



OM (LEMBEDE, MBATHA AND MDA) WERE ALSO TEACHERS AT ST PETERS, HE PARTICIPATED IN THE FOUNDING OF THE ANC YOUTH LEAGUE, SERVING FOR A WHILE AS ITS NATIONAL SECRETARY.

DURING THE CRITICAL PERIOD OF 1943-1949, HE BECAME TRANSVAAL PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE YOUTH LEAGUE. POLITICALLY ASTUTE AND WIDELY RESPECTED FOR HIS PRINCIPLED APPROACH TO ALL PROBLEMS, COMRADE TAMBO MOVED EASILY FROM A LEADING ROLE IN THE YOUTH LEAGUE TO A POSITION OF INFLUENCE IN THE ANC ITSELF

IN 1946, HE WAS ELECTED A MEMBER OF THE TRANSVAAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ANC AND AT THE BLOEMFONTEIN CONFERENCE OF DECEMBER 1949, HE WAS ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN EVERY

SUBSEQUENT ELECTION.

ABANDONING AN EARLIER AMBITION TO STUDY MEDICINE, COMRADE TAMBO DECIDED TO TAKE UP LAW AND IN THE LATE 1940S, WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF WALTER SISULU, HE WAS ARTICLED IN A JOHANNESBURG LAW FIRM.

IN 1952, HE QUALIFIED AS AN ATTORNEY AND IN DECEMBER THAT YEAR, IN THE MIDST OF THE CAMPAIGN OF DEFIANCE AGAINST UNJUST LAWS, HE AND NELSON MANDELA ESTABLISHED A JOINT PRACTICE. AFTER THE DEFIANCE CAMPAIGN, HE WAS IN CHARGE OF PREPARATION OF A NEW ANC CONSTITUTION