

Jan 8th 1930

AAL, THURSDAY, JAN

A NATIVE PRIME MINISTER

INEVITABLE UNDER THE S.A.P. POLICY

WHAT MR. MOLL, M.L.A., TOLD BETHAL PEOPLE

A meeting was held at Kriel, in the Bethal constituency, yesterday, to promote the candidature of Mr. G. E. Haupt, the Nationalist nominee. After the Minister of Justice, Mr. O. Pirow (whose speech was reported in yesterday's issue of The Star) had spoken, Mr. Haupt addressed the meeting briefly.

Mr. Haupt said that the aim of the Nationalists was to create one strong South African nation which would strive for the interests of South Africa as against and in preference to the interests of any other country. Any person who came from whatsoever other country at his own expense and was prepared to make South Africa his home would be welcomed. Politically it was only a question of time before the S.A.P. entered into the ranks of the Nationalists. (Applause.) Constitutionally the status of South Africa had been fixed at the Imperial Conference of 1926. Financially, Mr. Haupt said he considered it as a sound policy especially in so young a country to indulge in productive expenditure and that the Government had acted contrary to the allegations of the S.A.P.—namely, that the increased income of the State was due to increased taxation by the Government! it had in fact reduced taxation considerably, as well as reduced railway tariffs. (Applause.)

General Plenaar, M.L.A., commented on the absence from this and other Nationalist meetings of members of the South African Party. "I asked some of them why they were not coming," he said, "and they told me that General Coen Brits, who is the big Dingaan of the South African Party, had been to them and he and others had told them not to come." Nationalists attended South African Party meetings—(Voices: "Yes, we are going on Saturday when Hofmeyr will be here")—but the S.A.P. was afraid to hear the truth.

THE PREMIER'S BILLS.

Discussing the native question, General Plenaar said that even Mr. Hofmeyr could not influence them on General Hertzog's Bills, for, if he told them he was wholly in favour of those measures, they had before them the anomaly of a man joining one party to give effect to the policy of the other party. The local voters would have an important duty to perform on election day, for on that day the eyes of the Union would be upon them, and it rested upon them to indicate that the policy the Government had pursued was the true and correct one. (Applause.)

"UNIONISTS."

Mr. Moll said Mr. Jooste was so anxious to enter Parliament that he no longer cared how he twisted political facts, or what political untruths he told. He had contested most seats in the Transvaal, and it was not for Bethal to take up what the rest of the Transvaal had discarded. (Laughter.) They would not merely have to decide between Mr. Jooste and Mr. Haupt on election day, however, but between Nationalists and Unionists. To-day the vast majority of the S.A. Party were old Unionists who had from the first been the antagonists of the people. It was they who were responsible for the Afrikaners leaving the Cape and so

throughout S.A. history the Unionists proved themselves inimical to the interests of the country. As soon as they besmirched one name they took on another, and now they existed under the name of the S.A.P. Their policy had first been to safeguard the interest of Britain and to apply themselves to the Imperial aim, and the interest of South Africa was relegated to a secondary consideration. On this the two parties differed strongly and also on the native question. If the S.A.P. native policy were followed there would be a native Prime Minister in the Union not in the next fifty or one hundred years, but within the next five or ten years. The Nationalists, on the other hand, were determined to circumscribe the native vote. They could not take away the native vote in the Cape for the Government did not have a two-thirds majority and the South African Party would not support the Government towards this end. The South African Party was opposed to the withdrawal of the native franchise in the Cape for the native was Imperialist. He voted for the Union Jack. And to retain the seats which the South African Party held through the native vote in the Cape the South African Party was prepared to sacrifice the destiny of the country. Under General Hertzog's proposals how ever even the existing native vote would be limited and reduced till it disappeared completely from the European roll. (Applause.) Mr. Gert Smit proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Pirow for all he had done in regard to the natives, and a motion of full confidence in Mr. Haupt, the Nationalist candidate. The speakers and the Government were carried unan-

FEBRUARY 28, 1931.

PLIGHT OF NATIVE LANDOWNERS

"ROAMERS OF THE EARTH"

STORY OF SLAVERY IN BECHUANALAND

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

VRYBURG, Friday.—Sitting at Vryburg to-day, the Native Economic Commission started the final stage of the rural part of its inquiries prior to embarking on an investigation of urban conditions.

Painting a very gloomy picture of the situation among natives in Bechuanaland to-day, Mr. Clifford St. Quinton, who at one time occupied a high official position in British Bechuanaland, and who in these areas is regarded as an outstanding authority on native life, declared that morally, physically and financially, the natives were much worse off to-day than in the past. This, to his mind, was due to their falling away from their chiefs and their increasing drinking habits.

The trouble started with rinderpest, which wiped out their stock and broke their homes through their having to go out and look for work elsewhere.

ROAMERS OF THE EARTH.

