R. D. Mail May 7th 1955

Louw keeps the Cabinet fully informed on wha... ...Official.

CONFUSION OVER DR. XUMA

Johannesburg City), said that the Labour Party would not support the bill. It had always maintained that the issue of a passport to any citizen should be a right, and not a privilege subject to the prerogative of the Minister or the Crown.

The Labour Party had warned the Government since it first withheld passports in 1949 that, by restricting freedom of movement, it was attempting to create a police state.

The Government had refused passports to people who had nothing to do with Communism, even members of sports teams apparently on the unfounded allegation that they were "fellow-travellers."

The Minister could class anyone as a fellow-traveller. It seemed strange that the Minister should adopt a Communist measure to combat communism.

Bandung Talks

Mr. A. BLOOMBERG (U.P., Cape Town Castle) said that there was no justification on the grounds suggested by the Minister for intruding on the rights of the vast majority of law-abiding citizens. It was wrong that the freedom of the people should be limited because of the misdemeanours of a few.

Mr. B. COETZEE (Cons., North Rand) asked why Mr. Bloomberg did not demand legislation to prohibit the Minister's refusing passports.

He asked Sir De Villiers Graaff whether, if he were Minister of the Interior, he would give Dr. A. B. Xuma, a former president of the African National Congress, a passport to go to the Bandung Conference.

Sir DE VILLIERS GRAAFF: No.

Mr. COETZEE: Then Sir De Villiers demands powers for himself which he refuses to give the present Minister.

Sir DE VILLIERS: The Bandung Conference was a subversive conference, as you know.

Mr. COETZEE: Sir De Villiers must not be so irresponsible. That is a direct accusation against the Prime Minister of India, who was one of the convenors of the conference.

Sir De Villiers Explains

Sir De VILLIERS GRAAFF, on a point of personal explanation, said there appeared to be confusion about Dr. Xuma and the men who were at Bandung. He was confused with Dr. Dadoo, who went with Kotane at Bandung, and Dr. Xuma.

His remarks applied to the Indian who went to Bandung, Cachalia, and not Dr. Xuma. He wished to make that quite clear, because Dr. Xuma was a very respectable citizen.

The MINISTER OF INTERIOR (Dr. T. E. Dönges) replying to the debate, said that only one right was being removed by this bill — from the 1913 Immigration Act—the right to leave South Africa with a notarial certificate of identity, a right which nobody knew existed until about two years ago when it was discovered by the Communists.

Dr. Dönges

That right only enabled people to go to England and from there to countries which would welcome them for ideological reasons. It would not allow them to go to France, Holland, Belgium or other countries.

The Government's experience was that, in almost all cases, this right was used by Communists and fellow travellers who wished to go behind the Iron Curtain, and by the two men who had gone to the Bandung conference to harm South Africa's relations with foreign countries.

This right was not used in the interests of South Africa. People who used it left the country to harm South Africa. Those who defended this right were defending people who were harming South Africa.

General Aim

The general aim of the bill was to defend the security of the State. He was asking no more powers than he had had before, and the powers conferred on him by this bill would be used only to protect the security of the State, and would never be used unless there was reason to believe that it was necessary for the protection of the security of the State.

The third reading was approved by 79 votes to 41. The Conservative Party voted with the Government.

The Diamond Cutting Bill was read a third time, and the MINISTER OF LANDS (Mr. P. O. Sauer) moved the third reading of the Land Settlement Amendment Bill.

The third reading was approved by 74 votes to 36, and the Hous... rose at 5.42 p.m.—SAPA.

RD mail

Nkrumah—I'm the voice of New Africa

7/1/58

OWN CORRESPONDENT

CALCUTTA, Tuesday.

AGAINST a background of throbbing tom-toms, Dr. Kwane Nkrumah has just made a strong bid to establish himself in India as the authentic voice of Africa, and with certain important reservations, he has succeeded.

In future, Nkrumah's sombre face with the burning eyes is likely to replace President Nasser's too-ready smile as the symbol of resurgent Africa.

The impression which remains as Nkrumah ends his fortnight's Indian tour is: Here is a man to be watched.

Nkrumah used no showmanship of the kind the Russian leaders used three years ago. All the flamboyance — those pulse-quickening drumbeats, for instance—came from African students who danced in swirling national gowns to welcome their leader at Delhi Airport on Christmas Eve.

Impeccable

For himself, he always appeared in impeccably tailored Western clothes.

Wherever he went in the sparkling sunshine—at the huge dam site or in a tiny village—he drove home his message: I am the authentic voice of Africa.

Whether he was accepting an honorary degree or address of welcome, he pursued his theme: I accept this honour, not for myself, but on behalf of an awakening Africa.

He spoke quietly, but with tremendous reserves of power, until inevitably his message went home.

Despite his personal magnetism, Nkrumah's tour was be no means all-triumphant. Time and again he found himself on the defensive. When Nkrumah asked Nehru for Indian experts, he was told courteously: India has none to spare.

Meanwhile, in Accra, an administrative blueprint for the new voice of Africa is being prepared.

Blueprint

It is the work of the non-political secretariat of the All African Peoples' Conference which held its first session in Accra in December, and will hold its second conference at Tunis.

It is not generally realised, even in Africa, that the first session was the first of a series of annual meetings dedicated to the furtherance of the independence movement and of Pan-Africanism.

Churchmen didn't like Negroes

OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, Tuesday.— The Congregational Church's recent survey on racial worship has shown that less than half its White members are willing to accept Negroes as members of the Church.

The survey was conducted in metropolitan districts only.

As a result of the 49 per cent. willingness to accept negroes as fellow Congregationists, the church has decided to start a campaign ending all racial discrimination.

Only about twelve per cent. of White congregations have already accepted Negroes. The survey covered 1,054 congregations with 528,800 members.

As a result of the findings, the Church's board of home missions has voted to finance a drive to put into practice its publicly stated policy of "a non-segregated church in a non-segregated society."

The board adopted a resolution to give money to any congregation whose financial support might be jeopardised by its moves to integrate White and Negro parishioners.

POLICE ACCUSED OF ASSAULT

STAFF REPORTER

TWO young Germiston policemen, who appeared in the juvenile court there yesterday on a charge of assault, were alleged to have kicked and beaten two Africans. One African was said to have been so severely assaulted that he was unable to work for two weeks because of eye injuries.

A Primrose businessman, Mr. T. A. de Wit, told the court that he was waiting for his wife outside her shop one lunch hour in September, and was within a few yards of three or four Africans who were playing draughts with mineral bottle tops.

The two policemen, who were in plain clothes, came up to the Africans, and accused them of gambling.

When the complainants replied that they were only playing draughts, the two policemen assaulted them. The complainants gave no provocation.

KICKED IN FACE

One of the Africans fell on the ground and was kicked in the face and on the body.

He told the court that he had always helped the police wherever possible and did not want the two accused to think that he was favouring the complainants.

"But, as an ex-boxer myself, I don't believe in kicking a man when he is down."

The policemen pleaded not guilty.

The hearing was adjourned.

Will higher wages for Africans mean higher production?

It depends on the employer

—to a large extent

THE movement towards a general increase in African wages which has been so much in the news of late has excited considerable controversy. Will an increase in wages result or not in an increase in productivity of African workers?

This is not a question that can be answered by a categoric yes or no.

There are many factors which go to determining the productivity of an individual worker. Some of these derive from the worker himself. His physical and mental condition, his aptitude for the type of work, the degree of training in the skills of his job, and above all his attitude of mind and his willingness to exert himself in the performance of his task — all these influence working capacity.

Of these four factors only two, physical condition and attitude of mind, are likely to be directly affected by an increase in wages. Better material circumstances arising from an increase in real wages may be expected to result in superior physical fitness and mental alertness.

