

BA 720 N
S. 83/115

THE 'TREASON' ARRESTS SCANDAL

NEW AGE

Vol. 4, No. 10. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
SOUTHERN EDITION Thursday, December 26, 1957 6d.

Swart Should Resign!

A YEAR AGO, 61 people—among many others—were arrested by the police in dawn raids. They were taken from their homes—in some cases hundreds of miles away—and imprisoned in the Johannesburg Fort.

Not Much Of A Case

They were refused bail. Attempts were made to refuse to allow them visitors and to interfere with their mail. And then when bail was allowed it was only on condition that they surrendered passports, reported weekly to the police and did not attend gatherings.

Then these 61-people—among many others—were kept in the Drill Hall day in and day out for twelve long months while the crown led millions of words of evidence to show why they had been arrested.

They lost their jobs and their livelihood; most of them became completely dependent on the support of ordinary people here and overseas who expressed their belief in justice through the Treason Trial Fund.

AND NOW AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF THOSE MILLIONS OF WORDS OF EVIDENCE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THERE IS NO CASE AGAINST THEM.

This really means **no case**. For the announcement has come before any of the accused have been called upon to give a single word of evidence on their own behalf.

The attorney-general states now that he has gone through the evidence on record and finds it insufficient. The crown will not even ask the magistrate to consider the evidence.

Some Questions for Swart

BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO PUT THIS QUESTION TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND TO MR. SWART, THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE!

Why is it that it is only a full year after the arrests that you discover that there is no evidence?

Was it not your duty to examine the evidence which you were going to present before you arrested these people?

How do you justify the arrest and imprisonment of people on a capital charge before you have examined the evidence against them?

While they were in the Fort, three of the people who have now been discharged made an application to the Supreme Court for bail. They were Lawrence Nkosi, whose doctors testified that he was in an advanced state of tuberculosis and should not be in jail; Dorothy Shanley who had been forced to leave her three children without any provision being made for their care, and Reginald September who had also been taken away leaving his family unprovided for.

Opposing bail Mr. Van Niekerk the prosecutor told the court that he could not disclose detailed reasons for doing so.

"THE CROWN CANNOT DISCLOSE THE NATURE OF THE INVESTIGATIONS, OR WHERE THEY ARE TO BE CONDUCTED OR WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT," HE SAID.

But he believed that if the accused were let out of jail they would interfere with these mysterious investigations.

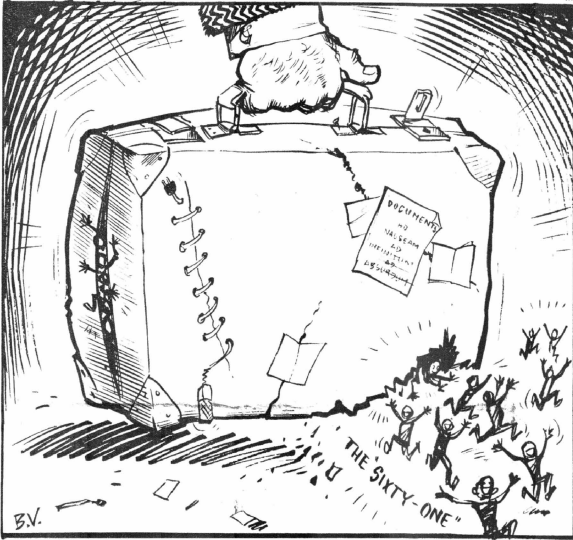
The judge accepted this position, referring to "the gravity of the crime" and the "most difficult task of the police".

He added: "In the circumstances it is not unreasonable to accept the probability that it is both difficult and inadvisable for the Attorney-General to take the court more fully into its confidence".

A full year later the attorney-general has taken us into his confidence. He has now considered the evidence. There is no case for the accused Lawrence Nkosi or Dorothy Shanley or

Reginald September to face!

(Continued on page 2)



SACPO TO FIGHT ELECTIONS

CAPE TOWN.

The annual conference of SACPO held last weekend unanimously decided to contest seats under the Separate Representation of Voters Act. The conference decided to include treason suspects amongst its candidates as a challenge to the Nationalists. The resolution said, "We are not impressed by certain people who have already indicated their intention of standing for Parliament. It is strongly felt that (a) four candidates be selected from such persons as have already suffered and sacrificed on behalf of the liberatory movement, (b) SACPO in collaboration with the allied Congresses be delegated to select and screen such candidates, (c) campaigns on their behalf be conducted by the entire peoples' movement.

The decision was taken in consideration of the primary task of defeating the Nationalist government, and will bring SACPO policy in line with that of the other congresses.

Mr. J. A. La Guma was elected National President, Mr. G. Peake and Mr. B. Dantl Vice-Presidents and Mr. R. September General Secretary.

CONGRESSES PLAN HUGE CONFERENCE

Date In March Fixed

A CALL to a National Workers' Conference "even greater than the Congress of the People" has been issued by all the Congresses. "Let us start off the New Year with a really tremendous conference," they say.

IT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF MARCH, REPLACING THE WORKERS' CONFERENCE ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR MID-FEBRUARY.

On February 15 regional workers' conferences will be held in the large centres and in many of the smaller areas as well. These regional conferences will elect delegates to go to Johannesburg in March.

These decisions, which follow on a resolution of the recent national conference of the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, are announced in an important statement issued by the National Consultative Committee of the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress, the Congress of Democrats, the S.A. Coloured

People's Organisation and the Congress of Trade Unions.

DECISIVE IMPORTANCE

This conference to be held on the 15th and 16th March, 1958, can be of decisive importance in carrying out our tasks between now and the General Election says the statement.

It can provide us firstly with a tremendous focal point around which to organise everywhere on the slogan of wages and pass laws. And it can provide us with the opportunity of discussing with the many delegates at the Conference plans for leading the whole working population into mass action around these slogans at a time when effective action can be important for our whole future.

This Conference is designed for delegates who will be elected or sent directly by groups of workers from factories, shops, industries.

(Continued on page 8)

NEW AGE LETTER BOX

Mystery Forms Anger Africans

The African community in Athlone is up in arms against the breaking up of their families and they have elected an action committee composed of four men and four women and have decided to seek legal advice.

A pass inspector from Langa goes from house to house early in the morning, about 5.30 a.m., giving forms to African people. This form is entitled "Application for accommodation in Nyanga West," and among other information required in it, people must even give details about their furniture.

It states that the receiver and his wife are advised to go to Langa on a specified date, but nowhere on the form is there any indication as to where it comes from, or under whose authority it is being issued or where in Langa the receiver should go.

The people are very angry because some of the families have already been broken up, the women having been warned to leave the area, and the husbands to take up residence at Langa bachelor quarters.

Z. MALINDI

Athlone.

Treason Charge Withdrawals Welcomed

The announcement that 61 out of 156 Treason Trial Suspects have been freed and all proceedings against them have been stopped will be welcomed by anti-Nationalists. We should not forget, however, that 95 people of all races are still on trial. The release of the 61 can therefore only serve to reinforce our support for the remaining 95.

The advocacy of equal rights for all South Africans, regardless

of race, has long been the main demand of the Congress movement. The recent multi-racial racial conference in Johannesburg showed that wider and wider sections of our people are coming round to support that view.

Regardless of what action this Government may take, we shall continue to press our demands in civilised world supports our struggle for basic human rights. The Nationalists are a tiny minority and cannot but go under.

It is the duty of Europeans to stand by and support the non-whites who today are bearing the brunt of the callous policies of the Nationalists. Working together, we can defeat this Government and pave the way for peaceful change in South Africa.

