

menside,
Dalton.

15-12-43

Mixed Reception

Sir,—As a citizen not at present belonging to any political Party I cannot refrain from registering my disappointment with your two-column leader apologia in answer to two letters written, I do not know by whom, supporting the U.P.

Sir, you seem to carry a double-barrelled shot gun. In your leading articles you fire the first shot into the pants of Dr. Malan and the second goes into those of General Smuts. Your hero of the moment is Mr. Havenga, a Republican with a following of white-washed O.B's. Yet you sometimes give us such excellent liberal-minded leaders as your recent one on the Protectorates and that of August 30 headed "Give Them Hope," the "them" being the Natives.

Also, going much further back, I am sure that your leading article of December 4, 1943, on Indian Communal Franchise would have coincided with the views of the late Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, whose loss is a terrible blow to South Africa. He was the one person among White South Africans whom the world at large regarded as human, the rest being looked upon as fossilised creatures ages behind the times.

The Nationalists and many people in Natal appear too blind to see that repression and denial of representation of non-Europeans instead of preserving White civilization is placing it in jeopardy.

D. R. HUNT.

Blackridge.

Written

9-12-43

"Toenadering", With The

A.P.

14-12-48

Sir,—A cartoon which appears in a recent issue of one of your contemporaries, gives, very admirably, the answer to all your suggestions and recommendations that the United Party should embark upon "toenadering" with the Afrikaner Party, and amply supports the attitude of Senator G. Heaton Nicholls, as expressed in his recent letter to you.

Senator Nicholls, by the length of his experience and contacts as a Parliamentarian, and by the opportunities he has had at close quarters, of observation and analysis of the attitude and methods of those comprising the political Parties of this country, is in a favourable position to assess the possibilities, and the dangers, of some of the policies which you persistently advocate. And the views he expresses are shared by many of those who, like myself, owe allegiance to no "Party," as well as, quite obviously, being shared by the majority of his own Party.

His courageous letter to you is receiving much greater acclaim than the letters published in your "Daily Forum" indicate.

I say "courageous" advisedly as he, no doubt, was well aware when penning his letter to you, that a newspaper Editor enjoys a privileged position in the airing and dissemination of his side of the argument. I might also say, is in a position to "inspire" support for his side, through the medium of his editorials, Letters to the Editor, etc. But such a suggestion might be classified by you as "bad taste" — one of your grounds for the exclusion of letters—ignoring the fact that the privileged editorial pen freely and frequently indulges in such exhibitions.

The remarks of one of your correspondents in Saturday's Forum, for instance, are in questionable "taste." Both General Smuts and Senator Heaton Nicholls are of venerable age, but neither of them are displaying signs of senility—very much "au contraire." And your correspondent has the naivete to write his insinuations under the nom de plume of "Senex"!

Another of your correspondents, either deliberately or by naive lack of "perception," distorts Mr. Nicholls's reference to the war record of the Parties. Mr. Nicholls, I am sure, like all other loyal and decent-minded South Africans, freely acknowledges, admires, and appreciates the magnificent part played by the many "Afrikaners"—young and not so young—who realised their responsibilities to their country, rose above their less important Party allegiances, and risked their lives and their all in the fight.

But Mr. Nicholls also remem-

The Editor, "The Natal Merc

bers the "parts" played by some Party leaders, and by many "yahoos" who stayed behind and did their utmost in dastardly sabotage of their loyal brothers' efforts. And he also remembers the part played by members of an organisation which is now allied to, and probably on the point of controlling, the Afrikaner Party.

Can the leopards change their spots?

"The public pays with ingratitude."

That quotation is from a letter received by me yesterday in reference to a recent personal experience (in which I got "the kicks, but none of the ha'pence" of appreciation), and it truly applies to many of the references appearing in your paper in regard to General Smuts, to Senator Heaton Nicholls, and, prior to his untimely and sorely lamented death, to that talented, far-seeing, and wise Christian gentleman, the late Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr.

