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Uitgee deur die spraaklike sektor

GRATIS AAN LEDE
Kultuur en Politiek

In 'n bou, soos beweerde Engeland of Frankryk, waar volksvereniging iets van die vee verlede is, en versameling van die verskillende volke 'n afgeslote episodie is, daar is die kultuur die gesamentlike besit van die hele bestaande volk en daar is homogeniteit geen verband tussen kultuur en politiek nie. Hier in Suid Afrika is die toestande heeltemal anders; die politieke indeling is in groepe wat ook tydens uitloskultuur-groepe is en die politiek sterk sy krag en sy inspirasie uit die kultuur.

Die toekoms van die drie groepe is skeep; en die verskeie kweekagtiginge van die Engelse, die Afrikaanse en die Afrikaans-spreekende partye word gelui en beoordeel met 'n mate van gevoel wat 'n Afrikaner, wat onafskeidelik kultuur-groepe is en die politiek sterk sy krag en sy inspirasie uit die kultuur.

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Hierdie verskynsels, nie dat hulle sonder uitsondering ons volks kragheerlikheid verdien nie, maar wel as uitinge van bewuste of onbewuste aspirasies na volkseeheid, vol ons met hoop vir die toekoms.

Die Aliens Act

The year opened with heated controversy in the press and on the public platform over the anti-Semitic agitation (described in last year's survey), as a result of which the Government had declared its intention to legislate on immigration and the Leader of the Nationalist Party, Dr. Malan, had also intimated his intention to bring in a bill to restrict the immigration of Aliens, more specifically those of the Jewish Race. Early in the parliamentary session the Government introduced the Aliens Bill to replace the Quota Act of 1930 and to provide for the examination by a selection board of all immigrants other than those of British origin.

Before the bill was introduced, notice only having been given, Dr. Malan, moved a vote of censure on the Government for not having taken "early and adequate steps", amongst other things, to prevent the further influx of Jews. The motion initiated a lengthy and acrimonious debate, during which there were frequent references to the supposed disinclination of the Jewish people to become assimilated to the national culture.

General Smuts, in dealing with the Bill, denied emphatically that it aimed directly at the Jews and gave as the main reasons for the Bill, (1) the excessive influx of Jews, which was also objected to by South African Jewry, and the increasing bitterness against them, (2) the danger of an influx of undesirable elements owing to the uncertain state of Europe.

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He declared that the board would take account of good character, the likelihood of the immigrant becoming "assimilated", and the unlikelihood of his entry affecting adversely employment in any occupation.
The Fowlers Act had affected the figures, as many marriages took place soon after the law was passed, to avoid penalties. For example, in 1927 there were 4000 marriages between Europeans and Native, and 12,028 in 1928. The Bill, if passed, would damage the Union's relations with India, while it would also place a stigma upon the white people of the Union, proclaiming to the world that they could not any longer keep their race pure without this legislation.

The Minister for Native Affairs (the Hon. P. Grobler) supported the Bill. He said that the State did not rely solely upon public opinion in regard to such matters as theft and drunkenness, and it was therefore illogical to rely only on public opinion in this matter.

The Bill was supported by the Nationalist and Labour parties.

A motion to adjourn the debate was carried and the Bill was not brought forward again.

Provincial Legislative Powers Bill and White Women's Employment Restriction Bill;

The first of these Bills aimed at giving the Transvaal Provincial Council power to refuse trading licenses to Non-Europeans who employed "white people." The measure was referred to a Select Committee which brought forward the second Bill instead. The second Bill confined itself to the employment of European females and proposed the prohibition of their employment by or under the control of Asiaties (i.e. excluding Jews, Syrians and Malays) or companies controlled by them, except with the special permission of the Minister of Labour. There were exempted (a) female medical practitioners and nurses, (b) accredited representatives of foreign states (if they were not engaged in trade in the Union), and (c) any Japanese national while there was in force a Trade Agreement between the Union and Japan.

The Government of India lodged a vigorous protest against the Bill, especially in regard to the differentiation between Indians and others of Asiatic race.

An offer from the South African Indian Congress to secure by voluntary action the cessation of all employment of the kind objected to, and the decision arrived at by the Union government upon the existence of a trade agreement between the Union and Japan, caused the withdrawal of the measure.

The Native Laws Amendment Act

This measure has brought in drastic amendments and additions to the Native (Urban Areas) Acts, with consequent and other amendments to the Native Labour Recruiting Act and the Native Trust and Land Act.

Controversy was aroused by the decision of the Government to insist upon the Bill being passed during the 1937 session. Instead of referring it to the Natives Representative Council established by the Representation of Natives Act of the previous year, as under this Act, all measures affecting Natives must be referred to the Council before they can be dealt with by Parliament (or, in the case of an ordinance, by the Provincial Council concerned).

Bantu leaders were incensed by this decision, as it had been generally understood that the Natives Representative Council would be able to express itself on the Bill. Many interested bodies also asked for postponement to give them time to consider the drastic nature of some of the proposals.

The Government, however, held that the Bill was an essential part of their Native policy, that its main features had been before the public for many years, and had been discussed by the Select Committees which had dealt with the Acts passed in the previous year, i.e. the Representation of Natives Act and the Native Trust and Land Act. The principles of the Bill could properly be referred to a body created as the result of a policy of which they formed part. The powers conferred and the obligations imposed on the Government and the municipalities by the Bill were essential for the effective carrying out of this policy.

In introducing the measure the Minister of Native Affairs said that it sought to "establish once and for all the policy that Natives should be permitted to come to the towns in so far as their presence is demanded by the white people."

The Bill passed rapidly through Parliament as it obtained the support of the Nationalist and Labour parties. The main features in relation to urban areas are:

1. Restriction of purchase of land by Natives in urban areas and more effective segregation in urban areas.
2. Greater control over entry of Natives into urban areas and the prohibition of the employment of "foreign" Natives except when under control, e.g. as in the mines.
3. Collection of rentals due to local authorities for location houses by warrant or alternatively through employers.
4. Discontinuance of prohibition in regard to kaffir beer in urban locations by making possible the licensing of individual Natives to brew and sell beer and making, where there is no other legitimate source of supply, domestic brewing by householders universal.
5. Removal under certain conditions of Natives surplus to urban labour requirements.
6. Increase of powers of the Minister to act on behalf of and at the expense of any local authority which may not be carrying out the objects of the Natives (Urban Areas) Act as amended.
7. Creation of exchanges to assist in distributing Native labour.
8. Prohibition against Native rural townships in European areas and control by the Minister over the creation of such townships in scheduled or released areas.
9. In the Cape Province, the inclusion within the terms of the Native Trust and Land Act of all registered voters who have obtained the vote through occupation of a municipally owned house in the location.

