We welcomed the victory of the Nationalist Party at the elections in May 1948 because we felt that (a) a change of government had to be expected in a democratic government when the government has failed or was failing to satisfy the aspiration of some of the voters and (b) the change was a natural consequence in a democratic system which permitted a party system (c) the change was salutary for the outgoing party to prevent from assuming an attitude of permanency and to give it a chance for reflection and for review of its own actions or lack of actions in calm atmosphere of political wilderness in the opposition (d) the change above all would give the Nationalist Party the opportunity to put into practice for good or for ill its "master plan" for the solution of our Colour ills — apartheid. Although we never had faith in and doubted the efficacy of apartheid as an possible instrument of solution of social problem we decided to keep an open mind. We felt that most people refuse to heed warnings. They learn in trial and error. They have no regard for basic principles. They favour expedience. We felt in short that little could be done or said with an chance of success until the theory of apartheid has been put into practice.

Unsorted.

Theory and Practice

As Africans we have no interests in the Whiteman's party politics but we have interests in all that concern the welfare and progress of South Africa as a nation. The place of the African and other non-European is pivotal to the centre point of that progress — we felt so when the United Party lost the election in 1948. We felt that they had opportunity after opportunity to make a new deal by their so-called Middle Course policy. It satisfied no body and it led to nowhere. Especially after 1943 election, I appealed to the late General Smuts to do and dare for South Africa as a whole. Acknowledge in that letter his achievements for his people as Boer General, his contribution to South Africa as a leader in War and politics. Warned him there that his overwhelming majority at the election was his last God-given opportunity, his test of sincerity to translate into deeds the war ideals for the W — we fight for World freedom by bringing the African the non-European into the orbit of that freedom. The answer was neither no nor yes. It was non-committal and the opportunity was lost

Unsorted.

We ~~reject~~ deny the competence of the Union Parliament composed as it is at present to settle the question of Colonial relations even with a two thirds majority of the two Houses sitting together. The Union Parliament ~~is not~~ does not represent the majority, elected by the dominant white minority and a few Coloured voters in the Cape Province. It does not ~~therefore~~ represent the majority population of the Union and can in no way ~~represent~~ express the will of the majority. We believe that no one section can settle the relations for the other section. We believe that the only just proper and equitable settlement of any national question in South Africa can only come out of ~~the~~ free deliberations ~~between~~ by a National Convention composed of whites and non-whites as citizens of the Union.

We reject domination of any kind. We claim self-determination in South Africa the land of our forefathers. We deny that South Africa ~~is~~, and can ever be, a white man's country. We claim it to be our country - a blackman's country, and we are resolved and determined ~~to~~ that it shall ~~become such~~ that it gradually returns to our own notwithstanding the present set back and domination by Europeans.

Africans must and will be rulers of the continent of Africa. Others will share but will not be permitted to dominate for all time.

~~This is our reply to the~~

We desire cooperation with all men and women of good-will. We reject the Wetenskap Baaskap, white domination, European leadership, with justice, European trusteeship. We do not accept self appointed trusteeship which

must be white, permanent and must alone enjoy all the benefits on the estate of the Ward. A brutal shelf ~~that~~ in which the ward remains forever a minor and never ~~at~~ comes of age. We do not recognize ~~that white leadership~~ all white men are superior to all men of other colours. Leadership must be a matter of qualification ability and moral worth with equality of opportunity for all. We admit that the Whiteman has all the technicological leadership and ~~the common~~ scientific knowledge. We, however, claim that given the ~~opportunity~~ full facilities ~~to get~~ acquire the knowledge and ~~also~~ full opportunity to put this knowledge into practice, leadership will not be a ~~matter~~ question of colour of the skin but ~~but~~ a matter of natural ability or attitude which is a monopoly of no particular colour or race.

Social Services

2/1

Small proportion of the young people
spend leisure time at society which
is only form of sport.
The young are seeking of young
golf, which is very expensive form of
recreation & many available.

