

# BPC



## BLACK PEOPLES' CONVENTION

MINUTES OF THE SECOND  
ANNUAL NATIONAL CONGRESS

HELD

AT

ST. PETER'S CONFERENCE CENTRE  
IN HAMMANSKRAAL, NEAR PRETORIA

FROM THE 15TH, 16TH AND 17TH  
DECEMBER, 1973.

2ND CONGRESS (B.P.C.) AGENDA

2ND CONGRESS (B.P.C.) AGENDA. 15th December.

- 7 - 10 a.m. ✓ Registration and Delemitation into Commissions.  
10 a.m. ✓ Presentation of Oredentials and Announcements.  
10.30 a.m. ✓ (Reading and Adoption) of Standing Rules for conduct of Congress. !

TEA.

- 11.15 a.m. (a) Minutes of the 1st National Congress in Hammanskraal Dec. '72.  
11.30 a.m. (b) Matters arising from minutes.

LUNCH

- 1.00 p.m. Report of 1st N.E.C. --- Discussion.  
2.00 p.m. Amendments to Constitution.  
3.00 p.m.

TEA.

- 4.00 p.m. Branch Report --- Discussion.

SUPPER

- 7.30 p.m. (a) Official Opening of 2nd B.P.C. Congress by guest speaker.  
8.15 p.m. (b) Votes if thanks and Presidential Welcome.  
9.15 p.m. "SHANTI" by the P.E.T./ National Anthem. --- Discussion.

16th December,

9.00 a.m. - 6.30 p.m. COMMISSIONS IN SESSION.

- (a) Planning and Strategy  
(b) Internal and International Relations  
(c) Literacy with special reference to the rural and migratory labourers  
(d) Administration.  
(e) Publications.

SUPPER.

- 7.30 p.m. Labour Movement : Trade Unionism (Background Paper.)  
8.45 p.m. Commission Reports on Publications --- Discussion.  
9.15 p.m. Youth (Back ground paper.)

"DASHIKI" / FILM SHOW

17th December,

9.30 a.m. ADJOURN "SHEZJ--COMMEMORATION"

3.00 p.m. LUNCH

3,30 p.m. COMMISSION REPORTS.

(a) Administration.

(b) Internal and International Relations.

TEA.

5.15 p.m. CCM --- REPORTS: Literacy with special reference to the rural  
and migrant labourers.

7. p.m. SUPPER.

8.p.m. Planning and Strategies.

E L E C T I O N S !!!!!

P O W E R !!!

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MINUTES OF THE SECOND NATIONAL ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE BLACK  
PEOPLE'S CONVENTION HELD AT ST. PETER'S CONFERENCE CENTRE  
FROM THE 15TH TO THE 17TH DECEMBER, 1973.

15TH DECEMBER:

The acting vice-President apologised to the house for the Congress starting late, the reason being that strict security measures had to be taken.

Delegates had to be given numerical status for security reasons. Persons with numerical status number 5 were regarded as observers and those with numerical status numbers 1, 2, and 4 were regarded as delegates and alternate delegates. Observers were not allowed in during closed sessions but, only delegates and alternate delegates.

Rev. N. Mayatula opened Congress by reading from the Scriptures and the National Anthem "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" was sung. Thereafter, Rev. Mayatula - a former interim President of B.P.C. - said a few encouraging words to the Congress. After commenting on Rev. Mayatula's opening remarks, the acting vice-President made a check on the credentials of delegates from the different Branches.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

BRANCHES:

