

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
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LMMH/001/0001/13 15/6/62

# TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS UNION

REGISTERED TRADE UNION NO 1834 T.

REGISTERED OFFICES,  
Transport House, Smith Square,  
WESTMINSTER,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

General Secretary  
**FRANK COUSINS**

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FC/VW/JS

Asst. Gen. Secretary  
**H. R. NICHOLAS, O.B.E.**

15th June, 1962.

No

Mr. Y. Dadoo,  
31a John Adam St.,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

Dear Mr. Dadoo,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th June on the subject of the implications of the General Laws Amendment Bill and the Publications and Entertainment Bill which are now before the South African Parliament.

We have already had a visit from Mr. Moses Mabhida Vice-President of the South African Congress of Trade Unions and have taken the opportunity of discussing this problem.

As a consequence a communication has now been sent to the Trades Union Congress on the whole subject.

Yours sincerely,

*Frank Cousins*  
GENERAL SECRETARY



House of Commons,

London, S.W.1

18th June, 1962.

NO.

Dear Mr. Dadoo,

Thank you for your letter. From reports I have seen in the press I certainly share the apprehensions expressed with regard to the South African General Laws Amendment Bill, etc. On the other hand, I am not at all certain which way the present South African Government is likely to be influenced by outside protests, whether from this country or any other.

It is a very difficult point, but at the moment I am inclined to the view that a less publicised form of protest might be more effective, and I would therefore not wish to add my name to the public declaration that you suggest.

Yours sincerely,

V. V. D. Didd.

Mr. Yusuf Dadoo,  
31a, John Adam Street,  
W.C.2.



From: Julian Critchley, M.P.



June 20th, 1962.

Dear Mr. Dadoo,

I am writing in Mr. Critchley's absence abroad to thank you for your letter of June 12th. I will pass this, and the Declaration of Protest, on to him on his return.

Yours sincerely,

*Susan*  
*Bapstane*  
Private Secretary

Y. Dadoo Esq.,  
31A, John Adam Street,  
London, W.C.2.



Telephone:  
TRAFALGAR 1818

31a John Adam Street  
London W. C. 2.

12th June 1962

*Der Du. Dadoo,  
Just back from  
Walt - pleased  
to see you,  
Yours,  
me Glad*

*Dear Prof. Gluckman,*

We are very seriously concerned about the implications of the General Laws Amendment Bill and the Publications and Entertainment Bill which are now before the South African Parliament.

Once these become law all criticism of Apartheid and the racialist regime of Dr. Verwoerd will become major crimes for which the penalty may be death by hanging or a minimum sentence of five years' imprisonment. Not the least disturbing provisions of these bills are the serious attack on the freedom of the Press and publications.

We believe that a strong protest from this country can go a long way in staying the hand of the Minister of Justice from using his arbitrary powers to destroy the last fragments of civic freedom in South Africa.

With this in view, I take the liberty of enclosing herewith a Declaration of Protest which has already received the approval of Bishop Ambrose Reeves, Mr. Basil Davidson, Mrs. Doris Lessing and Mr. Ronald Segal.

I do hope that it meets with your approval as well, and that you will also consent to become a signatory.

This declaration bearing the names of all the signatories will be sent to the Minister of Justice, the House of Assembly, Cape Town and it will also be handed out to the press both in this country and abroad in order to give the protest the widest possible publicity.

Hoping to receive your fullest co-operation,

Yours sincerely,

*Yusuf Dadoo.*

*Representation of the South African  
Congress movement.*

*P.C. Mangany, P.O. Box 100, Felling, Maffick College,  
is one of the signatories.*



FROM: LORD FRANCIS-WILLIAMS, C.B.E.

GRIFFINS  
ABINGER HAMMER  
NR. DORKING  
SURREY  
ABINGER 444

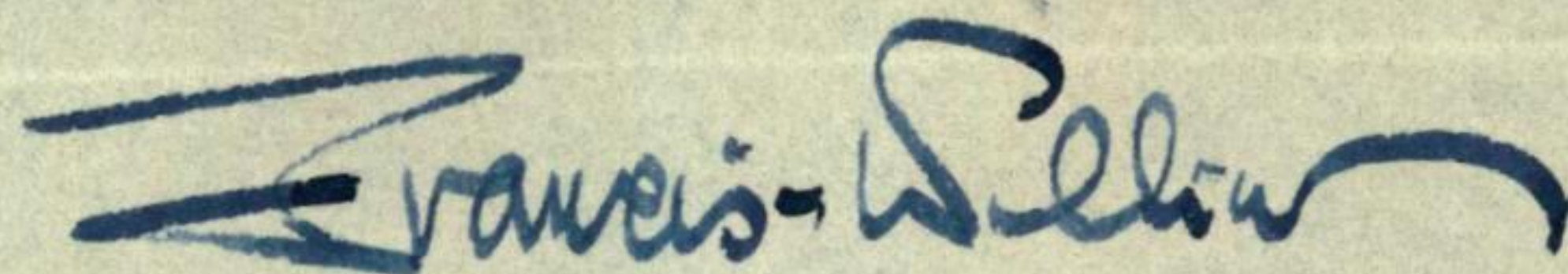
22nd June, 1962.

Y. Dadoo, Esq.,  
31a, John Adam Street,  
London, W.C.2.

Dear Mr. Dadoo,

Thank you very much for your letter. I am, of course, most ready to sign the protest which is being sent to the South African Government about the new press restriction, and return it to you with my signature. Unfortunately I was away when your letter arrived and hope that I am not too late.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Francis Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.



DECLARATION OF PROTEST  
AGAINST THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S ATTACKS  
ON THE FREEDOM OF PUBLICATION AND THE PRESS

The final extinction of civil liberties in South Africa and a death blow to what remains of the freedom of the South African Press : these appear to be the undoubted aims of two astonishing Bills now before the Parliament of that unhappy country. We desire to draw attention here to those aspects of the General Laws Amendment Bill and the Publications and Entertainments Bill that bear particularly upon the Press. They are extremely disturbing.

Established newspapers in South Africa are already circumscribed in ways intolerable for a country claiming to be democratic. Now the Government goes several grim steps further towards the complete suppression of all argued and factual criticism of apartheid and permanent white supremacy. Any new magazine or newspaper, for example, will be required to deposit £10,000 with the Minister of the Interior, and this will be immediately forfeit upon any banning order under the so-called Suppression of Communism Act. What critical group or organisation, no matter how bold, will be able to afford such crushing sanctions? Further, the Government will be empowered to prohibit the printing, publication or distribution of all "undesirable" literature. And the definition of "undesirable" is so wide that the Government will be able to suppress even statements by trade unions or publications which attack employers and advocate strike action. Critical organs of opinion such as NEW AGE, tried through four long years for high treason and then acquitted, are to be at the mercy of any arbitrary judgement which a Nationalist Cabinet Minister (himself interned during the war as a Nazi sympathiser) may care to pass.

We wish to enter a strong protest at this attempt by Dr. Verwoerd's Government to destroy the last fragments of civic freedom in South Africa.