

Spark

YOUTH FORTNIGHTLY

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Vol. 1 No. 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1952

Price 3d.

DR. MOROKA ANSWERS MALAN

No Alternative To Mass Action

Replying to a letter from the Prime Minister, Dr. Malan, in which he threatened Government action to "quell disturbances" and "deal with those responsible for inciting subversive activities," the African National Congress has steadfastly stood by its decision to launch a nation-wide campaign of resistance on April 6, 1952.

"The African people," declares the A.N.C. Executive, in a letter signed by Dr. J. S. Moroka and Mr. W. M. Sisulu, President and Secretary, have "no alternative but to embark upon a campaign of mass action." "We have tried other channels without success." The Congress declares its intention to conduct the campaign "in a peaceful manner."

"Any disturbances, if they occur, will not be of our making."

MALAN'S "LOGIC."

The A.N.C. statement effectively exposes Dr. Malan's lack of logic in claiming that because "differences" existed between Africans and Europeans discriminatory laws were justified. "The question at issue is not one of biological differences but of citizenship rights," Congress acidly points out.

These rights are denied to Africans, not in order "to safeguard the existence of the Europeans as a separate community, but to perpetuate the systematic exploitation of the African people."

The Congress letter deals with the Prime Minister's claim that the Reserve system, stock limitation, pass laws, etc., are designed to "protect the Bantu." Pointing to the homelessness and destitution of the masses of Africans, the letter roundly declares that all such measures are designed to protect European interests only and to prevent African development.

The A.N.C. concludes by expressing its regret that the Government has rejected "out of hand" its claim for direct representation in Parliament and other councils of state, and its offer of co-operation on this basis.

Congress Wins Hands Down

The exchange of letters between Doctors Moroka and Malan has ended in a clear victory for the African National Congress. For logic, dignity and reasonableness they win hands down.

Unfortunately, the Government does not rely (as Dr. Malan points out himself) on the Prime Minister's limited debating powers, but on its "machinery"—the police and perhaps the military—which "it will make full use of" to suppress the people's movements.

The Non-Europeans have only the machinery of their own organisation, their unity, their will to freedom. Time will prove ours to be the more powerful weapon, because it is based on right and justice.

But the decisive rounds ahead will be more difficult to win than the first. Non-European youth will play a worthy part in these historic struggles. In the inspiring words of Mr. Mandela: "The youth will acquit themselves with credit and distinction."



Photo: African Drum
Dr. J. S. Moroka



Dr. D. F. Malan

Swastika Night

Native Amendment Bill

The Nationalist government with the willing co-operation of the U.P. will undoubtedly pass the Native Laws Amendment Bill at present before Parliament. This Bill brings together provisions which formerly were embodied in several Acts and is intended to systematize and render more effective the martial law rules according to which the African people are governed.

Among the harsh features of this Bill are the provisions extending the pass system to women and children and those giving powers for the expulsion of Africans from urban areas if

"unemployed." It is possible to expel a person who has lived all his life in a particular city if he is out of work for 72 hours. As in former vicious Acts of the Nationalist government, the Minister responsible for the Bill keeps reassuring the country that the powers "will be exercised reasonably." Needless to say the African Youth will be hardest hit by this Bill which transforms South Africa into one vast concentration camp. Since the coming into power of this government a swastika night has indeed descended on fair South Africa!

ATOM BOMB MATERIAL

From South Africa

"A new industry which will bring many millions of pounds into the Union as investment capital," this is how the "Star" blandly describes the grave decision of the South African Government to allow Anglo-U.S. capital access to the uranium resources of our country. The "Star" continues, "Production will begin in the near future and is expected to reach its peak in four or five years." "Production will begin to manufac-

ture weapons of death and destruction, and in four or five years the merchants of death will have perfected bigger and better machinery with which to kill human beings. The South African Government has taken a wrong step by allowing the country to be exploited for war materials," said Mr. Bhoola, Secretary of the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress, in an interview with a "Spark" representative.

**"Spark"
EDITORIAL**

POLICY

The tremendous reception accorded to the first issue of SPARK has convinced us of the need for a militant organ to act as a guide to the entire progressive Youth of South Africa. Our ideal is to see the emergence of a united, democratic and prosperous South Africa in our lifetime, and we desire to contribute towards the creation of conditions which will enable all national groups to enjoy to the full the rights of self-expression—politically, economically, socially and culturally.

Such an ideal will only be achieved through the skilful wielding of that mighty weapon of all oppressed peoples—organisation. Our part in the fight will be to strengthen the organisation of youth and in the present historical stage our policy will be to give full and unstinted support to such national organisations as the African National Congress Youth League and the Indian Youth Congress. While reserving to ourselves the right of independent, objective criticism of these youth organisations, we will support them and urge the youth to join and strengthen them for as long as they continue to adhere to a progressive policy and commit themselves to an unrelenting and uncompromising struggle.

EDUCATION

It is sad to note that the Native Affairs Department Commission on Education has failed so miserably to deal with the shocking lack of schooling facilities for African youth; ramshackle tumbledown buildings; airless, insanitary, overcrowded classrooms (for the minority lucky enough to get into them); underpaid, overworked, inadequately trained teachers; unduly churchified syllabuses; lack of books, lack of playing fields, lack of everything to give children a fair start in life.

