

MC

“A Piece Of Frightful Cruelty”

Advance

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POLICE DESTROY AFRICAN VILLAGE

300 Families Homeless

KLERKSDORP.

A LARGE force of armed police arrived at dawn on Thursday last at a shanty town erected by homeless African squatters near the power station. A number of people were taken prisoner; the rest fled into the veld. The entire village was then burnt to the ground.

No alternative accommodation will be provided for over 300 families whose homes have been destroyed.

Seventy-three Africans who were captured by the police were immediately prosecuted and sentenced in a mass trial at Viljoenskroon on a charge of squatting on land owned by the Driefontein Collieries. Sixteen men were sentenced to imprisonment for from five weeks to two months, with the alternative of fines of £10 to £15 each and 57 women received similar sentences of three weeks to two months' gaol or £5 to £20 fines each.

In a Press statement Mr. C. W. Prinsloo, chief information officer of the Native Affairs Department, said that the homeless Africans "will have to provide their own refuge." He said the majority were "Basutoland Natives." He did not know what had happened to them. "Many of them could not give reasonable explanations concerning the nature of their work."

THE OLD STORY

An official of the African National Congress told Advance that he did not know of any investigation conducted by the Native Affairs Department showing that the people concerned were from Basutoland or that they were not employed. "It's the old story," he said. "People cannot find hous-

ing and they are forced to squat. Then the authorities say they are vagrants or 'foreign Natives.'

"The same thing happened with the Orlando squatters a few years ago. We were told they were vagrants, but when they were screened by the police it was found that 95 per cent. had valid passes showing they were employed in Johannesburg.

"This is just a piece of frightful cruelty that reminds me of Lidice, in Czechoslovakia."



(See articles on the "Unity" Conference on pages 4 and 6)

At the Forthcoming Congress of the Peoples

"Let Us Speak Of Freedom!"

Peoples' Leaders call to South Africa

From MICHAEL HARMEL

JOHANNESBURG.

AFTER MONTHS OF NEGOTIATION AND PLANNING, THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLES IS UNDER WAY.

The executives of the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress and the Congress of Democrats met last week-end and adopted a "Call to the People of South Africa, Black and White."

This inspiring document, headed "Let Us Speak Together of Freedom," reads: "We call the farmers of the Reserves and the Trust Lands. Let us speak of the wide land and the narrow strips on which we toil. Let us speak of brothers without land and children without schooling. Let us speak of taxes and of cattle and of famine.

"Let us speak of freedom."

The call then appeals to "the miners of coal, gold and diamonds, the workers of farms and forests, the workers of factories and shops, housewives and mothers, teachers, students and preachers."

To each group the call speaks of matters that affect their lives: heavy labour and long hours, housing and pass laws—"Let us speak of freedom."

"Let the voice of all the people be heard. And let the demands of all the people be gathered together in a great Charter of Freedom.

"We call on all good men and true to speak now of freedom and to write their own demands into the Charter of Freedom.

"We call all who love liberty to pledge their lives from here on to

win the freedoms set out in the Charter. We call on the people of South Africa to prepare for the Congress of the People, where representatives of the people everywhere in the land will meet in a great assembly to discuss and adopt the Freedom Charter."

WORK BEGINS

With this historic meeting the executives' great work of arousing the people to submit their demands for the Freedom Charter as the first phase of the Congress of the People now begins.

The joint meeting also adopted a plan for the immediate co-ordination of efforts to arouse nation-wide support for the people of the Western Areas in their struggle to preserve their homes.

RUSSIAN CHILDREN ARE TO

have fewer school examinations in future. Cuts in the number of subjects for examination have been announced by the Ministry of Education of the Russian Republic of the U.S.S.R. The aim is to prevent the over-burdening of children with school work.

"NOTHING BUT APPEASEMENT"

CAPE TOWN.

"The platform at the Unity Conference smothered every attempt on behalf of the progressive trade unions to introduce any real fight into the conference and prevented every attempt to bring the Non-Europeans into the struggle," said Mr. Arthur Gelb, secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Union, in an interview with ADVANCE.

"This conference has demonstrated how far the European leadership of the trade unions has gone to collaborate with the present Government in accepting its industrial legislation and apartheid, in spite of their attempt at shadow boxing.

"In my opinion the conference failed utterly to show any fight against the Schoeman Bill, and the final resolution after the interview with the Minister was nothing but appeasement by the right-wing leadership." (See pages 4 and 6)

Leaders Arrested at ANC Transkei Conference

UMTATA

A highly successful local conference of the African National Congress was held recently at Umtata. Leading Congressmen who came from Queenstown to attend the conference, including Rev. Maya-ba, Messrs. Mashebini, Tshunungwa and others, were arrested and fined £1 each for entering the Transkei unlawfully.

Despite efforts by members of the All-African Convention and others to intimidate and disrupt the conference, it was a great success, the majority of Bunga members who were in session at Umtata at the time expressing their strong support for Congress. A well-known local Congress leader writes—"Many Bunga members came to me individually and told me to carry on; they are with the Congress."

INSIDE:
Moses Kotane — P.5
What I Saw in
Soviet Union — P.7
Langa Beer Hall — P.4

FLU is serious

For each hour you walk about and work with an attack of Flu on you, at least an extra day will be spent either in bed or in a state of half health. Flu damages and weakens the system—don't under-estimate or try to ignore Flu.

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Address letters to **ADVANCE POST**, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town. Some of the letters below have been shortened or extracts only printed. All letters must include the real name and address of writer (not necessarily for publication), otherwise they cannot be printed.

From S. Bridgemohan, president, Inter-District Indian Cricket Union, Durban.

In your paper of April 8, in the Sports Parade, by Bert Williams, you have dealt with sports, particularly cricket, and basing your article on communalism. In that article you quoted me and alleged that I made statements several months ago, and you also stated that I have been mauled in Natal cricket meetings. I emphatically deny having made any statement of that nature, and there is no truth whatsoever in your allegation that I have been mauled in Natal cricket meetings. In fact, I have had no interview whatsoever in this regard with any correspondent of your paper. I have only sent a letter to your paper. If you publish that fully it will clearly give what my Union requires.

I may point out to you that in all Natal meetings I have found that I have been treated by all members with respect and that the relationship of my Union with Natal is cordial. The question of my Union placing a notice of motion to amend the constitution does not give any justification to you to quote me on the line of communalism. Your article, therefore, is unwarranted and irresponsible, and I may state that it is an attempt to cause displeasure with the other Unions.

I hope you will give publication to this letter so that the misapprehension in which cricket fans are put to is cleared.

SHOW SWART ROSES

From Elliott K. Ndziba, 9th Ave., Retreat.

Every time we elect someone to represent us in Parliament Swart says they are Communists. Mr. Kahn and Mr. Bunting were expelled. Now we elected Ray Alexander. He continues to expel.

It is not for the reason of Communism. It is because of truth. When we support and elect people it is because they are on the platform of truth.

Minister Swart should know that the platform of truth is wide and high and surrounded by flowers. Unfortunately, he is blind. When we elect these people we want them to do their best to force him to see the roses on the platform of truth so that the poor man will not remain blind.

CHILDREN'S COUGHS?

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QUESTION

From Lazarus Ngwenya, 1680 Dube Street, Wattville Township, Benoni.

Please answer the following:— "What can I do in order to get higher wages? What can I do in order to receive better treatment from my White bosses?"

ADVANCE is my last hope.

(ADVANCE readers are invited to send their suggestions!—Editor.)

LET US CHOOSE

From K. P. Noboza, Limerick Road, Crawford.

We object in the strongest of terms to the habit of keeping away people's representatives from Parliament under the notorious Suppression of Communism Act.

We are resolved to vote as we choose—not as the Minister chooses. If Mr. Swart does not want White representatives he must let us choose our own African representative.

ALEXANDER AND BRADLAUGH

From Wilfrid H. Harrison, Stephen Street, Gardens, Cape.

According to British precedent, Ray Alexander should be allowed her seat. The precedent is the case of Charles Bradlaugh, who was continually elected to the House of Commons from 1880 onwards but was refused his seat because he would not sign the Oath of Allegiance. In 1885, by his persistent efforts, he proved that the voice of the people was the final word and he was allowed his seat.