Furthermore relief from economic anxieties would also result in an improvement of the worker's mental powers. All this could result, though not necessarily, in a better approach by the worker to his job.

The stimulus to better work arising from better wages is usually most pronounced when the increase is provided under some incentive scheme.

As for the other two factors, aptitude and degree of training, it is of course possible for a worker to recognise his aptitudes, to seek appropriate work and to increase his skills by study and other means. But in practice it is only in the superior labour categories that such initiative on the part of the worker is found.

In so far as African labour is concerned the responsibility for selection and training of personnel necessarily devolves on management or employer.

By H. R. FRASER

A business executive and a leading member of the Association for the Improvement of Wages and Productivity of Bantu Workers

that natural aptitudes are employed to best advantage;

Training of personnel to use labour-saving equipment and to employ efficient methods.

All these provide scope for management effort.

If then we are to look for a substantial improvement in African efficiency, it is not to the African that we must turn, but to industrial management.

Management must not only create the opportunities for greater productivity but must, in fact, compel the African worker to become more efficient.

The problem must be tackled as a whole. An employer remarked the other day that the machine which is "Native-proof" has not yet been designed. The same remark could be applied to any 10-year-old child.

Man and machine

You cannot entrust a valuable piece of equipment to an African worker unless you are prepared to ensure that he has some mechanical aptitude and that he is properly trained and properly supervised.

Where management does its job effectively on the lines indicated, and greater productivity is achieved, the industry in question will obviously be in a position to pay better wages.

The question may then be asked: If the improvement in productivity has been contributed primarily, perhaps solely, by management, is the increase in wages justified, sentiment apart, on purely economic grounds?

The answer is a resounding "Yes!"

In the first place, the worker becomes a more valuable asset. Management may have planned the methods and provided the training, but these can only become effective through the employee himself. In the result the worker, as a productive unit, has improved and, presumably, will improve further and become more valuable with greater experience.

Furthermore the status and importance of the job will have been increased in the process.

A company may have employed ten boys in loading cases. If one is absent periodically or leaves his job the others may have to work a little harder, or a replacement can easily be found.

If, however, the company buys a fork-lift truck and selects one of the ten labourers to be trained to operate it, that man becomes much more valuable and much more important.

His absence could cause serious dislocation; his replacement would create fresh problems of selection and training, and would involve higher costs of supervision, while his successor was being broken in. Consequently his economic worth has been increased.

Look to the top

We must look primarily to the industrial managements of this country to take the initiative.

If we are to achieve higher individual productivity, to justify economically the progressive growth in the real wages of Africans, and to enjoy the side effects of greater social stability and civic consciousness in the African community, we must look to industrial management to assume the responsibility for bringing about this progress.

Indeed, if management does not play its part in stimulating productivity, any wholesale increase in cash wages will defeat its purpose by bringing about inflation.

This, of course, does not preclude the possibility that African workers in certain industries may already have achieved higher productivity without having been correspondingly compensated, and that their actual wages may fall short of their due.

FOOTNOTE: The association is investigating all possibilities of increasing African wages, and their probable results. The "Rand Daily Mail" will give the results of these investigations as they are released by the association from time to time.

Results limited

It appears, therefore, that the degree of increase in productivity which will automatically follow from an increase in wages is limited.

This is particularly so because the African worker is generally too deficient in education and industrial experience to be able to help himself on his own initiative.

For gross increases in productivity one must look to the factors which are within management's control. These are:

Improvement of working methods;

Planning and organisation of work so as to secure the maximum utilisation of labour;

Provision of adequate supervision and control of quality to reduce waste;

Judicious mechanisation of processes to reduce manpower requirements;

Careful selection of staff so

Accra was highlight in 1958

TALKING POLITICS by B. L.

THE year that has just gone by saw important events taking place all over the world,—many of them of vital interest to African people.

African affairs not only dominated and took much of the time of the Union Parliament. They also dominated the United Nations and took a big part of the delegates' time.

The difference is that the United Nations tried to help us and sought to show how important Africa is to the world to-day and in the future.

Keep look-out

Up North in Africa, two meaningful events stood out. Established governments were thrown over one after the other.

This was a warning to new African states that, to keep their newly-won independence, they must be on the look-out.

With the coming to power of General de Gaulle in France, many French colonies began to rule themselves. This has very much speeded up the pace for freeing all Africans in Africa.

Freedom moves

But the most important event in Africa was the big conference that African leaders had in Accra. The talks were among pure African nationalist leaders. Indians and Europeans only looked on.

These Pan-African talks pushed ahead all nationalist movements of freedom.

They rejected apartheid, communism and violence. They rejected alliance with non-African bodies.

Plans for unity

They thought out plans of uniting African states into the United States of Africa so that they can help each other and be strong in money and politics.

They spoke of the emerging African Personality. And this personality, like the African people and their land, is not a mongrel or a mixture compounded of elements from the west and the east.

It is indigenous and positive. It is meant to be a third world force between western capitalism and Communism. It is neither of the two.

As a result of these Accra talks, nationalism has begun to sweep all over Africa. African people are waking up and uniting.

Rule themselves

Down here in South Africa, the Basutoland people have been allowed to rule themselves and their country. They have managed to do so because they were united by that strong unifying bond, African nationalism.

This event is the most important since the whites began to rule the blacks in South Africa. It is an event which will wear off apartheid here at home.

In the Union, there are two things to be remembered. Apartheid is living. But it is doing so on borrowed time. There are signs that it is fast on the way out.

Here at home, the Europeans find apartheid clumsy. African nationalism is shaping up against it.

Oppose apartheid

Beyond our borders there is the strong movement of pan-Africanism. And the western countries, like America, England and France, are opposed to apartheid.

Alas, a series of trials has handicapped our movements — and that, not only because they have tied down some African leaders. They have emptied the pockets of Africans.

The contemporary Press

Whites not responsible for Native welfare—hence higher tax

THE STRONGEST REACTION against Mr. Naude's Budget has so far been aimed at one point above all: the proposed increase in the tax on Natives.

To tax the poorest section of the people for his own service, it is stated, is a principle that applies nowhere else. Here the basic difference between the two lines of thinking in South Africa again appears clearly.

The Government look upon the non-Whites not as an integrated section for whose material well-being the Whites are permanently responsible. They want the very opposite to be the case.

They want to bring the Native gradually to become self-supporting and less dependent upon the Whites. But those who stand for an integrated social entity of White and Black naturally think differently.

They will now have to say whether they are against the Natives being helped to scour their own pot as far as education and the development of the reserves are concerned, and whether they would like to have the White taxpayers continuing to carry the millions of Blacks on their backs.

Do they expect anything else but that this millstone round the necks of the Whites will become heavier and heavier—and without a word of thanks being said in return?

And if the United Party thinks that the wages of non-Whites are too small, then its supporters, who are among the biggest employers in the country, could well set the example by raising their wages.

Nothing and nobody stand in their way.

From leading article in the "Volksblad."

★

THE English spoken in South Africa is a very queer language indeed. Certain words, which in England and other Commonwealth countries have the same meaning, have a very different one in the South African version.

Let's look at the word democracy.

This word is universally understood to mean a government for the people by the people. In South Africa it is a government of the minority over the majority.

Responsible is another word with its South African angle. I need not say that a "responsible" African is one who is generally known to be a "yes" man who is ready and willing to sell his fellow men.

Citizen is another word.

In South Africa we find that the word describes an enfranchised person of white origin only.

From letter in the "World" (Johannesburg).

★

I SHOULD like to remind Prof. L. du Plessis that what he is saying now is precisely what the English Press and bishops and liberalists are saying, namely, that the non-Whites are repressed.

I should also like to point to intellectuals like Prof. B. B. Keet, Ben Marais and P. V. Pistorius, who also often let the cat out of the bag.

