

SOUTH AFRICA'S NON-RACIAL FORTNIGHTLY

PATON ATTACKS BANS

AT A crowded meeting of nearly 700 people at the Claremont Civic Centre on 28th February, Mr. Alan Paton, National President of the Liberal Party, and other speakers condemned the Government's policy of apartheid, bannings and the "savage, sadistic punishment of house arrest". Mr. Leo Marquard presided over the meeting, while other speakers were Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, Mr. Adrian Leftwich and Mr. Eddie Daniels.

Minutes after the chairman had opened the protest meeting, he announced that Mr. Randolph Vigne, who was to have spoken, had just been served with banning papers. He was entering the hall when members of the Special Branch handed him the paper which will silence and restrict him for five years.

Mr. Paton said that he was almost at a loss for words to describe his feelings and reaction to the attempt of Mr. Jan H. Steyn (Police Counsel at the Paarl Riot Inquiry) to associate liberals with the Bashee River and Pogo killings in the Transkei. It had been said that liberals were present in the Transkei prior to each murder. Mr. Paton pointed out that Mr. Hans Abraham and many others had also been present at these times.

Referring to *Die Burger's* accusation that the Liberal Party could be compared to Quisling, he suggested that it should look back on the record of the Nationalist Party some 20 years ago when many of its members wanted a Nazi victory. He said that we all knew the attitude of the present Minister of Justice. *Die Burger* however has one defence for such Quislings. They at least wanted to sell out to a power "hoog beskaaf". This is *Die Burger's* description of Hitler and his Nazis, who conducted a slaughter the like of which has never been paralleled in the civilized world.

"I am ashamed to say that many non-Nationalists are being seduced by the idea of 'petty apartheid'." These people seem to think that as long as Papwa does not have to receive his award in the rain, and that as long as the Government takes a more lenient view towards international sport, etc., then all will be well. Petty apartheid is an irritating factor but Mr. Paton was far more



Foundation members of the Liberal Party, Mrs. Margaret Ballinger, Mr. Leo Marquard and Mr. Alan Paton (standing), address protest meeting at the Claremont Civic Centre.

COMMENT

"CONTACT", COMMUNISTS AND THE LIBERAL PARTY

IN an attempt to justify the banning of Mr. Peter Hjul, *Die Burger* has followed the same mistake made by the opposition press. It describes *Contact* as the Liberal Party newspaper and then, compounding this error, attacks the Party for articles and cartoons we have published.

Flattering as this association may be, we feel we must remind our friends as well as our critics that *Contact* is not controlled, owned or financed by the Liberal Party. This is an independent newspaper, as we state in every issue.

With that out of the way we now return to *Die Burger* and, in particular, to its leading article (19th February), "Is dit Liberaal", in which it attacks a statement by Mr. Potlako K. Leballo (exiled official of the banned PAC) in which he appeals to African youth to join in the struggle for fair and decent government in this country. Mr. Leballo said that he wished them to help him build a "genuine non-racialistic African social democracy". He also invited any national group to join with him in achieving this aim. *Die Burger* quoted several phrases from his statement, no doubt those it considered to be the most spine-chilling for gullible readers. It did not apparently consider the passage we have quoted to be relevant.

We make no apology for publishing the statement by Mr. Leballo. We do, however, question most strongly *Die Burger's* assumption that an editor and his newspaper agree with every news report and statement that it publishes.

It is interesting to ponder what the position of *Die Burger* would be if it was held to support every article and

agree with every view that it prints. Mr. Kruschew's name, for example, has appeared over many statements that have found their way into the columns of that newspaper.

To suggest that an editor should agree with every word printed in his journal, is as much nonsense as the government allegation that Mr. Hjul

EVASION BY BANNING

66 HJUL, Vigne bans a danger to all South Africans" is the theme running through the many protests of the past two weeks. First, Minister of Justice Vorster severely restricts the Chairman of the Liberal Party in the Cape and Editor of this newspaper, Mr. Peter Hjul. Then in an action that can only be seen as one of foolish petulance, a similar banning order is served on Mr. Randolph Vigne, National Deputy Chairman, an equally effective campaigner for non-racial democracy in South Africa. To repeat that neither of these two leaders is, or ever has been, a communist or even a remote sympathiser of communism, would lead us from the real implications of these bans.

Few people today who are active in the struggle for freedom, believe that the Suppression of Communism Act—

(and many others) is assisting communism.

In its frenzied attempts to justify the ridiculous action of the Minister of Justice, *Die Burger* has avoided giving the Liberal Party's Cape chairman the label of "communist", but prefers to imply that the banning was justified because Liberals tend now to "outbid" the communists. We suggest, therefore, that they advise Mr. Vorster to frame a new law for the benefit of cases he considers to be doubtful. The Suppression of Liberalism Act would be an easy choice of title, but on the other hand, it would be less trouble and far speedier to simply call it the "Suppression of All Opposition Act", include in it suitable and unambiguous clauses, and then the Minister need have no fear of taking any of his victims to court.

or the Amendments to it in the vicious Act passed last year—is aimed at communism only. The convenient label of "communism" is no more than a bogey—a useful cover to conceal a drive against all those who fight too well for freedom in South Africa.

In frantic efforts to explain away the ban on Mr. Hjul the Nationalist press has conceded this fact. The Liberal Party, says *Die Burger*, is trying to outbid the communists by calling for "one man, one vote". With no sign of its previous resistance to domination by the Transvaal, this now compliant voice of white baasskap sees Liberals as South Africa's Quislings of the 1960's. For a more apt parallel to those who were prepared to hand over their country to Nazi Germany, it should look to the actions 20 years ago of some of the members of the Party it supports.

Peter Hjul and Randolph Vigne join Patrick Duncan and Joseph Nkatlo and well over 100 others who have been silenced by Ministerial decree. Repeated challenges to the Minister of Justice to bring Mr. Hjul (and before him, Mr. Duncan) to court and charge them under the Suppression of Communism Act, have brought only the evasion of a feeble play on words. The fact is that the bans themselves are an evasion of already drastic and restrictive laws designed to curb radical opponents of the Government. When even these laws cannot be used to restrict and punish, the easier course of banning is taken. And so Mr. Hjul, Mr. Vigne and others before them (and no doubt many to follow them) are handed a set of papers (one of them duplicated), and lose for the duration of White oppression in South Africa, the right of open protest and free association in their own country.

We do not believe that these restrictions will stop those who suffer them. Men and women in the ageless struggle for freedom, have endured even worse and still won in the end.