D. P. SUTTIE.

18 Berkeley Crescent,
Durban North.

the Public School. Perhaps its main products are *esprit de corps* and, less happily, the more or less complete subordination of individuality. That prep. schools do exercise such an influence is *a priori* probable. And although as far as I know the question has never been systematically examined, I am sure that research would confirm my point: that it is useless to talk about Public Schools without considering the whole social context and experience of the boys—and masters—who make them whatever they are.—Yours &c.,

CECIL HODGES.

Oriel College, Oxford.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN ENGLAND

SIR,—Mr. Harold Nicolson's fear of the growth of anti-Jewish feelings in England was broached by him in your columns some weeks ago, and a Mr. Mayer touched upon it in a short letter. To those of us who have eyes to see and ears to hear, there is no doubt that this sentiment is growing apace—and more especially among the Services. For the sake of our common humanity, and though there are many loyal and upright Jews who suffer for the sins of their fellow Jews, it is a thousand pities that it were so, but it is the fact. May I suggest the remedy is (as my Jewish friends tell me) in the hands of the Jewish leaders themselves? But in the light of what is going on, is this pernicious blight on our community to be wondered at? Consider that the total Jewish population of these islands is less than 1 per cent of the whole. Then consider the percentage of recorded *convictions* against Jews for every kind of fraudulent dodge to evade their responsibilities under the Defence Regulations—whereby they batten on this country's war agony—and what will you find? That this figure is something like 90 per cent. of the whole of the remaining recorded convictions against non-Jews throughout the country! It is now an event if one doesn't read in the daily Press of a gang of Jews being convicted of some form of racketeering, which, in fact, is in essence a grand sabotage of our war effort. And who are to be found in the most expensive restaurants eating, drinking and smoking of the best from London to Leeds? Who in the restaurant cars of our trains get and retain the best seats till they have guzzled in full the while our sailors, soldiers and airmen look on in disgust and wonder if it is for the ultimate benefit of these gentry that they are fighting? Let Mr. Nicolson travel on the 4.15 p.m. express from Paddington to Reading and he will see what I have said is true. Young, well-dressed, perfumed and pomaded Jews will discuss in loud voices how good business is whilst their befurred and bejewelled sisters eat chocolates from "de luxe" boxes—at which soldiers and sailors stand and stare! And hardly once does one hear the King's English spoken, except by the soldiers and sailors, when their language has an Elizabethan robustness!

Now, Sir, I am not and never have been a Fascist, nor an anti-Semite and I live daily in the most intimate communion with many Jewish friends. They are revolted by the conduct of so many of their race, and it is they who will suffer when hate is begotten. Will some Jewish correspondents deal with the mischief I have inadequately described in this letter? It were well that the subject be no longer one for clandestine discussion.—Yours faithfully,

5 Derby Road, Caversham, Berks.

J. H. MALLON.

not be hidden, and can be easily assessed. A tax on the value of land cannot be passed on; and since land values measure the extent of the benefits received from the public (a person's income does *not* measure such a benefit as so many people erroneously believe) it is eminently just that the recipients should pay according to what they have received. A further merit is that it may be brought into use gradually so as to cause as little disturbance as possible.

Its effects.—The country would receive a much-needed addition to its revenue. Land speculation would be smashed. The price of land would fall, and opportunities for production be opened. The most oppressive taxes could be remitted, and that equality of sacrifice we hear so much about would be brought nearer.

Finally, if the tax were raised to 100 per cent., the country we are fighting for would become really our country, not ours in name only, but ours in reality.

