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Voorwaarts

INCORPORATING INSPAN AND THE S.A. REVIEW

Monthly Newsletter. United South African National Party. P.O. Box 3835 Johannesburg. Telephone 23-9191.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper.

March, 1972

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Transvaal Municipal Elections

**Landslide
or
Earthquake?**

THE political tide has inexorably turned against the Nationalist Party in the Transvaal and the swing away from that Party is continuing.

This was dramatically confirmed by the results of the recent municipal elections which were not only of significance to the Transvaal, but also to the rest of the Republic.

In the most densely populated area of the Northern province — in fact of the Republic — in the economic and industrial hub of South Africa, the majority of voters showed unmistakably that the desire for a change is gaining momentum. From the West to the East and to the North Rand and to a lesser extent further afield to Pretoria, voters have demonstrated their disillusionment with the Nationalist régime. The results have shown that the trend which started against the Government during the sixties and gained momentum in both the General and Provincial elections of 1970, is now clearly established and growing fast. Nothing is going to stop this tide away from the Government, a tide which will eventually sweep the Nationalists out of office and once again put a United Party Government in power.

Lost touch

Whatever excuses Nationalist apologists may advance for their severe setback in the political landslide — or was it an earthquake? — in which they were caught, one important fact is as plain as a pikestaff: the Nationalist Party and its leaders have lost touch with the ordinary people.

And a very large percentage of them are Afrikaans-speaking workers who now realise that the Nationalist Party no longer forms the so-called “poor man’s Party”, but is probably the wealthiest political party in the world; that the gulf between Nationalist Cabinet Ministers as well as other leaders and the working classes is growing. Long, black, sleek, shiny motor cars and jalopies of ordinary wage-earners, the producers of our wealth, do not, after all, go into the same garage. Hence the fact that wage-earner constituencies on especially the Witwatersrand are turning to the United Party.

The victories

The significant victories of the United Party on March 1 — a day which will be written in the annals of the Transvaal as a day of disaster for the Nationalists — can be summarised as follows:

JOHANNESBURG: The United Party increased its representation from 29 to 36 and reduced the number of Nat councillors from 17 to 10.

RANDBURG: The United Party, with previously only one sympathiser, succeeded in winning eight of the ten wards and is now in complete control.

GERMISTON: With only four supporters before, the United Party now holds six in the Council consisting of twelve members.

SPRINGS: The United Party reduced the Nationalist influence by electing five supporters to a Council consisting of twelve members in which it had only four known supporters before.

ROODEPOORT: With one solitary supporter before in a Council consisting of fifteen members, the United Party now has five representatives.

BENONI: The elections were non-political, but control is now in the hands of eight independents known to favour the United Party.

PRETORIA: For the first time in years there are three councillors who are not Nationalist supporters.

These impressive achievements give further encouragement to thousands of United Party people who for two decades and longer have stood firm in their belief in the aims and principles of the United Party, in their belief in a way of life as represented by the United Party. These supporters are now more than ever aware of the fact that their Party is back on the road to victory. They are at the same time, however, also aware of the fact that the immediate future will demand from them further exertion, hard work, sacrifice and dedication before we can reap the fruits of victory which is now within the grasp of the United Party. They are undoubtedly prepared for those demands.



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Kicks and Ha'pence ...

PASS IT ON

Roy P. McIntyre, Chairman Sundays River Branch — Could all those who receive "Onward/Voorwaarts" not pass it on to someone else after they have finished reading it?

(An excellent suggestion to help spread information. — Editor.)

WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT US

Robert N. Morris, Indianapolis, U.S.A. — As an American I am interested in South African affairs and politics and would like to discuss them with Young South Africans of the United Party by corresponding with

them in English. I would be grateful if you could assist me in finding correspondents.

(Young South Africans of the United Party who are interested and wish to correspond with Mr. Morris, can do so direct. His address is: 3532E 10th Street, Apt. 4, Indianapolis. Indiana 46201. United States of America. — Editor.)

HOW MOTORISTS SUFFER UNDER SELECTIVE TAXES

THE United Party stands back for nobody in regard to the promotion of road safety and the prevention of death on the roads. It was in fact a United Party Government who, during the forties, realised the enormous losses to the country, not only the loss of life but also the economic losses, as a result of the increasing number of road accidents.