Heavens, you would think there were enough problems to occupy a dozen Commissions!

Dr. Eiselen's Commission did not tackle a single one of these problems.

Instead they messed around talking about what they thought should be a special sort of "Native Education"—of course under the control of the Native Affairs.

What is "Bantu Education," we wonder? Bantu arithmetic, Bantu geography, Bantu physics?

What silly nonsense, gentlemen! Forget your funny apartheid theories. Get the children into schools!

**INDIAN CONGRESS JOINS
AFRICAN CONGRESS**

**Indian Letter
Follows ANC
Ultimatum**

The South African Indian Congress has followed the step taken by the African National Congress in writing to the Prime Minister, Dr. D. F. Malan, appealing to the Government to repeal certain unjust and racially discriminatory laws. We give below extracts from the letter:

After examining the effects of some of the most recent Apartheid laws the letter states:

"This brief summary of some of the main Apartheid measures placed on the Statute Book of your Government will suffice to show that Apartheid is primarily intended for the complete suppression of the Non-European people so as to procure an unlimited supply of cheap labour.

"It is a fact of history that since your Government came into power it has attempted to impose its Apartheid policy with callous disregard for the feelings of the people and disastrous consequences to the country as a whole.

"It was in this rapidly deteriorating situation that . . . the African National Congress resolved to adopt a plan of action to obtain the repeal of the Group Areas Act, the Bantu Authorities Act, the Suppression of Communism Act, the Separate Representation of Voters Act, the Pass Laws and Regulations for the culling of cattle . . . this plan of action was endorsed by the Conference of the South African Indian Congress . . . In terms of this decision we have been instructed to convey to you the full support of the South African Indian Congress to the call made upon your Government by the African National Congress for the repeal of the above mentioned Acts, failing which the South African Indian Congress will participate with the African National Congress in holding protest meetings and demonstrations on the 6th day of April 1952 as a prelude to the implementation of the plan for the Defiance of Unjust Laws.

"In the interest of Peace, Humanity and the future well-being of our country and of our peoples, we expect that unbiased justice will prevail and that laws which offend the dignity of man and retard the progress of South Africa will be repealed."

The letter was signed by Dr. Dadoo and the Joint Secretaries of the South African Indian Congress.

A New ANC

By J. MATTHEWS
Secretary, African National Congress Youth League (Tvl.)

Mr. A. P. Mda, who is probably the chief architect of the African National Congress Youth League, once said that the task of the Youth was to transform the A.N.C. from an organisation of a few urban gentlemen with clean hands into a militant people's movement. In the past few years the A.N.C. has become a mass movement, as was shown by the representation at the National Conference in December 1951. More than half the delegates consisted of people closely connected with the trade unions, notably those from the Transvaal and the Cape. The semi-rural group was not as well represented as the workers but had strong advocates in the person of militants like Mr. Sibande—chairman of the A.N.C. in Bethal.

The national movement had indeed travelled far since the year when A. P. Mda gave his view of the chief tasks facing the Youth League. Among the delegates were also the formidable and disciplined forces of the Congress Youth League, and it is no secret that the important resolution dealing with the Joint Planning Council's report was sponsored by the Youth. This is as it should be!

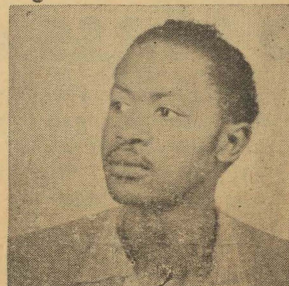
UNANIMITY.

From the debate on the report of the Joint Planning Council are gathered a number of striking impressions. The first and most remarkable was the absolute unanimity on the necessity of a show-down with fascism in the country. The extent of the hatred the people evinced for the government of Malan is eloquent proof of the unfitness of that group to rule South Africa. Nobody, from extreme left to the conservatives, argued against mass action. The debate centred around details of organisation and not on the fundamental need for action. This was a remarkable event considering the various groups and tendencies that exist within the National Movement.

Then also the necessity of Indo-African co-operation in the struggle was not questioned by any delegate. As in the case of action disagreement was not on basic policy but rather on the manner in which this co-operation was to be organised in practice.

It must be remembered that the Congress is founded on the basis of African Nationalism and both the Congress and the Youth League conceive their primary duty to lie in the advancement of African interests. They realise that a powerful African National Movement is the surest guarantee of the ultimate victory of democratic forces in South Africa. Within these generalisations the Congress and the Youth League stand firmly for a progressive front of all anti-fascist forces in South Africa.

As in the rest of the continent, African Nationalism here is a progressive force which visualises the



Mr. J. Matthews

creation of a South Africa in which all peoples irrespective of race, sex, colour or creed will enjoy full citizenship rights. I make these points clear because in many quarters there is a tendency to imagine that the mere mention of the paramountcy of African interests implies something reactionary or even racialistic. The joint action planned by the Joint Executives of the A.N.C. and S.A.I.C. is part and parcel of the policy of Indo-African co-operation which began with the Xuma-Naicker pact and is being carried on to-day.

