

SCHOOL SYLLABUS FOR LITTLE SLAVES

JOHANNESBURG.

The new draft syllabus for the "Bantu" primary schools made public last week omits to mention the number of minutes of their three-hour day the little children will spend in sweeping their school room and other manual jobs. This is a significant omission which draws a discreet veil over one of Dr. Verwoerd's sinister remarks when explaining the working of the Bantu Education Act.

Said Verwoerd: "Parents and children must be responsible for the care and cleaning and maintenance of class rooms and school grounds. As far as possible all the work in this connection must be carried out by the pupils themselves. The daily cleaning of the school buildings and grounds will naturally be the work of the pupils under the supervision of the teachers."

HIGHLY SUSPECT

One of the highly suspect subjects in the proposed syllabus is that of "environment studies" which, it is said, will replace history, geography and civics.

These "environment studies" are obviously intended to inculcate into the child the feeling that his place in the bottom strata of South African society is fixed for all time.

The Secretary for Native Affairs even goes so far as to state that he would like that subject introduced in European schools "to acquaint the child at an early age with the Bantu in his environment." Like watching the monkey behind bars in the Zoo?

The N.A.D. is very proud of the fact that in its new syllabus English

and Afrikaans will be given "equal treatment" and that the children of Sub A and Sub B will have 100 minutes a week devoted to each of these subjects. The pupils of Standards I and II will have 200 minutes a week of each of these languages, or nearly half their total time.

But the N.A.D. does not point out that in modern schools, children of the sub-standards are taught no other language in addition to their mother tongue. Thus for example, in an Afrikaans medium school, English would not be taught before Standard I.

Are little Africans to be taught their "master's" languages quickly in case they cannot stay at school too long?

Religious instruction will take 170 minutes out of the 900 each week, or nearly a fifth of their time, an amount out of all proportion in the modern system.

The Native Affairs Department claims that "the syllabuses are in no way inferior to previous Native education." It does not have the audacity, however, to claim it is in no way inferior to education provided for European children.

UNITING TO SAVE KRAAIFONTEIN

CAPE TOWN.

A deputation from the Kraaifontein Residents' Action Committee is due to meet the Paarl Divisional Council this week to press for the withdrawal of the notices ordering them to demolish their homes.

Since the people went into action about a fortnight ago, assisted by the African National Congress, S.A. Coloured People's Organisation and the Congress of Democrats, no further demolition notices have been served at Kraaifontein, Mrs. C. Vink told New Age.

"We are not going to rest, however, until the notices that were issued are withdrawn," she said. "Only then will we feel safe."

Mrs. Vink told New Age that in about a week's time some 300 Kraaifontein residents will be starting their seasonal work in canning factories.

"We are all very worried about the position," she said. "Before we start work we would like to know that we have a home to come back to at night."

Mrs. Vink said the residents were very heartened by the support they had received from people outside Kraaifontein, and also by the fact that about 600 people in Kraaifontein and the surroundings had signed a petition to the Paarl Council demanding the withdrawal of the demolition orders, proper civic amenities and loans to help the people build homes. Nearly all the European residents of Kraaifontein and Brackenfel also signed the petition.

THANKS, NEW AGE

At a meeting of residents in Kraaifontein last Sunday Mrs. Van der Koff warmly thanked New Age for the part it was playing in the people's struggle for their homes.

Earlier in the week a deputation of 20 had interviewed the Kraaifontein Village Management Board and asked for their support in getting the demolition orders withdrawn.

While the deputation was interviewing the Board, about 200 Kraaifontein residents waited outside.

"We were not very satisfied with the V.M.B.'s attitude," one of the delegation told New Age, "and came back from the interview realising that the people would have to organise stronger than ever, because the Board was not going to exert itself on our behalf."

Home From Peace Mission

From Our Johannesburg Correspondent

Mrs. Molly Fischer, secretary of the S.A. Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union, arrived home on Friday from a visit to China in the course of which she attended the celebrations of the 5th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic in Peking on October 1. She spent a brief period in Moscow and ended by attending (on behalf of the S.A. Peace Council) the meeting of the World Council of Peace at Stockholm. Mrs. Fischer gave New Age some impressions of her journey.