Ray Alexander has a right to her seat in our House of Assembly. A large majority have said so.

VERY DISAPPOINTED

From Paul Joseph, Avenue Road, Fordsburg.

I am really very disappointed at the May Day issue of ADVANCE.

It lacked the agitational and dynamic quality I was looking forward to.

It should have demonstrated the power and struggles of the working people of the world in capitalist, colonial and Socialist countries. This could have been done by pictures and articles.

There was no apology for the non-appearance of Brian Bunting's article on the Soviet Union as was promised.

I am fed up and can only describe the May Day issue as flat.

Allow me to list some of the weaknesses I found.

1. The front page article was merely a repetition of a previous issue—nothing new in it.

2. The headline "Zulus Make Good Sailors" made me sick (incidentally, Bert Williams had the bad habit of referring to Jake Tuli as the "Zulu boxer"). I do not think the men are good sailors because they are Zulus. No, it is simply that Africans were given an opportunity. The term Zulu used in the wrong sense can be very chauvinistic.

3. Your editorial was very good (except that the historic events took place in 1950 and not 1951).

4. Sisulu's article was merely a copy of the Port Elizabeth statement made recently.

5. I expected a write-up on the film "Sadko"; instead a picture with no explanation and bits and pieces about Martin Squire. Surely somebody on your staff saw this film!

6. The National Women's Conference could have been better and put in more prominently.

7. Ray Alexander's column lacked fire. An account of the struggles of the workers in other parts of the world, e.g., Japan, Latin America, India and South Africa, would show more glaringly the volume of the international proletariat's might.

8. Your sport column had nothing to offer other than giving a political line to events weeks ago. That space could have served a better purpose, e.g., a book review, Howard Fast's "Thirty Pieces of Silver" or a cartoon or illustration attacking the ruling class.

I hope next time there will be a real bumper issue.

VERY SATISFIED

From W. C. Boholo, P.O. Box 102, Delmas.

(Translated from Zulu)

I cannot sufficiently express my appreciation for having been introduced by you to the meaning of May Day. I enclose 2/6 towards the cost of that wonderful issue.

I am happy in this way to identify myself with my nation and also to associate myself with Ray Alexander.

Death of Morton Skonde

JOHANNESBURG.

Advance regrets to announce the death of one of its staunchest employees, Mr. Morton Skonde. Morton was one of the first employees of the Guardian newspaper, remaining with that paper for eight years, until it was banned by the government. After the banning of the Guardian Morton was employed by the Advance newspaper. He was known over the whole of the Johannesburg area, and will be missed by all of the five hundred to whom he used to sell the paper every week.

Morton leaves a wife and five children who face the prospect of complete destitution unless they can be helped. Several friends of the paper have already promised to contribute a small sum every month which will be paid over to Mrs. Skonde by the Johannesburg office of the Advance. We ask all friends to send in a token of assistance to P.O. Box 491, Johannesburg.

Advance extends its deepest sympathies to his wife and family.

Ban Weapons of Mass Destruction

—N.C.W.

More South Africans demanded the banning of the hydrogen bomb and other horror weapons last week.

The national conference at Port Elizabeth of the National Council of Women passed a resolution demanding the banning of weapons of mass destruction, a copy of which has been sent to the Prime Minister.

Meetings held last week in Durban and Overport by the Natal Peace Council passed resolutions demanding the banning of the atom and hydrogen bombs, and the executive of the Natal Indian Youth Congress has adopted a similar resolution.

RAY ALEXANDER SUES SWART FOR £5,000

Alleges Assault When Trying To Enter Parliament

CAPE TOWN.

MISS RAY ALEXANDER is demanding from the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart, £5,000 as damages for alleged assault by detectives who prevented her from entering the House of Assembly on the day she was declared elected as Native Representative for Cape Western.

After the electoral officer had announced her victory Miss Alexander, accompanied by Mr. Fred Carneson, went to the House of Assembly, only to find every gate barred by policemen in uniform and plain-clothes detectives.

In her letter of demand to the Minister Miss Alexander alleges she was assaulted by three detectives, one of whom, "without justification, forcibly removed her from the precincts of the Houses of Parliament." Two other detectives, Miss Alexander says, forcibly prevented her from re-entering.

She demands payment within one month, failing which she will institute legal proceedings.

At about 8.30 that same evening a letter was served on Miss Alexander from the Minister of Justice stating that, since she was a named Communist, she was, in terms of the Suppression of Communism Act, "incapable of being chosen as a member of the House of Assembly."

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations at the election victory and protests against the Government's preventing Ray Alexander from taking her seat in Parliament have come from many organisations all over the country.

A joint statement by the Natal Indian Congress and the African National Congress strongly deplores the Government's action in preventing the democratically elected candidate of the people from taking her rightful seat in Parliament.

At a special meeting of the National Executive Council of the Food and Canning Workers' Union recently a resolution was passed congratulating Ray Alexander on her election victory.

"We regard her victory as a victory of the working people of South Africa," says the resolution. "Our union adds its voice to

that of thousands of others protesting against the undemocratic action of the Government in prohibiting her from taking her seat in Parliament."

"I thank the voters of the Western Cape for the answer they have given to the Minister of Justice and the Nationalist Government," said Mr. Johnson Ngwevela in a statement to Advance. "The election result shows the determination of the African people to defend their rights. I want to warn those voters who supported the Liberal Party candidate that they are endangering their right and their children's future. The Liberals have no time to help the Africans to organise themselves, as we saw when Mr. Gibson supported a split in the Vigilance Association at Athlone."

"Voters, do not lie down now! Committees which took up Ray Alexander's election campaign should organise their forces for the next election. Our victory has shown us that to stand together is a mighty weapon."

INDIGNATION

Describing the election result as a "magnificent demonstration of the African's indignation," the Cape Western Advisory Boards and Vigilance Associations have made a call to African voters in all constituencies to follow suit in the forthcoming Parliamentary elections by nominating candidates who will "put up a strong fight against Fascism."

"By preventing the duly elected people's candidate from taking her seat in Parliament the Government is disqualifying African voters. It hopes that the Africans will capitulate and allow the Government to appoint its tame pet as their representative. By all lawful means at their disposal the Africans will deny the Malan Government that opportunity," declares the statement.



A general view of the platform at Durban's May Day meeting. The speakers included:—Mr. McDermott, the chairman of the local branch of the T. and L.C.; Messrs. P. H. Simalane, African National Congress; J. Hougendyk, Peace Council and Congress of Democrats; D. Singh, Natal Indian Congress; and Miss P. Bean, S.A. Tin Workers' Union.

INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY BY COMMENTATOR

"DULLES LEAVES GENEVA A DISAPPOINTED MAN"



"At Geneva the men of Communism—Russia's Molotov, China's Chou En-lai, North Korea's Nam Il—arrived. . . . The West, too, had to keep its date in Geneva. It was no pleasure." (Time, New York, 3rd May.)

NO. For U.S. Secretary of State Dulles the Geneva Conference is no pleasure.

He had tried by every means to prevent it from taking place, including a last-minute statement that China "would not be there as an equal." But China had refused to be provoked.

He had tried to blow up the conference by turning the French aggression in Viet-Nam into a world war. But Britain had refused to bite. The New Statesman and Nation explained (May 1): "Technically, no military aid that Britain could send would have an immediate effect on the war in Indo-China. . . . For us to enter upon such a war would immediately split the Commonwealth, provoke a revolt of public opinion in England and drive into hostility all the newly freed peoples of Asia and Africa, who see the Viet-Minh struggle not as a case of Communist aggression but as a French colonial war."

And so, kicking and fighting every inch of the way, the U.S. was forced to Geneva, just as it had been forced to the Berlin Foreign Ministers' Conference in January.

Having failed to prevent the conference, Dulles set about the job of trying to prevent any agreement coming from it.

But things have gone terribly for Dulles. Some of the delegates at Geneva began to put forward practical suggestions for ensuring peace. Dulles shook in his boots.

