South Africa's Non-Whites Face Added Attacks By Government

Defiance Campaign Plans New Tactics

Two Proposed Measures Carry Heavy Penalties

(Special To the AFRO)

JOHANNESBURG—The Defiance Campaign of the non-whites of South Africa is being driven to new heights by the introduction into the Union Parliament this month of the twin repressive measures of the Minister of Justice: the Public Safety Bill and the Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

These bills have been described by the African and Indian Congresses as bringing to the country all the "horrors and terrors of a fascist police state."

They are aimed, the Congresses have warned, at destroying not only non-white political organizations and rights of association and expression, but at the right of opposition of anti-Nationalists.

New Resistance Phase

Emergency conferences of the two Congresses will decide the form that opposition to these bills will take, and though the decisions will not be known for some while, it is clear that the non-whites, far from regarding themselves in retreat, are preparing for a new phase of resistance—with all the dreadful penalties being prepared against them now fully apparent.

The first measure introduced in the Union Parliament is the Public Safety Bill. This measure grants to the Government all laws in the country, with the exception of those relating to military conscription, parliamentary elections and the Industrial Conciliation Act.

The Cabinet is empowered, whenever it is of the opinion that a state of emergency exists, to suspend all laws anywhere in the country (including South West Africa) and to publish emergency regulations for anything deemed necessary.

See Concentration Camps

Under this bill the Government may, with one strike of the pen, set up concentration camps, deny people access to the courts, confiscate property, take reprisal measures against whole communities, close down schools and churches.

All regulations made under the powers of this new law will have to be submitted to Parliament for approval but six to eight months may easily elapse before Parliament can be summoned for its ordinary sessions and moreover, the Minister of Justice is entitled to exercise on his own these vast powers of regulation for a period of ten days.

In addition, regulations may be made retrospective for four days to cover any action already undertaken by the police or military authorities.

Courts Halt Nationalists

Often, since their accession to power in 1948, the Nationalists, to their chagrin, have been pulled up short in their path by unfavorable court decisions which have had the effect of revoking some of their actions.

This was so in several passport cases (those of trade unionist Sally Sachs and Indian leader Dr. Dadoo); and in the instance of the High Court of Parliament Bill with which the Government tried to override the court decision declaring illegal their removal of Cape colored voters from the common roll.

Not only was the franchise measure thrown out by the courts but also the High Court of Parliament Bill which sought to set Parliament up as the highest court in the land.

Common Law Dies

With the Public Safety Bill the government will be able to sweep aside the common law practices on which are based so many of the traditional safeguards of personal liberty in the Western democracies. This can spell the destruction of everything included under the Rule of Law.

While this measure can create a new form of parliamentary fascism, its twin, the Criminal Laws Amendment Bill, provides all the trappings of the new barbarism.

This is the measure that will legalize savage floggings of men and women for political action in defense of their rights or to improve their conditions. The terms of this inhuman act have caused a thrill of horror to sweep round South Africa.

Sentences Provide

The opening section of this bill provides that if any person breaks any law as a protest against legislation, or in support of any campaign for the repeal or modification of any law, such person may be sentenced to:

a) a fine not exceeding $840;
b) imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years,
c) a whipping not exceeding ten strokes,
d) both such fine and imprisonment;
e) both such fine and a whipping;
f) both such imprisonment and a whipping.

Stiffer sentences are laid down for any person who incites others to commit an offense by way of protest against a law. Such persons may be convicted to a fine of not more than $1,400, imprisonment for not longer than five years, a whipping not exceeding 15 strokes or a combination of these punishments.

Fined And Whipped

Second offenders may not be sentenced to a fine only. They must be sentenced to a fine together with a whipping or imprisonment.

Any fine must be paid within 48 hours. If it is not paid in that time the property of the offender may be confiscated even although he had been given the alternative of imprisonment.

A further section provides the same punishment for any person who solicits or receives money or articles for the purpose of resisting any campaign or any person who has committed an offense as a protest against any legislation.

Aimed At Families

This action is designed to prevent prisoners or families of prisoners from receiving assistance during the time their breadwinners are in prison.

Postal articles suspected of containing money for these purposes may be seized and detained by the authorities.

Persons convicted under this law may be confined to one particular area in the country, and any non-South African suspected, not convicted, may be deported from the country. The Governor General has the power to deem him undesirable.

Opposition Attack

In the period immediately following the announcement of these measure, all parties to the Parliamentary Opposition attacked their savagery.

The Torch Commando, brought into existence at the time of the last constitutional crisis in the Union over the question of the colored vote, said, to accept these bills "is to subscribe to an insane dictatorship in South Africa.

"Let no one be deluded that these bills are directed only against the non-European defiance campaign. They strike at all South Africans who dare to oppose the will of Mr. Swart (the Minister of Justice) and his Broederbond masters."