The Peking celebration was "most impressive," she said. Half a million people all waving banners, marching through the streets 80 abreast for three hours—the obvious joy and pride of everybody—the widely representative nature of the procession—it was all breathtaking.

WORLD PEACE CONGRESS

Mrs. Fischer met many well-known personalities at the Stockholm meeting, including Ilya Ehrenburg. The most representative peace conference ever is scheduled for the latter half of May next.

"The note was repeatedly struck," said Mrs. Fischer, "that the struggle for peace must be linked with the problems and difficulties of the people everywhere."

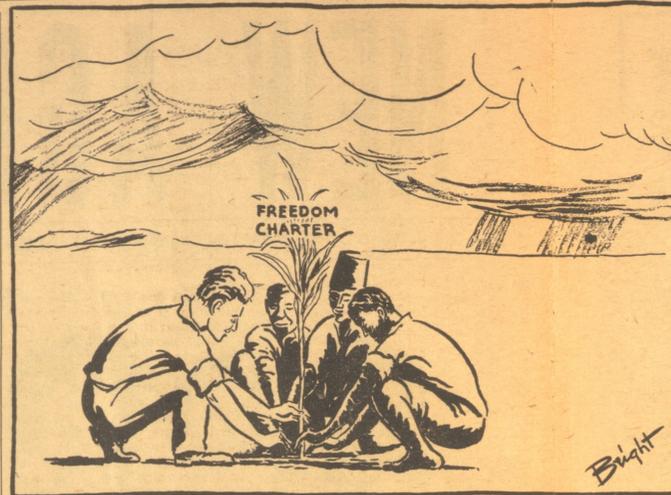
Congress of People is Main Topic

PORT ELIZABETH.

The Congress of the People campaign is steadily gaining ground in Port Elizabeth. Last week Africans in New Brighton on their way to work were greeted with copies of the "Call," which had been widely distributed in the streets. The C.O.P. formed the main topic of conversation for the rest of the day.

At a public meeting of the Congress Youth League attended by 650 people at the T. C. White Hall in New Brighton the C.O.P. was also the main item of discussion. Other subjects dealt with by speakers were the Bantu Education and Native Resettlement Acts, the economic boycott and the rent increases.

A call was made for the youth to come forward as Luthuli volunteers.



PLANTING FOR TO-MORROW'S RAINS.

DAWIE COUZYN SAYS FAREWELL TO T.U. BOSSES

(From our Johannesburg Correspondent)

Mr. Arthur Gelb, an alternate director of Unity Publications (Pty.) Ltd., which issues "Saamtrek," has tendered his resignation from the board "in view of the departure from its original policy, and its treatment of Mr. Couzyn." In a farewell article in Saamtrek Mr. Couzyn says he was dismissed for not changing his policy.

"Dawie Couzyn," said Mr. Gelb, "has consistently done his best to follow a progressive policy, as laid down in his contract. I have worked with him for a number of years and have nothing but praise for his devotion to the workers' cause. His removal is another sign of appeasement of the extreme right-wing of the trade union movement whose function is nothing more than collaboration with the Government."

MORE RESIGNATIONS?

Mr. Morris Kagan, who is also an alternate director of the company, describes the whole affair as "scandalous," and it is understood that further resignations from the Board may be expected.

In a "farewell" editorial in "Saamtrek," Mr. Couzyn writes that he has been dismissed "because I would not agree to giving up the policy on which the paper was built."

A statement to New Age from Mr. Couzyn points out that the policy of the paper supporting "a progressive policy towards all sections of the working people, without any distinction," was the basis for obtaining financial support for the paper "not only in the Union but also abroad."

He draws attention to the recent widely-publicised controversy between Canon Collins and the Rev. "Tubby" Eaton on this matter.

"I did not object," writes Mr. Couzyn, "to the Directors giving sponsorship and authority to appoint an editorial committee to the new body, but was vitally concerned with the carrying out of the terms of my contract . . . and the maintenance of the policy within the framework of which I agreed to become editor-in-chief."

Dealing with the accusation that he tried "to dictate policy to the trade union movement," Mr. Couzyn states: "This allegation is absolutely incorrect. Many trade unionists still believe in the policy I defended and which was itself laid down by the trade union movement."