It was a United Party Government who was responsible for the first systematic and concerted effort to reduce the number of road accidents and their resultant losses. It was during the régime of the United Party under Gen. Smuts that the first Road Safety Council was established in 1947. A United Party Government, therefore, also took the lead in respect of this particular problem.

The United Party consequently agrees wholeheartedly with measures, legislative as well as others, which are aimed at fighting road accidents and reducing the human and economic loss which we, as a small growing country, cannot afford. For that reason the United Party supported, with certain reservations, recent legislation to promote road safety.

National responsibility

Road safety is a national responsibility. That being so, everybody using our roads should contribute to the cost of road safety. Hence the objection of the United Party to the extra

tax of 50 cents — selective taxation as Mr. Marais Steyn called it — which every motorist has to pay on his compulsory third party insurance to finance a new national road safety council.

The heavy burden in taxation which the South African motorist is already carrying, is not generally known. Mr. Marais Steyn, however, lifted the veil when he explained in Parliament why the United Party agreed in principle that road accidents had to be fought but why the motorist alone should not be responsible for the selective taxation which the Government was imposing. The burden of the motorist came to the staggering figure of R328 621 000 in 1970 — an average of R140 per motorist — compared with a total amount of R317 900 000 paid in personal income tax in 1970-71. This staggering total was made up as follows:

Customs and/or excise duty on petrol	R99 712 000
Customs and/or excise duty on diesel fuels	10 874 000
Customs and/or excise duty on motor vehicles	52 497 000
Customs and/or excise duty on tyres and tubes	714 000
Customs and/or excise duty on oils and greases	187 000
Customs and/or excise duty on spares and replacements	9 673 000
Government profit on petrol conveyed through pipe lines & rail	52 112 000
Provincial motor registration and licence fees	62 852 000
Sales tax on motor vehicles, tyres and batteries	40 000 000

TOTAL R328 621 000

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Our Public Debt: R655 500 more every day

THE public debt of our country for which every taxpayer has to take responsibility, increased under the Nationalist Party Government by R655 500 per day or R27 312 every hour during the 1970-71 financial year.

This is the picture one gets from figures supplied by the Controller and Auditor-General for the financial year 1970-71. During that year the public debt increased by R239 258 167, representing an increase in long-term (stock and bond) debt of R123 547 884 and an increase in short-term (temporary) debt of R115 710 283.

The total debt at March 31, 1971, was R5 450 789 148 — R4 905 655 272 long-term and R545 133 876 short term debt.

The Railway Administration's share of this debt was R2 588 329 308.

Of the total debt as at March 31, 1971, 4,53% was external and 95,47% internal debt, compared with 2,41% and 97,59% respectively at March 31, 1970.

R232 million more

The Auditor-General points out that the net public debt after allowing for R99 867 546 covered by sinking fund holdings (nominal value) at March 31, 1971, was R5 350 921 602 — an increase of R232 790 553 as compared with the net debt of R5 118 131 049 at the close of the previous year.

The total interest paid on the public debt during the year amounted to R289 760 420.

Merely for the record: the total public debt under a United Party Government amounted to R1 217 960 000 on March 31, 1948. In 23 years under a Nationalist Government it has increased by R4 232 829 148.

Strange world of the Nats

IT'S a strange world; but that of the Nationalists is more so.

Nationalists, from the highest to the lowest, never stop talking about Communism, a doctrine which we of the United Party together with the rest of the free world abhor and reject most emphatically.

Nationalist Cabinet Ministers never seem to miss an opportunity to profess their revulsion to everything Communist. When it comes to trade, however, one does not find the same deep conviction. Furthermore, there is apparently not the same measure of objection to things Communist.

South Africa buys substantially from Red countries, obviously with the approval of Nationalist Cabinet Ministers, as not one of them, as far as we are aware, has ever publicly objected to it.

From January to October 1971 (ten months) products to the value of R3 328 500 were imported from Communist countries, according to a reply which the Minister of Economic Affairs (Mr. Lourens Muller) gave to a question asked in Parliament on February 8, 1972.

Imports from Red countries were:

Soviet Union for	R128 600
Czechoslovakia for	R2 216 400
East Germany for	R430 300
Hungary for	R553 200

An interesting aspect was that these imports included works of art, collector's pieces and antiques to the value of R161 296 — all presumably vital to the economy of the country.

