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# THE BANTU WORLD

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## AFRICANS ACCLAIM THEIR KING

[From Our Special Representative]

Last Saturday morning at the Stamford Hill aerodrome alongside of which are standing the White Train and the Pilot Train more than a 100,000 Africans acclaimed Their Majesties and Their Royal Highnesses. Up to the present it has been the biggest concourse of African people yet seen during the present tour. Most of them had walked to the 'rendezvous' for as far as could be ascertained no special arrangements in respect of transport facilities seemed to have been arranged.

This was one of Durban's hottest days and as a consequence, a number of people in the huge and closely packed crowd were overcome by the heat. One was impressed by the quiet and unostentatious efficiency of the African members of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and the Red Cross.

On the right of the dais were grouped the African leaders of the Durban and District Community among whom were Dr. C. Dhlamini, of Edinburgh University who is a Medical Officer of the Durban Corporation; Mr. Donald Mtinkulu, M.A., Principal of the Ohlange Institute; Mr. A. W. Geo. Champion, M.R.C., and champion of the workers' rights; Mr. Henry Ngwenya, Secretary of the Advisory Boards and Mr. Selby Ngcobo, M.A., B.Econ., who among his multifarious social activities, is a member of the McCord Hospital Board; member of the Provincial Advisory Board and of the King Edward Street Hospital Board.

On the left of the dais were a few Europeans who were present by special invitation and among them we noted Dr. and Mrs. Alan B. Taylor of the McCord Hospital. Suddenly there came that curious hush; then, the whisper as of a breeze, 'Bayeza' (They are coming); another hush as the cars escorting the Royal Family arrived at the entrance.

As Their Majesties were sighted, there arose a mighty roar which must have been heard far beyond Umgeni Mouth and the Bluff and which followed the Royal car in its course around the arena. It was a magnificent and full voiced welcome.

The King, Queen and the Princesses took their customary places at the dais and the usual excellent singing of our African people was enjoyed. There followed a slight pause and then as Mr. A. W. Geo. Champion, Mr. Henry Ngwenya and Mr. Selby Ngcobo were presented to His Majesty who shook hands with them, and to the Queen and Their Royal Highnesses. There broke out the most thunderous applause and cheers ever heard in Durban and which continued as the King and Queen standing in their car drove off to their next engagement on this—for them—a very busy day.

### HISTORIC OCCASION

In the afternoon, for the first time, it is believed, in South Africa, Scouts, Guides, Wayfarers and Cubs of all colour and creed joined at Kingsmead to a great rally which will doubtless become for Youth Movements in Natal an historic and memorable occasion.

### N.M.C. PARADE

N.M.C. ex-members, other than those with tickets to join the parade at the Union Grounds, will enter Loveday Street by way of Frederick Street or Albert Street, forming up 15 deep in front of the Bantu Sports Ground, facing west.

Entrance to the Union Grounds to participate in the march to the Cenotaph will be by ticket issued to applicants by Ex-Service Organisations, or, to those who are not members of such, by Headquarters, Witwatersrand Command.

## THE ROYAL FAMILY IN SWAZILAND

[From Our Special Representative]

For many days past at the Lozi-thelezi Royal Kraal under the shade of the Ndimba mountains—the burial place of the Swazi Kings—and at the Lobamba kraal of the Indhlovukazi, life has been very busy for Paramount Chief Sobhuza II and the Queen mother in making preparations to meet Their Majesties the King and Queen and the Princesses, at a special parade at Goedgegun, a small town in Southern Swaziland.



Paramount Chief Sobhuza

Answering the Paramount Chief's summons during the last few days, the "amabuto" of the Ingulube, Lomkehle, Amagovu, Abalondolozzi, Sikonyane, Amasotsha and Sukasihambe clans gathered from all parts of Swaziland for the ceremonial dance, "Inqaba ka Ngqofula," which is performed only at the great "Incala" celebrations.

On the arrival of the Royal Family, there followed a brief period of introductions. At the parade ground, the Swaziland community, both Black and White, had assembled to meet the King. About 200 members of the Auxiliary Pioneer Corps were present.

### THE SPEECHES

Speeches by Sir Evelyn Baring, High Commissioner for the Protectorates, Mr. A. Miller, representing the Swaziland European community, and Paramount Chief Sobhuza then followed, after which His Majesty replied. Then came the investiture of Africans and Europeans and the King himself presented medals and medallions to the Paramount Chief, the Queen mother and Mr. Johannes Musi, shaking hands with each recipient.

The Royal Family drove away amid loud cheers and sound of the "amabuto" whistles.

## African Ex-Soldiers' Parade

African ex-servicemen who wish to join the parade before His Majesty at Orlando Township, should apply for admission in the limited accommodation which will probably only take 200 at the most.

Personal applications should be made between 8.30 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily at the African Legion of B.E.S.L., Maxim's Hotel, Bezuidenhout Street, near New Magistrate's Court, Johannesburg and between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. daily at the offices of the Superintendent, Orlando Township.