MORE PROTESTS

Mr. O. Olsson, former circulation manager of "Saamtrek," declares that Mr. Couzyn's dismissal is "among the most regrettable of the incidents in the trade union movement during the recent difficult period."

"It bears out fears which I in common with others had that the

new T.U.C. in excluding large sections of the workers is unwilling to represent their interests either in print or in practice."

Mr. Olsson, a former secretary of the Transvaal local committee of the Trades and Labour Council, is now joint-secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee.

Mr. Leon Levy, general secretary of the Laundry and Allied Workers' Union, said: "Mr. Couzyn is to be congratulated on his courageous stand. This means the end of 'Saamtrek' as a genuine trade union journal."

Make New Age Powerful

CAPE TOWN.

Once again we are in the unenviable position of having to jettison more than half the editorial material which came into our office during the last week. We were sorely tempted to produce another eight-pager, but one look at our bank balance quickly put an end to that idea.

Yet that eight-pager is an absolute necessity for the democratic movement. Only a well-informed people can win freedom and justice for all.

We—and that means you—must make a regular eight-pager a reality as soon as possible.

Contributions towards that end are already being received from readers in South Africa and overseas.

Among the contributions were several fine tributes to the memory of Trudy Brighish, whose work for the progressive movement, and for our paper in particular, will always be remembered.

A group of friends in England sent us £37 8s. 6d., and another £3 10s. was raised at a small house party held in London.

West Indian workers resident in Great Britain sent a small donation through the Caribbean Labour Congress as "a gesture of solidarity between the West Indian workers and the oppressed people of South Africa." Their contribution is an indication of the value of our paper in informing democrats the world over of the true state of affairs in our country.

Help make our voice even more powerful by sending your own contribution to-day.

OPINION

DEFEAT VERWOERD'S ACT

Opposition to the Bantu Education Act has up to the present been sporadic and unco-ordinated. Many do not know what are the full implications of this blueprint for helotage; they do not yet realise the fanatical single-mindedness with which Minister Verwoerd is pursuing his insane plans for freezing South Africa into a permanent pattern after his own wild fancy.

In the last weeks opposition to the actual steps of the Government to take over the education of the Africans has been growing. But even a single organisation such as the Church of England has failed utterly to study the full consequences of the Act or to present a united front.

What must be realised is that this Act is a deliberate instrument of dictatorship. It is contrary to the accepted principles of education; it is a betrayal of the civilised conscience and of the most precious feelings of mankind towards their children. As the dismissed Natal headmaster, Mr. Moerane, says, "Such an education is more dangerous than no education at all."

There is only one course open to the African people, their teachers and leaders, and to all those interests in the churches and elsewhere—that is to bring about the defeat and repeal of the Bantu Education Act. There must be unity, provincial and national, of all those who reject "Bantu education" and prefer education in the accepted human sense.

Hoary Lies used to "Name" Unemployed Leader

(From our Johannesburg Correspondent)

A vivid insight into the type of "reports" made by the police on labour activities is afforded by the correspondence between the Liquidator, Mr. de Villiers Louw, and the attorneys for Mr. Issy Diamond, veteran Johannesburg democrat, who is remembered for his activities on behalf of the unemployed during the early 'thirties, in the course of which he was imprisoned.

The Liquidator is attempting to add Mr. Diamond's name to his list of members of the former Communist Party, and he had been requested to furnish his evidence for so doing. In reply he sent a lengthy "memorandum" containing "extracts of speeches alleged to have been made" by Mr. Diamond some twenty years ago.

Replying to the Liquidator, Mr. Diamond says he was "astonished" to read this document.

"At no stage in my life, in public or in private, could I have expressed many of the sentiments which have been put into my mouth in these 'reports,' which are a crude distortion of my beliefs. Many of these sentiments are provocations which, if I had really uttered them, would no doubt have led to immediate arrest and prosecution."

Among the remarks attributed to Mr. Diamond in these remarkable police reports are the following:—

POLICE "REPORTS"

"The time had come for the workers to boot the capitalists out of the country. 'We must kill them if they do not accede to our demands.'" (1929.)