A paraphrase and analysis of the Natives (Urban Areas) Act, as now amended, appeared in Race Relations for November 1937.

An important section of the Native Laws Amendment Act is that which withdraws the immunity from the restrictions of the Natives Land Act which Mission land has enjoyed since 1913. Missions are now in the same position as any European in regard to land transactions with Natives.

The Powers of Parliament

Albert Ndlovu, a Native who was registered as a vote in the Cape Province, prior to the coming into force of the Representation of Natives Act, 1936, applied to the Cape Supreme Court for an order restraining the Minister of the interior, the Minister of Native Affairs and other relevant officials from removing his name from the ordinary voter's roll and placing it on a representation roll under the representation of Natives Act. The applicant contended that the Act was invalid because it was not enacted
by Parliament but by both Houses of Parliament at a "Joint Sitting," that, since the passing of the Statute of Westminster, the Union Parliament alone has the power to alter the South Africa Act, or indeed to enact any legislation of any description, and that in terms of the South Africa Act the "Joint Sitting" could not be regarded as equivalent or alternative to the Senate and Assembly sitting separately as Parliament. It was alternatively contended that the vast bulk of the provisions of the Representation of Natives Act did not fall within the scope of the entrenched clauses of the South Africa Act and were therefore "ultra vires" the Joint Sitting.

On appeal, in the Appellate Division, the Acting Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Stratford), in giving judgment said that the Court had no jurisdiction in the matter, and that when an Act of Parliament has been duly passed, signed and promulgated, the Court has no power to go behind it.

The Court held that, while the entrenched provisions of the South Africa Act were not repealed by the Statute of Westminster, the effect of the Statute is to make the Union Parliament the sovereign legislature in the Union, with power to repeal or amend any British Act, order, rule or regulation in so far as it is part of the law of the Union. So long as the entrenched provisions remain (and they can be repealed or altered by the Union Parliament) the procedure laid down in the South Africa Act should be followed.

The power of the Union Parliament is limitless, it is not bound by the Constitution as laid down in the South Africa Act (which is an enactment by the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and Parliament can adopt any procedure it likes.

There are two points arising from this judgment which call for notice, others will no doubt emerge as time goes on.

The intension of the National Convention that the Act of Union should be regarded as the protection of existing rights has been overruled. There is now nothing to prevent Parliament from withdrawing any reservation or safeguard appearing in the Act of Union, as, for example, the second proviso of Section 152. The Constitution is now entirely flexible.

If this view is correct, there appears to be nothing to prevent the Union Parliament at any time repealing the Schedule to the South Africa Act which lays down the conditions under which the High Commissioner Territories are to be administered. It is desired to enfranchise the conditions under which the Territories are to be incorporated in the Union, none other method must be found.

The S. A. Native Trust and Land Act

During the year the Native Affairs Administration was busily engaged in taking advantage of the Act for the acquisition of further land for Native occupation. The amount of Crown land transferred to the Native Trust under the Act has been far, 2,174,000 morgen, and 322,000 morgen have been purchased, making 2,496,000 morgen to add to the 10,450,000 morgen reserved for Native occupation before the Act was passed.

A White paper prepared by the Secretary for Native Affairs was published in February 1937, in which the policy to be pursued in the allocation and use of the land was outlined. It has been made clear by the Administration that the land acquired by the South African Native Trust is to be used primarily (1) to relieve the competition in existing Native areas, (2) to provide land for tribes not provided for by the Native Land Act of 1913 or its amendments, (3) to meet the obligation imposed by the Act to accommodate Native farm workers who may be displaced through the operation of Chapter IV, and (4) to meet the obligation imposed by the Native (Urban Areas) Act, as amended by the Native Laws Amendment Act of 1937, to accommodate any Union Natives who may be compulsorily removed from urban areas. In all instances some form of rental must be paid by the Native tribe or individual occupier, the proceeds, however, being paid into the Trust and used for its purposes.

Representation of Natives Act

The first elections under the Act were held during the year, and were keenly followed by the bulk of the Bantu, whether in the Reserves, on the European farms or in the towns. Although the actual nominations and voting were done, in the case of the electoral colleges, by chiefs and the elected or nominated members of the bodies forming the electoral colleges, these consulted the people as a whole, who took a keen interest in the elections. The elections served, for the first time, to bring the masses into close touch with discussions on questions affecting them, such as land, education, taxation, wages. A notable feature was the fact that, under the Act, Native farm workers were called on to elect representatives to serve on the electoral colleges, and in most areas they were given an advantage of this right.

There are now representing the Bantu of the Union: four Senators, three Members of Parliament, two members of the Provincial Council of the Cape Province (all Europeans), and the Native Representative Council consisting of the Secretary for Native Affairs, five Chief Native Commissioners and sixteen Bantu members of whom four are nominated by the Governor-General and twelve elected by the electoral colleges. The Council is actually one short of its full membership due to the urban advisory boards of Nata' not having the minimum number of two thousand taxpayers registered as domiciled within the areas covered by the boards. The low voting strength of the urban areas was a noticeable feature of the elections. This was due to the practice of registering a Native for taxpaying purposes at his place of origin. In many instances the taxpayers have been domiciled in foreign countries.

Administration of Justice

Relations of Police and Non-Europeans

The earlier surveys have dealt with the numerous references to the Bantu regarding the relations existing between the Police and Non-Europeans, the latter in most cases being Natives. The report of the Commission appointed to enquire into a number of matters concerning the Police Force was published in October. The commissioners found that "the conduct, tone and efficiency of the Force as a whole is satisfactory." The Commission recommended that higher standards of education should be required by Indian, Coloured and Native recruits, particularly for service in urban areas, and that certain improvements in their conditions of service should be effected.