THEY DIDN'T REPORT THIS

TO bring the tension in Korea to an end Nam Il, head of the delegation of the Korean Democratic Republic, made the following proposals (which were not reported, or were misrepresented, in our Press):

"We hold that the problem of unifying Korea by peaceful means can be solved by the Korean people themselves without any interference from outside. In this connection we take into account the fact that between South and North Korea an agreement must be reached concerning general elections with the free participation of the entire Korean people. The unification of Korea by peaceful means must be achieved through the formation of an all-Korean, single, democratic Government representing all the Korean people. Such a Government can be formed only by means of holding general elections throughout Korea through a free expression of the will of the Korean people.



"We consider that for the discussion and working out of the concrete measures for the preparation and holding of democratic elections it is necessary to organise a joint conference of representatives of South and North Korea, which, in our view, should form an all-Korea committee. This committee should also take urgent measures designed to promote the economic and cultural intercourse between South and North Korea."

He then proposed:

- The free election, by Korea as a whole, of a Government.
- That the representatives of the largest democratic public organisations of Northern and Southern Korea form a commission to prepare these elections.
- To give this commission the task of ensuring that there was no interference with the "freedom for all the citizens of the country irrespective of political views and religious beliefs, sex or nationality," to nominate candidates to legislative bodies.
- Measures for the rehabilitation of the Korean economy by the re-establishment of economic and cultural ties between North and South Korea be taken by the commission.
- The withdrawal of all foreign troops within six months.

● The recognition of the need to "create conditions facilitating the early solution of the task of Korea's peaceful unification as a sovereign, independent and democratic State."

NOBODY COULD DENY THAT THIS OFFERED AT LEAST A BASIS FOR THE DISCUSSION OF PEACE.

Nobody, that is, except Dulles.

BUT THEY REPORTED THIS

"MR. DULLES is expected to make a strong denunciation of the plan for Korean re-unification," cabled Sapa-Reuter's correspondent, with the tired voice of experience, as Nam Il sat down.

Dulles' denunciation came the next day.

He was horrified at the proposal that foreign troops be withdrawn from Korea. Because that meant that the American troops would have to get out, and if they did, what was the whole point of the Korean war?

Instead of Korea organising her own elections without foreign interference, he wanted the "United Nations" to direct the elections. (And, of course, by United Nations Dulles means Syngman Rhee, Chiang Kai-shek and John Foster Dulles.)



But both Australia and New Zealand (obviously with a little push from Britain) threw a spanner into Dulles' machinery. Instead of echoing his horror at the Korean proposal they said that they were at least worth considering.

"DULLES LEAVES GENEVA A DISAPPOINTED MAN," said the Cape Times headline the next morning.

Disappointed diplomat Dulles dithered. The doom of Dien-Bien Phu darkened his sky. For instead of events in Viet-Nam leading to a war that would blow up the Geneva Conference the damaged French, cautious British and persistent Viet-Minh were using the conference to talk peace.

Partitioning Indo-China might be a possible solution, suggested the British. Dulles was ready with his reply.

PORTRAIT OF A DIPLOMAT

"THE only partition I would favour," said Dulles, "would be to set apart a place way up north, about the size of this room, and lock up all the Communists there." (Time, May 3.)

The world was not amused.

Warned the New Statesman:

"Eden must stand firmly for a cease-fire and make clear to Mr. Dulles that Britain will never accept any commitment in the Pacific which involves our intervention against the nationalist movements of Asia and our separation from India. He must insist, as a condition of discussing any joint policy in the Pacific, that America agrees to Peking taking its rightful place in the United Nations. If Britain yields on these matters she becomes a mere satellite of Washington and will play no further great or honourable part in world history."

With even Australia and New Zealand refusing to toe Dulles' line, it was a sign of the new world spirit that the Cape Argus, for the first time in living memory, allowed itself a gentle kick at Dulles' teeth.

"The American delegation, and in particular Mr. Dulles, seem at the conference to have been interested almost solely in snubbing China," said the Argus Special Correspondent. (May 6.)



"Before he left Geneva Mr. Dulles is said to have told his friends that the conference could not be regarded as a failure, since he had prevented it from becoming a five-power conference (including China) and that he had not spoken one word—not a single word—

—to the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr. Chou En-lai. "It is triumphs such as these which have left the United States isolated at Geneva."

CRUSHING DEFEAT FOR U.S. DIPLOMACY

Fall of Dien Bien Phu Raises New Hope For Peace

LONDON.

THE biggest battle of the seven-year-old Vietnam war has ended in a crushing defeat for France, and thrown into sharp relief the hopeless position of the French forces in Indo-China. Hanoi and Haiphong, last remaining French strongholds in northern Viet-Nam, now lie wide open to attack by General Giap's victorious troops.

Originally intended as a base for mobile assault operations, Dien Bien Phu was manned by some of the best French battalions in Indo-China. When the Viet-Minh offensive started General Navarre still had time to regroup his troops but, due no doubt to American pressure, stupidly decided to hold on.

Once having taken that decision, he was like a monkey with his paw in a pumpkin. The Red River Delta, Southern Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia were stripped of troops in the vain attempt to hold the doomed fortress. It was merely throwing good money after bad, and the net result was a disastrous military-political defeat from which it will be impossible to recover. Twenty-one French battalions, numbering more than 16,000 crack troops, are reported to have been lost.

One of the most significant facts to emerge from the battle for Dien Bien Phu is the rapid and striking transformation of the Viet-Minh Army. General Giap's troops are no longer of the semi-guerrilla type. They are now a formidable force, capable of conducting warfare in the modern manner. From now onwards not even the largest of the French-held cities will be immune from attack. General Navarre, the French Commander-in-Chief, has himself drawn attention to this significant development, adding despairingly that it will be impossible for the French Union forces to face future attacks alone.

ONLY HOPE

Foreign intervention and the internationalisation of the conflict is, in fact, the only remaining hope of the French. But the sharp rebuff suffered by Dulles at the Geneva Conference shows that such foreign intervention will by no means be automatically forthcoming.

France itself is in political turmoil following on the Dien Bien Phu defeat.

The fate of the French Government is in the balance, and opposition to the "dirty war" has hardened in spite of all attempts to whip up patriotic fervour. It is now generally recognised that no French Government which attempts to continue the war beyond Geneva has any chance of survival. The question agitating the French people is how to get out of this war as quickly as possible, and they are horrified at the thought of being involved in an even bigger one.

UNWILLING

All the indications are that America is not at the moment prepared to engage in any single-handed military intervention. Both President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State have said that no action will be taken without prior Congress approval, and Congress is not prepared to give the go-ahead until it is certain that Britain will fall into line.

Senator Knowland explained the Congressional viewpoint recently when he said: "We are entitled to know in the future just what each allied nation is prepared to do in

the way of manpower and resources and how promptly. It will be better for us and for them to understand thoroughly whether or not this system of collective security is going to function."

Senator Johnson, of Colorado, put the prevailing feeling into even blunter words. There was no sentiment in the Senate for intervention, he said, and added: "If the President waits for Congress to give him the go-ahead he will have to wait for a long, long time."

BRITAIN AGAINST

In Britain public opinion is overwhelmingly against the use of British troops in Indo-China and there is widespread resentment against the American Government's attempt to bully Britain on this score. Not even the Churchill Government—hitherto so subservient to America—can afford to ignore the strong feelings which exist in Britain today against any intervention in Indo-China.

The fall of Dien Bien Phu and the American diplomatic defeat at Geneva have thrown foreign relationships into the melting pot. General Giap's hammer blows in Indo-China may very well lead to new international alignments—and new hope for a stable world peace.

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ALSO PLAIN AND CORK

MFT23



These are some of the 6,000 African men who live under bachelor conditions in the barracks and men's quarters at Langa. It is supposed to be for their benefit that the Cape Town City Council has decided to establish a beer hall. In the background of this picture is the dining hall at the main barracks, in which the Council proposes to install the equipment needed to make and sell Kaffir beer.

"We don't want a beer hall," the men seen here told Advance reporter. They are highly indignant that the Council is using them as an excuse to open a new source of revenue. "We are satisfied with the system of getting beer from our married friends," one of the men told Advance. "A beer hall would bring to Langa the same trouble that was brought to many towns in the Transvaal when beer halls were established against the wishes of the people."