## ADVISORY BOARD'S DISCLAIMER

The Secretary of the Orlando Township Advisory Board, Rev. Obed S. D. Mooki, has issued a statement on behalf of his Board disclaiming responsibility for certain arrangements in connection with the Royal Visit to Orlando on April 1. The text of his statement reads:

"The Orlando Advisory Board wishes to announce, for general information, that it is no party to the exclusion and non-invitation of African leaders and others within the enclosure at the Communal Hall, Orlando, on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Orlando, on April 1."

Commenting on this statement, an official of the Johannesburg Non-European and Asiatic Affairs Department states that accommodation is provided for 100 people in the enclosure. Of the one hundred seats, 60 are reserved for Advisory Board members and their wives, and the remaining 40 seats for African leaders whom the Boards can themselves nominate.

### "V" FENCE

A "v"-shaped fence, at the Orlando Communal Hall, comprising Advisory Board members on one side and a choir from the Orlando Secondary School on the other, will face a raised platform for the King. The general public will assemble behind the v-shaped fence. Special space will be given to school children near the road opposite the hall. The Royal Family will spend half an hour at Orlando.

## ROTARIAN ATTACKS LABOUR UNIONS

Addressing the Rotary conference at Vereeniging last Monday, Mr. G. A. Leyds, District Governor of the club voiced strong condemnation of the attitude of the Labour Unions to the C.O.I.T. Scheme, opposition which he described as "one of the country's scandals."

Mr. Leyds held that Rotary had rightly supported everything that would bring bigger and better supplies of building materials and labour, so that both the European and the African population could be properly housed.

### PLAGUE SPOTS

He challenged anyone who doubted the wisdom of this attitude to visit the plague and small-pox breeding locations and squatters' camps near the large towns, and described such spots as a disgrace to the whiteman's much vaunted civilisation which tries to prevent the African from becoming a craftsman.

## IMPROVED HOUSING URGED FOR AFRICANS

In a memorandum submitted to the Native Laws Commission, during the week, the Johannesburg City Council called for the improvement of the conditions under which urban Africans live.

### BASIC PRINCIPLES

The memorandum stated that the basic principles governing the presence of Africans in these areas were employment in lawful capacities and the availability of accommodation and land. In addition, special provision should be made for persons born and domiciled in urban areas.

The most important factor to achieve improved conditions of living for permanently urbanised Africans was to establish security of tenure of accommodation, to meet the varying needs of different economic groups. Cultural and recreational facilities and amenities should be charged against the capital costs of sub-economic schemes.

### FREEHOLD TITLES

Africans should be allowed to acquire ownership of their homes in or near urban areas, but no African should own more than one house in any one location.

Facilities to acquire freehold titles to fixed property in locations or approved townships should only be granted if adequate means and permanent urbanisation could be proved.

Africans should be employed as officials wherever possible in native administration, subject to educational qualifications, but only Europeans, qualified and experienced, should be employed as managers, superintendents, accountants, and in other important administrative and financial posts.

## RATIONING SCHEME DROPPED

The Minister of Finance, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, has announced the Government's decision to abandon the rationing scheme. This step follows on the recommendation of the Food Control Organisation. Summarising the Union's food prospects, Mr. Hofmeyr stated that maize supplies are adequate; the bread position is satisfactory; there is a possibility of better supplies of mealie-meal, rice and samp; there is a potato surplus; increased sugar supplies are probable; there will be a better distribution of soap and an overall likelihood of improving local production and importation of other foodstuffs.

Mr. Hofmeyr gave a detailed survey of the prospects for wheat, and stated that the outlook in so far as wheat was concerned was not too bright. He also added that there was no immediate prospect of the return of white bread.

The Director of Food Supplies and Distribution (Dr. van Eck) will continue to work for better distribution of food generally, and explore the question of registering traders in foodstuffs. "Efforts to eliminate the activities of those traders who have exploited the food position for their selfish gains will also be continued."

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22 PER 57 AN 32



# Moferefere Motseng Oa Tshuane

(Ke A. M. P. MAHLATJIE)

Gaesale go tloga ka di 1st March 1947, Ma-Afrika a Motse oa Pelandaba (Atteridgeville) ba iteile dihuba gore ba keke ba namela di Busi tja Public Utility Corp Ltd, ka baka la go nametja ga di hlwa-hlwa (Bus fares) go tloga go 4d. go namella go 6d. leeto le le lengoe.

Taba ena eile ea begoa Lekgotleng la Motse (Advisory Board) ka di 5th tja Feb. 1947, ke Modula-Setulo Cr. S. le R. Kock gore ba Lekgotla la Toropo ba phethile gore go tloga ka di 1st tja March bona ba hlapile diatla gore chelete ea Kokeletjo (Subsidy) e o e shetjeng ele mengoaga e ka bang mehlango ba ntje ba e pate'la Ma-Afrika ba tla emisha go e patela.

## E BA FEREHLE DIPELO

Taba ena e ile ea ferehla dipelo tja Maloko a Board me ba araba ka lentsoe le tee, Gore gaeba Council e batla moferefere e leke go dira taba e joalo. Gape Maloko a Board a ile a bontsha Modula-Setulo gore Lekgot'la la Toropo City Council le dirile posho e kgolo, e bile le robile Molao le selekane sa Khotso seo Council e ileng ea setlama ge ba tlosa batho kua Marabastad. Lekgot'la la Toropo le tlamile ke Molao oa Native Urban Areas Act gore mo ditaba di amanang le Ma-Afrika ba swanetje gore ba boledishane le Banna ba Advisory Board pele ba phetha setlamo. Me se makadijeng ke gore mo tabeng ena ga ba ka ba rerishana le Maloko a Board.