With reference to the relations between the Police and the Indian and Coloured communities were not characterized by the unsatisfactory features which marked the relations between police and Natives, especially in urban areas, where "an attitude of dislike and distrust of the police exists amongst Native urban dwellers arising from the duty of the police to enforce various restrictive laws mainly affecting Natives, but often contributed to by unnecessary harshness and lack of sympathy of the police in the performance of the duty." (Summary of Commission's Recommendations, and Principal Observations, No. 113). The difficulties enumerated in the suppression of the illicit liquor traffic is a contributing factor (114). The pass laws, Native tax law and the liquor laws, together with the fact begets arrogance and harshness in some policemen and sullenness and resentment in many Natives (118). The police have been misused to some extent, being employed largely in the arrest of pass-less Natives, which is not its true function. Its movements should be strictly controlled (121). Many complaints of assault and harsh treatment of Natives by the police have been laid before the Commission, but there were indications that many false reports are made by Natives; on the other hand, some members of the police force (i.e. including Europeans, are disposed to stand by one another even at the sacrifice of truth (115, 116, 117). Attacks by Natives on the police are increasing (119). "Relations between Natives and the police are marked by suppressed hostility, due partly to the national conducted in enforcing. Antipodean legislation and partly to the taciturn and unsympathetic methods of enforcement. Every effort should be made to ensure that such legislation is enforced with the maximum consideration possible" (123).

The Commission recommended that the cooperation which exists between the police and Native Advisory Board and other Native bodies should be
extended as much as possible, to as to minimize the occurrence of frictions. (112.) The Commission also recommended that in the training of police recruits instruction be given in the handling of the public and in the exercise of the police forces. It was consistently reminded of the necessity for using the utmost degree of tact and consideration in their relations with any portion of the public. The Native or European. Attention was also drawn to the necessity of dealing with urbanized Natives in a different manner from that adopted in rural areas (par. 318).

On September 19 a riot occurred, with tragic results, in the Native Location at Vereeniging, two European constables being killed and one seriously injured, and three Native constables were also injured. About seventy Natives were arrested later.

The riot followed upon police raids in the Location on two successive days, the second raid being on a Sunday afternoon when large numbers of Native workers from surrounding works were visiting the Location and when many of the residents were on their way to church services. All were commanded to go to the central square, and the riot ensued. The deaths caused consternation in the Location and fierce resentment among Europeans, more particularly in the rural areas. Numerous meetings were held in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, attended mostly by European farmers, at which angry speeches were made and resolutions were passed demanding stronger disciplinary action against Natives. The Minister of Justice (General Smuts) at once appointed a Commission to enquire into the causes of the riot. The Commission consisted of the Secretary for Native Affairs and the Senior Magistrate of Johannesburg.

The Commission found nothing to justify the murderous attack on the police (could anything have justified unlawful use of force in such situations?) and recommended the stern repression of violent resistance to constituted authority. Contrary to frequent assertions, the Commission found that Communist agencies played no part in the riot.

The Commission, however, found several contributory causes, most of which coincide with the findings of the Police Commission mentioned earlier in this survey. It is notable that the Commission said: "The attitude of the Police Commission was that to invoke gatherings in a location on a Sunday afternoon for the purpose of inspecting passes and tax receipts is neither necessary nor discreet, but is to give emphasis to the aspect of oppression." During the enquiry the police denied that the sjambok was ever used by them, notwithstanding evidence to the contrary. The Commission evidently accepted the evidence, for it said that "there is no legitimate use for a sjambok in the hands of a policeman and we recommend that the order forbidding police officers to carry them be enforced, and that a similar prohibition be applied by the Town Council to any of its staff engaged in police duties."

The Commission recommended that complaints by Natives of ill-treatment at the hands of policemen should be receivable by officers of the Native Affairs Department or by the Magistrate and referred to a commissioned officer of police for enquiry. Recommendations were also made regarding the housing of Native workers and the supply of kaffir beer.

The circumstances surrounding the riot, the possibility of charges of murder and the racial tension which followed the riot, called for the fullest possible investigation, and after consultation with the local government and municipal authorities, the S.A. Institute of Race Relations agreed to the Bureau of Legal Aid for the Poor, recently initiated by it at Johannesburg, being made available for the defence of those of the arrested Natives who were unable to arrange for their own defence and for the representation of the Location Advisory Board at the enquiry. This resulted in a great deal more information being placed at the disposal of the Commission than would have been the case otherwise, and throughout the enquiry the Bureau gave all possible assistance to the representative of the Department of Justice detailed to present the evidence.

The importance of this action was made more evident by the threats made at public meetings and by letters of violence and boycott against any Vereeniging lawyer who undertook the defence of the arrested Natives (especially those and girls, mostly Natives, and public feeling was aroused in several rural districts by attacks on night watchmen). In some cases there was evidence of provocation.

The use of the knife by Natives is alleged to be very greatly on the increase, and during the year the Transvaal Ordinance was amended to limit the size of the blades of knives which may be carried by Natives to 2 inches.

There was a public outcry in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg demanding greater police protection because of an epidemic of robberies with violence. At Cape Town unemployed coloured youths, known as "skolly boys", use the knife in attacks on night watchmen, policemen, pedestrians and motorists (especially those found sitting in stationary cars), and their infest the dock area, where sailors are victims. The cell seemed to increase during the year. Leaders of the Coloured community declared that the operation of the Colour bar has deprived Coloured youths of opportunities for employment and helped to increase this class of criminal.

At Durban and Johannesburg similar attacks were made by Natives, the victims being Europeans and Non-Europeans. At both centres proposals were made that police officers, both European and Bantu, be enrolled as special constables, but the police authorities opposed on the ground that the special constables would not be sufficiently subject to discipline and control.

The cumulative effect of these various forms of crime mentioned above, contributed greatly to the tension in public feeling among Europeans which the Vereeniging riots brought out. The Prime Minister referred to this in a speech at Pretoria shortly after the riot as "the ominous prediction of an approaching clash, which began to take root among the European population following on the many instances of robbery and other crimes of violence committed during the last few months by Natives against Europeans".