Executive Summoned

The Torch Commando national executive was immediately summoned to consider steps for the bringing about of the downfall of the Government. (Their words.)

Yet only one week after, at a joint conference of the partners to the official Opposition (the United Party, the Torch Commando, and the Labor party, a decision was taken to demand certain safeguards in the Public Safety Bill, but not to oppose it in principle. Only the Labor Party will still do the latter.

Why has the Torch Commando, for one, changed its tune? Far from new organizing for the downfall of the Malan Government, it will organize mass protests only if the Government does not accept amendments providing safeguards.

Reason For Change

The reason for the change of tactic was expressed by the leader of the Opposition, Mr. J. Strauss. In his vote of no confidence at the opening of the parliamentary session he charged a state of emergency if the country resulting from the actions of the Government in the field of race relations.

Having created this emergency, the government needs measures to cope with it, ran the argument.

This decision has provoked a good deal of criticism and dismay in the Opposition camp.

Helping Themselves

The Nationalists are helping their own electioneering in the vital April general election by establishing for themselves the reputation of being able to face the voters as the strong Government that in its last months commanded general support in Parliament for the emergency measures it brought into suppress non-white uprisings.

In this the United Party is proving an unexpected ally!

The opposition is running the grave danger of being jockeyed into the position of "yes-men" to Nationalist strong-arm policies. There are clear signs that an Opposition policy for the elections, based on such economic improvements as increased pensions, family allowances, white immigration to swell the white population and a reduction in the cost of living, will be seen by voters as an evasion of the real problems of the day: the demands of the non-white majority for political rights.

Question Opposition Policy

Has the question of its own, or does it merely limp along in the rear of the Nationalists, is the inevitable question following the Opposition decision not to oppose the Public Safety Bill in principle.

The leaders of the non-white organizations have stated publicly that the United Party-Torch Commando Opposition has missed its finest opportunity of sliding the ground from under the feet of the Government in a pre-election battle on the issue of the survival of civil liberties or their extinction.

The issue is the giving of powerful dictatorial powers to an unscrupulous, reactionary Government, which will not hesitate to use them to suppress all Opposition should it need to, although the measures are introduced ostensibly to put down non-white political uprisings.

Must Now Improvise

Deserted by a potentially powerful ally in the fight against these measures, the leaders of the non-white movements are turning to improvise intensified methods of struggle with their own followings.

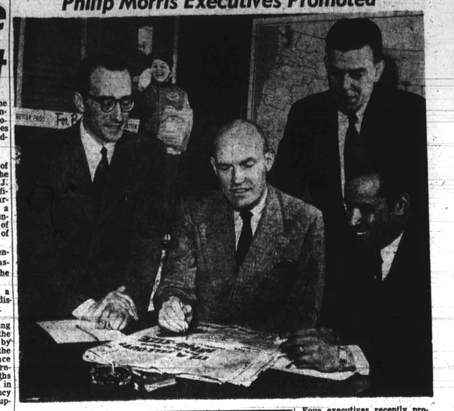
The anger of the non-white people against the banings of scores of their leaders, the prohibition of gatherings of more than ten Africans, and now these fresh measures, has been rising steadily.

Retreat before this new repression will only lengthen any future agony and vast reserves of opposition are still simmering among a people that has a history of 300 years of color discrimination and oppression.

It is to these reserves that the new phase of the Defiance Campaign will turn this year.

Four executives recently promoted by Philip Morris and Co. confer over an idea to promote the company's new King-size Philip Morris cigarette. From the left, they are Michael Keith, new sales promotion manager; Robert Larkin, director of sales promotion; George Weissgan (standing), recently elected a vice-president; and Herbert Wright, appointed assistant to the sales promotion manager.

Philip Morris Executives Promoted



MAINE BROTHERHOOD MEET

ORONO, Me. — Walter White executive secretary NAACP addressed the Brotherhood Week Assembly at the University of Maine here this week.

In A Nutshell . . .

The non-whites of South Africa have been forced to change their tactics in their defiance campaign against the Malan government since the Minister on Justice has introduced two bills which would give the government unlimitd powers against any who oppose it.

One of the measures — the Public Safety Bill — permits the government to suspend all the laws in the country whenever the cabinet considers a state of emergency exists.

If passed, concentration camms can be set up, access to court can be denied, newspapers can be supressed and property can be confiscated.

A second measure — the Criminal Laws Amendment Bill — provides for floggings, fines and imprisonment of men and women who protest any legislation or law of the country.

Hospital Employee Undergoes Surgery

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Miss Sarah Sterling, an employee at Mercy Hospital, recently underwent an operation at Good Samaritan Hospital here.

