



# DAILY DEFENDER

## So. Africa Heads To Fascism As Racial Rules Tighten

By RUSSELL HOWE  
(First of a Series)

**JOHANNESBURG** — The government of South Africa, under Premier Hendrik Verwoerd, is moving relentlessly toward its goal of the pure apartheid state.

Gradually and efficiently, it is stifling opposition from all sources—the Africans, the English-speaking whites, the press, and presumably soon the judiciary.

The democratic heritage of Roman-Dutch and British law is being exchanged painstakingly, piece by piece, for the reasoned tyranny of the fascist state. The Nationalist Party sees this as the only way to preserve not only the white man's privileges but also his basic rights and his material and moral future.

Since coming to power in 1948, the Nationalists have distinguished themselves by a plethora of race and other restrictive legislation.

The Group Areas Act (1950) and two later laws drove black South Africans out of the cities and into superb but characterless, segregated dormitory towns.

The Bantu Education Act (1953) made it illegal to give Africans a full "European" education, except in medicine. School and university curricula were sharply revised, and English was replaced by Bantu tongues as the medium of school instruction.

The Immorality Act (1950) made marriage or sex relations between two different racial groups a serious felony. Under other race legislation, Indians were deprived of votes, citizen-



**RACIAL FREEDOM** fight waged by Zulu Chief Albert Lutuli won him a Nobel Peace prize but he had to fight to leave Union of South Africa to get prize in Sweden. He is one of leaders in battle against repressive segregation policies of Nationalist government.

ship and, in theory, the right to trade outside their own segregated areas.

In recent years, the Press Act, the Suppression of Communism Act and now the all-embracing Sabotage Act have, in the words of the International Commission of Jurists, limited the rule of law in South Africa.

Under the sabotage act, almost anything that amounts to resistance to apartheid (such as trespassing) is punishable by hanging.

This act, which absorbs previous acts, equates nonviolent opposition with activism, and particularly endangers South Africa's courageous, conscientious English language press. Alan Paton's Liberal Party calls it a measure to "stamp out nonviolence."

It is "sabotage," for example, to "obstruct the main-

tenance of law and order . . . the free movement of traffic" or to "render unserviceable . . . a telephone" or to "damage . . . any property . . . of any person."

The onus is on the accused person to show that the "offense was not committed with intent . . . to deter any person from assisting in the maintenance of law and order . . . or to encourage the achievement . . . of any social or economic change . . . (or) to cause, encourage or further feelings of hostility between different sections of the population . . . (or) to embarrass the administration of affairs of state."

An editorial recommending equal wages for equal work clearly would be "encouraging the achievement of economic change." Minimum penalty is 5 years imprisonment. It is a felony to print any word, past or present, of anyone on the now lengthy "banned" list.

Race legislation goes to almost comic lengths in South Africa. At the airport, there are two identical "segregated" entrances, side by side, leading into the same hall. You can have an African to your house, but you cannot serve him liquor, and he cannot spend the night.

There are more disturbing aspects in Capetown, a colored (mixed blood) boy of 16 hanged himself because his two brothers had been classified as white. Sometimes, brothers and sisters may be divided into "Colored" and "Bantu," according to the degree of kink in the hair.

An 86-year-old white widower in Johannesburg cannot go to live with either of his daughters because his late wife was colored and therefore so are his children. They cannot leave their area, nor he his.

Even within a race group, the law can be ridiculous. Samuel Makutela of Diepkloof, a Bantu suburb of Johannesburg, who has a job and a house, cannot bring his wife to live with him because her pass (correctly)

says she comes from Makutela's original village of Sibasa, in North Transvaal.

South African's inexorable laws are those of a fascist state. But it is not the only fascist state in Africa, and it is not feudal. There are even humane arguments to uphold a system which has become largely inhumane in practice.

"Separate development" is a fact as well as a party doctrine. The introduction of "native states" will have immense benefits, even it is not a real solution to the country's problems. The democratic conception of one-man, one-vote would do no one here any good, if introduced without preparation.

Disfranchisement of the colored, who are Western, Christian and have no African languages and customs, and of the Indians, reflects apartheid's illogical extremes. But this way was clearly a political, not an ideological move, because both groups would swing their weight to the opposition parties.

