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FSAW
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1. 5. 54

Dear Miss Alexandra,

Within brackets you will find the statements I had not mentioned when making that speech. You may publish this speech in Advance if you like, I am not afraid of what I have said.

Stand firmly,
Yours truly,

(Sgd.) C.A.N. Kuse.

WOMENS' N RIGHTS CONFERENCE.

Franchise rights for black African women are not a new idea. One hundred years ago, when the British Government took the Queenstown area and eventually the whole Tembuland Province, they did not overthrow a Tembu king, but a Tembu Queen whose name was Nonesi, who ruled the Tembu tribe after the death of her husband, King Ngubencuka, and after whom Queenstown was named. (The beautiful European buildings in Queenstown are looked upon by the Tembu tribe as King Ngubencuka's tomb stone.)

There are similar remote cases of African queens that I know of in Gaika-land and Pondo-land who ruled their tribes before the arrival of white people in South Africa. Of course this was not common practise, but a case of the survival of the fittest woman.

We African women are up in arms in want of full franchise rights once more now: and we are determined to fight for them to the bitterest end. So did Queen Nonesi only one hundred years back. When the British people tried to take her Queenstown area she did not put up her hands but fought desperately. She led her forces herself against British troops until the end of the war when she got captured and removed from Gqebenya location to Tyabaya in the Umtata district.

THE IMMORAL REMOVAL OF JOHANNESBURG WESTERN AREAS.

Everybody knows too well that the Minister of Native Affairs and the Government are not dictators but a loud-speaker for the citizens. Although my face is as black as two mid-nights put together, if I were a Minister for Native Affairs, and I had been given that office by a vicious population, I would not be able to do better than Dr. Vervoerd.

The fault is not in our cabinet Ministers but in European voters that there is war between black and white people to-day.

The war that Johannesburg Europeans are fighting against the defenceless Western Areas is the repetition of the war the Italians, under the blessing of their so-called Pope, fought against the defenceless people of Abbysinia. When the Italians were killing my people for nothing, just like to-days Europeans, England was not prepared to help because their skin was black. But soon, the second world war forced the Italians to take their hands off Abbysinia and caused England to suffer bomb-fire: and this is how Europeans reaped what they had sewed. And what Johannesburg citizens will reap is the same.... Sooner or later the Hydrogen Bomb shall remove them: (and we shall all perish. We are better dead than alive under such Government. And only then will God find a new man.)

FINANCING OF BANTU EDUCATION.

I wonder why Europeans are not ashamed of wanting more taxation from the Africans for Bantu Education. There has always been common understanding between every Union Government and the Chamber of Mines, industries, Railway Administration, and every employer of Bantu African labour, that a Bantu must never receive a full value of his labour. A Bantu had been receiving at the most a quarter of his or her wage or salary for nearly three hundred years in this country, and thus three-quarters of our money has been disappearing between the Government and the White employer.

On these lines I declare (what everybody knows) that all Union Government money is Bantu African money! Therefore we expect the Union Government not to finance Bantu Education like European Education but to give Africans free education. We are not asking for a favour but demanding our money for which we have toiled.

TRANSFER OF BRITISH PROTECTORATES.

In 1910 the British Government sold out the Cape Africans for nothing to the Boers. And now we wonder if they are not going to sell out the Protectorates. Since there is really no need, the transfer question should wait until such times as we get full Franchise Rights.

(Mrs.) Cecelia A.N. Kuse.

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FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN 1954-1963

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