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BASIC NAT PRINCIPLE IS THROWN OVERBOARD

DR. PIET KOORNHOF, Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration and Education, created quite a flutter in the Nationalist dovescots when he made his recent surprise announcement in Parliament that married Bantu would in future be allowed to bring their wives to White areas and cities to live with them under certain conditions.

He said the Government had decided that a Bantu who was "reasonably permanently" established in a White area and who married a woman from either the homelands or the platteland, would be able to bring his bride into the White area, provided suitable housing was obtainable; that married Bantu teachers living in urban areas and who were transferred would be able to take their families with them and receive priority for housing.

That statement contained two salient features:

1. It was a radical departure from established Nat policy and an abandonment of a basic principle in that policy affecting the family life of urban Bantu;
2. It was useless and futile in its practicability and would in all probability prove to be meaningless.

In spite of his denial, Dr. Koornhof's statement cut across the accepted policy of his Government that the Bantu was a sojourner on a temporary basis in the "White" areas and could not establish himself on a "family basis". The majority of Nationalists, if not all of them, had accepted this as a cardinal point in their thinking that the Bantu could never be permanently in "White" areas. They had to be repatriated to their own homelands.

The Nat policy

That this was the policy, was clearly stated by Mr. Sampie Froneman, the present Administrator of the Free State, in a speech which he made in 1968 as Chairman of the Bantu Affairs Commission. It was such an important speech that it was released literally word for word as an official document by the Department of Bantu Administration. This is what he said:

"Bearing in mind the fact that slightly more than 2 million Bantu are economically active in the White homelands (in other words, working in the White areas) and that approximately 6 million Bantu find themselves in White areas, one gets an idea of the magnitude of the task still lying ahead."

And what was the task to which Mr. Froneman referred?

"To resettle these non-economically active Bantu, six million of them, in the Bantu homelands."

It only meant that out of eight million Bantu, six million, i.e. three-quarters, had to go back to the homelands.

Futile

Dr. Koornhof's statement was, however, useless and futile in its practicability because the Deputy Minister either did not do his homework properly or was aware that this "logical enfoldment" (the term he used in his announcement) of Government policy could and would not in fact be carried out to a meaningful extent.

Was this another statement merely for "overseas consumption", with the door left wide open to placate those Nats who are feeling unhappy over the new development, by whispering that the "policy" cannot in fact be carried out?

To implement this "logical enfoldment" of Nat policy meaningfully the Deputy Minister and his Government need houses — thousands of them. Where are they? Dr. Koornhof said his Government would do everything possible to make the houses available. They are certainly not available at the moment.

The following are only a few examples of the present situation:

PRETORIA: A backlog of 8 000 family houses for local Bantu who already qualify for a house. Eighteen months ago the Pretoria City Council decided not to build any more houses in its two large Bantu townships.

PORT ELIZABETH: A reported shortfall of nearly 12 000 houses.

JOHANNESBURG: A reported shortfall of 14 000 houses — a backlog which, according to Mr. J. F. Oberholzer, M.P.C. and Leader of the United Party in the City Council, would cost more than R6 000 000 to overtake.

What about the other main city centres? Is the Government prepared to build houses in their thousands for the Bantu in urban areas?

Has Dr. Koornhof worked out how many Bantu would be affected?

Those in the know have expressed the view that the number would be very small. If they are right, then the "enfoldment" of Nat policy which does not satisfy many Nationalists and bluffs nobody, is indeed meaningless.

This is our attitude

"IF one accepts the results of a policy, it does not mean that one supports that policy. We are opposing the policy to create sovereign independent Bantustans every inch of the road and shall continue to do so. But when the day arrives before we assume power that these areas had progressed towards independence or to the brink of independence, we shall, when we return to power, face reality. We shall accept it, but we shall immediately negotiate with all the authority of the state to bring them back into a federal relationship with the rest of South Africa. The story that we were supposed to have said that we now accept the policy of independent, sovereign Bantustans is untrue." — Mr. Marais Steyn, Parliament, February 3, 1972.

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During the previous year Dr. Diederichs took a gross amount of R97 393 391 from our pockets. The increase in 1970-71 was mainly due to the imposition of higher taxes on certain commodities.