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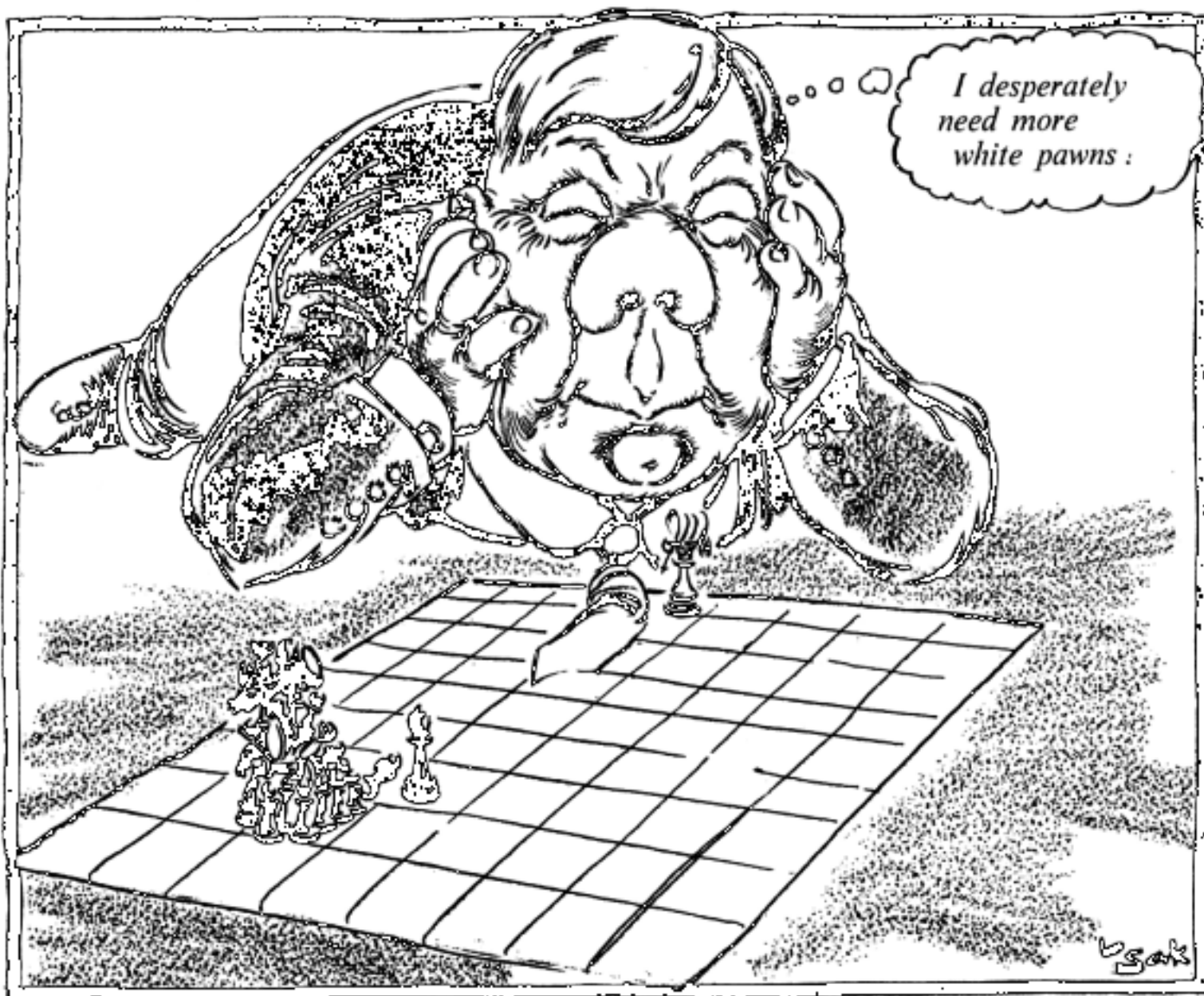
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Contact is independent. It works for non-racial democracy based on adult suffrage. It is against all forms of totalitarianism such as fascism, communism and apartheid.



Nats - U.P. Block Call for Minimum Wage

THE lone Progressive M.P., Mrs. Helen Suzman, made a fruitless attempt in Parliament on Friday, 22nd February, to persuade the Government to institute a system of minimum wages. The United Party, through its spokesman Mr. Mitchell, opposed this appeal.

Mrs. Suzman said that hundreds of thousands of workers were still earning starvation wages. The minimum wage should enable a person to afford some of the ordinary amenities of decent living, and raise them above the "mieliepap standard".

The general raising of wages to at least a basic living standard would also stimulate the country's economy. Low wages were the main reason for the desperate poverty which the majority of workers suffered, and which lead in turn to malnutrition on a serious scale.

Poverty was unnecessary in South Africa because this country has the resources to eliminate it, if they were used properly.

Referring to the incidence of kwashiorkor, tuberculosis and other diseases, Mrs. Suzman said that they resulted largely from malnutrition.

It was the responsibility of a Government to see that its people were properly housed, fed and clothed and that in view of the national resources, the present situation was nothing short of a national scandal.

United Party View

Mr. Douglas Mitchell, for the United Party, said that whereas his Party was not opposed to a living wage for everybody, the introduction of a minimum wage was very complicated. In the rural

area there was sometimes a shortage of labour and often in other areas there was a surplus. The result was that the unemployed were prepared to work for lower wages if they could find a job. He thought that it would be quite impossible to lay down a minimum wage for all workers.

The problem of malnutrition would not be solved by this measure. Malnutrition was a social problem and not an economic one. He spoke of the care and guidance, medicine and payment in kind, given to the African workers by the farmer and concluded that this could not be expressed in terms of money. Today there was very little malnutrition on the farms.

Down to Earth Speech

Senator Trollip, Minister of Labour, congratulated the United Party spokesman on his "down to earth speech", which put the whole question in the right perspective. The Minister said that the motion was a variation of the old theme of the national minimum



HELEN SUZMAN

wage. This was generally accepted as being impracticable.

Government policy, he said, would be to have systematic wage increases at shorter intervals. Mrs. Suzman should direct her comments about malnutrition to the Minister of Health.

WILSON LOSES NO TIME

IT is reported that an Anti-Apartheid Rally is to be held at Trafalgar Square on 17th March. The rally will be organized by the British Anti-Apartheid Movement and the United Nations Association.

The new Labour Party leader, Mr. Harold Wilson, will be one of the main speakers at the meeting. It is not often that a leader of a political party addresses this type of public meeting. We expect that Mr. Wilson's speech will give a lead as to how tough a line his party intends taking with the Verwoerd government.

DATES CHANGED TO KEEP PUBLISHING

THE NEW AFRICAN, a monthly radical magazine, has managed to avoid paying a deposit of R10,000 to the Minister of the Interior by appearing every five weeks instead of monthly as it had done previously.

In December, the publishers, Insight Publications, were called on to pay the deposit when registering because of a technical hitch when the magazine was first registered. Taking advantage of the fact that the Imprint Act applies only to periodicals which appear monthly or more often, *The New African* has now become a five-weekly magazine.

In terms of an amendment to the Imprint Act, the Minister of the Interior can now demand a deposit of up to R20,000 on registration of a newspaper or periodical if he believes that the publication may be banned under the Suppression of Communism Act. Should this in fact happen, the deposit is forfeited.

POLICE TAKE NAMES, POSTERS

POLICE last week broke up a poster demonstration in Adderley Street, Cape Town. It was held to protest against the banning of the Cape Chairman of the Liberal Party, Mr. Peter Hjul. About twenty members of the Party took part.