"The only thing a man could do who had no means of subsistence

was to go to the rich shops and help himself." (1930.)

"I know how to solve the unemployment problem—turn the guns on the Government." (1930.)

"Diamond informed the meeting that he was taking up the leadership of the unemployed and was determined to win the battle for them against the Government and the capitalists. The Government must provide the unemployed with work or give them the dole and if the Government refuses, he, Diamond, as their leader, will overthrow the Government."

"Diamond informed the meeting that he was a Communist and had taken upon himself to lead the unemployed in raids for food on big hotels and business places and if the police interfere they must be killed or sent to Hospital—as many as possible."

"PACK OF LIES" There is a good deal more in this vein.

"In plain words," Mr. Diamond wrote to the Liquidator last week, "the 'memorandum' is based on a pack of lies. Such 'reports' prove nothing but the ignorance and malice of the officer who wrote them. I repudiate them with indignation."

"The greatest safeguard of all is that of publicity. The healthy light of publicity is as essential to prosecutions as the bright sun is to crowded mankind."

"Every one knows that there are some few cases in which the public interest and safety demands that parts should be heard in secret. The real reason for secret trials on the pretext of saving the accused from unfavourable publicity is often that the Crown has a weak case which would shrivel up in the sunlight of publicity."

"Public opinion very often reverses unwarranted criminal procedures. Even with the best courts, the best defence facilities, the best traditions and the best morale, mistakes are made which sometimes are rectified or prevented, if they occur, by the focus of publicity."

"Muzzle on Press" "This measure to muzzle the Press in reporting proceedings will

Natal Indians Denounce Bantu Education Act

(From our Durban Correspondent)

It is the urgent duty of all Indian organisations and educationalists to condemn most vehemently the Bantu Education Act which seeks to relegate the majority of South Africans to a place of permanent inferiority, declares a statement issued by the Education Committee of the Natal Indian Congress.

"This law exposes the true character of apartheid—separation for the purpose of ensuring that the Non-White people of the Union remain in a permanent state of subjugation."

"Now is the time for all democrats to make a firm stand on fundamental principles."

The statement goes on to say that the Natal Indian Congress issues a grave warning to all South Africans, and to the Indian people in particular, to regard the Bantu Education Act as an attack on all South Africans who cherish the democratic ideals and who are opposed to totalitarianism.

"History has taught us that whenever a wrong principle has been accepted for a section of the people, inevitably all must suffer."

Trudy Brighish

The progressive movement has been saddened by the death of Trudy Brighish, for Trudy was for us a symbol, a strong support and a dearly-loved, generous-hearted friend.

Trudy was a symbol for us because she seemed to typify the kind of personality that we want ourselves and all mankind to grow into. Progressives want a social system which will guarantee life, liberty and an uncheered pursuit of happiness; personalities will ripen to fullness and, in turn, help others to achieve true dignity and riches.

But she was, too, not merely a symbol of the future but very much a practical woman of affairs in the present. She first made her mark in the East London branch of the N.U.D.W. During the war she served in the Union, Middle East and C.M.F. as a hospital dietician. Demobilization found her on the National Executive of the Springbok Legion.

My recollection of Trudy at committee meetings is of someone who could not tolerate time-wasting—she wanted to get on with the job. And how indefatigable she was. Her strong frame seemed built for work—and work she did tirelessly—because her broad political ideals were the mainspring of her life.

But, when all is said Trudy's ideals cannot be unravelled from her own personality. She was a magnanimous being, with a fountain of inexhaustible, yet discerning love and sympathy for people. Tyranny, deprivation, persecution, exploitation, no matter where found, elicited a strong and practical response in her, because she loved people.

Our grief is two-fold—first we grieve because of our personal loss and the loss to the movement of a great comrade; but, secondly, it is sad to think Trudy will not now see the fruition of her work. When that day dawns for us in South Africa, as dawn it must, and soon, despite the present darkness of night, we shall carry with us the memory of our dearly-loved friend and set aside for her a segment of our rejoicing.

Cecil Williams.