Mrs. W. Siquana is very indignant that the Council should now again try to foist a beer hall on to the people against their wishes.

"The Council is using the excuse that the bachelors need a beer hall to make profit out of the traditional food of our people. I don't make beer, but I have no difficulty in buying it for my husband, and it is the same for single men.

"A beer hall would degrade our people. I know other places which have beer halls—they are a constant source of trouble. People sit there the whole day, they get drunk and rowdy and there are frequent fights and brawls."

"We are all against a beer hall," Mrs. A. Silinga told Advance. "Our young people will go and drink there, children at our secondary school who come here from all over the Cape will be taught bad habits, and boys living in the bachelor quarters will learn to drink. We don't need a beer hall; everyone is satisfied with the present system of brewing beer in the homes.

"Beer halls strike at the very root of African family life. Ill-feeling will develop between husband and wife when the husband spends all his wages there and comes home penniless. Single men will also spend their money there and forget their families at home."



Langa Advisory Board member, Mr. B. M. Cabindavu, said the Board had not yet met to consider beer hall in Langa.

"I was surprised to hear of the decision being taken before the Advisory Board had been consulted. Even if our views are not binding on the Council we were assured by the chairman of the Native Affairs Committee in 1947 that we would always be advised before any decision affecting the people of Langa was taken.

"Many people have spoken to me about the matter and have asked what the Board intends to do. They are all strongly opposed to having a beer hall and are determined to fight against it."



YOUR MONEY—OR OUR LIFE

more modest contribution, brings the takings to more than £300. If we can keep that up we'll soon be within striking distance of our target.

Our Johannesburg friends, prompted, prodded and cajoled by our very efficient branch manager, are amongst the most important main-stays of Advance. Behind that £250 lies a lot of hard, self-sacrificing work, for money, as we all know, doesn't grow on trees.

Nevertheless, there is a lot more lying around than comes into our coffers. There are many democrats who would willingly

support our Freedom Fund if approached. One of our difficulties is that not enough of our more politically conscious supporters are active in the task of collecting money for our paper.

The job is being left to too few people, and there is a limit to what even willing horses can do. A dozen extra finance fighters in each big centre would make a terrific difference in our income.

Keeping Advance in the field of battle is one of the most important political tasks to-day, and he who helps in this respect is by no means the least of the soldiers

in the democratic army.

We want recruits, and we want them quickly. The battle for survival is becoming increasingly difficult, and we need more help. That's the position . . . Now, what are YOU going to do about it?

FRED CARNESON.

P.S.—Our office addresses are: CAPE TOWN: Chames Buildings, 6 Barrack Street.

JOHANNESBURG: 5 Progress Buildings, 154 Commissioner Street.

DURBAN: Pembroke Chambers, 472 West Street.

In this concluding portion of his article MOSES KOTANE discusses the Congress of the People

South Africa's Way Forward

THE decision by the leaders of the main democratic organisations to embark upon a great Congress of the People of South Africa opens the way for a great advance towards a democratic future. For the first time millions of ordinary men and women will elect their representatives to a real assembly of the people. For the first time they will have the opportunity to discuss their own people's solution to the problems of our country, the problems of the workers, farmers, housewives, miners, teachers and others who make up our multi-national community. How South Africa should be governed, who should elect the men and women who make the laws of our country, how these laws should be administered—these and other questions will be discussed not only in the Congress of the People but in hundreds and thousands of discussions and meetings, great and small, throughout the land.

It is these true expressions of the voice of the people of this country which should find their faithful expression in the People's Freedom Charter.

And the Charter can become a historic document, guiding the way forward to a new and better life for all who live and work in this land.

TOWARDS A PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY

THE Freedom Charter will be a charter of the people, and it is not the purpose of this survey to attempt to draft it. Yet it must be clear to every thinking democrat that the Charter will, if it is to be the true voice of the people, do more than express pious hopes in words which mean all things to all men.

The people must write into this Charter their claim to equality of rights and equality of opportunity, political, social and economic, for all men and women.

The people must proclaim through the Freedom Charter their demands:

That freedom of speech, freedom of movement, freedom of association and freedom of assembly be guaranteed;

That the rich farmlands of South Africa be shared among their rightful owners—those who plough them and water them with their sweat;

That the big mining and other monopoly-owned industries of our country become the property of the people;

That the working people be guaranteed by law their rights to free, recognised trade unions, wages sufficient for a civilised life, leisure and social security in sickness, unemployment and old age;

That urgent steps be taken to provide houses for the homeless, schools for the children and hospitals for the sick, without discrimination.

All these demands, of course, will not be attained just by drafting a Charter. They must be fought for. They will be realised only when the basic colour bar structure of South Africa has been abolished and replaced by a people's democratic state.

But the Freedom Charter, embodying the people's aspirations and pointing the way forward, can mark a major advance towards a new South Africa, offering a fuller and happier life to all her people.

WE SHALL WIN!

THE people of South Africa will prevail over their oppressors. We have a long tradition of resistance to oppression. Provided we take up every issue, big and small, with courage, efficiency and unity, we need not fear the future.

We must see to it that a united and uncompromising opposition makes the Western Areas battle the Waterloo of the Nationalist Party. We must strive for a united trade union movement, based on the sound and universally accepted trade union principle of internationalism, rooted in an alert and educated rank and file, free from legalistic illusions and capable of surviving and defeating the disruptive intentions of the Nationalists. We must build and improve all national liberation and other progressive movements.

Independent organs of democratic opinion such as ADVANCE must receive powerful support from all progressive people: we must see to strengthening their finances and increasing their circulation, for they are invaluable awakens, educators and organisers of the people.

To carry out all these tasks, and many others which demand immediate attention, the fighters for democracy in South Africa must consciously strive to improve their own qualities and characters so that they may be still more useful to the people's cause. They must find time to study all the events of the day at home and abroad and learn from the experience of others. They must exercise unceasing vigilance against Government agents and disrupters within the democratic camp. They must pledge themselves at all times to set an example of loyalty, energy and courage to all who strive for freedom.

Every new act of tyranny and suppression merely betrays the weakness of the Government, its fear of the people.

The future belongs to us.

UNITY CONFERENCE SHIRKS THE BATTLE

Schoeman's Challenge Unanswered

CAPE TOWN.

THE Trade Union Unity Conference ended last Thursday with the European trade union movement in retreat and the Minister of Labour, Mr. Ben Schoeman, determined to press on with his amendment to the I.C. Act.

During the first three days of the discussion the conference had placed on record its clear objections to the basic principles of the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill. Separate trade unions for the separate races, the registration of break-away unions, the splitting of union funds, the reservation of occupations on the basis of race, the establishment of an industrial tribunal, limitation of the rights of trade union officials, restrictions on the right to take strike action—on all these issues the overwhelming majority of delegates had passed resolutions condemning the relevant sections of Schoeman's Bill.

At this stage of the proceedings the extreme right wing at the conference—the Mineworkers' Union, Artisan Staff Association and other supporters of the Minister's policy—had been isolated. It was clear that the vast majority of organised labour in South Africa, in so far as it was represented at the conference, was not willing to let the Bill go through as it stood.

On Thursday morning the Unity Committee went to see the Minister of Labour to place before him

Minister and expressing the conviction that the Bill would lead to serious industrial unrest.

An alternative resolution was drafted by the National Union of Distributive Workers condemning the Bill outright and calling for its withdrawal. Before either resolution could be discussed the chairman, Mr. B. J. Caddy, adjourned the conference so that the Unity Committee might have an opportunity to produce a composite resolution which would reflect the united view of the conference.

COMPROMISE

After debating behind closed doors for nearly two hours the Unity Committee returned with a resolution expressing disappointment at the failure of the Minister to make concessions, declaring the belief of conference that the Bill would endanger the system of peaceful industrial negotiation which had operated successfully for the last 30 years, and empowering the Unity Committee "to take any necessary action to protect the interests of workers."

Defending the resolution, Mr. Rutherford, of the Typo Union, said some might feel the resolution was too moderate, some might feel it went too far, but it was drafted

in the hope that conference would be able to support it unanimously and thus present a united front to the Minister.

