



Advance

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper

ADVANCE, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1954

PRICE 3d.

YOUTH FESTIVAL FOR RACIAL HARMONY

Preparations are well under way for the Youth Festivals of Peace, Friendship and Racial Harmony to be held near Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban in April. Our illustration is from the cover of the Transvaal Festival Bulletin.

NGWEVELA, NGOTYANA WANT TO ADDRESS PARLIAMENT

CAPE TOWN.

THE Chairman and Secretary of the Cape Western Advisory Board and Vigilance Associations, Mr. Johnson Ngwevela and Mr. Greenwood Ngotyana, have issued a petition to Parliament to be given the opportunity of appearing at the bar of the House to present their views on why Minister Swart should not proceed with the Amendment to the Suppression Act, which will debar People's Candidate Ray Alexander from taking her seat when she is elected.

When their organisation forwarded the resolution reported last week, declaring the opposition of Africans to the Bill, the Clerk of the House of Assembly replied that "leave is sometimes given to counsel to appear at the bar of the House . . . when a Bill is of so peculiar a character as to justify a hearing of parties whose interests, as distinct from the general interests of the country, are directly affected by it."

"Whereas we," says the resulting petition, "did duly and in accordance with the procedure laid down by law, nominate Ray Esther Alexander as a candidate for the election as Native Representative in the Cape Western Division, and whereas the Suppression of Communism Amendment Bill, now before your House of Assembly contains provisions which, should they become law, will have the effect of preventing our candidate from having her seat in the House, should she receive the largest number of voters, and whereupon your petitioners, together with other supporters of the said candidate, would suffer a serious impairment of their constitutional rights as registered voters and as citizens," they ask to be heard in the House.

. . . AND SO DO JOHANNESBURG AFRICANS

A MASS meeting of residents of Johannesburg's threatened Western Areas held in Sophiatown last week decided to embark immediately upon a campaign to collect 50,000 signatures in two weeks to a mass petition condemning the mass removal scheme as "an inhuman and unjust act of forcible mass deportation in the Hitler tradition." It is planned to have the petition presented before the bar of the House of Assembly by a deputation of spokesmen of the voiceless and voiceless citizens who are most directly affected when the vicious "Natives Resettlement Bill" is moved by Dr. Verwoerd.

"We know that the scheme condemns us to misery in hessian and cardboard shacks, in a police-ridden squatters' camp far from our places of work," reads the petition.

"We know that we are to be deprived of our freehold rights, of our liberty to come and go without police permits, of the schools, churches, clinics and other amenities of civilisation that we enjoy, in order to suit the purposes of racially crazed politicians and land speculators.

"We declare that we are bitterly opposed to the proposal for mass deportation and will resist it."

Mr. Y. Cachalia explained to the meeting that the signature campaign was a means of seeing all the people of the area and explaining to them the drastic implications of the Bill. It will be combined with an intensive series of meetings throughout the area; big and small, in halls and in private houses. "The new Verwoerd Bill is a threat not only to the people of the Western Areas but to the whole Non-European population," he said. "The Western Areas have become the testing ground for the whole country."

(Continued at foot of Col. 5)



CHILD LABOUR SCANDAL

By Rebecca Lan

ONE of the scandalous things which have been brought to light as a result of the string of prosecutions of the Wolseley strikers is the fact that the Wolseley Canning Factory has been employing child labour.

In the Magistrate's Court last week three of the workers who were brought to trial on a charge of conducting an illegal strike were found to be below the age of 15 and were declared to be infants in terms of the Children's Act. The children should never have been brought to court, the magistrate declared.

My union has on several occasions complained to the Department of Labour that certain canning factories were employing children, but we received no satisfaction. I have myself been told of young children so overworked that they have fallen unconscious over their machines.

As a result of the case I have heard that at least one factory has now put off a large number of children.

Our union is going to see that the necessary legal action is taken against any factory which has been guilty of exploiting children to make profit.

PRESIDENT IN COURT

Following the arrest of Mr. Frank Marquard, president of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, and 18 Africans three weeks ago, Mr. Marquard appeared in Paarl Magistrate's Court last week, charged with introducing "foreign Natives" into a proclaimed area. Mr. Marquard had had no intention of stopping the lorry in Paarl and was making a necessary detour, the defence alleged.

The defending counsel, Mr. G. Friedman, pointed out in court that if Mr. Marquard was guilty of an offence it would mean that every time the South African Railways sent a train through Paarl with Africans on it it would be breaking the law.

The 18 Africans arrested with Mr. Marquard were refused bail, and were kept locked up for 15 days before the case came up.

Three alternative charges were

framed against them, but all were withdrawn when they appeared in court, and they were released.

I was in court when the charges were withdrawn, and I heard one of the officials whispering urgently—"We must find another charge!" But try as they might there was no possible charge they could bring against the workers.

The union is considering taking appropriate legal action against the Minister of Justice for arresting and imprisoning these innocent men.

Petition Parliament

(Continued from Col. 3)

The signature campaign has been initiated by the residents of Sophiatown, Newclare, Martindale and Western Native Township themselves, but the African National Congress, the Transvaal Indian Congress and the S.A. Congress of Democrats have decided to give it their full support. Volunteers are urgently called for by all three organisations to help in this lightning mass signature drive, and are asked to call at the offices of one of these organisations without delay.

The scheme is also meeting with mounting opposition among the European citizens and ratepayers of Johannesburg. Even those who feel no sympathy with the plight of the Non-Europeans who will be displaced from their homes and deprived of their rights are beginning to realise that the ratepayers will have to foot the bill for the Government's inhuman experiment in apartheid.





Advance Post

Address letters to Advance Post, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town. Some of the letters below have been shortened or extracts only printed.

FREEDOM CHARTER—FARMERS' PROBLEMS

From XYZ, East Griqualand.

I offer some suggestions on the problems of farmers for discussion in the light of the drawing up of the Freedom Charter.

As this charter must include the peasants and farmers in general, and as many European farmers are having a hard go to make ends meet, I suggest that such a charter envisages freedom to buy and sell land for all races without discrimination, also freedom to rent, lease or hire property without discrimination. These measures, while not altogether progressive, except in so far as our society is constituted to-day, would probably even be favourably looked upon by European farmers, many of whom have had enough and would like to get out with whatever capital they may have invested.

From the African peasants' point of view, I suggest the following points are essential to win their support:

1. More land be made available.
 2. No culling of stock—a feature which is absolutely hated by the peasant.
 3. Lower taxes.
 4. Cheap fertilizer and perhaps cheaper fencing.
- Cheap fertilizer is something absolutely essential if the peasant is to keep above starvation level; indeed, it is absolutely essential to all farmers, whether White or Black.

GOOD RIDDANCE TO CONSTIPATION!



Don't think you can keep bright and energetic merely by relieving Constipation. You've got to get rid of all those poison wastes before you can expect to be free of Headaches, Depression, Indigestion, Poor skin, Sluggishness and Bad Breath. Keep regular with Partons and you'll keep the sparkle in your eyes and the bounce in your step! Don't give your system a chance to accumulate poisons. That's the only way to keep completely fit... the Partons way... the safe, efficient way that has been famous for over 40 years.

PARTONS Pills

Sold everywhere:
30 pills 1/- 50 pills 1/6

MORE COLOURED BUSINESS MEN

From L. A. Sims, 50 Grens Road, Steenberg.

In the distributive trade there is a saying, "The customer is always right." Imagine being employed by an establishment which employs Europeans and Coloured assistants. A European customer steps into the shop, and a Coloured assistant goes forward to attend to him, and the customer (who is always right!) says, "I want to be served by a European!" This actually happened to me after eight years of serving the public.

The next time that same customer came in nobody stepped forward to serve him. Since then he forgot his political feelings and thought more of the explanation given by me of the commodity.

I doubt very much if the Coloured people will be given the opportunity to be assistants in European establishments since the new wage determination. The principals will not be too anxious to employ our people unless they have 100 per cent. Coloureds supporting the particular trade.

Perhaps it is high time our own people were more businesslike and started our own establishments for our people and also employing our own to serve our own.

POLISH PEN-FRIEND

From Ostrowski Zygmunt, 46 Wybicki, Sopat, Poland.

I am an old reader of your paper, and therefore I ask you to send me the address of some students in South Africa. I am a student of medicine.

(For interested readers, write to the address at the top of the letter.—Ed.)

VIEWS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

From Dhevanand Singh, Clairwood, Durban.

I have a suggestion for our paper.

I want all the youths of any race or colour from the ages of 16 to 19 years to contribute to 'Advance' views concerning what they like and dislike in this country of ours. As you know, everyone cannot think alike, but everyone would like to read and to know the views of others.

Every boy will be sure to turn the covers of Advance and read the views of our youths. Even the one who does not contribute will be interested to know about another.

