

CHURCH URGED TO JUDGE LEGISLATION

A NGK conference in Pretoria was told the Church had a responsibility to judge political systems and legislation in the light of biblical norms.

The Johannesburg Star reported that Professor Johan Heyns, of the University of Pretoria, speaking on "The Church and Politics", said the church had a duty to judge legislation.

He said this duty included looking at

matters such as the Mixed Marriages Act and stating whether they were biblically unjustifiable.

South Africa's system of migrant labour, "which breaks up families, causes confusion and encourages homosexuality," had also to be judged in biblical terms.

Professor Heyns said the Homelands policy should be judged accord-

ing to how it affected the people living in these areas.

"We have a duty to convey what God says — no more, no less."

Professor Heyns said, however, that the Church must not allow itself to become another political party or pressure group.

It has a message of peace, reconciliation and justice to convey to politicians.

The Church was called on to pray for peace and for the Government, including the Opposition and the new Chambers created under the new constitution.

KWAZULU TEACHING POST FOR WIFE OF UDF LEADER

THE KwaZulu Cabinet has approved a request from Mrs Edith Gumede, the wife of the President of the United Democratic Front, Mr Archie Gumede, to work as a teacher for the Department of Education and Culture.

Mrs Gumede, who has officially retired, applied for permission to work again next year.

Mrs Gumede's husband, who at the time of printing is camped in the British Consulate in Durban with five others all seeking refuge from detention orders, will have nothing to do with KwaZulu.

In a letter to Chief Buthelezi refer-

ring to KwaZulu he said:

"We (the UDF) are constrained to remark that for members of an oppressed and coerced community to voluntarily man and daily keep institutions of oppression serviced to grind the defenceless masses under the yoke of oppression is suicidal and untenable."

Mrs Gumede's application to the Department of Education and Culture was passed on to the Cabinet by the Minister involved, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, who is also Secretary-General of Inkatha.

"The Department could have made the decision itself but bearing in mind the UDF's attitude to KwaZulu I decided to refer the matter to the full Cabinet," he said.

"Mrs Gumede's service to KwaZulu has been beyond reproach and I am very pleased that her application was approved without hesitation.

"We have no problems at all with those who are ideologically opposed to Inkatha and we welcome their contributions towards social services such as education in the region.

"However, we do feel that they should not use their positions to promote their private viewpoints."

Chief Buthelezi said that he was sure Mrs Gumede must have realised her application to the Government would "raise a few eyebrows..."

"Her husband has made no secret of his total rejection of what we are trying to do in KwaZulu," he said.

The fact remained, however, that Mrs Gumede was a "valued" teacher who was "extremely welcome" to pursue her profession in KwaZulu.

INKATHA/ANC TALKS?

Oliver Tambo sends telegram to Chief Buthelezi

MR Oliver Tambo, the President of the External Mission of the ANC, has indicated in a telegram to the President of Inkatha, Chief M G Buthelezi, that the two should have talks as soon as possible.

The telegram, sent to the Chief early this month, cannot be quoted due to South African Government legislation making it an offence to do so.

The Chief told Clarion Call he appreciated the contact from Mr Tambo and his recognition of the fact that even though the two differed in their strategy for the liberation of South Africa, they had to keep in touch as



leaders.

He added that some Black organisations adopted a "holier than thou"

stance towards those that did not agree with them.

This was a new element in Black politics which did not exist at the time when the banned ANC was founded.

Mr Tambo had shown in his telegram a willingness to talk about differences of opinion.

Chief Buthelezi had responded with a telegram saying he welcomed the "elaboration of message as promised."

He went on to say he would like them both to meet as soon as possible.

The Chief Minister last held formal talks with the ANC in London in 1979.