I have necessarily been very brief in my remarks, and there are many more advantages of land value taxation which I have had to omit, but I hope I have said enough to show the urgent necessity of having a measure of land value taxation in our next Budget.—I am,
Sir, yours, &c.,

C. W. F. WATKINSON.

6 Darley Drive, Liverpool 12.

CAPTAIN BALFOUR'S BROADCAST

SIR,—I am amazed at the enclosed, written by you in *The Spectator*. How you can approve of the Headmaster of Rugby's impossible letter is more than I can understand. Captain Balfour's dictum is mild—you talk of individuals being tried? The whole nation, except perhaps a few, are behind those awful gangsters, and back them up entirely. How else could they find millions for the Gestapo, and millions for the army, police, &c., who *adore* cruelty, torture, and always have? You speak of individuals as if there were only a few to punish. I enclose three cuttings, they speak for themselves. Anyone who tries to minimise the horror of the Huns is condoning sin and crime and agony against the teaching of the Bible and of Christ. God avenged evil, and punished terribly. Christ, too, loathed evil, especially to children, and punished. Bengal tigers are mild compared to these ghastly Huns, who think out tortures. No punishment in Heaven or earth could possibly be severe enough for them. But one thanks God that Russia and the tortured countries will most likely exterminate these awful people, who, from the time of Frederick the Great's father have always loved war, cruelty and grabbing other people's land. I have taken *The Spectator* for many years, but am so shocked at this cutting that I seriously think of giving it up.—Yours truly,

CECIL MARY DUNDAS.

Redhall, Slateford, Edinburgh.

THE S.P.C.E.

SIR,—How glad I am that "Janus" has invented the S.P.C.E.! For now we have a court to which we can bring atrocities with the ~~unfading~~ knowledge that they will at any rate be recognised as

D.R. CHURCH AND EASTER SERVICES

WHY CO-OPERATION WAS REJECTED

BITTER ATTACK ON THE BRITISH PEOPLE

MUST FIRST CONFESS THEIR "GUILT"

BLOEMFONTEIN, April 19.

IN connection with the controversy over the joint Good Friday church service held in the Plaza Theatre, Bloemfontein, the following correspondence passed between the Rev. C. R. Kotze, a member of the Broederkring, and the Bloemfontein Ministers' Fraternal.

On Friday, February 17, Canon H. Devis, on behalf of the Fraternal, wrote to Mr. Kotze to say that all the churches represented in the Fraternal intended holding a combined service on Good Friday and invited the Dutch Reformed Church to participate in the service, which it was proposed to conduct in both English and Afrikaans.

On February 18 Mr. Kotze replied: "Thanks for your letter of February 17, in which you mention the intention of holding combined services on Good Friday. It so happens that all our congregations' services are held on this day year after year. Now, may I ask you just what the intention of your Fraternal is?—just why do you desire a joint service?"

In reply, Canon Devis wrote that such a combined service would provide them all with the opportunity of testifying in public to their common love towards Jesus Christ and their Christian love for one another. He added that the time of the combined service would be arranged so as not to clash with their services.

Mr. Kotze's next letter, dated February 23, commented on the statement that the service would be an opportunity to testify in public their common love to Jesus Christ and their Christian love for one another and said: "In this connection I must give you the immediate assurance that I do not like words without meaning.

"Indeed the only Jesus Christ I know and love according to our creed is the Christ revealed in the Divine infallible scripture (John V, verse 39). But unfortunately your Church does not believe in an infallible scripture and consequently you can never know how and who the Christ is you must confess and love.

NO CHRISTIAN LOVE

"As regards the second motive, namely Christian love for one another, I must state candidly that I have never discovered your Christian love for me. And, as I shall now explain, you and your nation certainly have not the least ground to expect that I, with the retention of my national love and self respect, should love you.

"All too often is spoken of 'forget and forgive,' but these are again words without meaning.

"No self-respecting nation can or dares forget its own history. And there is with God, who is love itself, no forgiveness without confession of guilt and expiation.

"Of course, I as a Christian am called to leave vengeance to God, but forgiveness without any further ado would mean that I approve of the transgressions of God's commandments.