At Verulam, Natal, and Pietermaritzburg, following upon local crimes of violence by Natives, there were demands from Europeans for the public hanging of Natives "to convince the Natives that murder is really hangable."

Sentences on Natives

The inequality of the sentences upon Natives as compared with those imposed upon Europeans continued to be a frequent subject of comment in the press. The Wild Life Protection Society, which has in the past urged that sentences under the Game Laws should be adequate to protect the wild life of the country, found it necessary to write to the Press to protest against the disparity in sentences in several cases where Europeans and Natives were convicted for the same offence.

Whilst it is true that an examination of the Court record and the accused's past history would in some instances reveal a different story from the press report, the sentences imposed on Natives too frequently bear no real relation to the nature of the offence or the Native's capacity to pay the fine imposed.

Natives and Statutory Offences

The following statistics, kindly supplied by the Director of Census and Statistics, may be compared with those for earlier years given in last year's survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>1934</th>
<th>1933</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natives convicted in the Union during 1934</td>
<td>17,098</td>
<td>15,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of whom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>12,573</td>
<td>11,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>4,525</td>
<td>3,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17,098</td>
<td>15,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other offences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total all cases</td>
<td>12,573</td>
<td>11,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>females</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>441,268</td>
<td>419,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total all cases</td>
<td>195,402</td>
<td>187,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of whom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>195,402</td>
<td>187,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>195,402</td>
<td>187,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total all cases</td>
<td>19,543</td>
<td>16,312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prominent Offences:

1935 1936
Native Taxation Act 65,222 62,941
Possession of Native Liquor 63,038 68,012
Pass Laws 41,645 62,864
Municipal Regulations 17,360 38,353
Natives (Urban Areas) Act 32,620 4,233
Location Regulation (Reserves) 13,367 15,078
Regulations 16,415 18,347
Common Assault 17,314 19,019
Drunkenness 19,203 17,054
Native Labour Regn. Act 20,581 16,831
Trespass 11,255 16,331
Masters and Servants Acts 14,404 13,866

In the case of the convictions under the pass laws, 32,438 were on the Witwatersrand, and 41,451 in the case of illegal possession of Native liquor.

The effects of the numerous statutes imposing penal sanctions which are native in subjects to be seen in the preponderance of the convictions for statutory offences, which account for close upon 90 per cent of Native convictions. Unfortunately no statistics are available to show the extent to which these convictions resulted in actual imprisonment. It should be noted that, in the case of a Native charged with even a statutory offence, detention follows in most instances.

These statistics should be read in conjunction with the reports of the Police Commission and the Commission of Inquiry into the Vereeniging riot. In this connection the figures regarding taxation, possession of Native liquor and pass laws should be specially noted.

Legal Aid for the Poor

The experiment sponsored by the South African Institute of Race Relations, to provide legal aid for the poor in the Johannesburg courts was not into operation in April under the direction of Mr. H. Britten, former senior magistrate of Johannesburg. The experiment has failed to the extent that it relied on the public prosecutors to submit suitable cases for attention, as the prosecutors have found that they cannot in the time at their disposal before going into court in the morning pick out those which call for the services of the panel of attorneys and advocates available to give legal aid. The magistrates in the Johannesburg courts having been increased in number are not now so overworked as formerly. No doubt the discussions on the need for legal aid helped to impress on the authorities the need for reform. Also further investigations are now made by the police, and the names of witnesses who may favour the accused are mentioned in court and any facts favouring the accused are mentioned. Conferences with the magistrates, prosecutors and representatives of the legal profession have resulted in a decision to make the experiment more widely known among employers, and by the close of the year the numbers dealt with had shown a sharp rise, apart from the Vereeniging riot case referred to elsewhere.

Economic Conditions

Employment

The following statistics of employment in secondary industries have been kindly supplied by the Director of Census and Statistics and may be compared with those which appeared in last year's survey.

They are calculated on the base July 1935=1000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>European</th>
<th>Non-European</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>1065</td>
<td>1143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>1149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>1088</td>
<td>1186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1107</td>
<td>1119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>1111</td>
<td>1218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>1117</td>
<td>1228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the discussion in Parliament on the Immigration Act Amendment Bill (which provided for further facilities for the importation of Native labourers from north of latitude 22°), the Minister of Mines said that there had been an increase of 8,600 Native miners from 6,000 in the mining industry during the four years period ending December 31, 1936, and that there was likely to be a further increase over the next ten years up to 150,000. There were, roughly, 300,000 so employed at that time, and therefore 450,000 Natives would be employed on the mines in ten years' time.

Native Farm Labour

Farmers organisations throughout the country complained bitterly of the lack of Native labour, and numerous proposals were put forward by them to deal with the situation, such as amendment of the Masters and Servants laws to provide more stringent penal sanctions; exemption of Natives from tax on proof of having worked a minimum period each year on a farm; and the prevention of the entry of farm Natives into the towns and the mines. The Government appointed a committee to investigate the complaints in Natal, Transvaal and Orange Free State.

A great deal of evidence has been taken from farmers and their organisations and large numbers of chiefs and Native farm workers have come forward to complain of the conditions under which Native farm workers are employed. The committee is continuing its enquiries.

A Bill to amend the Masters and Servants Law of the Cape Province was introduced into Parliament by a private member. It sought to provide penalties for failure on the part of a servant to commence or resume service agreed upon under contract. A suggestion that a commission be appointed to examine and consolidate the masters and servants laws of the Union received considerable support, and a motion for the adjournment of the debate was passed.

Non-European Wages

Considerable unrest among Native workers has become manifest in Durban during 1937, and several strikes and disputes having occurred, the Durban Manager of Municipal Native Administration in July drew the attention of his Council to the situation as it affected municipal undertakings, and suggested that the Durban City Council convene a conference of the larger employers to discuss Native wages; he also suggested that the Council initiate an investigation into the wages paid to its Native workers. The conference was held and the following resolution was passed at a second meeting held on September 9th:

"This meeting, representing large employers of Native labour in this area, views with concern the growing unrest among Native labourers mainly created by the absence of any wage controlled by law. The Government is therefore requested to appoint a commission with the minimum delay, to go into the general question of Native wages and the betterment of labour conditions on a national basis."