I will advise all my comrades that they must write to you and put forward their views.

NON-EUROPEAN CRICKET ALMANACK

From S. J. Reddy, Box 644, Port Elizabeth.

To ensure a comprehensive report of South African Non-European cricket, the editors of the South African Non-European Cricket Almanack request the various provincial units of the Indian, Coloured, Malays and Bantu Unions to assist to supply all the important scores, reviews, batting and bowling averages, biographies and photographs of five outstanding players in each provincial union, and histories of the various unions in South Africa. All reports and photographs must be directed to the Editors, P.O. Box 644, Port Elizabeth, and P.O. Box 4643, Cape Town.

COCA-COLA AND THE FREE PRESS

From E. H. Mansel, for the Coca-Cola Export Corporation, Johannesburg.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the trade marks "Coca-Cola" and "Coke," which are the registered trade marks of The Coca-Cola Company, are amongst the most widely used trade marks in the world.

... the use of trade marks provides identification for products, and this leads to free choice. Free choice between products makes advertising necessary and profitable. Advertising supports the free Press.

The Press, as it exists to-day, would be impracticable without the revenue provided by advertising. Without this revenue the Press would have to be subsidised, and such a subsidy could come only from the Government. . . .

(Thanks for the laugh. So advertising supports the free Press? Mr. Mansel should tell that one to his boss! The advertisement manager of this portion of the free Press has not been deluged with Coca-Cola advertisements.

Without the support of capitalist advertising we'd need a subsidy from the Government! says Mr. Mansel. No, Swart doesn't subsidise us either.

Advance is subsidised by its readers—to the extent of £43 per day last month. Because it is the people's paper, its readers are loyal and devoted and ready to make sacrifices for it. And, incidentally, with readers like that we are one of the best advertising media in the country!

Capitalist advertising does the very opposite of helping the free Press. The bosses advertise only in those papers which serve the interests of the bosses and oppose those of the working people.

If Advance had the financial backing of the bought Press it would have the biggest circulation in the country. The days of the South African people's democracy—when we'll prove that statement—aren't too far off!—Editor.)

OUR FREE WORLD

From Nuffsed, Cape Town.

A column for cuttings from the boss Press would be an attractive feature. It could be headed "Our Free World." Enclosed is such a cutting from the Cape Times:

THEY ARE TOO PROUD TO BEG

One man's rubbish is often another man's means of subsistence. This is borne out by the number of people in Cape Town who get their food from the garbage tins of the city.

At any of the rubbish transhipping spots or at the dumps there are people who vie with the scavenger gulls for tit-bits.

Every day hundreds of people throw away bread, stale vegetables, bruised fruit and even pieces of raw meat.

There are many men who help the municipal workmen at the transhipping yards for the opportunity of sorting the rubbish. These are often poor people who are too proud to beg and too honest to steal.

Pin money is made from such things as bottles, bones, bags, copper wire, scrap iron, lead, waste paper and old batteries.

Advance Editor In Moscow

Advance editor, Brian Bunting, who is on holiday leave with his wife, Sonia, wired from Moscow yesterday that they have arrived there.

Brian Bunting will report on his visit to the Soviet Union in Advance next month on his return. Watch for our special May Day number.

Editorial

NEWS TO WARM YOUR HEARTS!

HERE'S some news of the greatest political importance. News that will warm your hearts. A special twelve-page issue of ADVANCE will appear in honour of May Day, the international holiday of working people, if our readers let us have the cash to do it—that is, if they keep up the magnificent February pace of £43 a day.

HOW IT WILL BE SPECIAL:

- It will contain specially commissioned articles of a high standard by outstanding writers, including those from other countries.
- It will be distributed very widely in a considerably increased circulation.
- It will contain messages of greetings from the widest section of the people's organisations.

HOW IT WILL FURTHER THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM:

- In the present period of relative lull in the struggle it will be a positive step forward
- It will explain the political significance of May Day
- It will tell of May Day Celebrations in other countries
- It will link up with other important events that will fall at the time:

The anniversary of the birth of South African people's leader Bill Andrews, national chairman of the former Communist Party, and a beloved pioneer of the trade union movement.

The election victory of Ray Alexander (April 24)

The preparations for the Congress of the People which will form a Freedom Charter for South Africa.

The Peace Conference at Geneva.

- It will serve as a uniting force by drawing together in their May Day greetings through ADVANCE the very broadest sections of the freedom-loving people.
- It will introduce Advance to a wider readership.

WHAT YOU MUST DO TO ENSURE THIS SOCK IN THE JAW OF APARTHEID:

- You must let us have the money to pay for all this. The February total averaged out at about one and sixpence per reader. It shows the loyalty and devotion of the people towards their paper. The same target must be fulfilled—and overfulfilled.
- You must sell more copies of the special. As a conservative target we aim to sell 5,000 more copies of the May Day special than the usual. This will be easy if you publicise the paper well in advance. And, more important—if you undertake to organise voluntary selling groups everywhere—especially where the celebrations are taking place.
- You must see to it that whatever organisation you belong to—your trade union branch, your branch of Congress, your peace committee, your church, your vigilance association, your family for that matter—sends May Day greetings to all South Africa through the special Greetings Page of Advance. (Messages will be printed at twopence a word or 10s. per display inch.) Collect messages now and be sure that there is space for yours.

MAKE OUR MAY DAY SPECIAL AN EVENT OF THE YEAR — A COPY OUR WORKING-CLASS HISTORIANS WILL PORE OVER—AND LAY THE BASIS FOR A REGULAR 12-PAGER.

Have you anything to advertise? Commercial Advertisements will be accepted for the Special Issue at our special rates if they incorporate M A Y D A Y GREETINGS.

Tell possible Advertisers of this splendid opportunity.

Smashing Success For Left in Indian Election

First People's Govt. May Be Formed

BOMBAY.

IN the most vital test of political strength since the Indian general election, Nehru's Congress Party was heavily defeated in the South India State of Travancore-Cochin and a United Front of the Left led by the Communists won an absolute majority. The Congress Ministry, shaken by unemployment, financial scandals and general incompetence, and now routed by the electorate, has resigned. The way is clear for the formation of the first genuine people's Government on Indian soil.

The United Front of the Left included Communists, Revolutionary Socialists and Praja Socialists, together with a number of Independents. At first their alliance went no further than an electoral agreement not to split the vote, and between them they contested 106 out of 117 seats in the State.

The results have been a vindication of the united front policy, winning 59 seats against only 45 for the ruling Congress Party. The balance of seats were won by Independents, some of whom may throw in their lot with the United Front, and the Tamilnad Congress, a local party.

At all stages the national leaders of the Praja Socialists, who correspond in outlook with the British Labour Party, fought against the alliance and tried to sow suspicion by saying any front with the Communists should only be to destroy them.

PEOPLE'S UNDERSTANDING

But the local Praja leaders in Travancore Cochin pursued an independent line and have been influenced by the popular understanding of the electorate, which grasped the election slogans and was determined on one main object—to defeat Congress and set up a people's Government. One of the slogans which swept the elections was: "The United Front will win—the United Front will rule."

Even those of the Praja Socialists who might wish to pull out of the alliance are in the position that they

cannot do so without discrediting themselves with the people.