The Liberal Party asked the advice of the legal advisers to the Cape Town City Council about the intended protest demonstration, and were assured by them that no permission would be necessary for this type of demonstration. The protesters would not break any by-law of the city.

As the demonstrators took up their position around an island in the centre of the street, the Special Branch, as well as uniformed policemen, arrived on the scene.

Crowds of people gathered on either pavement watching the proceedings as the police confiscated the posters and at the same time took down the names and addresses of each participant. Members of the Special Branch mingled with spectators for some time after the demonstration had been stopped.

The posters bore slogans like: "1,000 bannings won't stop Opposition", "We challenge Vorster, take Hjul to court", "It is better to be Silenced than Silent" and "Duncan, Nkatlo and now Hjul".

Police asked one demonstrator whether she had a "permit" to hold the poster, to which she replied that a permit was not necessary.

At least one of the twenty has since been visited by the Special Branch in connection with her part in the demonstration but she was not at home when they called.

At a demonstration in Johannesburg on the 23rd February, also in support of Mr. Hjul, about 30 people of all races held placards in a silent protest. The demonstration took place opposite the University of the Witwatersrand in Jan Smuts Avenue.

During the protest a lorry carrying prisoners stopped for a robot and the occupants, who were on their way from the Magistrate's Court, abused and shouted insults at the demonstrators. Later, the driver of a car slowed down and spat at the group as he went past.

A protest is being arranged to take place in Grahamstown next week.



Demonstration in Adderley Street, Cape Town.

Row at Fascist Rally

By a Reporter

LONDON: At a British fascist meeting held on 26th February in London, fighting broke out after Oswald Mosley, who had addressed over 500 people, had been escorted to his car by the police.

Members of the Yellow Star Organization, who are opposed to all forms of religious or racial persecution, and who had picketed the building of the meeting during the speeches, were later attacked by Mosley thugs. Four men were arrested.

Mosley is the leader of the notorious Union Movement which advocates an all-white Britain. They are well known for their anti-semitism. Mosley was imprisoned during the war years for his

pro-Nazi activities and sentiments.

A member of the Union Movement visited South Africa last year. He was here to raise funds for his organization in order to "keep the Labour Party from winning the forthcoming British General Election". We understand he was not at all successful.

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LIBERALS, JOURNALISTS HIT BY BANNINGS

MR. RANDOLPH VIGNE, National Deputy Chairman of the Liberal Party, was served with a banning order on 28th February when he arrived to address a protest meeting at the Claremont Civic Centre. The meeting was held to protest against the banning of Mr. Hjul. *Contact* understands that the Political Police had been trying to locate Mr. Vigne for nearly two weeks.

As Mr. Vigne walked up to the entrance of the hall, police who had been watching for him, presented him with the ban. Crowds on their way to the meeting immediately gathered around the group and hissed at the police. Mr. Vigne was told that he was to leave the precincts of the hall at once. As he and his wife walked away cheers broke out from the crowd for him and Mr. Hjul.

The banning of Mr. Vigne follows a similar ban on Mr. Hjul on the 16th February. Mr. Hjul was served with his ban when he was about to attend a Liberal Party function in the evening. The bans have a duration of five years and the same conditions are applicable to both.

The orders are signed by Mr. Vorster under the Suppression of Communism Act and prohibit the men concerned from attending any gathering "at which any form of State, or any principle of policy of the government of the State, is propagated, defended, attacked, criticized or discussed". They may not enter any Coloured, Asiatic or African area, African location, compound or any factory.

On the same day as Mr. Vigne was

banned five people in Johannesburg were also served with further banning orders under the same Act.

They are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Slovo, Mrs. Ray Harmel, Mrs. Rica Hodgson and Mr. Wolf Kodesh.

House Arrest

Mrs. Slovo and Mrs. Hodgson are employed by the newspaper *Spark*. Mrs. Slovo (Ruth First) was also editor of the now banned newspaper *Fighting Talk*. Mr. Kodesh is a director of *Spark*.

Mrs. Hodgson is also under 12-hour house arrest. Mr. Slovo is a Johannesburg professional man and is a named communist.

The banning notices, which make variations in existing orders, and take effect from 1st April, forbid the people concerned from entering the premises of, or having anything to do with, any publication as defined in the Suppression of Communism Act (Section 1).

A free-lance writer for *Spark*, Mr. Ronnie Kasrils of Durban, has had two new banning orders added to his three previous bans under the Suppression of Communism Act. The orders are for five years.

Mr. Kasrils is banned from compiling or assisting in any way in the compiling or preparation of any printed

matter as defined under the Suppression of Communism Act.

The first of these new bans against people working as journalists was served on Mr. Brian Bunting of Cape Town. Mr. Bunting was editor of *Spark*. He is already under 12-hour house arrest.

Banned Eight Times

Mr. Barney Desai, a Cape Town City councillor, was served with a further three banning orders on 25th February. Since 1954 he has now had eight separate police bannings served on him. In terms of the latest three notices Mr. Desai, for the next five years, is required to keep away from all gatherings including social gatherings; to report to the Claremont police station every day between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., and not to communicate in any manner whatsoever with any person whose name appears on any list in the custody of the officer referred to in Section 8 of the Suppression of Communism Act.

The ban on the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress is extended for a further 12 months from 8th April this year in terms of a proclamation in terms of the Unlawful Organizations Act of 8th April, 1960. Since 1960 the banning has been extended every year.

The latest attack by the government on a publication, has come in the form of a ban on the monthly magazine *Fighting Talk*. A proclamation in the Government Gazette Extraordinary on the 1st March prohibits the printing, publication or dissemination of the magazine in South Africa and South West Africa. The proclamation is countersigned by the Minister of Justice.



HJUL



VIGNE

Fourth in Cape

THE banning order served on Mr. Randolph Vigne is the fourth to be suffered by the Liberal Party in the Cape.

Randolph Vigne, national deputy chairman, joined the Party in 1955 and was extremely active during the 1960 State of Emergency when he helped organize the "food lift" to Africans on strike. More recently he has spent considerable time in the Transkei advising and helping Paramount Chief Sabata in his courageous opposition to Bantustans.

Mr. Peter Hjul, leader of the Party in the Cape and editor of *Contact*, joined the Liberal Party soon after it was founded in 1953. Elected to his present position of Cape Chairman three years ago, he is also chairman of the Cape Western Branch of the Defence and Aid Fund. He has had to relinquish his position as editor of this newspaper but is not resigning from the chairmanship of the Cape division of the Party. There is also no doubt that Peter Hjul will continue to work for the ideals of the Liberal Party in so far as the restrictions now placed upon him will allow.

Asked for Reasons

Patrick Duncan, a former National Committee member of the Liberal Party and editor of this newspaper was first banned by Minister Erasmus on 22nd March, 1961. The terms of his banning order forbade him to address or attend any gathering in South Africa or South West Africa for the following five years.