The difficulty was, said Mr. Rutherford, that the Minister had told the deputation he intended to refer his Bill to a Select Committee after the second reading, and it would therefore not be finalised until the next session of Parliament. In the circumstances it would be impossible for the trade union movement to mobilise their forces against the Bill at this stage.

"You have got to trust the Unity Committee to take such action as may be necessary," he said.

Mr. Pieter Beylveeld, of the Textile Workers' Union, moving an amendment that the Bill be rejected outright and that conference should demand that the Minister withdraw it, said: "We must show that we are prepared to protect the interests of the workers not merely by words but by actions."

Mr. Beylveeld pointed to past utterances of the Minister indicating his intention to destroy the present system of industrial bargaining. "We have been talking for years and the Minister has taken no notice. Now we must be prepared to act," he said.

Seconding his amendment, Mr.

A. Gelb, of the Commercial Travellers' Union, said he and the trade union movement as a whole could only feel disappointed and humiliated by the resolution proposed by the Unity Committee. It was a complete betrayal of the workers. "We must be prepared to fight now," he said. "We must show the Minister now that he cannot trifle with the trade union movement."

Mr. George McCormick, of the Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Union, read extracts from a speech of the Minister of Labour in which he had stated he stood for a free and independent trade union movement. Although this was greeted by laughter from the delegates, Mr. McCormick maintained that the Minister had changed his opinions over the last few years and could now be trusted by the trade union movement.

Miss R. Lan, of the Tin Workers' Union, said there were far too many delegates at the conference who were apparently prepared to sacrifice their principles to expediency. The proposed amendment to the Industrial Conciliation Act would "destroy the trade union movement. If the delegates did not want to share the fate

of the workers in Nazi Germany they had to fight back now.

When the time came to vote the chairman appealed to the supporters of the amendment to withdraw their motion in the interests of unity. Mr. Gelb replied that throughout the conference the progressive unions had tried to achieve unity with the right-wing unions in order to fight Schoeman's Bill more effectively.

"Even now we are prepared to make a concession. We are prepared to withdraw our motion if the Unity Committee will incorporate in its motion a statement that conference is totally opposed to the Schoeman Bill."

This offer was rejected by the platform. On a union vote the amendment was lost by 51 votes to 12, and the Unity Committee's resolution was passed with only one dissentient.

Two further resolutions by Mr. Gelb, one calling on the Unity Committee to mobilise all workers of South Africa, organised and unorganised, for strike action to stop the Bill, and the other calling for co-operation with the African trade unions, were ruled out of order by the chairman and were not even discussed by the conference.

THE BEND IN THE ROAD

SYNOPSIS

Katie is a young Coloured teacher. Her good-for-nothing brother Robert is in hospital with bilharzia. He is convinced he has been "Malay-tricked" and asks Katie to rub some powder on their father's doorstep so that the spell can be broken.

"Yes," I said doubtfully. "Will you put the powder on father's door for me?" "Of course I won't." "I will pay one pound." "I feel I could hit you." "You are a fool. If you won't help me I will find somebody else." "You are the fool to meddle with devil's work." As I got up to go I put in a parting shot, "If you leave your skollie friends alone and try to keep a job, you won't need any doekoms."

Robert said nothing. He seemed lost in thought as he fingered the little packet of powder.

On the way out I saw the ward nurse again and asked her please to do everything she could to keep the doekom out of the ward. She said that was very difficult because the Malay doekoms usually slipped in during visitors' hours when the wards were crowded. But she would do her best.

Walking towards the hospital gate I was angry with myself for quarrelling with Robert — and angry because I feared the doekom and the powder. I should have taken away the little brown packet and burned it.

Then I passed mother on her way in to see Robert.

Perhaps it was just as well that, owing to the demand for beds, Robert was discharged from hospital two weeks before he was due to leave as I knew that he had been planning to escape of his own accord. He was told by the staff nurse that he should in future attend the clinic weekly for further injections, but Robert had no intention of being jabbed by another needle.

Now that Robert's bilharzia was cured, mother was certain that she had won over her son for good. There was yet another home-coming; once more Robert was fitted out with clothes and work was found for him in a bicycle shop in Rondebosch.

Mother was happy now that she had Robert with her again and she never questioned too deeply the fact that he did not contribute to his board and lodging. She opened a Post Office savings account for him and kept up the payments on his Burial Insurance.

But before the end of the year Robert had given notice at the bicycle shop. He said he was ambitious and that he was just wasting his time in the bicycle shop; he must stay at home for a while to consider carefully what he should do next.

There were times when I scolded mother and said that she was spoiling Robert and not giving him a chance to stand on his own feet.

"Katie," she said wearily, "you know what happened when I sent him away last time. One day you'll understand how much you have to give to your children and how little you must expect in return." "But mother," I protested, "I am paying you back three hundred pounds for bringing me up and you spend it all on Robert."

"While I am alive Katie, I'll do all I can to make Robert a better man."

"With my money," I grumbled.

Mother always had to have the last word: "You wait, you'll see when you have your own children."

Robert's next move was to leave mother and go to live with Aunt Daphne and Uncle Jacob in Athlone. Robert did not like his aunt and uncle very much, but he had become friendly with one of their sons, Basil.

Athlone is an up-and-coming suburb of Cape Town with a large African and Coloured community. In the main road leading to Crawford may be found the outfitting shops, the provision stores, the radio shop, the swarming fish and chip shops — many managed and owned by Coloured people. Here the Coloured doctors and dentists have their rooms; here too is an opportunity for the non-European to blossom forth into the commercial world as cashier, bookkeeper, salesman or typist; out of the world of the strictly European, where only those whom nature had endowed with a light skin have a fighting chance of advancing themselves.

There are two cinemas for Coloureds in Athlone which help to

brighten up the life of the suburb. Outside, colourful posters announce the Hollywood productions and underneath the posters is a sign which reads: "NO CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE AND NO NATIVES."

In Athlone, many Coloureds live in modest but well-built homes which very often represent the accumulated savings of a lifetime, with another life-time to pay off the bond. Aunt Daphne and Uncle Jacob were saving up for such a house.

For years Uncle Jacob had worked as a delivery boy at Frost's dairy. His day started at half-past

By KATIE HENDRICKS.

two in the morning and went on until half-past two in the afternoon. He saved every penny he could so that one day he might be able to buy a house for Aunt Daphne and their eight children. After a while, he had bought a horse and cart which Aunt Daphne drove to the early morning market to buy vegetables. These she hawked, with the help of her

older children, from door to door.

Robert too began to help Aunt Daphne hawk vegetables from Crawford, through Athlone and Black River to Mowbray. Business was good and the profits high. Money was coming in now from both the vegetable business and the dairy where Uncle Jacob worked.

Of the eight children Robert had most in common with Basil. They were the same age, had the same interests, liked the same bio-scope pictures and the same sort of girls; they had been in the same gang together, and recounted legends of the Globe gang to the little groups that collected on street corners in the evenings.

They persuaded Uncle Jacob to give them a pushcart for themselves and took a different route from Aunt Daphne, so as to interfere as little as possible with her business. They sold on credit, collecting their debts each Friday.

One Thursday night Basil did not return home and, when the time came for the Friday morning collection, he had not yet put in an appearance. So Aunt Daphne, who did not trust Robert to collect

the money alone, went to do the collection herself.

She was getting old and heavy and she walked wearily up the hill to Mrs. Robertson's house and tapped on the kitchen door. While she waited, she added up Mrs. Robertson's vegetable account with a pencil stump which she produced from her black matted hair.

She was busy adding when Mrs. Robertson opened the door. "Yes Mary?" Mrs. Robertson automatically called all Coloureds Mary, because she was from Durban. In Durban, the Indians are all either Sammy or Mary.

"It's fourteen shillings and six-pence this week, Missus," Aunt Daphne said deferentially.

Mrs. Robertson looked surprised and when she looked surprised she looked like a belligerent bullfrog. "What are you talking about?" she exploded, "I paid your boy last night."

"Oh, was he here?" Aunt Daphne asked mechanically.

"You should watch yourself, my girl. You won't get paid twice." Mrs. Robertson slammed the door.