B. GOSSHALK

Congress of Democrats,

CAPE TOWN.

Things Are Bad

The white farmers have African recruiters who are mostly poor headmen who they pay 5/- for every person they recruit for labour on the farms. Many small boys and girls about 7 years old are seen going to the farms.

Asked about working and sleeping conditions on the farms they say they are terrible. They work from sunrise to sunset without rest. They sleep in big buildings without windows or floors, and the girls just mix with the men. It is terrible to see what is going on in Sekukuni-land.

Things are still difficult between the government and the Bapedi and we are fighting hard against imposition of Bantu Authority. Things are also bad at ploughing time.

H. S. MAPEDISO

Sekukuni-land.

Is Congress Asleep In Cape Town?

What has happened to the leaders of the Congress movement in Cape Town? They seem to have fallen asleep on the job.

Why is there no campaign or Press protest against the removal of thousands of Africans, men and women, from Cape Town? Haven't they heard of the police brutality at Nyanga with constant raids on the people?

Isn't SACTU interested in a £1 a day for the workers? And how about the removals and destruction of homes at Windermere?

The people want to know what Congress is doing nothing about all this. Aren't the leaders worried about all this Nationalist oppression? If not, it is about time they gave way to some younger and more active members. How about it Congress?

"CONGRESS"

Cape Town.

Cyprian Criticized . . .

I read with disappointment that Chief Cyprian has sold his people. He accepted Verwoerd's (Bantu Authorities Act), a real poison to the African people.

What can be said of this Chief? That is not the end. The Government are guilty of bribery. Their long attempt to introduce the so-called Bantu Authorities Act, found no way in. At last they saw a Chief who would be sure were sure would easily accept their poison. Chief Cyprian is no longer a Chief of the Zulus. He is in great esteem and has created himself enemies among his own people who once honoured him as their beloved Chief. He must resign before he reaches a point of no return.

W. D. MADUBEDUBE
Retreat, Cape.

. . . And Again Criticized

The treaty system of confiscating black man's land is still force under the present regime.

Today every African must know that the once mighty Zululand is no longer Zululand but "Verwoerd-land," and its people—properties of Verwoerd.

Zululand and its people have been worth only £1,000 a bull and a safe (these will still be controlled by the purchaser).

Did Cyprian not receive much more than this from his own subjects? Does he not realise that this is price of his own land. Some men are educated to be robbed by their very education.

M. C. BOSHILO
Dunkeld, Johannesburg.

Boss Scared of Police

CAPE TOWN

Mr. David Sebokoa, who was charged with resisting arrest when police made a raid for passes on Nyanga location recently, has been sacked by his employer, because he felt that "the police might persecute me as well".

The case against Mr. Sebokoa has been remanded until January 9 in the Wynberg Magistrates Court. Mr. Sebokoa was employed by the firm from which he has been dismissed for many years. He is prominent in ANC activities.

Native Resettlement Board has now shifted the scene of its removal operations from Springbush to Newclare, where the first families were moved on lorries to Meadowlands last week.

Many families say they are unwilling to move from their Newclare homes.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

Swart Should Resign

WE SAY WITHOUT HESITATION THAT IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY A MINISTER OF JUSTICE WHO WAS GUILTY OF SO GROSS AND LARGE-SCALE A LEGAL FIATCO AND MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE WOULD BE FORCED TO RESIGN.

It is a reflection of the speed with which the Nats are killing South Africa's legal traditions that no wide-scale demand has yet gone forward from the daily press for the sacking of Swart.

If, in any of the countries from which our legal heritage it derived, a minister were to condone mass arrests of innocent people, let alone instigate such arrests by wild talk, he would not remain in office for one day longer.

Many of the English-language newspapers have, however, called editorially for financial compensation for the 61.

THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER THAT THE VERY LEAST THAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO IS TO PAY COMPENSATION IN FULL FOR THE LOSSES SUFFERED BY THOSE ARRESTED, AND EVERY DEMOCRAT SHOULD RAISE HIS VOICE TO DEMAND THIS.

. . . and Some More Questions

At the time of going to press the Attorney-General has made no announcement about the withdrawal of charges against any of the other accused.

But it does seem desirable that he should make a statement soon, because of the large number of questions which the discharge of the 61 poses.

Take the case of one of the accused who has been discharged, the president of the African National Congress, Chief A. J. Lutuli.

It was originally alleged that there was something treasonable about the Congress of the People, and a speech by Chief Lutuli backing the C.O.P. was quoted in the prosecution address.

One important question raised by Chief Lutuli's discharge is this: Does it mean that the allegations concerning the Congress of the People are withdrawn?

Or take the case of Mr. O. R. Tambo, ANC secretary-general.

Does his discharge mean that the allegations against the ANC, of which he is one of the main spokesmen, are accepted as having no substance?

In his opening address the prosecutor described the Evaton bus boycott as "a prelude to revolution". Now the crown has discharged Congressmen Mada and Asmal whom the evidence showed to be among the leaders of this heroic and successful boycott campaign.

Does their discharge mean that the crown has dropped its allegations about the Evaton bus boycott?

These are obviously vital matters and the public is entitled to the earliest possible reply by the crown.

Meanwhile the discharge of the 61 will spotlight the urgency of winning the maximum support of every description for the remaining accused. The possibility exists that the ninety-five are no more guilty of treason than are the sixty-one, and every opportunity must be assured to them to prove their innocence.

The Treason Trial Defence Fund will be assisted hardly at all, as far as expenses are concerned, by the withdrawals, because the cost of legal preparations will remain as great as ever.

This first triumph of justice must serve as a spur to increased support for the Fund.

AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT "NEW AGE" WHICH IS ONE OF THE ACCUSED, IS NOT AMONG THE LIST OF THOSE DISCHARGED. NOR ARE ANY OF THE MANY MEMBERS OF ITS PERMANENT STAFF ON THE RELEASE LIST. WE NEED YOUR MAXIMUM SUPPORT TO KEEP ON IN SPITE OF THE ABSENCE OF SOME OF OUR MOST EXPERIENCED WORKERS.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

AN enthusiastic group of students in Cape Town have begun a New Age sales drive and have taken a New Year resolution to continue throughout 1958 with this most important task of spreading the message of freedom for all in our country. These young men and women are dedicating by their deeds that they appreciate the need for positive action in the fight against our oppressive government.

New Age is particularly indebted to all those women who for years now have been mainly instrumental in ensuring that our revenue has been steadily maintained by bringing in regular supplies of money through jumble-sales, film evenings, dances, etc. To them and all those associated with them, a special bouquet.

And then our sellers. They have had to withstand a whole series of threats, arrests and intimidation throughout the year. The police have left no stone unturned in their efforts to force them off the streets. But in spite of all this persecution, not one of these men have wavered. They are determined to step up the sales still further in the coming year. How can we be stopped with such fine and courageous men in our ranks?

And once again New Age wishes to express its gratitude to all those volunteers who stepped

into the breach at our various branch offices at the time when so many of our staff were arrested. Without them we could not have survived. Because of them we were able to go from strength to strength.

Finally a happy New Year to you all. But remember that the electric will soon be upon us. New Age is determined to rally as many people as they can in a United Front tooust the Nats.

We are even more determined to fight for equal rights for all in a free and democratic South Africa. You can all help us in this task by remembering two cardinal points—our sales must go up and donations must come in steadily all the time. Help us get rid of the Nats. Send in your 1958 donations now.