He wrote a letter to the Minister of Justice asking for the reasons why this ban had been served on him. The reply,

signed by Mr. Greef, Secretary for Justice, was:

"During the period 1954 to 1960 you attended and addressed meetings made utterances and participated in agitation as a result whereof, in the opinion of the Minister, there is reason to believe that the achievements of the objects or some of the objects of communism would be furthered if you were to attend any gathering in any place."

Passport Taken

On the 18th April, 1962, Mr. Duncan received a further government order which served to confine him to the Peninsula for five years. His passport was confiscated on the 26th April because he had indicated that he intended to defy this ban. Early in May he did this when he left Cape Town for Basutoland, where he is living at present.

He has been a vigorous opponent of communism all his political life. He was active during the defiance campaign in 1952 when he spent some time in gaol for his beliefs. In 1960 he was gaol for 21 days for refusing to disclose his source of information (as an editor) for a report in *Contact* about the revival of the Communist Party in South Africa.

The second member of the Liberal Party to be restricted was Mr. Joseph Nkatlo, Cape deputy chairman, who was served with banning papers on the 3rd April, 1961. His order, signed by Mr. Erasmus, made it an offence for him to attend gatherings for five years. Mr. Nkatlo had also had a previous ban in 1954 when he was ordered not to attend gatherings for two years. He still holds the office of Cape vice-

chairman but has also recently moved, to live in Basutoland.

Apart from banning some of its leading members, the Government is constantly hampering the Liberal Party in its efforts to promote its non-racial policy. Public meetings of the Party have been banned by the police at short notice and literature advertising these meetings has been confiscated by police.

The Grand Parade, Cape Town's traditional meeting place, has now been put out of bounds for meetings. The Liberal Party had been running a series of lunch-hour meetings there for some months prior to this new ban.

Contact, as well as the Liberal Party, has been hit by these banning orders. Mr. Hjul succeeded Mr. Duncan as editor and Mr. Vigne was a regular contributor of articles to the newspaper.

In his capacity as director of *Contact*, Mr. Hjul was fined R200 in the Umtata Magistrate's Court last September for "subverting the authority of the state and/or its officers". The charge, under the Transkei Emergency Regulations, arose from a news report, "Home Guard Terror", which appeared in our December 1961 issue. Two other articles published in *Contact* have led to defamation action against the newspaper by Chief Kaiser Matanzima of Emigrant Tembuland.

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NKATLO



DUNCAN

Transkei Police Question Liberal Officials

A THREE-PRONGED attack on the Liberal Party's participation in the apartheid opposition in the Transkei was made by the State over the period 17th to 28th February. Three distinct actions were taken:

Messrs. Cromwell Nododile and Hammington Majija, Liberal Party officials, were detained in the Liberal Party office, York Road, Umtata, on 20th February, and separately questioned for over four hours by a Security Police sergeant and officer respectively. With them was a resident of Mputi location, from whom a sworn statement had just been taken as to the treatment he had had at the hands of the police while being questioned about the Bashee Bridge murders.

When Mr. Nododile informed the police that he was not prepared to answer any questions without his legal adviser's presence, he was told: "This isn't Cape Town, this is the Transkei", and warned of imprisonment if he refused to answer.

Proclamation 413, part of the two-year-old Transkei "emergency regulations", authorises the detention of persons "until the said person . . . has answered fully and truthfully all questions put to him, which have any bearing on the said offence or intended offence", and which deny consultation with a legal adviser to any arrested or detained person "without the consent of the Minister or person acting under his authority". Certain written material was taken from Mr. Nododile, of which the Liberal Party has written to request the return.

A surprising aspect of the questioning was the claim made to Mr. Majija that a certain telephone conversation had not only been listened in to by the Police, but had been tape-recorded.

Banning and confining orders were served on Messrs. Peter Hjul and Randolph Vigne on 16th and 28th February. Mr. Vigne had been especially

active in Liberal Party work in the Transkei, and in the field of non-violent Transkei opposition in general, and Mr. Hjul figured in the *Contact* case in Umtata in August 1962, in addition to other links with the territories. Mr. Vigne paid a brief visit to the Transkei before his ban was served.

At the Umtata hearing of the Paarl Riot Inquiry, Chief Kaizer Matanzima made astonishing allegations about Liberal connections with Poqo, with the murder of Headmaa Spalding Matyile in 1961, with the attack on Chief Mayeza Dalasile and killing of his uncle on 10th December 1962, and with the troubles in East Pondoland in 1960-61. The biggest shock of all was caused by the counsel for the South African Police, Mr. Jan H. Steyn, who said to Chief Matanzima: "I want to put to you certain information which has come into my possession. Certain persons referred to as liberals helped Poqo in their making of bombs for the Bashee River murder." At a

HISTORY IS REWRITTEN

EXTRACT from a South African Information Service full-page advertisement in *The Illustrated London News*, 2nd February, 1963:

Q. Does the land in South Africa belong to the black man?

A. As I remember, the first pioneers found most of the country uninhabited, particularly in the South and the middle. They were there for 150 years before they even met the blacks. This is the land they occupied, and by any standard their claim to that part of the place seems sound. They certainly did not take it from anyone.

Q. But what about the black man?

A. He has the land his forebears settled. And I read somewhere this is the size of England and Wales.

public meeting held in Cape Town on 1st March, Mr. Alan Paton, national president of the Liberal Party, strongly condemned the allegations.

"No one is safe" says Liberal Party Chairman

MR. VORSTER has used his tremendous powers to silence another two vigorous opponents of apartheid. Mr. Peter Hjul, the Chairman of the Cape Liberal Party, and Mr. Randolph Vigne, National Deputy Chairman, are being banned on the grounds that they are furthering the cause of Communism.

Both Mr. Hjul and Mr. Vigne altogether reject Communism as the solution of our country's problems. As Liberals they are opposed to authoritarian government, to rule by order and ban without appeal to the courts. This is why they are being banned, make no mistake about that. They are being banned because they oppose apartheid. They oppose it openly and courageously.

It is not pleasant to be banned, but they have the comfort that the whole civilised world is on their side.

The Liberal Party has warned White South Africa for the last ten years that no one is safe from the Suppression of Communism Act. Today it is "communistic" to seek extension of citizenship, to oppose cruel laws and to seek a just and Christian solution of our country's problems.

It is inevitable that the Progressive Party will soon have to face Mr. Vorster's powers. If the Progressive Party continues to proclaim, as Dr. Steytler has consistently proclaimed, that it is utterly opposed to racial discrimination, many of its members will be deemed to be furthering the aims of Communism. While Mrs. Suzman is in Parliament the Party has some security. If there were no Progressives in Parliament and the Party continued to be militant it would face exactly the same dangers as the Liberal Party.

It is our hope that all South Africans who are opposed to apartheid but are not yet marked men and women will continue to uphold what they believe to be right and just and sensible regardless of the consequences. It is better to be silenced than to be silent.

ALAN PATON, National President.
PETER BROWN, Chairman.