Rich landowners, men who at one time had been rolling in wealth, became roamers of the earth, doing manual labour for a pittance. Their women in consequence also declined in their morals and in this respect he emphasised the old saying that when a native woman wore European dress she sacrificed her purity.

When a native woman deserted tribal life and conditions, she deserted a great many of her old-time virtues. He laid stress on the prevalence of venereal diseases among natives, and drew attention to the fact that as early as 1886 he had, in his official capacity, drawn the attention of the Imperial authorities to the seriousness of the disease in British Bechuanaland.

SLAVERY STORY.

Extraordinary evidence as to the existence of slavery among natives was given by an old trader named Mr. Stewart, now manager of an asbestos mine, who declared that even to this day Bechuanaland had a tribe of natives known as "vaalperse" working for them under conditions more or less of ownership. This particularly applied to Morokwae Reserve, close to or actually in the Kalahari. The well-to-do Bechuana had families of "vaalperse" belonging to them and they were passed on from father to son, and if a man got married a family of "vaalperse" was often passed over as a bridal gift to the bride.

At one time when working on a local mine he had a number of "vaalperse" in his employ, but on pay day trouble was often experienced owing to the Bechuana owner of the "vaalperse" arriving on the scene and claiming the pay due to the "vaalperse."

POLL TAX CUT ASKED.

Thirty or 40 years ago this ownership or slavery had been

pronounced, though it was not so much so to-day. An extraordinary feature was that the "vaalperse" were men of very much superior physique to the Bechuana.

A trader, Mr. Grace, declared that serious unemployment prevailed among the natives, largely as a result of the depression and he asked the Government, at any rate during the depression, to meet the position by reducing the poll tax. Everything was being done to make it impossible for natives to live. They were not allowed to work on diggings, various trades were closed to them and they were taken off road work so as to have whites put in their stead. Surely the time had come when something should be done to meet them in these times of stress and depression?

The Rev. Mr. Peasley, who has been living for years among the Bechuana, dealt with the causes which had led to detribalisation and said that numbers of young natives had received education and realised that the Chiefs Council, being composed of ignorant old men, was not worthy of respect. As a matter of fact, the greatest nonsense in the world was spoken at such councils and the barbarous customs, together with witchcraft practised by these councils, were driving young people away from the tribes. Old people among natives stubbornly held to old customs, most of which were based on superstition, but the young men were breaking away.

25/7/32

THE STAR.

ASPECTS OF NATIVE
PROBLEMFINDINGS OF STUDENTS'
CONFERENCECRITICISM OF STATE
POLICY

The findings of the conference of the Bantu Studies Societies of the Universities of South Africa, which was held recently at Capetown, have been published. The findings are lengthy and cover aspects of the land question, the political question, and the economic question as far as natives in this country are concerned. Other findings deal with student function and work, and social service and research.

The principal findings may briefly be summarised as follows: The conference wishes to urge the necessity for immediate provision of further areas of land for the occupation of natives as contemplated in the 1913 Land Act. It regrets that it cannot regard the proposed Native Trust and Land Bill as wholly meeting these urgent needs for more land and for a progressive and comprehensive scheme of agricultural development.

The conference associates itself emphatically with the plea of the Native Economic Commission for the scientific development of native reserves, and urges the necessity for a definite scheme of agrarian improvement and agricultural advancement and the application of national funds to achieve this end.

THE FRANCHISE.

In regard to the political question the conference recognises the absolute right of the native to participate in the government of the country in so far as he is qualified to do so, and records its opposition to any legislation of the nature of the Representation of Natives Bill which will have the effect, immediate or ultimate, of depriving the native of the franchise in the Cape.

With regard to the proposed representation in the Senate, the conference, having regard to the secondary nature and limited powers of this House and to the notorious lack of confidence in senatorial representation among the South African natives, considers the Bill inadequate and illiberal. The conference is convinced of the necessity for the enfranchisement on a common roll with the Europeans of all Union natives who can establish their qualifications to exercise the vote, such qualifications to include a standard of living and education and a property or wage qualification.

The conference views with concern the depressed economic condition of the urban native, which it considers to be mainly resultant upon the refusal of the Legislature and of general public opinion to recognise the economic interdependence between black and white, the insufficiency of the reserves, the efforts to promote the interests of white labour at the expense of native labour, and the failure to increase the general productive efficiency of the natives and hence their purchasing power or consuming capacity.

A SUGGESTED PROGRAMME.

In the light of these findings, the conference believes that the economic welfare of the Union as a whole is best to be achieved by the following measures: The repeal of restrictive legislation, the introduction of legislation which will disregard the biological factor of colour and gradually apply a general minimum wage policy to unskilled and semi-skilled as well as skilled occupations.

The immediate tendency of a minimum wage to aggravate urban unemployment should be counteracted by reducing the number of local natives in the towns. So long as the colour bar exists the native should receive preferential treatment to a like degree in other fields. The position of the native in industry should be secured to him on a footing of equality with the European.