CONGRESS TACTICS

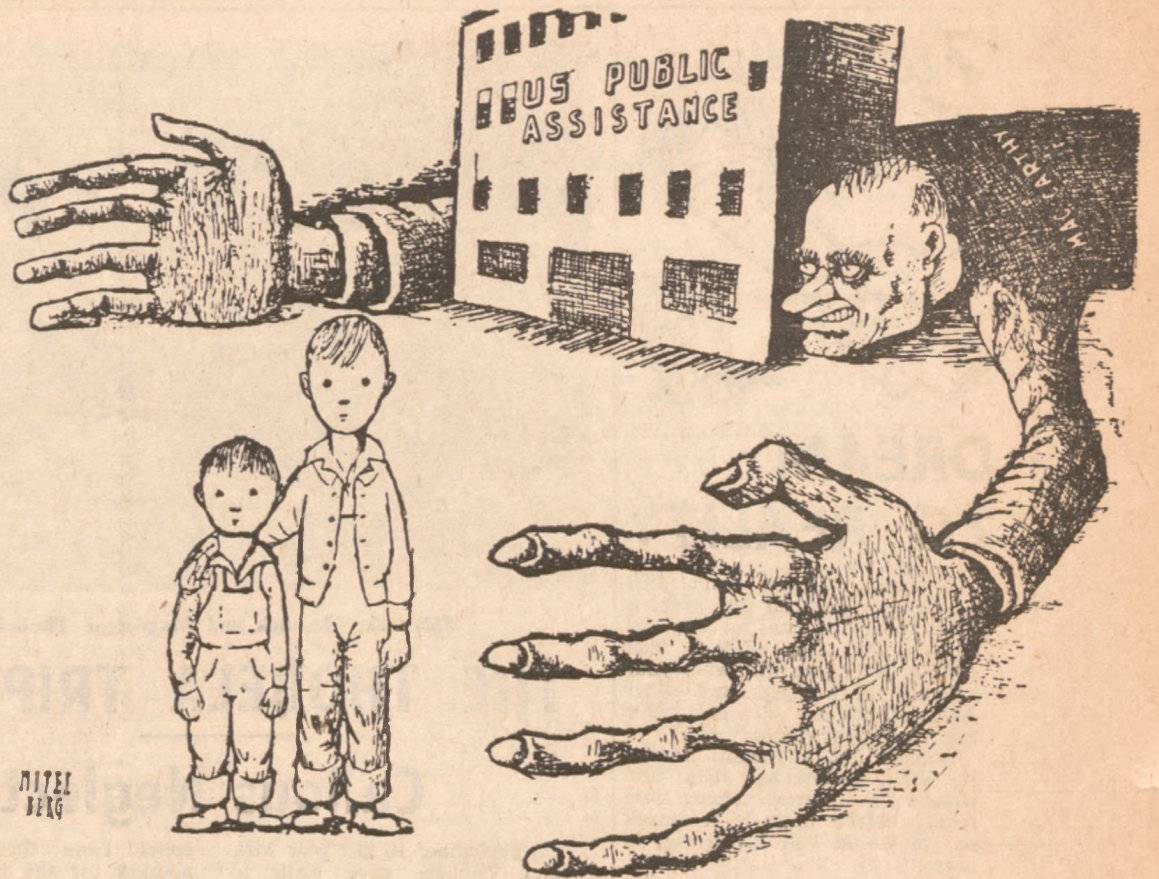
Congress used every tactic and all possible influence to swing the election. Top leaders from the Premier downwards visited the State and made extensive tours. Police intimidation, beatings-up and other violence were aimed against the Left.

Travancore-Cochin is the most literate area of all India and an exceptional number are Christians, including chiefly Catholics. The whole hierarchy of the Churches was used to swing the electors against the Left. Congregations were assembled and made to vow they would vote for the official Congress candidates.

LEFT PROGRAMME

The manifestoes of the United Front have never deceived the electorate that they could transform their lives and eliminate the evils of landlordism, unemployment and famine. They have demanded the formation of a Government which "will be able to take immediate steps for giving relief to the people and for defending their rights by utilising the limited powers a State Government has within the Constitution."

First figures of the Pepsu elections also show significant advances for the Left. On a smaller scale were the municipal elections in Alwar City, Rajasthan, regarded as a Congress stronghold. The United Front of the Left with allied Independents won 16 seats against only 9 for Congress.



AMERICA HOUNDS TWO CHILDREN

Cruel Blow At Michael And Robby Rosenberg

NEW YORK.

THE United States Government has virtually kidnapped the Rosenberg children, sons of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were electrocuted last year on the frame-up charge of conspiracy to spy. On the order of a New York judge Michael and Robby, aged 10 and 6, have been taken into custody and are being held in secret pending a decision to hand them over to a State orphanage for "re-education" into "good Americans."

The children were placed under the custodianship of Mr. E. Bloch (their parents' devoted lawyer)

by the will of their parents before their death. First they lived with the Bach family, friends of the Rosenbergs, and were sent to a quiet little country school in the hope that they would be left in peace and anonymity.

PERSECUTION

But the persecution of the family soon overtook them. They were ordered out of the school on the grounds that they were not properly adopted by the Bach family. They were persecuted by the Press and inquisitive crowds, and their life became a misery.

At Christmas-time last year, however, a new arrangement was made by Mr. Bloch. Ann and Abel Meeropol, a couple living near New York, took them into their home, and they became at once remarkably happy and free from anxieties. The Meeropols are both former teachers and Abel is a top American song writer under the name Lewis Allen.

HAPPY LIFE

No publicity was made about the new life the little boys were beginning to enjoy. The fund to provide for their education and upbringing was closed, having reached the target figure of 50,000 dollars.

Then their guardian, Emanuel Bloch, died of heart failure in January. Bloch himself had been a victim of vicious McCarthyite persecution, and was faced with legal proceedings to have his name removed from the Bar. This was due to his three-year fight for the lives of the Rosenbergs. His death gave the U.S. authorities a chance to strike a carefully-planned blow at the children.

A discreditable role in the affair has been played by a wealthy group calling themselves the American

Jewish Committee. They sponsored the nation-wide publication of a book by Dr. S. A. Fineberg, in which he sneered at the Rosenbergs for their "martyrdom complex" and demanded that the children should be taken from their guardians and brought up by "State agencies."

The home of the Meeropols was suddenly invaded by officials, ostensibly from the New York City Department of Social Welfare, backed by carloads of detectives.

Among the officials was a social worker known to the children from the past, and Michael shouted to her: "We don't want any social service worker. We're happy here."

The Meeropols refused to hand the boys over immediately, but undertook to bring them to court the following day. That night police squad cars were parked round the building and two detectives were posted on mattresses just outside the house door.

The hearing of the case took only half an hour, and was behind closed doors in total secrecy, the children being kept in a small room.

A new battle has begun for the lives and happiness of the two small boys. First step will be an action for a writ of Habeas Corpus from the State Supreme Court ordering the Welfare Department to give up the children.

CAPE TOWN PROTEST

At the International Women's Day meeting in Cape Town on Monday it was resolved to protest against the action of the U.S. Government in persecuting the Rosenberg children. A letter pledging support for their campaign will be sent to the committee fighting for the return of the children.

VIET-NAM PROTESTS AT U.S. INVASION

Billion Dollars To Prevent Peace

THE United States may present the world with the accomplished fact of an American war in Indo-China before the agreed Five-Power conference meets in Geneva in less than a month and a half to consider steps for the reduction of tension in the Far East and the conclusion of peace in both Korea and Indo-China. This is the effect of United States double-dealing aimed at keeping up international strife despite being forced by world opinion to talk peace.

The American Embassy in Paris announced publicly that President Eisenhower has asked that French Defence Minister M. Pleven should go direct to Washington instead of returning to Paris after his tour of Indo-China "to plan new measures to halt the worsening crisis" in the Viet-Nam war.

BILLION DOLLARS

Senator A. Smith, who presided at the closed session of the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee, said the "aid" for keeping the war going this year "will be between 800 and 1,000 million U.S. dollars."

According to United Press, the money will not simply be thrown down the rat-hole as in the past, but there will be large American missions at every point to see that the French are able "to absorb that much money efficiently."

The Vietnam People's Government and the liberatory Governments in Laos and Cambodia are under no illusions about the cam-

ouflage of American military plans in their country, and already the Vietnam President, Ho Chi-minh, has protested formally at direct U.S. intervention in the war.

This is fully supported by a report in the U.S. News and World Report from its correspondent in Saigon: "Wherever you travel in Indo-China you see vivid evidence of the steadily increasing role the U.S. is already playing in this war."

ALL AMERICAN

"Every day," he says, "nearly 100 American cargo planes land on the precarious air strip. They bring in between 200 and 300 tons of supplies. In addition 30 transports drop another 100 to 150 tons of cargo by parachute. All of those airlift planes are gifts from the U.S."

"As you move around the Dien Bien Phu perimeter you see scores of American mortars, with crates of American shells stacked nearby. All the artillery is American and all

the ammunition that is flown in for these guns comes from the U. There are even a number of American tanks that were flown in piecemeal and then reassembled inside the isolated perimeter here."

But he reports that all this support is not saving the French in the area from continuous mauling and heavy losses in men. French losses daily in the war are now higher than Allied losses in the Korean war.

Despite American plans, the crisis is not only military—it is political, and extends to the heart of France.

This coming Saturday Radical Communist and even Gaullist deputies have called on the people of Paris to take part in a giant protest and silent march against the American - dictated "European Army," and it is expected to turn into a general protest against American policy, including the continuation of the Indo-China war.



DREAM TO REALITY

Whatever you do, don't miss reading our editorial this week. It is all about our plans for a special 12-page May Day edition. That edition, we hope, will whet your appetite for a bigger and better Advance, not just once in a while but every week of the year.

Sounds like a dream, doesn't it? Well, determined men and women have turned dreams into reality before now. If it wasn't so we would still be living in caves.

In the meantime even our special May Day edition is still a dream. It's for you, our readers, to turn it into reality. We know what the magic formula is in this case. You spell it CASH. Give us the cash and we'll give you the 12-pager—it's as simple as that!