DONATIONS THIS WEEK

(26/12/1957)

Cape Town: A.T. £5, Barker 4s. 6d., Jumble Sales £3 2s. 11d., McSweeney £1, R.K. £5, R.E.C. £1, Unity £2 2s., R.F. 19s., Anonymous 2s., S. Maharaj 10s., V. Maheskar £1 10s., Master Leslie White 6s. 9d., L. B. Lee-Ward £100, Alkalseltser £1, J.Z. £3 18s., Rev. A.W.B. £1.

Totals: £12 15s. 2d.
Johannesburg: Sarah 5s., Doctor P. £1, Self £2 10s., Anon. £5, A.M. £5.

Totals: £13 15s.
Grand Total: £140 10s. 2d.

WORLD STAGE
By Spector

Rockets were the presents at NATO'S 10th BIRTHDAY PARTY

IN the old days it was easy. The crowns of Europe would meet in the splendid palaces of Versailles and Vienna and proceed to carve up the world between them.

Huge tracts of land and vast populations were handed over from one imperial kingdom to another. A scratch of the pen, and whole sections of humanity had their fates determined for them.

Later came the bankers and industrialists. They were more discreet. Meeting quietly at clubrooms in Zurich, London and Berlin, they shared out the peoples and resources of the world between themselves.

Alas for the princes, their day has long past. Alas for the monopolists, their "gentlemanly" rule of the world is rapidly drawing to an end.

When the heads of the Western countries met in 1947 to form the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, their might and glory of old appeared to be still there.

INTERNATIONAL BAAS

The Soviet Union was weak with the ravages of war. The U.S.A., swollen fat with the profits of the war, sporting atom bombs and the very latest in means of delivering them, stood proudly as international baas.

The once proud rulers of the nations of West Europe clung to Uncle Sam's coat, clutching for dollars to save them from socialism. As long as Washington was the effective capital of five-sixths of the world, they felt safe.

Last week NATO celebrated its tenth birthday with a specially big meeting of Prime Minister and Presidents. What a change about

there had been in those ten years!

IN A CORNER

First, the establishment in 1949 of the People's Republic in China resulted in one-third of humanity (in the socialist sector of the world) being withdrawn from the orbit of the NATO powers' control.

The socialist countries, in par-

tended by all the big shots that the West could muster.

Thus the RULING GROUPS REPRESENTED IN NATO ARE NO LONGER A MINORITY WHO RULE OVER THE MAJORITY IN THE WORLD. THEY HAVE BECOME A MINORITY RULING OVER A MINORITY OF HUMANITY.

Europe, have borne in mind Bulganin's warning that in a nuclear war Germany would be turned into a "massive cemetery".

Both Dr. Adenauer and the West German Minister of Defence have stated quite clearly that West Germany will not accept the stationing of U.S. missile bases within its borders.

Furthermore, America had to pay a high price in order to get the delegates to agree in general that American rocket bases should be built in Europe.

PEACEMONGERS

Dulles stated recently that the Americans would under no circumstances be prepared at present to support the holding of a top-level meeting between the Western powers and the Soviet Union.

Eisenhower's opening "keynote" speech to the conference failed to contain a single reference to negotiating a peace settlement with the Soviet Union.

Yet all the European members of NATO seemed determined to accept Bulganin's recent offers to have such a top-level meeting, and for a change it was the Americans who were forced to toe the line.

The countries of West Europe no doubt feel that they are in a position to exact a high price from the Americans for the construction of missile bases on their territory.

Thus France will expect American support in North Africa, and Holland support against Indonesia.

"Interdependence" will mean that America will have to come out more openly on the side of colonialism, which means that NATO will be even further expropriated by the eyes of the Afro-Asian world.

STILL SQUABBLING

Apart from securing some success on the question of rocket bases, the conference was to the Americans a complete flop from the point of view of "restoring confidence" and "re-establishing unity".

Britain still disputes with Germany about the stationing of British troops. France still distrusts her allies' intentions in regard to North Africa; Cyprus continues to have three NATO countries at loggerheads.

Persons interested in the preservation of peace will be rightly alarmed at the extension of the mad rocket race marked by the NATO conference.

But they can also take heart from the fact that it was NATO, the very agency set up by the Americans in 1947 to prepare for war against the Soviet Union, that has for the first time been asked to negotiate with Russia.

"DEATH AT YOUR DOOR!" is the booklet being sold by the South African Peace Council as part of the campaign for the banning of nuclear weapons by all countries.

The booklet, sold at 6d. a copy, urges that in the interests of our generation and future generations, A-bomb tests should be stopped and all weapons of mass destruction banned.

The booklet is obtainable from the S.A. Peace Council, P.O. Box 10528, Johannesburg.

THE SOVIET UNION has become the world's largest timber producer, outstripping the United States. Last year more than 444,000 cubic yards of timber were felled as compared with a little over 240,500,000 in 1946.



Vicky in the *New Statesman*.

"Almost overnight the mighty U.S. Air Force became near-obsolete and the massive U.S. bomber bases in Western Europe became virtually useless.

MY KINGDOM . . .

Washington was desperate for missile bases. All the usual cold war taps were turned on to ensure that she got those bases in Western Europe.

On the one hand anti-Soviet propaganda was stepped up, on the other the U.S. began to speak about "interdependence" of the countries of the "free world".

. . . FOR A BASE

America's success at the conference was only partial. For all the fine talk about working together, pooling scientists and resources and so on, it was the question of rocket bases that was the crucial one.

In the end the conference passed a resolution accepting in principle the idea of having American rockets with atomic warheads based in Western Europe.

What countries accept in general, and what they are prepared to accept for themselves, however, are two different questions.

The only country which actually volunteered to have the missile bases on its own soil was Britain. The rockets which the Americans plan to have by the end of next year only, will be capable of travelling 1,500 miles.

This means that the only country which has openly committed itself to having the missile bases will be too far from the Soviet Union for the rockets to reach much further than the Soviet borders.

ROCKET-RATTLERS

The Scandinavian countries would have been ideal from the American point of view. The people and Governments of these countries realise full well that to have these bases is to invite sure death in the event of another war.

Thus Norway and Denmark both made it plain that they were not prepared to have missile bases on their territory.

Similarly, the West Germans, America's staunchest allies in

When they meet, they are exposed to the critical eyes of a world no longer subject to them. NATO is in a corner, the grand alliance no longer looks so grand, and the old strategy no longer works.

It was the launching of Sputnik II that produced the panic in Washington which led to the decision that this year's meeting of NATO should be a super one at-

ticular the Soviet Union, have gone from strength to strength. In the crucial sphere of military technology the Soviet Union was not only caught up with America, but has sped right past her.

Secondly, there has been the emergence from colonial slavery of hundreds of millions of people from Asia and Africa. They are no longer willing to be ruled by the NATO powers, and regard

His Audiences Would be Surprised if They Met the Angry Young Man

AN INTERVIEW WITH ALAN DOBIE

MORE than a few of Johannesburg's fur-coated, cigar-puffing and Cadillac-owning set would raise an elegant eyebrow in pained surprise if they knew what their idol, Alan Dobie, the sensational English star of "Look Back in Anger" (which has just completed an eight-week run in Johannesburg) is really like.

For one thing Alan Dobie's background is working class. He has little in common with the ways of our ultra-rich elite.

For another he is extremely indignant at being deprived of an opportunity to play before black audiences.

He finds the extremes of wealth and poverty in our society most "depressing."

And finally Alan Dobie regards the good old white South African habit of having black people to play hand and foot on white people as faintly ridiculous.

WOULD BE MISFIT

Yes, Alan Dobie, the darling of the inhabitants of Lower Houghton and Parktown, would be something of a misfit if he went to live among them.

Shortly before he went on stage one evening, Alan Dobie sat in his Brooke Theatre dressing room and confided some of his opinions on South Africa to me.