"As a church and nation you must abandon your superiority complex. You must go to our Women's Monument and confess before God the sins of your nation. Then come and let us, as equals in all respects, stand together for the welfare of South Africa; let us then jointly testify in public to our common love for Jesus Christ and our Christian love for one another."

Finally on March 9, Canon Devis expressed regret at Mr. Kotze's attitude and asked whether—as Mr. Kotze seemed to object to the participation of the Anglican Church—Mr. Kotze's Church would participate with the other members of the Fraternal if the Anglican Church stood out.

FINAL REPLY

Mr. Kotze's reply was: "You profess to see only one ray of light in my whole correspondence—namely, that I might have no objection to co-operation with the other churches.

"Everything I have written about the English nation's unchristian attitude naturally applies to the other members of your Fraternal.

"The Ministers of our Church have in the past experienced much bitterness in Bloemfontein against our nation, Church and language also from other members of the Fraternal.

"So long as your Flag and National Anthem are foisted upon us, so long as your nation reveals so much hate against our language, so long as our monuments, our ancestors and our people are insulted from the English side, I shall naturally view the proposed rapprochement and protestations of love as being not seriously intended.

"There is no place for diplomacy in religion and you cannot reasonably expect any self-respecting Afrikaner to attend your Fraternal or your commemoration services."—(Reuter.)

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THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1945.

A Subtle Plan

THE motion by Mr. C. R. Swart in Parliament urging the appointment only of bilingual Cabinet Ministers, Administrators, Judges, and personnel of boards and commissions, was very properly treated with derision by the Government. But it is not a matter that can be lightly regarded with tolerant amusement as merely another of the silly foibles of the Opposition. This urgent pressure for Afrikaans is part of a very carefully considered long-term plan for the complete Afrikanerisation of the Union. That is very different from bilingualism. The ideal of a perfectly bilingual people is the policy of South Africa, and Natal has led the way in implementing that policy. But the policy of the Nationalist Party is not bilingualism. It is unilingualism, with Afrikaans as the dominant language of South Africa, and it is significant that last session it was Mr. Swart who moved a motion condemning bilingual education.

Members of the Nationalist Party will vehemently deny the imputation, but the practical effect of the policy they are now pursuing is unilingualism. During both this session and the last they have fought strenuously for the principle that all personnel of boards and commissions must be bilingual as part of this policy they are pursuing. In Parliament Opposition members speak Afrikaans almost exclusively, as they are entitled to do so. They insist that replies to them be in Afrikaans. By these tactics they are virtually forcing unilingual members to learn Afrikaans if they are to take an intelligent and active part in debate, which again is unexceptionable and perfectly correct. But the ultimate effect will be that once a completely bilingual House has been achieved the Opposition will see to it that its proceedings will be exclusively unilingual, with Afrikaans as the medium of debate.

Spirit of Union

It is a very subtle plan which, like Mr. Swart's motion, is a departure from the spirit of the Act of Union, as General Smuts pointed out. Bilingualism is a goal towards which South Africa must work. For practical reasons a sound knowledge of both languages is desirable by every citizen, but the Act of Union did not impose bilingualism. It laid down the principle of equality between the two languages, a provision which can be conveniently defined according to one's political views. To define it as Mr. Swart and his colleagues define it, that is, that everyone must have a complete knowledge of and speaking facility in both languages, and that no public appointments must be made without this qualification, is one that has been rightly applied to the Public Service only, but would carry the principle to absurd and even unjust lengths in other walks of life. It ignores the fact that there are degrees of bilingualism, and that for many purposes an ability to speak both languages expertly is unnecessary. For many purposes a sound ability to read and understand Afrikaans thoroughly is all that is necessary. That is also bilingualism, and to insist on the Opposition's definition as the test would exclude many highly experienced men (and women) from public life. Mr. Sturrock, for instance, can follow a debate in Afrikaans with ease, but can reply only in English. Must he be debarred from public service on that account?