Paton Attacks Bans

(Continued from page 1)

concerned with what he described as "gross apartheid". Gross apartheid, the inhuman Group Areas Act, the General Law Amendment Act, Job Reservation and the countless cruel laws that control the personal lives of the majority of the people of the country. These were the laws that were responsible for the unhappy situation in South Africa. It is no use easing one's conscience by saying that we should get rid of petty apartheid and all will be well.

He did not believe that the real danger to this country were communists, liberals, NUSAS or the English Press. The danger was that "white people will finally alienate the non-white people beyond the point of no return".

"Is this what Liberals are doing? Is that what Peter Hjul and Randolph Vigne are doing? I see it is being brought against Mr. Hjul that he and the Party helped the people of Langa with food during the emergency. Is that likely to alienate the non-white people? Which is more likely to alienate them, a police campaign of beatings and assaults to force them to go to work, or a campaign to help them in their time of need? Let Mr. Vorster answer that question.

Talking about the banning of Mr. Hjul and Mr. Vigne, Mr. Paton said that they had not been banned because they had planned violence and sabotage,

but because they refused to go into the white laager, and because they believed that racial co-operation was possible in a common society.

"Sir de Villiers Graaff has done an important thing in demanding that the Minister of Justice should define what offences these men have committed and leave it to a court of law to decide whether or not they are guilty. We don't thank him because of the Party but because of something much bigger, much more important than the Party—namely, the cause of the Rule of Law, without which there is no freedom, no peace and no justice. This demand on the Minister should be made on behalf of every person who is banned, banished or under house arrest. Let Mr. Vorster charge Mr. Hjul and Mr. Vigne with an offence and prove their guilt.

"I say these bans will not deter us—how could they? We are also South Africans, we believe in a non-racial state. There is no moral law to deter us. More penalties may be placed upon us. We shall have to endure that, we will endure it. There must be a voice of sanity in this unhappy country. And our sanity is this—that we see no hope for a great South Africa, until all its people participate in the work of government."

Mr. Paton said that the Liberal Party did not believe that Universal Suffrage was the cure for all our ills, but it believed that only against the background of a Universal Suffrage was

there any hope of a solution to our problems. To him it was quite permissible for a political party to hold this view and to propagate it. It seemed unbelievable that the holding and propagating of such a view should have come to be regarded not only as a treachery, but as a furtherance of the aims of communism.

Mrs. Margaret Ballinger said that it was clear that the plan of the Government was to destroy all opposition. This had not been clear 10 years ago, but the pattern of events since then made this a fact.

The Government used to judge communism the yardstick "one man, one vote". They did not realize that all the policies of the Parties in the Republic led to the same conclusion. "It is only a matter of degree, whether you decide in ten years or over a much longer period."

Mr. Daniels said that whereas neither he nor the Liberal Party were communists, he believed that everyone had a right to express their viewpoint. He challenged Mr. Vorster to take his latest victims to court and prove that they were furthering the aims of communism.

Mr. Adrian Leftwich referred to the banning of Mr. Hjul and Mr. Vigne as "the big, thick thumbs being stuck into the cracks of apartheid". He said that the gloves were now off in South Africa and that it was time for us to get into our corners and square up.



Crowd listen attentively to Mr. Paton.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

FIERCE FIGHT OVER "HANGING BILL"

SALISBURY: At the same time as Joshua Nkomo, James Chikerema and Maurice Nyangumbo are appearing in a Rusape Magistrate's Court, charged under the Law and Order Maintenance Act, the Southern Rhodesia Parliament is busy amending this Act to allow for the death penalty in certain instances.

It is reported from Rusape that Mr. Nkomo's party, which had arrived that day at Rusape railway station, had been welcomed and escorted to the African township by a large crowd. The three accused were arrested just before they were to have had a meal with a friend living in the Vengere township. It is alleged that a police officer roughly handled Mr. Nkomo. They are charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty and alternatively common assault and the responsibility for an illegal procession from Rusape. As the Act now stands they are liable to a maximum prison sentence of ten years.

Amendment to Act

The Southern Rhodesia government is introducing a Bill to amend the Law and Order Maintenance Act and it is considered to be one of the most controversial pieces of legislation ever to be introduced to the Southern Rhodesia Parliament.

The Rhodesian Front Government is said to have privately protested to news-

paper editors about their reference, in headlines, to the Bill as the "Hanging Bill". But, say the editors, "that's just what it is".

The Bill intends to make death the penalty, in most cases, for throwing petrol bombs. Among those who have vigorously protested against the Bill are members of the bar, the country's leading church leaders, the press, political parties including Sir Edgar Whitehead's Opposition party, the United Federal Party and the Christian Action Group of Salisbury.

Twice, members of these groups have demonstrated at Parliament Buildings with placards which read: "Don't outdo Verwoerd"; "Must Justice hang?"; "Lost the rule of Law" and "Drop the hangman's charter".

In protest, church leaders said the Bill would seriously restrict the freedom of Her Majesty's Judges in the exercise of their judicial functions, by compelling them to pass a death sentence on persons convicted of certain crimes of violence.

A pro-Government Salisbury newspaper asked: "What is wrong with leaving it to the judges to decide whether or not the culprit deserves the death penalty? That, we suppose, is what the judges are for."

A distinguished lawyer declared: "There is no need for a new law to provide for the death penalty for murder by petrol bombing. The law provides for that already."

But despite all these protests, Minister of Justice, Law and Order—Clifford Dupont—has defended his Bill and declared that his Government would go ahead with the publication of the Bill. He has, however, climbed down by telling the House that he would introduce an amendment to the "Hanging Bill" to ensure that the death sentence in the case of pregnant women and youths under 16 would not be obligatory.

The Christian Action Group points out that the Bill would mean:

○ At the discretion of a Civil Servant, the death penalty will have to be imposed for trivial, as well as serious offences.

○ Thus the Attorney General, a Civil Servant, will usurp a major function of the judges.

○ Freedom of association will be further undermined.

○ The Government will be able to seize the property of people who have committed no crime.

○ The authorities will have sweeping powers to enter and search private homes.

○ The proposed measures show utter contempt for justice, democracy and the rights of the individual.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

ECONOMIC BOOM PREDICTED

THE Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Finance in Northern Rhodesia, Mr. Arthur N. L. Wina, has given the assurance that firms wishing to set up industries in Northern Rhodesia are welcome and will be given every assistance possible.

Mr. Wina said that he was looking forward to the break-up of Federation,

because he believed that with the break, would come an economic boom in Northern Rhodesia.

He said that his Ministry was doing everything possible to attract industry and foreign investment into the country. Experts were conducting a market survey aimed at collecting information needed about investment possibilities in Northern Rhodesia.

Tax Holiday

"New industry coming to this country would be given a 'tax holiday' exempting them from any territorial surcharge," continued Mr. Wina. He admitted that the economy of a country depended on political stability mainly, but said that instability was a product of discontent. Therefore the immediate challenge facing the government is to advance, as quickly as possible, in order to remove the root causes of discontent among the people.

"The people want education for their children, better housing and jobs with decent wages," he said. Once these aims have been achieved, there will be stability. If they are neglected, there will be trouble.