Last week you gave us £234—not bad for a start, but there is still £1,300 to come in before we reach our March target. Port Elizabeth, incidentally, contributed nearly £24 of this week's total. And there is more to come from that centre. One of our good friends there did a job in his spare time and donated the proceeds to the Freedom Fund. That was a very good idea—and there's no copyright.

Also included in the £234 is a donation of 1s. 6d. from an African schoolboy. He took it from his pocket-money.

If every reader emulated his example and sent us 1s. 6d. each month our financial troubles would be over.

Big or small, every donation pushes the indicator closer and closer to that £1,500. Give it another push. Turn our May Day dream into reality. SEND YOUR DONATION TO-DAY!

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.

Support From British Workers

LONDON. The Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners and Allied Workers, London, which has a membership of 30,000, has passed a resolution expressing its "serious concern at the anti-democratic and repressive measures now being put into operation by the Malan Government of South Africa."

"We are particularly concerned with the attack on trade unionism and the banning of trade union leaders, as, for instance, the general secretary of the National Baking Industrial Union, who has been ordered to resign, and two general secretaries of food workers' unions, who have had similar treatment."

"We declare our solidarity with our fellow workers in South Africa and call upon the Malan Government to immediately withdraw these measures," says the union.

This resolution was forwarded by the union to the South African Government's representative in London.



Shadrack, Meshack and Magdalene Thobela

THE THOBELA TRIPLETS

Callous Neglect

On September 10 last year Mrs. Violet Thobela gave birth to triplets at the Baragwanath Hospital. Two weeks previously her husband had died in the same hospital. She was left alone in the world to fend for the three babies and an older son, Joseph, aged three.

Her subsequent difficulties add up to a heartbreaking story of callous official neglect and courageous struggle.

When she left the hospital she was given six nappies each, two nighties each and one little blanket each for Magdalene, Shadrack and Meshack. (Pious Mrs. Thobela had thought that a little Aedeneo would arrive to complete the trio, but Magdalene came instead.) Since then, fully occupied with the job of nursing and mothering three babies, who sometimes all demand attention at once, she has had no regular income at all. The Social Welfare Department promised help with rations last October, and she did get some mealie meal, sugar and

coffee from them last year—nothing for the babies—but this year nothing at all.

When an Advance representative came to visit Mrs. Thobela at her little house in Moroka he found the triplets looking beautiful and the house spotlessly clean. The late Mr. Thobela was a skilled furniture worker, and the house is of brick. But, like most workers, he had not managed to save anything, and Mrs. Thobela was in desperate need. The City Council has not even granted her a remission of rent.

Moved by her plight, the Western Areas Regional Committee of the African National Congress has contributed a donation of three guineas to Mrs. Thobela out of their slender funds. But this will not solve the difficulty for long. "Can you imagine," a leading Congress member asked, "what a fuss would have been made if these were European triplets in similar circumstances? I am sure that ample State and municipal aid would have been forthcoming if it were needed." M.H.

Mounting Toll of Assaults

JOHANNESBURG. One of the by-products of Nationalist Government and its racialism is the mounting toll of assaults by Europeans on Africans. It is not only the police who conduct these assaults; they are becoming more common on the farms, by railway and bus officials and, not least, by European foremen and supervisors in industries.

One of the worst examples is the Rand gold mines.

Recently White miners at the West Rand Consolidated Mine in Krugersdorp went on strike for four hours, demanding the dismissal of a compound manager. Their complaint against him was that he advised Africans to take civil action in the courts in cases of assaults on them by the Europeans!

At first they refused to return to work unless the manager was dismissed, but later agreed to return pending an enquiry. The enquiry has not yet been held.

Mr. Ellis, recently reinstated as union secretary, said that if the manager were not dismissed the Mine Workers' Union would create a dispute with the Chamber of Mines. They would demand that a miner's contract should guarantee his average daily earnings over six months.

This system, said Mr. Ellis (according to the Star), "would stop miners from driving Native workers too hard in order to increase production."

In other words—the assaults are due to the Chamber making the White miners act as slave-drivers.



When the bell for lunch break rings at the Eureka Primary School at Matroosfontein, near Cape Town, 600 children stream out of the gates. Some, who live in the location nearby, go home, but most of the children live too far away, so they spend their lunch break playing in a busy main road.

Despite continual complaints from parents that their children's lives are endangered, the school principal, Mr. Majeba, insists that if they are allowed to play in the school grounds "they will leave their lunch papers lying about" and make it untidy. So 600 African children like little Nombizodwa Kosi are left looking wistfully into the playground. The school grounds are really too small for so many children, but they are well fenced in, and if the smaller children could be allowed in the grounds during the lunch break considerable danger would be avoided.

Housewives' Branch

A branch of the Cape Housewives' League was formed in Port Elizabeth last week at the general meeting of the Guardian Co-op. Christmas Club. Miss C. Jassen was elected chairman and Miss L. Diedericks secretary.

INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY

COMMENTATOR Looks Over Die Burger's Shoulder And Finds It Agreeing

Dit Lyk Nie Of Dulles Dit Maklik Gaan Hé Nie

THE Geneva Conference on April 26 between the three main capitalist Powers and the Soviet Union and China to discuss peace in Korea and Viet-Nam will take place in a different atmosphere from that of the Berlin conference, precisely because of the immense moral victory the Soviet Union won at Berlin and the effect Molotov's statements have had on the peace-hungry people of the world.

Take the position in Viet-Nam. French war-makers are dead scared of people's leader Ho Chi-minh, who "holds the political as well as the military initiative" (Argus special correspondent, March 3).

Writing as if this would be a terrible thing, he says:

"FEAR" PEACE

"Even mild concessions by the Viet-Minh might be most difficult for the French to turn down. Any sort of Viet-Minh offer to co-operate peacefully in a truly independent Viet-Nam would be especially hard to resist. It is this form of offer which well-informed French and Viet-Name sources in Saigon fear is coming."

France is disappointing the Yanks bitterly. "Washington thought that France had agreed last year to drive for victory. But the agreement was only paper-deep. Paris's heart simply is not in the Indo-China war" (Time, Feb. 15).

And in slow-changing Britain, Foreign Minister Anthony Eden has been forced to make a statement which puts finis to the whole basis of the frantic Western armament drive. He said that he did not believe that the Soviet Union had any intention of attacking Europe.

U.S. stooges in Britain, Labour leaders Morrison and Attlee, suffered their biggest defeat ever on a major issue when they were able to scrape a majority of only two in favour of German rearmament.

(There would have been no majority at all if the Labour members of the House of Lords had not been called in. The vote was 109 to 111. Had the rank and file been consulted there is no doubt that there would have been a decisive vote against German rearmament.)

The itch for normal life is also present in the capitalist class. So many business men are going looking for trade that the Scandinavian Airlines have persuaded the Soviet Aero-Flot to run a daily service from Helsinki to Moscow.

Developments make it more and more clear that for progressives the results of the Berlin conference are an important victory. The open attempts of the most reactionary forces to incite a breaking up of the meetings failed hopelessly. That negotiations are possible was established beyond doubt—and no one is going to follow the war-makers as long as this is clear. Above all, the conference set the stage for further discussion and negotiation—this time together with People's China. This is a most bitter pill for the war-makers.

WHAT HAPPENED AT BERLIN

The Press has, of course, not told anything like the truth about the reasons why agreement was not reached on the most important question—that of preventing Germany from launching another aggressive war.

Agreement was not reached because Dulles and Eden blocked all progress.

Here's a swift summary:

	WESTERN REPLY
East and West Germans should participate in conference (Jan. 29)	NO
Peace conference with Germany by October, 1954; German armed forces to be limited to defence purposes (Feb. 1)	NO
Let the Germans vote on question "EDC or peace treaty?" (Feb. 3)	NO
Form all-German Government to supervise free elections; occupation troops to leave before elections (Feb. 4)	NO
Reduction of occupation costs to 5% of budget, cancellation of post-war debts (Feb. 6)	NO
Germany to be neutralised; occupation troops to leave within six months; Four-Powers control of strength of East and West Police (Feb. 10)	NO
Conclusion of 50-year All-European Security Pact, with participation of both halves of Germany (Feb. 10)	NO
As the U.S. war-makers get busy trying to sabotage their April conference they find their hands full elsewhere. Like, for example, the Middle East.	

TERRIBLY CONFUSING

Are you just a little confused by all the Middle East presidents going in and out? Come on, admit it—you are. But don't be too worried. The U.S. and British rulers, who pull all the strings in opposite directions, so it's not surprising that things do get a little tangled up. (One day a string will break, then heaven help imperialism.)

Take poor old Shisheky of Syria—or, rather, formerly of Syria. In the last summary we saw how

this United States puppet tried "to feed democracy to Syrians in small doses." The opposition, led by elements notorious for their connection with Britain, seized the opportunity and tried to chuck him out, so he arrested them and re-established martial law. That's where this column left him on February 25. One up for the U.S.