All that is no denial of the desirability of bilingualism in public life, but the Opposition's standpoint as expressed by Dr. Malan goes much further. As General Smuts pointed out, there never has been in our history a fully bilingual Parliament or Cabinet; not even the ~~fact~~ Government of General Hertzog was fully bilingual. To exclude anyone from the Cabinet, or from other public position, apart from the public service, because of unilingualism would be undemocratic, would be contrary to the Act of Union, and would impoverish public life. Bilingualism is an ideal that will be realised in time, but it is not something that can be imposed suddenly by force of law.

Call a Halt

The truth is that the Nationalist Party is not so much trying to get somewhere in a hurry; it is trying to impose its will in this respect upon the whole of the people of South Africa, and, as Colonel Stalard rightly said, seeking to make public life impossible for those older English-speaking people who are not bilingual. It is time, as he said, to call a halt to this process. Mr. Waterson, as one of the imperfectly bilingual members of the Cabinet, has always strenuously resisted the efforts of the Opposition to insert a bilingual qualification in the various Bills he has recently handled in which boards of various kinds have been appointed, and has refused to be browbeaten into submission. The Prime Minister has taken the same attitude towards this motion. We believe in bilingualism as a natural process, but we believe also that there has been far too much truckling to the Opposition, which is striving not towards an ideal at all, but pursuing a purely political tactic. A little more sturdy independence on the Government side and a good deal less appeasement might have an unexpectedly salutary effect.

The Twelve Men Who Will Rule

WHAT kind of men are the 12 Nationalists who will now control the destinies of the nation as members of the Union's first all Afrikaans-speaking Cabinet? The following biographies give the key:—

DR. DANIEL FRANCOIS MALAN (74) (Prime Minister and External Affairs), M.P. for Piketberg, was born at Riebeeck West, C.P., on May 22, 1874. He was educated at Riebeeck West and at Victoria College, Stellenbosch, where he obtained his M.A., and at the Utrecht University, Holland, where he obtained his D.D. On his return to South Africa he was a D.R. minister for 10 years at Heidelberg (Tvl.), Montague and Graaff-Reinet.

He was defeated in his first attempt to enter Parliament in a by-election at Victoria West, but in 1918 the Nationalist M.P. for Calvinia resigned in his favour and he represented the constituency for 20 years until 1938, when he first stood for his present constituency of Piketberg.

On the formation of the Hertzog-Smuts United Party in 1933 he went into Opposition and became the Leader of the present Nationalist Party.

Mr. N. C. HAVENGA (Finance), holds the remarkable political record of having presented 16 budgets in succession as Union Minister of Finance.

When still a youth, he joined a commando under General Hertzog and fought against the British in the South African War. He later gave up his solicitor's practice and became the General's private secretary and one of his closest confidants.

After Union, he entered the Free State Provincial Council, and in 1915 he was returned to Parliament for Fauresmith. When the Pact was returned to power in 1924, he took over the portfolio of Finance.

He supported General Hertzog in September, 1939, in his demand for South African neutrality, and left office with him, but took no part in the anti-war agitation. Towards the end of 1940 he announced his withdrawal from Party life. When, however, the Afrikaner Party was formed to carry on General Hertzog's policy, Mr. Havenga agreed to become its active leader.

DR. E. G. JANSEN (Native Affairs) was born at Dundee in 1881 and went as a boarder to Durban High School where he had an outstanding athletic record. He practised as a lawyer from 1908 to 1921 in Maritzburg when he moved to Vryheid.

After Union he joined the South African Party and later held the position of secretary in Natal.

He was Speaker of the House of Assembly from 1923 to 1929 and from 1933 until 1943—a total of 15 years.

He is generally acknowledged to have been the outstanding Mr. Speaker since Union. From 1929 to 1933 he was Minister of Native Affairs.

He lost his seat in 1943 and became editor of the Nationalist English weekly, "New Era."

