

All around us we observe the phenomena of change and decay. It appears as if everything is in a state of flux and that nothing abides. But if there is change, what change? It is clear that in the midst of change, there is something permanent that changes. Time with its roots in the past is speedily rolling on to the future. All change is caused by, and occurs in time.

We, human beings - helplessly groping and fumbling in the darkness of the present time, and painfully haunted by the mist and haze of the future - often forget the past.

Yes there is growth development progress but all these have their root in the past. There are many archaic, antiquated or primitive practices of our ancestors which we have out-grown and to which we cannot return. Yet there is a sacred and eternal heritage which we have received from our ancestors and which we must jealously guard in trust for future generations, and that is, the unquenchable burning desire for Unity among African Tribes and the glowing inextinguishable love for Freedom of African their motherland. Our Fore-fathers so loved Africa that they heroically fought for it against foreign intruders and even laid down their lives. This fight was an epic and glorious struggle.

What are we doing to commemorate the great lives of these heroes?

Where are the monuments where are the songs and poems, where are heroes' days and festivals and history books written by Africans to immortalise the unsurpassed heroic deeds of our ancestors and past leaders? If we forget these past heroes we shall be likened unto a tree which is without roots. What is African Youth doing about these things? This is a challenge to African Youth of to-day.

It is grievously deplorable that several of our young men and women have been so intellectually morally and sentimentally perverted and poisoned by foreign ideologies that they are feverishly and hysterically seeking for their inspiration in and breathlessly expecting their Moses to come from Foreign lands, over the Oceans. These youths are like lost sheep. The unfailing source of our inspiration should be our own glorious past and we should highly treasure and carefully conserve what is of permanent value from our past - the immortal spirit of our fore-fathers which is the African spirit. Our past is the only solid foundation for any enduring super-structure of culture progress and civilisation that we may erect. While our gaze is focussed on the present and future, let us not forget the past.

INDUSTRIALISATION.

Western civilisation is also known as industrial civilisation. Strictly speaking, western civilisation became "industrial" during and after the industrial revolution which originated in England during the 18th and 19th centuries and spread like wild fire first throughout Europe and subsequently through the world. Although the industrial revolution was a great mistake in human progress, it had its dark side namely the emergence and growth of capitalism.

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A young Country.....

A young country emerging from the primitive mode of life is in modern times confronted with two alternatives - industrialisation or reversion to simple primitive economy. The last mentioned alternative is energetically advocated by a great Indian Leader Mahatma Gandhi who maintained that in order to stamp out poverty and do away with antagonistic social classes in India, factories should be razed to the ground machines should be destroyed and the whole country should return to the primitive hand loom and simple domestic industries.

On the other hand the first alternative of industrialisation has been chosen adopted and applied with amazing and marvellous success in Russia and Japan. This seems to be the only sound and progressive policy to adopt and follow. Africans must in order to avert the menacing doom of racial extinction, adapt themselves their environment of industrial civilisation. In other words Africans must possess be their own industrialised - that is ultimately Africans must possess their own factories, industries, wholesales bazaars, exchange etc.

YOUTH LEAGUE ACTIVITIES.

ORLANDO: Orlando is marching rapidly ahead. Mr. Borman's untiring efforts in organising and infusing a spirit of zeal and zest into the Orlando Branch are highly appreciated.

At a meeting held at Leake Hall on 6th October, 1945, the following were elected Office Bearers:- L.Mbongwe (Chairman); N.Nqandoli (vice Chairman); R.Ndziba (Secretary); S.Mazibuko (Vice Secretary) A.Brown (Treasurer). A.Mda, Chonco Makhehe and Ntuli (Committee members). Meetings were held regularly for lectures, debates, discussions etc. These activities are of immense educational benefit to Youth. FORWARD ORLANDO''.

We should also thank Messrs. W.Sisulu, A.P.Mda, and A.M.Lombe de for co-operation and assistance in all Youth League activities of Orlando Branch.

EVATON: In August Messrs. W.Bopape and A.M.Lembede addressed a huge meeting of youth at Wilberforce Institute. Teachers and students are very keen about the Youth League. Wilberforce being a purely African College promises to be the cradle of the new African culture and civilisation for the founding of which African Nationalism has been born.

ROODEPOORT: Mr. Mlonyeni - a keen and hardworking young man one of the emerging African leaders of tomorrow is straining every nerve to organise young people under the Congress Youth at Roodepoort. Messrs. A.P.Mda W.Bopape and A.M.Lembede addressed a Congress meeting there which gave a new fillip both to Congress and the Youth League at Roodepoort.

STANDERTON. Mr. A.M.Lembede interviewed Youth Leaders at Standerton this month with a view of establishing a Youth League Branch there.

GENERAL. Young men and women are individually joining the Youth League in large numbers as shown by the recent membership drive.

THANKS: We thank Mr. C.S.Ramohane President of African National Congress (Tvaal) for encouraging inspanning and making use of Youth League members wherever he can.

