

WORLD STAGE

By Spectator

SOCIALIST WORLD CELEBRATES

ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

THIS week—on November 7—the people of the entire socialist world are celebrating one of their most important public holidays—the anniversary of the seizure of power by the workers and peasants of Russia and the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the world's first socialist state.

The taking of power itself, led by the Communist Party, involved relatively little bloodshed. The tsar's army, composed as it was of workers, and sharing all the demands of the ordinary people, refused to carry out the orders of its officers to fire on the crowds which filled the streets to demonstrate their determination to end the old capitalist dictatorship which had kept them in starvation

In later years Winston Churchill was to bemoan the fact that capitalism had failed to "strangle the Bolshevik revolution in its cradle." But one of the reasons for that failure was the refusal of the workers of Churchill's own country—together with those in capitalist countries all over the world including South Africa—to give any support to the attempt to strangle the first workers' republic. "Hands off Russia" movements throughout the capitalist world helped to bring the invasion grinding to a halt by refusing to load arms and by coming out on huge strikes.

There were millions in the old Russian empire who had suffered national oppression similar to that of the Non-Europeans in South Africa today. Among the first acts of the new socialist state was the abolition of all forms of racial discrimination and national oppression.

It became a major point in Soviet policy to ensure that these people should have the right and opportunity to govern themselves, develop their own languages and cultures and stand up as equal nations in the socialist union of nations.

SOUTH AFRICA

The small socialist organisations in South Africa, which were still composed mainly of Europeans, welcomed the establishment of the Soviet state from the very beginning and published and discussed all the statements of the Soviet communist leaders and all the news they could obtain.

There was also considerable support for the revolution among the Afrikaners and in Hertzog's recently formed Nationalist Party. For the Afrikaners well understood that the Boer war had been an imperialist war and they delighted in the set-back that the Russians—peasants and workers like themselves—had delivered to imperialism.

At the beginning the most politically conscious of the African leaders who were still very much under the influence of the chiefs were suspicious of the Russian revolution. When in 1919 the socialists distributed a leaflet in Natal calling on the African workers to join in the Hands off

Russia campaign and were as a result put on trial for "incitement to public violence" a Natal ANC leader, J. T. Gumede, was among those who gave evidence for the crown. One of the reasons he gave for condemning the bolsheviks was that he believed that if they came to South Africa they would kill the chiefs.

But when, in the same year, the African workers began to be able to give expression to their views through the formation of the **great Industrial and Commercial Union (ICU) a new appreciation and understanding of the Russian revolution began to spread among all Africans. The ICU at its annual conferences consistently adopted messages of greetings and goodwill to the Russian workers.**

ANC LEADER IN MOSCOW

And in time the very same J. T. Gumede, the ANC president, paid a fraternal visit to the Soviet Union and came back completely won over by what he saw there.

When the Soviet Union was born the newspapers were unanimous and completely confident in the view that it could not survive.

Only a handful of people—because they were armed with their socialist understanding—knew, and declared to all who would listen, that the socialist state could survive and create a new life for its people.

The big newspapers and all the learned authorities have been proved wrong and the handful of socialists have been proved right.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Everyone now knows of the incredible achievements of the Soviet Union.

● A backward peasant country has been transformed into a huge industrial and agricultural power, second only to the United States, and rapidly catching up with that country.

● An illiterate population has been transformed into the best educated people in the world.

● A country which oppressed and exploited huge colonies has become the strongest ally of colonial liberation.

● A country which was riddled with racialism has made racialism a crime.

These achievements have been



Lenin: Founder of the first socialist state.

accompanied by occasional dreadful mistakes. In the course of the tumultuous advance forward some people committed some ghastly crimes. It would have been most surprising indeed if this had not been so.

Nevertheless there are probably very few in the Soviet Union who do not feel that no matter how great the price in blood, sweat and tears, it was a price well worth paying.

And those in other lands, who, because of the experience of the Soviet Union, will find their own path so much the smoother, may have even greater cause to celebrate this 41st anniversary.



Stalin: Leader in the task of construction.

and without liberty.

It was only afterwards that the dreadful bloodshed came, when the desperate capitalist class stirred up civil war against the new government and called in the armies of fourteen countries to invade the new socialist state.

But now the Russian armies, which, under the old regime, had crumbled and fled before the Germans, underwent a miraculous transformation. Because they were fighting for a cause in which they believed they turned on the invaders like men possessed and drove them from their country.