JOHANNES GERHARDUS STRYDOM (Lands), M.P. for Waterberg and leader of the Nationalist Party in the Transvaal, was born in the Willowmore District, Cape, in 1893. In 1918 he was appointed secretary of the Nationalist Party in the Transvaal.

After his election to Parliament, though he made it clear that he distrusted the Smuts-Hertzog coalition, he announced that he was prepared to give the experiment a chance, but less than a year later followed Dr. Malan into the Opposition. He is a staunch advocate of apartheid and easily one of the strongest men in the Nationalist Party.

Mr. C. R. SWART, B.A., LIB. (Justice), is Leader of the Nationalist Party in the Free State. After being admitted as an advocate in 1919 he became private secretary to General Hertzog and until 1928 was the Party's organising secretary in

the Free State. From 1923 to 1938 he was M.P. for Ladybrand. He has been a law lecturer and a journalist. He is a director of the Nasionale Pers Bpk., Capetown, and Voortrekker Pers Bpk., Johannesburg.

MR. PAUL OLIVER SAUER (Transport), chairman of the Apartheid Commission, is the chief Whip of the Nationalist Party and has recently come forward as an expert on Native affairs.

Mr. Sauer first stood for Parliament at Stellenbosch in 1924 and lost. In 1929 he won the Victoria West seat. After the death of Mr. C. W. Malan, then Minister of Railways, he went to Dr. Malan's seat at Humansdorp and has held that ever since.

DR. A. J. STALS (Health, Education and Social Welfare), formerly member for Hopetown and in more recent years for Ceres, is an influential member of the Nationalist Party at the Cape.

On being appointed in 1934 to the Board of Trade, however, he ceased to be a member of the Nationalist Head Committee.

Dr. Stals, who gained considerable academic distinction when studying for his profession, has given much attention to economic subjects, and in addition to being a member of the Board of Trade was Chairman of the South African Shipping Board.

MR. ERIC LOUW (Economic Development and Mines) has been associated throughout his life with the town of Beaufort West, which he represents in Parliament. Elected for Beaufort West in 1924 he was next year appointed Trade Commissioner to the United States. In 1929 he was appointed High Commissioner in London but returned to the United States as the Union's first Minister to that country. In 1933 he was transferred to Rome in the same capacity, and a year later to Paris.

Dr. T. E. DONGES (Interior, Posts and Telegraphs) has served on the Church Council of the Groote Kerk, Capetown, for 17 years, first as deacon and at present as an elder.

He is an executive member of the Reddingsdaadbond, a vice-chairman of the Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenigings, executive member of the Ekonomiese Instituut and member of the South African Bar Council.

He is the co-author of a standard work on municipal law.

MR. STEPHANUS PETRUS LE ROUX (Agriculture and Forestry), only Nationalist candidate in the election who was returned unopposed. Leader of the farmers' group within the Party he has represented his constituency since 1923.

He is an Oudtshoorn boy and was born on the farm Doorenkraal on March 4, 1891. He took his law degrees at Stellenbosch.

MR. FRANCOIS CHRISTIAAN ERASMUS (Defence), Organising Secretary of the Nationalist Party in the Cape since 1930. Born in the Merweville district of the Cape, was educated at Worcester High School and in Capetown.

After teaching for a few years, he studied law at the University of Capetown, and in 1925 set up in practice as an advocate; two years later appointed Assistant Attorney-General, South-West Africa.

MR. BEN SCHOEMAN (Labour and Public Works) was born in Braamfontein in 1905 and entered the railway service in 1921. He spent nine years on the footplate before receiving promotion to the clerical staff.

While working 12 to 15 hours a day as a fireman, he privately studied for the degree of B.Econ.

He formed the first United Party branch in Fordsburg and was returned at Johannesburg West for the United Party in 1938, but joined the Opposition in 1939 and was defeated in the 1943 Elections.

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