Indian Tenants Struggle Against Rent Hardship

(From our Durban Correspondent)

The Springfield Indian Tenants' Association has sent a memorandum to the Administrator of Natal demanding that the authorities fulfil their promise to Indian tenants to maintain rentals at a sub-economic level in order to alleviate the hardship of the people.

Before the Springfield sub-economic housing scheme was erected, the land was leased by the Council to Indians.

In negotiations that took place, the Council promised the Indian residents at Springfield that if they

surrendered their leases on the land, the municipal housing scheme would be built and that rentals would not exceed 15/- and 17/6 per month.

GAVE UP LEASES

On the understanding given at these discussions, the tenants gave up their leases and offered to occupy the new houses built for them.

But the rentals were 30/- and 35/- for 3 and 4-roomed houses respectively. The higher rents were ascribed to the higher costs involved in the construction of the scheme.

In 1949 the rentals on all houses were increased by 10/- per month. Now, in terms of the new rent regulations, another increase has been introduced.

HIGHER COSTS

The memorandum states that when the first increases occurred in 1949 the sub-economic wage level was fixed at £12. Yet today, despite the higher costs of living and no wage increases, in terms of Government circulars the sub-economic wage level has been increased to £20.

The Association shows that Indian workers are now being forced to pay housing costs which are the responsibility of the National Housing and Planning Commission and the Durban City Council.

The Administrator is asked to give the matter his urgent attention and to see that justice is carried out by ensuring the reduction of rentals at the Springfield Indian Housing Scheme.

Wage Dispute in Food Factories

CAPE TOWN.

A Conciliation Board has been appointed to settle a dispute between the Food and Canning Workers' Union and two food factories in Cape Town. The dispute arose after the union had served demands on these firms for higher wages and improved conditions of work.

About 150 workers are involved, mainly women.

BIRTH FORMAN.—To Sadie and Lionel, on the 26th November, a son. All well.

Get rid of ANGRY PAINS!

Mag-Aspirin is better. Take Mag-Aspirin for quick and effective relief. Feel how gently it soothes away the pain and calms the affected nerves. Mag-Aspirin's safe, sedative action has freed thousands of sufferers from the agony of headache, lumbago, neuritis, headache, sore throat, bladder pain and sleeplessness. Get your Mag-Aspirin to-day!

MAG-ASPIRIN is not ordinary aspirin

Mag-Aspirin Powders, 2/- per box. Also available in Tablets at 2/6 at all chemists and stores.

Which Paper Lied?

"800 PEOPLE AT AIRPORT WELCOME STRIJDOM HOME."—Rand Daily Mail, 27.11.54.

"3,000 VERWELKOM MIN. STRIJDOM."—Die Transvaler, 27.11.54.

New Bill For Secret Trials Is "Very Doubtful"

—Says Sam Kahn

"That our judicial system can be improved is obvious but to convert preparatory examinations, which are held before trials on serious charges are heard in the Supreme Court, into some secret proceedings without the traditional safeguards of public attendance and publicity is a very doubtful proposition," said Mr. Sam Kahn in an interview with New Age on the new Bill on court procedure.

"It is not true to say in South Africa that people are tried by headlines and hysteria. It is an elementary and crucially important precaution that every part of a criminal trial should be open with the rarest of exceptions.

"The greatest safeguard of all is that of publicity. The healthy light of publicity is as essential to prosecutions as the bright sun is to crowded mankind."

"Every one knows that there are some few cases in which the public interest and safety demands that parts should be heard in secret. The real reason for secret trials on the pretext of saving the accused from unfavourable publicity is often that the Crown has a weak case which would shrivel up in the sunlight of publicity."

"Public opinion very often reverses unwarranted criminal procedures. Even with the best courts, the best defence facilities, the best traditions and the best morale, mistakes are made which sometimes are rectified or prevented, if they occur, by the focus of publicity."

Muzzle on Press

"This measure to muzzle the Press in reporting proceedings will

Creative Theatre Production

JOHANNESBURG.

The Regent Players' current production of Joseph Kesselring's "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Liberty Theatre, Johannesburg, delicately maintains the balance between realism and fantasy, to the uproarious enjoyment of the audience.

Taubie Kushlick and Marjorie Gordon, as the two nice old maiden aunts who take to poisoning old gentlemen to put them out of their misery and loneliness, are superbly convincing.

