

Dear Sir,

Letter not published —

I read your interesting remarks about my last passport in "Die Transvaler" of February 4. It is clear that you regard ~~just~~ a discussion of ^{possible} growing aggressiveness ~~towards~~ by other South African states towards South Africa as unpatriotic, also any discussion of possible UN intervention. You also find unpatriotic a discussion of the relative strengths of various ~~commodities~~, gold, oil, & shipping boycotts; or whether the Afrikaner-Nationalist would prefer rather to be poor if only he can maintain his race theories & practices. ~~I may say that in my circles it is not taboo to discuss these questions, nor any other possible consequence~~ future possibility that confronts us, nor the possibility that Verwoerdism will lead us into violence & chaos unless Afrikaner Nationalism shows a greater power of adaptation to a changing world.

You omit one important sentence in your quotation. When Mr. Kerteman asked me whether I recommended an oil boycott, I replied

~~I~~ "I don't think it is a question I ought to answer because it might reasonably be regarded as reasonable behaviour."

It should ^{therefore} be clear ~~I think~~ that I never made any suggestion that such a boycott should be applied.

Why did you omit this important sentence? Were you trying to give the impression that I did in fact, over the

Canadian air, with the Canadian people & government, to institute an oil boycott? Now you ~~ought to be~~ ^{apparently think I am} ashamed of yourself, stupid as well as unpatriotic.

The ~~trouble~~ ^{fact} is that you are angry that a white South African should go overseas, and instead of praising Apartheid, should examine it in all its ugliness & speculate on its future consequences. Your Government is ~~remorselessly~~ powerful, but how angry it is that while it can control almost every department of ~~our~~ ^{our} activities, it cannot control ~~our~~ ^{spirits and} ~~our~~ ^{our} minds. ~~This year it will try to~~ ^{think recently it gave up its plans to} control ~~our~~ ^{our} writing; ~~it~~ ^{it} already send its security police to attend ~~to~~ ^{listen} to all ~~our~~ ^{every} public meeting; ~~it~~ ^{it} cannot control ~~our~~ ^{our} speaking; but it cannot control ~~our~~ ^{our} thinking. It may seem to prevent us from saying what we think, but it ~~will~~ ^{cannot} prevent us from thinking what we think.

Actually successful, if you can't open the minds.

There is one ~~thing~~ ^{thing}, Mr. Nathe, that you have ~~ought to get into your mind,~~ ^{realized long ago,} & that is that your idea of patriotism & ~~ours~~ ^{ours} are quite different. Your idea of South African-ness & ~~ours~~ ^{ours} are quite different. Your idea of is love of a country where the Nationalist is boss. But ~~my~~ ^{our} idea of South African-ness is love of a country where there will be ^{no} racial discrimination, and where people ~~will~~ ^{will} be freed from the burden of discriminatory laws. ~~My idea is shared by many millions~~ ^{My idea is shared by many millions} of South Africans, & it will surely win, though I expect see South Africans, and in the end it will triumph. We are not ashamed to be called un-South-African

(3)

or unpatriotic by you & your newspaper. ^{It is} ~~to our~~
~~opinion your newspaper is~~ ^{one of} ~~the~~ most un-South-African
~~publications in the country.~~
your paper that would ruin us.

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