Dealing with the student function and work, the conference expresses its conviction that the universities can and must provide the growing point of an intelligent and rational approach to the native problem and that incumbent on every student is a duty to tackle the problem in a scientific spirit, in an effort to find a solution which will do justice to the racial, political, economic and humanitarian elements implied therein.

DAILY DISPATCH, EAST LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1933.

EUROPEAN-BANTU
CONFERENCE.

Pressing Problems Discussed.

Some Impressions.

(By D. D. T. JABAVU.)

(Special to the "Daily Dispatch.")

It is exactly ten years ago that Mr. J. D. Rheinallt Jones organised the first conference of what was then rightly called an epoch-making gathering, comprising 40 prominent European public men and women drawn from all walks of life, and a corresponding number of leading African figures representing advanced organisations and rural communities of the Bantu. The initial conference in 1923 achieved signal success, the promoters repeating this experiment in 1924, 1926 and 1929, while a similar gathering, under different auspices, took place at Fort Hare in June, 1930, for University students. As was aptly remarked, the reports of the proceedings of the 1923, 1929 and 1930 conferences have proved to be the foundation of many of the findings recorded by the Native Economic Commission, 1931, the very expressions in some cases being practically identical. Similar conferences are frequently staged in the United States of America, and as the present writer discovered during his visit there last year, these have been directly responsible for the establishment of inter-racial goodwill in that land.

On Tuesday of last week the joint councils of whites and blacks throughout the country held a special conference in the Bloemfontein Town Hall, when over a hundred bona fide delegates attended. The East London delegate, R. H. Godlo, was among the prominent representatives of our Province. One could wish the same could be said of Capetown, King William's Town and a few other Cape Province centres which are key towns of the historically liberal Province.

One important result of the day's work was the establishment of a consultative committee to link up all the joint councils in the Union in readiness for combined expression when critical matters demand united action.

The European-Bantu conference occupied the next three days under the chairmanship of Senator F. S. Malan

whose opening address has been commented upon in the "Daily Dispatch." The choice of Mr. Malan was inspired in many ways: probably no politician in the country commands greater respect from Dutch, English and Bantu for his political integrity; he was the paramount reconciler of all sections in the famous heresy case of Professor du Plessis; he initiated the State grants to the Fort Hare Native College, and his control of Native Affairs in 1922-1923, when the Government Native Conference was first launched, was marked by qualities of consummate statesmanship. The high tone of sobriety he set for last week's conference was admirable, while his fluency in both official languages drew the admiration of all the 250 delegates, his Dutch being of melodious and poetic character.

The head of the organising body, Professor Edgar Brookes, fresh from his remarkable lectures on the native question at Capetown, warned the delegates against cheap optimism, enjoining them to be prepared to suffer for the cause, to endure unpopularity for it and to consecrate their lives to the aim of overcoming evil with good.

The first topic was that of urban area problems, the leaders to introduce it being W. G. Mears (Capetown), R. H. Godle (East London) and J. R. Cooper (Bloemfontein). Under this head the discussion brought into bold relief the following matters: Fixity of tenure for natives in town locations, the unjust incidence of the lodger's permit imposed on a tenant's child, location trading licences, and the eternal beer question.

THE FRANCHISE QUESTION.

The vexed native franchise problem was taken up in the evening public meeting from different angles. The northern attitude of segregation was defended by J. C. Buys, of the O.F.S. Provincial Department, who said segregation was meant to save the country from race fusion, and to secure that the natives developed along their own peculiar lines.

The Cape liberal view was deputed to the present writer, who exposed the fallacy of segregation and other current misleading electioneering phrases like "civilised labour," "develop on your own lines," "the black menace," "the barbaric vote," "uniformity." He said it was open to the Government to grant the franchise to the natives of the Northern Provinces without first touching the Cape native vote on the plea of uniformity because the principle of uniformity was rejected in 1910 at the consummation of Union when each Province preferred to maintain its peculiar favoured traditions: Natal with her native code, the Orange Free State with her prohibition of land ownership to the natives, the Transvaal with her pass laws and colour bars, and the Cape with her native franchise. He opposed the franchise proposed in the Native Bills under the title of "Separate Representation" as betraying the true Cape tradition.

The next speaker, Rev. Z. Mahabane, urged that the Crown territories of Basutoland and Bechuanaland be not included in the Union until the Union first set its house in order.

The last speaker, Professor Brookes, described the influence of the Press and its importance in all native matters.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION.

On Thursday the discussion on the Economic Commission report was introduced by S. M. Lepolesa (Bloemfontein), W. G. Ballinger (Johannesburg), Miss M. L. Hodgson (Johannesburg), Dr. J. S. Moroka (Thaba Nchu), Chief J. Moshesh (Matatiele), and Advocate F. A. W. Lucas (Commission member). Some of the points raised in this connection were these: Migration into towns due to the Lands Act, farm servants and their conditions, unemployment, wages, stock reduction, lobola, erosion, and so on.