The trend of policy is to disfranchise the liberally inclined, "English" dominated big cities, like Johannesburg, Durban and Capetown, and to superfranchise the rural districts where

the undereducated Afrikaner farmer is king.

Government control of non-white labor unions is now complete. To keep the vast lower-income Afrikaner vote happy, such jobs as driving taxis or operating elevators are reserved for whites. To satisfy farmers, Africans arrested for not having "passes" on them may be shipped off to farms for six months on near-slavery wages. On the farms, floggings and beatings are a daily occurrence.

Laws and pressures are beginning to exercise control of the English language press, hitherto a far more formidable opposition to the "Nats" than all the other white and non-white parties put together. The guess is that the next victim will be the judiciary, a constant nonpartisan thorn in Verwoerd's side.

But the "Nats" are not always rigid. To bring off a \$30-million pig iron deal with Japan, they enacted legislation making Japanese Europeans. Says a Johannesburg civil servant, twisting the words of the national anthem: "Pretoria Waives the Rules." Says a journalist: "In South Africa, the customer is always white."

(Tomorrow: How far off is revolution?)

### DAILY CROSSWORD

#### ACROSS

1. Fine line of a letter
6. Wished (for)
11. "Carmen" for one
12. Creamy-white
13. Unit of capacity
14. Strained
15. Medieval shield
16. That over there
17. Hot rods
20. Adapt
22. Egyptian god of pleasure
23. Eggs on
24. Very small island
28. Command
29. Peevishly
31. Moves by
32. Gladdens
35. Certain road topping
38. Edible seaweed
39. Sharp ridge of a mountain
41. Existent
42. Rustic
43. Gave out, as charity
44. Untidy

#### DOWN

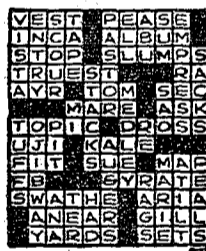
1. Flit of
2. Herds
3. Came back
4. Anger
5. Distant

#### ACROSS

6. In a haphazard way (3 wds.)
7. Baking chambers
8. Small body of water
9. Scottish-Gaelic
10. One who colors fabrics
16. Your: dial.
18. Astern
19. Shared equal billing (movies)

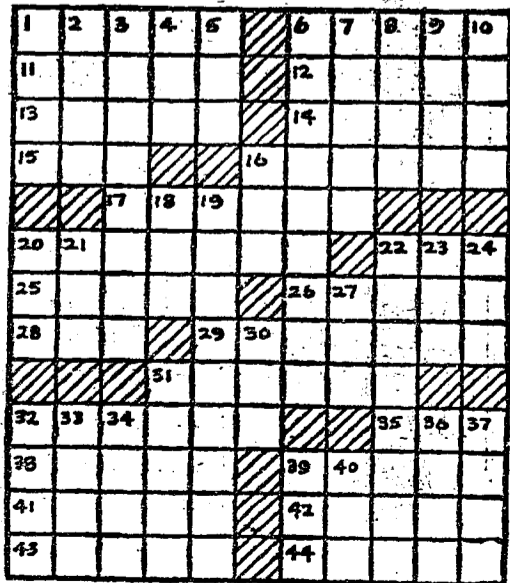
#### DOWN

20. Civil
21. Gelsha girl's sash
22. Scorch-es
23. Vinegar worm
24. Pigeon
27. Saint: abbr.
30. Large worm
31. Annoyance: colloq.
32. Dressed



#### Saturday's Answer

33. Circle of light
34. Wicked
36. Luzon natives
37. Trust
39. "Long of the law"
40. To regret



8-27

### Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

**OLD COLONEL BEAUREGARD** was a devil with the ladies, still charming the daylight out of them at 77. In fact, on his seventy-seventh birthday he adopted the practice of cutting a notch on his cane to mark each new conquest. That's what killed him on his seventy-eighth birthday. He made the mistake of leaning on his cane.



At a meeting of the innumerable analysts who summer at Provincetown, on the tip of Cape Cod, it was noted that Dr. Beezlebohm was glum as could be. Pressed for an explanation, he reluctantly explained, "Remember that patient I told you about who had a hallucination that he was going to receive a letter telling him that an unknown benefactor in Texas had bequeathed him ten million dollars? After five years of painful treatment, I finally cured the poor sap. Three days later, he got the letter."