"We are looking forward to the break-up of Federation because then we should have complete control over taxes and have the power, if necessary, to raise a brick wall across the Zambezi, to protect local industry from unfair competition," said Mr. Wina.

The possibilities of getting investment from Western Europe and America were also being examined.

Referring to large local concerns like the British South African Company, Anglo-American, etc., Mr. Wina said, "They must start thinking of us as a country with its own interests. As much

PAPERS BANNED

SALISBURY: The Southern Rhodesian government has recently banned three publications. These were said to have been contrary to the interests of public safety and security. The publications concerned are the *Voice of Africa* which is published in Accra, the *World Marxist Review*, printed and published in England, and the *African Communist*, a magazine produced by the South African Communist Party and printed in Britain.

The bannings were made under the Law and Order Maintenance Act of 1960.

as possible of the profit they make here should be ploughed back into Northern Rhodesia. I have spoken to representatives of these companies and they had all reacted favourably to this view."

He stressed that preference would be given to industry pledged to place emphasis on African participation: "Industries that come here should employ local labour and use local material as much as possible," he said.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Wina said that rural development was a crucial part of government policy. He was looking forward to the time when industries, small and large, would be set up in the rural areas. He emphasized the vital part that private enterprise had to play in the government of Northern Rhodesia. "Government will only move in where enterprise is unwilling to go," he concluded.



JOSHUA NKOMO

BANNED, BUT CAN FORM NEW PARTY

While the Southern Rhodesian government has announced that he can form a new party, Mr. Joshua Nkomo has retorted that he will accept only the ban on ZAPU being lifted.

The Minister of Justice, Law and Order, Mr. Dupont, also warned that if any members of such a Party acted unconstitutionally, or against the interests of the state, they could be ordered to resign. Failure to resign could result in a fine of up to £1,000, or five years' imprisonment, or both.

Mr. Dupont said that under the existing laws there was nothing to prevent office-bearers of a banned Party from setting up another one or carrying on as they were before.

The Governor was empowered to ban such parties but the situation was completely unsatisfactory: "Therefore, there was the ludicrous situation whereby political leaders of a banned organization could line up a series of similar organizations and, as each was banned, move on to the next."



Kenneth Kaunda, Northern Rhodesia Minister of Local Government and Social Welfare, formally opens a new biscuit factory built by two brothers, Messrs. Maganlal and Manibhai Patel. Before pressing the button which started the production of biscuits, the Minister expressed the hope that this was only the start of many more food-producing enterprises in Northern Rhodesia. Mr. Manibhai Patel afterwards presented Mr. Kaunda with a silver tray in commemoration of his visit.

READERS GIVE THEIR VIEWS

Magic Word

SIR,—Independence is a magic word in Africa today. It is the primary objective of the Pan African movement as well as of individual African leaders. To them it signifies dignity, position in the world and new opportunities for their people's social development and their country's economic growth.

The word "independence" means different things in different places. In Africa it means release from colonialism and unjust laws, the right to organize trade unions and political groups. Every human being should have equal civil and political rights, this has long been recognized by all progressive and truly civilized societies.

The African leader, Mr. N. Mandela, has been jailed for five years because he demanded, through his political activities, equal rights without discrimination for everybody in our country. Mr. Mandela and other freedom fighters would have been guilty of no offence at all if they had lived in a true democracy and civilized society.

Give our Africa back to us. We will die for you, our country.

H. P. KATJAVIVI,
Dar es Salaam.

A BRAVE OLD MAN

SIR,—It is with regret that we report the death of Mr. Manyala Petros Nanyemba who passed away on 25th January, 1963. He was 76 years old.

Mr. Nanyemba was the father of SWAPO representative, Mr. Peter Nanyemba in Francistown.

After the deportation of his son the deceased became active in politics. He was approached by a government official and told to persuade his son to give up his political activities. He was threatened with jail if he did not do this, but his reaction was merely to say that, "Nobody can stop a blowing wind, no matter how intelligent, rich or poor they may be."

Fellow Africans, let us grieve with his son and follow in the footsteps of a brave old man.

G. H. GEINGOB,
E. J. LAWEDI JOSOBS,
L. H. KALENGA,
Francistown.

Only Policy for Peace on Earth

SIR,—Recently the U.S.A., where I am now living, celebrated the birthday of one of its greatest leaders who declared, among other things, that "no country can remain half slave and half free". This country is still finding it difficult to realize the great truth of this statement. Yet learn it we must, both in the U.S.A. and in South Africa, before we can enjoy the benefits of freedom not only of the press, but of religion and of education, freedom which makes us realize "The Universal Brotherhood of Man".

I therefore make a strong appeal to all my fellow South Africans, especially to those who have been deceived into believing that the teaching of Christ stands for white supremacy. It does not. Indeed it is impossible to divorce freedom from justice, for the moment we take freedom from any man, we thereby deal unjustly by him, thus jeopardising our own freedom.

"Equal rights for all men" stands as the only policy on earth that has at the same time the power of dispensing justice for all. It is therefore the only

policy that can finally bring Peace on Earth and Goodwill among Men.

I believe that is what the Liberal Party stands for and I believe that is what the Constitution of the U.S.A. stands for. I believe that is what the Gospel stands for, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, with its eternal invitation to "Whosoever will".

I believe further that as He said, "Without Me, you can do nothing", we need His Spirit of Universal Brotherly Love, to drive out of our hearts all race pride and selfishness, for only when we are given that Perfect Love that casteth out all fear, can we have the courage to stand by our beliefs.

Good luck, and may God bless your efforts.

JOSEPH G. SLATER,
Cleveland, U.S.A.

Hard Work

SIR,—I want to tell the Whites of Ubombo Ranches a few things.

Nothing can stand if our hands are not there to hold it. All the hard work is done by us and all the hard treatment is continually upon our shoulders.

If you do not believe me, visit the farm labour compounds at Mkululu, Makayabomvu, Malayinini, etc. At all these places you will find the people suffering hardships. The cane cutters, and woman weeders have to work especially hard. But we get very low wages, so little that sometimes we think that we work for nothing.

S. P. BUTHELEZI,
Swaziland.

Not Racialist

SIR,—The African people have experienced hard persecutions, merciless shootings and ungodly exploitation for more than three hundred years. However history has proved its value by evolving the dynamic and militant forces of African nationalism, which is for the liberation of Africa. Its winds were predicted by the British Prime Minister in February 1960.

Some critics of African nationalism tend to dub the movement "racialist" or "chauvinist". They are really exposing their ignorance of history by doing this. As a result of the barbaric oppression and racial discrimination, the African people are now filled with frustration, and it will not end until our demands are met. It is not racialism as usually alleged in certain circles.

Bans, restrictions and persecution shall not deviate this force from the line, but rather accelerate it. Keep aloft, sons and daughters of Africa, the fighting banner. Mother Africa demands that we carry on fighting until the victory is won.

H. HOLLIDAY,
Langa, Cape.

Low Wages

SIR,—I am a great reader of your newspaper *Contact* and would be pleased if you could help me by printing my letter.