I want to warn my fellow-Nationalists in all seriousness. Don't keep your head in the clouds in connection with our great victory.

It should be remembered that the political situation is subject to fluctuations and remains precarious.

The sooner we forget about the United Party being dead and beaten, as some argue, the more we shall remain on our guard to retain what we have got.

From letter in the "Transvaler."

The Star

Graaff sees decline in Union's development

31/12/58

From Our Correspondent

Cape Town, Wednesday.

"THERE ARE TIMES in the life of every nation when it is fitting to pause and take stock, to examine what progress has been made and to re-dedicate ourselves to the tasks which lie ahead," the Leader of the Opposition, Sir de Villiers Graaff, said today in a New Year message.

"The present is such a time in South Africa.

"The past year has, in the material sphere, seen a falling off in the tempo of industrial development, a decline in profit margins and an agricultural community struggling with drought and falling prices, and in the spiritual sphere an erosion of the concepts of freedom and dignity so vitally characteristic of a healthy civilization.

COMMUNISM SPREADS

"Outside our boundaries Communism has greatly extended its sphere of influence in Africa.

"The Black nations of our continent, awakened by aggressive nationalism, are stirring.

"South Africa remains out of step with the greater part of the Western world.

"It must be clear to all who think, that our problems are becoming invested with an ever-growing sense of urgency, and people in all walks of life are realizing that we have a limited time in which to solve them.

"Let us resolve in this new year to dedicate ourselves anew to building up happier race relations, to developing our country's vast potential imaginatively, to encouraging and nurturing real unity among all our peoples, and above all to rebuilding those spiritual values which must form the essential foundation of the Western way of life."

Hertzog says South African War has not ended

THE STRAND, Wednesday.—The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Health, Dr. Hertzog, said here last night that if the situation of hate and slander against the White man in South Africa was continued as it was experienced today it would not be 10 years before the White man realized he could no longer endure it. He was speaking at a Nationalist Party meeting.

Dr. Hertzog, referring to the South African War, said that that war had never ended—"It is still with us."

Only the form had changed. Today it was not against the Afrikaner but against every White man in South Africa. The soldier was no longer the British Tommy but "the Native, the Coloured and the Coolie."

NEW SLAVERY

The Native was being told that he was being subjected to "a new slavery" such as apartheid, and that he must serve or die of hunger.

"The people spreading this type of slander say still further, for example, that hell is not a bad description of conditions in South Africa.

"These are stories spread by the Communists, Liberalists and capitalists through their Press.

"Who is responsible for this hate and slander?

"True, it is the Communists and Liberalists, but in the first place it is the leaders of the United Party."

The only way to save the White man was to close the ranks as never before, said Dr. Hertzog.—Sapa.

The World
31/1/59

The World

NEED FOR WORK IN THE BRAVE NEW YEAR

THE Old Year goes out and we welcome the bright New Year of 1959. And, as the Old Year passes, we should all give a long look back over our shoulders and see the mistakes we have made—mistakes that must be put right in 1959.

If this new year is to brighten our lives and bring us nearer our goal, all African people in South Africa must work hard to win their rights. Each and every African leader must be on the alert. This is no time to sleep.

Guard against this danger

Events are certainly moving fast. But there is one danger that Africans must guard against. It is the danger of a flare-up.

Thus, while this is a time for action, it is a time, also, when we need cool heads. No one can stand by and watch other people being put on the wrong road by unscrupulous organisations and their organisers.

Our leaders must speak up whenever they see that violent methods are being put forward, or violence from the Europeans is being courted. For this, too, is no time for silence.

The day is over when it was possible to ease the conscience by saying "Well done" and by patting on the back those who were up and doing.

The big need is unity

Nor must we fear to throw out of our organisations any policies that weaken us or frighten people away.

Unity it the big need. Outside organisations of Europeans and Indians hold us back by tying themselves to our wagon. That is one big reason why the movement to bring the African people together does not get full support.

We must all work for a pure African national movement. If we do that job, it will bring us into our own much quicker than seems possible now. It will also be a sign that we are looking for a common society for all people.

That is the New Year wish.

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eyes on to
by a delicate

Many Europeans have promised to let their eyes be used for this operation after they die. Many have already given their eyes to the blind. Yet, so far, only two Africans, one Indian and a Coloured, have done the same thing — and this, among many millions of Non-Europeans.

They hold back

Medical experts find that non-European eyes are best for non-European cases. But they are held up in their fight against blindness because Africans hold back from the appeal for eyes.

Thus, Africans whose sight has been brought back are walking around happily because Europeans gave them eyes — eyes the Europeans knew they did not want after they had died.

The big trouble is African custom. So many people fear to have their eyes taken out when they die. So many of their relatives do not like the thought of the eyes of their loved ones being removed.

Yet this is what the Superintendent of St. John's Hospital at Baragwanath has to tell us:

"Help the living"

"When a person dies, the whole body goes to waste. Yet one part can be used to help the living — the eyes.

"A man or woman need only get in touch with any hospital and arrangements will be made to take his or her eyes at the time of death.

"Should so many suffer blindness because eyes which could help them are left to go to waste?"

"There is talk of an eye bank," said an official. "That is wrong. Our bank is the number of living people walking about with healthy eyes.

"We do the rest"

"All they need do is to ask for their eyes to be used for grafting when they die. We look after the rest."

The Baragwanath superintendent and Mr. Wentworth ask doctors, lawyers, ministers of religion and other African leaders to come forward and allow their eyes to be used after death to help the living.

African leaders, they say, can break down the wall of fear that is holding up the big fight against blindness — the dark horror that shadows the lives of thousands of people.

It is a challenge to us all. What are we going to do about it?

A NEW YEAR CHALLENGE

TO AFRICAN LEADERS

Your eyes can help to fight blindness!

A BLIND man begged for pennies on a Pretoria street corner. That was 10 years ago. To-day, that same man — an African still living in the Pretoria district — can see perfectly and is back at work.

How did the miracle happen? After all, the man was totally blind in 1948. He was said to be a hopeless case. Yet it is a fact that the miracle did happen. And it is a miracle that is happening many, many times all through South Africa.

Not that the people who brought back that blind man's sight think of their work as a miracle. They say they are just doing a job. Yes, a wonderful job — but still, a job. And they need help.

Blindness is a threat to the life and happiness of thousands of our people. It is hard enough these days for men and women with sight to make a living. How much worse, then, is it for those who are plunged into a world of darkness?

What an official says

The menace of blindness is very big in country districts. Eighty-nine per cent of blind Africans in the Transvaal live in the country — most of them in the Northern Transvaal.

Yet a big victory could be won over many cases of blindness if only help would be given by those people with good eyes. That's what they say in the places where they are fighting the curse of blindness every day.

Listen to Mr. S. K. Wentworth, director of the Bureau for Prevention of Blindness, which is run by the National Council for the Blind. He says that eyes are wanted for those non-Europeans who go to hospitals to seek their sight again.

Many of them can only see if other people will give them their eyes.

It works like this. Men and women with normal eyesight are asked to sign a paper saying that their eyes can be taken from their bodies when they die.

Those eyes are used to make blind see again. Surgeons take the corneas of those dead eyes of the blind operation.

"Hello! Here I come with my New Year message — and that's to wish you lots and lots of happiness in 1959." And little Frances Matthews, so we are solemnly assured by her mother, is saying just that to all readers of The World as the first week of the New Year rings up

Golden City Post 4/1/59

Quiet Little Town May Upset Government's Elaborate Plans

GROUP AREAS "TEST CASE"

THE quite little town of Stanger, 50 miles north of Durban, may cause an upset to the Government's elaborate plans for nation-wide removals of Non-Whites under the Group Areas Act.