Fanani Tsotetsi (Jo'burg Central); George Edon (Jo'burg Central); Frank Nkonyane (Jo'burg Central); Maphakela Phokojo (Jo'burg Central); Moralle Moshothle (Bloemfontein); Lucas Hlalele (Welkom); Harold Dixon (Cape Town); Steven Carolus (Cape Town); Putswana Moagi (DOR); Tshenuwani Farisani (Mara); Gaahle Diseko (DOR); Puso Tladi (Sharpeville); Teboho Silimfe (Sharpeville); Mrs. P.S. Vika (Mdantsane); Mashwabada Mayatula (Mapumulo); Wandile Mapeyi (Zwelitsha); Thoko Sishuba (Zwelitsha); Vitalis Monkhe (Kathehong); Velile Mvulane (Themba); Chapman Palweni (Pietermaritzburg); Nkwenkwe Nkomo (Javeyton); Anthony Zulu (Krugersdorp); Vano Cooper (Durban Central); Rev. Cooper (Durban Central); Collin Jeffrey (Durban Central); Yagan Madioo (Overpoort);

NATIONAL OFFICES:

Mrs. W.N. KQ'ARE - President; Kenneth Rakhidi - vice-President (acting); Zithulele Cindi - Administrative Assistant; Nomsisi Kraai (Typist).

OBSERVERS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

Otugile Moloto (SASO); Pimzile Majeke (SASO); Ndalk Komati (SWAPO Youth League); Nashilongo Taapop (SWAPO Youth League); Thabo Molewa (P.E.T.)  
The difference between an official observer with numerical status number 4 and an ordinary observer with numerical status number 5 was explained.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The acting vice-President informed the Congress of the President's absence and the National Executive Committee's decision was sought on this issue and the Congress demanded to be furnished with reasons. A discussion followed as to whether what steps should Congress take in the light of this announcement. Some members felt that the acting vice-President should chair Congress and then the President...

would be questioned on arrival. A motion to the effect that Congress should take immediate steps was withdrawn and the acting vice-President continue to chair the Congress, as the house felt the matter be kept in abeyance.

READING AND ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES:

The Standing Rules were read and the house agreed to have them adopted as they stood since they had been adopted by the First National Congress.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS:

Minutes were read and a few points were raised like the reading of the financial statement by the interim Exec. that was postponed by the previous National Congress. Due to the incapacitation of some members of the interim and the First National Executive Committee, the financial statement could not be read. The resolutions as contained in the minutes were carried save for an amendment to RESOLUTION 10/72 which reads thus; "That Section (g) of the Constitution be altered to read "The financial year of the Convention ends on the 30th October" 2

Mover: M. Bamphela

Seconder: C. Palweni

The amendment is thus;

"That the Section (g) be altered to read 'the financial year of the Convention ends on the 31st October'".

At this stage the question of an observer who had been granted numerical status number 5 was queried by the house and the Chairman clarified the house. Congress adjourned for the following day.

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----- -16th DECEMBER 1973

The delegates' credentials were again checked by the Chair and the minutes of the previous Congress were adopted.

Report of the National Executive Committee - by the Public Relations Off.

- Points from the Report; 1.) Meetings were well attended save for the last emergency National Council.
- 2.) The formation of the National Council was brought about by the N.E.C. to;
- a) Ensure regular contact with and amongst Branches.
  - b) be less expensive than the Congress by meeting from time to time.

Other duties as performed by the National Executive Committee are contained in the N.E.C.'s report. After the reading of the National Executive Committee, the Chairman ruled that the Report be open for discussion.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE N.E.C. REPORT.

- 1.) FIPA - a letter containing a Resolution and policy on sport taken in the previous Congress was sent calling for the ostracisation of South Africa from

the International Sporting world. Subsequently a ban was imposed on South Africa. An attempt to lift the ban by the said body met with reprisal in the International forum. Another letter was addressed to International Olympics Committee(I.O.C.C.). The Secretary-General met with the FINA-the swimming body-representatives during their fact-finding mission on South Africa.

## 2.) FOREIGN INVESTMENTS-

Letters were sent to all local foreign investors calling upon them to withdraw from the South African trading society ~~that the~~ continued presence contributed to the maintenance of the Status Quo. Other investors had the nerve to reply justifying their presence-as they felt it was meant 'for improving the whole lot of Africans'. We still unconditionally condemn foreign investments -and this should be taken to be our stand and policy.