It is gratifying to all genuine democrats that the A.N.C. and S.A.I.C. executives strongly supported by the Youth enter the struggle with their respective movements absolutely united behind them. In Joint and United struggle there is victory for us!

Prevent

T.B.

Be Hygienic

COLONIAL YOUTH DAY

On The Youth Front

By Richard Darrow

In the last issue of the SPARK I gave you some instances of the heroism of youth who were in the forefront of the Progressive and Liberatory movements of their countries. The examples of people like Piet van Staveren, Raymond Dien and Henry Martin are not isolated incidents. Here are a few more:

SPAIN.

March 12th, 1951. The name of the capital of Catalonia was whispered from mouth to mouth. In Barcelona big battles were developing. The Spanish workers had decided that the fascist regime of Franco, which is backed by the Americans, was becoming intolerable. Thousands of workers remained in their homes. The strike was organised under white terror conditions, but it had nevertheless succeeded. Franco rushed down thousands of troops to Barcelona and brutally crushed the strike. Thirty-four anti-fascists were arrested in Barcelo-

lona, among them the young leader of the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia, Gregorio Lopez Raimundo. Fourteen of the thirty-four were released because of world-wide protest. However, Lopez Raimundo still languishes in Franco's dungeons.

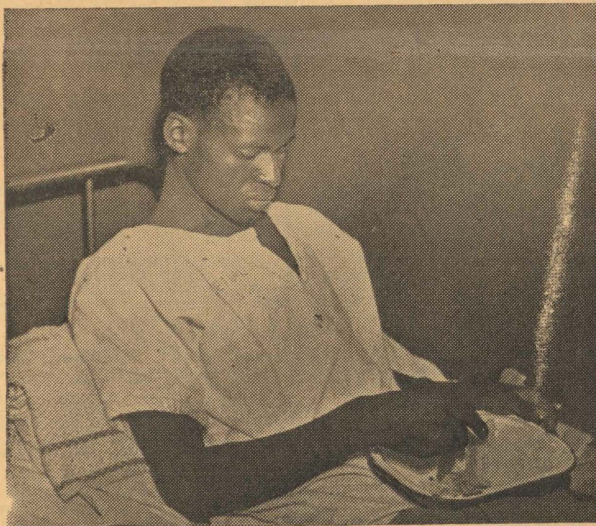
VENEZUELA.

The government of Venezuela, headed by arch-reactionary Mr. Miraflores, has decided to close down the Central University of Caracas. Reason: Students demonstrating in defence of their rights.

I.U.S. PROTESTS.

The Secretariat of the International Union of Students has started a campaign for the release of a hundred and eleven Greek students who have been exiled to the island of Ahyes-Egyptories for the past several years. Their crime? They asked for more democracy from the Nazi collaborators who to-day rule Greece.

"AFRICAN DRUM" EXPOSES BETHAL SLAVERY



Picture: African Drum

Beaten by the boss-boy, sick with T.B., he still has to complete his contract.

A Tragic Story

This is the story of Casbert Tutje. Casbert and three friends were sent to the farm of Mr. X at Bethal, to work as farm labourers at three pounds a month (November 1950).

On Christmas Day the foursome were invited to a beer-drinking party by a family squatting on the farm, but since the farmer would not grant them permission to attend, they left the compound without leave. They were severely punished by the farmer, who brought them to court on a charge of desertion. Each was sentenced to two months imprisonment. This term was served on the farm, where they were severely punished by the "boss-boys." Casbert sustained serious injuries which forced him to go to hospital. Although he was unfit

for work the farmer would not pay him because he had not fulfilled his contract. He subsequently left the farm without a pass—the Native Commissioner refused to do anything about it. His next alternative was to seek employment on another farm, with a view to obtaining another pass and getting money to pay for his fare home.

Here, too, he had to sign another contract. He is not home yet. He has been a patient at Bethal hospital since September 1951, and is now diagnosed as a pulmonary T.B. case with little hope for recovery. And he still has the new contract to complete as well.

The story of Casbert Tutje is published in the March issue of "African Drum," which gives a full report on the terrible conditions that exist on the Bethal farms.



SPEAKERS AT THE RALLY: (Left to Right) Messrs Wolpe, Mji, Matthews and Bhoola.

Johannesburg, February 21,

A crowd of about three hundred young people assembled at the Trades Hall on February 21, to commemorate Colonial Youth Day, a day on which the youth of the world demonstrate their solidarity with the oppressed people of the Colonial and dependent countries. Amidst a well-decorated hall, messages from the four corners of the world were received and read out to the audience.

THE ALL-CHINA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH cabled:

"On behalf of Chinese youth we extend fraternal greetings to the youth of various nationalities in South Africa fighting against racial discrimination and national oppression. . . . We fully support your righteous struggle. . . . Unite more closely to win new victories."

Messages were also received from French and Canadian Youth, from various branches of the African National Congress Youth League and the Modern Youth Society, Capetown.

STIRRING CALL.

