

EDITORIAL

New Constitution — Blacks in a paroxysm of despair

It is indeed a tragedy that the Botha Administration is leading my country to perdition. When the Prime Minister entered the premiership office, he popularised his "adapt or die" policy. Black South Africa looked at him hopefully. But the creation of the tricameral parliamentary arrangements left the Blacks in a paroxysm of despair. We Blacks are just a pariah in our own motherland.

We have seen big and large advertisements of vote 'No' and vote 'Yes' in newspapers. I have no doubt that the White electorate will approve the constitution. Next year's parliamentary session will be the first under the new constitution. We reject the notion that the Black political aspirations can be satisfied by our involvement in the so-called homeland governments.

The Nationalist Party Government has jettisoned the inclusion of a Bill of Rights in the new Constitution proving again that the

new Constitution does not do away with discrimination on the basis of colour but further entrenches apartheid more than ever before. There is no change at all. It is still apartheid left and right. Apartheid is an idol for Afrikaner Nationalism.

To test the White opinion about the Constitution, a Whites-only referendum will be held in November this year, and we blacks who constitute 72% of the total population of South Africa have been left out in the political cold. That is the type of country we live in. It is a very beautiful, very strange and, in many ways, very sad country.

All true patriots who are committed to the establishment of one South Africa with one people with equality before the law and Constitution, and with equality of opportunity to improve one's lot in life and to contribute to the development of the motherland we love, cannot accept this type of Constitution.

ERRATUM ON LAST VOLUME

The September issue of this magazine should have read:
Vol 1 No. 2