A "test" case is expected to take place in Stanger in three weeks' time. The Group Areas Board will sit there and consider a recommendation that the central business area be exempted from the Act's provisions.

This recommendation comes from the Stanger Town Council, who ask that the central business area should be left as a specified area if it is not to be exempted altogether.

In representations made to the Stanger Municipality, the Stanger Indian Ratepayers' and Property Owners' Association, led by Mr. G. Mather, pointed out that in the central area there was a preponderance of Indian owners and occupiers, many of whom have been established in their businesses and homes for more than 70 years.

A memorandum by the Ratepayers' and Property Owners' Association says:

"Whatever may be the attitude of the Board, at least we in Stanger can set an example in honest recognition of the grim realities of the situation so that when the whole business of group areas becomes a mere memory, it will not be said that the elected representatives also joined wholeheartedly in the ritual of dispossession.

SENSE OF JUSTICE

"The association believes it is not an exaggeration to say that Stanger is unique in South Africa for the complete fair play and sense of justice which successive town councils have displayed in all matters affecting race.

"IT IS THIS SPIRIT THAT HAS EARNED THE DIFFERENT COUNCILS OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME THE GREAT RESPECT THAT IT ENJOYS AND HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE ABSOLUTE HARMONY AMONG THE DIFFERENT RACES IN STANGER.

"We have made a major economic contribution to the improvement and stability of Stanger. In the interest of race harmony and good relations among all sections of the people of the town the association is totally opposed to the forcible removal of any residents or business organisations, whether they be White or Indian or any other group concerned.

INDIANS PREPONDERATE

"In this area, by far the preponderance of owners and occupiers are members of the Indian group, but the association is averse to suggesting that the area be reserved for Indians in conformity with its rejection of the idea that anyone should not be dispossessed of his property."

- The land value and assets in Stanger's central area, the memorandum says, total more than £369,000 in municipal valuation, and almost treble the figure in market valuation excluding goodwill.
- **Of the 120 properties in this area, 62 are occupied by Indians and another 14 are owned by Indians but occupied by Europeans.**
- More than 100 Indian business establishments and two English vernacular schools will be affected if the proclamations are made.
- **In comparison to this, there are only 20 White properties in the area, excluding churches, two banks and Government and Municipal properties valued at £118,000, and comprising 26 businesses.**

The memorandum also quotes the town planner's report, which stated that by 1977 there would be 1,500 Europeans and 20,000 Indians in Stanger.

Right now the Europeans make up about 12 per cent. of the total population. The ratio by 1977 would probably be 11 to 200 (Europeans to Indians).

For this reason, the association feels some consideration should be given to the availability of land in the future.

"The association would like to place on record the long history of complete harmony between the major racial groups in this town. Stanger is fortunate in having municipal employees as well as a good Mayor and councillors who consider the well-being and prosperity of every burgess of the town as a whole," said Mr Mather to POST.

4/11/59

Dilemma Over Liquor for Natives

CABINET—D.R.C CLASH?

SUNDAY TIMES REPORTER

WHEN the Cabinet has to decide shortly whether to allow Natives to obtain liquor more freely, it will face its most difficult decision since Dr. Verwoerd became Premier.

The Cabinet's dilemma is that the police, who are responsible for enforcing the liquor restrictions on Natives, urge their relaxation; while the Dutch Reformed Church wants prohibition maintained.

So far the Government has been careful not to commit itself.

But the Cabinet will almost certainly need to define its attitude when the Parliamentary commission of inquiry into the distribution and price of liquor presents its report later this month.

Lift Ban?

The report, which has taken more than two years to complete, advocates a lifting of the 30-year-old ban on light wines and beer.

If the proposal is adopted, the Government may impair its relations with the Dutch Reformed Church, one of the main sources of support for Nationalist policy.

Protests

When Mr. C. R. Swart hinted at the commission's findings recently, vigorous protests were drawn from D.R.C. spokesmen.

And last month, the Moderators of the Synods of the Federated Dutch Reformed Church, expressing "grave concern," warned again the "explosive" consequences of making liquor more freely available to Natives.

The D.R.C.'s attitude was reaffirmed last week by the Rev. D. F. B. de Beer, secretary for public morals of the D.R.C. in the Transvaal. He said: "Our church is very strongly opposed to the extension of liquor facilities to Natives."

Nevertheless there are cogent factors — which the Government cannot easily ignore — favouring the relaxation of total prohibition.

The pressures for reform are:

(1) The police, who say that the drink laws are increasingly difficult to administer, and that they are responsible for one in four of the crimes in the Union.

(2) Wine farming interests, an influential group in Nationalist circles favouring expansion of the domestic wine market.

(3) The argument that £3,000,000 of taxpayers' money is spent yearly to administer the liquor laws.

(4) Strong evidence that in spite of rigid control and strict penalties, Natives obtain all the liquor they want. In 1956, it is estimated, about 18,000,000 bottles of hard liquor reached Natives.

Secret Supplies

At present 50,000 Natives in the Union have permits to buy liquor. But the majority, consuming an estimated 35% to 65% of the Union's liquor yearly, obtain their supplies secretly, paying high prices.

Every day hundreds of gallons of liquor are smuggled from city bottle stores into the Native townships.

There it is sold in shebeens, often in an adulterated form together with potent home-made brews, like skokiaan, barberton and uhali, which are dangerous to health.

The source of the supply is Europeans — hoboes, spivs and ducktails—who are drawn into the racket by the temptation of easy money. In 1954 nearly as many Whites as Natives were prosecuted for illicit trafficking in liquor.

Tell-Tale Figures

Figures for the five-year period between 1952 and 1956 show that two-thirds of all offences under the liquor laws are committed by non-Europeans.

During this period nearly 1,000,000 Natives were convicted for illicit possession of liquor alone.

In sharp contrast to the aim of the Liquor Act—to prevent the abuse of liquor by Natives — the number of offences is steadily rising.

Of the total number of persons of all races convicted in 1956 for illicit possession of liquor, 96% were Natives.

These figures illustrate, in the opinion of the police and others, that the 1928 Liquor Act is in urgent need of reform.

"Useless" Laws

The police demand is backed by Roman Catholic and Anglican church leaders, the South African Cape and Transvaal Agricultural Unions, senior officials of the Non-European Department, numerous municipalities including Johannesburg, Pretoria and Kimberley and the Brewers' Institute.

Their view was summed up recently by Mr. A. du Toit, chairman of K.W.V. He said that South Africa's liquor laws are antiquated, useless and not in step with reality.

NDAY, JANUARY 5, 1959.

Indians rush for land in Protectorate

STAFF REPORTER

INDIAN businessmen in South Africa are gaining a major financial stake in some Bechuanaland towns and European farming areas, according to leading commercial men and government officials in the territory.

In Lobatsi alone, new business premises valued at about £100,000 were erected last year by Indian families living in the Transvaal and Natal. This represents about 30 per cent. of this small town's total commercial valuation.

Many thousands of pounds have also been spent on buying out European farmers at prices far in excess of the current market values.

This has not only caused worried frowns and criticism among the protectorate's White population, but is also reported to be giving the Government a minor headache. It is well known, for instance, that many Bechuanaland Africans are against Indian infiltration into the protectorate.

TRIBAL LAW

An example of anti-Indian feeling among certain tribes is to be found in Seretse Khama's family territory around Serowe, where Indian residents are forbidden by tribal law.

Last month, while on a visit to Lobatsi, Seretse told European friends: "Indians will never penetrate the Khama plains. My father made the law and we will ensure that it is never broken."

But one Johannesburg Indian on a visit to Bechuanaland said that many of his people were being forced to look for new homes outside South Africa. They felt that, should they ever have to leave the Union and its apartheid policies, their property ownership outside the Union's borders would enable them to achieve new citizenship.