Since then the story has continued. Shisheky is out. Britain's pals are in. One up for Britain.

There used to be talk of a "Middle East Command" as part of the anti-Soviet war bloc. Britain and France were to be part of it. But now the U.S. has new plans.

It has gone off on a completely different tack with a U.S.-financed Turkey-Pakistan military alliance. Britain and France no longer figure. Two up for the Yanks.

The U.S. is very busy on another little grab from her British junior partner. She wants to grab the Suez Canal. As you can imagine, that has Britain very worried indeed. If the U.S. wins this point she must win the whole game.

The U.S. plan is to oust Britain from Egypt and to conclude a military agreement with Cairo to bring the Canal Zone under U.S. control.

"Evacuation of the Suez garrison," remarks the New York Times, "would make one more instance in which the British packed up and left and the U.S. moved in."

So it's a safe bet to watch for more fun in the Nagub merry-go-round.

No wonder the British are a little gleeful about the wave of anger which has swept Asia at the arming of Pakistan and Turkey.

The comments of the Government Press in Iraq, which is still "British," are certainly worth looking at. The Bagdad Akhbar Al-Masa:

"It means the return of imperialism to Asia, military intervention of America and Europe in affairs of Asian States and a check to the growth of the movement for the emancipation of Asian countries still struggling against imperialist domination."

And here's some real hard punching.

"The issue does not merely concern India but all Middle Eastern countries, since Pakistan will become an American base not only against India but also against any country desiring emancipation, freedom or self-respect."

The Press of Egypt, another British outpost, gives more clues. Says the Cairo Al Mussawar:

"America hopes that as a result of this link between Turkey and Pakistan, Iran and other Near East countries would be tempted to join the Middle East defence bloc. This hope is not likely to be realised. On the other hand, it will cause these countries to adopt a policy of neutrality or even throw in their lot with the Russian camp, however much they may dislike it."

The fight between the U.S. and Britain is still basically one for control of oil profits. A glance at the facts will show why Britain is now so desperate.

At the end of the war the two rival imperialist powers each controlled approximately an equal share of the oil production outside the United States.



The Yanks kept their eyes open for a chance to reduce Britain to a second-rate oil power. The chance came. A powerful movement for oil nationalisation developed in Iran, and Washington seized the chance to push the British out.

The loss of the Iranian oil was a severe blow to Great Britain. It shattered British dominance in Middle East oil production. Her share fell to 38.8 per cent., against the U.S. 58 per cent.

As British imperialism struggles for life the Middle East merry-go-round will gather speed.

But while the rivals swing at each other they forget the most important thing about the Middle East—the fact that people live there. And the people don't like having all their oil carted off for someone else to make a profit out of. They don't like having to live in hovels. They don't like the British or the Yanks. They are going to chuck them out.

EASIER FIGHTING AFRICANS THAN YANKS

British imperialism is not enjoying being battered about by the bigger and stronger Yanks. They are armed and they've got dollars.

Britain thought that the unarmed Kikuyu of Kenya were easier meat. She sent tanks and bombers against them at the call of the White settlers.

But a people fighting for liberation can perform miracles. Fighting incredible odds, the liberatory movement of Kenya grew stronger, not weaker.

Last week Britain began to send out peace feelers. The White settlers who started the war in order to wipe out every trace of democracy and to subdue (or destroy) the Kikuyu people were horrified.

They had been demanding complete Press censorship and a declaration that "the whole Kikuyu tribe are in rebellion." Such a declaration would have made it legal to kill Kikuyu on sight—an essential step in the settlers' plan to kill off a whole people just as the Nazis planned to destroy the Jews.

Alarmed by the peace negotiations, the European settlers held meetings and demanded that General China should be hanged at once. But the sentence had already been commuted to life imprisonment.

SHOOTING UP THE CONGRESS

The attempt by Puerto Ricans to wipe out a sizeable portion of the United States Chamber of Representatives draws attention to another heavy problem on the minds of the rulers. The problem of keeping in check their Latin American colonies.

The shooting has spotlighted the fact that the U.S. colony of Puerto Rico, whose people live in the most terrible poverty, is seething with discontent. The U.S. is as vicious a coloniser as the worst of Europe's imperialist Powers.

Forty per cent. of all U.S. foreign investment is concentrated in Latin America (Summary, Feb. 18) and U.S. Foreign Secretary Dulles was busy in the dependent countries last week in the role of a Colonial Secretary at a Latin American conference in Caracas, Venezuela.

The thoughtful Venezuelans provided Dulles with a bullet-proof car. "But," commented Die



with a bullet-proof car. "But," commented Die

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPT. HUMILIATES NON-EUROPEANS

Must Stand - No Smoking - No Cars
From Jacqueline Arenstein

DURBAN. THE infiltration of Nationalists into the Department of Social Welfare here is driving out experienced Non-European social welfare workers and seriously affecting the department's work amongst the Non-European people.

A callous and indifferent attitude to Indian matters has not escaped the notice of those working closely with the department. Social welfare workers told Advance that less and less grants were to be authorised for Indians.

HUMILIATION

Recently several Non-European social workers employed by the department were forced to resign because conditions are becoming intolerable. For example, Non-European social workers have been told that at staff meetings they are not allowed to smoke and must stand when they express their opinions. These apartheid rules do not apply to European staff members.

Last week the Non-European staff suffered further humiliation, when they were informed that they would no longer be permitted to use motor-cars when conducting case work, but would have to use motor bikes instead, whereupon several of the Indian social workers resigned.



Burger (March 4). "Dulles could land up in the middle of bullets against which his bullet-proof car will offer no protection. Figurative bullets—and it would not be surprising if the Venezuelans themselves open fire."

WANTS TO FIGHT GUATEMALA

Dulles wants to conscript the Latin Americans into an army to defend U.S. profits. He wants to start by attacking Guatemala, which has a progressive Government with strong working-class support.

The U.S. United Fruit Company used to run Guatemala until the people decided to run the country themselves. The fruit company is angry, and wants to take the country back, and Dulles is in Caracas to try to do the job—or, rather, to get others to do the job. (Let Latin Americans fight Latin Americans.)

"The U.S. would like to take steps against the present regime, and would probably have done so long ago if it were not scared of the unfavourable reaction in the other American countries," notes Die Burger, whose foreign editor is generally far more shrewd (and frank) than our English Press.

In fact, I'm so amazed, I'm going to give you the whole lot out of the mouth of Die Burger.

"Instead of taking action against Guatemala off its own bat the United States will try to get the confidence of American countries to agree to measures against 'infiltration by international communism.'"

"The choice of words is neat. If without beating about the bush the U.S. had expressed its concern about Guatemala it would have laid itself open to the charge that it was again interfering in the affairs of an American country."

There would have been memories of the past—"a past over which the U.S. would like to draw a veil."

But, notes Die Burger, "in the first place the people of Central and South America are not nearly as worried about Communism as is the U.S. There are, indeed, many non-Communist left-wingers who think that the U.S. is far too taken up with the actions of Communists in Latin America and not sufficiently troubled about the many right-wing dictators."

"In the second place, many people in Latin America, although they are not Communists, cannot help liking the way little Guatemala is cocking a snoot at the Yankee giant."

In short, "Dit lyk nie of Dulles dit maklik gaan hé nie."

No More Exemptions

JOHANNESBURG.

One of the bitter by-products of the new Verwoerd pass books is that, at one stroke, they have destroyed the "exemption pass" concession, which was previously contained in the pass laws in order to grant a privilege to African teachers, clergymen and other intellectuals. Mr. Nimrod N. Sejake, an African inventor and clerk, found himself one of the first victims of the new ruling when his application for a reissue of his exemption was refused and he was told to get an ordinary contract book. He came straight up to see Advance about it.

"This infernal book is maliciously designed to convert aspiring Africans into ambitious, stagnant and hopeless individuals," he said. "Sooner or later Africans will see no cause to develop their capabilities, for it will not avail one to seek access to higher levels. This means forced labour for all, at the lowest level."

"The time is opportune for all the down-trodden to fight these monster evils," is the conclusion drawn by Mr. Sejake. "We must assist the paper Advance to prosper financially." He suited the action to the words by making a contribution to our fighting fund.

"GET HIM A PASS"

An African woman seeking school accommodation for her 16-year-old son was told to "get him a pass and send him to work in a kitchen" as the schools were full.

The man who gave this advice to the mother was a Durban inspector of Native education.

THE BEND IN THE ROAD

By KATIE HENDRICKS.

Illustrated by L. DE VILLIERS.



He was lying on his bed in a dazzling white vest.

NAT M.P. HAS FAMILIES EJECTED

"Ruthless Use Of Power"

CAPE TOWN.