Communist Struck Out Of New York Ballot

THE New York Board of Elections acted swiftly to keep Negro Communist candidate Benjamin J. Davis (New Age last week) off the ballot paper in the New York Senate elections which took place on Tuesday.

Required to obtain 3,000 signatures to get on the ballot, the Communist Party played safe and filed no fewer than 5,988.

But the Board upheld objections lodged by the Democratic Party and invalidated 5,021 of the signatures.

ALL WHITE

"You are unfit to make this decision," Davis told the Board, which had excluded nearly all the Negro and Puerto Rican signatures. "You are all white. This is an insult to Negro and Puerto Rican voters. They won't stand for it."

Davis has previously served two terms as a New York City councilman when the system of proportional representation was in effect, and received the support of the overwhelming majority of Negro voters.

As an independent candidate of the People's Rights Party for State Senator (since the Communist Party is legally prohibited from the ballot), Davis conducted a vigorous campaign for the signatures. Night after night he held street-corner meetings with audiences ranging from 200 to 2,000.

ASIA-AFRICA WRITERS' CONFERENCE which concluded its sittings in Tashkent, USSR, last week decided to establish a permanent bureau, whose headquarters will be in Ceylon. Another conference will be held in Cairo in 1960. Biggest delegations came from India, China and the United Arab Republic. Ghana was represented, but South African writers were not.

In a statement distributed to thousands of voters in this district Davis declared:

"As a Communist I am no stranger to the Harlem community. Twice I was elected to the city council on the Communist ticket. Since then I have served five years

in prison because I refused to sell out my people and my Socialist conviction."

The Davis campaign is a demonstration that the Communist Party is beginning to play a role in mass work, after its long internal struggle.

KADAR SAYS CONFIDENCE RESTORED

THE Hungarian general election takes place on November 16 and Prime Minister Janos Kadar has been addressing meetings all over the country.

At an important election meeting in Budapest last week he said:

"The mutual confidence that has developed between the leaders and the masses is not the least of the results of our consistent policy."

Mr. Kadar began his speech by saying that electors would select the candidates for the General Election at more than 100,000 nomination meetings. About twice as many people were taking part in these meetings as in the 1953 elections.

RISING OUTPUT

Dealing with the record of his Government, he said: "There could hardly have been a Hungarian Government which started its work under graver circumstances. The bourgeois counter-revolution was practically in the room, and war stood on the threshold. They abused our People's Republic, abused all work and achievements of the ten years."

"We know where the mistakes were in the building work, but the achievements and results of the ten years are sacred. The firm, consistent policy of the last two years has brought its results."

In the main, the calling of counter-revolutionary criminals to account had been finished. "We forgave those who went astray, and the majority have since returned to

the right path," he added.

"But we will not forget the counter-revolution. Everybody must know that, either in the present or in the future, nobody can attack the people's republic unpunished."

Discussing the recovery of economic life from the damaging effects of the 1956 events, Mr. Kadar said: "Last year industrial production was 6 per cent higher than in 1955 and agricultural yields were also good."

"In the first nine months of this year industrial production was already 14 per cent greater than last year."