The meeting was addressed by prominent Youth leaders who included Mr. Mji, Transvaal President of the African Congress Youth League, who made a stirring call to the youth of South Africa to join the great army of Liberation. "Despite our poverty South Africa is rich: the riches are in Houghton and Parktown. No one is free in South Africa, not even Dr. Malan. They live in fear, but the African people have a future to which to look forward."

Mr. Wolpe of the Student Libera' Association and Mr. Bhoola, secretary of the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress, spoke on the importance of world peace. These two speakers called for the strengthening of the Peace Movement in South Africa. The audience pledged their support for the cause of Peace and for the action adopted by the A.N.C. and the S.A.I.C. for the Defiance of Unjust Laws.

A moving poem, "Africa wants Peace," by Bernard Dadié, was read by Dr. Guy Routh. The poem is reprinted in full on another page.

More Support For Spark

"SPARK" has received the following message from the Secretary, Transvaal Indian Youth Congress, Mr. Ismail Bhoola:

"The appearance of SPARK in the political life of this country is viewed with deep appreciation by the Indian Youth, organised under the banner of the Youth Congress. Appearing as it does at a time when the oppressed Youth and their people are standing on the threshold of a great struggle, your paper is of immense value in strengthening the efforts of our people to gain national emancipation."

STOP PRESS

COLONIAL YOUTH DAY DEMONSTRATIONS

A mass demonstration attended by over 2,000 people was held at Port Elizabeth. The demonstration was organised by the African National Congress Youth League, Cape. Mass demonstrations took place in many other parts of the world. A hundred people were arrested by the police at a monster Colonial Youth Day demonstration in Tokyo, Japan.

PHOTOGRAPH WINNER

The Transvaal Indian Youth Congress announced the winner of a life-sized portrait of Dr. Dadoo. The winning number is 427, Mr. M. Akoojee, of Bloemhof.

SUPPORT FOR JOINT ACTION

Over a thousand people attended a meeting organised by the African National Congress (Tvl.) at Orlando last Sunday. A resolution welcoming the plan of action to Defy Unjust Laws was unanimously carried.

UNIVERSITY INDIAN STUDENTS

BURSARY COMMITTEE

A GRAND DANCE

will be held in aid of the above organisation at the

SELBORNE HALL

On FRIDAY, 14th MARCH, 1952

Music: Mascots Dance Band

Prices: Double 12/6 :: Single 7/6

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Tamat Graduates

Naseria Moslem School

Sunday, February 24, was a red-letter day at the 23rd Street Mosque in Vrededorp, when the annual Tamat Graduation Ceremony was held. The Mosque was packed to capacity, many people being unable to gain admission.

The following 21 pupils graduated and recited the 29th Joos (Chapter) of the Holy Quran:

Girls—Jureida Rasdien, Fatima Jappie, Mariam Ally, Fatima Rasdien, Salama Fumrie, Asa Peck, Abida Badroodien, Ragmat Peck.

Boys—Abubakar Jardine, Abduragiem Sallie, Abdumoutie Jappie, Mogamat Ganief Davids, Omar Ben, Mogamat Allie, Abdul Allie, Achmat Abrahams, Abubakar Rasdien, Aghmat Hartley, Fakier Sallie, Feisul Miller, Typie Matthews.

The youngest among the pupils was Abduragiem Sallie (7½ years of age).

MUSIC

JAZZ

Jazz is not a music of a race, black or white, but of a class—of a working class.

If Negroes have been conspicuous in the history of Jazz it is because most American Negroes are workers. Like people of any other race, the Negroes have proved themselves capable of becoming successful in all fields of art, the professions and commerce. Negroes such as Dr. Carver have become world-renowned, but the Negro seems to have had a special incentive to excel in the art of public entertainment. Negroes whose names every-

one knows have excelled themselves as singers, dancers, actors, athletes and musicians—Marion Anderson, Paul Robeson, Lena Horne, Joe Louis and Duke Ellington.

The people who have had the least to do with jazz have been the farm workers. For jazz is a city music. Read jazz comes from the streets, the docks and the levees, and its only link with the rural living is the railroad, which unrolls a ribbon of urbanism through the remotest countryside. In America the railways have always had an aura of adventure which they have never had in South Africa, and innumerable blues have been inspired by them such as "2-19 Blues" and Meade Lux Lewis's immortal "Honky Tonk Train Blues."

WORKSONGS.

The Blues is not the whole of Jazz,

BOOKS

THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

"Some Miracle"

Shri Joshi's latest book* is a commentary on race discrimination in South Africa, with particular reference to the crimes committed against the Indian community "in the name of white civilisation." Mr. Joshi is more concerned with effect than cause and says that the colour question is likely to be a permanent feature of South African life "unless some political miracle happens to change the course of events."

Precisely what sort of miracle Mr. Joshi is hoping for is not stated. However, he does make mention of the hope that maybe some day "a master mind at the helm of South African affairs will influence the white population to give up colour prejudice."

Obsessed by these vague hopes and aspirations he almost completely overlooks the heroic struggles of the national organisations in the fight for freedom and justice in South Africa.

Scant mention is made of the courageous leaders and in particular Dr. Dadoo, for whom Mr. Joshi has but few words. The author strays from his subject, "The Struggle for Equality" by devoting over three pages to the Durban race riots and then hastily skipping over the momentous Passive Resistance Campaign. Also, he deals inadequately with the struggle being carried on in South Africa and too comprehensively (by comparison) with the debates at UNO.