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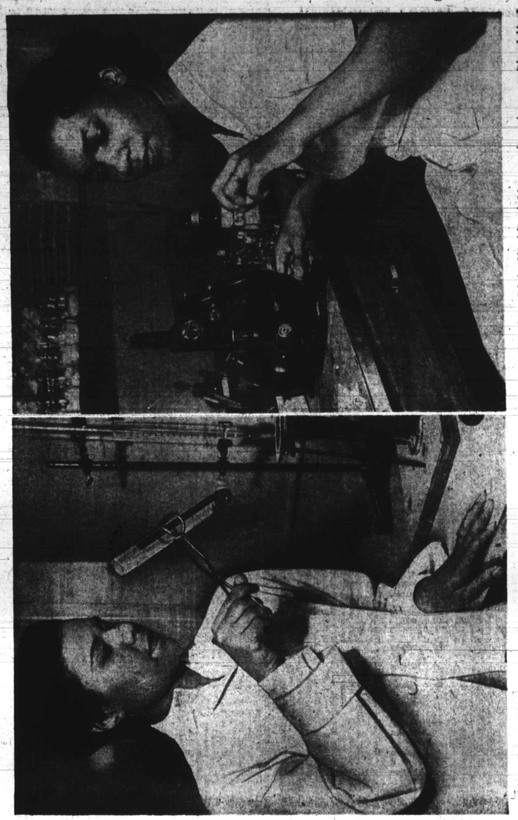
INSIDE: The Tyson St. Murder Case (Page 9)

The Afro-American, AFRO MAGAZINE SECTION



Mrs. Winfred Irby at work in the laboratory of Mercy hospital, Toledo, Ohio. She is analyzing a blood sample to determine the sugar content.

Mrs. Mary Davis Bage, Toledo, Ohio lab technician, examines microscope slide of blood specimens from patient and dinner to see if they are the same types.

Medical Jobs For Women

Trend toward fair hiring in big-city hospitals makes outlook brighter for girls who train as laboratory technicians.

By WILLIAM A. BROWER

Four years ago only white girls graduated from Toledo hospitals were employed in Toledo, Ohio hospital.

Today three young women—two of them graduates of 1952—have established themselves by their competence and skills on the laboratory staffs of two hospitals.

They are Mary Davis Bage, a Spencers Point, Md., native; Winfred Hopkins Irby, formerly of Springfield, Ill., and Mrs. Mary Davis Clemmons, Doris Sherman, formerly of Springfield, Ill.

Mrs. Irby began her maternity leave from St. Vincent Hospital in June, 1949 to complete a required year's internship in medical technology. A year later—upon graduation—she was called back to St. Vincent's and became Full-Time Worker.

Mrs. Irby began part-time work at Mercy Hospital in November, 1951 and a year later she was a full-time employee.

Both Mrs. Irby and Mrs. Sherman are registered medical technicians, whose mother, Mrs. Mabel Davis, lives at 1306 East 93rd St., Cleveland. Mrs. Irby at St. Vincent staff in 1950. Her experience as a medical technician was gained at Harlem Hospital, City Hospitals, Mercy Douglas Hospital, Cincinnati, and Sinai Hospital, New York City, Harlem Hospital.

She is married to Mr. Irby, a technician at the Franklin School of Medicine, Chicago, Ill., and has a required year's internship in medical technology. A year later—Mrs. Bage did advanced work on hematology (study of the blood) at the Cleveland Sinai Hospital.

Mrs. Sherman was formerly in charge of the blood bank at the Toledo Hospital. She is now in charge of the blood bank at the Toledo Mercy Hospital. She is also a graduate of Howard University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Sherman was formerly in charge of the St. Vincent's Hospital blood bank, but resigned to take a maternity leave. The mother of a 2 year-old boy, she was married to Mr. Sherman who also attended the University of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Irby attended Bennett College, Greensboro, N.C., in 1946 and 1947 and graduated from Youngstown College and received additional training at Youngstown Hospital. She is married to Mr. Irby, of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hopkins, Springfield, Ohio, and has a required year's internship in Clarence, Ohio, a graduate of the Cleveland Sinai Hospital.

While requirements are more rigid in Ohio than in eastern states, opportunities for non-white girls who want to be medical technicians appear to be greater.

There work in Toledo leaves no room for doubt.

Mrs. Bage pointed out that training school.

Mrs. Bage's duties performed vital work in nearly every department of the hospital. She is a graduate of Howard University and the University of Pennsylvania.

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treatment of the blood in commercial laboratories and at the University of Pennsylvania. She is now in charge of the blood bank at the Toledo Mercy Hospital. She is also a graduate of Howard University and the University of Pennsylvania.