ANOTHER YEAR

He said that South African Indians, in his opinion, had only another year or so in which to buy themselves into Bechuanaland. Once the protectorate was awarded independence, it was considered highly unlikely that any more Indians would be allowed to enter the territory.

Before the latest infiltration of Indian finance from the Transvaal and Natal, there were about 50 Indian families living within the protectorate's boundaries.

The keenness of Indian businessmen in South Africa to secure a foothold in Bechuanaland was illustrated just over a month ago when a European farmer sold his property to an Indian for double its market value. Europeans who offered to buy the farm were outbid by £4,000.

Independence for Basutos puzzles the Bechuanas

STAFF REPORTER

LOBATSI, Sunday.—Many people in Bechuanaland are surprised that the British Government has awarded Basutoland internal independence before any similar promise was made concerning the future of their own protectorate.

European settlers and government officials consider that the Africans in their territory are far more politically responsible than their Basuto and Swazi counterparts.

They are also puzzled, as they have been led to believe that Bechuanaland would be the first protectorate within the Union's boundaries to achieve self-governing constitutional reforms. Most thinking Africans in the territory, however, believe that they are not as yet sufficiently advanced to control their own internal affairs.

Black and White residents point out that the tribal "local government" system used by Bechuanaland chiefs before the coming of British administrators was far superior to that in most other African territories. This background, it is claimed, has given African peasants in the protectorate many of the necessary qualifications for running their own country.

One of the main differences between Bechuanaland and Basutoland is that the Bechuana people have never made any urgent pleas for self-rule.

REPEATED DEMANDS

The Basutos, on the other hand, have for the last two years repeatedly demanded their own government. Now they have been promised independence in all matters with the exception of foreign relations, police and internal security.

Europeans in Bechuanaland may also become settlers and own freehold property in special "open" areas outside the tribal districts. Half of the Protectorate's Joint Advisory Board members are their representatives.

In Basutoland, however, European government officials and commercial men have almost no status.

Although they will soon have a vote, they are not likely, through lack of numbers, to have any major voice in the new National Council.

Rand Daily Mail

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1959.

A CURIOUS AFFAIR

ONCE again Mr. De Wet Nel, the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, is upset because his actions have been interpreted at their face value. Some weeks ago it was reported in this newspaper that he had forbidden the Sunday church services for Africans that have been held for years in the Methodist church hall in Forest Town, Johannesburg. This, the Minister declared in pained surprise, was untrue. He had merely decided to refuse the necessary permit for these services to continue. Now the Minister finds himself in the same sort of trouble again.

On December 12 he wrote to the Johannesburg City Council saying that he intended issuing a notice prohibiting "the holding of any meeting, assembly or gathering including any social gathering in the urban area of Johannesburg outside a Native residential area which is attended by any Native." In accordance with the Natives (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act of 1945, the Minister gave the City Council three weeks in which to notify him of any objection it might have to the notice. That was all. The covering letter gave no reasons for the issuing of the notice; it offered no qualifications to the terms of the notice. Nor, so far as can be ascertained, was any background information as to what was in the Minister's mind given informally to the City Council.

The Council, therefore, drew the straightforward conclusion. An emergency meeting of its General Purposes Committee was called and a letter was sent off to the Minister objecting to what, in effect, could be a prohibition of virtually all meetings at which an African might be present. Now the Minister has issued a statement saying that the Government has no intention of banning ordinary political or other meetings which might be attended by Africans in Johannesburg and that the banning notice is aimed "exclusively at mixed gatherings of the sort which have become common at certain places in the city and which are offensive to both White and Black in South Africa." And he takes the City Council severely to task for its "discourteous behaviour" in assuming that his letter meant merely what it said. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Nationalist Sunday newspaper, "Dagbreek," said in a front-page editorial on the subject yesterday: "Obviously the Minister had in mind political gatherings and apparently also the sort of social parties which have begun to take place in certain White homes in Johannesburg." Was the Council's conclusion so unreasonable?

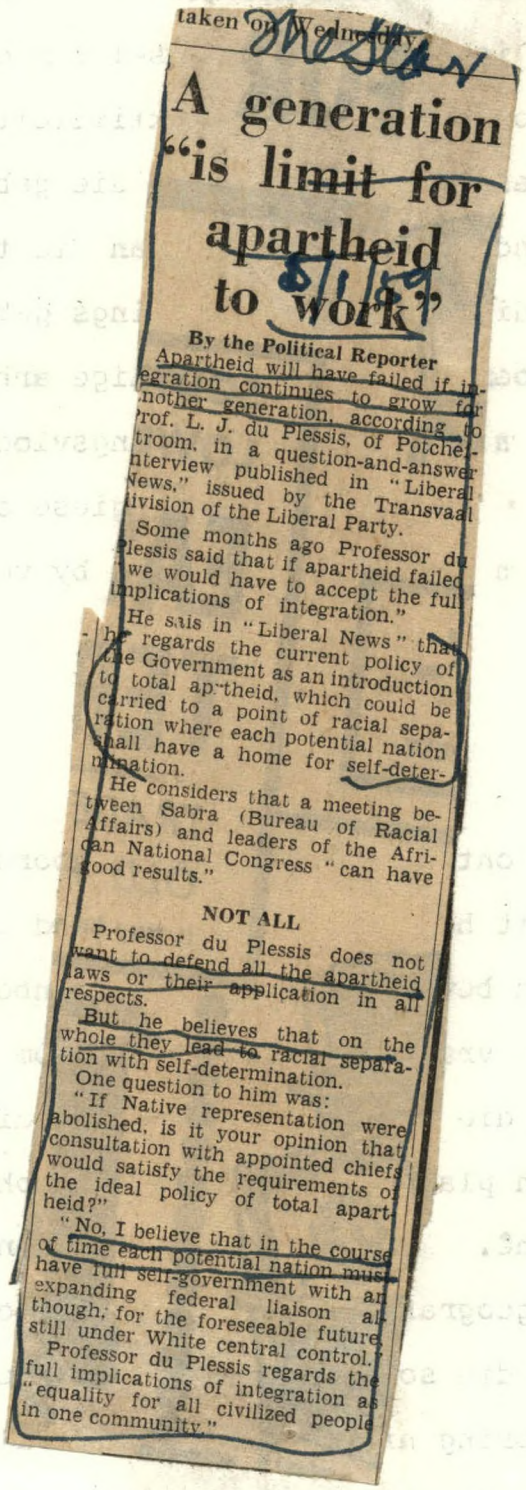
The Minister's assurance that no general interference with the freedom of speech and assembly is intended comes as a relief, but the whole affair still has a most unfortunate flavour about it. Why did the Minister not explain to the Johannesburg City Council precisely what he proposed? Why does he seek blanket authority to deal with all meetings when existing legislation enables him to deal with the kind of mixed drinking parties he objects to? Why seek a sledge-hammer to kill a fly?

COLDLY ALOOF

SOUTH AFRICA'S absence from the first conference of the Economic Commission for Africa now taking place in Addis Ababa has not passed without comment. Formal reference to it has been made in the sessions on at least two occasions and no doubt there have been other expressions of regret and criticism in those important informal discussions that take place out of conference hours.

The Union's reasons for not participating are inadequate. The fact that we play a full and useful part in other bodies such as the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara does not provide sound grounds for abstaining from this new effort to benefit all the countries of Africa. The work of the new body will supplement rather than duplicate the endeavours of these other bodies. There are, in fact, already suggestions that Uneca will in time absorb such other bodies, which is all the more reason why the Union should have been represented on it from the start.

