

is a great mistake lightly to
s on the offices of the Com-
Legion, trade unions and Friends
as just one more political blunder
United Party Government," warns the
General Secretary of the S.A. Labour Party, Mr. Alec
Hepple, M.P.C.

"Behind the raids lie motives of serious significance to every honest thinker and progressive in South Africa. FOR A NATION WHICH PERMITTED ITS LEADING FASCIST FIFTH COLUMNISTS TO REMAIN FREE AND UNFETTERED WHILE THE DEMOCRACIES WERE FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL AND WHICH STILL TO-DAY PLACES NO CURB ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ANTI-DEMOCRATIC FORCES, THE RAIDS ARE A FRIGHTENING INDICATION OF THE POLITICAL TRENDS OF THIS COUNTRY.

"It is a well-known fact that the United Party is gravely divided on many questions, with its leaders virtually sitting on a volcano. Perhaps the raids are an attempt to placate the grumbling reactionary Right-wing of the Party; perhaps they are an attempt to forestall the Nationalist anti-Communist bogey campaign for the 1948 elections; or perhaps they are an attempt to vindicate South Africa in advance on the thorny problems that may face Smuts at the Peace Conference.

"But, whatever the reason, we must face up to the fact that the Government has displayed over-eagerness to engage in a skirmish that may well be followed up sooner or later with an all-out attack on the Labour movement.

"At a time when Dr. Colin Steyn is warning the country of dangers facing the trades union movement because of the growing power of the racialists, his Party is endeavouring to immobilise the democratic forces of the Labour movement by this attack on one section of it.

"REMEMBERING GERMANY, PROGRESSIVES AND LIBERALS OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES MUST ASK WHO WILL BE NEXT? Germany, too, began with the Communists, and then struck at the trades unions, social democrats and liberals in rapid succession—taking care to deal with the Jews, Catholics and many others on the way.

"WHILE ALL DECENT-MINDED PEOPLE ARE SHOCKED BY THE WHOLE AFFAIR AND ANXIOUS TO VOICE PROTEST, THE UNITED PARTY MUST TELL THE NATION WHY THE RAIDS TOOK PLACE AND WHY NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN AGAINST THE OSSEWA-BRANDWAG, NEW ORDER, AND GREYSHIRTS."

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