Outside in De Villiers Street, hundreds of theatre fans were jostling each other to get into the theatre; a cluster of gagging European teenage girls waited awestruck near the dressing room entrance for a glimpse of "the James Dean of the stage." All this adulation was enough to turn the head of any young man. It hadn't turned Alan Dobie's. He is simple, modest, straightforward.

He smiled: "When I first arrived Non-European servants were opening doors and doing all sorts of things for me. Being accustomed to fending for myself, I found it all very embarrassing. I kept on saying 'don't worry'. Apparently it wasn't the right thing to say."

We laughed at the absurdity of class division in South Africa.

DON'T UNDERSTAND

Alan Dobie reached for his make-up. "What I can't understand is why — (a big department store) employs African lift operators to work their automatic lifts all day. When they go off duty, lift-users have to work the buttons themselves. Now, if the lifts are automatic, why employ operators at all?"

I explained that the cheapness of Non-European labour made it inexpensive for the department store to employ Africans for unnecessary jobs.

Would "Look Back in Anger"

be seen by Non-European audiences? I asked. No, said Mr. Dobie, the play had been banned by Mr. Carr as "unsuitable." Did he agree with Mr. Carr's opinion? Decidedly not. "I wanted to go ahead, but there was nothing that could be done."

HAS HEARD AFRICAN ARTISTS

Although he could not perform before non-white audiences, he had attended a rehearsal by an African theatre group and listened to some of the Union of African Artists' musicians.

"They're tremendous," he enthused. "If they played in England, audiences would keep them in the Albert Hall for weeks. Penny-whistle music is so spontaneous and original, it would create a sensation."

"When the Englishman has a few moments to spare, he gets hold of a football, and kicks it against a wall. When an African wants to relax, he plays music," was his summing up.

"You're on Mr. Dobie!" the stage manager's head popped round the door.

As I left the theatre three tattered little urchins held out their hands begging for pennies. If thought of the well-fed, well-dressed audience inside, politely applauding the "angry young man" on the stage.

What a pity they couldn't be as "angry" about South Africa as Alan Dobie, I thought.

C.B.

A DEMOCRAT'S DIARY FOR 1957

A Year of Struggle and Achievement

January

The preparatory examination of 156 people's leaders of all races charged with high treason resumes in the Drill Hall, Johannesburg. In reply to the outline of the Crown case, Mr. Vernon Berrange, one of the defence counsel, states that the treason trial is a political

Areas Consolidation Act and the Native Labour Regulations Act are introduced by the Nats at the parliamentary session in Cape Town, giving administrative officials even greater dictatorial powers and further limiting freedom.

Port Elizabeth Dock workers strike for higher wages.

Ghana celebrates independence. SACTU announces its campaign for £1 a day for all workers. Treason trial plods on.

Nationwide protests greet Verwoerd's Native Laws Amendment Bill and University Apartheid.

April

The Alexandra bus boycott is

hear evidence for apartheid in the Tramway and Omnibus Workers' Union.

Police raiding a cultural club at Brakpan baton-charge children and fire on them.

At the Treason Trial the magistrate refuses to hear defence advocates when they object to evidence of speeches by people

and tobacco manufactured by Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation. Later court interdicts prohibition Congresses from publicising boycott list.

June

The Mamathola people of Northern Transvaal refuse to obey Verwoerd's order to move from their home where they have been living since the 18th century.

In Durban 600 textile workers strike against proposed wage cuts.

Leaders of the 1955 Evaton bus boycott are acquitted after a long-drawn-out murder and public violence case collapsed in the Supreme Court, Johannesburg.

Nurses all over South Africa demonstrate against Nurein apartheid.

June 26, National Day of Protest. Thousands of workers on Witwatersrand stayed away from work as a demonstration of protest against the entire system of oppression in South Africa. In evening a mass torchlight procession is broken up by the police and several people are injured. The authorities ignore demands or an inquiry into the attacks on peaceful demonstrators. Demonstrations are held in all other centres.

A baton charge by the police against a mammoth demonstration against passes. The next week they are all released after the case against them collapses in the court.



This picture of one of the thousands of women who demonstrated against the pass laws, symbolises the heroic struggle in which African women have been engaged.

August

At the Treason Trial the Crown calls killer Ralekeke, to give evidence against the peoples'

On August 9 huge demonstrations against passes for women take place all over the country as

several times convicted for fraud, is called by the Crown to give evidence. At the time of his appearance he is serving a sentence and simultaneously appearing in Kimberley on other charges of fraud. Crown attempts to link Chesa-Chesa letters with the accused. "A foul conspiracy" says defence.



January 1957 saw the beginning of the mighty bus boycott on the Rand which shook the Nationalist Government. Our picture shows boycotters streaming along a road from one of the townships.

plot by the Government of the type which characterised the period of the Inquisition and the Reichstar Fire Trial.

"It is an attempt to silence and outlaw the ideas held by the accused and thousands whom they represent," says Mr. Berrange.

The United Nations Charter of Human Rights is handed in by the Crown as evidence of high treason.

In the meantime a nation-wide campaign in support of the people's leaders is launched by the Congresses.

WORLD-WIDE SUPPORT IS GIVEN TO THE TREASON TRIAL DEFENCE FUND.

Thousands more people join the Rand Bus-boycott in an amazing demonstration of solidarity.

At the end of the month the first evidence against New Age is produced at the Treason Trial—copies of the paper are handed in as exhibits.

February

The Bus Boycott goes on. Police charge Lady Selborne boycott meeting and one African man is shot through the head. Many women are beaten up. But in spite of the police terror, the people remain unshaken in their determination to force Putco to reduce the fares.

Port Elizabeth joins the Bus Boycott.

In London £1,200 is collected for the Treason Trial Defence Fund at a meeting at which a smuggled recording of a speech by Chief Lutuli is played.

Drastic changes to the Urban

March

The Rand bus boycott continues in spite of Schoeman's threats to withdraw transport altogether from boycotting areas.

The women of Randfontein demonstrate against the permit system.

New proposals are made by the boycott leaders to bring the bus boycott to a settlement.

over. Despite all attempts and threats by Schoeman to break the boycott, the African people of the Rand have won a great victory. They are riding the PUTCO buses at 4d. again. The boycott continues in other areas which are not included in the scheme to reduce fares.

ANC branches on the Witwatersrand back SACTU's £1 a day campaign. In Worcester the bus boycott continues with practically 100 per cent. backing, and in Cape Town the Industrial Tribunal under the I.C. Act sits to

who are not among the accused.

The Communist Party of India forms the first Communist-led government in Kerala State.

Benny Turok, one of the accused in the Treason enquiry is nominated as African representative for the Cape Western in the Cape Provincial Council.

Government announces proposals to increase African poll-tax and Verwoerd meets immense protests at deposition of Chief Abram Moiloa of the Bahuruts in the Zeerust district.

May

In it's May Day call, SACTU urges all workers to rally to the campaign for £1 a day. Helen Joseph, women's leader and one of the Treason accused, is banned from all gatherings and restricted to Johannesburg for five years by Minister of Justice, Swart.

The Bishop of Johannesburg, the Reverend Ambrose Reeves, says the church will defy Verwoerd's "church clause."

World-wide agitation increases against H-bombs and millions call for banning of all nuclear weapons.

Demonstrations by Africans in Zeerust against passes and the deposition of their chief continue to grow. Anti-pass campaign intensified all over South Africa, and in Johannesburg, 40,000 Africans strike and a huge demonstration marches on the City Hall to protest to the Mayor against the pass system.

Arch persecutor of American democrats, Joe McCarthy, dies in the United States.