The book, while disappointing on the whole, contains nevertheless an interesting and valuable appendix which includes a history of the colour bar and the "march of events" in South Africa from 1946 to June 1950. S.R.

*"The Struggle for Equality," by Shri Joshi. Published by Hinds Kitab, Bombay.

WHAT'S ON

The Vrededorp Branch of the T.I.Y.C. invites you to their branch activities every Friday evening at 7.30 p.m. at the Latchpur Madressa Hall, corner 13th and Krause Streets.

Join the "Sparks" Cricket Club. Hand in your names to C. Kalian at the Vrededorp branch office, corner 15th and Delarey Streets.

T.I.Y.C. (FORDSBURG BRANCH). Indian Youth join us in the fight for Freedom. Attend meetings at Kholvad Madressa Hall on Tuesdays, at 7.30 p.m.

T.I.Y.C. Join Central Area Branch of T.I.Y.C. Contact S. Saloojee at Congress Offices. Our activities are politics, social, sports, etc. Come to meetings, Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m., at 13 Kholvad House.

ROOM required by young bachelor. Willing to pay (maximum) £5. Preferably Vrededorp, Fordsburg or Fereirastraw. Write to Spark, Box 564, Johannesburg.

WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN "SPARK"?

Everyone is invited to advertise their meetings, dances, socials, film shows, births, engagements and marriages in "SPARK." Our rates are reasonable:

WHAT'S ON: 1s. 6d. a line, six words a line; 1s. to youth organisations.

Adverts, with payment, must be received by Advertising Manager, "SPARK," Box 564, Johannesburg, 10 days before publication.

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Mon Tue—March 3, 4

Ingrid Bergman in "STROMBOLI" and "MY DARLING CLEMENTINE"

Wed—March 5 "THREE CABALLEROS" in Technicolor plus "ESCAPE"

Thu to Sat—March 6, 8 True story as told in Reader's Digest starring Glenn Ford & Anne Baxter in "FOLLOW THE SUN"

Mon Tue—Mar 10, 11

All African cast film "MAGIC GARDEN" plus "JOHNNY HOLIDAY"

Wed—March 12

All African cast film "JIM COMES TO JO'BURG" plus "CHAMPION"

Thu to Sat—March 13, 15 Dick Powell, Evelyn Keyes in "MRS. MIKE"

THE MOVIES

"JIM COMES TO JO'BURG"

AT LYRIC THEATRE

"Jim Comes to Jo'burg" depicts the frustrations and adventures that an urban African, Jim, meets on his first visit to the "Golden City." The photography and acting is not of a high standard but should not be too strongly condemned as this film represents the first attempt to produce a full-length film on South Africa, as played by South Africans.

Many of the scenes will have a special attraction for Johannesburg audiences as they see such familiar places as Park Station and Eloff Street displayed on the screen.

As a film, "Jim Comes to Jo'burg" fails, but as an experiment in South African film-production it holds one's interest. How far we have yet to travel in film technique can be gauged from the British production, "Cry, the Beloved Country," handling similar material with great skill. Although

not an outstanding film judged by international standards, this is nevertheless greatly in advance of "Jim Comes to Jo'burg." As a historical landmark in the annals of the S.A. film industry, this may be a show worth looking back upon in twenty years time. S.R.

"The Magic Garden"

A WHISTLING DISCOVERY

This film, which was made entirely in Alexandra township, is based on a story by James Brown, a Johannesburg journalist. However, from the weakness of the plot it would seem as if the story was written in order to hold the various musical sequences together. The effect of the realistic setting is completely offset by the

but the whole of the Blues is Jazz. One can easily see that the Blues are related to the worksongs which crews of Africans often chant when digging roads or hauling loads.

Look at this example of an American work-song:—

"Poor man sure
Is hard stuff;
Poor man and nigger—
Lord, that's tough."

Blues developed from these work-songs and are therefore simply constructed.

"When they saw my mother weep,
The police released me—
Released me a punch
Right between the nostrils."

Jazz is not therefore a "sign of degeneracy in modern youth," but rather the emotions of an oppressed people set to music.

OTHER FILMS

"ON THE RIVIERA"

Opinion: Hilarious laughter from Danny Kaye.

"STROMBOLI"

Opinion: Rossellini thinks its a hit.

obvious artificiality of the story. Considering the fact that the entire cast (with the exception of Dolly Rathebe) are "first-timers," the acting is plausible, while the photography is a distinct improvement on that of "Jim Comes to Jo'burg." The "discovery" of the film was Willard Cele and his astonishing ability with his penny whistle. The music, all of which was written by Africans, is the only laudable feature of this otherwise disappointing film. S.R.

AFRICA WANTS PEACE!

By BERNARD DADIE
of the Ivory Coast

Gabriel of our Africa, messenger of great tidings,
Tell our fighting brothers throughout the world,
Tell them this,
That the new-born child wants to defend peace,
The playful child wants to defend peace,
Africa wants peace!

