

After detailing the increased grip of the U.S. monopolies on South Africa, M. DICKSON here gives startling facts of

AMERICAN PENETRATION IN OUR INDUSTRY

Let us turn our attention to another group of American financiers, those associated with the American Metal Company. This company controls the production of strategically important minerals in many parts of the world. In southern Africa it has controlling interests over the Roan Antelope and Mufilira copper mines in Northern Rhodesia, as well as over the zinc and lead mines of Tsumeb, South-West Africa. American Metal also has a strong interest in the O'okiep Copper Co. It is worthy of note that American Metal and Anglo-American between them are in effective control of the entire copper output of southern Africa.

American Metal is jointly controlled by Newmont Mining Corporation and International Nickel, the former a Morgan subsidiary, the latter representing mixed Morgan and du Pont interests. One of the directors of International Nickel is none other than that friend of humanity, Mr. John Foster Dulles. Rhodesian miners will be glad to know whose pockets they are lining by their labours.

Among South African financial houses having strong American links we must not forget the Schlesinger group. Two out of the three members of the Schlesinger family controlling the group are actually U.S. citizens. The group not only controls our bioscopes, but also has large interests in insurance (African Life), in hotels, in advertising and in department stores.

NEIGHBOURING TERRITORIES

In assessing the influence of American finance capital in South Africa we cannot neglect the neighbouring territories where American penetration has been particularly marked. We have already seen that American finance capital is in effective control of Northern Rhodesian copper, partly through the American Metal group and partly through Anglo-American. In addition it exerts its influence in this area through the important holding company of Tanganyika Concessions.

In 1950 an American group acquired 600,000 ordinary shares in Tanganyika Concessions as a result of a sale of shares by the British government and by French interests. It has been stated that this transaction was one of the conditions of Marshall aid to these countries. The American group involved acted through the banking houses of Ladenburg, Talman & Co. and Lazard Freres & Co., representing Rockefeller interests. Much of the capital was contributed by the International Basic Economy Corporation which is the Rockefeller family's "international development corporation."

Through Tanganyika Concessions the Rockefeller group now has large and probably controlling interests in the Benguela Railway, in a number of Rhodesian gold mines and, above all, in the copper and uranium output of the Belgian Congo. Tanganyika Concessions controls Union Miniere du Haut Katanga which is the company directly concerned with copper and uranium production in the Congo. In addition, this company also has an exclusive concession over 7,700 sq. miles of territory which are known to contain over one hundred new copper deposits, as well as cobalt, radium, gold, iron ore, platinum and tin. In 1953 the U.S. Export-Import bank granted a loan of \$22,400,000 for the construction

of a hydro-electric power plant on the Lualaba River to provide power for the Union Miniere mines.

It is of interest to note that the banking houses of Ladenburg, Talman and Lazard Freres also have interests in a number of mining and industrial enterprises in South Africa. Here too they are acting for Rockefeller interests. Their arrival on the South African financial scene in 1947 was hailed by "Time" magazine as "the first big beach-head of American capital in South Africa."

American capital is also stretching out greedy fingers towards Portuguese East Africa on the supposition that oil will one day be found there. This oil has been bartered to the Americans even before its discovery. The Mozambique Gulf Oil Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Gulf Oil Corporation of America, has been granted a total concession over nearly 48,000 sq. miles by the Portuguese Government. This represents one-sixth of the total area of Mozambique. Active prospecting is going on in the region. The Gulf Oil Corporation is part of the great Mellon financial empire.

U.S. "AID"

American government "aid" constitutes one of the most important channels through which American financial control has been exercised all over the capitalist world. Southern Africa has not been spared this questionable assistance. The U.S. Economic Co-operation Agency is directing \$5,000,000 to the financing of Rhodesian railways and more such gifts with all their attached strings can no doubt be expected.

The International Bank has been another notorious vehicle for the penetration of American financial control into many corners of the capitalist world. In spite of its name this bank operates almost exclusively with American capital and is completely controlled by representatives of American financial houses. It specializes in loans to governments and uses the power so obtained to extract all sorts of concessions for American capital.

The South African Government has not been slow to avail itself of American credit facilities. In 1950 it took up a loan of \$20,000,000 with private American bankers and this was followed in 1951 by International Bank loans totalling \$30,000,000. So successful were these transactions for the Americans that they granted further International Bank loans totalling \$50 million in 1953. Further and bigger loans to the Nationalist Government are to be expected. With each such loan the interference in the Union's internal affairs is increased and the Nationalist government is strengthened.