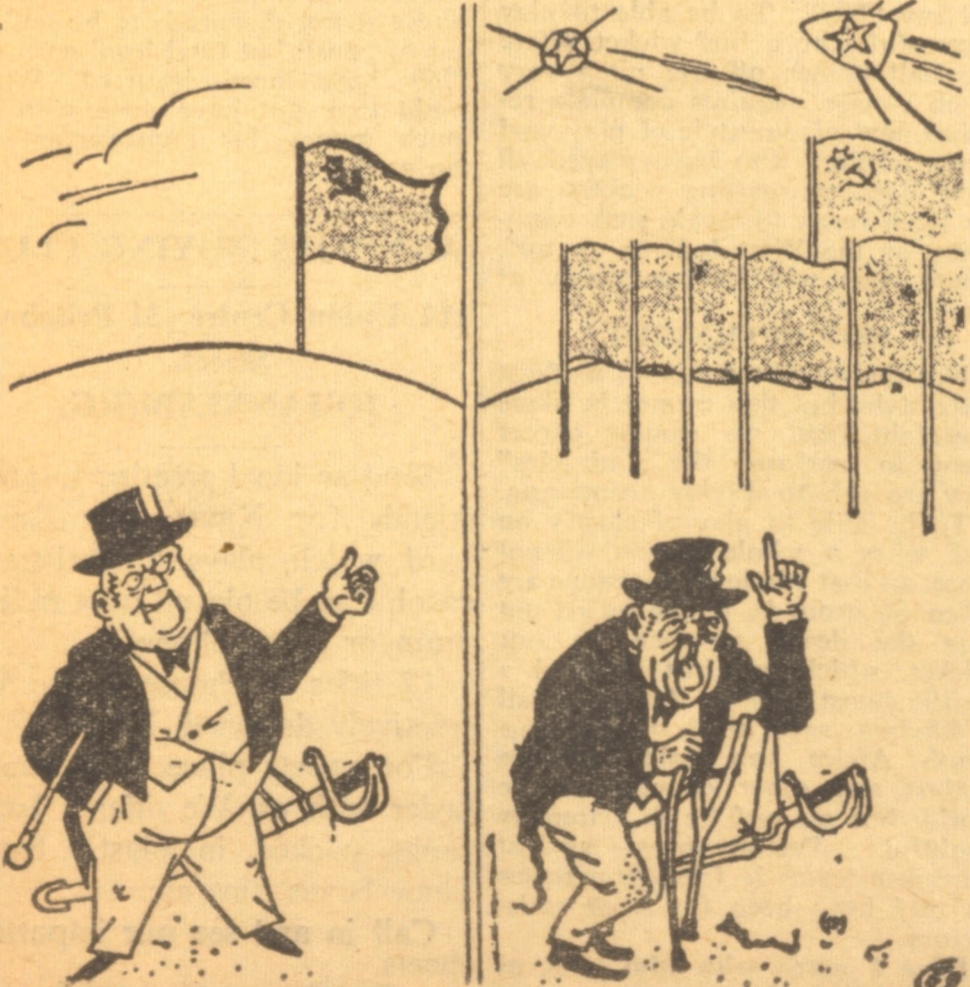
At the Brussels World Fair, he pointed out, the Hungarian pavilion had received 46 awards and, it had been estimated, came fifth or sixth—"a very distinguished place."

CATCH-PHRASES

He added: "In the field of culture we are fighting without any compromise all hostile opinions but are patient with the carriers of erroneous belief. We did not and will not demand in the future catch-phrases stammered without any conviction or unprincipled courtship of the Party and Government."

Mr. Kadar stressed it was "a serious achievement" that at present the relationship between the Government and the churches was a loyal one.

Finally he declared: "We are convinced that the result of the elections will be such that all over the world the supporters of Socialism and people's liberty will be pleased and the reactionaries embittered."



1917: Ha! Ha!

1958 Ha! Ha!
(Neues Deutschland)

Sensational Collapse of Peddie Murder Case

PORT ELIZABETH.

A CASE that was expected to last about a week was concluded in less than two hours last week when Lindilizwe Msutu and Elliot Mgxwati were found not guilty of the murder of Sontswayimba Msutu—a Government-appointed headman.

The case took a sensational turn about half an hour after the red-robed Judge, Mr. Justice H. de Villiers, had taken his seat.

Three key Crown witnesses, one after the other, climbed in to the witness box and told the Court that the sworn statements they had given at the preparatory examination were lies.

In answer to a question by the Prosecutor, Mongezi Pinda, whose rifle was one of three exhibits in the Court, denied knowledge of a meeting which was alleged to have been held at Ndlovu Msutu's home.

The Prosecutor: Was a meeting held at Ndlovu's kraal?
Mongezi: No.

The Prosecutor asked if between the death of Ndlovu Msutu and the appointment of Sontswayimba Msutu by the Government Robert Mgxwati was not elected acting headman at a meeting held at the late Ndlovu Msutu's home.

Mongezi: No.

After a few more questions the Judge intervened to ask Mongezi if he was aware that he was now giving a statement contradictory to his sworn statement.

Mongezi: Yes.

The Judge asked why he did that. Mongezi told the court: Because that one was not true.

The Judge asked why he had given a false statement then.

Mongezi said he had done so under police pressure and had sworn to what was essentially a statement by the Police.

THIRD DEGREE METHODS ALLEGED

The judge asked who the policeman was. Mongezi replied that he did not know his name but he pointed him out. Sergeant Charles Kotze, in a greenish palm beach suit, fidgeted in his seat as all eyes in the Court turned to him.

As Mongezi left the witness box, Sergeant Kotze followed him.

