

Year	Class	Number	Drop-Out-Rate
1958	Sub-A	361 440	100
1959	Sub-B	261 418	72,3
1960	Std. I	238 146	66,0
1961	Std. II	200 065	55,4
1962	Std. III	153 668	42,5
1963	Std. IV	116 629	32,0
1964	Std. V	91 736	25,0
1965	Std. VI	86 311	23,9 Exam.
1966	Form I	33 773	9,4
1967	Form II	27 085	7,5
1968	Form III	19 679	5,5 Jun. Cert.
1969	Form IV	4 713	1,3
1970	Form V	2 938	0,8 Matric.

It is interesting to note that there were more Whites in Standard X in the nineteen-twenties¹⁴ than there were Africans in Form V in 1971. When we consider that Mr. S. G. Strumlin, a member of the Soviet Academy of the U.S.S.R., has calculated that: "the value of the work done by a person who had had four years of primary education is 43% greater than that of a illiterate person, 108% greater if he has had a secondary education and 300% greater if he has higher education",¹⁵ the reason for a low rate of productivity becomes apparent.

It is true that between 1967 and 1971 there has been a substantial improvement in the percentage of pupils enrolled in Std. II (35%), Std. VI (52%), Form III (73%) and Form V (96%), but actual numbers are not very impressive:¹⁶

	Matric	J.C.	Std. VI	Std. II
1971	4 065	29 800	148 374	342 636
1970	2 938	26 695	135 440	324 208
1969	2 698	22 855	119 704	299 199
1968	2 380	19 679	106 955	275 784
1967	2 075	17 178	97 604	254 413

The private sector of the economy could render valuable assistance with the educational advance of the African people but any real

¹² E. G. Malherbe, *Bantu Manpower and Education*, p. 21.

¹³ Figures for 1958 to 1968 taken from *Department of Bantu Education, Annual Report for 1969*. Figures for 1969 and 1970 taken from *Survey of Race Relations for the respective years*.

¹⁴ Taken from *Union Statistics for Fifty Years*.

¹⁵ Taken from E. G. Malherbe, *Op. Cit.* p. 14.

¹⁶ Figures for the years 1967-70 taken from the *Survey of Race Relations for 1968-71*. 1971 figures taken from *Minister of Bantu Education, Assembly Hansard 9, 28/3/72, Q. COL. 736*.

advance will depend upon a radical reapportionment of the national budget. There has been a small but welcome move in this direction in recent years.

And so, one comes to the question of whether I have ought to offer for the comfort of the advocates of a common society and I reluctantly admit: "Virtually nothing". I am not a prophet and do not forecast the sort of cataclysm against which the Minister of the Interior has warned. If an event of that nature should occur I doubt whether it would be advertised in the daily press. I do not see any of those cracks in apartheid to which some authorities refer. In the short term I would regard these slight adjustments as those which a sophisticated system makes to ensure its continued existence. It is true, that some, among them some on the government benches, believe that there are problems which successive generations will solve — that is, if there are future generations of *South Africans* to solve them.

It shows a touching faith in youth to believe that they will be able to meet successfully challenges created by the present generation. Besides which, let us not forget that the older generation has yet to let go and there are no signs that this will happen in the near future.

What seems to be a new black initiative — but I would not exaggerate this unduly — may well dispose of white proposals at some future date and set the country on an entirely different course.

In the meantime those who believe in the "open society" and register their dissent may well "Help us to save free conscience from the paw of hireling wolves whose Gospel is their maw".

BANNED — M. D. NAIDOO

Released from prison on Tuesday, 23rd May after serving a five year sentence under the Suppression of Communism Act.

Banned the same day. House arrested at nights and weekends; confined to Durban; no meetings, no parties; forbidden to enter the office of any attorney so prevented from earning his living in the profession he is trained for.