Tell them this clearly and precisely,
Running through the world since the dawn of times—
Tell them this clearly and precisely,
That the widow who rises wants to protect peace,
The child which stands up wants to protect peace,
Africa wants peace!

The Christian who rises wants a weapon to fight war,
The animist who stands up wants a weapon to fight war,
The war for copper, the war for rubber,
The war for ore and the war for oil,
The war against the people,
To keep them enslaved.
Africa wants peace!

Over the solitary ever snow-capped mountains,
The green-cropped hills with bald spots here and there.
Over the earth strained with funnels, born of shells.
Over the flying manes of the peaks, sweeping to pick stars
To make of them candelabra for the house of man.
The plane will carry you to all the capitals,
Then tell them, you messenger of great hours,
Tell them this clearly and precisely,
Tell it to our brothers-in-arms throughout the world
That Africa has thrown herself into the battle,
Her men Her women

	Her children	
Her workers		Her students
Healthy	or	diseased
Africa wants peace!		
Africa has thrown herself into the battle.		

The ruses, the promises, the prisons, the murders,
Nothing can stop our flight — not at all!
There is always wind in the bow of the vessel.
There is always light in the eyes of those once blindfolded.
Tell them that in the night,
Over the obstacles,
In the sparkling sun of the victory which is rising to-morrow,
Our united hands will never unclasp.
The same struggle for life links us.
Africa wants peace!

Tell them Gabriel, messenger of great tidings,
Running through the world since the dawn of times,
Tell them clearly and precisely,
That Africa is breaking her chains.
Tell them this, and strongly,
That Africa
To Liberty and Peace
Answers: I am here!

Tell them, Gabriel, messenger of great tidings,
Tell them this, clearly and neatly,
Tell it to our brothers the world over
From Paris to Melbourne over the Cape,
From Moscow to Buenos Aires via Algiers,
From Nanking to Helsinki via London.
To our brothers who fight and die
So that man can be man
And no longer a vile object,
No longer a beast of burden.
I tell you, bring them
Fraternal greetings from Africa,
Which is battling, hoping,
Greetings from Africa
Which wants
Peace!

This poem is dedicated to Gabriel Dabossieur, President of the powerful People's Movement of French West Africa.

SPARKING SPORTSGRAMS

BOXING

By HENRY NXUMALO

Fresh blood will be introduced to Non-European boxing in the Transvaal as the result of the recent establishment of 20th Century Sporting Club, a new promoting body which staged a successful tournament at the Coloured Sports Ground, Johannesburg, a short while ago.

Until this new body came into being the Transvaal Association for Non-European Professional Boxing was the only professional body for Non-Europeans in the Transvaal; and owing to its lack of enterprise no more than two tournaments were held a year.

Owing to its far-sighted policy, Durban naturally became the most popular centre for Non-European boxing in the Union, and since a large number of top-class fighters come from the Transvaal, this resulted in apathy on the part of local fighters,

who felt that their success in the ring depended upon Durban calling the tune.

Switching over to football, the opening of the football season approaches with little hope of success in the amalgamation talks between the Johannesburg African Football Association and the Johannesburg Bantu Football Association.

The reshuffling of J.B.F.A.'s officials this year has resulted in the coming into office of men who are less likely to accept the policy of amalgamation.

Whatever the results of the present negotiations, there is little doubt that African soccer in general will benefit immensely by the coming together of the two associations.

Naran Bowls Well

Northern Transvaal won the toss and decided to field. The Krugersdorp opening pair failed. However, E. Saloojee (the captain) scored 55 runs not out and Wadwalla 42 runs. Thus they saved Krugersdorp from further disaster. Krugersdorp's total score was 235 for 6 wickets declared. In reply Northern Transvaal could only muster a meagre total of 46.

Due to good bowling on the part of D. Naran and very steady and inexpensive support from A. Tilly, the Northern Transvaal were all at sea to these young bowlers.

A. M. LAHER.

BETHAL

MARCH ISSUE OF THE

DRUM

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TENNIS

by "SHORT CROSS."

Tennis in the Transvaal is showing a great deal of progress.

In the good old days all we heard of was Freddy Smith and Jajbhai. These men played final after final. Then players like Alfie Hoskins and Wesley Thomas made their appearance. By this time Jajbhai was slowly aging but yet his forceful forearm cross court won him many a title, among which were the coveted South African singles title. In 1941 Alfie Hoskins with his well-controlled back-hand brought the South African title from Port Elizabeth. Because of the war the next championship was only held in 1946 in Benoni, where David Samaai won the title at the age of 18 and has kept it ever since. Samaai as you know is from Western Province.

From 1946 more Transvaalers came into the picture. Clarrie September, Frank Roro, Alfie Hoskins, Eddie Hoffman started featuring in finals regularly. Whenever a tournament was held, these men would feature in the finals. Tennis had a lull as players started getting somewhat despondent. A few players, however, persevered. Then came players like Bismillah, Lesley Mooi and Paul Jemaine giving us a bigger variety. Tennis progressed in spite of difficulties of insufficient and inadequate courts.

Young Jajbhai and Doerat started developing very fast. Agulhas and Didloff both lacking match temperament but having some of the best strokes in the Transvaal played attractive tennis.