### MOEA O MOBE

Taba ena e shupile gabotse gore eka Maloko a Council a leng gona lehonong ga be kemisetja go rerishana le Advisory Board. Taba ena e loketje moea o mobe sechabeng sa Ma-Afrika, me go b'ntsha gore ba huetja molato go Lekgotla la Federation leo e leng lona le swereng Mmusho oa Council ea Tsoane (Pretoria).

Ka di 17th Feb Mokamedi oa Malokeishine, Mr. Brent, o ile a ngolla Mongodi a Board go mo tsebi-sha gore Lekgotla la Toropo (Council) le phethile gore ga ba sa tla patela chelete eo ea Kokeletjo (Subsidy) tsebi-sha sechaba taba ena mo di pitsong tja patlalatja. Maloko a Board a ile a raga taba ena me eare ka di 19th Feb ba bitja pitja ea tlang ka dikobo go bega taba ena le Kokeletjo ea hlalohe ea di Busi. Sechaba se ile sa bua ka lentsoe le le lengoe, sa mmila ka nko tje pedi gore taba eo ga ba e amogela.

### SETLAMO

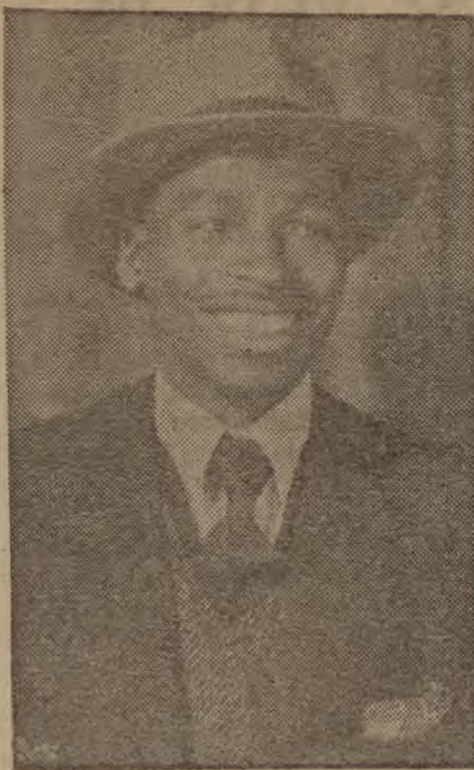
Goa tlamioa gore e ka kgona go tsamaue ka maoto go ea Toropong ka di 1st March, gaeba Council le beng ba di-Busi, ba sa bushetje taba eo morago. Gona pitsong eo go ile goa kgethoa banna ba leshome go tlotjana le Maloko a Board go dira Komiti ea Masome a Mabedi gore ba loantshe taba ena e sehlogo. Komiti ena e ile ea ikgethe-la Modula-Setulo oa eona Mr. J. S. M. Lekgetho, mohlankana ea mafolofolo le kgeleke ea sebedi, gomme Mr. J. R. Choeu ea eba Mongoli oa Komiti.

## TSOSA NYOORO EA SEBETE SA HAU—

Kantle ho Calomel—U tla bona u khoroha hoseng maroahalong a hau u tletse bophelo.

Sebete se ts'oanetse ho ba le paente tse peli tsa nyooke e metsi maleng a hau tsatsi le leng le le leng. Haeba nyooke ena e sa ts'oloha ka ts'oanelo ka tokoloho, ha u ka ke ua tseba ho thuisa lijo tsa hau. Li ka bola ka maleng a hau. U ea pipitelo. U ikutloa o ts'oenyehile, tepelletse lefats'e le u sulafetse.

U ka fumana nyooke ena ka ho sebelisa lipilisi tsa Carter's tsa sebete ke hona u ka fumanang paente tse peli tsa nyooke li ts'oloha ha bobebe li u etsa hore u be "mafolo-folo". Fumana pakete hona kajeno. E sebelise kaha ho boletsoe. E lokile bakeng sa ho etsa hore nyooke e ts'olohetse ha bobebe. Batla pilisi tsa CARTER'S tsa sebete. Theko ke 1/3.



Sena ke sets'oants'o sa Mong. Gideon K. Nchabeleng, 'mina Tau. Ke morekisi oa koranta ena, "Bantu World," sebakeng se go thoeneng Johannesburg North. O rata go tsebi-sha babereki kamoka sebakeng seo goré ba ka fumana pampiri ena go eena veke e 'ngoe le e 'ngoe go tlogela ka Labone go isa ka Sondaga. O dula Park Town North moo a sebetsang teng.

## Tsa Lapucella

Ke Em. N. G. Thema.

Mona gageso go lwala ntona ya gaseo, e lego mokgalabye Moses Kgobe. E se e bile e le dibeke tse pedi a robetsi fase.

Re bona banna ba menang ba kitima le metse le noka go e lwantsha. A. D. Thema o kitima a pompa ka metseng a noka go Iwanthsa letadi.

