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# Country-wide protest

# CAPE TOWN CALLED TO WORSTER

Own Correspondent

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*He was speaking at a lunchtime protest meeting against the recent Security Police raids and detentions. It was organised by the Progressive Party.*

## Canadian views on SA laws

THE first thing South Africa should do to improve its overseas image was to rid itself of its detention-without-trial laws, a visiting Canadian politician, Mr Robert Thompson, said in Johannesburg today.

Mr Thompson is one of three Canadian parliamentarians who today ended a week-long stay in South Africa. "The detention-without-trial provisions of certain laws are among the most negative aspects of South Africa I have struck," he said. "I am not a lawyer and nor do I presume to tell South Africa what she must do, but I feel the sooner she rids herself of this section of her laws, the better."

Asked for his views of the Ahmed Timol case, he said: "I cannot understand the Government secrecy." "The speculation in the Press and the lack of official information is not helping South Africa's image. The matter should have been clarified as soon as possible." "Certain things about apartheid he finds 'repulsive.'"

### IRRELEVANT

"I think you should clear away a lot of the petty things which seem to be irrelevant to the basic principles."

Other points made by Mr Thompson and his colleagues, Mr Georges La Chance and Mr Angus Maclean, included:

- The "surprising" amount of freedom of the Press.
- The complexities of national problems and the ignorance of them in Canada.
- The possibility of increased trade between Canada and South Africa because of Britain's entry into the Common Market and the US surcharge on Canadian goods.
- The inavailability of Canadian companies withdrawing from South Africa — "It would

## Anger

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DURBAN — Academics, clergymen, lawyers, top police authorities and politicians today added force to the growing wave of anger over the shock death of a Security Police detainee last week.

As official opposition demands for a total revision of detention-without-trial legislation grows, white support has been given to non-white calls for all South Africans to observe November 10 as a day of mourning.

But at the same time the Nationalist Press has tentatively suggested that the Government should wield the big stick against its critics by calling for an inquiry into the effect and motives of comment on the death of police detainee, Mr A. Timol. Public reaction has reached almost unprecedented heights.

### HIDDING

Brigadier Curt von Keyserlingk, former Divisional Commissioner of Police, slammed the Government "for hiding behind the Security Police" over the consequences its detention-without-trial legislation.

Mr Melville Curtis, NUSAS president, called on all South Africans to join the Natal Indian Congress in observing November 10 as a national day of mourning.

Last-minute arrangements were completed for Mr Michael Mitchell, shadow minister of justice, to deliver a public address at the Johannesburg City Hall on Monday. Mrs Helen Suzman will address a protest rally at Wits tomorrow.

### Silence

"This inference is strengthened by the veil of police silence and the attitude of the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, the Minister of Justice, Mr Pelser and the Minister of Police, Mr S. L. Muller, who refused to give information and who gave the security branch a free hand."

Professor Andre Hugo of the department of classics at UCT told the meeting that a judicial inquiry was the only way in which South Africa could clear its name before the world.

"In this whole affair there is nothing more strange, more sinister and more suspect than

### Perplexed

Mr Lawrence said the public were perplexed about certain questions.

These were: Why detainees jumped to their death; Why so many detainees died or committed suicide when cut off from all but the Security Police and why the security chiefs refused to allow forensic medical practitioners to examine detainees.

The present detention system caused grave anxiety and dispair among relations of detainees. The irresistible inference was that detainees were in some instances subjected to pressure which might amount to torture.

Mr Lawrence, who is national chairman of the party, said there was a depth of feeling throughout the country about the present system of detention.

"There have been about 14 deaths in detention and/or eight suicides as far as one knows. But a curtain of secrecy is drawn across the actual facts."

"The extraordinary case of Iman Haron slowly became known as the result of probing in Parliament."

"What has brought matters to a head and caused something of a national crisis is the death of Mr Ahmed Timol, and the case of Mr Mohammed Essop which is now sub judice."



# WORLD FORGOTTEN

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Professor Andre Hugo of the department of classics at UCF told the meeting that a judicial inquiry was the only way in which South Africa could clear its name before the world.

"In this whole affair there is nothing more strange, more sinister and more suspect than the stubborn refusal by those in authority to have these alarming things thoroughly and impartially investigated by a court of law."

The meeting resolved: (A) That Parliament be requested, as a matter of urgency, to repeal all laws which provide for detention without trial.

(B) That the Government be requested forthwith to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into the treatment of persons detained without trial.

## Anger wave GROWS

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Professor Barend van Niekerk of Natal University's Department called on the legal fraternity to "kill the Terrorism Act by refusing to accept evidence obtained under its provisions."

Brigadier von Keyserling, IIP MP for Umhazi, today strongly attacked the Government for allowing the Security Police to take the full brunt of public criticism over the death of Mr Timol and the detention-without-trial provisions of the Terrorism Act. (See Pages 5 and 13)