Discussion was temporarily suspended while the Government ban on Pathfinders was dealt with. The result of this has already been published.

EDUCATION.

The evening session was devoted to the many-sided subject of education, the leading speakers being R. B. Snyman, of Bloemfontein, and Z. K. Matthews, B.A., LL.B. (native principal of a Natal high school). The subject was continued on Friday morning by Mr. Kuschke, and concluded.

At this juncture a special privilege was granted to two university students, A. van Schalwyk (Stellenbosch) and R. Sykes (Witwatersrand), to speak, and they indicated the attitude of their respective universities towards the general native problem, their attitude being that of scientific inquirers, unbiassed but searching only for truth, fact and justice. The conference welcomed and appreciated this happy intervention.

TAXATION.

The last speaker of the conference was Dr. A. B. Xuma, M.D. (Budapest), M.D. (Illinois), M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.)

(Continued in preceding column.)

issue.

(whose original home is Engcobo, Transkei, but who is now domiciled in Johannesburg). His subject was Native Taxation, and he discussed the inequity of the Poll Tax under Act 41 of 1925, describing its incidence as being unjust, its method of collection obsolete, objectionable and humiliating by reason of its police round-ups. It was one of the most impressive addresses of the conference, and it provoked a spirited discussion by many speakers.

The findings of the conference, which were lengthy, were published in the Bloemfontein paper. Hereafter followed the closing ceremonies of thanks, the closing address of Mr. Malan, the singing of the Bantu national anthem and "God Save the King."

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THE NATIVE QUESTION

RADICAL PROPOSALS

To the Editor of The Star

Sir,—The aim of Christianity being the promotion of a spirit of brotherhood amongst men, it is unlikely that legislation intended to deprive the natives of their political rights can be pleasing to God. Large sums are annually collected in taxes from the natives; how much is expended in native education? The usual grade of educational attainment reached by most of the natives who seek employment in the towns may, possibly, be classified as covering the requirements of, say, Standard II. This does not reflect any credit upon the Government, which spends large sums annually upon the education of European children, even to the extent of higher education. For the smattering of education they possess, most of the natives give the credit to the churches or to missionary societies, but seldom to the Government. The natives are by no means slow in acquiring knowledge, given a reasonable chance to learn. I make a point of teaching every native that comes into my employment, not only book studies, but, as far as possible, the work of the crafts. I have only found one case in which a boy failed to show an aptitude corresponding with that of Europeans, and he was not a dullard, but was, unfortunately, obsessed with a desire for overdressing himself and seeking enjoyment in doubtful quarters—failings which are also common amongst Europeans.

I attribute the backward state of even elementary education amongst the natives, either to the negligence or to the antipathy of white South Africa to the idea of native advancement. The annual report of the president of the African Peoples' Organisation in 1928 said: "The Government collects approximately £900,000 a year in native taxes, and gives back to the native for his education less than half that amount. The native, therefore, pays into the consolidated revenue fund half a million annually, which is available for the education of the European child." It is true that since the recent agitation was launched by the Union Government for the transfer of the Protectorates, much vent has been given to the subject of native education. This, however, may be rather the outcome of a wish to create a good impression overseas, than any sincere desire to uplift the natives. A much more laudable demonstration of good intentions towards the African people would be, first, to abandon the two Native Bills, and then, to take steps towards the repeal of all such deplorable legislation as the Native Land Act of 1913, the Native Service Contract Act, the pass laws, the colour bars and civilised labour schemes, which serve to militate against the advancement of the natives.

The native legislation in South Africa, heavily biased as it always is against the welfare of the rightful owners of the land, can easily be exposed for the derision of the just, by setting forth a few examples:

- (1) A native council is to be inaugurated—a council without any legislative power and controlled by Europeans.
- (2) Three Europeans are considered sufficient to represent more than six millions of natives in the House of Assembly, whilst one and three-quarter millions of Europeans are to have no fewer than 150 representatives.
- (3) The apportionment of land suggested: 56,166 English square miles to be given to more than 6,000,000 natives, whilst 417,788 English square miles are to be retained for the use of 1,000,000 Europeans.

Considering all that the natives have done for the advancement of South Africa, there should be no hesitation in granting them full political rights. Further, it is within the power of the Parliament to extend the native franchise to the other provinces, and to seek to revoke the ordinances in the Cape. By depriving the natives of full political rights in the land, we will be laying the foundation of evil for posterity.

HOFMEYR—SCAPEGOAT

He is Personally Held Responsible for Government Declarations of Policy

THERE is at present a hue-and-cry in various parts of the country after the political blood of Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, Minister of the Interior, Education and Health.