2. Few enclosed grounds for secular
sports. Bathing sports club which is
not municipal owned & well-known
which is municipal owned. The
only swimming baths is at Wellington
Those are available to serve the
crowded slum dwellers & people must go into expense to connect to
them.
Greater recreation facilities must
be provided near homes of the people
Other forms of sport must be encouraged
- golf, tennis, rugby, football,
bioscopes, reacreation halls for the
young, parks for children with
equipment.

3. We want provision of unemployment
insurance on contributary basis;
sick benefit funds, old age pensions;
pensions against inagency; & removal
of differential legislation which ruines
head of family from honourable
Period. Abolition of poll-tax; application
to African of principle of taxation based
on capacity to pay. Raising of taxable age.

4. Very few crèches & too few nursery schools for pre-school population. Schools accommodate 33% of school age population. & they never provide hot dinners.

Recommendations = (1) Compulsory education, more crèches, nursery schools, playing, training, grants to institutions, probation staff, training of social workers. All this approximate to basis on cost of living, from general revenue. Blind pensions to be increased.

5. Maintenance grants are not paid to (a) Africans who pay tax. They are not adequate. (b) Inadequacy of institutional care. Very grave warning, inadequate probation staff. More emphasis should be placed on prevention & less on corrective work. More hostels should be built & new children particularly African need to be cared for. Should be committed to hostels & not to Reformatories.

6. Mothers should work from choice & not from compulsion, husbands must be adequately paid.

If they survive this age period, they are beset with a set of new problems. Malnutrition or starvation continues. Their body-resistance is reduced and they are victims to various diseases that make them seek admission into hospitals in greater numbers than would be if their economic standard allowed enough to keep body and soul together. Those of school going age find themselves starved bodily, mentally and morally. They can have neither the guiding influence of their mother and father, as these must go to work.

Over sixty per cent of them cannot find school facilities and accommodation which would give them the necessary discipline, since man of all animals must be taught. Most of these children, therefore, get their education on the streets and back alleys of our slum yards. They graduate into detention homes, reformatories, and gaols which are the logical goals for such students. If education and school discipline is necessary for the European children how much more urgent is it therefor the African children who must adjust themselves under new and foreign conditions. Is it any wonder then that there is an increasing wave of crime which both white and black deplore. Must the African be blamed for inherent criminality or must the blame be laid at the door of those who dictate the course of his life or destiny.

Are increased police forces and "Pick-up vans", increased magistrates courts and gaols the proper, intelligent, and fair answer to this question.

Shall we build shools or gaols? Shall we develop contended, law-abiding citizens or criminals?

Boers, Britons and Bantu have got to live together in South Africa notwithstanding. Let us, therefore, one and all endeavour to follow the just and honest way of dealing with one another. We must increase their economic standard as well as their social and moral standards.

In so saying, I thank His Honour, the Administrator and His Worship, the Mayor for their presence and what they have said.

conditions are universal in South Africa among natives including Johannesburg areas. The real crime is that to some Europeans, Alexandra is a "Black island in a white sea" and that the township has a form of self-government in which the Non-Europeans are directly represented. That they must be brought under white control in keeping with tradition and policy seems to be the ardent prayer and hope of some.

There is no doubt that all thoughtful and fair-minded people will hope to see a reasonable, constructive and equitable solution to the Alexandra dispute.

In the past, for good reasons and sound judgement the Government and the Province had through impartial Commissions of eminent experienced Administrators, rejected abolition as a solution because no valid case, except racial and colour prejudice, had been made. To-day, with the Non-Europeans dying to protect the little they have and what they hope to gain in reward for their supreme sacrifices, we can imagine no responsible Government yielding to this unjustified demand for the removal of Alexandra township and thus causing the Non-Europeans to lose faith and confidence in the Government.

*dispute

Incomplete