The Congresses launch their campaign to boycott all cigarettes



This cartoon which appeared in an American newspaper predicts the doom of apartheid as the people's movement grows from strength to strength.

September

India celebrates the tenth anniversary of her independence.

In British Guiana the People's Progressive Party tops the polls in the general election for the second time. After the previous victory the PPP government under Dr. Cheddy Jagan was deposed by the British.

Minister of Justice Swart takes a hand in the Treason enquiry by placing a ban on all questions about Special Branch methods of gathering information with tape recording machines.

Food and Canning workers at Spekenham factory in the Cape strike for £1 a day.

17 members of the Treason accused are charged with contempt after a protest against the sentencing of Adv. Joe Slovo on a similar charge.

October

The Commission on Undesirable Literature publishes its report and reveals new threats to the free press.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, the state governor calls out the militia to prevent Negroes from entering schools in defiance of Supreme Court ruling against segregation. Federal government orders their withdrawal and sends its own troops to protect the Coloured students.

The Soviet Union Launches the first Earth Satellite

Minister of Labour De Klerk declares all important jobs in the clothing industry for Europeans Only. Widespread protest follow all over the Union.

LEADING WORLD PERSONALITIES CALL FOR A DAY OF PROTEST AGAINST APARTHEID ON DECEMBER 10.

November

President-General of the ANC, Chief A. J. Lutuli, calls for all democrats and anti-Nationalists to put every effort into defeating the Nationalist government at the next general election. Spokesmen of the other Congresses endorse his call.

Anti-apartheid nurses from all over the Union form a new non-colour-bar South African Federation of Nurses and Midwives.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET UNION.

SWART USES PLANES AGAINST WOMEN'S ANTI-PASS DEMONSTRATION IN ZEERUST.



Mr. Kruschov, leader of the Soviet Union, the country which launched two satellites into space this year.

Striking millworkers in Johannesburg win a great victory when demands for higher wages are met by employers.

Armed police raid the annual conference of the A.N.C. Women's League.

December

SOVIET UNION LAUNCHES SECOND SATELLITE. THIS ONE CARRIES A DOG.

Over 300 delegates of all races gather at the historic Multi-racial conference in Johannesburg, and decides to start immediately towards the achievement of universal adult suffrage as the solution to the problems of South Africa.

Indonesia launches all-out struggle to regain West New Guinea from the Dutch imperialists.

FIRST AMERICAN SATELLITE EXPLODES IN BLAZE OF PUBLICITY.

Evidence in the report of the commission into the disturbances at Zeerust places all blame on A.N.C. and calls for its banning.

WORLD PROTESTS AGAINST APARTHEID.

Crown Treason witness, Ngubasli, is sent to jail for fraud in Kimberley.

SIXTY-ONE OF THE TREASON ACCUSED ARE ACQUITTED AND RELEASED.

Smoke and Enjoy

JOHN CHAPMAN'S

Famous Tobaccos.

- Mine Captain
- Chapman's Special**
- Silver Cloud
- Greyhound Mixture
- Wayside Mixture
- Champion Plain
- Champion Mixture
- Vryburger Mixture
- Iris Mixture.

★

CHAPMAN'S BULK TOBACCOS:-

DARK FINE No. 17 MMR.

MINE CAPTAIN.

AN CONFERENCE. GREAT ADVANCES

From A Special Correspondent

FULL support for the ANC policy "as embodied in the Freedom Charter," and full confidence in the leadership, both elected and acting, was expressed by the 45th annual conference of the African National Congress held in Orlando. Three hundred and five delegates attended the conference.

The conference issued calls to the African people to rally behind the A.N.C. campaigns—

- for a minimum wage of £1 a day;
- against passes and permits
- for the defeat of the Nationalists;
- against the Group Areas Act and the removal of people from their land and houses; and
- for the intensification of a united front.

Conference also expressed support for the findings of the Multi-Racial Conference.

Start from an attempt by a handful of Africanists and their dupes to sow discord and confusion, the conference was characterized by a solidarity of purpose and unity of outlook.

MBEKI'S ADDRESS

Enthusiastic acclamation greeted the stirring speech made by chairman Govan Mbeki at the conference's end in which he underlined the importance of the anti-pass laws campaign as the key to future congress advances.

"We must be disciplined in order to achieve freedom. Go, and do not sleep!" were his parting words.

After the delegates left the hall, hundreds sang peoples' songs and danced in front of a group of Special Branch detectives, brandishing their reference books defiantly.

MAIN RESOLUTIONS

The two main policy resolutions were as follows:

On the international situation: "The year 1957 has been an eventful and memorable one in the struggle for liberation for both at home and abroad. Once more the peoples of Africa and Asia have made a determined effort to shake off the shackles of colonial oppression and tyranny and to embark on an independent course of development. Significant gains have been made in the struggle against oppression. Nevertheless the imperialists who are not prepared to face the reality have made equally determined efforts to retain their domination over the peoples of Africa and Asia."

"In this connection the ANC welcomes and supports the decision of the Secretariat of the Afro-Asian nations to hold a conference in Egypt on the 26th of December. Such a conference will rally and unite the anti-colonialist forces in their struggle against imperialism, oppression and exploitation.

"It will put an end to the intrigues of the imperialists in the Middle East and advance the cause of peace throughout the world."

The congress further welcomes the decision of the Premier of Ghana, Mr. Kwame Nkrumah, in calling a pan-African conference later this year. The conference will inspire the liberation movements throughout all parts of Africa against all forms of exploitation and injustice."

"DEFEAT THE NATIS"

tion dealt with South Africa. The other main policy resolu-

"For the last 10 years the Nationalist government has brought intolerable oppression and suffering to the Non-European people of this country. They have disenfranchised the Coloured voters, evicted the Non-European people and other Non-Europeans from their land and houses, 'Bantuised' African education in order to prepare for a subservient role in white society, forbidden men and women of different races to worship together, extended passes to African workers introduced apartheid in the nursing profession, deprived the African workers of the right to form trade unions and attacked democracy in numerous ways.

"It is therefore the duty of all freedom-loving people in our country to rally behind the A.N.C. to resist and defeat the Nationalist government and to fight for democracy in our land."

FULL CONFIDENCE IN LEADERS

Expressing "full confidence" in its leadership, conference hailed the slogan "We stand by our leaders," directed congressmen to ensure that the trial "remains the central political issue in the country" and called on them to "donate liberally" to the Treason Trial Defence Fund.

A further resolution recorded full support for the President-General's call for "a national conference of volunteers as soon as possible," and instructed all organs of the A.N.C. to give priority to the recruiting and organisation of volunteer corps.

A number of resolutions reflected the desire of delegates to strengthen the organisational efficiency of "our rapidly growing organisation."

"It is necessary" stated one resolution "to improve our organisational machinery, the quality of our leadership and our members' understanding of policy and programme." To that end the national executive was directed to inquire into the causes of political and organisational problems effecting relations between the national and provincial bodies on the one hand, and provincial bodies and branches on the other, as well as the causes of friction at any other level of the organisation, with a view to alleviating such friction.

EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN

The national executive was also directed to "launch an efficiency campaign to improve the methods of work in all organs of congress."

A revised constitution whose adoption last year was enthusiastically received by the delegates and officials, was adopted, and will come into operation on January 1, 1958.

Contrary to expectations, a number of Transvaal delegates who have complaints against the conduct of A.N.C. affairs in the Transvaal, insisted on discussing the position of the Transvaal executive.

A lively—and, at times, stormy—discussion ensued in which emerged that Transvaal delegates were anxious that the national conference should ensure that a provincial conference be speedily called to consider complaints and iron out misunderstandings.