For the time being Mr. Hofmeyr has eluded his persecutors. He has made a public declaration that there is room for the liberal people under the old umbrella of the United Party, and having made that reassuring statement he has skipped across to India.

For two months he will have the opportunity of eating as much curry and rice as he craves and of being garlanded by Ghandi, Sastri and Sarojini Naidu. At the same time he will be safeguarded from all kinds of nasty questions which hecklers have a habit of asking at public meetings in our country.

Unhappy

About four or five months ago, during the last session of Parliament, I informed readers of the "Sunday Express" about the persistent rumours that were going the rounds in the Lobbies about Mr. Hofmeyr.

It was clear then that he was unhappy in the party and that the party was unhappy about him. The formation of a so-called Liberal Group within the innermost precincts of the so-called United Party was being openly discussed, and Mr. Hofmeyr was looked upon as the Moses of this embryo group.

The majority of Fusionists looked askance at this mushroom growing in the very centre of their caucus,

but what could they do otherwise than frown?

Then came Mr. Hofmeyr's famous peroration in opposition to the Prime Minister's Native Representation Bill and his vote with the "noes," sitting cheek by jowl with Colonel Stallard, Mr. Marwick, Mr. Coulter and Mr. R. J. du Toit, of Maitland, and challenging the wrath of General Hertzog, than which there is no more dangerous thing in South African politics to risk.

After this, a number of members of Mr. Hofmeyr's own party openly expressed their jubilation over what had happened. Their jubilation?—you will ask in surprise.

Yes, what they said was: "Now we've got Hofmeyr where we want him. Politically he has been shattered on the rocks, and his chance of becoming leader of the United Party has been smashed to smithereens. Now it's Pirow for us, and we need not worry about competition from Jannie Hofmeyr any more."

Such were the sentiments expressed by those who had expected a trial of strength between Mr. Oswald Pirow and Mr. Jannie Hofmeyr for the ultimate leadership.

These jubilant Pirowites were perfectly right. Mr. Hofmeyr has forfeited all chance of ever becoming

the leader of his party as it is at present constituted.

It may happen, of course, that the United Party, in the not too distant future, will break up into a number of groups, and that Mr. Hofmeyr's so-called liberal group may remain behind with the family gods of the old party. "to tell the name and swell the fame" of the U.S.A.N.P., in which case he might become the leader. But short of that, he might as well realise that he is out of the running, while there are still such a large number of Wentzels, Roods, Bekkers, De Souza's, Raubenheimers, Pretoriuses—and Hertzogs and Havengas—in the United Party.

Resolutions are being passed, so we read, by meetings—in some cases where Fusionists are greatly in the majority—demanding that Mr. Hofmeyr be relieved of his Cabinet rank on account of his liberalistic tendencies and utterances.

Fusionists realise that in him the Nationalists have the jawbone of an ass to smite the Philistines of Fusion on every platform on the platteland—pardon the metaphor and no offence to Mr. Hofmeyr intended.

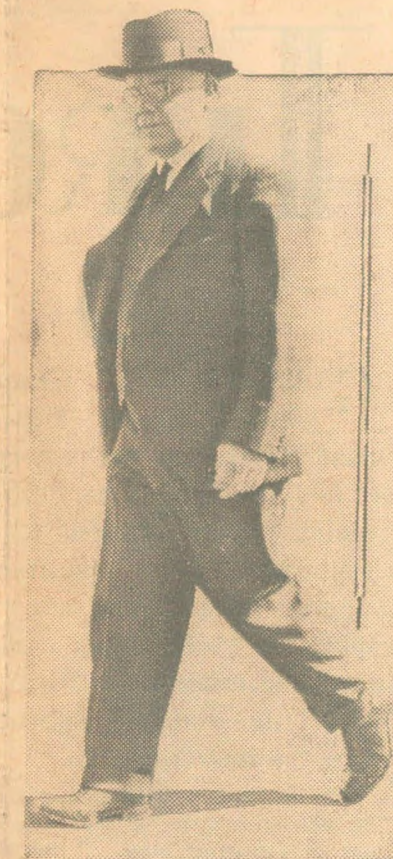
At one meeting where there were many members of the United Party present and collected in one part of the hall, after I had dealt with Mr. Hofmeyr's policy, there went up a shout from that particular corner: "We'll see that he gets kicked out."

His "Sins"

All of which cannot be too pleasant and promising for the Minister of the Interior.

Now what is Mr. Hofmeyr's sin? Why is he being hounded out of the United Party? I want to summarise the reasons as they are being expressed.

First of all, there is his opposition to General Hertzog's Native Bill, even after the compromise had been



MR. HOFMEYR.

"As a leader he will never blossom forth."

effected which brought men like General Smuts, Mr. Dick Stuttaford, Major van Zyl, Mr. Payne and others from the Eastern Province to toe the line and support the now famous Bill No. 2.