THE plight of 75 Indian men, women and children who, through the dissolution of the Rent Board in Lydenburg have been given 30 days to vacate their business and residential premises, was the subject of questions in the House of Assembly last week put to the Minister of Health, Dr. Van Rijn, by Mr. Leo Lovell, Labour M.P. for Benoni. Two representatives of the Lydenburg Indian community, Mr. T. M. Gani and Mr. A. K. Hajee, came to Cape Town last week to appeal to the Minister of Health to withdraw his proclamation. But they returned home without success.

The ejection of these Indian families follows unsuccessful attempts to have them removed from Lydenburg under the Group Areas Act. In 1952 the Lydenburg Municipality applied to the Land Tenure Board for their removal to a site 2½ miles out in the veld. The application was turned down by the board. It was subsequently renewed, but again was turned down on the ground that the Transvaal Indian Congress had received insufficient notice of it. The application was made a third time and suspended on a plea that the members of the Board had prejudiced the issue by granting certain permits in the locality.

SUBTLE USE OF POWER

Then on January 29, 1954, the Minister of Health published a notice in the Government Gazette dissolving the Lydenburg Rent Board from March 1.

Three Indians in Lydenburg who own the property they occupy will not be affected by this move, but four with 71 dependants are tenants living in dwellings over shops, and all these last week received 30 days' notice.

As the Transvaal is a controlled area under the Group Areas Act, these Indians may not rent or buy other premises without a permit. As the inter-provincial movements of Indians is prohibited, they cannot go to another province either without special dispensation.

"It is obvious to me that what the Town Council of Lydenburg could not achieve by its representations to the Land Tenure Board—that is, remove the well-established Indians from the town—has been achieved in an even more ruthless manner by this subtle use of the Minister's powers in terms of the Rents Act," said Mr. Lovell in an interview with Advance.

"In Lydenburg three Indian traders have received notice to vacate their premises by the end of March. These are not merely business premises, they are mixed premises, and their families are housed men, women and children will virtually be put on the streets. Three businesses which have been in existence between 20 and 37 years will be ruined. It means the creditors of these businesses may not be able to collect their debts. And because the Group Areas Act does not permit persons of one colour to lease new premises from persons of another there seems no possibility of the Indians concerned getting any alternative accommodation at Lydenburg, even for domestic purposes.

"The Minister of Health says that he acted on representations from the Nationalist Party member for Lydenburg, and I have little doubt that the member for Lydenburg was approached by the European landlords of the Indian tenants, who could not eject them from their premises while the Rents Act operated in that area."

SYNOPSIS

Katie, the daughter of a Rhodesian African and a Coloured woman, has just become a teacher. After meeting Jeffrey, a man from the same tribe as her father, she has had to leave the convent where she was studying, and has gone to live with her Aunt Mattie. Mattie has been reluctant to have her, as she did not want a lodger, but she agreed when Katie's mother promised to look for a house.

THE months at Aunt Mattie's house slipped away uneasily. She warned me weekly that I should have to leave when the year was up and, but for the fact that I was a teacher, I am sure I would have been turned out there and then. Aunt Mattie rightly maintained that mother was making no attempt to find a house. Mother had been living in the servants' quarters at the hotel for so long that she would have found it difficult to leave. She shared a room with an elderly Coloured waiter, called James, whom she now called her husband.

Aunt Mattie had got to know about Jeffrey, whom I continued to see, and this was one of her greatest grievances. She did not understand why I, a teacher and consequently a person of some standing in the community, should associate with a "kaffir". To appease her and keep my accommodation, I did not let Jeffrey come to the house.

But, above all, to Aunt Mattie I was a nuisance. She did not really need the money I paid; what she did need, however, was the dining room to entertain her many friends. Gradually, the few pieces of furniture in my portion of the dining room began to disappear and I knew that Aunt Mattie's campaign had begun. But I was determined to hang on for at least a few months longer.

As if my position was not precarious enough, a further complication arose to bring home to me that freedom outside the convent walls had its drawbacks and penalties.

I was going to have a baby. When I told Jeffrey, he was speechless and made an excuse to cut his visit short and I did not see him again for two weeks. After school one day I went to his room at the back of the big house in Pinney Street.

He was lying on his bed in a dazzling white vest and pants

which showed his smooth black skin to advantage.

"Hullo, Jeffrey," I said.

"Hullo," he replied shortly.

"Why have you not come to see me for such a long time?"

Jeffrey sat up sullenly, as far away from me on the bed as he could get, "I have been very sick," he said rolling his eyes.

"Did you think about what I told you?"

"Yes."

"Well?" I asked nonchalantly.

"I am too young to get married. My parents will not consent."

"But I don't want to get married."

I waited while Jeffrey thought out this unexpected development.

"I think that your Aunt will find a white husband for you. She will not let you marry a native."

"Don't be silly. I will marry whom I like."

"It is not good. It is not good."

"Something must be done. It is your baby and mine and you must help me. Are you going to leave me alone now because you got me into trouble?"

For a moment Jeffrey sat in silence on the edge of his bed, and then got up saying that his madame was calling him. I waited for an hour and then approached the kitchen to ask the madame if I could see Jeffrey. I should have known better.

"I cannot have you girls worrying Jeffrey while he is working. Go away, or I shall call the

master."

"But I am his wife," I said.

The madame snorted, "And so are all the other girls who come to his room."

"But . . .," I ventured.

The madame became agitated. "Go away. Go away. Bob," she called, "Bob, come here."

I turned away with an exclamation of annoyance.

This grunt on my part infuriated the madame. "Bob, Bob," she screamed.

"Yes, what is it, dear?" the master clattered down the stairs and I walked hurriedly away.

"Really, dear, we *must* get rid of Jeffrey. He keeps having all these girls in his room."

It was a shock to know that I was one of the many, and I never saw Jeffrey again. I was on my own now, and I felt better about it.

Not many months ago I had been horrified by mother's suggestion that I would be bringing my brats to her if I left school! I was determined that she should not get to hear of my predicament; nor should my aunts. How their tongues would wag! It would be best to keep this entirely to myself.

I consulted a pharmacist, a brisk, pale-faced man who did not seem the least bit astonished at my strange request. He re-emerged from his dispensary with a packet of pills, as if I was buying a train ticket.

(To be continued next week)

Add pleasure to your leisure

with CAVALLA



the satisfying smoke

PLAIN

CORK

Throbbing Headaches GO!

Mag-Aspirin is better. It calms your angry nerves and gently soothes away those stabbing pains. Mag-Aspirin's safe, sedative action has given thousands of sufferers speedy relief from backache, bladder pain, neuritis, lumbago, headaches, toothache, sleeplessness, and rheumatic pains. Get 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.

Ray Alexander's Trade Union Column

FASCIST SCHOEMAN HAS FRIENDS IN THE UNIONS

MANY trade unionists must have been shocked to read that Schoeman, the arch-enemy of trade unionism, and the architect of the notorious Apartheid Bill to destroy trade unionism, was actually invited to open the Annual Conference of the S.A. Federation of Trade Unions.

Even the conservative Mr. Ivan Walker, at one time secretary for Labour, expressed his indignation in a press statement. "Trade unionism," he complained, "was becoming jellied and lacked leadership."

JUST AS FRIENDLY

Mr. George McCormick, the Federation's chairman, in reply to Walker, said "that it was trade union practice to invite the Minister of Labour to open trade union conferences, that it was his policy to maintain good relations with the Department of Labour, and that he is just as friendly with Mr. Schoeman as he was with the late Mr. W. Madeley when he was Minister."

We have always known Mr. George McCormick. I can quite believe that he follows any Minister of Labour no matter what his politics are. What I cannot understand is why other members of the Federation, like Tommy Rutherford, Edgar Deane, Ben Caddy, Crompton and others, put up with this servility.

I have heard all kinds of rumours about members of the Federation taking a stand against Schoeman's Bill, that they are pre-

pared to fight it to the bitter end. **THEY RE-ELECTED THEM!**

But what fight can one expect from leaders who went to a conference opened by the man who engineered the Bill? The least they could have done, if they are determined to fight the Bill, would have been not to re-elect those officials responsible for inviting Schoeman.

These officials, it should be remembered, wrote a letter to Schoeman accepting the general principles of the Bill and even complained that it did not go far enough in protecting the interests of the European workers. It is not surprising then that they should be pals with Minister Schoeman.

Some of the trade unionists who are talking boldly of opposing the Bill, even to the extent of strike action, have already surrendered in another vital aspect. They have agreed to hold an apartheid conference from which African trade unions will be excluded.

This policy, I should add, is not only acceptable to the Federation, whose constitution excluded African trade unions, but also to members of the S.A.T.L.C. to which African trade unions are affiliated.

