

tional nonsense is put forth, and nothing more. There are so many variables involved that forecasting is most difficult. So I will not attempt to lift the veil on this aspect of South Africa in the year 2000. However, I will comment that increasing economic development — i.e., urbanization and industrialization — will not leave us as we are, and all

the processes I have described will impinge on group relations too.

The challenges are great, the opportunities immense — I hope we will rise to them. Our European forebears recreated the face of Western Society, I think on the whole for the better; what will we and our children do with South Africa?

PROFESSOR J. S. MARAIS

PROFESSOR J. S. MARAIS died suddenly in Johannesburg in November, 1969. His wife, Anna, is the national vice-president of the Black Sash and we were greatly saddened both for her and because Etienne Marais was a good friend to the Black Sash from its earliest beginnings. He bequeathed laughter and joy to those who knew him.

Dominee Beyers Naudé paid this tribute to him at his funeral. There are no better words with which to express our love and admiration.

“Professor Marais will be remembered by the warmth and friendliness of his personality, his uncompromising commitment to honesty and truth, his unquestioned integrity and his fearless stand for social justice. These will be the marked characteristics by which Etienne Marais will be remembered and his memory cherished by his wife, his children, his colleagues and his friends. We are grateful for such a life and for the fact that he passed away without any illness or pain.

When I reflect on the life of Professor Marais I am always reminded of Christ's words in John 8:32 where he says: ‘And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free.’ For Etienne Marais will be remembered for his search after truth—a search clearly shown in his approach as an academician to the subject he loved so dearly — history. Without any partisanship, with an objectiveness and scientific approach which made him one of the great historians of our country, he pursued his research and published his findings. This deep respect for truth was the dominant factor in his historical writings which will be honoured for their reliability long after his personal memory has passed away.

He will be remembered for his demand for integrity. All those of us who knew him

were aware of his insistence upon integrity—in his own life as well as in those of all around him. He evaluated the significance of people's actions in terms of their moral integrity. He despised all hypocrisy and cant and always wished to ensure that the motive of his actions should be pure and clear. Wherever anybody sincerely respects truth the question of integrity comes into play. Integrity is always the sign of honesty and purity. Etienne Marais' integrity was never questioned because falsehood was foreign to his character.

He will be remembered for his stand for social justice. The urge for truth and integrity inevitably and unavoidably leads a human being to involvement in social concerns. One who loves truth, who values integrity is also the one who advocates for social justice. This explains why Etienne Marais could never be the kind of person who would be satisfied to live in an academic cloister — he had to move out to meet men where they live and suffer. This was the reason for his willingness to become chairman of the Open Universities Liaison Committee when the threat of exclusion of non-white students from the campuses of our universities was imminent. The same explanation applies to his chairmanship of the Academic Freedom Committee where he was willing to champion worthy and lofty causes however unpopular this made him to many.

These worthy characteristics linked to one another — truth, integrity, justice enacted in deep sincerity — moral values all too little acknowledged and honoured in our present-day society in South Africa. With more men of such calibre our country could be truly called great and free. This was the greatness of Christ who wishes all his followers to listen and to accept his words: ‘You will know the truth and the truth will make you free.’”