Then there is his recent declaration of liberalism, especially with regard to our relations to the coloured races in our midst, and his statement that there is a safe and sure resting-place for this brand of liberalism within the capacious folds of the United Party blanket.

Furthermore, there is his attitude during the last session of Parliament, when certain matters relating to this vexed question of colour were pertinently raised.

He refused to entertain the idea of prohibiting mixed marriages by law, even though such prohibition exists in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, where the old Volksraad of the republics saw to it that such legislation was passed.

OF UNITED PARTY

By C. R. SWART, M.P.

When asked to introduce legislation to put an end to the employment of white girls by and under Asiatics and other coloured employers, he refused point-blank to do so.

The complaint that natives, coloureds and Asiatics were allowed to attend certain universities along with white men and women was pooh-poohed by him, and he would not dream of prohibiting it.

Whether Mr. Hofmeyr was right or wrong in his attitude does not concern me at the moment—I believe he is wrong. But the fact remains that these matters are being exploited on political platforms and Mr. Hofmeyr is not exactly popularised thereby.

Unfair

I do want to express this conviction—that Mr. Hofmeyr's own party is not being fair to him. He is being made the scapegoat, and resolutions are being passed demanding his resignation or removal from the Cabinet, while there is a strong undercurrent of opposition growing against him.

When he spoke in Parliament on these questions, Mr. Hofmeyr did not speak as only expressing his own ideas on the matter. He made it clear that he was speaking on behalf of the Government and that he was enunciating Government policy.

"The Government is not prepared to pass this legislation," and "the Government is not convinced that it is advisable to put through that measure—that is what he emphatically declared.

How can these people hold Mr. Hofmeyr solely responsible for these declarations of Government policy if they were approved by the Prime Minister and his other colleagues in

the Cabinet? Surely, the Cabinet and the party must take the responsibility and not try to load it on to the shoulders of the Minister who spoke on behalf of them all.

That is why I say that his own supporters are not fair and just towards Mr. Hofmeyr.

Indecision

But, of course, that will not deter them. If the party must be saved through the sacrifice of one innocent lamb, they will not hesitate to do it.

Is there any chance of Mr. Hofmeyr resigning? I think not. He is not of the stuff that leaders and martyrs are made of.

He is one of the brainiest men South Africa has ever produced, and I would have given much to have sat at his feet when he played the role of professor of Latin or of philosophy. But as a politician he has not been a success, and as a leader he will never blossom forth. He hasn't it in him.

You will, no doubt, remember how long he took to decide whether he should enter the world of politics at all, and when he had ultimately taken that decision, it cost him a trip overseas during the 1929 elections to decide which party to support.

You will also remember that in the meantime scathing attacks were made upon him by men like Mr. Heaton Nicholls over his indecision, while the "Cape Times" published a delightful cartoon, in which Mr. Hofmeyr was shown sitting alone on a fence in the moonlight, singing that jazz-ditty about "Hugging myself in the Moonlight."

I prophesy that Mr. Hofmeyr will again take just a little too long to decide whether he ought to stay in or walk out.

AN APOLOGY TO MR. SWART

IN the "Sunday Express" of August 30, Mr. C. R. Swart, M.P., takes strong exception to my attributing certain statements to him, which were in fact made by General Hertzog at Smithfield some few years back.

I read Mr. Swart's article, and, being under the impression that the words quoted were his opinions, I cut out the offending sentences for future use.

On reading over the whole article, I find I have done Mr. Swart an injustice, which I greatly regret. I wish to assure him that the error was genuine, if inexcusable.

At public meetings which I have heard addressed by Mr. Swart, I have never heard him make statements which could be construed as racialistic. To wilfully misquote him, therefore, would be merely stupid.

I trust Mr. Swart will accept this apology for any unwitting injustice I may have done him.

ALLAN ROBERTSON,
Stormfontein, P.O. Norval's Pont, C.P.

CAPE NATIONALISTS ENDORSE

REPUBLICAN IDEAL *Rand Daily Mail* Official Statement on *2/10/36* Colour Question

Worcester, Thursday.

THE congress of the "purified" Nationalist Party of the Cape, which is now sitting here, to-day issued statements regarding the republican and colour questions.

STRICT LINES OF DEMARCATION

The decision regarding republicanism is embodied in the following announcement:

"The proposals of the Federal Council in regard to the republican ideal of the party were adopted unanimously and with great enthusiasm

"Although there is no implication that persons not in favour of republicanism will be excluded, the decision of the party means nevertheless that the party aims at the founding of a republic.

"The party, however, binds itself to constitutional methods and to equal language rights, even under a republic. Further, it binds itself to ensure that it has the support of the majority by calling for a special mandate from the people before undertaking the founding of a republic."