Under Cecil Williams' admirable direction, the Regent Players turn in a fine performance. Mr. Williams advances steadily in skill and maturity, and must be one of the most original creative minds in the South African theatre to-day.

WORLD STAGE by SPECTATOR

U.S. Is Losing Atom Power Race

LAST week the main Political Committee of the United Nations decided unanimously to authorise the Union of South Africa, Britain, the United States, France, Belgium, Australia and Canada to set up an International Atomic Energy Agency. Portugal will also become a foundation member of the agency.

The resolution suggested that once the agency was established it should negotiate an appropriate agreement with the United Nations. The resolution also called for an international scientific conference in the middle of 1955 to be held under the auspices of the United Nations.

The Soviet Union and other Socialist countries voted for the resolution, in spite of the fact that two amendments proposed by Mr. Vishinsky just before he died were rejected by the Political Committee.

The resolution still has to go before the plenary session of the United Nations before it becomes effective.

The purpose of Mr. Vishinsky's amendments was, in the first place, to insist that the use and manufacture of atomic weapons should first be banned before any Atomic Energy Agency was established, and in the second place, to insist that any Atomic Energy Agency should be set up under the authority of the Security Council.

Under U.S. pressure, the Political Committee rejected both amendments. Thus the agency will be from its inception an entirely Western affair and entirely independent of United Nations control until such time as it chooses to negotiate an agreement with the U.N.

THE REASONS

Why, then, did the Soviet Union support the resolution authorising the establishment of the agency? To answer this question we must first answer the related question—Why did the United States take the initiative in proposing the establishment of the agency?

In October, 1953, Thomas E. Murray, a member of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, announced that the United States would soon build its first atomic power plant. Although the U.S. is well supplied with normal sources of fuel and power, he indicated it was necessary to push ahead with atomic power research because it would be a "major blow to our position in the world" if the Soviet Union got ahead of the U.S. in peaceful development of atomic power.

On June 27, 1954, that major blow was delivered when the Soviet Council of Ministers announced that the world's first atomic power plant had begun operation in the Soviet Union. Even now it will be two to three years before either Britain or the U.S. is in a position to start an atomic power station.

To counteract this "blow" President Eisenhower last December launched, with a great flourish of trumpets and declarations of the United States' devotion to the cause of peace, the "atoms for peace" plan. This plan has never been elaborated in detail, and nobody yet knows exactly what it involves, but it is understood to contemplate the sharing of scientific information with other countries and assistance to under-developed countries to develop their own atomic power resources. Atomic and H-bomb "know-how" would, of course, not be included.

PROPAGANDA

An invitation was sent to the Soviet Union to join in the plan. From the beginning the Soviet Union asked for further details and

stressed that, in its opinion, the first priority was still the banning of atomic weapons and progressive disarmament. The U.S. seized on this as a "refusal to co-operate," and the political motives behind the plan soon became apparent.

The Wall Street Journal said the U.S. "atoms for peace" plan was a wonderful counter to demands for outlawing of atomic weapons, and predicted that when the plan was laid before the U.N. it would "rock the Reds." Newsweek said the plan would embrace "a massive pooling within the U.N. of all kinds of resources, materials and know-how." Business Week saw it as an effort "to rally the free world"—and export capital and surpluses to under-developed countries.

When the Steering Committee of the U.N. met to plan the agenda of the General Assembly session the U.S. delegate, Mr. Cabot Lodge, proposed the inclusion of the "atoms for peace" resolution, and at the same time deplored the "unwillingness" of the Soviet Union to co-operate in a project which held out such hope of lasting benefit to mankind.

FALSE ALLEGATIONS

Mr. Vishinsky startled the Western peoples, so misled by their venal Press, when he announced immediately that the Soviet Union was quite ready to discuss the United States plan. He did not understand, he said, why the atmosphere had to be poisoned with false allegations when it was clear that all were willing and anxious to discuss the problem of atomic energy.

"The path is not to confine ourselves to atomic pools for peaceful purposes," he said, "but also that those who have the atomic weapon in their hands should say that they are conscience-bound not to use it. Then we can get to work in calmer conditions, since the threat of a new world war will have been eliminated."