In the industrial field many American companies have set up subsidiaries entirely financed and controlled from America. The number of such American subsidiaries trebled between 1949 and 1953 and it is continuing to rise at an enormous rate. These enterprises represent far from a negligible proportion of South Africa's secondary industries in terms of turnover, investment capital or labour employed.

MOTOR INDUSTRY

In this connection special mention must be given to the motor industry where American influence has been paramount for a long time. The Ford and General Motors assembly plants at Port

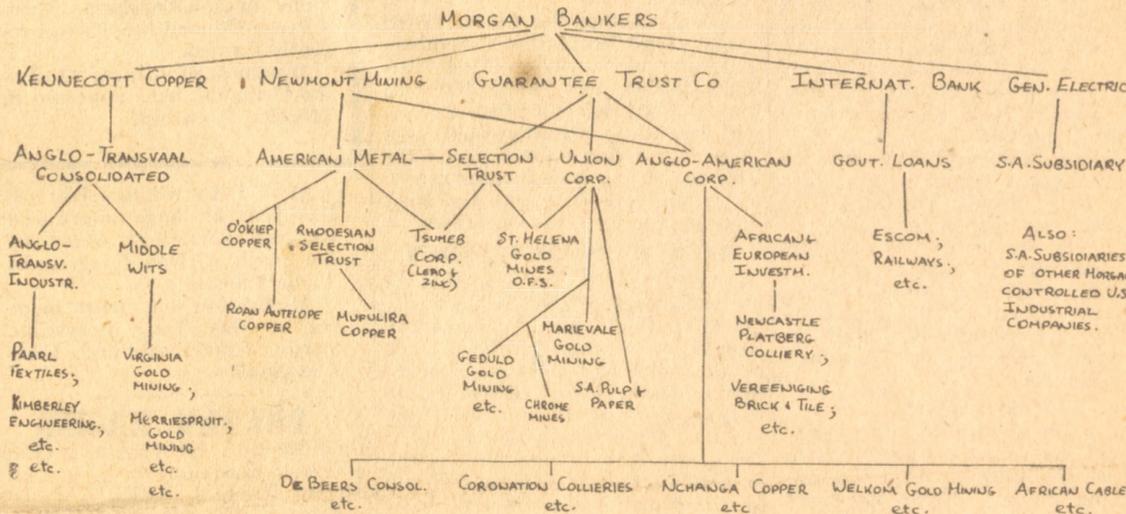
Elizabeth go back to the nineteen twenties, but the post-war years have seen an enormous expansion here. The annual payroll of General Motors now exceeds £1 million and the plant can turn out 35,000 units a year. Since it started operations in South Africa this company has sold well over £100 million worth of its products here! To the Ford and General Motors plants have now been added the Studebaker plant at Uitenhage, the Nash plant at East London and the Chrysler plant in Natal.

One of the most lucrative adjuncts to the motor industry is the manufacture of tyres. In this field we find the three giant Ameri-

lyn, N.Y.; Colonial Electric Products Inc. of East Patterson, New Jersey; Ingersoll-Rand Co. of New York; A. P. de Sanno & Son Inc. of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania; Denver Equipment Co. of Denver, Colorado; Gardner-Denver Co. of Quincy, Illinois; Hewitt-Robins Inc. of New York; Joy Manufacturing Co. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Link Belt Co. of Chicago; Mine Safety Appliances Co. of Pittsburgh; Norton Co. of Worcester, Massachusetts; Caterpillar Tractor Co. of Peoria, Illinois; Harry Ferguson Inc. of Detroit; International Harvester Co. of Detroit; Massey Harris Co. of Racine, Wisconsin; Coca-Cola Export Corporation of New York; Pepsi-Cola Co. of New York; General Milk Co. of Los Angeles; Kellogg Co. of Battle Creek, Michigan; Standard Brands Inc. of New York; Wood & Hyde Co. of Cloversville, N.Y.; Abbott Laboratories of Chicago; Bristol-Myers Co. of New York; Johnson & Johnson of New Brunswick, New Jersey; Colgate-Palmolive Peet Co. of Jersey City; Schering Corporation of Bloomfield, New Jersey; Sterling Drugs Inc. of New York; Chesebrough Manufacturing Co. of New York; American Cyanamid Co. of New York; Berkshire Knitting Mills of Reading, Pennsylvania; Crown Cork & Seal Co. of Baltimore; International Cellulotton Products Co. of Chicago; S. C. Johnson Co. of Racine, Wisconsin; Joseph H. Meyer Bros. of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Masonite Corporation of Chicago; Tell Manufacturing Co. of Orange, New Jersey.