But perhaps the main point to be made is this: In the Africa that is stirring the Union is to-day losing the opportunities it has had of influencing events. Certainly there is now no question of asserting political leadership in existing circumstances. More is the pity therefore that this chance of exercising the economic leadership the country could provide as the most highly developed part of the Continent has been missed.



taken on Wednesday

A generation "is limit for apartheid to work"

By the Political Reporter

Apartheid will have failed if integration continues to grow for another generation, according to Prof. L. J. du Plessis, of Potchefstroom, in a question-and-answer interview published in "Liberal News," issued by the Transvaal Division of the Liberal Party.

Some months ago Professor du Plessis said that if apartheid failed we would have to accept the full implications of integration."

He sais in "Liberal News" that he regards the current policy of the Government as an introduction to total apartheid, which could be carried to a point of racial separation where each potential nation shall have a home for self-determination.

He considers that a meeting between Sabra (Bureau of Racial Affairs) and leaders of the African National Congress "can have good results."

NOT ALL

Professor du Plessis does not want to defend all the apartheid laws or their application in all respects.

But he believes that on the whole they lead to racial separation with self-determination.

One question to him was:

"If Native representation were abolished, is it your opinion that consultation with appointed chiefs would satisfy the requirements of the ideal policy of total apartheid?"

"No, I believe that in the course of time each potential nation must have full self-government with an expanding federal liaison although, for the foreseeable future, still under White central control."

Professor du Plessis regards the full implications of integration as "equality for all civilized people in one community."

Rand Daily Mail

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1959.

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

MR. DE WET NEL'S flair for being misunderstood makes it extremely difficult to deal with his public pronouncements. Until he issues a denial, however, it must be assumed that he really means what he said in his explanatory statement published yesterday and that his latest ban is directed merely against multi-racial drinking parties in Johannesburg. Whether these parties, assuming that they do take place occasionally, are a sufficient abuse to warrant intervention by a Cabinet Minister seems doubtful, to say the least, but apparently Mr. Nel is determined to make an issue of it.

That being so, he is going about it in an extraordinary way. If he wants to stop these parties, then he has plenty of weapons to hand without seeking a blanket authority to ban all mixed gatherings. If the drinking is illegal, then he can deal with it under the liquor laws, and if he fears undesirable political influences at inter-racial parties, then he can use the anti-Communist legislation which is wide enough in all conscience. But instead he invokes an Act which gives him power to prevent all mixed gatherings, even of the most innocent nature.

The kindest interpretation to put on Mr. Nel's action is that he has been clumsy. The inference that most people will draw, however, is that he really would like to stop social meetings between the races, even in private houses, and if that conclusion is wrong, then the Minister has only himself to blame for the misconception.

This abhorrence of all social contact between Black and White is a not uncommon attitude, but it is difficult to see how the better relations between the races that Mr. Nel professes to desire are to come about if they are never to meet, even briefly, and discuss their common problems. If Mr. Nel really means that he would like to make all such points of contact illegal, then let him say so openly.

It will be a sorry day for South Africa if the Government is going to start poking its nose into private houses, but there has been so much regimentation lately that the ordinary man can be excused for suspecting the worst.

OPTIMISM

WHILE the Union's economic outlook at the beginning of 1959 can best be described as unsettled, as yesterday's lowering of the bank rate indicates, there are enviable signs of optimism in the Federation where preparations are being made to cope with the increased industrialisation springing from Kariba's great power potential.

According to Sir Edgar Whitehead, an accomplished economist as well as a far-seeing politician, Southern Rhodesia is poised for a vigorous drive in the field of industry in close conjunction with the Federal authorities. The Prime Minister's plans for improved educational facilities for both Europeans and Africans clearly indicates that he has no intention of being embarrassed by a shortage of manpower.

Sir Edgar's Government is also launching an African trade instructors' training course which will turn out some forty qualified men a year over the next five years. Until now, Africans being taught skilled trades have been instructed by Europeans. But far from there being any intention to replace European artisans by Africans, the aim is better utilisation of labour resources and ample work for all.

In spite of the drop in the price of copper and the reduction in revenue occasioned by the Copperbelt strikes, the Federation faces a bright future and prosperity in which all races are offered a share.

The contemporary Press

Black nationalism will drive South Africa into isolation

HOSTILITY TOWARDS and agitation against South Africa is the cheapest way for Black people who need hostility and agitation to gain their objectives. The temptation for the new Black politicians to use South Africa for that purpose will, in my opinion, become practically irresistible.

Our own policy in Africa should naturally be directed towards averting such a development as far as possible. But I doubt if we can exert enough influence on events to make any real difference.

You cannot change the course of a glacier, and Black nationalism in Africa is becoming a political glacier.

If it picks on us as one of its main targets there is little we can do to alter the situation.

What we can do is to strengthen our defences—and I am not thinking only or even mainly of military defences—for a possible state of isolation in Africa.

Those who do not love us must learn to respect us. And even if the situation is not as dark as I expect we can co-operate in Africa only from strength, not from weakness.

In any case I wish I had the power to make South Africa realize the emergency in our history into which we are moving as a result of developments in Africa. Nor is it something for the distant future but for the next five or ten years.

Then a new spirit of earnestness would come over the nation and we would see in every field—moral, educational, economic, intellectual—the enormous exertions needed for our survival.

From political commentary by "Dawie" in the "Burger."

The Star

THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT TRENDS IN NATIVE POLITICS IN SOUTH AFRICA

6/11/59

The hands of the Native moderates need strengthening

IF WE HAVE ANYTHING TO FEAR for the future in South Africa it is exclusive and sectional Black nationalism—and not a common society. This year's annual congress of the African National Congress spotlighted for White public opinion a fact of which most of it was not aware. It is that there are two trends in African politics: the one is towards exclusive nationalism, and the other is towards a broad South African patriotism in which race-pride and arrogance can be eliminated.

The trouble is, it seems, that both are anathema for South African Whites and they resist both with equal vigour. The more they resist the idea of a common society, the more do they strengthen the hands of the extremists, simply because extremism sets up a reaction of extremism.

by

Patrick van Rensburg

Transvaal Organizer of the Liberal Party.

The Liberal Party is itself a protagonist of a common society based on a broad patriotism for all our people. It is opposed to sectional nationalism, and it recognizes that we need only fear a Black majority in our electoral set-up, if there is to be a Black nationalism that will unite all Blacks against all Whites. That is one of the possibilities, which would be made to come about if all Whites are united against all Blacks.

We are so used to thinking in racial terms that we cannot think that other things are possible. Would it not be possible to unite people of all sections along lines divorced from race?

There can be no doubt that in the democracies universal suffrage and the two-party (or multi-party) system are here to stay. There can also be no doubt that integration in South Africa is here to stay. No less a person than Prof. I. S. Fourie, recognized in his famous "integration" speech that economic power leads to political rights. It is this historically proven fact which the Nationalists have used to "sell" apartheid as a means of escaping the inevitable.

While the Nationalists provide, by their racialism, the spur and driving-force of reactionary Black nationalism, and while the United Party supplements these stimuli with its appeal to prejudices, the Liberal Party seeks to ensure that, given the inevitability of the extension of political rights, there will be no group domination. The Party's objective for the future is, therefore, a common society.

Extreme nationalism

HOW will it go about its task? It must, at this stage, seek to strengthen the hands of the non-White moderates. African political affiliations have not yet crystallized about the extreme nationalist doctrine but it is possible that, had the Liberal case been allowed to go by default, this might well have happened already. Among the Parliamentary groups only the Liberal Party can serve this purpose, of strengthening the hands of the present leadership of the African National Congress.

The Liberal Party's growth as a Parliamentary group is but one means of achieving its important objective.

As the colour problem intrudes itself more forcefully into White political thinking a more realistic re-alignment of our politics will take place, because people will be forced to decide whether liberalism or racialism will ensure their future. At the moment the United Party does not force this choice.