I am fed-up with the low wages in the Orange Free State. I was trained at a dry cleaning firm in Bloemfontein and am now working for the same manager who has opened up a new dry cleaners in Wepener. The wages are very poor here. Last Christmas we did not close, but had to work. We were promised back pay but we did not get anything at all.

The charges for dry cleaning are the same in other centres but there wages are much higher than ours. Why is it that in the Transvaal they charge the same as in the Orange Free State for cleaning but our wages are so poor?

ISHMAEL MOKOLE,
Wepener, O.F.S.

PRIZE LETTER

Outshine Apartheid

SIR,—It is long that South Africa has suffered through this virulent malady of apartheid. Unfortunately there are a number among us who see in apartheid prospects of becoming affluent slaves.

What a shame that there should be those who accept the position. They cannot see that Verwoerd and his Nationalists are intent on blinding and dwarfing us. Our hope is to outshine apartheid.

This is our land, my motto is to speak my mind, we want to be free in our South Africa and it must always be a land for Africans.

L. M. MNDEBELE,
Middelburg, Tvl.

Where is the Youth?

SIR,—Sons and daughters of the soil, I am making an appeal to you this year. Youth is the flower of our country, they are the defence of our future, they are the picture of our age.

But where is the youth of Bechuana-land today? Where are the young men and women? What is our vigilance for the future?

Come out from hiding, sons and daughters of Africa, it is time now. Let us get rid of our oppression and rebuild our country.

I believe strongly that the Bechuana-land People's Party is the only party that can free the people of this territory from a foreign yoke. The B.P.P. will work to free our country economically, politically and socially. B.P.P. will work to united the chiefs and the commoners.

Some political failures go around saying that the B.P.P. is against the chiefs. No sir! That is not our policy. Our motto is *per augusta ad augusta*. These people have no clear policy and are mere opportunists.

We want freedom. Freedom will give us better laws and better education. Forward then to independence in 1963. Izwe Lethu!

GEORGE LEDGE,
Francistown.

Inhuman Experience

SIR,—There is a lot of dissatisfaction among the students at Okahandja Augusteneum Government School. I have spent one and a half years at this training school and it has been an almost inhuman experience.

There is no attempt at maintaining order, the teachers are encouraging the pupils to fight and squabble among themselves. Many new students are beaten up by the older ones and are generally treated very badly. The food consists mainly of "pap".

I appeal to all parents to look into this matter before it is too late.

U. A. KAUPANGUA,
Keetmanshoop, S.W.A.

TO ALL READERS OF "CONTACT"

• This is your page, for your letters, for your opinions

• We like short letters on any topic

• There is a prize—"Contact" free for a year, for the best letter of the fortnight.

NATS OR U.P. NO DIFFERENCE!

SIR,—Mr. V. G. Davies, in your issue of 7th February, 1963, in reply to Mr. T. V. R. Beard, would appear to be somewhat confused, or does he deliberately refuse to admit the obvious truth that "there is no fundamental difference between the Nationalist and United Party policies"; for while affecting to deny this, he proceeds to make a serious admission that the United Party shares the Nationalists' fear of "Black Rule" which they allege would flow from a universal franchise advocated by the Liberal Party.

The Nationalists believe that apartheid offers them a way of escape from "Black Rule" which they allege would inevitably result from integration. The United Party, equally determined to flee from "Black Rule", has come out with a mystical federation in the hope, at least for a time, that it would guarantee White leadership and therefore perpetuate domination of one section over another. But United and Nationalist Parties reject completely the promotion and maintenance of harmonious co-existence between the races on an equal and undiscriminatory basis which would constitute the corner-stone of a common society, bound together by a single allegiance. Basically they both support in one way or another the baasskap philosophy and call it "the South African way of life".

I want to assure Mr. Davies that the Liberal Party rejects in toto "Black Rule" or any other form of discriminatory government. It believes in a universal franchise as a basis and guarantee for harmonious co-existence of all the races

in this country. 500,000 Tembus, under the accredited leadership of Paramount Chief Sabata Dalindyebo, have proclaimed the principles of liberalism as adhered to by the Liberal Party, and through their hereditary Head, in these powerful words.

"We seek freedom from laws which separate us from our fellow South Africans. We seek a state in which the colour of a man's skin plays no part in his civic rights . . . we do not seek the advancement of one race over another . . . we seek a state in which White and Black can live and work in mutual respect."

These sentiments are echoed by millions of Africans. They are a challenge to both the United Party and the Nationalist Party and their supporters like Mr. Davies. The Liberal Party believes and works for the realization of this call for unity in the fullest faith that when this is achieved, parliamentary representation will be acquired on merit and not on the colour of the skin of the person.

I wish Mr. Davies could at least be logical and not beat about the bush. The *modus operandi* he seeks, lies in the universal franchise obtained under an atmosphere of absolute goodwill, spontaneously demonstrated on the lines of the Liberal Party programmes. Civil war can never usher in a state of harmonious co-existence and is therefore not in the programme of a Party committed definitely and irrevocably to a policy of non-violence.

S. SELBY MSIMANG,
Maritzburg.

WHITES ACCEPT CHANGE

THE leader of the Progressive Party, Dr. Jan Steytler, who has recently completed a tour of the Rhodesias has stated that in his opinion the Whites have accepted the inevitability of change.

Recently the Minister of Finance in Northern Rhodesia gave indication of a bright economic future for the territory when he said that his government was doing all it could to attract new industry.

Dr. Steytler had talks with leading political figures in both Northern and Southern Rhodesia. Among them were Mr. Kenneth Kaunda, Mr. Winston Field, Sir Roy Welensky and Sir Edgar Whitehead.

He said that he found the tour most interesting and was pleased to note that there was tremendous optimism that the new African administration will work.

Dr. Steytler said that the White people, especially in Northern Rhodesia, had now accepted the inevitability of change in the near future.

BECHUANALAND

DEMONSTRATIONS GREET BRITISH VISITORS

By a Reporter

THREE HUNDRED placard-carrying demonstrators calling for Bechuanaland independence greeted Mr. C. E. King, successor to Sir Hugh Foot as Britain's permanent representative at the United Nations, when he visited Tatitown Authority chambers on 7th February during his Southern Africa fact-finding mission.

Mr. King's visit gave a tremendous fillip to political activity in Francistown, and this accounted for about 3,000 people at a week-day public meeting on 8th February, at which Mr. P. G. Matante, Vice-President of the Bechuanaland People's Party, reported on his talks with the United Kingdom diplomat.

Composed in Jail

Mr. King, who inspected the guard of uniformed demonstrators who lined the road leading to the chambers, commended their orderliness and discipline and expressed appreciation of the freedom songs they sang. Among the songs, "We want our freedom now", elicited a question from Mr. King and he was told it was composed in jail by seven young prison graduates.

Mr. King spent about twenty minutes among the demonstrators reading their placards, some of which read, "We the people of B.P. did not elect the Legislative Council", "Independence is the only solution to our economic problems", "The Bechuanaland Constitution is a violation of the Protection terms (1885-1895)", and "We demand immediate constitutional change".