Zimele Msutu was called into the box, and after the Judge had warned him that he need give no evidence if he did not want to, he said he would give evidence. He too pointed out Sergeant Kotze as the one who had beaten him so that he gave a false statement.

Sergeant Kotze followed him too as he walked out of the Court.

When Mears Msutu, younger brother of one of the accused, was asked if he would give evidence, he said he would tell the Court that what he said at the preparatory examination was all lies. Asked why he had told lies he said he had been beaten up by two European detectives. He pointed out Sergeant Kotze and looked around for another who he said was not in Court at the time.

Mears said the police had punched him with fists and kicked him on the body. They threatened to kill him as they had killed his father, Ndlovu Msutu, he told the Court.

HEADMEN PART OF STATE AUTHORITY

Addressing the accused, the Judge said they had witnessed what had taken place that morning. The situation that had developed was so serious that he considered taking up the matter personally with the Minister of Justice.

If the three witnesses had adhered to the statements they were now denying, two innocent men might have been hanged, but if they were

now giving a false statement they were protecting people who were undermining the authority of the State by disobeying a Government-appointed headman.

On an application by Mr. Joe Slovo, the Judge found the accused not guilty.

As the Court rose the three Crown witnesses were arrested for perjury.

The second accused, Elliot Mgxwati, was arrested for attempted assassination, but was later released.

Advocates Joe Slovo and Milton Seligson, instructed by Lax, Noach & Jankelowitz, appeared for the defence, while Advocate H.D. Rogers assisted by Mr. M. Imber of the Attorney-General's Office appeared for the Crown.

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Will all agents and customers please note that the following list gives you the dates on which we will be delivering parcels in your areas.

We have been forced into making an early start because of the huge area we have to cover, insufficient space for storing parcels, and early factory closing.

Note: The lorries cannot return to your area once we have delivered.

Remember . . .

Closing Date NOVEMBER 1st, 1958

PAY UP NOW.

Tuesday, November 18
MOROKA Central.
MOROKA West.
WHITE CITY JABAVU.

Wednesday, November 19
SITE and SERVICE.
Dhlabini.
Senoane.
Chiawelo.
Phiri.

Thursday, November 20
SITE and Service.
Mapetla.
Moletsane.
Tladi.
Molapo.

Friday, November 21
City.
Ferreirastown.
Fordsburg.
Vrededorp.
Ophirton.
Doornfontein.
Jeppe.
George Goch.
Eastern Native Township.

Saturday, November 22
Mofolo.
Dube.

Monday, November 24
Kliptown.
Pimville.
Protea.

Tuesday, November 25
Orlando West Extension.
Westcliffe.
Phomolong.
Elizabethville.
Meadowlands.

Wednesday, November 26
Sophiatown.
Western Native Township.
Newclare.
Newlands.
Albertsville.

Thursday, November 27
SITE and SERVICE: Zondi.
Jabulani.
Central (Western) Jabavu.
BOKSBURG: Galeview.
Stirtonville.

Friday, November 28
BRAKPAN Location.

Saturday, November 29
BENONI: Wattville.
Indian Section.
Location.
Southville.
Daveyton.

Monday, December 1
GERMISTON: Location.
Simmer & Jack.
Natalspruit.
Edenvale.

Tuesday, December 2
SPRINGS: Payneville.
Kwa Thema.
East Geduld.

Wednesday, December 3
Noordgesig.
ORLANDO East.
Orlando Shelters.

Thursday, December 4
ROODEPOORT: West Location.
Roodepoort Dobsonville.
KRUGERSDORP: Cape Location.
Krugersdorp Lewisham.

Friday, December 5
Meyerton Location.
Evaton.
Vereeniging: Top Location.
Vereeniging: Sharpeville.
Van der Bijl Park: Tsirela.

Saturday, December 6
PRETORIA: Asiatic Bazaar.
Cape Reserve.
Claremont.
Lady Selborne.

FAR EAST RAND: Vogels.
Nigel: Charterston.
Heidelberg Location.
Balfour North Location.

Monday, December 8
RANDFONTEIN: Robinson.
Old Location.
New Location.
Westonaria.

Tuesday, December 9
Alexandra.
Jonas Mokhosi.

Thursday, December 11
ORLANDO WEST: Mzimhlope.

Saturday, December 13
PRETORIA
Atteridgeville.
Vlakfontein.
Walmansthal.

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SPORTLIGHT

by

"DULEEP"



Turf or Matting—West Indies?

