

②

~~~~~  
© THE VOICE OF AFRICA ©  
~~~~~

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

1 issue	3d.		
3 issues	1s.	Postage free	
6 issues	2s.	"	"
12 issues	4s.	"	"

READ THE VOICE OF AFRICA

and

===== KNOW THE TRUTH =====

Printed by the PROGRESSIVE DUPLICATING SERVICES
W.M.B. Nhlapo, 132 Swan St., Eastern Native
Township, Johannesburg

THE VOICE OF AFRICA IS A NON-PARTY INDEPENDENT
AFRICAN PERIODICAL.

✦ WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BLACK ✦ by NALEDI

(The following is the first of a series of articles on types of South African legislation which directly discriminate against Non-Europeans in their various walks of life. The writer will endeavour, however briefly, to shew that although the greater part of such legislation has largely been prompted by the labour and land demands of the white man, the Acts are closely interrelated to form a whole network which purports to secure his position generally and as firmly as negative laws can be supposed to make a man's life safe. The grouping is purely artificial and merely for convenience. -- EDITOR)

1. P O L I T I C A L

THE SOUTH AFRICA ACT of 1909 begins in a "grand" style by stating: "It is desirable for the welfare and future progress of S. Africa that the several British Colonies therein should be united under one Government in a legislative union..."

All the Acts that follow the above, indeed the whole of this Act itself, shows that the "great" men who conceived union never intended "the welfare and future progress of S. Africa" to suggest that there are other human beings in this country as well as themselves.

The introduction should read: "... for the welfare and future security of the Europeans of South Africa..."

The Senate and the House of Assembly according to the South Africa Act can consist of persons of "European descent" only.

The Governor-General-in-Council has to nominate 8 Senators, 4 being selected on the "ground mainly of their thorough acquaintance by the reason of their official experience or otherwise with the reasonable wants and wishes of the Coloured races of South Africa." (Coloured meaning non-whites)

The Indian Representation Act of 1946 provides for a 5th Senator to be nominated on the same grounds.

Four more senators are elected by Africans (not on the basis of universal franchise) in terms of the Act of 1936, while Europeans are in effect represented by 42 senators, including the 4 nominated on grounds of "knowing the native."

Only the Cape Province Africans can

vote for 3 Europeans to represent them in the House of Assembly, provided a voter can sign his name, write his address and occupation, and receives a wage of £50 or more a year, or has a property of £75 or more.

The Representation of Natives Act of 1936, instituted by the Hertzog government, put Africans on a separate voters' roll. Now the Coloureds will also soon be taken off the common roll.

Out of a total number of 153 in the legislative House, 3 represent Africans. The Indians put up passive resistance against the 1946 Act, which grants them leave to elect 3 Europeans to represent them; no European career-maker has yet been elected!

The 1936 Act also gave us a Native Representative Council, consisting of the Secretary for Native Affairs (chairman), 6 Chief Native Commissioners, 16 Africans, 4 of whom are nominated by the government and 12 elected on the same communal basis as for senators. No non-European woman has the vote, the 1930 Franchise Act applying to European women only.

The N.R.C., like the Bunga and Ciskeian General Council and local councils, which the Malan Government wants to extend to replace the N.R.C., is as gigantic a hoax as any oppressor could engineer.

{Continued on Page 2}

"FOR HOW LONG O GOD!"



Collection Number: AD1715

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

PUBLISHER:

Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

©2013

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document forms part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.