He then announced the Soviet Union's new proposals for the banning of atomic weapons and progressive disarmament, the central feature of which was that the Soviet Union was ready to begin disarmament in the land forces, in which she is alleged to be strongest, without insisting, as she had done hitherto, that the decision to ban atomic weapons should be taken first.

The "atoms for peace" plan had undoubtedly "fizzled." Business Week complained that the plan outlined by Cabot Lodge had been whittled down beyond recognition from President Eisenhower's proposals of last December because, as one official explained: "Our technology has not kept pace with our oratory."

The Christian Science Monitor predicted it would be a decade before the atom programme could go into operation, since "the U.S. has nothing to share yet but fissionable uranium and blueprints," and the existence already of the Soviet atomic power plant could turn Washington's "dramatic move" into a dud.

BAN THE BOMBS

Meanwhile, the central issue of the banning of atomic weapons is completely ignored in the "atoms for peace" plan. Vishinsky consistently urged that this problem must be tackled without delay.

One-quarter of the Japanese people—the first to suffer from atomic weapons—has already signed petitions for the outlawing of the "bombs." Two weeks ago a joint appeal to the United Nations to ban atom and hydrogen weapons was signed by the Coventry City Council delegation visiting Stalingrad and the Stalingrad Municipal Council of Workers' Deputies.

The Lord Mayor of Coventry, Mr. John Fennell, and the chairman of the Stalingrad Council, Mr. Sergei Shapurov, also signed a covering letter to the U.N. General Secretary asking him to circulate the appeal as soon as possible.

"We are convinced," says the appeal, "that the banning of the atomic and hydrogen weapons would contribute to peace throughout the world and result in the easing of tension in international relations."

The two cities, which both suffered terribly in the last war, pledged that "they will carry on the struggle for peace and friendship among nations until the forces of peace have won a complete victory."

Germany

The cost of the West German Army in the 1955-56 budget is estimated at 9,000 million marks—about £750 million—nearly one-third of the total budget, a Bonn Finance Ministry official said recently.

Another 34 million marks—£3 million—is provided for the "second wave of Border Police." Of these, 10,000 are in the State's mobile police forces and 10,000 in the Federal Border Police.

India

Correspondents of Western newspapers reported that Mr. Nehru returned to India from his visit to People's China refreshed and invigorated.

At a Press conference in Delhi he said he was satisfied that China, in her own interests, wanted peace and was thinking of economic development in terms of 15 or 20 years. He agreed with one correspondent that China's army might be 10 million men strong, but did not feel that this altered the picture.

Asked to compare the Chinese and Indian systems, Mr. Nehru said he thought parliamentary democracy was best for India, "even though lack of criticism made China enthusiastic about her own achievements, while in India excessive criticism made the people feel their country was going to the dogs."

Nehru said he felt India could stand comparison with China in the economic sphere.

China

A 20-strong delegation, including nine M.P.s, just returned to Britain from China say in a Press statement there was "no evidence that China was attempting to build or had the desire to build a war economy. Like Mr. Attlee, however, we felt convinced the Chinese Government and people feel very strongly about Formosa and are determined to regain it sooner or later."

"It is our firm opinion that trade should be rapidly expanded between the two countries and not restricted by unreasonable embargoes, and that there should be a freer interchange of people and news."

The statement adds—"Co-existence between our two different political systems is possible."

The delegation met the Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai, and leading representatives of industry, education, the trade unions and the Christian and Buddhist religions.

"The group was deeply impressed by the scale of construction and building everywhere in evidence, by the pride of the Chinese people in what had been done and what was being attempted." The care of children, the new status of women and literary, artistic and scientific activities also greatly impressed them.

NEW AGE LETTERBOX

Challenge to Church Rights

I wish to appeal to all Bantu Church leaders, to the bishops, ministers, missionaries and laymen of our country.

Never before in the history of the African leaders of South Africa have they been faced by such a crisis as that confronting them at the present moment.

To-day the Government is preparing to take away church leases in locations, at any time at the Minister's pleasure.

