

Star 10/5/60



PRICE 3d.

In the Union of South Africa and S.W. Africa.  
In Central African Federation (Air Delivery) 4d.

COMPLETE RANGE OF THE FAMOUS  
**BLAUPUNKT RADIOS**  
Including Stereo Model Radiograms, from  
only ..... £47-10-0  
OR 7/6 WEEKLY

**BROADCAST RADIO CO.**  
70a PRITCHARD STREET (between Eloff & Joubert Sts.)

# JAILED WHITES PLAN TO GO ON HUNGER STRIKE

## Women tell Erasmus: "Free us—or else"

By a Staff Reporter

A HUNGER STRIKE has been threatened by the 52 White people detained in the Johannesburg area under the emergency regulations and now held in the Pretoria area.

Before their transfer from Johannesburg Fort last week the 21 women sent a petition to the Minister of Justice declaring they will go on hunger strike from next Thursday unless Mr. Erasmus orders their release by that date. Thirty-one White men have stated their intention of beginning a hunger strike "in sympathy" on Saturday.

In their petition, handed to the Minister last week, the women declare: "We are convinced that our arrests have been completely haphazard and bear no relationship to any emergency whatever."

They say they are prepared to meet any charges preferred against them in any open Court of law.

They also point out that, during the five weeks they have been imprisoned, 19 children have been parentless and many others, deprived of one parent.

"We can no longer tolerate their deprivation. . . . In addition, most of us, as individuals or family units, face complete financial ruin," they declare.

19 parentless children. The other women detainees between them have 15 children and we do not know how many other children, of all races, have been similarly deprived of one or both of their parents.

We can no longer tolerate their deprivation, particularly in view of the groundlessness of our detention. In addition, most of us, as individuals or family units, face complete financial ruin.

In view of all these factors, we have decided that, unless we receive a satisfactory reply to our demand for immediate release on or before 12th of May, it is our intention to exert the only pressure within our means—namely, to engage in a hunger strike from that date."

### NO REASON GIVEN

The full text of the petition is: We, the 21 European women detainees, presently held at the Fort, Johannesburg, wish to make the following submissions:

It is more than a month since the first arrests took place under the Emergency Regulations. Two of us have been in custody for the full period. The other detainees, except for one, have been in custody for almost as long.

At no stage has any one of us been advised of the reason for our arrest, how long we would be detained, what charges (if any) would be preferred against us, or what steps could be taken to obtain our release.

We have been denied the right to discuss our detention with legal advisers. We are not allowed to obtain newspapers and have thus been unable to follow events or to read statements about our detention which may have appeared in the Press. We have on many occasions requested information about our position, but have been constantly ignored.

### IN BAD FAITH

After careful consideration we are convinced that the authorities responsible for our detention have acted *male fide* or without due regard for the facts. We are, furthermore, convinced that our arrests have been completely haphazard and bear no relationship to any emergency whatsoever.

Although we cannot speak for anyone but ourselves, we conclude that the pattern emerging from our detention applies in all other cases as well, and that the purpose of the arrests was to intimidate people throughout the country.

We all know that we have committed no crimes, and we are fully prepared to meet any charges which may be preferred against us in any open Court of law. Pending the drawing up of such charges—if they are to be drawn up—we insist on our immediate release. The continued delay in even considering our cases substantiates our belief that the authorities had no grounds for our detention.

### ONLY METHOD

Seven of us, whose husbands are also detained, have left outside

## 'LUXURIES' IN THEIR NEW HOME

THE White detainees transferred from Johannesburg Fort had a pleasant surprise on their arrival.

On each bed were a couple of sheets—an unheard-of luxury during their five weeks of detention under the Emergency Regulations.

At the Fort they were allowed to buy food, but were without cooking facilities. At their new home they have been given stoves, tea urns and knives and forks.

"People here treat us so much better," the detainees told visitors yesterday.

Their one complaint is that relatives have to make a long journey for the 20-minute meeting allowed on two visiting days each week.

## The weather

Forecast from the Weather Bureau, Pretoria, till 6 p.m. tomorrow:  
TRANSVAAL.—Fine and mild but cold tonight with frosts over the highveld regions.  
LOCAL SUNSET today, 5.31; tomorrow, 6.36; sunset tomorrow, 7.41.

## "Snowy" Walker loses bowls title

BOBBY SCHORN, the Colbyn bowler who has often been on the verge of winning a major title, gained his finest success when he beat Norman ("Snowy") Walker, the title-holder, in the fourth round of the South African bowls singles championship at Old Edwardians this morning.

It was a good game, with Schorn always in the lead.

In the last end Schorn gained a shot on a measure, Walker being a shade short with two woods which might have turned out Schorn's counter had they been into the head.

Walker, who has played in three Empire Games, has won the singles title twice—in 1954 and 1959—and the rinks title three times. In 1945 he won both the singles and the rinks.

(Results on Page 30)

## "Drum" to be Lagos company

LAGOS, Tuesday.—The magazine "Drum," which is printed in Johannesburg, announced in Lagos today that it is being formed into a Nigerian company. The board of directors of five will include three Nigerians.

The announcement added that plans are being prepared to erect a press in Lagos.—Sapa-Reuter.

**Collection Number: A3299**

**Collection Name: HILDA AND RUSTY BERNSTEIN PAPERS**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:* Historical Papers Research Archive

*Location:* Johannesburg

©2015

***LEGAL NOTICES:***

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a collection, held at the Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.