To-day the tennis is of such a calibre that we cannot say as in the past who the finalists would be. To-day so much depends on who is "in form" and "on stroke" and who is not.

Transvaal can boast of having the biggest tennis reserve in South Africa.

Western Province has Samaai and he is definitely South Africa's No. 1. Although De Klerk was the runner-up in the South African Championship it is doubtful whether he is South Africa's No. 2. I am of the opinion that he can be beaten convincingly by Doerat. Agulhas and one or two others from the Transvaal.

The ladies' standard of tennis in South Africa is weak. I would appeal to parents, teachers, leaders of youth organisations to start taking an interest in this department of tennis. Get the girls to start young, play often and take expert advice. That is the only way our ladies tennis will really progress.

Too few boys are taking an interest in tennis. I hope more schools in the Transvaal would make arrangements for tennis courts in their vicinities and get the kids interested, even if coaches have to be employed. Tennis is a wonderful sport and must be encouraged.

David Samaai has put coloured tennis on the map. For that matter he has put Non-European tennis on the map. Do not let us stop there. Let's have other ambassadors to take his place when old man time starts catching up with him. Get the youngsters interested and keep Non-European tennis on the map and in the limelight.

It is my desire to see all tennis players play in one Association—Coloured, Indian, African and European. Sport knows no colour. Results.

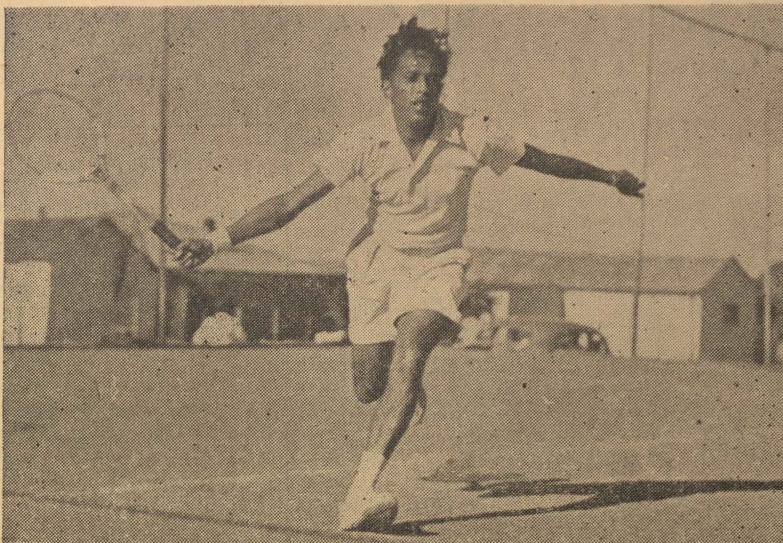
Nondescripts, under the captaincy of R. Mooi, captured the Jack Phillips trophy. Cities were second, Spartans third, Wesley fourth, while Perseverance and Poltonians shared last place.

Results of matches played on Saturday, 23rd February, 1952. Spartans lost to Wesley by 25 games. Cities lost to Poltonians by 13 games. The games seem a lot, but it must be remembered that a match is played on two courts and consists of 176 games in all.

The outstanding players for the afternoon were I. Cimmers for Wesley, M. Doerat and Miss I. Myburgh for Cities, A. V. Hoskins, C. September and Mrs. F. September for Poltonians.

Fixtures for Saturday, 1st March. Cities vs. Spartans.

Nondescripts vs. Poltonians. The Nondescripts-Poltonians match should be the decider for the Mayor's Trophy. This trial will be a battle of the giants as in the present system these two teams are the best equipped.



JAJBHAI dashes for one just across the net. Photo: African Drum

CRICKET

Eastern Transvaal vs. Wits Indians

It was a bowler's day on the 17th February, when Eastern Transvaal beat the Witwatersrand Indian Cricket Union by a narrow margin of 25 runs in a friendly match played at Ermelo.

The Wits opening bowlers, however, being erratic, conceded quite a few runs between the pair of them without any success. The Eastern Transvaal openers, on the other hand, were less expensive and bowled with far more accuracy. Pathetic batting was the cause of low scores on both sides.

Eastern Transvaal, first innings:

1. S. C. Jacobs, b S. Nawab	23
2. Dabhel, b S. Nawab	26
3. A. Omar, b S. Nawab	0
4. M. Dendar, b S. Nawab	4
5. I. Sarang, b S. Nawab	5
6. A. Variawa, lbw M. Anthony	29
7. M. Coovadia, c R. Gharda, b S. Nawab	19
8. I. Borani, c R. Gharda, b M. Anthony	3
9. S. Bhagalia, b S. Nawab	8
10. C. Karodia, b S. Nawab	1
11. Y. Moola, not out	1
Extras	2
Total	121

Fall of Wickets: 1 for 42, 2 for 42, 3 for 50, 4 for 59, 5 for 60, 6 for 96, 7 for 108, 8 for 117, 9 for 120.

