idea underlying this convention is a multi-racial gathering which is intended to introduce a new era in which the Non-Whites in South Africa will no longer be in the position of a child towards its father, of a ward towards its guardian, but where the Non-White will be in the position of an equal... The hon. member for Benoni said that they were not asking here for the political franchise for the Non-White. They just want to discuss how democracy can be obtained for all people, and human rights!

"We interpret it (democracy) as that the White man should be dominant in his own area, and that he, as the guardian of the Native in his own area, will give him the rights for which he is fitted and which he can develop according to his capacity, in the way in which we have introduced it under the Bantu Authorities system."

So, Mr. African, next time one of Mr. Swart's gallant-young-men-with-a-Sten-gun comes into your township, rush up to him, clasp his hand, and exclaim: "Guardian, which rights have you brought me today for which I am fitted!"

Black Sash Protest

JOHANNESBURG.

Ministers who translate petty individualism into law are not fit to govern, says a leaflet issued by the Black Sash during an impressive series of demonstrations here last week against the Native Law Amendment Bill and the Police Law Amendment Bill.

These two Bills are described as "new links in the chain of slavery."

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PROTECTION RACKET

"We will protect the public," said Mr. Swart, "but they must not come and cry now and say that those Natives were interfering with them."

This comes perilously close to encouraging the gang of African boycott-breakers at work on the Rand, to take the law into their own hands.

Look at the situation developing on the Rand: all its moves to smash the boycott having failed, the National Government has now forced PUTCO to withdraw its buses to eliminate virtually the possibility of setting the boycott by peaceful agreement. Now agents and boycott-breakers are at work in the townships, trying to stir up trouble so that Mr. Swart's gallant-young-men-with-Sten-guns can step in and take action against the boycott leaders and the African National Congress.

Against this background, Mr. Swart's remark that interfering must not come and cry now," is remarkably revealing.

DRIVE AGAINST ANC

Meanwhile, further evidence accumulates that the Government is planning a drive against the ANC. The Minister of Labour, Mr. Schoeman, had this to say last week.

"If the Natives want to walk, they can walk. But a good effect of the Bill will have already appeared in the Western Native Townships—the Natives will reject these African National Congress leaders; they will be brought into discredit; more and more Natives will say that they have been grievously misled."

The truth is that more and more Africans are turning to the ANC as the organisation which truly represents their interests and fights for their rights. Mr. Schoeman's interest in the ANC is not because it is getting weaker, but because it is getting stronger! The ANC today is reaching wider sections of the African people than ever before—and Mr. Schoeman, Mr. Swart and the rest of them know it. That is why they are trying to break the ANC.

VERWOERD'S BILL

Proof that the Nationalists are afraid of the growing strength of the African people, led by the ANC, is furnished by the Native Laws Amendment Bill. The main purpose of this Bill is to put an

BE ON GUARD

But isn't it a vivid commentary

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