This was the only demonstration encountered by Mr. King during his stay in Bechuanaland, and it is believed he wired a report on it to United Nations headquarters in New York, as well as on his talks with a B.P.P. delegation led by Mr. Matante. Mr. King also saw representatives of other political parties and members of the Legislative Council. His fact-finding mission embraced the

three High Commission Territories and Southern and Northern Rhodesia. In Southern Rhodesia, which caused the resignation of his predecessor, Mr. King's visit caused favourable comment. It was pointed out that Sir Hugh had never visited the Federation.

The B.P.P. delegation, which was granted the longest interview, was composed of Mr. P. G. Matante, Mr. P. D. Maruping, B.P.P. Secretary-General; Mr. P. K. Pudiephatshawa, External Representative (Transvaal); and Mr. M. Magagani, Francistown branch executive.

Political Rebuff

"The system of internal self-rule before independence which is granted by Britain to her colonies is obsolete." This is what Sir John Maud, High Commissioner for Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, was told in graphic banners by a day-long, thousand-strong demonstration of the Bechuanaland People's Party here on 22nd February.

The banners went on to say: "We demand immediate independence" and "We want non-racial Bechuanaland nationhood, not bogus multi-racial citizenship and settler privileges".

Sir John, who is also British Ambassador to South Africa, has been touring the High Commission Territories having a last look before his retirement later in the year.

The demonstration amounted to a political rebuff for Sir John during what was really a valedictory visit.

International Sportsmen For Non-Racial Tour

By "Contact" Correspondent

NON-RACIAL sporting bodies are to invite leading sportsmen from all over the world in the near future to South Africa. This decision was taken last month by the South African Sports Association (SASA) which represents more than 70,000 sportsmen of all racial groups.

The Association co-ordinates the work of seven national sporting bodies including athletics, weight-lifting and soccer.

Among the sportsmen to be invited are two world champion weight-lifters, Louis Martin of Britain and Tommy Kono of the United States. Another U.S. star to be invited is Wilma Rudolph, the American negress, who is recognized as the "fastest woman alive".

Among the soccer stars to be invited is the Brazilian, Pélé, the highest paid soccer player in the world.

All these tours are to be sanctioned

by the newly-formed South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SAN-Johannesburg in January of this year, after the non-racial bodies had failed ROC) which was inaugurated to persuade the racially administered South African Olympic Association to remove its discriminatory practices and grant equal membership to all South African sportsmen.

It is not expected that there will be any financial difficulties with the tours. The national bodies in each country will be asked to contribute towards expenses.

The question of recognition is also not likely to block plans: SAN-ROC is pressing for recognition by the International Olympic Committee and will then have the authority to sanction tours. In all cases, individuals will be invited.

Invitations to international stars will be issued without regard to colour. Both White and non-White sportsmen will be invited. The entry of these guests into the country will have to be decided by

the Government. But, SASA and SAN-ROC both contend that they are not concerned with the political implications of such tours. Their interest is solely in promoting sport. But they will insist that all events sanctioned by them should be conducted under normal conditions, i.e., unsegregated audiences.

The President of SASA, Mr. G. K. Rangasamy of Port Elizabeth, in a recent statement to all sportsmen announced that the initiative in sport had passed into the hands of the non-racial sporting bodies with the formation of SAN-ROC.

A parallel movement towards non-racial sport has been initiated by the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS). At a conference in December which was addressed by Mr. Clive van Ryneveld, former Springbok cricket captain, plans were drawn up for a series of non-racial sports events. These are likely to be held in Johannesburg during Easter or the winter vacation.

Three Liberals Arrested

UMTATA: Mr. Terence Beard, Liberal Party deputy chairman (Cape division) and two African members whom *Contact* believes to be Mr. Cromwell Nododile (a Party organizer) and Mr. Hamington Majija, were arrested and questioned by the police in Umtata on 2nd March.

Under the Emergency Regulations a detained person does not have the right to legal advice without the consent of the Minister of Justice. Detainees may be held until they have "answered fully and truthfully all questions put to them".

Mr. Hugh White, an Umtata attorney who has been requested to act on behalf of the three, said that he had been trying since Saturday evening to get details from the police, but had "met with a blank wall at every turn".

Mr. Beard lives in Grahamstown and is a lecturer in poitics and philosophy at Rhodes University. Both Mr. Nododile and Mr. Majija, who works for *Contact*, are from Cape Town.

LIBERALS ACCUSED AT INQUIRY

THE Liberal Party have decided to request permission to give evidence at the Paarl Riot Inquiry. This step was taken after Chief Kaiser Matanzima had stated in evidence that liberals had engineered the killing of Spalding Matyle and had given assistance to Poqo in the making of petrol bombs.

The Liberal Party might engage counsel to cross examine Chief Matanzima.

POLICEMAN IS CONVERTED

PLACE: Liberal Party Office, Pretoria.

Liberal Organiser sitting at desk in the office sees a White Police Constable swagger up to the Party pin-board, lean against the office wall, and pull off copies of *Contact* (the one with Sabata on the cover).

Liberal: Please put my pamphlets back, you are not allowed to touch the things on my board.

Constable (in Afrikaans): Kaffir, do you know who you are talking to, I am a Constable and I am White.

Liberal: You will please put the pamphlets back. I am going to charge you with two things: one for removing my pamphlets, and two for calling me a Kaffir. You should know, being a policeman, that you may not touch papers on my property without a warrant; you should know that it is no longer allowed that you call us Kaffirs.

Constable (now speaking in English): I am sorry, I did not realise that this was an office (puts back *Contact*). I thought that this was some P.A.C. or A.N.C. poster, I could not see the office door when I came round the corner. Let me use your phone I want to speak to my chief.

Liberal: You may use the phone but it will cost you 5 cents.

Constable: This is a duty call.

Liberal: Nevertheless you don't have to ask your chief if I can charge you! But use the phone for 5 cents.

Constable (phones chief and looks a bit worried): Yes, he says too that I may not touch your pamphlets.

Liberal then proceeds to give him a lecture on the political situation and how race relations are aggravated by the acts of policemen who do not know the law. Constable asks about the policies of the Liberal Party and Liberal tells him in detail. Half an hour later the Constable says goodbye, calling the Liberal Mr. . . .

Liberal: Goodbye Constable, and to show that I am really liberal I am withdrawing both charges against you!

SPONANO AT WEIZMANN HALL

THE play *Sponano*, based on Alan Paton's *Debbie Go Home*, will be presented at the Weizmann Hall on Saturday, 9th March, for a limited season of eight days. It was originally to have been produced at the Luxurama Theatre at Wynberg.

The play is produced by the well-known Indian producer, Krishna Shah, who was also responsible for the production of *Dark Chamber*.

Sponano is the story of the relationship between the principal of a reformatory and one of his boys. The leading role, the principal, is played by Pieter Geldenhuys while music is arranged by Gideon Nxumalo who also wrote some of the songs.

We recommend this production to our readers.



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