This list is far from complete.

DIAGRAMMATIC REPRESENTATION OF CHANNELS OF MORGAN INFLUENCE IN S.A.



can corporations well represented in the Union. Firestone and General Tyre and Rubber Co. each have a plant in Port Elizabeth and Goodyear has its plant in Uitenhage. The profits of Goodyear alone were £276,000 in 1952, after making deductions for taxation.

RAND DAILY MAIL

In the case of Goodyear and General Tyre and Rubber some South African capitalists whose connections were thought to be useful have been allowed to take part in the enterprise as junior partners. In this way the well-known motor firm of Williams Hunt has become linked to the General Tyre and Rubber Co. It is noteworthy that the South African subsidiary of Goodyear has an interlocking directorship with the Cape Times and that the subsidiary of General Tyre and Rubber has an interlocking directorship with the Rand Daily Mail.

Closely related to the motor industry are the oil companies. As early as 1943 American investments in petroleum enterprises in South Africa were valued at \$21 million. In the following ten years these investments were officially stated to have more than doubled. This does not include the new 16,000 barrels per day refinery in Durban which was built by Standard-Vacuum Oil at a cost of \$22 million. This vast unit is wholly owned by the Rockefeller group. Total American investments in the oil industry in South Africa cannot be short of £25 million today.

The following list of some of the more important American companies which have recently set up South African branches or subsidiaries will give readers some idea of the extent of American penetration in the industrial field: The General Electric Co. of New York; Westinghouse Electric Co. of New York; Nash-Kelvinator Corporation of Chicago; Frigidaire Corporation of Dayton, Ohio; Carrier Corporation of Syracuse, N.Y.; Heinemann Electric Co. of Trenton, New Jersey; Murray Manufacturing Corporation of Brook-

Moreover, it does not include American companies working in South Africa through Canadian or English subsidiaries; nor does it include thousands of American firms represented in South Africa through sales and distributing agents or offices, or through licensing arrangements not subject to public knowledge. The proportion of the South African working population that is helping to pile up profits for American capitalists must be quite considerable.

GOVT. A PARTNER

The South African government acts as a direct partner to some of the industrial magnates of Pittsburgh in connection with the Vanderbyl steel project. The Vanderbyl Engineering Corporation, Vecor for short, was founded with the help of a large slice of capital emanating from the Mesta Machine Co. of Pittsburgh. An agreement exists between Vecor and Mesta whereby the latter is to act as the former's technical adviser and supply much of the capital equipment, while Vecor agrees to "further Mesta's interests in South Africa." One knows only too well the kind of agreement that is involved here. Even where the formation of a certain amount of heavy industry in a colonial or semi-colonial country is permitted, the industrialists of the imperialist countries make sure of controlling it to make sure that it does not become a possible rival. In this way heavy industry in countries like South Africa is prevented from reaching the fullest level of development while capitalism holds sway. The machine building industry is of course hardly allowed to develop at all.

URANIUM

We come now to what is probably the largest and certainly the most important area of American influence in South Africa, the field of uranium production. By 1953 U.S. credits for the new uranium extraction plants in South Africa totalled over \$120 million. M. H.

de Kock, governor of the S.A. Reserve Bank, has stated that in the year 1952 foreign credits for the development of uranium mining accounted for about one-third of all foreign liabilities incurred directly by South African firms. The greater part of these uranium credits came from America.

Uranium extraction plants are in production at the following mines: Stilfontein, West Driefontein, Vogelstruisbult, Luipaards Vlei, Harmony, Randfontein, West Rand and Blyvooruitzicht. The main Anglo-American uranium refineries are Daggafontein, Western Reefs and Welkom (2 plants). Very important is also their subsidiary Monazite and Mineral Ventures which mines sand containing uranium and thorium in the Cape. The uranium mining developments undertaken at Anglo-Transvaal's Virginia mine in the Free State have already been mentioned. This is a particularly large project which has attracted investments to the tune of £4,400,000 from the Atomic Energy Board. Last year

South Africa's exports of radioactive minerals were valued at £15,000,000 and this figure is expected to double within the next few years, as more of the new refining plants reach full production.