Ba thomile mosomo ona ka la di 5-2-47. Difaki tsa makhura di tletsi noka, ya fothefothe (pyagra) e beilwe ka sekolong.

Bana ba sekolo le barutisi ba itukisetsa go ya lo lokwana ka la di 3 April go yo bona ba mosate wa Maisemane (Royal Family).

Bo Morena Stegman (Inspector), Mynhardt (Dept/Supt.), le O. J. Segooa (Supervisor) ba setsi ba kile ba feta mōna go tlo bona sekolo, ka ge ba ngwathetswe dikolo tse na gona ngwageng ona.

Ba boletsi le barutisi ka tsa sekolo, kudu le hlogo ya sekolo e lego Morena Nel G. Thema. Banna tao ba na le maetla mabapi le dikolo ka polelo ya bona.

## Sebapala—Quthing

(Mord, Nkolongwana)

Hela Mo-Afrika eel tsoha letsatsi le chabile, ke bao ba bang ba u siea. Ke tsena tse ncha baheso Ma-Afrika a matle. Lefats'e le ka mokhoa o mong mehlang ena. Araba potso ke ena ngoaneso.

Na u ka thabela ho sieloa leruo la liphoofofo kapa la thuto? Ke se ke bile ke araba 'na hoba kea bona oa lieha uena ngoaneso.

Ithuteng ba heso le tle le bone ha Sechaba se fetoha batho ba molemo lefatseng. Hape ha re ithuta re hopoleng mantsoe a Alexander Pope moo a buang ka thuto a e bolelisang hantle.

Ka puo ena ea rona ha khuts'oanyane ke tla hlalosa tsa Alexander; o re, re ithuteng haholo kapa re se ke ra ithuta ho hang ho ba thuto e nyenyane e kotsi. Na taba ena ke 'nete bana beso?

Ke lumela 'na ka pelenyana ke re ka lentsoe le phahameng: "E, ho joalo."

Empa na re ka ithuta joang hore re ithute? Ea ka re thusang o mong, ke Jehova Molimo oa rona. Na joale ea sa ithutang o ipelaetsa ka'ng athe ke kabelo eo a ikhethetseng eona.

Litaba tse na li ngolisoa ke thabo e bakoang ke tsoelo-pelo e matla e re thabisang rona basebetsi ba Sebapala.

Ho tloha Sekolong sa rona se Mahareng ho ea fihla sekolong sa private ke mafolo-folo feela ba eme ka maoto bahlankana likolong ba roba choko.

Lipapali ha ba li lebale. Haufinyane ho tla ba teng lipapali tsa private ke mafolo-folo feela ba eme ka maoto bahlankana likolong ba roba choko.

Mohlankana le uena moroetsana, ho ithutoa ke thaka tsa hau, ba sale morao.



Banna bana ba tsoa ka motokareng ka pele-pele ba se talime hore na

ke eng e tlang. E mong oa bona o oele 'me o tla tsoa kotsi

Hlokometlang ha le theoha hloring hammoho le libese.

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NEW TO MAKE COCOA Put one teaspoonful of cocoa in an empty cup; add as much milk and sugar as you would like to make a cup of tea; then mix cocoa, milk and sugar into a paste with no lumps of cocoa remain; finally fill the cup with very hot water and stir well.

**Cadbury's BOURNVILLE COCOA**

# THE BANTU WORLD

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1947

## A Bold Forward Step

The policy, which Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Chairman of the Anglo-American Corporation, intends to adopt and put into operation on the new Orange Free State gold mines with regard to the housing of African mine workers, is a step in the right direction. The provision of married quarters for African mine workers is a scheme which will be approved by all right-thinking people.

In the first place, it will greatly benefit the mines themselves in that the workers will become permanently employed, and thus learn to regard their work as part and parcel of their existence. Secondly it will restore the security of family life which migratory labour has practically destroyed.

It cannot be denied that while the earnings of African in the mines are of great importance to the peoples in the Reserves, yet the system of migratory labour is largely responsible for the evils with which Africans in the industrial centres of the Union are beset. This system is destroying family life, not only in the reserves but also in urban areas. It is one of the causes of abject poverty in the reserves, for the cultivation of what plot of land Africans might have is done by women who cannot be expected to do this job properly and efficiently.

It may not be saying too much to aver that this system is one of the factors that are responsible for the development of hooliganism and lawlessness among Africans particularly on the Rand. Men cannot live abnormal life for six or twelve months and yet be expected to rise above the level of the brute creation. The disturbances which take place over the week-end in African townships are caused mostly by men who are not permanently employed and who are living in hostels and compounds.

It is a tragic fact that while the Mines on the Rand are supplying African workers with free Kaffir beer, yet at the week-end these men flock to the townships in search of beer not at the Municipal beer-halls but at the houses of the "Skokiaan Queens." Indeed it is common knowledge that the supporters of the "Skokiaan Queens" are mostly men whose families are starving in the reserves.

The news, therefore, that at the new gold mines of the Free State African townships will be established where there will be "sports facilities, children's creches and other essential services" and where "the residents will be able to play their part in their own township administration," will be highly appreciated as well as that of the appointment of Mr. J. D. Rheinallt Jones as a man who will assist in putting the proposed scheme into operation.