Conference accepted a ruling from the chair that the Transvaal should hold such a provincial conference within 21 days.

AFRICANISTS ISOLATED

A feature of this debate was the attempt by a small but noisy group of Africanist elements to exploit the genuine dissatisfaction

of a large number of loyal congressmen for their own ends suitably disguised at the time.

Pretending that their sole concern was "good administration," they used every demagogic device to whip up feeling and destroy unity at the national conference. But their bid to convert the national conference into a gigantic commission of enquiry into the internal affairs of the Transvaal, thereby diverting it from more important political tasks, failed when delegates agreed to accept the chairman's ruling.

One of the Africanists provoked an uproar during an appeal by the acting President-General, Mr. Nyembe, for delegates to be reasonable, when he interjected: "You are a second Swart!"

The negligible strength of the Africanists was exposed when they came out in their true political colours during a debate on the national executive Memorandum

CHIEF LUTULI—'MIXED FEELINGS' ON RELEASE

"It is with mixed feeling that I received the news of my release," Chief Lutuli told "THE TRUTH IS THAT I WOULD BE HAPPIER TO SEE THE WHOLE THING THROUGH WITH MY COMRADES."

Chief Lutuli called for the continuation of mass support for the accused, and for the redoubling of efforts against apartheid and for Congress policy.

He spoke on the place of the 1949 Programme of Action in present-day ANC policy.

Flushed with the success of their trouble-making earlier, the Africanists launched an all-out assault on the Freedom Charter, hoping to carry the delegates with them. They attacked the Charter because it allowed Congress to cooperate with other groups and because it envisaged a multi-racial society. They accused the leadership of "selling out."

Their attack misfired. It revealed that out of 365 delegates only 5 supported the Africanists viewpoint, and that these five were woefully out of touch with the mood of conference.

The full wrath of the assembled delegates was turned on the

Nurses Complain About Conditions

JOHANNESBURG. African nurses in Bridgman Memorial Hospital have declared "war" against what they term "barbarous baskeep mentality" which has crept into the hospital.

Many complain of bad treatment from the Hospital Authorities. They study under a threat of expulsion should they err.

It is claimed that the Matron who is alleged to be "rude" is partly to blame for this ill-feeling. They also complain of being short-staffed and overworked. One nurse has sometimes required, they say, to be charge of three Wards with 30 patients.

A spokeswoman (whose name could not be published for fear of victimisation) in an interview with *New Age* said probationer nurses "are required to know without being taught."

The nurses earn £2 10s. a month. Yet sometimes they are required to work a straight shift of 13 hours.

"broederbond racialism" of the Africanist speaker after speaker rose to affirm his loyalty to the Freedom Charter and to condemn Africanism in sharp terms. The Transvaal delegates whom the Africanists had wooed so carefully by loudly voicing their grievances in a previous session, refused to have any truck whatsoever with Africanism and expressed themselves solidly for the Charter.

As one delegate put it: "We don't want any worms in our apple."

The Memorandum's conclusion that the Freedom Charter and 1949 Programme of Action were "complementary" was approved.

CHARTER AND PROGRAMME

The Memorandum pointed out that whereas the Freedom Charter defined what was meant by 'national freedom,' and therefore called for the A.N.C.'s policy, the 1949 Programme merely dealt with the methods to be used in achieving freedom. There was

thus no conflict between the two—the one dealt with policy and explained what the A.N.C.'s goals were, while the other, without explaining the goals, dealt with a tactical programme.

A resolution was adopted condemning the deposition of African chiefs and calling upon the people to stand firm and defend their chiefs against the government.

Conference welcomed "the successful launching of earth satellites as enriching science and bringing mankind to 'the threshold of a new era'."

"It is the duty of those who cherish freedom and democracy to promote world peace thus ensuring the preservation and development of science and progress."

Jordanian military court recently sentenced ten men convicted of belonging to the illegal Communist Party to prison terms ranging from 7 to 19 years with hard labour.

UP MY ALLEY

THE Battle of the Bulge has started again. This time the offensive has been launched on Devil's Peak. A Catholic priest is campaigning to have the name changed to Christus Peak, and even led a pilgrimage to the top that's got something to do with Dutch Reformed Church with a counter-attack. "A Catholic invasion," they growled.

A communique from "neutral sources" stated: "It's all wrong. The name isn't Devil's Peak all right, it's got something to do with 'Duive'—'Doves'."

No, said another authority. "It started with Van Hunks sitting down to a smoking contest with Old Nick himself."

"It wasn't Van Hunks, somebody else told me. It was Van Tromp."

I'M getting all confused. Van Hunks, Van Tromp, Van Dugelen, Devil Shmevil. What's all the fuss about? There's no gold in that thar hill.

Whether they call it Devil's Peak or Christus Peak, or Pike's Peak, or Hill 1957, it'll still be home to the bergies who have no place else to live.

★

By ALEX LA GUMA

★

that she has just made a dirt tin for a client. It's studded with jewels and has the owner's initials in pearls on the lid. Miss Kline also went out to look for a raincoat to fit the dirt-tin, but couldn't find one. So she has got to have made a new one.

"I have a good idea of what the American unemployed and poor think about it."

★

Well, it's time to say a Happy New Year. I hope all of you have a whole of a time and worry about the hangovers afterwards. And don't forget to be serious about the new resolutions.

To one and all, families included, my sincerest good wishes for a new year of peace, goodwill, and full-speed ahead to freedom.

LOOK at my face. Do I look as if I've done anything awful? Yet the Attorney-General refused to let me go. Sixty-one of my pals have been let off and not even with a finger-wagging.

SECOND ASIA-AFRICA CONFERENCE OPENS IN CAIRO

LONDON.

A GAINST a background of stepped-up anti-colonialist struggle in different parts of the world, the second Afro-Asian conference opens in Cairo this week.

HUNDREDS OF DELEGATES HAVE POURED INTO CAIRO TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE. THEY HAVE COME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD—FROM NEIGHBORING SUDAN, FROM DISTANT JAPAN.

Although, more than forty countries are being represented in the biggest gathering ever of its kind.

Amongst the delegates are 40 men and women from the various

There can be little doubt that the Conference will pledge full support to the people and Government of Indonesia in their struggle against the Dutch for the restoration of West Irian (Dutch New Guinea).

ALGERIANS WILL BE THERE
Also represented are the courageous people of Algeria, who are fighting for their independence from France. The Afro-Asian countries have consistently backed the Algerian people in their struggle, and the French colonialists will look on with dismay as representatives of two thirds of humanity endorse the Algerians' claim.

At the Bandung conference, Chinese Premier Chou En-lai made a signal contribution to the deliberations. China will be represented at the present conference by 24 delegates.

FOLLOW-UP ON BANDUNG
The present conference differs from the one held in Bandung in that there will be fewer heads of Government in Cairo than there were at Bandung.

Bandung signalled the official determination of the Afro-Asian people to make their collective voice heard in the determination of world affairs.

The present conference represents a desire to consolidate the spirit of Bandung at a lower than Government level.

The delegates at Cairo come from all walks of life. They include politicians, trade unionists, businessmen, artists, scientists, and students.

THE AGENDA
Amongst the items on the agenda are:

Imperialism and national independence;

A review of the international situation and its bearing on the Afro-Asian countries;

The prevention of the testing and use of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction;

Technical, economic and cultural co-operation between the Afro-Asian countries.

SOUTH AFRICA

Of particular interest to the people of South Africa will be the discussion on racial discrimination.

At the Bandung conference, at which two observers from the Congress movement, Moses Kotane and Maulvi Cachalia, were present, a resolution was passed strongly condemning racial discrimination in general, and apartheid in South Africa in particular.