On September 18th, the Durban Chamber of Commerce decided to recommend its members to institute minimum wage rates for commercial employees as follows:

**Monthly employees:** £3.10 10/6 per month, with deductions of 5/- for accommodation and 15/- for food if these supplied.

**Weekly employees:** 18s. a week, with deductions of 1/3 for accommodation and 6/6 for food.

**Daily Labour:** 3s. 6d.

The Chamber decided also to submit the following motion to the Annual Congress of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, to be held at Worcester in October:

"This congress is of opinion that the establishment of a national minimum wage for Natives employed in urban areas is desirable. Congress therefore wishes to request the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Native Affairs to convene a representative conference for the purpose of determining a suitable minimum wage."

The Congress adopted the resolution after deleting the word "national."

At the Annual Convention of the South African Federation Chamber of Industries, held at Port Elizabeth in October, the following resolution was passed:

"This Convention views with concern the growing unrest among Native labourers, and the Government is requested to appoint a commission with the minimum of delay to inquire into the general question of Native labour on a national basis."

Discussions in the press and at meetings of employers indicated that concern was felt lest local action, without reference to the application of a minimum wage on a national basis, might prove detrimental to the industries of Durban. On the other hand, the President of the Natal Chamber of Industries, at a meeting of the Chamber on September 21st, said emphatically that no further important industrial development could be hoped for unless the market were extended by increasing the wages of Natives."
Addressing the concerns of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the Minister of Labour said that a considerable proportion of the Native community was under-nourished, and that the future and welfare of South Africa depended on the Native labour supply. The country could not afford to let it be spoiled by under-nutrition; also that the Native races were consumers of manufactured products. A gradual raising of wages would benefit the whole community. It was not possible, however, to do by a national minimum wage for Native as there were substantial differences in the habits and standards of living of Native employees and of the circumstances of commerce and industry in the various towns. Use must be made of the existing machinery for wage regulation.

The Minister of Labour has since replied in writing to the resolution of the Congress that while he was in general agreement with the purpose of the resolution he thought it wiser to use the existing machinery of the Wage Act, and for this reason enquiries to the existing machinery should be added the regulating machinery should be made of the existing machinery for wage regulation.

To the Minister’s references to the existing wage regulating machinery should be added the reminder that under the Industrial Conciliation and Wage Act, wage regulation must be effected without reference to race or colour, but with reference, amongst other considerations, to the capacity of the industry concerned to pay increased wages.

Native Labour Conditions

The International Labour Conference at its 1937 session resolved that the Office should study special Non-European problems of the health of the workers.

The Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation has accepted an invitation from the Union Government to send a small delegation to the Union to perform themselves in Native labour conditions in South Africa.

Native Taxation

As shown elsewhere in this survey the conditions in 1936 showed a decrease of nearly 6,000 on 1935.

Mr. D. Smith, President of the Congress of Associated Chambers of Commerce in an address before the Congress in October said: “Every year about 70,000 Natives are sent to prison and kept there for varying periods at a cost of 1.8 per head per day. I consider that the present system of Native taxation is an iniquitous business which, if not abolished, ought to be considerably reduced. The position has not only become economically unsound but is developing into a grave social evil”.

In this connection the press recorded that an appeal by a Native from conviction by a Native Commissioner for non-payment of the general tax succeed because the presiding officer had not recorded the case properly. In explanation the Native Commissioner stated that on that day he had had to deal with 498 cases of the same nature.

Difficulties in regard to the Native tax are also found in Southern Rhodesia. Mr. Justice Russell, referring to the routine allocation of a tax payment to the discharge of the earliest tax outstanding, recommended that if a Native had paid the amount of his tax in any year he should not be convicted at all during that year.

As a result of the agitation described in last year’s survey, the Union Government appointed a Committee to report and make recommendations on the methods of Native tax collection, and of dealing with tax defaulters. Consideration of the tax itself was excluded from the terms of reference. The Committee completed the taking of evidence towards the close of the year.

Social Welfare

Health of Non-Europeans

Many public references were made during the year to the unsatisfactory health records in regard to Non-Europeans, particularly Natives. The Medical Officer of Health for Benoni (Dr. C. C. P. Anning) in a survey of the records of Benoni for the past five years said: “Accepting the infantile mortality rate as one of the best tests of the social and sanitary civilization which the community has reached, it would appear that Europeans in Benoni are fairly well civilized, but that the Non-European section of the population is still in the dark ages.” While the Native rate was not given because of inadequate registration, Dr. Anning considered the indirect evidence indicated a rate of at least 100 per 1000. The Indian rate was 180.6 and the Coloured 230.0.

Prominence was given in the Press to General Smuts’ declaration at a party congress that “the Natives of this country are rotten with disease and a menace to civilization instead of being a first class nation. The Government is investigating the matter.”

The Hon. Jan H. Hofmeyr, speaking as Acting Minister of Health in June, expressed the hope that in time about 200 Native trained medical aids, under district surgeons and missionary doctors, would be at work to improve the health of the Native people.

Tuberculosis

Numerous references were made by medical authorities to the urgent need for energetic measures to combat tuberculosis amongst Non-Europeans, and an official announcement was made that special provision is to be made for the treatment of patients at the existing Native hospitals at Lovedale, Umtata and Durban.

It is expected that the report of the Commission appointed to investigate the condition of the coloured people will reveal the need for more active measures to combat tuberculosis amongst this section of the community.

Treatment and Care of Cripples

The announcement of Lord Nuffield’s gift of £100,000 for the development of facilities for the orthopedic treatment and care of cripples was very warmly welcomed throughout the country. All sections of the population are to benefit from the gift.

The Coloured People

The unfavourable social conditions under which the Coloured people live continue to cause concern to health officers and others interested in their welfare.

At a conference of representatives of the Dutch Reformed Churches and Missions of the Union held at Wynberg in May, attention was drawn to the poor housing of Coloured workers on farms and in the towns. References in the speeches of leading coloured persons in various parts of the country showed that they feel that the Coloured people are a “forgotten people” because the country’s attention has been concentrated on the Native question.

The inadequacy of school facilities in the Cape Peninsula, where it is estimated that 1300 Coloured children cannot find a place in school, was a constant subject of complaint, while the frequency of crimes of violence committed by unemployed Coloured youth in the Cape Peninsula had become a matter of public concern.