## 3.) FUND-RAISING-

The response from the Black doctors was not very good and it was felt that a comprehensive and detailed follow-up letter should be addressed to the doctors making them aware that they prospered from the Black Community and besides the Movement was also meant for their liberation. Other scuroes attempted in the Black Community showed indifference apathy for fear of victimisation. Another project meant for a house to house campaign met with failure as people immediately associated the Movement with the former outlawed political Organisations and the people feared reprisals .

At this stage the President had already arrived and the Congress adjourned for breakfast. The N.E.C. met and cautioned the President about her absence and a reply was to be presented at the official opening sometime in the evening. Congress resumed with the following motion under discussion;

That this Congress noting/realising the pace at which Congress is moving, the Agenda be altered as follows:-

1. Complete-N.E.C.-Report
2. Branch Reports
3. Presidential Report
4. Elections then Commissions

Mover: F. Tactetsi

Secunder: G. Bton

A motion to review this motion after it was carried unanimously and the discussion that ensued urged the movers to withdraw this motion and strict adherence to the Agenda prevailed.

The Report of the National Executive Committee was resumed and the following points were made known to the house.

4.) Relationship between B.A.W.U. and B.W.P. -the National Executive made an attempt to bring the two bodies together by means of a joint meeting. Due to the incapacitation of the people involved in the two Organisations, no follow-up could be made. Relationship between B.A.W.U. and B.P.C. was maintained and it was of a research nature with the exchange of material. An explanation was sought by the house on this issue -it was not forthcoming.

## 5. Black Bank commission

Nothing tangible had been done in this regard. The mandate in the line of investigating the possibility of establishing it had not been complied with. The house then mandated the V-President to look into the whole matter and also to take note of another Black Bank to be established by the system-created institutions.

## 6. SHAPING ASSECA POLICY

N.P.C. Officials attended the ASSECA Conference.

## 7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Due to the incapacitation of the members of the National Committee, no financial report could be presented. It was then decided that the incoming Executive open new books of Financial Accounts. A ruling was also made curbing the Branches from fund-raising from sources abroad. The Financial report or rather the report on finance was presented during the Committee of the whole. The President's absence was discussed. The N.E.C. again caucused.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

It was decided that these (amendments- be deferred and these were to be made after the Reports of the Commissions.

The Congress adjourned for tea. On resumption branch reports were tabled.

BRANCH REPORTS

All the Branch reports whose representatives were present were adopted and those who were absent were just noted. The DON BRANCH was presented and a discussion followed after it was presented because of a point made by the Chairman with reference to the relinquished services of the former Chairman. Both the MAMELODI and AMANZINTOTI BRANCH REPORTS were read by the Chairman since they were not represented. The house mandated the National Executive to investigate the name of the Amanzintoti N.P.C. Branch. Then the JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL BRANCH reported; followed by the Natal Fruit Branch which expressed confusion caused by the Head Office in enrolling members for the Branch and the House moved that this be stopped. The rest of the Branches that were represented followed and the house adjourned for supper. A separate digest of Branch Reports is obtainable from the National Offices. The Congress resumed after supper.

OFFICIAL OPENING-VOTE OF THANKS BY THE PRESIDENT

The President opened the Congress officially as there was no guest speaker available. The President explained about the reasons for her absence and she expressed immeasurable regret at this instance. With tears in her eyes she apologized to the house.

COMMISSIONS IN SESSION

- a.) Planning and Strategy
- b.) Literacy with special reference to the rural areas and migratory labourers.
- c.) Administration
- d.) Publications

The Commissions were set up and they sat overnight. The only commissions to report in the evening were the Administration and Literacy. The Administration Commission was returned for the verification of the Budget. It was suggested the Executive verify prices before sending out the Budget. The Literacy...

rest missing