Profit of Reserve Bank

SINCE the establishment of the South African Reserve Bank by the Government of Gen. Smuts in 1921 an amount of R91 965 661 has accrued to the State up to March 31, 1971.

The Controller and Auditor-General points out in his report for the 1970-71 financial year that an amount of R6 072 384 accrued from the Bank to the State during the financial year ended March 31, 1971.

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Editor: C. A. P. Viljoen.

Consulting Editor: Marais Steyn, M.P.

All articles in this issue by C. A. P. Viljoen, Republic Building, 84 Noord Street, Johannesburg. Issued by the Owner and Publisher, the United Party, 84 Noord St., Johannesburg and printed by Pacific Press (Pty.) Ltd., 302 Fox St., Johannesburg.

Voorwaarts

Onward

WAARBY INGELYF IS INSPAN EN DIE S.A. REVIEW

Maandelikse Nuusbrief. Verenigde Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Party. Posbus 3835 Johannesburg. Tel. 23-9191

Geregistreer aan die H.P.K. as 'n nuusblad.

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Grondverskuiwing of Aardskudding?

DIE politieke gety het onverbiddelik teen die Nat Party in Transvaal gedraai en die swaai weg van daardie Party duur voort.

Dit is dramaties deur die uitslae in die onlangse stadsraadsverkiesings bevestig wat nie slegs van betekenis vir die Transvaal was nie, maar ook vir die Republiek.

In die mees digbevolkte gebied van die Noordelike Provinsie — inderdaad van die Republiek — in die ekonomiese en industriële hartland van Suid-Afrika, het die meerderheid kiesers onmiskenbaar getoon dat die verlange na 'n verandering groter dryfkrag kry. Van die Wes- na die Oos- en na die Noord-Rand en tot 'n mindere mate verder weg na Pretoria, het kiesers bewys gelewer van hul ontnugtering in die Nat bewind. Die uitslae het getoon dat die neiging wat in die sestigerjare teen die Regering ingetree en sowel die Algemene as Provinsiale verkiesing in 1970 dryfkrag gekry het, nou duidelik te sien is en vinnig toeneem. Niks gaan hierdie stroom weg van die Regering stuit nie, 'n stroom wat die Nattes ewentueel uit die kussings gaan loswoel en weer 'n Verenigde Party aan bewind gaan bring.

Voeling verloor

Watter verskonings Nat apologete ook al mag aanvoer vir die ernstige terugslag in die politieke grondverskuiwing — of was dit 'n aardskudding? — waarin hulle gevang is, staan een belangrike faktor soos 'n paal bo water: Die Nat Party en sy leiers het voeling met die gewone man verloor.

En 'n baie groot persentasie van hulle is Afrikaanssprekende werkers wat nou besef dat die Nat Party nie langer die sogenaamde "armmansparty" vorm nie, maar waarskynlik die rykste politieke party ter wêreld is; dat die kloof tussen Nat ministers sowel as ander leiers en die werkende klasse al wyer word. Lang, swart, slap, blink motors en die tjorries van gewone loontrekkers, die mense wat ons rykdom produseer, gaan per slot van rekening nie in dieselfde motorhuise nie. Vandaar die feit dat werkerskiesafdelings op veral die Rand na die Verenigde Party oorhel.

Die oorwinnings

Die betekenisvolle oorwinnings wat die Verenigde Party op 1 Maart behaal het — 'n dag wat in die annale van Transvaal aangeteken sal staan as 'n rampspoedige dag vir die Nattes — kan as volg opgesom word:

JOHANNESBURG: Die Verenigde Party het sy verteenwoordiging van 29 tot 36 uitgebrei en die getal Nat raadslede van 17 tot 10 verminder.

RANDBURG: Die Verenigde Party wat voorheen slegs een ondersteuner gehad het, het daarin geslaag om agt uit die tien wyke te wen en het nou algehele beheer.

GERMISTON: Met tevore slegs vier ondersteuners, het die Verenigde Party nou ses in 'n Raad wat uit twaalf lede bestaan.

SPRINGS: Die Verenigde Party het die Nat invloed verminder deur vyf ondersteuners te verkies op 'n Raad van twaalf waarop hy voorheen slegs vier erkende ondersteuners gehad het.