EGYPTIAN COMMUNISTS JAILED

CAIRO.

AN interesting political development in Egyptian politics in recent months has been the formation of a new Egyptian United Communist Party.

Although several members of this new Party were recently jailed by a secret military tribunal in Cairo, the Party has stood by its attitude of supporting the Egyptian national front headed by Colonel Nasser.

The new party was formed a few months ago by the unification of two of the three Communist parties in existence in Egypt at the time. A manifesto issued by the new party declares that its aim is to achieve unity with the third group of Communists so that all Egyptian Communists may be organised in a single united party.

The manifesto opens with the words:

"Our country is passing through a glorious period and one of historic importance. Egypt has become an independent republic. For the first time in its contemporary history it rejoices in a national Government. The latter, with our brave people and their army constitute a national front which defends and strengthens our independence. The Arab nation is growing and winning great victories," the manifesto continues.

STRENGTHENED DEMOCRACY

"Egypt stands on the threshold of a parliamentary life of a new type, it is taking a new step in the strengthening of a democracy and political and trade union liberties. Our economic independence is being strengthened."

"We can already see the perspectives of a life of well-being opening up, in which we shall be able to begin to reap the harvest of our freedom and to construct a flourishing national economy based upon free trade, modern industry and advanced agriculture. The workers and their allies in

the Egyptian national front would welcome the unity of the overwhelming majority of Egyptian Communists in a new party, the manifesto claimed.

'NATIONAL BOURGEOISIE'

Among those who would welcome the new party with joy, it added, were the 'national bourgeoisie, who have resolutely decided in favour of the road of national revolution.

"They consider the Egyptian Communists as the best defenders of our national Government led by the valiant President Gamal Nasser, and as the best fighters for the advancement of our national economy in which Egyptian capital will play a positive role."

The manifesto ends with an appeal for unity between all Communists and between all Egyptian patriots.

The secretariat of the new party later amplified its attitude to the present Egyptian regime in a statement commenting on an interview given by President Nasser to the U.S. magazine "Look."

DISAGREEMENT WITH NASSER

The secretariat's declaration stated that the party supported the general tendency emerging from the replies given by Nasser, but that it differed from him on certain questions of internal policy.

"We support the general orientation of his policy because emanates from a national government pursuing a policy of independence in the interests of our people and of the programme of

our Party," the declaration concluded.

"We are not in agreement with him, however, on the question of his attitude towards political parties and of the existence of a legal Communist Party in this country—an attitude which weakens democracy and which puts a brake on the development of our national front."

The declaration went on by quoting Nasser as saying that under the cloak of democracy and freedom, political parties in Egypt had served the cause of the agents of foreign countries and not that of the people of Egypt.

Nasser is wrong when he puts all parties in the same category, the secretariat statement comments.

"The popular masses are aware of how we are working to consolidate Egypt's independence and world peace. They are aware of our sacrifices and those of our comrades who are undergoing police terror, prison and exile in the Egyptian deserts in order that Egypt may remain independent and her people be sure of a better future.

"We protest against the holding of our comrades in the prisons and desert concentration camps."

TRIAL IN CAIRO

AT a secret trial in Cairo last month, an Egyptian military court showed that the suppression by the Government of Communists had not ceased.

The Court sentenced 13 Communists to hard labour for from three to seven years.

Those sentenced included two girls, one a schoolmistress and one a student. Four of the accused were sentenced in their absence.

Despite these convictions, the Egyptian United Communist Party continues to call upon Egyptians to support the present Government.

The Party stated that it regarded the trial as a blow against the national front in which Communists "were playing a distinguished part in support of their country and Government."

Those responsible for the trial were a small group of Big Businessmen behind the newspaper "Al-Ahram," who lacked faith in the people and were afraid of imperialism.

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENT

Outstanding among these successes was the fight against the imperialist pacts and plots, the development of economic, cultural and political ties with the Socialist, Afro-Asian countries, and the support to Arab nationalism. "We should not lose confidence in the patriotism of the present Government in President Nasser," the statement concluded.

"We must continue to support this patriotic Government and reinforce the National Front."



Colonel Nasser; his government is host to the Africa-Asia Conference.

republics of the Soviet Union. (At the first Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung the Soviet Union was invited to send only observers.)

Egypt, the host country, is being represented by a delegation of 82.

A number of delegates have also come from Indonesia, which is at the moment one of the key battlefields of the anti-Colonialist struggle.

In NEW AGE

Next week

'Bantu World'

Follows Strijdom's

Line —

By Tennyson Makiwane

Hungary's Runaways Fight Algerians

Forced into French Foreign Legion

NEW YORK.

HUNGARIAN refugees have been forced to join the French Foreign Legion for war against the Algerian people, the Algerian Front of National Liberation has announced.

"The Front's delegation to the United Nations made public a 700-word document based on the testimony of a 19-year-old Hungarian who eventually succeeded in fleeing the Foreign Legion.

He is Sandor Szovinecz, who worked as a specialist in the coal mines of the Tatabanya region in Hungary. After the Hungarian outbreak he fled to Austria and was placed in a U.S. refugee camp at Landeck, Austria, on Nov. 21, 1956.

"Then he and 160 of his fellow countrymen, having signed a contract to work in the French mines, were transported to a refugee camp in Colmar, France," says the document.

PROPAGANDA

"There they were subjected to an intense propaganda campaign by recruiters for the Foreign Legion.

"Sandor and those of his companions who refused to enlist were sent away to various mining areas, Sandor being sent to Le Forrel, near the Belgian border."

"Here, despite his condition as a refugee and a mining specialist, he testified that his living conditions were deplorable. The most difficult work was assigned to foreigners. No safety precautions were taken in the mine.

"Profiting from the general

alarm after the first fatal accidents in the mine, the recruiters for the Foreign Legion once again appeared. Before this time no mention was made of the Legion. Workers were asked to sign up for 'service' in the 'Overseas Territories with the promise that they could then possess their own plot of land and bring their families.

"More than half the refugees, including Sandor, accepted. These volunteers were then given a paper to sign—written in French, which they could not understand.

"Once in Marseilles, finding themselves lodged in the barracks of the Foreign Legion, the refugees (about 50 in number) realised the ruse, and protested vehemently.

"The military police intervened, bayonets in hand, and threw the refugees into prison as 'Communist'.

"In prison they were offered a choice—either to agree to leave for Oran, Algeria, where they would be 'freed,' or to remain in prison.

"Faced with this hopeless choice' the 30 Hungarians agreed to leave for Oran.

"However, the efforts of the Hungarians to escape military service with the Legion did not cease. Many, Sandor among them, refused to serve and were placed in the disciplinary camp at Colomb-Bechar. Others attempted to be discharged by eating sardines they purposely left to rot in the sun, or by smoking cigarettes made of quinine powder (in order to appear tubercular)."

Sandor finally escaped and told his story to the Algerian Front of National Liberation.

AFRICANS REJECT NEW 'BANTU AUTHORITIES' SCHEME

JOHANNESBURG.

VERWOERD's scheme to create "urban tribal authorities" is totally unacceptable to the Africans and is bound to end in failure say the leaders of the people here commenting on the latest NAD plan to create "consuls" of the Bantu Authorities.

"The bringing of the Bantu Authorities in the Urban Areas is unwanted and it cannot work," said Mr. P. Lengene, chairman of the Johannesburg Joint Advisory Boards in an interview with New Age.

Mr. Lengene said that many Africans had been born in the cities and had never seen the rural areas at all, nor did they have any ties with the countryside. These people could not be expected to accept the tribal system or the authority of a chief.

