

Whatever the ruling classes consider useful for their rule, is proclaimed as being "in the nature of things." Whenever the people overthrow their rulers, this is condemned as being NOT "in the nature of things."

It is "in the nature of things" in South Africa for a Herrenvolk Judge to impose a fine of twenty pounds on a member of his Herrenvolk community for allegedly murdering a Coloured man. It made no difference to the Judge that the Coloured man was pulled off his cart, kicked and sjambokked and later thrown into a fire at the side of the road. Because when a Coloured man is involved, it is "in the nature of things" for the Courts to find extenuating circumstances and conflicting medical evidence which reduce the charge from murder to culpable homicide and from culpable homicide to assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. We are speaking, of course, about what is "in the nature of things", and not of this particular case. Because it is just possible that in this instance there might have been some extenuating circumstances. But, "in the nature of things," no one could imagine that if the accused had been Coloured and the victim white, the Coloured man would have been fined twenty pounds. He would have paid the supreme penalty. A few letters to the Press and the case is soon forgotten. Another martyr joins the countless thousands before him. And lest we forget, his name was CHRISTIAN Muller.

It is "in the nature of things" in South Africa to throw into gaol, on the order of the Department of Justice, two of the most prominent Indian leaders, Drs. Dadoo and Naicker, merely because they told their people, born in South Africa, to exercise their rights as South African citizens. The unfortunate thing about these two leaders is that they forgot they were under S.African democracy and not at U.N.O. For in this citadel of human rights it is "in the nature of things" for a "coolie" to stick to the ghetto reserved for him and if this sort of thing is allowed to go on, God alone knows where it will lead to --- these Indians may even come to pollute the Holy Land, the Orange Free State. And it is so unnatural, because, as the Mayor of Durban told the American Pressmen, it is an old S.African custom to SET ASIDE land for these people, --- land which is most suited to their origin, health and way of life.

And it is "in the nature of things" for a troupe of America's leading journalists (that is, distinguished for their services to Wall Street) to make a tour through their dominions in order to see for themselves how the American Way of Life --- Democracy --- is being sold in the Dominions of their Dominion, "Great" Britain. It was natural, too, for the overseers to bow and scrape in the most fawning manner when their masters came to inspect their plantations. So much so, that even the hardened, marrowless members of the same profession on the staff of the "Cape Argus" became worried lest the masters should blame them for the fog which prevented them from landing, and not give them credit for the fog which they professionally create in the minds of their readers. But they need not have worried, because it was "in the nature of things" that when Herrenvolk met Herrenvolk, the understanding was mutual.

But let us now turn to what, according to the rulers, is NOT "in the nature of things". When Africans, Coloureds and Indians come together in a Conference which has as its prime aim the determination to bring to an end the rule of the Herrenvolk, it is considered most unnatural. For once the oppressed people come to realise that the laws are made by their oppressors in order to keep them in chains, that no law of a slave-owner is binding upon a slave, and that no slaves have ever freed themselves except by smashing the laws made by the slave-owner, then this is no longer "in the nature of things". Indeed, how else could a Unity Movement appear to the Herrenvolk, when it declares war upon the traitors, when it embarks upon a policy of non-collaboration, and when it does not dissolve its strength by turning itself into small change in order to score points and gain publicity for individuals and careerists, but concentrates steadily upon forging the weapons that will bring to an end the rule of S.African "democracy".

When small nations like Guatemala, Chile, Iraq and Egypt challenge the over-lordship of the once great Britain, when even bribes and diplomacy no longer work and paid hirelings are incapable of delivering the

goods and have to flee their country, then surely something has gone wrong with nature. When the former Mistress of the Seven Seas has to send out an S.O.S. call in order to scratch out a cruiser to send it 6,000 miles away in defence of formerly undisputed British Territory; and when the nation which dictated International Law to the world, and was the Law itself, now has to plead for arbitration and to seek protection from the International Court at The Hague (which has as wholesome a reputation as the Courts of S.Africa), then this is nothing else but flying in the very face of nature.

But to find the grossest example of what is not "in the nature of things", we have to turn to Czechoslovakia. For in this country, so long held up as a "model of Western Democracy", the workers and peasants have been so ungrateful as to turn against the very people who so kindly gave them work and who even taught them the advantages of democracy; and instead they formed unnatural things like Soviets and embraced a completely unnatural and foreign way of life ---life without capitalists. Now, of late, we have been treated to a great deal of wailing and moaning by the ruling class. They have been lamenting the fact that Chiang-Kai-Shek is losing the Civil War for them, that Korea has proved most ungrateful for the lessons in democracy provided by her truest friend, the U.S. A., and that things in Greece are not at all promising for them. But the howl of pain and rage that went up over the loss of Czechoslovakia surpasses anything we have heard from them since 1940, with the attack on their "poor, little Finland". And it is instructive to note that the noisiest wails are coming from persons like Smuts, who were the very ones who sacrificed Czechoslovakia to Hitler at Munich.

In his speech to the American journalists, his fellow-pedlars of Imperialism, Smuts dropped all his usual pose as a philosopher and statesman, and gave full vent to the fury and rage which is at present consuming every Capitalist heart. Not only did the infuriated Warrior pledge his wholehearted support to Truman in whatever steps he might take; not only did he guarantee the participation of South Africa, Britain and Germany in the United Front against the power which has swallowed Czechoslovakia, which is threatening to engulf the whole world and which, if not checked now (not tomorrow) will reduce the whole world to slavery, but he bore solemn witness before God and Man that only an immediate Crusade, a shooting war without delay, could save civilization from being exterminated.

It would be foolish to attribute Smuts' reference to slavery to the blurred thinking which comes from old age, and it would be equally foolish to dismiss the call to arms as merely a diplomatic manoeuvre to bring pressure to bear in the struggle against the Soviet Union. Because the General meant every word of what he said. One must realise that Smuts belongs to the world of Capitalism and Imperialism. For him no other world can exist. And the blow that has been inflicted on the Capitalists and big land-owners of Czechoslovakia, he feels too; their tragedy is his. To Smuts, as to every Capitalist, freedom, democracy and civilization mean the freedom to exploit and live upon the labour of the workers, the freedom to enslave black, brown or yellow labour, the freedom to oppress Colonial peoples, the freedom to rule. The loss of these freedoms, naturally, means slavery to them. And in this Smuts is perfectly right. The approaching new World Order which heralds the elimination of the exploitation of man by man, which establishes and guarantees the equality of all men and women, not merely in paper constitutions but in practice, DOES mean to Smuts and to every Capitalist the death of their world, the death of their Civilization ---Herrenvolkism, White Domination--- and therefore they are ready to plunge the whole world into a new bloodbath to preserve what is "in the nature of things." Because the Herrenvolk are always prepared to fight to the last drop of YOUR blood.

But it is inconceivable that at this stage the Non-Europeans will once again come to fight on the side of Smuts for what he calls Civilization and what we know is our slavery.

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REMEMBER : (1) THE ANTI-C.A.D. CONFERENCE, MARCH 27th.
(2) THE UNITY CONFERENCE, MARCH 29th, 30th, 31st.
(3) YOUR DONATION TO THE FIGHTING FUND.