ROODEPOORT: Met slegs een enkele ondersteuner in 'n Raad van vyftien lede, het die Verenigde Party nou vyf verteenwoordigers.

BENONI: Die verkiesings is hier nie op politieke grondslag gevoer nie, maar beheer berus nou by agt onafhanklikes van wie bekend is dat hulle ten gunste van die Verenigde Party is.

PRETORIA: Vir die eerste keer in jare is daar drie raadslede wat beslis nie Nat is nie.

Hierdie indrukwekkende prestasies dien as verdere aanmoediging vir die duisende mense van die Verenigde Party wat twee dekades en langer pal gestaan het in hul geloof in die doelstellings en beginsels van die Verenigde Party, in hul geloof in 'n lewenswyse wat deur die Verenigde Party verteenwoordig word. Hierdie ondersteuners is nou meer as ooit tevore bewus van die feit dat hul Party terug is op die pad na 'n oorwinning. Terselfdertyd is hulle egter ook bewus van die feit dat die naaste toekoms van hulle sal verg verdere inspanning, harde werk, opoffering en toewyding voordat ons die vrugte van die oorwinning kan pluk wat nou binne bereik van die Verenigde Party is. Hulle is ongetwyfeld oorgehaal vir daardie eise,

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GEE DIT AAN ANDER

Roy P. McIntyre, Voorsitter Tak Sondagsrivier — Kan almal wat Voorwaarts/Onward ontvang, dit nie aan iemand anders gee nadat hulle dit gelees het nie?

(’n Uitstekende wenk om inligting te help versprei. — Redakteur.)

WIL VAN ONS LEER

Robert N. Morris, Indianapolis, U.S.A. — As Amerikaner stel ek belang in Suid-Afrikaanse aangeleenthede en politiek en sou ek dit graag met Jong Suid-Afrikaners van die Verenigde Party deur korrespondensie in

Engels wil bespreek. Ek sal dit waardeur as u my kan help om korrespondente te vind.

(Jong Suid-Afrikaners van die Verenigde Party wat belang stel en met mnr. Morris wil korrespondeer, kan dit regstreeks doen. Sy adres is 3532E, 10th Street, Apt. 4, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201, United States of America. — Redakteur.)

HOE MOTORISTE ONDER SELEKTIEWE BELASTINGS LY

DIE Verenigde Party staan vir niemand terug ten opsigte van die bevordering van padveiligheid en die hou van die dood van ons paaie nie. Dit was inderdaad ’n Regering van die Verenigde Party wat in die jare veertig die enorme verliese, nie slegs lewensverliese nie, maar ook die ekonomiese verliese, besef het wat deur ’n toeneemende getal padongelukke veroorsaak word.

Dit was ’n Regering van die Verenigde Party wat verantwoordelik was vir die eerste stelselmatige en beplande optrede om die getal padongelukke en die verliese wat daaruit voorspruit, te verminder. Dit was tydens die bewind van die Verenigde Party onder genl. Smuts dat die eerste Padveiligheidsraad in 1947 in die lewe geroep is. ’n Verenigde Partybewind het dus ook in verband met hierdie bepaalde vraagstuk die voortou geneem.

Die Verenigde Party gaan derhalwe heelhartig akkoord met maatreëls, wetgewend sowel as ander, wat daarop bereken is om padongelukke te bestry en die mense- en ekonomiese verliese te verminder wat ons, as klein groeiende land, nie kan bekostig nie. Om die rede het die Verenigde Party onlangs, met sekere voorbehoude, wetgewing gesteun om padveiligheid te bevorder.

Landsverantwoordelikheid

Padveiligheid is ’n landsverantwoordelikheid. Waar dit die geval is, behoort iedereen wat van ons paaie gebruik maak, hy te dra tot die koste

van padveiligheid. Vandaar die beswaar van die Verenigde Party teen die ekstra belasting van 50 sent — ’n selektiewe belasting soos mnr. Marais Steyn dit beskryf het — wat elke motoris op sy verpligte derde partyversekering moet betaal om ’n nuwe nasionale padveiligheidsraad te finansier.

