CAPE OF GOOD HOPE: FOR VASCO DE GAMA

Day after day, week after heartsick week
The ship plunged southward. The appalling sun
Was north at noon: surely they soon must run
Over earth's frightful rim! But still the bleak
Coast blocked the eastward way they came to seek.
Leftward was pathless land, strait there was none,
And each day ended as it had begun.
The unknown stars at night made hope grow weak.

And then, land's end, the splendid finger of Hope, And they sailed eastward into a different dawn. So we, in later voyage, through seas that spawn A vast despair, along dark coasts must grope Towards destruction. Can we see the shape Of our Good Hope, and we, too, round the cape?

Kenneth Boulding

A NOTE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Because of the growing international interest in, and pressure on, South Africa, the March, 1986, number of REALITY was planned to be a special bumper International issue. However, our guest editor, Peter Vale of the Institute of Social and Economic Reasearch at Rhodes University, received so many contributions, that we ended up with almost enough for two full issues.

We felt that it would be a mistake to spread these important articles over two numbers of REALITY. Instead we are printing them all in this issue, together with a number of pieces of local interest and comment, and combining our March and May numbers. This means that the next REALITY will appear in July.

Editorial Board