ATOM DIPLOMACY

The uranium producing countries play a particularly important role in Washington's atom diplomacy. Wherever important deposits of uranium are known to occur Washington seeks to establish itself in a controlling position; a control that extends also over political developments likely to have an effect on uranium production. In 1953 the notorious Senator Hickenlooper, Vice-Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, paid a visit to the South African government at the head of a Congressional mission. The mission was welcomed by Dr. Malan and other members of the cabinet. No doubt as a result of that visit South Africa has been more firmly hitched to American global atomic strategy.

Senator Hickenlooper is also chairman of the Congress subcommittee on Raw Materials, and it was not only the Union's uranium that he wanted to put more completely into the service of the American war machine. "Your country certainly has great reserves in strategic raw material which can be used over the years for the benefit of the free world," stated the Senator. By the "free world" he means of course his own world of finance capitalists and their political hangers-on. Among the South African raw materials he has in mind for his war plans are asbestos, manganese, chrome, copper, lead, zinc and platinum. A study of export figures reveals that most of our manganese and chromium and a large proportion of our other minerals are already going to feed the American war machine.

(Continued next week)

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The Liberals in Conference

by Bob Hepple

THE need for public opposition to the Nationalist policies of baasskap and, flowing from those policies, the growing encroachment on civil liberties in South Africa were stressed by the speakers at the public opening of the first Liberal Party Congress, held in Johannesburg last Friday evening. The speakers were Mrs. M. Ballinger, M.P., leader of the party, and Senator Leslie Rubin.

Following the opening the Party met in "private" session at a large private house in the suburbs over the week-end.

Mrs. Ballinger said: "The principle of the community to-day is becoming the 'master' principle, where there is control of baasskap by one section of the community only. The two 'kraals' of separated races are, according to the Nationalists, to meet only at the top in the form of white baasskap. With this policy goes the encroachment on the personal liberties of all sections of the population."

LIKES PRESENT SYSTEM

Mrs. Ballinger stated that the Liberal Party regarded the present Parliamentary system in South Africa as the basis on which rights and citizenship should be extended. This was necessary as Liberals believed in an evolutionary society developing within existing patterns. "We want to build on that existing pattern," she said.

Further the Liberal Party believed that changes in South Africa had to come only through consent. "For instance we oppose the industrial colour bar, but believe as well that its abolition can and must come with the consent of white workers. It is by consent of all groups, including the Nationalists, that we can evolve new political patterns," she maintained.

ONLY TWO

The other speaker, Senator Rubin, devoted his speech to appealing to "British traditions" and the English-speaking public. "The people of South Africa stem from two stocks, English and Afrikaner," he said. Senator Rubin made no mention at all of the African and other nationally oppressed peoples, or the encroachment on their liberties.

In fact to a nearly completely European audience, and in view of

the confident "hopes" towards the next General Election, expressed by Mrs. Ballinger, the glossing over of the essential problems of South Africa was not surprising, nor was the confidence in the existing Parliamentary "basis" of South Africa.

In answer to a question, Mrs. Ballinger stated that the Liberal Party was strongly opposed to the communal franchise, and supported an 'educational' franchise, having as its basis the education of all persons. She stated: "Of course this education does not always work, as we see with many white South Africans."

Asked whether the Liberal Party would admit Socialists as members, and what the attitude of the Party to Socialists was, Mrs. Ballinger said: "The welcome they receive will depend upon how strongly they hold their socialist ideas (!). Members must make certain compromises on joining the Party, as the basic question for us is not Socialism."

SILENCE ON LEE-WARDEN

A member of the Congress of Democrats asked from the floor why in talking of the Parliamentary struggle no mention had been made of the consistent fight of peoples' representative Len Lee-Warden in Parliament, and further what the attitude of the Liberal Party was to the Congress of Democrats, as the latter organisation was always willing to co-operate on a friendly basis with the Liberal Party on matters of common interest.