Let's pray together that the Government of this country might become the government of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Life, that God remove from the world for ever this dreadful menace of discriminatory laws of this country by the pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh.

God made of one blood all nations of the earth. Churches belong to God, not the government.

Let's take up the challenge to defend that which we regard as our sacred church right.

Rev. J. S. NTHOLI,
A.N.C. Chaplain.
Ficksburg, O.F.S.

Sorrow for Vishinsky

It is with regret and sorrow that we learnt of the death of Andrei Vishinsky, a great and dear friend of colonial peoples struggling for freedom. To the peace-loving people of the world his death is a sad blow.

The role of Andrei Vishinsky at U.N. will go down in history. People conducting just struggles could always look to him to raise their cries against injustice.

Oppressed South Africans will always remember his contributions at U.N.O.

He was a remarkable man who represented a country that has wiped out racialism forever.

PAUL JOSEPH.
Fordsburg.

Advance Was Guiding Star

I am oppressed by a sense of shame to learn that the Minister of Justice has publicly acquitted himself so disgracefully as to summarily ban Advance, the paper that spoke for over ten million souls in South Africa.

To me in particular Advance was a guiding star. It led the South African population to see beyond the concept of racial herrenvolkism and European domination to a better understanding and mutual co-operation. It endeavoured to save South Africa from social turmoils and political upheavals.

Advance was a paper of high public responsibility and duty. It fought for the extension of human rights to all. Advance recognised South Africa as a land for White and Black alike. It exposed the sinister ideology of the South African Government to consider themselves the master race.

The ban of Advance is a great loss. Its voice was heard far and wide. The silence of its voice is still heard far and wide.

Now my expectations are placed on a newly-born baby—New Age. Let New Age expose the vicious political acts of the Nationalist Government. Let New Age challenge the oppressive policy of exploitation in South Africa. Let the editor and other staff members co-operate with private sellers like myself and others, and make New Age stronger and stronger as the years pass.

MOKGALE-PHOLO
MOTJELA.
Leeuwkraal, Makapanstad.

Travellers' Union And Apartheid

I read with great surprise in New Age (Nov. 11) the contention by Mr. Harry Wright that he had "voted for the dissolution of the Trades and Labour Council, in accordance with a mandate given by the annual conference of the National Union of Commercial Travellers last June, and in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the union."

At the national conference last June I moved a resolution opposing the Industrial Conciliation Bill and supporting the T. and L.C. "in its present policy and as at present constituted" and supporting its efforts "to obtain a single united trade union centre."

At a meeting of the National Executive of the union held prior to the October trade union conferences it was resolved that Mr. Wright, on behalf of our union, should vote against the clause of the proposed S.A.T.U.C. constitution excluding African unions.

It was further resolved, on my motion, that Mr. Wright should vote against the dissolution of the Trades and Labour Council.

All these resolutions were carried unanimously, and are in line with our union's policy as consistently laid down by national conferences since the national union was formed in 1945.

I cannot understand, therefore, how Mr. Wright can justify his sudden switch to support of apartheid in the movement, nor how he can have the audacity to claim that this is in line with union policy. In view of the above facts, it is clear that the N.U.C.T. has always opposed apartheid.

With reference to Mr. Wright's contention that he voted "in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the union," it would be interesting to know what steps he has taken to ascertain the views of the membership, quite apart from the fact that in terms of our Constitution the National Executive Committee and not the president is the supreme authority between conferences.

A. GELB.
Johannesburg.

Govt. Upsets Cape Labour Needs

CAPE TOWN.

There are hardly enough Africans in the proclaimed area of the Cape Peninsula to meet all labour requirements for the quarter ending 31st December, 1954, the Manager of Native Administration states in a report to the City Council this week.

The Native Affairs Committee also reports on the shortage of domestic labour, including chefs, waiters, etc. This shortage has been aggravated by the recent Government edict decreeing that "foreign Natives" who lose their jobs must leave Cape Town.

The committee has made urgent representations to the Department of Native Affairs to suspend this decree at least until March 31, 1955.

Mrs. Tamana In Court

CAPE TOWN.

The case of Mrs. Dora Tamana, who has been arrested for living in Cape Town without a permit, has been remanded to December 8 in the Langa Court.

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