The following is the congress's official statement on the colour question:

"AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE"

"With a view to the maintenance of European Christian civilisation and the furtherance of the interests of all sections of the population of the Union, and with a strict sense of European responsibility towards the other races for their general progress, this congress is convinced that it is necessary, as far as practicable, to draw a line of demarcation between Europeans and non-Europeans as well as between natives and coloured.

"Congress, therefore, expresses the conviction that mixed marriages should be prohibited by legislation and that the development of racial pride and self-respect should be fostered by all possible means among non-European races; that the employment of the same staff of European and non-European teachers in non-European schools should be prohibited; that no European should be employed in an inferior position to a non-European; that legislation should prohibit white women from being employed by a non-European; that, in the interests of both European and coloured workers, the ban on the entrance of natives from outside the Union should be strictly enforced and that the influx of Union natives into the towns should be limited and controlled."

DR. MALAN RE-ELECTED

Dr. Malan was unanimously re-elected leader of the party to-day.

Congress expressed the opinion that all members of select committee and boards should be bilingual, that bilingualism should be fully observed over the radio, and that the Government be asked to take strong action against desecration of the Sabbath.

"FOREIGN" FILMS

The following resolution was accepted without discussion:

"Films which represent Afrikaners in a ridiculous light, such as the Rhodes film, should be banned and Congress protests against the continual showing in the Union of foreign films which are obviously designed to glorify the British fleet, the British House of Lords, the British army and British industrial undertakings, and urgently requests the Censor Board to pass for education only such films as are designed for amusement and cultural uplift and to ban, as political institutions, films designed to make propaganda for the British Empire."

Another resolution was adopted insisting on bilingualism for all Civil Servants, except those engaged in technical work.

The Congress declared itself in favour of Italy's offer regarding the training of black troops in Africa, and agreed to force the Government, by meetings and in other ways, to accept the offer.

Other motions urged the maintenance of South Africa's right of neutrality, and demanded that the country should dissociate itself from any treaty or agreement of policy that might involve her in a European war.



PASSING THE WINNING POST: Messrs. Scott and Guthrie's Percival Vega Gull passing the winning post at the Rand Airport yesterday, when they won the England-Johannesburg air race.

The congress decided that the right of appeal to the Privy Council should be removed.

Motions arising out of the Native Act were carried, these demanding that equal privileges, so far as land is concerned, should be given to Europeans.

It was decided without discussion that the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers should not attend Imperial Conferences and other Imperialistic gatherings.

A proposal for immediate cessation of the boycott of German goods was agreed to.

The fixation of the interest rate at 3½ per cent. and the payment of a Government subsidy on redemption payments and on mortgage bonds were agreed to.—Reuter.

News by R. C. Knott-Craig, Worcester.

GUTHRIE TO LEAVE RAND TO-MORROW

London, Thursday.

It is revealed that the Cambridge University authorities insisted on Mr. Giles Guthrie returning by October 15. Sir Connop Guthrie has booked his son a passage in the Imperial Airways liner leaving Johannesburg on Saturday. Mr. Guthrie will arrive at Croydon on October 15 and motor straight to Cambridge.—Reuter.

Clothing and cash valued at £100 was stolen from the residence of Mr. C. Nasson in Kinross Road, Parkview, on Wednesday night.

BISHOP DEPLORES CAPE NATIVES LOSS OF VOTE

20/10/36
WHITE AND BLACK IN "OPPOSING CAMPS"

I REGARD as deplorable the withdrawal from the natives in the Cape of their right to vote in parliamentary constituencies," the Bishop of Pretoria, the Rt. Rev. W. Parker, declared yesterday in the second portion of his charge to the Anglican Synod of the Diocese of Pretoria.

"The substitution of the communal franchise, which has been given in return for this deprivation of the vote, seems to me to be very unwise, suggesting as it does both to Europeans and natives that their interests are antagonistic, and thus tending to drive them into opposing camps," he proceeded.

He added that it was the business of the Anglican Church to make the best of the situation. He welcomed the Native Land Act as a step forward, and commended the Pretoria City Council for at last reaching some sort of finality on the question of a new native location.

The Bishop said that the failure of the League of Nations in the Abyssinian trouble should not be allowed to overshadow the immense amount of good, which the League had accomplished in other fields.

NATIVE FRANCHISE

"In the Union the Government has carried through epoch-making legislation dealing with the native franchise in the Cape Province, and with the provision of more land in the Union for native occupation," said the Bishop.

"The Europeans of the Union in severely restricting the voting rights of the native population (for the Union Native Council will have only advisory powers) have assumed a most grave responsibility. Will the European population take the trouble to discover the economic and social needs of the natives and attempt to supply these needs? I am bound to say that past experience does not give much cause for optimism.

"Here in Pretoria, what for years has been an intolerable scandal—the failure of the Municipal Council to plan for the decent and adequate housing of its native population—was brought to an end only a few days ago. No Municipal Council would have treated a large number of human beings living within its borders in such a way if those persons had possessed the privilege and the power of a vote.