Mr. Rheinallt Jones is a student of African affairs. For more than forty years he has been studying the conditions of African life, and while not posing as an "expert on Native affairs," he certainly has the knowledge which will enable him to direct the establishment of the proposed township along lines that will suit the modern African worker who has learnt that he cannot live except by the sweat of his brow.

Mr. Rheinallt Jones knows the changes that have taken place in the life of the African for the last thirty years, and he knows too that what was considered good for the African fifty years ago, has lost its value to-day. The African worker to-day wants better housing accommodation, better working conditions and, of course, sufficient wages to sustain his life and that of his wife and children.

Although we deplore his relinquishing of his position in the South African Institute of Race Relations, nevertheless we are confident that in his new sphere of activity, Mr. Rheinallt Jones will play his part well not only as adviser on Native affairs to the

## THE MEN WHO SANK IN THE MENDI

The following article, written by Mr. Allen Loxton, in the Zoutpansberg News Review and Mining Journal on February 21, is of great interest to the African people and is being reproduced for the readers of the Bantu World:

"Be quiet and calm, my countrymen, for what is taking place now is exactly what you came to do . . . you are going to die, but that is what you came to do . . . Brothers, we are drilling the death-drill. I, a Xhosa say that you are my brothers, Swazis, Zulus, Pondos, Basutos—we die like brothers. We are the sons of Africa. Raise your war-cries, brothers, for though they made us leave our assegais in the kraals, our voices are left with our bodies."

Those words, which are an immortal contribution made by the Bantu people to the little store of South Africa's more glorious national traditions, stand out from all the horror of a disaster which, when news of it reached the Union just thirty years ago, raised a wailing and a lamentation throughout the land. When the details of the disaster were related in Parliament, South Africa was appalled. But when that had passed there remained between white South Africans and their black countrymen a deeper sympathy and an imperishable pride.

For those words, and others as calm and as full of courage, were spoken by a Bantu clergyman, the Reverend Wauchope Dyobha, a Native from the Fort Beaufort district, to 800 of his countrymen who faced death in the most nightmarish circumstances in which any Bantu could meet his end—in a ship sinking, 6,000 miles from home, in pitch darkness in the icy waters of that alien and dreaded element, the sea.

Yet how gloriously they died. There have been other epics of the sea as splendid, but never has there been, or indeed could there be, greater courage and nobility than that of the simple black men, and of the white officers and crew, who went down with the Mendi in 1917.

With the last batch of the South African Native Labour Corps, some 800 Africans from all parts of the Union, with their white officers and the ship's crew bringing the total complement up to 894 souls, the Mendi sailed out of Table Bay for France on January 16, 1917, reaching Plymouth about a month later. At 4.30 on the afternoon of February 20th, she began the last stage of her journey from Plymouth to Le Havre.

### COLD AND STORMY

It was cold and stormy and bitterly cold in the English Channel that night, and below the decks the Africans, probably sick with longing for the familiar warmth and sanity of their own distant homes, lay huddled together in their blankets, trying to keep warm and to get what sleep they could.

In the early hours of the morning, while steaming with every light doused in those dangerous war-time waters, disaster overtook the Mendi. She was off St. Catherine's Point at 5 a.m. when suddenly and without any warning, another vessel, also without lights, loomed up out of the darkness and crashed into her on the starboard side.

The colliding vessel was the 11,000-ton liner, Darro, whose bows, cutting into the Mendi, crushed many Africans to death as they lay asleep, or caused them to be drowned by the sudden inrush of water.

mining authorities, but also as an apostle of inter-racial goodwill and co-operation; without which South Africa's industrial development will be greatly hampered.

It is gratifying to learn that if the proposed experiment is successful, it is the intention of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer and his colleagues to make the life of their African employees as happy and comfortable as possible, by the introduction of sports and welfare organisations. We have no doubt that with the assistance of Mr. Rheinallt Jones the scheme will be a success, and we, therefore, wish to express our appreciation of Sir Ernest's courage and foresight in taking this bold step forward.

The stricken transport immediately began to heel over, and lay so heavily to starboard that only a few boats and rafts could be launched.

Within twenty minutes the vessel had disappeared, leaving in that terrible darkness only a mass of humanity struggling in the icy water. For, though the Darro had suffered scarcely any damage, her

### Royal Visit

#### Photographic Competition

Many Africans are keen photographers. Wherever the Royal Family is visiting, there are always hundreds of people anxious to take a photograph as a memento of a great occasion.

Some of these amateur photographs taken by Africans may be of a high standard. So, if you think you have taken a photograph which is good enough for newspaper production, send a print (NOT the negative) to:

Photographic Competition,  
P.O. Box 6663,  
JOHANNESBURG.

If your photograph is used in "the Bantu World" we shall pay you 10/6 (ten shillings and sixpence).

#### RULES:

1. Photographs must show Africans attending a meeting at which the Royal Family is present.
2. Write your name and address in ink on the back of the photograph. Also state briefly where the photograph was taken and what it is about.
3. No photograph can be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

commander offered little or no assistance, as he considered it dangerous to linger in that submarine-infested area.

Within a short time 633 souls, 615 of them South African Natives, had perished. But how like men they had died.