Mrs. Ballinger replied that C.O.D. had the right to separate existence as far as the Liberals were concerned. The Chairman of the Party in the Transvaal, Mr. J. Unterhalter, closed the discussion by stating that there could be no talk of a 'friendly' attitude by the C.O.D. and made an impassioned outburst against what he alleged were "gross distortions and untruths" about the Liberal Party in NEW AGE.

Quakers Sign For Peace

JOHANNESBURG.

Among those who have signed the Peace Council Appeal for the Outlawing of the H-Bomb are South Africa's leading Quakers, Dr. F. W. Fox and Mr. M. Scarnell Lean.

An exhibition on the terrors of the H-Bomb is shortly to go on tour to peace meetings in different centres. Among the first areas to be visited will be Dube in Johannesburg, where a Peace Council branch was recently formed.

Hundreds of stickers "Outlaw the H-Bomb" have appeared in Moroka Township.

MAY DAY will be celebrated this year by huge inter-racial workers' gatherings called by the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

Application has been made for a May Day procession, starting from Fordsburg's Freedom Square.

DURBAN RACING

First Race—1 HURRAD, 2 Grand Guy, 3 Rasputin.
Second Race—1 KEREN, 2 Tote Rush, 3 Pass On.
Third Race—1 ETIQUETTE, 2 Leaf Spring, 3 Rock Fast.
Fourth Race—1 PAT, 2 Faint, 3 Golpery.
Fifth Race—1 BOMBAZINE, 2 Plimsoll Line, 3 Gay Denise.
Sixth Race—1 AFTER MIDNIGHT 2 Twenty Grand, 3 Achtung.
Seventh Race—1 CHIEFTAIN, 2 Roslyn, 3 Shemozzle.
Eighth Race—1 BOMBER'S MOON, 2 Kilo, 3 Vigorous.
Ninth Race—1 RED RODGER, 2 Daniel, 3 Face Pack.

A.N.C. Reply To Verwoerd

AS a direct reply to Dr. Verwoerd's threats the A.N.C. working committee has called on all A.N.C. branches to intensify the campaign against Bantu education in their areas.

Verwoerd's threat that unless children return to school by April 25th they might lose educational facilities for a long time to come are described by the A.N.C. as "hysterical and panic-stricken ultimatums." His desperate appeals to "local authorities and responsible parents" are no answer to the clear demand of the African people for universal education and their complete rejection of Bantu Education. The apparently unanimous offer of police protection to the people is the usual cloak under which terrorism and provocation are thrust upon them.

Verwoerd's threats to teachers, says the A.N.C., are clearly intended to intimidate them so that they become active evangelists for Bantu Education. Verwoerd's statement that thousands of Bantu parents and heads of tribes have agreed to serve on school committees is a reference to Government minions and Government created leaders who have never been champions of their people's progress but agents of Government policy. Here too Verwoerd pretends ignorance of the boycott of these Boards and Commit-

tees throughout the country and that in many areas the N.A.D. did not even try to hold elections but nominated members itself.

Reject I.C. Bill

—Say Leather Workers.

JOHANNESBURG.

At the T.U.C. conference on the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill, to be held in Cape Town shortly, the Leather Workers' Union, one of the T.U.C. affiliates, will move that the new bill be rejected in its entirety.

Leather workers mandated their five representatives to take this stand at a recent general meeting.

The five delegates are instructed by their members to argue that no amount of amending the Bill will in any way make it acceptable.

This union also decided that if the Bill were passed it would not carry out the terms of the Act but would retain its mixed membership, and mixed meetings within the union.

UNITED PARTY IN DECAY

By PETER MEYER

WHEN the first half of the Parliamentary session ended a fortnight ago, the United Party was in a state of collapse. Even its own Press was muttering angrily, and there was a fresh burst of speculation about Mr. Strauss's leadership. "Die Transvaler" suggested that Mr. Strauss might be on his way out, but "Die Burger" had a more cynical and accurate appraisal. There had been no fresh developments, it said. All that had happened was that the United Party was sinking deeper into decay.

Almost any other political party would find a new leader if he behaved the way Mr. Strauss behaves—continually absent from the House, timid and grovelling in debate, laughable in attack. But the United Party just ploughs along, waiting, waiting.

SIGNIFICANCE

The decline of the United Party is of great significance politically. It signifies the virtual collapse of White opposition (that is, large-scale and organised) to the Nationalists.