(To be continued next week)

TRADE UNION COLUMN By RAY ALEXANDER

Right-Wing Leaders Kow-Tow To Schoeman



Between Saturday, 1st and Thursday, 6th May, the largest and most representative number of trade unionists ever assembled in South Africa, were concentrated in Cape Town. They came here to deal with the situation caused by Schoeman's Trade Union Destruction Bill.

If only all the representatives would have come together in one great gathering with a single determination to smash the Schoeman Bill, our working class would have set their feet in the road which would lead South Africa out of its present state of conflict and repression.

We have to face realities. This unity did not exist. There was not one single determination but many cross-currents and much deception and betrayal.

Split

The organisers of the so-called Unity Conference, deliberately split the working-class into two sections by limiting their conference to registered unions only.

The one section was represented at the Conference organised by the Council of Non-European Trade Unions. Its proceedings were reported in last week's Advance. The conference was a magnificent achievement under difficult circumstances.

Not only was it well attended, but it showed the clarity of insight and stern determination to defend the workers against the attacks of the ruling class which have always been the qualities of the trade union movement at its best.

The second conference, although local in character, was impressive by reason of the considerable support obtained from rank and file trade unionists in factories and workshops. The organisers, distributing widely the pamphlet "Stop the Slave Labour Bill," and holding lunch-hour meetings at the factories, succeeded in telling the workers what

was going on and making them aware of the serious threat to their security.

It is to the credit of the Johannesburg and Cape Town Councils of Action that certain trade union officials failed in their attempts to mask the Bill and their responsibility for it, behind a cloak of secrecy. If it had not been for the exposure and the consequent pressure applied from below, the Unity Committee itself might never have been called together.

Half-hearted

The half-heartedness and even resistance shown by the Unity Committee to any suggestion of outright opposition and action against the Bill became more and more apparent as the Conference went on.

One can hardly say that it started with a bang; but it certainly ended with nothing much more than a whimper.

There is no reason to be surprised at the attitude adopted by the big noises at the conference. They have never given any ground for confidence in their policy. As a result of the negotiations between the Minister and his hand-picked booties, the conference was compromised before it started.

An Admission

George McCormick, general secretary of the S.A. Firemen's and Engine Drivers' Union, Chairman of the S.A. Federation of Trade Unions and member of the Ministerial Committee, admitted to the conference:

"We accepted the responsibility to assist the Minister in drafting the Bill. The Minister could be excused for thinking that the representatives on the Ministerial Committee expressed the views of their organisations. We made it clear that we were against certain clauses, including section 77 of the Bill. It could be interpreted

that we were in agreement with the rest. The tribunal was our idea."

The Minister was clearly in a position to put very strong pressure upon McCormick and his associates. Indeed, at the end of the second day it became apparent that this pressure had succeeded. The Conference was stampeded at five minutes to six in adopting a resolution to send a deputation to the Minister.

From then on, the conference degenerated. As the Burger put it on the morning of the third day, there was more possibility of an agreement between the Minister and the 'right-wing' than between the 'right-wing' and the 'left-wing' of the conference.

Using the old device of the card vote and the stemvee, the platform steamrolled the small but courageous and effective group of delegates who demanded a total rejection of the Bill, and a national campaign against it, embracing all sections of the working-class including the Africans.

This group of representatives also demanded that conference repudiate the leaders who had compromised themselves. The fact that the group was heavily defeated is not to their discredit, but a reflection on the quality of the other delegates.

Set-back

Although the delegates as a whole denounced and rejected the most vicious clauses in the Bill, the great majority did not have the insight and courage to reject the Bill in toto. It cannot be said that the conference was made the starting point of a great campaign against Schoeman's Bill and for trade union unity. In fact from many points of view the conference was a set-back to the working class.

Factory workers, trade unionists—all workers who understand the nature of the issues involved,

cannot be satisfied with the outcome of the conference. It is your duty, firstly, to demand that your representatives give an account of their actions at conference, and secondly to rid yourselves of those who betrayed your interests.

The conference showed that there is a group of trade unionists imbued with the best ideals and traditions of our trade union movement. The attempts by the Nat. Government to destroy the militant vanguard of the working-class by expelling the communists has not succeeded in breaking the true spirit of trade unionism.

I am confident that if they set to work with sufficient energy and understanding they will gain the support of large numbers of trade unions for an effective struggle against Schoeman's Trade Union Destruction Bill. I do not believe that the thousands of Coloured and Indian artisans who were represented at this conference will tamely submit to legislation designed to drive them and their children into the ranks of unskilled workers.

There is an undoubtedly widespread and deep-seated desire for real unity as was shown by the adoption, in spite of McCormick's protests, of a resolution instructing the Unity Committee to open negotiations with all trade union bodies regardless of race for a national trade union centre.

The fight against the Bill has only begun. In the course of this fight will develop a united trade union movement which irresistibly will sweep away the splinters and traitors in the working-class and bring about a truly united trade union movement to take its place in the people's struggle for democracy and freedom.

"WHAT I SAW IN THE SOVIET UNION" By Brian Bunting

Huge Building Programme

WE were taken over the Petra Alexiev textile factory in Moscow, and were able to examine the various types of cloth produced there. This is not one of the newest factories in Moscow; in fact, it is one of the oldest, being more than 100 years old. Before the 1917 revolution it belonged to an Englishman. Many of the machines in use in this factory are old British and German types, only now being replaced by the latest Soviet-made machines.

The factory makes some materials out of pure wool, some out of mixtures of wool and artificial silk, some of artificial silk only and some out of cotton. The pure wool is, of course, the best and most expensive cloth produced by the factory. Both Australian and South African wools were used by the factory, in addition to Soviet wool.

We asked why it was necessary for the Soviet Union to import wool, and were told it was due to the greatly increased consumption of woollen goods by the Soviet people, as a result of which the Soviet Government had decided that production must be increased. Now that the Soviet people had more money to spend they were demanding more and more materials made of pure wool instead of synthetic fibres. Production in this factory is today four times as great as it was before 1917.

Self-Criticism

Not all Soviet textile production is of the same quality, naturally; some cloths are better than others. A visit to the Moscow circus revealed to us that there were serious complaints about the quality of cloth produced by at least some factories.

A clown came on to the arena dressed in a huge garment several sizes too large for him, with sleeves at least a foot too long and trouser legs flopping on the ground. His fellow-clown looked at him in amazement and asked:

"But why are you wearing a suit like that?"

Clown No. 1 answers: "Don't worry, chum. It will fit perfectly after it's been washed."

Clown No. 2 replies: "But how is it possible that a factory can produce cloth like that to-day?"

After some further talk they discover that the "manager of the textile factory" is sitting in the audience, and call him down on to the arena.

The clowns tackle him: "How dare you make cloth that is not pre-shrunk?"

The manager is most indignant. "What do you mean? All the cloth made in my factory is good. Why, the very suit I'm wearing now is made from my own cloth, and a very fine suit it is, too!"

At that the two clowns drag in an enormous washing machine, consisting of a large barrel with a crank handle in the middle. Without any ceremony they grab hold of the factory manager, open the lid, thrust him inside and clamp the lid down again. Then one of them turns the crank handle furiously.

After a few moments the lid is lifted off again, and out jumps a little boy, dressed exactly as the factory manager. Not only the cloth but the man himself had shrunk!



A new block of flats in Stalingrad, reborn from the ruins of the war.

This turn brought the house down.

It illustrated, incidentally, not only one way in which freedom of criticism is exercised in the Soviet Union, but also the feeling of responsibility amongst the public for what is produced by Soviet industry.

Equal Pay

The Petra Alexiev factory employs 3,000 workers, 80 per cent. of whom are women, who here, as everywhere in the Soviet Union, get the same rate of pay as men for the same job. They mainly live in houses or flats built for them by the factory, although there is no tied housing, and a worker who leaves the factory is not obliged to give up his home. Rents in the Soviet Union constitute from 3 to 5 per cent. of wages, and the rent of a flat will vary according to the income of the tenant.