Die enorme belastinglas wat die Suid-Afrikaanse motoris reeds dra, is nie algemeen bekend nie. Mnr. Marais Steyn het die sluiers daarvoor gelig toe hy in die Volksraad verduidelik het waarom die Verenigde Party in beginsel daarvoor is dat padongelukke bestry word, maar waarom die motoris nie alleen verantwoordelik behoort te wees vir die selektiewe belasting wat die Regering oplê nie. Die las op die motoris het in 1971 op die enorme syfer van R328 620 000 te staan gekom — gemiddeld R140 per motoris — in vergelyking met ’n totale bedrag van R317 900 000 in 1970-71 aan persoonlike inkomstebelasting betaal.

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Ons Staatskuld : elke dag R655 500 meer

DIE staatskuld van ons land waarvoor elke belastingbetaler verantwoordelikheid moet neem, het in 1970-71 onder die Nat Regering met R655 500 per dag of R27 312 elke uur toegeneem.

Dit is die prentjie wat mens kry uit syfers wat deur die Kontroleur en Ouditeur-generaal vir die diensjaar 1970-71 verstrek word. In daardie jaar het die staatskuld met R239 258 167 toegeneem. Dit maak 'n toename in langtermynskuld (effekte en obligasies) van R123 547 884 en 'n toename in korttermyn- (tydelike) skuld van R115 710 283 uit.

Die totale skuld was op 31 Maart 1971 R5 450 789 148 — R4 905 655 272 langtermynskuld en die saldo van R545 133 876 korttermynskuld.

Die Spoorwegadministrasie se deel van hierdie skuld was R2 588 329 308.

Van die totale staatskuld op 31 Maart 1971 was 4,53% buitelandse en 95,47% binnelandse skuld, vergeleke met onderskeidelik 2,41% en 97,59% in 1970.

R232 miljoen meer

Die Ouditeur-generaal wys daarop dat die netto staatskuld na aftrekking van R99 867 546 gedek deur beleggings wat op 31 Maart 1971 deur die delgingsfonds (nominale waarde) gehou is, R5 350 921 602 was — 'n toename van R232 790 553 vergeleke met die netto skuld van R5 118 131 049 aan die einde van die vorige jaar.

Die totale rente wat tydens die jaar op die staatskuld betaal is, het R289 760 420 beloop.

Net om onthou te word: die totale staatskuld het onder die bewind van die Verenigde Party op 31 Maart 1948 R1 217 960 000 beloop. In 23 jaar onder 'n Nat Regering het die skuld met R4 232 829 148 toegeneem.

Snaakse wêreld van die Nattes

DIS 'n snaakse wêreld; maar dié van die Nattes is nog snaakser.

Nattes, van die hoogste tot die laagste, raak nooit uitgepraat oor Kommunisme nie, 'n leerstelling wat ons, in die Verenigde Party, saam met die res van die vrye wêreld, verafsku en baie beslis verwerp.

Nat Ministers skyn nooit 'n geleentheid verby te laat gaan om hul afkeer in alles wat Kommunisties is uit te spreek nie. Wanneer dit egter op die handel aankom, vind mens nie dieselfde diep oortuiging nie. Nog meer: daar is oënskynlik nie dieselfde mate van beswaar teen wat Kommunisties is nie.

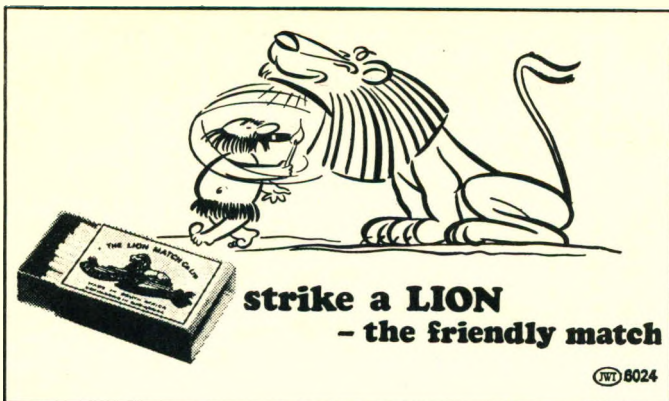
Suid-Afrika koop aansienlik van Rooi lande, klaarblyklik met die goedkeuring van die Nat Ministers, aangesien nie een van hulle, sover ons bewus is, ooit in die openbaar daarteen beswaar gemaak het nie.