NEVER ARGUE ON PRINCIPLE

All kinds of plausible arguments are put forward to defend this. It is said, for instance, that Africans will in any case support action against the Bill, and to insist upon their presence would give the Nationalists a weapon to use



against the opponents of the Bill. Throughout the past 16 years the upholders of colour-bar in trade unions have argued along the same lines, on grounds of expediency, but never of principle. They have always justified colour discrimination in terms of the prejudices of the enemies of trade unionism.

When are they going to realise that colour discrimination is precisely the weapon which these enemies use to destroy trade unions? Schoeman's Bill is the proof.

The Minister is determined to push this Bill through. The third draft retains the objectionable apartheid clauses of the first draft, despite the trade union opposition expressed in the papers.

It states: "If members of a registered trade union is open to persons of more than one race, the constitution of such a union shall provide:

- (i) for the establishment of separate branches according to race,
- (ii) separate meetings shall be held for the separate branches.
- (iii) that the members of an executive or similar committee of the union shall be White persons."

Let us make no mistake about the position. A campaign against the Bill will have to be fought with the utmost conviction and determination if it is to have any chance of success.

PARLIAMENT — MISERABLE SPECTACLE

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

PARLIAMENT last week had its annual McCarthy session. The Government and the United Party took it in turns to see who could be more severe with the Communists. The United Party is still well in the lead—it wants to hang them, remember?

Mr. Harry Lawrence, Smuts's playboy Minister of Justice, told the present Minister of Justice, Mr. Swart, that the United Party wanted to get down to serious business. Let us find a definition of a Communist on which we can all agree, he declared. The United Party wants to go further than the Government, he announced. It wants to deal with Communists who are threatening the "integrity" of the State and it also wants to deal with the Soviet Consulate in Pretoria.

Only one thing was missing—Mr. Lawrence forgot to brandish an atom bomb.

SCHOOLBOY STANDARD

It was the same old miserable spectacle. Mr. Arthur Barlow reminded the House that when Mr. Sam Kahn took his seat in Parliament he had been led in by Mrs. Margaret Ballinger and Mr. Morris Kentridge. This brought Mr. Kentridge to his feet to reply that Mr. Barlow was once a patron of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

Even the Labour Party had to make the customary opening affidavit that it abhorred Communism. Mr. Leo Lovell declared: "We are all against Communists." He then went on to say, however, that only the electorate had the right to determine who should sit in Parliament. When the Labour Party was asked whether it would agree to "people like Kahn, Bunting and Alexander" sitting in Parliament it said—yes, provided they were properly elected.

Throughout the debate the United Party was in its usual middle-of-the-road position, where, as Senator Heaton Nicholls once remarked, all the accidents happen. It was a sorry week for the United Party. All the old skeletons in the cupboard came out rattling.

The U.P. rebels and the Government between them tied the United Party firmly in knots. Why,

they wanted to know, did the United Party vote for Sam Kahn in the select committee and against Brian Bunting? Why did the U.P. do this and why did it do that? Why, why, why? The United Party—confronted with the 100 inconsistencies in its previous behaviour on the subject of anti-Communism—squirmed and wriggled. The only thing that saved the United Party from complete disaster was its skill at squirming and wriggling.

"DON'T BE FRIVOLOUS!"

There were many revealing moments in the debate, as reported in the daily Press. There was a particularly interesting moment when Mr. Lawrence suggested that the word "fascist" should be added to "Communist" to define persons harmful to the State. "Don't be frivolous," interjected the Minister of Labour. It was gratifying to note that even the United Party finds the amending Bill so drastic that it is opposing it totally.

The Minister's amending Bill will soon be through Parliament. It adds new restrictions to the Suppression of Communism and Riotous Assemblies Acts. Swart's net is growing tighter.

Earlier in the week the Assembly debated the increase in Government expenditure on Secret Services. More than £8,000 is now being spent on these services. This represents a steady increase since the war, when, according to Mr. George Sutter, only "a few hundred pounds" were spent yearly. Again the Government revealed its frame of mind. Ah, said Mr. Havenga, but now we have a cold war. Secret Service work during "cold wars" apparently costs much more than during real wars.

According to Die Burger, most of the Secret Service money goes to informers. Some goes to Defence Force informers and some to ordinary criminal case informers. But a lot, obviously, goes to political informers. I hope they enjoy it and sleep soundly at night.

"BETRAYAL OF TRADE UNION PRINCIPLE"

Why Morris Kagan Resigned

JOHANNESBURG.

ANNOUNCING his resignation from the National Executive Committee of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council, Mr. Morris Kagan revealed last week that the majority of the executive were planning to dissolve the T.L.C. and unite with the "break-away" unions which had left the Council to form a new colour bar co-ordinating body, which would exclude African unions.

"I regard such a move as a complete betrayal of trade union principles, and I refuse to have anything to do with it," he told Advance. "In fact, I propose to fight it with all my might. I want to make it clear that I associate myself with those unions that have during recent months criticised the policy and administration of the National Executive of the T.L.C."

A former transport worker, Mr. Kagan has been an active trade unionist for over 22 years, and has a long association with unions in the transport, hairdressing and distributive trades. His resignation has highlighted a deep crisis of policy now facing the trade union movement in South Africa.

Following the conference of the S.A. Federation of Trade Unions last week, which was opened by Mr. Schoeman himself, and at which a strong tendency appeared towards "hands-upping" in the face of the threat of the new I.C. Bill, the prospects of any real defence of the labour movement emerging from the proposed "all-in" conference appear to be receding. The Federation Conference adopted a resolution "deeming it inadvisable" that African trade unions should be allowed to attend the conference.

In an interview with the Trades and Labour Council organ, Saam-trek, Mr. A. J. Downes, secretary of the federation, said that a new body would be formed soon, to be called the S.A. Council of Trade

Union Federations, and this body would take over the job of convening the all-in conference.

According to Mr. Downes, the new body will include, in addition to the TLC and the federation, the Railwaymen's Federal Consultative Council, the Western Province Federation and the Ko-ordinerende Raad.

DEEP GULF

Resolutions tabled for consideration for the forthcoming (now postponed) conference of the S.A. Trades and Labour Council make it clear that there is a deep gulf between affiliated unions on matters of fundamental trade union principle.

The right-wing unions, which sway a majority of card votes, have put forward resolutions which openly envisage the dissolution of the Council by a two-thirds majority and the taking over of its assets by a new co-ordinating body. On the other hand, resolutions sharply critical of the executive, one of which proposes a vote of no confidence in Miss Hartwell, the

general secretary, have been put forward by more militant unions.

It seems clear that the majority on the T.L.C. Executive are now bent on throwing overboard the 30-year-old principle that the movement should affiliate on an equal basis organisations of all workers irrespective of race or colour: a principle that has guided the Council since its inception and entitled it to claim to be the only truly representative federation of all organised labour.

NEW ORGANISATION POSSIBLE

Undue pessimism, however, is sharply countered by progressive trade unionists in Johannesburg, one of whom told Advance that in fact the T.L.C. has for many years merely paid lip-service to the principle of internationalism. "In fact, it has done nothing to help African workers," he said. "That is the real reason why most African trade unions have remained outside the T.L.C."

He foreshadowed the possibility of a new alignment based on the African trade unions, together with militant organisations of workers of other races, which would actively implement the trade union principle of united organisation and struggle by workers of all races.

STRONG N.U.D.W. ATTACK ON SCHOEMAN BILL

CAPE TOWN.

THE latest effort in the authorities' attempt to smash the trade unions in the form of the amendments to the Industrial Conciliation Act must make it clear to everyone that there is now to be no more playing about and no more pretence. The Government's intentions are now laid bare, and any trade unionist who still thinks that it is the "foreign elements" that are to be eliminated is living in a fool's paradise.

This is how the editorial of New Day, official journal of the Workers, describes Schoeman's

The right to organise into trade unions and to run those unions without outside interference is the result of many years' hard work, and those rights were not obtained without a great deal of sacrifice and hardship. The outcome of the independence and militancy of the trade unions is seen in the wages and working conditions enjoyed today by trade union members throughout the country. These were brought about by struggle and endeavour on the part of the unions and were not the result of benevolent bosses and the State. It is these hard-won standards that will be attacked once the unions are rendered powerless.

The amendments now under consideration are designed to destroy the unions and thus leave the way open for a general attack on the workers' living conditions.

"This proposed legislation is another step towards the weakening

of the trade union movement, which has already suffered by the removal of leaders under the Suppression of Communism Act," says Kay Le Grange in a special article analysing the Bill.

"Even the employers contend that since the banning of militant leaders the trade unions have become afraid and bewildered, and have accepted the continuation of old agreements without any wage increases. This clearly seeks to show that the weakening of the trade unions has meant that the workers are no longer able to obtain improvements in their wages and working conditions.