The lack of parliamentary franchise rights for the Coloured people outside the Cape Province was emphasised by the elections held under the representation of Natives Act, and a position has been initiated in Natal under the auspices of a newly formed body, the European and Coloured League for Social Justice.

It is expected that the publication early in 1938 of the report of the Fact Finding Commission appointed by the Government in 1935 to investigate the conditions of the Coloured people throughout the Union will focus public attention on the difficulties of this section of the population.

A generous offer was made by Mr. H. V. Marsh of Pietermaritzburg to the City Council of £1000 towards the cost of providing a swimming bath for the Coloured people of that city, provided the Council undertook the maintenance. The gift was readily accepted.

Native Education

Native Education has become the cockpit of a fight between two schools of thought. The one is represented by the findings of the Inter-departmental Committee on Native Education which reported in 1936; the other is found in the declarations made in the appendix to the Report of the Native Affairs Commission published in the latter part of 1937.

The controversy has been centred upon the question: Should Native Education be placed under the control of the Minister of Education, assisted by an advisory board consisting mainly of individuals with experience of Native Education or should it come under the Native Affairs in consultation with the Native Affairs Commission which advises the Minister of Native Affairs on Local and other matters concerning the Native people, including the allocation of funds from the Native Trust Fund for Native Education, agricultural and other forms of development?
The question, however, is not merely one of expediency in regard to the best form of State organization of education, but has become the crucial test, with a political significance, of supremacy between the two schools of thought.

The views of the Inter-departmental Committee were expressed in an address by Mr. H. W. Welsh, Chief Inspector of Native Education Cape Province, who served on the Committee. Speaking before the annual conference of the South African Teachers Association at Cape Town in June, Mr. Welsh said that his views were that:

1. The ultimate absorption of the Bantu people within the broad stream of Western civilization is inevitable;

2. Judicious adaptations of those Native institutions which are living and healthy are wise policy; but frantic underpinning of those institutions which are tottering to their fall is futile;

3. The adaptations required in Native educational curricula, as compared with white school curricula, are based on a method and of varying emphasis in different parts than of difference in kind;

4. The Native himself should be fully consulted in deciding what elements in his indigenous culture are worthy of preservation, and also in deciding what elements in Western culture he would adapt to, or assimilate into, his present life.

Mr. Welsh outlined a programme as follows:

1. To secure a realistic education in close touch with the life in the reserve, the farm or the town location for all Native pupils at the primary school level.

2. To provide full training beyond the primary level for Native students who give promise of having the necessary capacity, with a view to their occupying positions in the service of their own people, even to the exclusion of Europeans in the professions, business, manual trades, and in Government employment.

The Native Affairs Commission has declared for the closer control by the State of the content of the instruction to be given to the Native in order to make his thought and conduct conform to the policy of the State in regard to the place and function of the Native population in the organic life of the State. The Commission complains that the influence of the Missions (which have so far been responsible, with the help of state grants under a Native system of inspection, for the education of the Native) has been and continues to be in opposition to the Native segregation policy adopted by Parliament, and the effect of Native education is to destroy what the State wants to retain and build up. viz., “a Bantu nation, strong in its pride of race, developing its own genius in its own areas in the salvation of so much of its own culture and cooperative economy as is necessary to its distinctive advance.” The “distinctive advance” is to be a “political, social, and material evolution of the Native people along their own lines.” The Commission urges that the European personnel in Native education should be gradually eliminated, that “the policy of transferring Native Schools from Mission control to State control should be consistently pursued,” and it expresses the conviction that the “lessons of co-operation, properly thought out and suited to the place and people and their economic conditions, will carry the Natives much further along the path of social and material development than the Standard I and Standard II curricula which is the Native educational standard of the mass of the Natives today.” The Commission goes on to say that the education situations must be adapted to the varying tribal conditions in the rural areas, while in the urban areas, “where Native children must be regarded as more or less permanent” education must be adapted “to the social, economic and cultural development had been in the urban areas.” “This does not mean that less attention is to be paid to the ordinary curriculum of the schools.”

The differences between the two schools of thought appear to lie more in the concepts of the place and function of the Bantu in the organic life of the State than in the forms of instruction they would provide. “The differences relate rather in the spirit of the protagonists than in the content of the education they would give.

The Minister of Native Affairs had, in 1936, authorized the Secretary for Native Affairs to inform the Inter-departmental Committee on Native Education that he did not wish Native Education to come under his charge. He now referred the question to the Native Representative Council at its first sitting in December 1937. After discussion, in which Mr. Heaton Nicholls, M.P., a member of the Native Affairs Commission, defended the views of the Commission, the Council authorised the Secretary for Native Education to submit the matter to the Minister of Education.
that their Native farm workers are being gently influenced by religious propaganda intended to
credulity the farmers, and that this is the cause of the
migation of their Natives into the towns. They look
for some means of more effective control of the
atives. The Native farm workers, on the other hand,
are often restless, sullen and resentful, believing
that the selfishness of the farmer is the root cause of
all their troubles. In the towns, on the other hand,
the relations between the Natives and the Police have
provided the explosive elements. The problem is, how-
ever, considered to be remediable if the recommend-
ations of the Police Commission and the Commission
of Inquiry on the Vereeniging riot are carried out.
Indeed, there are many instances of police officers
who have won the confidence of the Bantu. One
instance was brought to light during the last week of
the year, when a Bantu urban community petitioned
the police authorities not to remove a popular Euro-
pæan police sergeant.

Opinion canvassed among intelligent Non-Euro-
pæans, — Bantu, Indian and Coloured — in certain
towns showed that they considered the Europeans in
the towns to be more friendly, more considerate and
more courteous in their treatment of Non-Europeans
than used to be the case. This view was held not-
withstanding bitter resentment expressed against
the European population of South Africa. In the
study of a Rhoda Native. The book has on the whole
subjective treatment of a difficult subject.

During a debate in the House of Assembly on the
Union Education Vote, Mr. J. D. Versier express-
ed astonishment at finding that there were 44 Non-
europeans resident at one of the Universities, and he
asked the Government to exercise pressure for their
removal.