The Liberal Party does not anticipate that it will become the main opposition party overnight, but it believes that the United Party is today a prisoner of the prejudice that both it and the Nationalists have created in competition for votes. In consequence, the United Party has been obliged to make repeated concessions to conservatism in vain bids for votes. The future of the country demands that the United Party take a more realistic line on the colour question, and it is necessary to create a situation in which the United Party must be cautious that it does not lose votes to the Left. This caution cannot be shown in "double-talk" but must be translated into positive policy.

Informed

THE task of creating a vigorous and informed public opinion must be that of the Liberal Party. Pressure groups and non-political pressure organizations have been shown to have failed because they do not provide the competition for votes that marks a political party.

The Liberal Party is obliged to attack the United Party whenever United Party policy coincides with that of the Nationalists, and whenever the United Party surrenders unconditionally to the Government. The United Party-controlled City Council of Johannesburg has been guilty of such surrenders on recent occasions and the party was attacked with every justification.

It was as a result of vigorous attacks by the Liberal Party and other organizations that the United Party was obliged to issue a statement on the issuing of passes to African women. This is an excellent example of the great value of sustained and informed

The Liberal Party's objective in contesting seats against the United Party in municipal, provincial and national elections takes account of the need for a more realistic re-alignment of our politics. When the Liberal Party has been returned in one seat, the United Party will have to watch the quality of both its candidates and its policies. No longer will the party be able to be all things to all men. A more realistic alignment of policies in terms of Liberal and Conservative poles will be facilitated and accelerated so that South African Whites will be made more and more aware of the issues facing them.

Change of heart

THE day when the Liberal Party will win a seat is no longer so far off because liberally minded people are becoming increasingly aware that they are no longer at home in the United Party. There are pressures at home and abroad which also call for a change of heart.

The need for such a development is urgent if there is to be any hope of strengthening the hands of moderate non - White leaders, for the extreme policies of the present Government have raised the potential of exclusive African nationalism to fantastic proportions.

There may be no upheaval around the corner but the inflammatory material is there. At the very least there will be a terrible legacy of hate for the descendants of this generation.

Talking Politics . . .

by 'JUNIUS'

"HAS the intellectual Afrikaner a place in the Nationalist Party?" In an article in the "Vaderland" yesterday Mr. Fritz Steyn, M.P. for Kempton Park, discussed this interesting subject.

He is surprised "that this question has been put to me." He does not say who put the question, but the fact that he discusses the matter is a sign of the times.

MR. STEYN SAYS THAT THERE IS NOT ONLY A PLACE FOR INTELLECTUALS IN THE NATIONALIST PARTY BUT THERE IS GREAT NEED OF THEM.

He says that the Nationalist Party is the party of apartheid, "that totally new policy of delineation between races by means of a functional division between the various races inside one geographical entity."

According to Mr. Steyn it means that each race's living space and vocation are to be determined by economic, social and political functions allocated to it, "instead of the age-old pattern of division between races and nations by means of the division of living areas and the drawing of geographical boundaries."

Another way

That, of course, is another way of saying that apartheid is not to be total territorial apartheid.

But the main point in Mr. Steyn's thesis is that all this represents an intellectual challenge to the economist, the sociologist, the statesman.

They must define more closely all aspects of the functional division of a total population, so that its constituent parts retain their full production potential and activity.

This, Mr. Steyn says, is the primary task of the Nationalist Party — a task which calls and invites every thinker.

He discusses the criticism of some educated Afrikaners that the Nationalist Party offers them no place, and ascribes it partly to the fact that thus far "no systematic opportunity has been created for the big intellectual debate."

Then he proceeds to invite the intellectuals to create in their own terrain a sphere of activity bordering on the party organization.

He warns, however, that those who build the spiritual content of the party should not expect to be taken up in the organizational body of the party on the strength of their intellectual contribution.

The reason

I said at the beginning that this discussion of the place of the intellectual Afrikaner in the Nationalist Party is a sign of the times.

The reason, as I see it, is that with Mr. Strijdom has gone the last of the Nationalist leaders who were followed more or less blindly because of the faith and courage they displayed in dark days.

THE NEW PRIME MINISTER, DR. VERWOERD, IS NOT ONE OF THE OLD GUARD.

Dr. Verwoerd has already had one or two brushes with Afrikaans intellectuals and, unless men like Mr. Steyn try to avert it, there could develop an outright clash.

Unlike previous Nationalist leaders, Dr. Verwoerd will have to lead his party more by logic than by sentiment.

And it is in the field of the logics of apartheid that he is going to face his first test.

While many members of the Nationalist Party are still prepared to support apartheid as a nebulous device to preserve White civilization, an increasingly significant section want apartheid to be given a more positive content.

They want the idea of apartheid developed to meet the challenge represented by events in Africa; by events such as the granting of limited self-determination to Basutoland.

TO THEM THIS IS THE GREAT INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE.

These people, the Nationalist Party's "liberals," want apartheid to be put to the acid test as an alternative to equality.

They want the Afrikaner people to be faced fairly and squarely with the facts, even if this would mean that apartheid will have to be shorn of most of its political appeal.

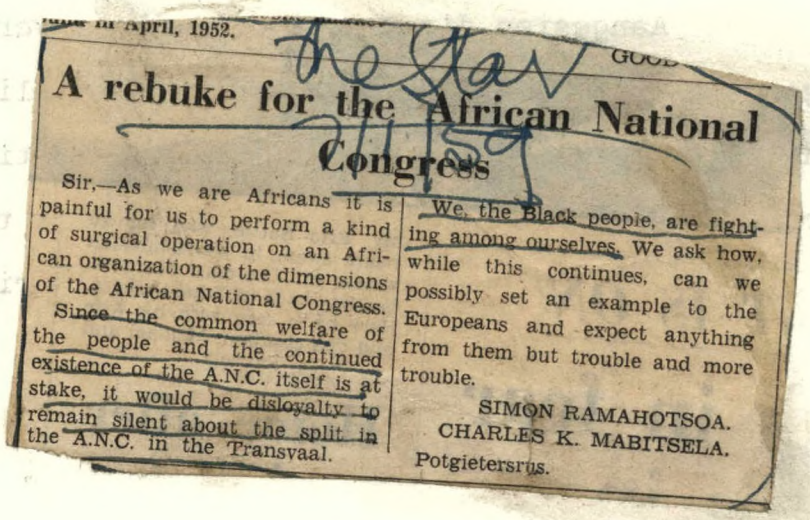
In the months ahead, particularly in the important parliamentary session which lies ahead, we shall see whether Dr. Verwoerd will be able to meet this challenge.

Is two-fold

It is, in fact, a two-fold challenge. He has to reconcile not only the demands of the intellectuals with the popular conceptions of the Nationalist rank-and-file about what apartheid means but also the demands of industrial expansion with the demands of apartheid.

Will he and his Cabinet colleagues, as Mr. Steyn suggests, create the opportunity for the intellectual Afrikaner to take part in a systematic intellectual debate on apartheid—a debate which will have to be honest, forthright and fearless to satisfy the temper of the Afrikaner intellectual?

Or are we going to have a repetition of events during the past year when Afrikaner intellectuals of standing were, in effect, told that they do not know what they are talking about—that they are armchair intellectuals ("Sitkamergeleerdes")?



...th April, 1952.

The Star

GOOD

A rebuke for the African National Congress

Sir,—As we are Africans it is painful for us to perform a kind of surgical operation on an African organization of the dimensions of the African National Congress.

Since the common welfare of the people and the continued existence of the A.N.C. itself is at stake, it would be disloyalty to remain silent about the split in the A.N.C. in the Transvaal.

We, the Black people, are fighting among ourselves. We ask how, while this continues, can we possibly set an example to the Europeans and expect anything from them but trouble and more trouble.