Urban Africans could not be ruled by people who represented chiefs who were outside the cities and knew conditions quite different from what was going on in the cities, he said.

FACTION RIOTS

Verwoerd's scheme is an attempt to intensify "ethnic" grouping whose disastrous effects have been seen in the recent Johannesburg faction riots.

It appears that the N.A.D. wants to establish stooges who will be the instrument of the government in crushing popular peoples' demands and actions. The "consuls" will be expected to appeal to members of their particular "ethnic" groups and call upon them to desist from taking action against the government.

A mass deputation which pro-

tests or makes objection to a government scheme effecting a particular area, could be told to go to their respective "tribal consuls" if the scheme goes through. In this manner the N.A.D. hopes to frustrate united action amongst the African people.

ANC STATEMENT

In a press statement the African

National Congress calls upon the people in the towns to stand firm alongside the courageous chiefs who reject the Bantu Authorities Act in all its forms.

"We appeal to the people to be vigilant and be on the guard for this scheme which attempts to impose further restrictions on them and thus increase their exploitation" concludes the ANC statement.

JOHN MDLALO—STORY OF A WORKERS' LEADER

NO PASSES

From

Melville Fletcher

"NDIGOXITHWE NAMH-LANIE" "I have been sacked today" were the words with which John Mdalo, veteran trade union leader and staunch A.N.C. supporter, greeted me when he walked into the S.A.C.T.U. office recently. Mr. Mdalo's trade union experience goes back to 1950, when he was employed as a labourer at Hulelts Sugar Refinery, Durban.

There he led a demonstration in protest against the poor food given to the contract workers employed in the refinery. Because of his militant leadership, not only the food, but the general conditions prevailing in the compounds, were improved. However, Mdalo was dismissed and being unable to find suitable employment in Durban, returned to his home in the Cape.

ORGANISED PRISONERS

From the beginning of 1951 to 1952, he worked at Good Hope Textiles and threw himself heart and soul into organising the African textile workers. After working there for three months,

he was elected onto the committee of the African Textile Workers' Industrial Union. Towards the end of 1952, the African workers went on strike for higher wages, and it was Mdalo again who led them. For this, he was imprisoned along with 256 of his fellow workers.

But even in jail, he organised the prisoners, with the result that when they returned to work, they were more militant than before. The employers, seeing that jail had not "tamed" the workers, were eventually forced to grant them an increase of 5/- per week.

In January 1953, Mdalo came to Port Elizabeth and worked, till today, at Langenberg Kopraserie, where he successfully organised the workers, and became a committee member of the African Food & Canning Workers' Union.

It was not long before he was again dismissed, but the workers protested, and he was re-instated. But this time his employers were more subtle. He was given a charge-hand's job, a considerable increase in salary, and told to be a "good boy".

In spite of his "promotion" Mdalo continued to organise and take up the complaints of the workers.

He was demoted to labourer.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR AND REPAIRS

Satisfaction guaranteed by experts. No job too small, no job too big. B. A. Thomas, Telephone 7-7858. Hamilton Road, Claremont.

PAINTING CONTRACTOR

Bartholomew Pieterse, Painting Contractor. For quotations telephone 69-4519, Cape Town.

Cape Town Congress of Democrats wish "New Age" and the People of South Africa, a Happy New Year. Forward to more victories in 1958 and a speedy end to Nationalist misrule.

FOR SALE

Gents 2-piece slate-grey suit, £5. Gents 3-piece black dress suit, £5. Both only worn a few times. Charcoal-black sunbleached. £5. One pair brand new binoculars, £5. All Cash. Phone 2-3787 or 69-3085.

CONGRESSES PLAN HUGE CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

mines, flats, office workers, farms, tax.

It cannot be regarded as a matter for trade union organisation only.

GET IT TALKED ABOUT

To get this conference talked about, watched and its decision waited upon by the whole country, will need the active work of the entire Congress Movement. For this reason, and because the matters to be discussed at the Conference are of vital importance at the present time, all Congresses have appointed representatives to serve on the £1 a Day Committee. All regions are asked to give their fullest support to this committee so as to facilitate and make their work easier. It is appreciated that there are

great difficulties in the way of sending individual factory or shop delegates from other provinces to Johannesburg for the Conference. For this reason, organisations have been asked to work for the holding of local or regional Conferences in all areas on the 15th and 16th February which individual shop or factory delegates can attend.

GREAT DIFFICULTIES

From these conferences, delegates to represent the whole region must be elected to go to Johannesburg on March 15 and 16.

Since the decision of the Johannesburg Conference will, it is expected, be vitally important, it is of no less importance that arrangements be made to allow the delegates to Johannesburg to report back to those who sent them, and carry the message of the Conference to the people as a whole.

NOT FACTORIES ONLY

Congress organisations which are not organised in shop and factory units but in residential areas, have a vital part to play in this campaign. They should hold regular meetings in their areas to tell people about the Conference and to see that their factories send delegates to the Conference. (If meetings are not possible, a door to door canvass should be undertaken). Congress branches must make plans.

● to see that every member organises a delegate from his place of work;

● to see that those with contacts in the countryside get in touch or visit rural areas and farms and urge them to attend the Conference;

● to encourage other organisations—local organisations, trade union branches, etc., to take a hand in organising delegations from their places of work.

NO DELAY, RED TAPE

For purposes of this campaign, there are very few weeks left to go. The work must be done immediately—without delay! In order to cut down red tape and formality, organisations are asked to treat recommendations from the £1-a-Day Committee as matters requiring immediate attention and action. Reports of progress and requests for material, explanations, etc., should be sent direct to the £1-a-Day Committee so as to avoid delays.

Let us make the National Workers' Conference greater than the C.O.P.!

Let us start off the New Year with a really tremendous Conference, launched by a nation-wide campaign! Let us prepare immediately for mass action by the people to back up Chief Lutuli's election call!

Forward for a £1-a-Day! Forward to Freedom! Away with Apartheid! THE NATS MUST GO!

COMING TO CAPE TOWN

New Age Photographer

ELI WEINBERG

will be in

Cape Town

from

December 21st, 1957

to

January 9th, 1958

Appointments may be booked

now in writing to:

11, Plantation Road, Gardens

JOHANNESBURG

NEW AGE

1958 CALENDARS

NOW ON SALE!

Price 1/- plus 3d. for postage.

Send Blank Postal Orders

or apply direct to:

New Age, Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town

or

New Age, 102 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

To All Subscribers

If you are having any difficulty in receiving your New Age regularly, please communicate with our Cape Town office immediately.

THE GREAT CRISIS AHEAD

By Moses Kotane

PRICE 6d. (Postage penny extra) and

THE LAW AND YOU

explaining your rights under the Law.

PRICE 1/-.

N.B.: Stamps in lieu of money should be sent to our Johannesburg office.

Obtainable at all New Age offices: Cape Town; P.O. Box 436, Johannesburg; P.O. Box 491, Durban; P.O. Box 700, Port Elizabeth; 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street.

TREASON TRIAL SOUTH AFRICA'S

24 Page Picture Booklet on—

- the background to the trial
- the arrest of Congress leaders
- Congress campaigns and policy
- the 156 on trial

PRICE 2/6 EACH Obtainable from any office of New Age (for addresses see foot of page)

(10zen)

Jape Town, wrapper is

1623.

Published by Real Printing & Publishing and printed by Hoorser Press (Pty.) Ltd., a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation, Cape Town, Room 20, 6 Barrack Street, Johannesburg; 102 Progress Buildings, 15 Durban; 700 London House, 119 Grey Street, Port Elizabeth; 9 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street.