The factory runs a creche for the small children of the workers, two kindergartens for the older children, an old-age home for retired workers, all of which we inspected. For the cultural life of the workers there is a club, with a main hall seating 500 people, where either a cinema show or a theatrical production is staged every night. The workers themselves engage in all sorts of cultural activities, and the club boasts two orchestras and a choir, a library with 20,000 books, a drama circle. Sports facilities are also provided by the factory.

We were informed that similar facilities are provided, in greater or lesser degree, at all factories in the Soviet Union. We stress again—this is one of the oldest factories in Moscow and not one of the latest show places.

Misunderstanding

A rather amusing incident occurred as we left the block of flats in which the old-age home was situated. (The old people, incidentally, had been very pleased to see us, and told us they lacked nothing.)

Just over the road was a row of tin shanties—ramshackle structures with tiny windows—which contrasted strangely with the building we had just left.

We felt a little embarrassed about these shanties, but felt we had to have an explanation for them, and asked the factory official how it was possible for people to live in places like that. He roared with laughter.

"The flat-dwellers keep their pigs and chickens in those places," he explained. "We don't like the look of them any more than you do, and as soon as we can we will clear them away and provide proper structures."

A tremendous amount of building work is going on all over Moscow. There is still a shortage of accommodation, as the population has increased faster than homes could be built for them. But we sensed that the people of Moscow now feel that they are at last getting on top of the housing problem, which at the present

rate of building should be ended within the next five years.

Everywhere in Moscow are to be seen great blocks of flats under construction, topped by the tall cranes which the Soviet builders use to move and lift materials, pre-fabricated sections, etc. Some of the new blocks of flats are skyscrapers of 26 storeys. Week by week families are being moved out of their old quarters into bright new flats.

Moscow presents a unique appearance to the foreign visitor. Side by side with the new, modern

structures which are going up can still be seen the houses of old Russia, squat, dilapidated structures, some of wood, some of brick, some of lath and plaster, many of them built out of plumb and leaning at crazy angles over the streets. The Soviet people call them "wild houses," and have pledged to demolish them all under the plan for the reconstruction of Moscow, which was drawn up in the '30s.

New Homes

As the new blocks of flats are completed families in a certain area are moved out of their "wild houses" into the new homes. Whole blocks of the "wild houses" are then demolished in preparation for the erection of still more flats. This process of reconstruction in Moscow is going on at such a pace that year by year the appearance of the city changes, and we feel confident that, if we were to visit the Soviet Union again in, say, five years' time, we would not recognise the place.

The new Moscow which is appearing in the process is a city of wide streets and pleasant prospects, tree-lined avenues and beautiful parks. We have heard some Western architects say they do not care for modern Soviet architecture, which they describe as "old-fashioned" or "semi-Victorian." All we can say, not being experts in either architecture or building, is that the new buildings harmonise with the old and derive many of their motifs from, for instance, the towers of the Kremlin and the cupolas of St. Basil's Cathedral on Red Square.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

BRUTALITY AND SADISM

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

ONE day when South Africa takes its place among the democracies of the world we will look back on our Dark Age, when Dr. Malan was Prime Minister, Dr. Verwoerd was Minister of Native Affairs and Mr. Swart was the cat-o'-nine-tails Minister of Justice.

In Parliament last week another grim chapter was written. It was the chapter of brutality and sadism. It will make South Africa remember Mr. Swart for ever as the "Whipping Minister."

Two years ago Mr. Swart introduced a law to make whipping compulsory for certain offences. In that year 21,000 more strokes were administered than in the previous year.

And now Mr. Swart is looking around hungrily for more victims. He wants to whip, whip, whip.

Mr. Gay, a United Party M.P., gave Mr. Swart encouragement—as if he needs it! Mr. Gay wants whippings for people who deliberately start bush fires.

Licking his chops, Mr. Gay also added that if a person committed a crime while drunk he should be punished more severely for having been drunk, instead of being treated more leniently.

All Joined In

That started it! Mr. J. J. Fouche (Nat.) then asked for more severe sentences for car thefts and Mr. Louber demanded floggings for stock theft.

These representatives of the ruling class have only one solution for crime: make the punishment more savage. It never occurs to them that crime caused by poverty and misery cannot be cured with the cat-o'-nine-tails. The U.P. are no better than the

Nats: they believe just as firmly that property is sacred and must be protected by whippings.

Mr. Swart, with pious anger, said that he had for years been carrying on a "crusade" about the attitude that should be adopted towards excessive drinking and crime. He said he had appealed to the courts to punish more severely if a person was drunk when he committed a crime, not less severely.

He announced that he was willing to make whipping compulsory for persons who started bush fires, stole cars or committed cattle theft.

Whip, lash and flog. That is the ruling class's answer to the crime that flows from poverty and hunger. As Fascism closes its grip on South Africa brutality and sadism mount.

Ugh, what a debate!

The U.P. Game

Meanwhile, in Standerton the United Party is playing its old game of out-Natting the Nats. There is a by-election on there, and the U.P. candidate, according to the Nationalist Press, is making remarks about the Nationalists and the Immorality Act.

The U.P. candidate is also reported to have said: "Why did the Government allow thousands of carcasses of frozen beef to go to Russian territory? Is this combating Communism? Support the United Party in the real struggle against Communism."

Good old United Party. However low the Nationalists go, the U.P. can go lower.

It was a week full of enlightened thinking. Mr. Stuart Cloete, the writer, told the Paarl Farmers' Association that in the whole of

Africa there are probably only 1,000 civilised Africans. To be civilised, he said, a man must come from a civilised home.

Sure, Mr. Cloete. Only someone who has been carefully trained in the use of the cat-o'-nine-tails can be described as properly civilised. No uncivilised person understands the finer points of whipping—unless, of course, he is at the receiving end.

First Roy Campbell; now Stuart Cloete. Who will be the next distinguished writer to sing the praises of the White Man Boss?

No Mission

Finally, there was Dr. Malan's attack on the rest of the world. Even Europe, according to Dr. Malan, is not playing its part in keeping the White man on top. He accuses the European Governments of losing faith in themselves.

Don't be too proud, Dr. Malan. If you had been fighting unsuccessfully for years in Malaya and Indo-China to preserve White imperialist rule you might also start losing your "sense of mission."

ANC BRANCH REVIVED

CAPE TOWN.

Elsies River branch of the African National Congress was revived at an enthusiastic meeting of nearly 100 members and supporters held last Sunday. A resolution of support for the A.N.C. in its fight to secure democratic rights for all was passed unanimously.

Speakers at the meeting included Mr. T. Ngwenya (regional chairman), Messrs. Makhetha, Mail and J. Nkatlo. Mr. J. Mtini presided.

From Ring And Track

BY GUS



Roger Bannister's completion of the mile in 3 min. 59.4 sec. must rank as one of the most outstanding sporting achievements of all time. It marks an important turning point in the field of man's physical endeavour. Reliable medical opinion held that it was impossible for athletes to complete the mile in under 4 min. Now that belief has been shattered by the 25-year-old Briton, whose name will go down in history.

Athletes the world over are now preparing to better the record, and it will not be long before another record-breaking run hits the headlines.

Boxing

Once again a surprise has been registered in a Durban ring—only this time it must surely rank as one of the most sensational upsets in South African sporting history.

Slumber David, the man who was the first to knock out Vic Towel, the man who almost knocked out Jake Tuli, and the man whom Jimmy Carruthers was too scared to spar with, was knocked cold by a fighter who until then had never been heard of in boxing circles.

Jackie Pillay, Durban's enterprising new promoter, took a big chance when he decided to sign on the two. With the inexperienced Enoch Nhlape given only a few rounds against the formidable Slumber David, the fight was expected to turn out a flop.

Enoch was reported to have said before the fight: "Reckon I can put Slumber away, and I am not scared of his reputation either—though I have a healthy respect for his punches."

And that is exactly what he did. Many a fighter before him was scared more of Slumber's reputation than of Slumber himself. Throwing caution to the winds, Enoch went in there and blasted his way to a seventh round kayo win—and thus blasted his way into the international scene.

If this was no mere fluke, and there is no doubt that it wasn't, then Enoch should waste no time in pressing his claims for a shot at Tuli's national bantam crown.