Bowling Analysis:

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
E. Bulbulia	4	—	21	—	—
S. Bulbulia	4	1	13	—	—
M. Anthony	17	6	46	2	23
S. Nawab	14	2	39	8	4.8

Wits, first innings:

1. S. Bulbulia, lbw Karodia	2
2. S. Asvat, b Karodia	10
3. M. Gharda, lbw Karodia	8
4. R. Gharda, not out	37
5. J. Bulbulia, c Borani, b Karodia	0
6. A. Cajee, b Karodia	0
7. S. Nawab, b Karodia	0
8. E. Mayet, c Karodia	6
9. M. Anthony, c Karodia	0
10. H. Kazie, c Variawa b Bhagalia	10
11. E. Bulbulia, b Bhagalia	1
Extras	13
Total	96

Fall of Wickets: 1 for 4, 2 for 17, 3 for 35, 4 for 39, 5 for 43, 6 for 51, 7 for 65, 8 for 65, 9 for 90.

Bowling Analysis:

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
S. Bhagalia	16	8	30	2	15
C. Karodia	13	3	36	8	4.5
I. Sarang	1	—	6	—	—
A. Variawa	2	—	13	—	—

The T.C.C.U. Controversy

Letter to the Sports Editor.

The action taken by the prominent officials in withdrawing from their posts, has brought home to many people the significance of the developments regarding the unfortunate upheaval in the T.C.C.U.

Incidents Prior to Upheaval.

On the night of the 19th December 1951, to a packed house, the Barnato Team was announced. The Chairman congratulated the members selected, but, in his opinion, "Half the side was not fit to represent the Union."

There was, as could be expected, a general uproar, but no steps were taken to reprimand the chairman for his remarks.

Dramatic Turn.

On the return of the Barnato side, dramatic changes took place. To the dismay of several anxious delegates, the Secretary and the Treasurer both absented themselves from the first official report back meeting.

A vote of no confidence in the chairman was moved by a delegate of the Old Boys C.C. He accused the chairman of having implemented drastic criticism regarding the selected members, on the night of the announcement.

This motion was defeated by the majority of 9-5, with one club abstaining. Unexpected accusations then began to crop up. Mr. Noorbhai of Muslims alleged that some underhand work was going on. He also stated that every possible effort was made by the Selectors to omit him as an Umpire Delegate.

The Secretary then, much to the astonishment of the meeting, admitted that these allegations, implicating all selectors were no less than the untold truth. He continued by submitting to the gathering that he was, including the Chairman, who was in no way ignorant of what was happening. The Chairman, however, emphatically denied the allegation and provided proof for his innocence.

The Secretary retaliated by introducing his immediate resignation, steps which were instantly followed by the Treasurer.

I conclude by emphasising that there is a strong desire that pros and cons should be weighed, and that all those involved should come to an understanding, or restore a definite settlement which is much craved for. If not, then I dare say that cricket is going to suffer a devastating blow, which will have to be endured for many more years to come. So let us co-operate and prevent this controversy from causing further disaster.

"SPARK" READER.

Vrededorp.

Newlands Old Boys vs. Yorks

Newlands Old Boys defeated Yorks in a fast-scoring game at Natalspruit Coloured Grounds, on Sunday, February 24. Aggressive batting by the Newlands Old Boys was the main feature of the day's play. Dawood Cajee set an example of prodigious hitting, crashing anything short of a length to the fence. An example which was very eagerly followed by Yousuf Cajee, who slashed seven enormous sixes. Both these batsmen hit the ball with utmost vigour, and executed their strokes with great determination.

Dawood Dinath, on the other hand, was the only batsman on the Yorks side who fought back grimly to an attack which was always on top. He latted confidently, with the keenest concentration, until he was dislodged for a well-deserved 61. "Solly" Gangat, who was engaged in a spell of medium-slow spinners, managed to capture 5 wickets for 29 runs.

Thistles did not turn up for their fixture against Wanderers. They therefore forfeited points to their opponents.

Scores: Newlands, first innings, 272 all out (D. Cajee 70, Y. Cajee 65 not out, S. Gangat 39, A. Bhaña 34).

Yorks, first innings, 125 all out (D. Dinath 61; S. Gangat 5 for 29, Y. Cajee 3 for 57).

Newlands Old Boys won by 147 runs. From Y.N.

Bridge

On the opening night of play, players were in an aggressive mood. D. Noah and P. Haines registered the first grand slam of the current season, A. Baulackey and L. Mooi two little slams, A. Jappie and Mrs. T. Mooi two little slams, M. Ebrahim and H. Kazie two little slams, and R. Mooi and Mrs. D. Jappie one little slam. This is a most encouraging feature and the rapid progress made by the players, battling for places in the forthcoming inter-Union matches, is reflected in the honours achieved thus far.

It is the intention of the Union to start "Duplicate Bridge" so that the skill rather than the luck of the players may be put to the test.

The complete log to date reads as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
1. Goulash "A"	3	3	—	—	6
2. Nons	3	2	1	—	4
3. Knaves	3	2	1	—	4
4. Yarborough	3	1	2	—	2
5. Nons "A"	3	1	2	—	2
6. Goulash "B"	3	—	—	—	—

Scores of the game played on the 19th February, 1952:

Nons beat Knaves 1,790.
Goulash "A" beat Yarborough 2,430.
Nons "A" beat Goulash "B" 1,070.

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