Van Januarie tot Oktober 1971 (tien maande) is produkte ter waarde van R3 328 500 uit Kommunistiese lande ingevoer, volgens 'n antwoord wat die Minister van Ekonomiese Sake (mnr. Lourens Muller) op 8 Februarie 1972 in die Volksraad op 'n vraag verstrek het.

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'n Interessante aspek is dat hierdie invoer kunswerke, versamelaarstukke en antieke ten bedrae van R161 296 ingesluit het — alles vermoedelik van die uiterste belang vir die ekonomie van die land.



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BASIESE NAT BEGINSSEL IS DAARMEE HEEN

DR. PIET KOORNHOF, adjunk-Minister van Bantoe-administrasie en Onderwys, het 'n hele gefladder in die Nat duiwehok veroorsaak toe hy onlangs die verrassende aankondiging in die Volksraad gedoen het dat getroude Bantoes in die toekoms toegelaat sal word om hul vrouens na wit gebiede en stede te bring om onder sekere voorwaardes by hulle te woon.

Hy het gesê dat die Regering besluit het dat 'n Bantoe wat „redelik permanent” in 'n wit gebied gevestig en getroud is met 'n vrou uit of 'n tuisland of die platteland, toegelaat sal word om sy vrou na die wit gebied te bring, mits geskikte huisvesting beskikbaar is; dat getroude Bantoe-onderwysers wat in stedelike gebiede woon en verplaas word, in staat sal wees om hul gesinne saam met hulle te neem en voorkeur ten opsigte van behuising sal kry.

Daardie verklaring hou twee belangrike kenmerke in:

1. Dit is 'n radikale afwyking van die aanvaarde Nat beleid en 'n versaking van die basiese beginsel in daardie beleid rakende die gesinslewe van die stedelike Bantoe;
2. Dit is nutteloos en futiel in sy uitvoerbaarheid en sal waarskynlik betekenisloos blyk te wees.

Ondanks sy ontkenning het dr. Koornhof se verklaring ingedruis teen die aanvaarde beleid van sy Regering dat die Bantoe 'n vreemdeling op tydelike grondslag in die “wit” gebiede is en homself nie op 'n “gesinsbasis” kan vestig nie. Die meeste Nattes, indien nie almal nie, het dit aanvaar as 'n kardinale punt in hul denke dat die Bantoe nooit permanent in die “wit” gebiede kan wees nie. Hulle moes na hul eie tuislande gerepatrieer word.

Die Nat beleid

Dat dit die beleid was, is duidelik verklaar deur mnr. Sampie Froneman, die huidige Administrateur van die Vrystaat, toe hy in 1968 as voorsitter van die Bantoesakekommissie gepraat het. Dit was so belangrik dat die Departement van Bantoe-administrasie dit in 'n amp telike stuk woord vir woord vrygestel het. Dis wat hy gesê het:

“As mens daaraan dink dat daar net so 'n rapsie meer as 2 miljoen Bantoes in die blanke tuislande ekonomies bedrywig is (m.a.w. in die blanke gebiede werk) en dat sowat 6 miljoen Bantoes hulle in blanke gebiede bevind, dan kry 'n mens 'n beeld van die omvang van die taak wat nog voorlê.”

En wat is die taak waarna mnr. Froneman verwys het?

“Om hierdie nie-ekonomies-bedrywige Bantoes, 6 miljoen van hulle, in die Bantoe-tuislande te hervestig.”

Dit het alleen beteken dat van die 8 miljoen Bantoes, 6 miljoen, of driekwart, moet terug na die tuislande.

Futiel

Dr. Koornhof se verklaring was egter nutteloos en futiel in sy uitvoerbaarheid omdat die adjunk-Minister of nie sy skoolwerk behoorlik gedoen het nie of daarvan bewus was dat hierdie „logiese ontplooiing” (die uitdrukking wat hy in sy aankondiging gebruik het) van regeringsbeleid inderdaad nie in 'n betekenisvolle mate uitgevoer kan en sal word nie.

Was dit maar nog 'n verklaring vir „oorsese konsumpsie”, met die deur wawyd oop gelaat om daardie Nattes, wat ongelukkig oor die nuwe verwickeling voel, te kan paai met 'n fluistering dat die „beleid” tog nie uitgevoer kan word nie?