DELEGATES: Messrs. J. Malepe, V. Mbofo F. Majombozi, W. Sisulu, were the Youth League delegates to Conference of African National Congress (Tvl), at Germiston from 29th September, 1945, to 1st October, 1945.

Dr. Xuma: Recently Messrs. O. Thambo, W. Sisulu, A. P. Mda, and A. M. Lembede interviewed Dr. A. B. Xuma, President-General A. N. C., on matters affecting the Youth League. They were impressed by the Doctor's willingness and readiness to help the Youth League in all ways possible

REPRESENTATION: Messrs. A. P. Mda, J. G. Mali and O. Thambo represented the Congress Youth League at a Conference convened by young Communist League, to consider African Youth Labour camps held in Johannesburg on 6th October, 1945.

DETERMINATION: The African National Congress Youth League means business and is itching for action in the National Struggle.

EDUCATION FOR THE AFRICAN CHILD.

Education is the vehicle by which culture is passed and transmitted from generation to generation. I consider education as a means of adaptation to environment. Africans can only adapt and adjust themselves to Western civilisation through education. Education is accordingly a great weapon which we must wield in the fierce struggle for existence and survival of the African race. Gross illiteracy among Africans must be blotted out.

But before our education can be such an effective instrument for adaptation and survival, it must undergo metamorphosis; we must develop a new conception of education. The idea of "Native education" must be done away with. There is nothing like Native education. There is only human education which prepares equips and enables a human being to master and beneficially use his environment; not an education that prepares a "Native for his place" hewer of wood and a drawer of water. This is not education but "scientific enslavement". There is no education for slavery; education is for freedom, development progress, full citizenship.

Hence education should qualify Africans as any of the following:- Teachers, Medical Doctors, Lawyers, Chemists, Dentists, Accountants, Engineers, Electricians Architects, Mechanics and Surveyors Farmers, Traders, etc.

Our School syllabus from primary school to the University must lay emphasis on and give prominence to science. We need science to dispell the overspread cloud of ignorance and superstition among Africans. Scientific knowledge is of supreme value for health, farming, diet, industrial and business organisation, and almost in all our daily activities. As Spencer puts it; to question: "what knowledge is of most value?" the uniform reply is: "science".

Western civilisation is pre-eminently characterised by its imposing scientific achievements which are leading to the conquest or control of Nature by man. To adapt ourselves then to the environment of this civilisation we must be well grounded in scientific knowledge.

Knowledge of South African history is also of paramount importance to us. South African history, as it is written to-day, is unscientific in that it does not deal with historical events objectively, and its aims seems to be the justification and vindication of white conquest and domination in this country/4.
It dismisses...../

It dismisses the heroic deed of Africans in defence of their country as: cruelty, murder, treachery, and barbarism. We want entirely new conception of South African history from an African point of view.

If the school and the content of the school syllabus are to be improved the training as regards salaries must also be improved and financial status of Africans teachers. To-day African teachers toiling under very difficult conditions, are shamefully underpaid; schools are ill-equipped and ill-staffed.

It necessarily follows from our conception of education that it cannot be part and parcel of any "Native" policy. It cannot be placed under control or management of a Native Affairs Department. It must be in the hands of impartial, unprejudiced, competent educational experts.

If our education is there fore to be a proper stepping stone, to our divine destiny, its organisation and control must exclusively or chiefly be in the hands of Africans themselves. For no foreigner can ever fully apprehend and sufficiently appreciate the inner soul, aspiration, and ideals of Africans which their education ought to subservc.

SPORTS.

S P O R T S .

The benefits and advantages which accrue from sports are multifarious; inter alia: health and recreation; spending leisure times promoting a sportmanlike spirit which is so useful in other spheres of life. The organisation, of which sports is, therefore, nationally important.

It would be very interesting to make a research into the various kinds of sports which were played by our ancestors and try to revive and modernise them

Some popular kinds of sports to-day among Africans are foot-ball (soccer and rugby), tennis, cricket, boxing, etc. To my mind all sports should be nationalised that is, there should be a national council to organise all sports and encourage competitions by prizes cups, and other forms of recognition of merit and ability; and also fight for the right to send best sportsmen or teams to other countries of the world - where there is no colour bar e.g. China, India, Japan, Russia, Turkey, Spain, Italy France, U.S.A., etc. - to play against those countries. Think for instance of what Negroes, like Joe Louis, have achieved in the world of sports. Given an opportunity we can also achieved international esteem, fame and recognition in the sports' World. Archimedes said: "Give me a standing place and I shall move the world". Goethe modified that expression and said: "Make your standing place and move the world". Since we Africans are not given a standing place to move the world, let us make our standing place and move the world. We must have our own centres and play grounds.

Collection Number: A1618

Collection Name: T.D. Mveli SKOTA Papers, 1930-1974

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive

Location: Johannesburg

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