A Damp Squib

Ray Makonza, hailed as a sensational new find, turned out to

be nothing but a damp squib when he dropped a 10-round decision to the Black Hawk. Makonza set the critics agog when he disposed of the national welter champion, Fondie Mavuse, in seven rounds in a non-title bout. Reports state that the Hawk had no trouble in beating his man.

By his victory the Hawk has now justified his claims for a shot at the crown. The Mavuse camp has become very silent all of a sudden.

Meanwhile, back in Durban, a rejuvenated Mackenzie is stated to be all the better after his much-needed rest. Natal's only hope for a national title is now itching for a shot at his recent conquerors, Fondie Mavuse and the Black Hawk. Daddy Naidoo, Mac's manager, is confident his charge has regained his past form and that he will have no difficulty in regaining the title. A return fight between Mackenzie and the Hawk is a natural for any promoter.

Let's hope that South Africa's hardest hitting welter-weight strikes that form which placed him third amongst the Empire's welters and perhaps bring another Empire crown to South Africa.

RACING

Tudor's selections for the City Sporting Club meeting on Saturday:

First Race: 1 WELCOME GIFT, 2 Rock Nut, 3 Golden City.
Second Race: 1 WAX ALE, 2 Post Haste, 3 Banana.
Third Race: 1 WEATHERVANE, 2 Palesso, 3 Full Feast.
Fourth Race: 1 BAGACILLO, 2 Brown Cherry, 3 Fine Memory.
Fifth Race: 1 BOSCON, 2 Sunswift, 3 Truefoot.
Sixth Race: 1 RED ROGER, 2 Cape Storm, 3 Vitamin.
Seventh Race: 1 OYSTER MOON, 2 Nifty, 3 Dark Honey.
Eighth Race: 1 PARK, 2 Solitude, 3 Shemozzel.
Ninth Race: 1 HONEYWAY, 2 Spicewood, 3 Putney.



Mr. Emanuel Quoize

Durban Africans Oppose Rent Increases

DURBAN.

THE African people are deeply disturbed by the threat that rents in Durban's locations are soon to be increased.

The Minister of Native Affairs demands higher rents, despite strong opposition from Durban's Native Administration Department.

According to the Minister's directive, all Africans earning £15 a month or more "fall within an economic group" and must pay an economic rent. In some cases the rents they are paying are to be doubled.

Residents in Chesterville location occupying three-roomed houses have been told that their rents will rise from 17/6 month to £1 7/6, while those earning £15 or more will have to pay £5 a month rent.

ALL TO INCREASE

Rent increases in other locations have not yet been worked out, but all rents must go up.

"I cannot believe that the authorities, aware of the poverty of the African people, will impose such hardships upon them," declared Mr. Emanuel Quoize, a resident of Chesterville location, interviewed by Advance.

"I am a clerk, earning over £20 a month, yet I find it difficult to keep out of debt even though I only buy mere necessities.

"The majority of location residents earn not much more than £12 a month. If they are to pay higher rents it will mean less food for themselves and their children, more malnutrition, disease and crime. Rent increases will only serve to accentuate the existing

problems and will cost the authorities more in the end.

"The African people need cheaper food and clothing and higher wages — not exorbitant rents."

PUBLIC ALARM

Mr. P. H. Simelani, another location dweller, said that the African people viewed with alarm the Government's move to compel the urban authorities to raise rents in municipal sub-economic housing schemes.

"The people must oppose this move with all the means in their power. The Government wants more money for poor service. Instead of increased rents the people want the right to buy and own land and to build their own houses. It is the Government's responsibility to build more housing schemes with low rentals and to see that Africans' wages are increased."

A family budget survey carried out by the African Adult Educational Institute showed that Africans earning from £11 to £15 a month spend £11. 13s. 4d. a month on essentials, excluding paraffin, soap, meat and bus fares.

Other figures given show that £20 a month to-day is not an "economic" wage, and that there are only a few exceptional cases where certain residents at Lamontville and Chesterville locations would be able to pay, without detriment to themselves, the proposed new rents.

Workers of King Edward VIII Hospital wish workers of the world a happy May Day and call upon the workers to demand a pact between the Great Powers for the banning of atom and hydrogen bombs.

JUST A MISTAKE!

From JACQUELINE ARENSTEIN

DURBAN.

An aged African mother, Rosie Thabethe, was imprisoned, found guilty of theft, dismissed from her job and abandoned by her church, all because her European employer had a bad memory.

Rosie Thabethe, mother of seven children, was made to suffer extreme mental anguish and physical hardship because her employer had mislaid her bag. She subsequently found it, but only after Mrs. Thabethe had been convicted for theft.

One day her European employer went to her wardrobe to get her bag. It was not there. She promptly laid a charge of theft against her African servant.

The police arrived at the location in which Mrs. Thabethe lives. They searched but could find nothing. Nevertheless they arrested Mrs. Thabethe and kept her in a cell for three days, after which she was released on bail.

She did not know what to do. She had not stolen a thing. She sent her daughter to the minister of her church to ask him to arrange prayers for her. When Elizabeth described her mother's plight the minister replied: "We should look to God."

A few days later Mrs. Thabethe was found guilty of stealing the bag, the only evidence being that she was in the flat on the day that it was supposed to have disappeared. The magistrate sentenced her to a fine of £15 or two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A few days later the European woman found her bag. She had



Mrs. Rosie Thabethe

put it in a different place and forgotten that it was there. Mrs. Thabethe's conviction was quashed.

Said Mrs. Thabethe to Advance: "How can I describe the feelings I suffered when I was arrested and accused of being a thief before my children? I am 52 years old. My husband is dead. For a long time I have struggled alone to bring up my children well, to protect them from all the evil that surrounds us, and then came this terrible thing to cause us so much unhappiness. But now I am very thankful that the woman who caused us all the trouble has found her bag."

MAY DAY GREETINGS

[The May Day Messages reproduced below were delayed in the post. We regret the inconvenience to the organisations concerned but are sure our readers will overlook the delay and accept the messages in the spirit in which they were written.—Editor.]

MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE TEXTILE WORKERS' INDUSTRIAL UNION
AFRICAN TEXTILE WORKERS' UNION

AFRICAN TOBACCO WORKERS' UNION (DURBAN BRANCHES)

EXPRESS THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE WORKERS ON MAY DAY FOR HIGHER WAGES AND A HAPPY SOUTH AFRICA FOR ALL.

HOWICK RUBBER WORKERS' UNION

GREETES ALL WORKERS ON MAY DAY. LET US MARCH UNDER THE WORKING CLASS BANNER FOR A BETTER SOUTH AFRICA.

NATAL ALUMINIUM WORKERS' UNION

GREETES ALL WORKERS IN SOUTH AFRICA. UNITE FOR HIGHER WAGES, BETTER CONDITIONS AND FREEDOM.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (Durban Region Council)

WE SEND OUR WARMEST FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE OPPRESSED AND WORKING PEOPLES OF THE WORLD.

Natal Indian Congress (Overport Branch).—We send our warmest fraternal greetings to the oppressed and freedom-loving people of South Africa and the world. Let us resolve to continue our fight for the emancipation of our people for a democratic South Africa. Forward to freedom in our life-time.

BANNED LEADERS RE-ELECTED

JOHANNESBURG.

The biennial meeting of the Transvaal Indian Congress on Sunday re-elected two banned men to their positions—Dr. Y. M. Dadoo as chairman and Mr. Nana Sita as president.

In the absence of Mr. Sita, Mr. D. U. Mistry presided over the conference, which unanimously adopted the report of the secretaries on the work of the Congress, together with a series of resolutions condemning the banning of people's leaders, reaffirming total opposition to group areas, pledging the fullest support for the people of the Western Areas against removal and welcoming the steps taken towards holding a Congress of the Peoples.

A further resolution demands the banning of atomic weapons and greets the people of Viet-Nam on their resounding victory in the gallant fight for national liberation against French imperialism.

Another resolution deplores the "undignified and highly unwarranted attack" by Dr. Malan on Pandit Nehru.

Mr. N. Thandray and Mr. I. A. Cachalia were re-elected joint secretaries and Mr. I. M. Jada and Mr. R. C. Patel joint treasurers. Sixty-five other working committee members were elected.

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