There are thousands of White South Africans, nay, tens of thousands, who are prepared to stand up to the Nationalists. Many of them are in the United Party. But, each year, each Parliamentary session, their leaders take them further down the path of capitulation. The record of the United Party in the past five years or so will rightly be labelled by historians as the Great Betrayal.

Remember those first few Parliamentary sessions when the whole country (Nationalists excluded) rose in wrath against the new Government? Dr. Malan's Cabinet was never more uneasy than in those flaming days when public opinion forced General Smuts and, later, Mr. Strauss, to stand side by side with some of the democratic organisations in a common front.

DISGUISED NATS.

But it was a short-lived comradeship. The betrayal began. As the 1953 General Election approached, the United Party edged away from the united front. It became "respectable." It accepted then a theory that has dominated its thinking and actions from that day until now: the theory that if you disguise yourself as a Nationalist, the present followers of the Nationalist Party will not find it too distasteful to turn to you when their own party runs into trouble. When their own party runs into trouble...

The betrayal has gone on. Not a shred of principle remains. Everything is sacrificed for the Great Day, when the Nationalist Party runs into trouble. All over the country, United Party supporters have watched in dismay while this sickness eats out the heart of their party—but their pleas are brushed aside. *New Age* has said it before, and it says it again now: the United Party is dying.

It will not live to see the day when the Nationalist Party "runs into trouble."

BETRAYAL

If the leaders of the United Party were only bluffing themselves and betraying their own policies, no one would care. But they are betraying tens of thousands of White South Africans who have still got plenty of fight left in them and who want to come to grips with the Nationalists. Some of them will drift into the Liberal Party, or help to strengthen some other pocket of resistance. It is to be hoped that

enough of them will realise that the only way to defeat the Nationalists is by throwing in their lot with the democratic organisations. But, alas, most will probably return to their drawing rooms to scowl and sulk, and eventually to become apathetic about "politics."

The United Party leaders will be called to account one day for this betrayal. They will have to shoulder their full share of the responsibility for the race war that the Nationalists have unleashed. By surrendering their vast organisation, they have put a strong army out of action, and the Nationalists are now on the way to achieving the alignment of forces they desire: the White man on one side, and the non-White on the other.

Meanwhile, Mr. Strauss survives. He survives for two reasons. The first is that if anyone took his place, he would have to be a stronger man—and there are no stronger men. The second is that if anyone took his place, he dare not be a stronger man—because a stronger man would force some decisions on the United Party, and at this stage just a little push is needed to make that whole rickety party collapse like a pack of cards.

INVITATION AWAITED

So the United Party Members of Parliament wait—they wait for an invitation from that well-known but, alas, mythical character, the "disgruntled" Nationalist M.P. If that invitation is ever received, Mr. Strauss will be tossed overboard hurriedly, and the scramble to call on the sender of the invitation will be as wild and uncontrolled as anything South African politics has ever seen.

What about the United Party "liberals"? Forget them. They have now reached their proper destination in life—as bywones of the Graaffs and the Lawrences.

Expect nothing commendable or courageous from the United Party in Parliament, therefore. Its collapse on the Budget debate just before the first half of the session ended is a taste of its future behaviour, although the sting of recent criticisms may rouse it sufficiently to wave its skinny old arms at the Government. It fought half-heartedly against Verwoerd's various measures and accepted the passport bill with only sporadic protests. In the weeks that lie ahead, the Opposition will have an opportunity to discuss the activities of the 14 Cabinet Ministers one by one. We know what to expect from the United Party. There is also the Appeal Court Bill. Again we know what to expect. There are the Group Areas and Industrial Conciliation Bills. Need we wonder what the U.P. will do?

No. We have seen clearly what is happening in Parliament. For a few years, the United Party carried the sceptre of struggle. Now it passes to the people. Parliament is fading into the background, and the masses are coming into the front-line.

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Appreciation

I hereby convey, on behalf of the Lekoete family, to the members of the African National Congress, through the medium of *New Age*, our sincere thanks and admiration for the sympathy and co-operation given at the death of my beloved wife Monica, who passed away at the Baragwanath Hospital on the 15th March, 1955.

During her spell of life you were friends. At her sick bed you visited, and at death and funeral you sympathised and co-operated with me.

May God bless you and may that spirit of goodwill and co-operation prevail throughout the world of toil and suffering.

Yours sincerely,

S. P. Lekoete.

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