Their first momentary panic over, they had listened to the quiet, measured words of courage spoken by their "Umfundisi", the African priest, and by the chiefs and sons of chiefs, among them.

### DEATH DANCE

"Be quiet and calm, my countrymen, for what is taking place now is exactly what you came to do . . . you are going to die, but that is what you came to do . . . Brothers, we are drilling the death-drill; I, a Xhosa say that you are my brothers; Swazis, Zulus, Pondos, Basutos—we die like brothers. We are the sons of Africa. Raise your war-cries, brothers, for though they made us leave our assegais in the kraal, our voices are left with our bodies."

Many of the Africans rapidly stripped off their boots and uniforms, and when the vessel took her last plunge her decks were drumming with the sound of their feet stamping in a death-dance, and the night rang with their ancient tribal salutes.

The scene must have been weird in the extreme; but so glorious was the Africans' heroism that, as the ship sank beneath them, the captain and several of the vessel's and the men's officers were seen standing stiffly to attention, saluting the dancing and chanting Bantu. Also, many of the Mendi's crew gave up their seats in the overcrowded lifeboats to the Africans, dying in their stead.

## "SJAMBOK" ON DR. DUBE'S BOOK

The result of my investigation is that most Africans who claim to be educated regard the reading of Bantu language books as beneath their dignity. Many cannot read books written in a Bantu language other than their own. All this is woefully deplorable. Dr. Dube's book which a friend of mine, who is a teacher by profession while I am an ordinary "guy," lent me the other day is in Zulu, and bears the title: "Isita Somuntu Nguye Uqobo Lwake" which, being freely interpreted, means "The Blackman's Enemy is the Blackman Himself."

The learned doctor introduces his little book by emphasising the importance of self-criticism by the Africans, and the dangerous stupidity of blaming the European for all that we are. I wish someone could translate this challenging pamphlet, by the late Dr. Dube, into English, so as to bring its contents to the notice of those who do not know Zulu, and those Zulus who never read works in their mother-tongue, as well as those whose definition of an African leader is "one who is an eloquent reciter of African grievances against the whiteman and a forgetter of the African's own faults."

I'll give a summary of this little book, which will, in many cases, not reveal what we do not know nor reveal all what is written in it.

After giving an appreciation of the European superiority to the African in the realm of science, Dr. Dube gives the following as the factors that are responsible for making the blackman's own enemy. Blackmen spend themselves in criticising the Europeans and vituperating one another. They often fail to help themselves even when they are left to themselves in their own territories.

They are not endowed with a sense of responsibility, and like to follow one another, like sheep, in matters of business and of creating innumerable religious sects. They are foolishly prejudiced against the European

Missionary and the Joint Council movement to both of whom they owe more than they can ever repay. They fail to turn difficulties into stepping stones to achievement, and do not use their opportunities and their talents.

When it comes to Bantu languages, Africans just do nothing, and it is the Europeans who take the trouble to write them and produce grammar books on them.

I'll continue this catalogue of the blackman's sins next week.

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With God Himself back of these little homes,  
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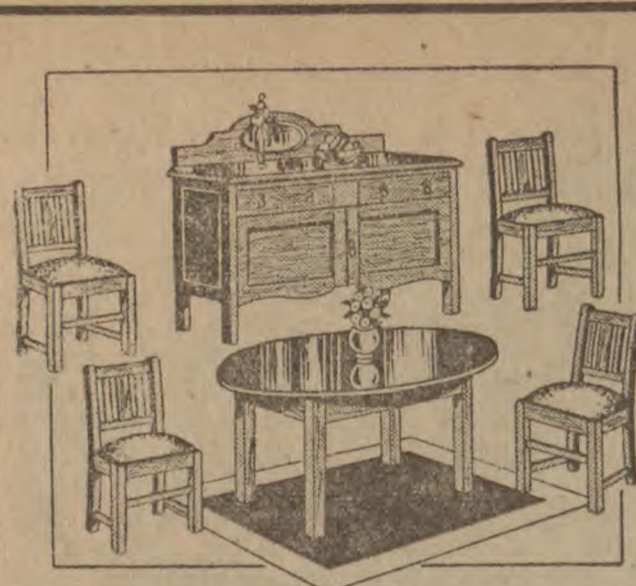
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Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Ntsie, of Alexandra Township, who were recently married at Benoni. The bride is the youngest daughter of Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Kgobe of NewKleinfontein, Benoni. She is a school teacher and is on the staff of the Alexandra Township Amalgamated School, Johannesburg. Mr. Ntsie is a well-known figure in Alexandra where he works as education organiser attached to the Alexandra Family Welfare Centre. He is a leading figure in sports circles in the township. Their wedding was held in the Pentacostal Holiness Church, Benoni, Rev. J. J. Kekana, of Benoni Location being the officiating Minister. Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Ntsie reside at the "Haarlem," 113, 9th avenue, Alexandra Township.



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# READERS' FORUM

## Readers Annoyed With Mamponé

**Walter M. B. Nhlapo, Johannesburg, writes:** Mr. Alfred Mamponé's answer to Mr. H. Ngamone in a recent issue of the "Bantu World," is remarkable because of a boldness and a sense of irresponsibility not common among those who know the present-day feeling and trend of opinion, he dared to refute our sufferings and woes under the pass laws; he sang loud hosannas to the police raids; shouted hallelujah for the restrictions imposed against our freedom.

