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~~DOCK STRIKE ...~~  
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the FACTS...

According to reports appearing in the Daily Press one is led to believe that the 7,000 African dock workers are earning a fair wage when compared with those employed in industry as labourers. Actually when one analyses the average income of an African dock worker it is between £1.0.0. and £2.0.0. per week inclusive of overtime pay.

Dock workers are employed on the tug labour system. When there is a ship in port workers are called upon to work. On an average a dock worker works two days in a week. Sometimes for a week or two he has no employment at all.

RATES OF PAY:

These workers receive the following rates of pay: From Mondays to Fridays their rate of pay is 10/2. On Saturdays and Sundays it is 15/- a day. Overtime pay is calculated at 1/2 per hour. Ordinary working hours are from 7.a.m. to 5.p.m.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE DISPUTE:

For a number of years the dock workers had continually made demands for higher wages. In January this year the employers requested that each compound elects three representatives so that their demands could be considered. After a meeting between their representatives and the employers which was held under the auspices of the Native Affairs Department they were told that their demands would be considered. Since then they have received no redress whatsoever. Subsequently they were told to elect one representative from each compound to put forward their demands again. The workers refused to do so on the ground that one representative could easily be intimidated by the authorities. They remembered the case of their leader, Zulu Pungola, who was deported from Durban for having taken up their case in 1949.

Quite correctly the workers state that they cannot trust Government representatives for they feel that in disputes such as theirs, employers and the Government work together.

THE WORKERS DEMAND:

The workers demand a wage of 15/- per day. They have not considered the question of overtime or of regular work. One cannot find any reason for the stevedoring companies for refusing this just demand of the workers.

We have no hesitation in giving our fullest support to the struggle of the dock workers. We salute their indomitable courage and determination to win their just demands.

FOR THE HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE ...

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**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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