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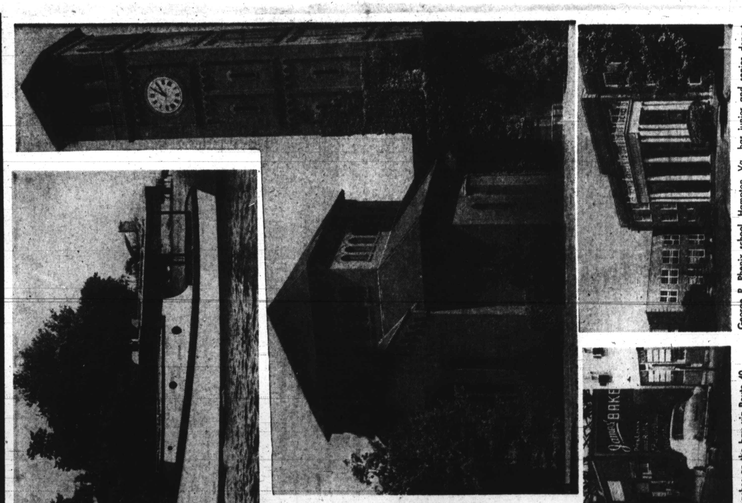
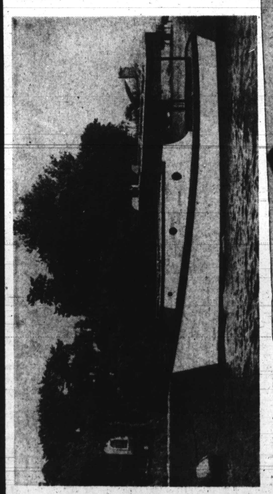
Coming Next Week . .

- THE HISTORY OF THE WORD — In One Book—A brief review of the history of the word "soldier" which touches the great events of civilization in easy-to-remember style. Adults can benefit from it also.
- THERE WAS ONE REDBALL EXPRESS — Each Paris, Ollie Stewart, AFRO overseas correspondent, tells about plans to reform the Army's famed Redball truck outfit that supplied Allied invasion forces in Europe during the war.
- FORD'S ST. LOUIS HEY-DAY — All about the cosmetics empire founded by a skilled women and of the divorce that almost spelled financial disaster.
- ADVICE ON ADOPTING WAR BABIES — Mabel Alton Greenway, from Germany, writes a memo to parents who want German war babies, telling them what NOT to do.

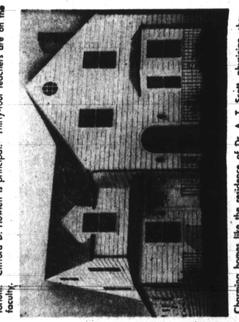
Hampton, Va.-College Town By The Sea



Hampton Institute has a 74-acre waterfront campus. The picture shows the Huntington Home of Men. Faculty quarters. At right, the majestic Memorial Church at the Institute, built in 1870. Carillon bells in the tower have been electrified and their music is a tradition at the school.



George P. Phenix school, Hampton, Va., has junior and senior departments with 26 classrooms, plus shops, cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium. Clifford D. Maxwell is principal. Thirty-four teachers are on the faculty.



Charming homes like the residence of Dr. A. T. Scott, physician, shown here, are found in Hampton, Va.

Hampton's Queen Street is a main thoroughfare. It leads to Virginia's beaches on the bay via Route 40.

The Bemis Laboratories building houses part of the Division of Technology at Hampton Institute. This building was erected during World War II and was part of the wartime Naval School at the Institute.

Hampton Virginia boasts of its beautiful harbor and its lighthouse on Hampton Roads and is the site of Hampton Institute, famed the world over as a pioneer of learning.

Hampton Institute with an enrollment of 1,200 students is presided over by the Freedman's Bureau school which was founded by the Freedman's Bureau to educate the former slaves of the thousands of former slaves who came into the Union lines on the Virginia Peninsula.

Steamer Stop Off

Hampton Institute is not a Hampton University. Hampton University was situated in Hampton proper, but is now permanently was situated in Hampton proper, but is now permanently located south of the City of Hampton at the southern end of the peninsula at the mouth of the James River. Two miles east is Old Point Comfort, a popular stop for steamers plying between Norfolk, Cape Charles, Washington, and Baltimore.

Near the city of Hampton has annexed the county territory to the south of the city of Hampton.

The region around Hampton Institute is predominately associated with the college and its students. Near the college ground were the cottages of Booker T. Washington, and not far distant is the spot where the first African was sold into slavery in this country.

The City of Hampton itself is the oldest continuously settled town in the United States continuously because Hampton has a population of nearly 8,000, about 2,000 of which are colored.

The county population was 50000 with 14,000 colored. The county's economy is based on fishing and shipbuilding enterprises in the area.

Hampton Institute, the total population of 68,000 for Hampton includes 19,000 colored.

IN THIS SECTION NEXT WEEK

The AFRO roving photographer, Scott Henderson visits the cities of New Bern, N.C. and South Boston, Va. Read it in the AFRO Magazine.