In championing misdeeds against our development indeed, injuries inflicted against our manhood—he paid a tribute to oppression. His conviction as regards pass laws, police raids and beer prohibition is a clear disavowal of our elementary rights as human-beings. We must protest against such perversion, which is contrary to higher moral ethics that champion collective security for everybody in correct dress.

The intensified police raids for passes are an obvious implication that this "scrap of paper" is both suppressive as well as discriminatory, and is far from being a measure of security. Without doubt, its basis is colour-bar, its purpose to uphold white supremacy and create in the African the impression that he is an inferior animal. This position is man-made and does not transcend from God. As such, we see no sense of justice and honour in pass laws. The other people who do not carry passes are guarded and in the event of street accidents they are easily identified. For this reason we unblushingly repudiate the so-called protection and check on criminals the pass is supposed to afford.

Further Mr. Mamponé accuses the "numerous political parties whose conflicting interests militate against us." This brazen outspokenness is a deception. We will always have diverse political parties as long as our definitions of democracy differ. Political parties are no pompous vanity and a bar against our rights.

I admit that I hold no brief for beer, but to deny one section the right to drink as it likes, when it likes and wherever it likes, is open to unbridled criticism and the exposure of the folly of prohibition.

## Mamponé is Mistaken

**Albino J. Bila, Germiston, writes:** While Mr. Mamponé says that Mr. Ngamone has misunderstood him, may I say that it is Mr. Mamponé himself who not only failed to grasp Mr. Ngamone's constructive criticism, but opposed logical thinking.

Mr. Ngamone did not condemn the presence of the 'police boys' in the location, but like other good citizens he declared that he was against the unbecoming methods employed by the police in executing their duties. Surely

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every peace-loving citizen will appreciate the endeavours of the polite in maintaining law and order provided that this is done in the right manner.

It is strange indeed to learn that Mr. Mamponé does not carry a pass because of his dark skin, but that it is to his advantage as a means of identification. I wonder if Mr. Mamponé knows the nature of a pass? If Europeans, Indians and Coloureds do not have to carry passes, and can easily be identified without the aid of passes, why must we necessarily carry these documents?

If by having to carry a pass Mr. Mamponé feels greatly honoured, let him alone carry it to his childish satisfaction.

## Repeal of Oppressive Laws Advocated

**E. Ngobese, Durban, writes:** Your correspondent, "X.Y.Z.," has been good enough to tell us that we are rightfully called "Africans". It would be more interesting to know how much time was spent in the House of Assembly in debating so simple a matter—that of "calling a people by the name they prefer."

The little things matter; but to linger on such little things as calling a people "Africans," or whether a male Bantu is to be addressed "Mr." and not "Native", is a stupid waste of time.

What we want is a constructive policy aiming at removing all petty injustices which tend to create undesirable feelings between Black and White. In short, we would like to see all the laws designed to "keeping down the Africans" repealed.

## Natal Farmers Show The Way

**Rev. B. W. Zulu, Newcastle, writes:** At a meeting of the Natal African Landowners' Association held at Dannhauser on March 7, a huge order for 254 bags of

fertilizer was made by 11 farmers of the Dannhauser district. One of the applicants was a woman farmer.

If Newcastle and Dundee African farmers could do the same; and if others in other parts of Natal would take advantage of this farmers' association; and if all Africans could pool their resources and write in their endeavours, then a new page could be opened in African agriculture.

This association has, during the past year, successfully made application for some 200 bags of fertilizer. The guiding motto is: "Do To-day's Work To-day." If only our people would learn to use their opportunities, our health and our homes would improve a hundredfold.

At the meeting of the Native Laws Commission at Dundee in January, this Association asked for the abolition of pass laws and the removal of all discriminatory legislation. The memorandum submitted is worth reading.

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Progressives who wish the nation well should become members of this association. The officers are Mr. A. P. Sibankulu, P.O. Box 42, Dannhauser, chairman; Rev. J. M. Sibiya, P.O. Box 11, Dannhauser, secretary.

## "Umqomboti" As School Subject

**Abner D. Mahatlane, Germiston, writes:** I think it is worthwhile for the authorities concerned to add to the domestic science syllabus the making of "mqomboti".

I feel certain that many African "brides-to-be" will benefit immensely by the inclusion of this subject in the syllabus.

There is in our time an alarming increase in divorce cases. Men wander away from their homes in search of beer to slake their thirst. Consequent to such wandering is the contact made with evil company and, later, divorce. If African women whose husbands take beer could brew in their homes the "mqomboti," this wanderlust and its attendant evils would be brought to nil.

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# THE WEEKS' SOCIAL WHIRL

**ORLANDO:** Many people attended what proved to be a successful social evening at the Leake hall on March 20. The high-light of the evening was an educative talk by Rev. S. S. Tema who takes special interest in the activities of the youth.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors it was agreed that the members of the Orlando "co-op" should hold a general meeting on Sunday, April 6 at the Communal hall. Members of the Board who are all enthusiastic

over their work meet weekly. A site for the "co-op" building has been obtained at Orlando West and it is hoped that the building will take place shortly.