ACCORDING to reports which have leaked out in dribbles, the West Indies cricket team will be in South Africa at the beginning of next season. Mr. "Checker" Jassat must have successfully negotiated this tour, confirmation of which will come about on the 10th.

Assuming that the tour is on, what are all the provincial and national units doing about the requirements of such a tour? First of all, every province can be expected to be levied, and heavily too, for to bring out the West Indians is going to cost a pretty sum. Administrators know that vast amounts will be required, but apparently, as is customary, they will wait for the eleventh hour to raise funds. Surely by now matches like Combined E.P. vs. Combined W.P., and Transvaal vs. Natal, both revenue-producing games, could have been provisionally arranged? (I say "provisionally", for the Board must first sanction them.)

Also, the S.A. touring team vs. the Rest of S.A. could bring in a good bit of revenue wherever it is held. Everyone is waiting for Transvaal to make a start for this latter game, but what is wrong with Western Province? Could they not ask for a match like this to be played over the Xmas or New Year holidays? Come on Messrs. Van Harte and Desai, call for this match as the cost will be negligible to you in Cape Town, less than any other centre. What's more, you are going to cash in on it, in preparation for the big expenditure next season. You have about 18 to 20 potential S.A. cricketers (including the ten who toured), so that it will only cost you for six other players on the expense side. If you miss this "boat", you will have to wait a long time for another "dream-boat".

ARE WE READY?

Strong rumours are circulating that the matches will be taking place at the Wanderers (Johannesburg), Kingsmead (Durban), Newlands (Cape Town) and the Union Ground (P.E.), if the West Indies come out. I personally have no objections to the grounds themselves, insofar as seating and amenities go, for hardly any of our own grounds have all the required facilities, but—and a very big "BUT" at that—is the turf wicket. Are we, or are we not ready for turf wickets?

I say "NO". To be able to play successfully on a turf wicket where the ball comes off the pitch very much slower, requires complete re-adjustment of our style of play, and our cricketers who have played all their lives on matting wickets, are far from ready to tackle such opposition as the West Indians on turf, where they will be completely at sea.

NOT OVERNIGHT

Not that our boys cannot readjust their style, but this cannot be done overnight, and we cannot expect them to perform the "miracles" they are able to display on matting.

To be able to play efficiently on turf takes a whole season, if not more, so that whatever decisions are taken on grounds, please let us not pass the death sentence on our cricket, which has just received a terrific boost in East Africa. Basil D'Oliviera says that on matting South Africa can hold its own against any other country in the world, but on turf he is extremely doubtful. Performances against European teams in friendly matches on turf have been far from satisfactory.

Here I agree with him. Let us play the West Indians on our own grounds, and to blazes with the

better seating facilities, etc. What we want is world recognition of our playing ability, and we can never do it on turf. The time will come for our boys to show their worth on such wickets, but that time is not yet ripe.

National Tennis Championships

THE S.A. Tennis Championships will be taking place in Cape Town commencing from January 1, when for the first time representatives from all the Non-European races will be taking part.

The S.A. Coloured Tennis Association, who organise these tournaments annually, never at any time enforced a racial or colour bar, although the tag "Coloured" is attached to their name. This, I believe, is being, or already has been removed.

Thus, the tournament at Cape Town is really going to be a top-notch affair, with champions from the African, Indian and Coloured Associations competing, chief of whom will be David Samaai, Grant Khomo, Laljee and Maharaj.

This tournament was originally scheduled for Johannesburg, where representation was made for the use of the Ellis Park tennis courts, but when the authorities there insisted that Ellis Park would be granted only for the use of Coloureds, the offer was quite rightly and immediately rejected. That is how the venue comes to Cape Town. Just which courts will be used, has not yet been finalised, but with the support of the many Non-European City Councillors, suitable ones will no doubt be obtained.

We Hear It Said . . .

● That popular "Big-Boy" Haffee, President of the National Athletic Body, is once again playing the role of peace-maker, when he goes to Kimberley to patch up Griqualand West's problems.

● That the disclosure of women administrators in East London has created quite a stir in football and sporting circles. The stir is one of amazement and appreciation, for if women in all parts of the Union could only emulate East London's females, how much more discipline and respectability might be introduced into football?

● That wise counsel has at least been displayed by both the S.A. Indian F.A. & North Coast (Natal), whose soccer dispute is to be settled out of court, but total legal costs of £250 have been incurred. What could they not have done with so much money for improvement of the game?

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