"Unless the workers of South Africa wake up and realise how this new legislation will bind their trade unions hand and foot they will find themselves completely powerless to resist any attempts by employers to depress wages and reduce their working standards," Miss Le Grange concludes.

SPORTS PARADE

by

Bert Williams



Elijah Mokone, South African light and feather-weight champion, who claims that he saw his father's ghost, which spoke to him in the aeroplane in which he was travelling to London in search of fistic fame and fortune, photographed a day after his arrival with his mother at his Evaton home. Mokone is believed to have flown back at his own expense, and is in debt for a few hundred pounds as a result of his spiritual adventure.

The Spiritual Adventure of Elijah Mokone

BEING too much of a materialist, I am afraid I cannot explain the spiritual adventure which befell Elijah Mokone, South African light and feather-weight champion, on his way to London in an aeroplane. Elijah says that his dead father came to him and told him to go back and serve his people. After this experience he became weak, began to fast and read the Bible. He lay sick and feeble in his London hotel, and even Jake N'tuli couldn't persuade Elijah to fight.

I saw this boxer with a Biblical name and Biblical outlook a day after his arrival by plane from London at his little Evaton home. Elijah still wouldn't talk. He had a faraway look in his eyes and was a very different picture from the tigerish Elijah of the ring. He was decidedly weak and sounded too timid. He didn't sound very interested in boxing and was reluctant to speak. All he could say was that he was sorry that he had let South Africa down; as its true son he wanted to win fame not only for himself but for South Africa also. He would have fought in London, only he was too weak. He says the experience in the aeroplane left him like that. It was suggested that his fasting might have had this effect, but he was emphatic that it wasn't. He didn't want any publicity. His plans? He didn't know. He hoped to go back to his work as a teacher. He might then preach. Was he going to fight? He could not say. It depended on a lot of other things.

All I can say is that it's a great pity that this had to happen to Elijah. The Press and public had raved about him before he left; they were sure he was going to do wonders overseas. Their opinions weren't wild statements. I thought that this boy would join Tuli in the list of South African Empire champions. The London public were most sympathetic about Elijah, and for a while even Jake N'tuli took the back seat while the papers carried big stories and huge photographs of the African boxer who had a strange experience. Even Bob Ford talked about this visitation on Springbok Radio.

This sensation is understandable. No other fighter in living or past history has had such an experience. Many of them became preachers after a turbulent career in the ring: Henry Armstrong, dual world champion, for instance. But none of them actually claimed that God or their dead fathers had talked to them!

SACPO ESTABLISHED IN TRANSVAAL

JOHANNESBURG.

About 50 people attended a meeting in the Johannesburg Trades Hall last week, when it was decided to establish a local branch of the South African Coloured People's Organisation. The meeting was addressed by Mr. E. A. Deane, of Cape Town, who explained the objects of the organisation, which was established in Cape Town last year, and emphasised the need for co-operation among all Non-European people in South Africa.

"S.A.C.P.O.," he said, "stood for the attainment of full democratic rights for all South Africans in the political, social, economic and cultural life of the country, for the organisation of the Coloured people to become a greater force in the country and for their own upliftment. The organisation would aim at co-operation with other democratic organisations for these objectives."

Speakers from the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress and the S.A. Congress of Democrats brought fraternal greetings to the meeting and welcomed the new organisation. Despite repeated attempts by agents of the so-called "Unity Movement" to disrupt the proceedings, the meeting decided to set up a Transvaal branch, with Mr. Stanley Lollard as provisional chairman. An appeal is made for interested people to contact him at P.O. Box 19, Klipfontein, for application forms and further information about the new organisation.

No Force as Strong

SPRINGS.

"Beginning with the attacks on Communism, we have witnessed in South Africa a repetition of what happened in Germany," said Mr. S. M. Maboe, local chairman of the Kwa-Thema branch of the African National Congress, speaking at a large open-air meeting at Kwa-Thema held recently under the auspices of the "Let the People Speak" Committee.

"We have seen trade unions attacked and leading members banned because they dared to stand up for their workers," continued Mr. Maboe. "We have seen individuals thrown out of their work and persecuted because they refused to be intimidated by the haters of democracy. The amendment to the Suppression of Communism Act places in the hands of the Minister of Injustice the power to smash the last vestige of democracy in this country."

"I say to you, Malan and your partners, go ahead with your draconic and ferocious laws, which are repugnant to all the principles of civil liberty, religion and democracy, but know that 'there is no force on earth as strong as an idea whose time has come.'"

Other speakers at the meeting were Messrs. D. Nokwe, Tsehlan, Nkake, Kathrada, Rakanoane and Miss Lindiwe Ngakane.

AFRICAN ! CULTURE

Science and History

All over the world we buy, sell and search for good Books on African Cultures, Science, History, etc.

Send for free Catalogue to:

AFRICA BOOKS
Box 77 - MASERU

OPTICIANS

Wolfson and De Wet, F.N.A.O. (Eng.) Qualified Sight-testing and Dispensing Opticians, 4 King George Street (between Bree and Plein Streets) Johannesburg. Please note change of address.

Phone 22-3834

— 20% Reduction to Africans —

The Man in the Street

No. 15



"I CAME to Cape Town from Basutoland in 1921 and the following year I registered as a voter. But in 1946 I was told that I was not entitled to the franchise any more, and I am now a foreigner," Mr. I. Leboela told Advance.

Mr. Leboela is a cobbler. He has worked in his tiny shop in Chiappini Street, Cape Town, for 17 years. At present business is slack, he says, but it is always like

this in summer because people don't have their shoes mended. When the soles wear through they make inner soles from cardboard. In winter, however, they are forced to have proper soles fitted because the cardboard soon goes soggy in the rainy weather.

The area where Mr. Leboela lives and works is likely to be declared a Malay area under the Group Areas Act.

Were there many Africans and Coloureds living there?

"Many," replied Mr. Leboela. "Since I came here all these people have lived happily together—there is no discrimination amongst us. The Group Areas Act is very bad—people who live together in peace have to be separated—that is not their wish."

If he had a vote who would he vote for?

"I know Miss Alexander very well," said Mr. Leboela, "she would be better than anyone else I can think of."

Did Mr. Leboela read Advance? "I have been reading many papers," he replied, "the Guardian, the Clarion, the Peoples' World and now Advance. I am a constant reader of Advance and I admire it a great deal."

M.B.

RACING

The following are Tudor's selections for the Clairwood meeting on Saturday:

First Race: 1 Rustler, 2 Harvest Fun, 3 Syndicate.

Second Race: 1 Poco Presto, 2 Fair Gleam, 3 Golden City.

Third Race: 1 Tumbleweek, 2 Puppet Doll, 3 Crown Prince.

Fourth Race: 1 Salamandra, 2 Clergyman, 3 Pass On.

Fifth Race: 1 Kristan, 2 Flushing, 3 San.

Sixth Race: 1 Royal Dream, 2 Visionary, 3 Medal.

Seventh Race: 1 Broccoli, 2 Roslyn, 3 Cape Storm.

Eighth Race: 1 Fighting Fit, 2 Braggat, 3 Potent.

Ninth Race: 1 Golden Antique, 2 Gypsy Heath, 3 Arid.

PEN-FRIENDS

For exchange of Hobbies (Stamps, Friendly Letters, etc.) join the Royal Pen-Friend Club. Send stamped addressed envelope to Secretary, 70 Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

JOHANNESBURG NON-EUROPEAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

A GRAND EASTER DANCE

at

NORTHCLIFF

on 5th APRIL, 1954

Dancing from 8 to 2 a.m.

Music by JAZZ MASCOTS

Tickets at:—

INCOLOR, 12 Wolhuter Street, Phone 33-9821.

LYRIC CAFE, Fordsborg.

FLAT 8, 36 Avenue Road, Fordsborg. Phone 33-6855 after 6 p.m.

URGENT

Wanted, Assistant Manager for African Bookshops; full/part-time; preferably person with previous experience in Book Trade.—Apply 309 Lenvic House, corner Kerk and Diagonal Streets, Johannesburg, or phone 23-4267.

For BOOKS and STATIONERY

come to
AFRICAN BOOKSHOPS
309 Lenvic House (cor. Kerk and Diagonal Streets)
Telephone No. 23-4267
Reasonable Prices
Orders Executed Promptly

Published by Competent Publishing and Printing (Pty.) Ltd., 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town, and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty.) Ltd., Forgeat Street, Woodstock.

Unless otherwise stated, all political matter in Advance by Lionel Forman, 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town.

This newspaper is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation of South Africa Ltd.

Collection Number: CULL0001

ADVANCE, Newspaper, 1952-1954

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

©2014

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.

This document is part of a collection held at the William Cullen Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.