The Minister of Education said that he was not
prepared to introduce legislation to prohibit the
entrance of Non-Europeans into the Universities,
which depended on public support and could not
therefore go far beyond public opinion.

Dr. Mathl said that separate higher educational
facilities must be provided, and, if separate colleges
were not possible, the same staff could serve both
Europeans and Non-Europeans but under conditions
of segregation.

Residential Segregation

The Cape Provincial Council adopted a resolu-
tion asking the Executive Committee to introduce
legislation to empower local authorities to allocate
separate residential areas for Europeans and Coloured
and to provide separate recreation facilities and
seating accommodation on public vehicles.

In Durban the problem of housing reform in
respect of Indians was complicated by the question of
segregating the residential areas. Similarly, in the
Witwatersrand, the re-housing of Coloured and Indian
is made more difficult by the land tenure laws and the
necessity for providing separate residential areas.

Moreover, the determination to secure social segre-
gation appears to have increased in recent years.

Study and Research on Racial Problems

An important contribution to the study of racial
attitudes was made by the publication during the
year of Race Attitudes in South Africa, by Professor
I. D. MacCrone of the University of the Witwaters-
rand. It embodies the results of a scientific examina-
tion of the racial attitudes of groups of University
students — Afrikaans-speaking, English-speaking, and
Jewish — as disclosed by a series of questionnaires.

There is a historical section of the volume which
raises the rise of race and colour consciousness in
the European population of South Africa. In the
third and final section the author sets out in technical
terms a psychological analysis of the rise of hostile
race reactions in the Europeans. The work has
commanded considerable attention and has received
a favourable reception because of its sustained ob-
jective treatment of a difficult subject.

Another volume, of a different kind, is Black
Hamlet by Dr. W. Sachs, being a psycho-analytical
study of a Shona Native. The book has on the whole
received a favourable reception as a serious scientific
study.

The growing interest in the scientific study of
race relations by competent research workers is to be
noted. A good beginning has now been made in the
psychological field, while a number of workers have
for some time been engaged on the sociological side.
In the latter field Dr. Monica Hunter's Rehon to
Conquest has been warmly welcomed.

It is interesting to record that the National
Union of Students decided in 1937 to merge its study
sections on Bantu Studies and the Poor White
Problem, into a department of Race Relations and to
encourage students to engage in sociological investi-
gations.

Discussions on African affairs during 1937 were
concerned mainly with (1) Native policy, (2) Defence
Policy, (3) the German demand for Colonies, and
(4) the proposed transfer of the Protectorates to the
Union.

Native Policy

The Union's Native legislation of 1936 — the
Representation of Natives Act and the South African
Trust and Land Act — carried into effective
operation during 1937, and it was supplemented by
the Bantu Laws Amendment Act, as described
earlier in this Survey. Thus the Union's policy of
political and territorial segregation of Native rights
has been enshrined in its law. In a press interview
given by General Hertzog in London just before his
return to South Africa, he said that "Africa generally
is a black continent with a number of predominantly
white settlements like the Union, Rhodesia and East
Africa, and that these areas "should in the course of
time be reserved for whites, and Native Africa for
Natives."

In Southern Rhodesia, the Prime Minister (Dr.
Huntein), speaking in the Legislative Assembly in
April said that the Government had found it necessary
to buy considerable areas of land for the use of Native
w homse who are being removed from European farms
and Crown land intended for the settlement of Europeans
in order "to carry out the policy visualised in the Land
Apportionment Act." The Native reserves and the
areas allotted to the Natives by the Morc-Carter
Commission had never been surveyed and there were
portions on which, "a goat could not live, much less
a native." "The dependence of the white people
of the Colony upon unmilked Native labour is so
certain that they cannot work on it; but it will
probably be necessary, as has been suggested, to
create areas where the white interest will be dominant,
and to a certain extent the converse of what applies to
the Native reserves, where the white man can only go
so far as is beneficial to the Native."

This view was endorsed by the Leader of the
Opposition when he urged that the Native village
settlements, now being established near the larger
towns in Southern Rhodesia, should not be placed in
"white areas." In no circumstances should Natives
be given permanent ownership rights in village settle-
ments established in white areas.

The Union Press dey a great attention to the fact that
Southern Rhodesia is following Union Native policy
very closely. Mr. Oswald Piek, in a broadcast at
Cape Town in March, declared that the white popu-
lation in the northern territories have accepted the
Union policy which he said "concedes to the black
man the unqualified right under our guardianship to
develop along his own lines to the fullest extent of
which he is capable, and which, in fact, places on the
white man the obligation to assist the Native in such
development, but which definitely once and for all
time denies the Negro social and political equality
with the European."

A debate on Native policy in Africa was initiated
in the House of Lords in June. Lord Noel-Buxton
who moved that "this House, in view of divergencies
in Native policy now developing in different parts of
His Majesty's Dominions and Dependencies, believes
that the time has arrived for the Imperial Conference
to formulate such policy in broad outline with a view
to protecting the rights and promoting the advance-
ment of all races of the Empire, whatever may be their
religion or colour, and that such policy should be
based upon the principle of 'Trusteeship.'" Lord
Noel-Buxton declared that there were two policies to be
reconciled, viz.:

(1) Trusteeship for Native development practised in
the main at Whittle:
(2) Colour Bar Administration, under which the
white man is master and the Native is debarred
from acquiring even professional citizenship.

Lord Snell later called these "The yellow and the
East African Policies." He differentiated between a
trusteeship which was merely a well-
meaning paternalism; and trusteeship for the
protection of the Native which would be:

Lord Buxton with experience of New Zealand,
expressed the hope that the mission did not mean that
uniformity of policy and treatment should be differ-
cently developed in different parts of the Empire. He said that the
Mission had done, their utmost with amazing success
to justify their position of equality, but a language bar
was responsible for a conflicting outlook on life which
was effecting a separation and lack of sympathy be-
Ween White and Black. The handicap condition of the
Mission was beginning to cause great problems.

Lord Acton and Duffton (Under Secretary for the
Colonies) said that it was not necessary to destroy
every institution of the Native; on the contrary a
far better one could be made of them as really good
and efficient instruments of government. A solution
of the dual interest (White and Black) could be found in either (1) division of the estate into two parts i.e. segregation or (2) dividing the interests complementary. The latter was the only way to avoid a racial clash. He affirmed his Government's policy along the second line and said that the Imperial Conference was not suitable for the purpose of the motion; it was designed rather to deal with common interests for a common policy.