Om hierdie „logiese ontplooiing” van die Nat beleid betekenisvol toe te pas, het die adjunk-Minister en sy Regering huise nodig — duisende van hulle. Waar is hulle? Dr. Koornhof het gesê dat sy Regering alles in sy vermoë sal doen om die huise beskikbaar te stel. Hulle is beslis nie tans daar nie.

Die volgende is slegs 'n paar voorbeelde van die huidige situasie:

PRETORIA: 'n Agterstand van 8 000 gesinshuise vir plaaslike Bantoes wat reeds vir 'n huis kwalifiseer. Agtien maande gelede het die Pretoriase Stadsraad besluit om nie meer huise in sy twee groot Bantoe-stadsgebiede te bou nie.

PORT ELIZABETH: Berig word dat daar 'n tekort van 12 000 huise is.

JOHANNESBURG: Berig is dat daar 'n tekort van 14 000 huise is — 'n agterstand wat volgens mnr. J. F. Oberholzer, L.P.R. en Leier van die Verenigde Party in die Stadsraad, meer as R6 000 000 sal kos om in te haal.

Wat van die ander groot sentra? Is die Regering bereid om in die stedelike gebiede huise by die duisende vir Bantoes te bou?

Het dr. Koornhof uitgewerk hoeveel Bantoes geraak sal word? Diegene wat kennis dra, het gesê dat die getal klein sal wees. As hulle dit juis het, dan is die „ontplooiing” van Nat beleid wat baie Nattes nie aanstaan nie en niemand bluf nie, mos betekenisloos.

Dit is ons houding

„AS 'n mens die gevolge van 'n beleid aanvaar, beteken dit nie jy steun daardie beleid nie. Ons beveg die beleid vir die skepping van soewerein onafhanklike Bantoesians elke tree en ons sal voortgaan om dit te doen. Maar as die dag kom voordat ons die bewind oorneem, dat daardie gebiede gevorder het tot onafhanklikheid of tot die punt van onafhanklikheid sal ons, as ons aan bewind kom, die werklikheid onder die oë moet sien. Ons sal dit aanvaar, maar ons sal dadelik met al die gesag van die staat onderhandel om hulle terug te bring in 'n federale verband met die res van Suid-Afrika. Die storie as sou ons gesê het dat ons nou die beleid van onafhanklike, soewereine Bantoesians aanvaar, is 'n onwaarheid.” — Mnr. Marais Steyn, Volksraad, 3 Februarie 1972.

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Dit is die bedrag wat aangegee word deur die Kontroleur en Ouditeur-generaal in sy verslag oor die diensjaar 1970-71.

Die totale bruto bedrag wat aan koopbelasting tydens die jaar ingesamel is, het R140 307 543 beloop waarvan R3 577 842 aan Suidwes oorbetal is. Nadat 'n verdere bedrag van R868 651 aan firmas terugbetaal is, het 'n netto bedrag van R135 861 050 tot krediet van die Gekonsolideerde Inkomstefonds oorgebly — m.a.w. na die koffers van die staat gegaan.

In die vorige jaar het dr. Diederichs 'n bruto koopbelasting van R97 393 391 uit ons sakke gehaal. Die toename in 1970-71 was hoofsaaklik toe te skryf aan die heffing tydens die jaar van hoër belasting op sekere artikels.

Wins van Reserwebank

SEDERT die stigting van die Suid-Afrikaanse Reserwebank deur die Regering van genl. Smuts in 1921 tot 31 Maart 1971 het 'n bedrag van R91 965 661 die Staat toegeval.

Die Kontroleur en Ouditeur-generaal wys in sy verslag vir 1970-71 daarop dat 'n bedrag van R6 072 384 die Staat van die Bank in die jaar geëindig 31 Maart 1971 toegeval het.

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Redakteur: C. A. P. Viljoen.

Raadgewende Redakteur: Marais Steyn, L.V.

Alle artikels in hierdie uitgawe deur C. A. P. Viljoen, Republic-gebou, Noordstraat 84, Johannesburg. Uitgegee deur die eienaar en uitgewer die Verenigde Party, Noordstraat 84, Johannesburg, n gedruk deur Pacific Press (Edms.) Bpk., Foxstraat 302, Johannesburg.

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