

The Peacemaker

VOLUME IV

APRIL 13, 1953

NUMBER 21

"PEACE PILGRIM" CONTINUES TREK ACROSS U.S.

Peace Pilgrim has estimated that she will probably travel 5000 miles in her foot journey across the United States with her message of brotherhood and reconciliation. Having started from Los Angeles, California on January 1 of this year she is now reported to be in Texas.

She has walked every step of the way, through desert sun and mountain storm, and has turned down many offers of automobile rides. When walking between towns she averages about twenty-five miles a day. In town and wherever the opportunity is offered along the way she spends time talking to people and circulating the three petition forms which she carries with her.

"There is a very deep and real desire for peace in the hearts of the people," she writes, "which is often not expressed because 'peace' has tended to become a suspicious word."

Earle H. Warner writes from Tucson, Arizona, on March 31, concerning Peace Pilgrim:

"She was in Tucson over the weekend of March 1st. She appeared on Television, gave two recordings to radio stations, spoke at youth groups on the campus of the University of Arizona, spoke before a college-age group and a high school group in one of the large churches on Sunday, was entertained at the 'Open Door' homes of two teachers, a preacher and a Quaker nurse.

"On her way out of town, as she went to the Post Office to mail her letters, she was picked up by a plain clothes policeman, taken in his car to the police office, and booked for 'vagrancy,' fingerprinted, photographed, and kept in jail overnight. When taken into court the next morning she pleaded not guilty and the case was dismissed. In her personal effects which were taken from her for overnight there was a letter from the Governor of Arizona offering her safe passage on her journey! When being dismissed the officer remarked about her cheerfulness. She re-

"... That Some Still Walk ..."

to M. Ryder, "Peace Pilgrim"

When talk of war and bombs would drown the voice of reason and of prayer it is a hopeful thing that some still walk earth's dusty roads and speak of peace.

—THEDA L. POBST

Leavenworth, Washington

plied 'You can imprison my body, but not my spirit.'

"We have received letters from her from Benson, Ariz., and Deming, New Mexico. All who entertained Peace Pilgrim are enthusiastic about her visit and consider themselves fortunate to be called her friends."

A Mockery of Democracy

from Peace News

All South African affairs are colored by the present election campaign which will have its climax when white people of South Africa go to the polls on April 15.

It seems that even the Defiance Campaign against unjust laws and race discrimination has suspended its attack for fear that a renewed campaign at the moment would achieve little save the certain return of the Nationalist Party to power.

Certainly the lull in the resistance is partly to be explained by this factor. The savage legislation passed by the last session of Parliament to deal with resistance and incitement to disobey race laws must also be an important consideration. And finally, the tremendous organizational achievement of the Campaign and its unexpected success must have called for a period of reorganization.

Lull Does Not Signify Failure

The annual conference of the Natal Indian Congress last month, however, proved that the lull in the active campaign does not signify failure of the Defiance leadership to remain in touch with the problem of African freedom.

The conference was opened by A. J. Luthuli, new president of the African Natal Congress, who is a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Luthuli stated that the solidarity of the African and Indian organizations was based upon "a common, genuine spirit of friendship between the respective communities."

He cited as proof of this, the fact that ANC had rejected the idea that South African Indians should be repatriated to India as proposed by the Government. He continued by declaring the Congress' belief in full democracy:

"The so-called democratic institutions given us, such as Advisory Boards, Local Councils, the Bantu Authorities, communal representation in Parliament, etc., are a gross insult to and a mockery of democracy in that, whilst they were diplomatically presented as elementary steps to the attainment of democracy, they have proved in practice to be blind alleys serv-

Tax Refusers Get Publicity

BY ERNEST R. BROMLEY

Another March 15 has come and gone, and once again almost every pacifist in the income tax bracket has completed the payment of his 1952 income taxes, however uncomfortable he may have felt. But a small number of pacifists again declined to pay either part or all of the taxes required of them by U.S. law and will take whatever consequences are involved.

The Tax Refusal Committee of Peacemakers varied its course this year by issuing no statement to the press signed by refusers. Instead, it asked refusers to issue their own statements independently in their localities, to do whatever they could to present the cause of tax refusal, and to mention the Tax Refusal Committee for the purpose of showing coordination with other refusers. While there was somewhat (continued on page 4)

Non-Violent Workshop Apr. 24-26

A workshop on Non-Violent Methods for Advancing Human Rights will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio on April 24, 25 and 26. Those attending the meetings will attempt to find answers to the question, "Can the methods of the current South African Resistance movement be used in combatting discrimination in Cincinnati?"

The Friday evening sessions will be addressed by Dr. Ernest Kalibala, a West African now in New York City, who is thoroughly acquainted with the entire African picture. His address will be a description and analysis of what is happening in South Africa today in the peaceful, yet determined struggle of dark-skinned citizens to gain recognition as human beings.

Saturday sessions will be discussions relating the South African campaign to the local situation, with Dr. Kalibala acting as consultant. Groups will explore the use of non-violent direct action in achieving brotherhood in Cincinnati. On Sunday the planning will be directed toward future activities in the fields of education, employment, housing, public places, and churches.

The workshop will be conducted at the University YMCA and will be sponsored by the Cincinnati Committee on Human Relations.

ing mainly as a delaying tactic to ensure the prolongation of white domination over black."

* * *

Americans for South African Resistance are sponsoring a rally to be held April 22 in New York City. Z. K. Matthews, South African professor now lecturing in this country, will analyze the results of the election in his native country and estimate its effect on the non-violent campaign which the Americans are supporting.