

UNITED FRONT OR UNITED FRAUD?

On the 15 December 1987 the Daily News headlines screamed : "ANTI-NAT FRONT BUILDS UP". At a glance the idea of uniting against the Nats appears to make sense. Or does it? This episode again raises the question of UNITY. Unity of whom, unity for what purpose, unity on what basis — these are some of the questions we must answer.

What is this "Anti-Nat front"? From the newspapers we are able to glean the following:

1. It is described as "a large scale multi-racial grouping working within the system".
2. It is to consist of a "white" section made up of the PFP, the NRP and the Independent Movement, an "indian" section made up of the Progressive Reform Party and the Solidarity Party and a "coloured" section made up of the Labour Party and the United Democratic Party.
3. Its declared purpose is to win a majority in the House of Delegates, the House of Representatives and, if the Conservative Party (!!) wins 50 seats in the next "whites" only election, to hold the balance of power in the House of Assembly. As a bonus they hope to win over verligte Nats.
4. Spokesmen for this group identify their unifying factor as "opposition to apartheid" and their common strategy that flows from this is to unite in an attempt to "dislodge the Nats".

So we see that, firstly, this grouping is racist in that their "multi-racial" approach deliberately confines the oppressed to their various racial pens as "indians" and "coloureds" — so rejecting the principle of non-racialism and the very basic idea of the equality of all people.

Secondly, we see that this grouping enjoys little credibility. It consists of "white" groupings that have been all but decimated in the last "white" election and collaborationist groupings who have been consistently and increasingly rejected by the oppressed themselves. The only thing "large scale" about this grouping is their vision of a large scale sellout !

Thirdly, their schemes to win control of the various dummy structures in the Tricameral circus represents part of the continuing drive to win credibility for this rejected government-created instrument of oppression and degradation. The fact that the success of their mad-hatter schemes requires Conservative Party success is a measure of the bankruptcy of their plans.

Fourthly, their stated opposition is solely to apartheid and their sole aim is to "dislodge the Nats". The problem with waging a struggle solely against apartheid is that it does not direct itself against the eradication of oppression and exploitation that degrades and humiliates the millions of oppressed in South Africa. This is the basic failure of all strategies that style themselves as being simply anti-apartheid — irrespective of whether or not the goal to "dislodge the Nats" is dressed up as being a "seizure of state power"

Yet it is this united fraud that some newspapers have presented as a "united left-wing front". Others, such as that shady character Dennis Worrall, dress up this grouping with the term "creative opposition". In fact, apart from being not in the least creative, all that this group opposes is the crudity of the overt racism of apartheid. What they do not oppose is the continuing degradation of human life in South Africa that flows from the vast majority of people in South Africa being denied fundamental democratic political rights.

For those of us concerned with the elimination of oppression and exploitation the vital question is that of the unity of the oppressed. This unity must be built on the basis of an independent struggle for the complete democratisation of South Africa. For us in the New Unity Movement the minimum basis for unity is the Ten Point Programme coupled with the policy of non-collaboration. This latter policy breaks any links with ruling class elements that attempt to dilute and misdirect the life and death struggle of the oppressed for liberation. In this struggle the only road for the oppressed is forward. Forward to freedom !

DITHERERS NOT WANTED!

Introduction:

The strife which has broken out in the ranks of the Natal Indian Congress (NIC) has become the talking point in political circles. We have no intention of getting embroiled in the internal matters of the NIC. Matters like the existence or otherwise of a CABAL or alleged unconstitutional conduct are best dealt with and sorted out by members of the Natal Indian Congress themselves.

What does concern us, however, is the very serious allegation by top NIC person, Mr. M.J. Naidoo, that there are persons in the leadership of the NIC who have been putting forward the line that the oppressed people should participate in the Tricameral Circus. That is not just an internal matter of the NIC. It concerns the entire liberatory movement.

In writing as we do, we are mindful of :—

- (a) A public denial by the NIC that any member of its leadership has recently advocated participation, and
- (b) The re-affirmation by the NIC that it would not participate in the Tricameral Circus.

NON COLLABORATION SHOWN TO BE THE CORRECT POLICY

1. The question as to whether the oppressed people should participate or not in government created political institutions, designed specially for the oppressed, was first raised and discussed in 1935 when the Fusion Government of Smuts and Hertzog took away the last remnants of the African vote. In its place was given the dummy Native Representative Council and three White Native Representatives to "represent" the African people.