SIMON RAMAHOTSOA.
CHARLES K. MABITSELA.
Potgietersrus.

Rand Daily Mail

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1959

MINDS AND BODIES

REPORTS from Leopoldville suggest that one of the factors in the riots there is the discontent of the unemployed. There are said to be 50,000 Africans out of work in the town and this is a dangerously high figure in a population of 300,000. In Johannesburg this would mean 100,000 idle Africans. Political agitation inevitably flourishes in such circumstances of economic distress.

This gives special point to the speech which Professor Lewis, of Ghana, made at the week-end to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa now sitting in Addis Ababa. Apparently irritated by the amount of time that the Commission had wasted on profitless political discussions, Professor Lewis urged the members to confine themselves to practical financial matters and to work out some realistic plans for improving the economic co-operation of African states. In this down-to-earth attitude he was backed by Chief Ekotie-Eboh, from Nigeria, who begged the Commission to cut the cackle and get down to business.

It is encouraging that these voices should have been raised at the Commission's inaugural meeting, but the same point will probably need stressing again and again, since it is one of the defects of African nationalist thinking that economics comes a very poor second to politics. It is much easier to demand freedom than it is to pay for it; yet none of the basic problems of economic backwardness is going to be solved by paper constitutions. Poverty is the primeval curse of Africa, and unless it is tackled, all the freedom talk in the world cannot do much more than change the colour of a flag here and there and substitute a few black faces for a few white ones.

As the "Economist" has pointed out, one of the problems of Africa to-day is to rectify a lack of balance by working for economic betterment in the politically advanced territories and for political advancement in those that are more economically mature. In Central Africa, it could be said, heads are too full and stomachs too empty. Perhap's Leopoldville is a small example of what can happen in these circumstances.

RAND DAILY MAIL, JOHANNESBURG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1959.

YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A tax-payer's formula for

PUNISHMENT TO FIT THE CRIME

AS the Minister of Finance, Dr. Dönges, will soon be preparing another budget onslaught on the little man, may I suggest, very humbly of course, that he consider the following:

● Double the rates on all undeveloped or unused land. The extra rates to the central Government coffers, the old rates to local authorities as usual. This will encourage building or cultivation and discourage land speculation. Landowners, of whom I am one, will find it expedient to dispose of property, which they cannot afford to develop, to buyers with sufficient capital to do so.

● **All slum and badly dilapidated properties to pay double rates on the same basis. As old properties have by their very age been fully amortized, such assets can easily carry the extra tax. When such properties are sold it is either for speculation or demolishing for subsequent rebuilding. If the former, the tax is justified; if the latter, the very act of rebuilding will cancel the tax. Should the properties be worth renovating, the owner could do this and bring the old rates in force.**

● Where urban and peri-urban areas are retarded from economic development by antiquated or restrictive local bye-laws, the local authorities to be penalised by the difference of rateable value if up-to-date and impartial zoning were in force. The revenue from rectifying this urban negligence could flow into the general loan account to the relief of the little man.

● **All local authorities to be subject to an annual fee per head of their employees in excess of a determined ratio of employees to population. This servant to service ratio will reduce municipal expenditure to an efficient minimum.**

Insatiable Demands

No doubt other readers could furnish different methods of appeasing the insatiable financial demands of Government. The one who foots the bill does not have any say as to how the money is spent, so he is surely entitled to advocate the manner of extortion.

As an added relief, the tax-payer should have the privilege of being able to declare what percentage of his taxes are to be allocated for politicians salaries, and only the amount collected from all taxpayers for this specific purpose should be used for M.P.'s wage bill.

Such a scheme could be taken to its logical conclusion and allow the poor tax-payer to name the politicians worthy of his pay-roll.

Certainly the unworthy ones would soon be forced to abdicate. This would indeed be true democracy—P. H. MURREY.

UARY 7, 1959. Established 1902.
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MEETING ROW GOES A STEP FURTHER

R Daily Mail

Mixed party ban may go to Parliament

UNLESS the Johannesburg City Council was prepared to co-operate in the banning of mixed drinking parties in European areas, he would have to consider asking Parliament to relieve the Council of its responsibilities in such matters and entrust responsibility for action to the State alone, said the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr. M. D. C. de Wet Nel, in a statement issued in Pretoria yesterday.

The statement read: "Much publicity was given recently to the problem of mixed parties in Johannesburg and the efforts of the State to rectify the position.

"It was with the express purpose of coping with such an undesirable position that Parliament provided for a clause in the Urban Areas Act to enable the Government and local authorities in whose areas such undesirable things happen to take joint action.

"Undesirable conditions which threaten the peaceful co-existence of societies may be brought to the notice either of the local authority or the Government.

"The body who becomes aware of the facts first is obliged, however, first to notify and then to get the co-operation of the other party before action can be taken.

Not possible

"It is quite clear that it could never be in the public interest, and that it was never the intention of the Legislature, that such a matter should be made public before agreement was reached between the local authority and the Government, because without agreement no action is possible.

"Argument about the Johannesburg City Council's reply before the end of the prescribed period is therefore, only of secondary interest.

"What was wrong, however, was that the reply was sent with the knowledge of the Press, which led to an unnecessary and uncalled for propaganda campaign. My objection is that the Council did not see to it that a matter which was still *sub-judice* was treated confidentially.

"What any informed person would have expected, and the Johannesburg City Council is no exception, happened. The whole affair was seized on by the English Press for propaganda purposes and exploited in a most irresponsible manner.

Glad to talk

"The real facts about the matter can be summed up as follows:

"For some time I have been worried about certain mixed gatherings which are being held by irresponsible persons and which are un-South African and subversive in nature. Naturally, I thought the City Council was also aware of this and of the very harmful influence of these gatherings.

"In the prescribed way, I took the initiative and asked the City Council, as my partner in this matter, for its co-operation, trusting that the position would be rectified.

"Naturally if the Council had

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MR. DE WET NEL . . .
Mixed parties 'un-South African and subversive'

NATS. HAD NEWS OF THE BAN FIRST

Municipal Reporter

MR. DE WET NEL accuses the "English Press" of seizing upon the "meetings ban" for propaganda purposes and of exploiting it "in a most irresponsible manner" while it should still have been regarded as confidential.

But a Johannesburg Nationalist newspaper, the "Vaderland," was the first to report that Mr. Nel wanted to ban "any gathering or meeting, including any social gathering, in the urban area of Johannesburg . . ." if it were attended by an African.

This is only one of the contra--dictions that emerge after Mr. Nel's latest statement to the Press.

On Tuesday, December 30, the "Vaderland's" Rand political correspondent wrote that Mr. Nel had told Johannesburg City Council that he intended to ban gatherings between Whites and Blacks in the city.

NO CORRECTION

The report also said that he could only enforce the ban if the Johannesburg City Council did not object.

The "Vaderland" has not yet printed a contradiction of its original report.

Mr. Nel now says that he wishes to ban only "mixed drinking parties." Yet the "Vaderland," as well as the "English Press" reported: "Only gatherings organised exclusively for church or other religious purposes, or a school, hospital or similar institution will fall outside the ban."

In his latest statement, Mr. Nel also says "without agreement (from the Johannesburg City Council) no action is possible."

But his chief information officer, Mr. C. W. Prinsloo said last weekend that the Minister need not bother about any objection from the council.

DETAIL SOUGHT

Mr. Nel also says "If the Council had any doubts about the matter I would have been gladly available for any discussions with a deputation. Discussions or an extension of the prescribed period were never asked for."

But in its reply to Mr. Nel's orinigal approach, the Council told him that too little detail had been given.

The Council also said that in its view: "The effect of the notice which the Minister proposes to issue will be to prohibit virtually all meetings in the open and even meetings in halls and private houses . . ."

The Minister now says he intends to ban only "mixed drink-

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