The motion was withdrawn.

Defence

The Survey for 1935 detailed the cards of the Defence Policy of the Union Minister of Defence (Mr. O. Pirow) as recalled in certain speeches delivered by him during that year. The cards were given as:

1. Military training of Europeans only;
2. Development of a common Native policy and common defence policy throughout British Africa;
3. Consideration of an African Monroe Doctrine;
4. A five year plan of defence organisation in the Union;
5. Development of physical fitness, discipline and patriotism.

An article by Mr. Pirow published in a special South African number of the Revue in Africa - and the question was answered by Mr. Pirow as follows:

"How far does the Union's Sphere of Interest extend in Africa?" and the question was answered by Mr. Pirow as follows:

"We are limited to Africa south of the Equator, exclusive of French Equatorial Africa in the West and inclusive of Kenya and Uganda in the East. In the latter part of Africa we have a very pronounced interest, and it really is no exaggeration to say that it is as essential to the existence of the territories as it is to us to work in the greatest possible unity and in the fullest collaboration. If we remember that the majority of the men constituting this part of Africa can afford a livelihood to a large white population, even though there are many regions which are just as unhealthy as the West Coast, their community of interests with the Union, the largest white commonwealth in Africa, immediately becomes plain." Mr. Pirow expressed the view that a common Native policy is desirable for these areas, and that ultimately, the Union's Native policy would be adapted to the northern territories for, "In the end not government and officials but men and women who have made their homes in Africa will determine Native policy." A common defence policy is also necessary, he said, because "Even though the possibility that one of these territories may be attacked by an enemy from the outside may seem remote, it none-the-less requires only a moderate imagination to visualise that such an attack, for instance by an Asiatic power, would endanger the common ideals of the whole of white civilisation that other territories would have no option but to intervene." Also, "the danger of a common attack (by African Nations) on a white minority line in the realm of future practical politics, even though not in the immediate future... These dangerous possibilities in respect of internal as well as of external difficulties should go to weld us closer together in matters of defence, in spite of the fact that all the areas affected, apart from the Union and Southern Rhodesia are the colonies of European powers.

It should be noted that Mr. Pirow has extended this to Non-European territories the invitation, to join in common Native and Defence powers. This was confirmed by him in the parliamentary debate on the Defence Vote in May.

Germany's Demand for Colonies

Germany's demand for colonies became more pressing during the year, but discussion in the Union Parliament showed that there is no likelihood of any support being forthcoming in Parliament for the return of South West Africa to Germany. The Prime Minister, speaking to the House of Assembly on March 31, declared that he had from the first taken up the position that as Mandatory the Union is a trustee for the European inhabitants to agree to transfer. Political considerations in England had prevented the promised action. "It is obvious," he said, "that the matter cannot be left at this. The Union's rights to the transfer of the administration of the territories is indisputable... In these circumstances it is inconceivable for me to accept that there can be much further delay in the transfer of the territories or that the Union Government should be compelled to have recourse to the South Africa Act to request the King by means of the decision of Parliament to accede to the transfer. The consequences both to Great Britain and South Africa that would follow from such a step are so incalculable that for the time being I am not prepared to accept that the reply just given by the British Minister concerned is final. However disappointing that reply may be, I shall remain hopeful that the matter will soon be solved in friendly co-operation."

Speaking in the House of Commons on July 9, Mr. MacDonald pointed out that contrary to General Hertzog's view of the aide-mˆmoire it said that "the policy of both Governments in the next few years should be directed to bring about a situation which would make the transfer become a matter of practical politics so that it would be executed with the full acquiescence of the populations concerned." General Hertzog had agreed in July 1936 to the House of Commons being informed that there was no agreement or undertaking that the transfer of any of the territories should take place in any specified time, and had agreed that it was essential to the success of the policy of co-operation between the two Governments in the matter that it should not be hurried.

Pressed to explain the meaning of "Consultation" (with Native and European inhabitants of the territories) in the aide-mˆmoire, Mr. Macdonald said: "Two pledges were given; first that consultation would be taken with the local populations; secondly, that transfer could not take place until Parliament had been given an opportunity to debate the matter. It will be for Parliament to express its views as to what consultation means when the occasion arises.

The question of the transfer of the Protectorates was discussed again in the House of Commons on July 29, when the new position created by the Statute of Westminster was mentioned. On that occasion Mr. MacDonald said that if transfer were contemplated the general scheme should be observed, and anything in the schedule which was inappropriate to the present constitutional position should be a matter for discussion to see that some other appropriate safeguard regarding these matters could be substituted.

On June 29, Mr. Macdonald replied to a question on this interview in the House of Commons, saying that "the policy of His Majesty's United Kingdom Government remains the same as that of the aide-mˆmoire of May 1935", and that he was considering what further steps could be taken "to implement the policy."

On July 6, in a further press interview at Bloemfontein, General Hertzog again referred to his talk with Mr. Macdonald and complained that the question of the transfer was being played with by the United Kingdom Government. He had made a request for transfer on several occasions since 1925 and had pointed to the necessity for speeding the transfer if the ruin of numbers of European inhabitants in some of the territories concerned was to be prevented.

Despite the aide-mˆmoire of 1935, in which "the British Minister concerned had given a written assurance in which the prospect was set out that transfer would possibly occur after a few years — at least so far as one or two of the territories are concerned" nothing had been done to persuade the European inhabitants to agree to transfer. Political considerations in England had prevented the promised action. "It is obvious," he said, "that the matter cannot be left at this. The Union's rights to the transfer of the administration of the territories is indisputable... In these circumstances it is inconceivable for me to accept that there can be much further delay in the transfer of the territories or that the Union Government should be compelled to have recourse to the South Africa Act to request the King by means of the decision of Parliament to accede to the transfer. The consequences both to Great Britain and South Africa that would follow from such a step are so incalculable that for the time being I am not prepared to accept that the reply just given by the British Minister concerned is final. However disappointing that reply may be, I shall remain hopeful that the matter will soon be solved in friendly co-operation."

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