Nurse P. M. Boyang, of the location clinic, is on three weeks' holiday at Germiston.

After the graduation ceremony at the City hall, Mr. Maseko, one of the graduates, was given a reception by his friends. Among those present were Messrs L. G. Ntuli, B.A., J. Maraba, B.A., A. Motuba, B.A., R. Msimanga, B.Com., Messrs H. B. Nyati and Seth Mphahlele; Revs. H. K. Mpitso and D. Lechuti.

**DR. A. B. XUMA WELCOMED HOME:** Chanting the National Anthem "Morena boloka sechaba sa heso" thousands of Africans from Western Native Township, Sophiatown and New Clare escorted Dr. A. B. Xuma from the first gate Western Native Township to the Communal Hall on Sunday, March 16, 1947. They were welcoming him home from his return from the U.S.A. Dr. Xuma was in the centre of the procession headed by the provincial president, Mr. C. S. Ramohano, the provincial secretary, Mr. D. W. Bopape, Mr. J. Mtswi, branch chairman, Messrs J. M. Kumalo of the Provincial Executive Committee and other leaders from the various branches of congress. With Dr. Xuma in the car was Mrs. M. Xuma and Mr. P. N. Raboroko.

A welcome address was read by Mr. H. N. Nkadimeng. In his reply, Dr. Xuma thanked the Western Areas as well as the Transvaal Province for having arranged the welcome reception for him. He said that he was pleased to be home again after some time and went on to tell the gathering about his trip and how difficult it was to obtain a passport. He said that in America he met all the dele-

gations and placed before them facts about the oppressive policy of the Union Government against the non-European.

He told the meeting that he met the Union Prime Minister General Smuts who asked him to come together with him but he answered that he had long been trying to get together with him but failed. Dr. Xuma said that although the African people had support overseas, their salvation is unity under the banner of the African National Congress which is today registered among the nations of the World. He appealed to every African to join the National Movement in an attempt to place forward a United front against colour bar.

Similar receptions are to be held at Pretoria, Randfontein, the East Rand, Bethal and Pietersburg on dates to be announced later.

**EASTERN DISTRICT T.A.T.A. MEETING:** Teachers from Sekukuniland, Lydenburg, Belfast, Machadodorp, Nelspruit, White River, Bushbuckridge, Pilgrims Rest and Komatipoort etc., will assemble in the Sabie Amalgamated School, on April 10, to discuss matters pertinent to their calling. The Inspector of the Eastern circuit, Major G. Clarke B.A., and his Supervisors, Messrs. P. Malinga and Matime, will take part in the deliberations. This conference is regarded to be of an important nature, for, since the appointment of Inspector Clarke and his Supervisors, the circuit will have hundreds of teachers meeting for the first time in a mass assembly. The Chairman, Mr. P. J. Manzini, and the district secretary, Mr. P. P. Lenyai, are working hard for the success of the conference. Arrangements for boarding and lodging are under the care of Mr. C. P. Manthata of Box 11, Sabie. His committee charges 5/6 a day. All teachers in the Eastern Transvaal circuit intending to attend, should apply at once — P. P. L.

## PERSONALIA PARADE

In many quarters to-day, the church is the subject of ridicule and severe criticism. A common charge laid against the church, particularly from the young generation, is that the church lags behind time. Ministers are accused of being "old fashioned," and youth will have nothing to do with pronouncements from the pulpit by a preacher who, in the old school style, threatens sinners with "hell-fire" and "everlasting damnation!" Many progressive churches to-day are looking for candidates fully equipped to meet this challenge to Christ Himself, and in answer to this call, several young men have come forward gallantly, and forsaking mundane pleasure and glory, they've sacrificed their lives to work for the Master. To-day, you meet. . . .



Rev. X. M. Weyi, Minister of the Methodist Church, Benoni district.

Born at Osborne, Mount Frere, East Griqualand, Mr. Weyi qualified as a teacher at Buntingville, an old missionary institution in the Transkei. He served four years in the teaching profession which he subsequently abandoned at the age of 20 for the sacred ministry of the Methodist church. On completing his theological studies at Fort Hare, he was posted at Vryburg, among the Batswana, in 1933. Apart from drought which worked havoc in that district, the great depression which swept the country at the time, a greater hazard confronting him at the beginning of his ministry was the language question.

Being endowed with great powers of learning, he acquired a knowledge of Tswana in a remarkably short time and won the affection of his flock. At Roodepoort, his next port of call, he left a beautiful church built through

his agency. 1937 saw him transferred to Ventersdorp where he served for eight years. Here he proved a great leader and organiser, and because of the developments which he had caused in that district, he was rewarded by being sent an assistant minister who was stationed at Uitkyk where the Methodist Church intends to found a big educational centre. Prior to being transferred to Benoni, his present "sphere of jurisdiction," he was delegated to Barberton, a centre which, at the time, was bristling with trouble — which he quelled.

A genial young man, sociable and amiable and much beloved by men, women and children who come under his ambit, Rev. Weyi is a progressive minister whose sermons are a great pleasure and a rich source of inspiration. He is a master of the pulpit. At present, he is doing the second year of the Bachelor or Arts degree in social science.

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