LAND ACT

"The Native Land Act is also a welcome advance. The Prime Minister has very solemnly given his word that the provisions of the new Act shall be put into force without delay.

"The relations of Europeans and natives are undergoing a severe strain, and as Christians we must regard the signs of growing resentment among the natives with profound concern. Some of the causes are beyond the power of the individual Christians or even of the corporate Church to eliminate. But we can all co-operate in applying a Christian spirit. While I do not believe that the economic aspect of the system of Communism is necessarily opposed to Christianity there are manifestations of the Communist movement which are not only hostile to the Christian religion but which also breathe a spirit which Christ sought to eliminate from the world. But if we Christians are not prepared to do our duty as Christians, can we expect the Africans not to turn elsewhere for help, and to seek solace in hatred and force?"

The Bishop then discussed the needs of the diocese mentioning the efforts being made to increase the number of the clergy.

Sub-editing and headlines of all political matter in this issue by Gordon Natrass, 155, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg.

JANUARY 28, 1937.

SENATOR FOR
NATIVES

FRANCHISE IN THE
CITY

MEMBERS FOR
ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Meetings of native taxpayers domiciled in Joannesburg, outside municipal locations, will be held early next month to nominate and elect a native taxpayer domiciled in each of the three wards into which Johannesburg has been divided for the purposes of the Representation of Natives Act.

The natives elected at these meetings will represent the native taxpayers in the electoral committee to be constituted for the district of Johannesburg as a voting unit in the electoral college for the electoral areas of the Transvaal and Free State for the nomination and election of a Senator, and of two members of the Native Representative Council.

The meeting for Ward I. will be held at the Bioscope Hall, Second Avenue, Alexandra Township, at 6.15 p.m. on Friday, February 5. For Ward II. the meeting will be held in the Star and Garter Hall, Sophiatown, at 6.15 p.m. on February 4, and for Ward III. the meeting will be held at the Bantu Men's Social Centre, Eloff Street Extension, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3.

Those allowed to attend these meetings are native taxpayers registered as taxpayers in the district of Johannesburg only and do not include natives who, though residing in the district, continue to pay taxes in their home district. Native taxpayers whose home districts are outside the Union are also excluded.

Natives exempted from the payment of taxes by age, 65 years or more, or natives who pay income tax of £1 or more per annum will be allowed to vote. No native will be allowed to vote unless he produces his receipt or his exemption certificate to prove that he is registered as domiciled in the ward.

A CANDIDATE'S VIEWS.

In connection with the interpretation placed upon the word "domicile" by Mr. H. Basner, one of the candidates for the Transvaal and Free State Senatorship, in an interview to-day. He said that only those natives were registered taxpayers in Johannesburg.

The voting strength of all the natives in Johannesburg, including those who owned their own properties in the locations, was thus limited to 3,743. The Native Affairs Department, in receipts to native taxpayers, described them as coming from the districts where they were originally registered. Thus a native might have been living in Pimville for 25 years, own his own home, and have no intention of returning to his original district, yet his tax receipts would show him as being registered in his district of origin.

Mr. Basner said he intended to bring the matter before the African National Congress at Boksburg on Sunday, and to the notice of the Reef Federation of Advisory Boards and Vigilance Committees. He would urge that they should make immediate representations to the Minister of Native Affairs.

BLACK AND WHITE

**IDENTITY OF WORKERS'
INTERESTS**

19/3/37
To the Editor of The Star

Sir,—In a broadcast address from Capetown Mr. Oswald Pirow said: "The other attitude was the one based on the idea of differentiation which admitted the right of the native to develop under the white man's guidance to the highest state of civilisation of which he is capable and which recognised the white man's obligation to help the native in his development, but which laid down most emphatically, once and for all, that the native should obtain no social and political equality with the white man. This doctrine was the accepted one in the Union."

But it is too late for such doctrine to succeed. Those days are past; the former ignorance and superstition are disappearing. In the dawning light of the new day Africans begin to see that the ruling class have been making merchandise of the natural rights and privileges of the rest of the native Africans. In seeking to restore all men, irrespective of race or colour, to their natural rights we do not seek the benefit of any race, but of all. For we both know by faith and see by fact that injustice can profit no one and that justice must benefit all.

Nor do we seek any futile and ridiculous equality. The equality we would bring about is not the social equality, but the securing to all men of equal opportunity for the exercise of their powers and the removal of all legal restriction on the legitimate exercise of these powers. The British principle of equal civil rights for white and black finds no place among the Afrikaans-speaking people, yet, as this declaration is based upon the bed-rock of justice, it must be adhered to by the Union.

The white workers are gradually realising that sooner or later the interests of the native workers must be the interests of the white worker—that each must be his brother's keeper if he would preserve his own welfare.

JOSIAH MAPHUMALO.

Natal.

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