

Add to these events we have mentioned above the "No-Change" speech made by Mr Vorster at the opening of Parliament and it is obvious that those committed to the white laager offer no more hope for the future in 1978 than they ever have done. From outside the laager, however, there have been one or two encouraging signs. The new alliance between Kwa-Zulu's Inkatha movement and the Coloured Labour and Indian Reform Parties represents a sensible coming together of people pledged to fight apartheid from within its structures. Inkatha itself scored its overwhelming victory in the Kwa-Zulu election on a radical platform calling for the release of all political

prisoners, the return of exiles, and the creation of a society in which people of all groups would enjoy equal rights throughout a united South Africa. This is the kind of society we would like to see in South Africa and it is the kind of society the new black leadership of the townships would like to see. What is needed now is an accommodation between all those who hold this vision of the future to work together for it. Does Chief Buthelezi's recent successful visit to Soweto mean that such an accord might now be possible? If it does, then something good may yet come out of 1978. □

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MONTY NAICKER

Dr Monty Naicker, former president of the Natal and South African Indian Congresses died in Durban in January. We applaud his brave fight against apartheid over many years, a fight he carried on despite gaol, detention and repeated bannings. We will miss him. □

COMMENTARY

by Vortex

UNIBELL

The bulldozer trundles along
and knocks down
the house made of corrugated iron.

The police watch,
their dogs growl.
The squatters weep or sing.

What does it all matter?
It is only people who are suffering.
It is only homes which are collapsing.
It is only love
which is ploughed under
into the fertile earth.

ACADEMIC QUESTION

"At which university
did you gain your experience,
your sense of heaven and hell?
Perhaps at Unilever?"
"No. At Unibell."