

circumstances, hasn't done at all badly in playing a positive role, getting things done, and preaching their positive message.

Lots of people who have not been doing any work are unaware of all the work that is being done.]

NOTHING NEW

It is with this background that one must view the "swing to the Nats" in the recent provincial elections, although it should also be remembered that the swing to the Nats is nothing new—it has been going on ever since 1943—since which time the United Party has lost about half of its seats in Parliament.

The Labour Party committed political suicide by following more liberal race policies and lost all its seats.

The Liberal Party has lost whatever Parliamentary influence it may have had by the abolishing of the African Representatives, and it seems likely that similar action will be taken in the near future to see that the Progressives are likewise eliminated. A one-party State would be the next logical step, although the Nationalist Government might wish to keep the United Party opposition just for the sake of appearances. The real struggle will then be extra-Parliamentary, as indeed it largely is now.

The Liberal and Progressive parties are the most effective opposition that the Government now has. The Progressive Party, by showing that it has the support of the Coloured voters in the Cape, has rather upset the Government claim that it is supported in its policies by the non-whites. The Coloureds have shown that they are not sufficiently politically mature, and that therefore they cannot have their own homelands. **It is probably not possible to estimate what part the Liberal Party has played in holding up the Bantustan Programme in Natal, but to judge by the amount of intimidation that goes on it must be considerable.**

TRANSKEI

In the Transkei the Government has had to rely on the preponderance of chiefs in the Legislative Assembly to uphold the fiction that the majority of Africans just can't wait to develop separately in their homelands under the paternal eye of Pretoria. **And even so, the Democratic Party, with majority popular support, is uncomfortably powerful.**

In Natal, the Government has fewer chiefs on which it can rely to support its line, and the attacks on prominent people like Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, who favour non-racialism, indicate that this is regarded as a serious threat. The Liberal Party has considerable influence among potential Bantustan voters in

ALL WE CAN DO IS MAKE SURE THERE IS SOMETHING TO KILL

Post-Provincial Election Comment by
a Student

BACKGROUND

Since the advent of the Republic in 1961, the Nationalist Government has become increasingly self-confident, and has taken steps to ensure that it can count at all times on the support of the majority of the white electorate.

It has achieved this by two methods—**firstly**, the Republic exposed the bankruptcy of the United Party policy, by making racial issues the only really important one in the political arena, now that the connection with the Crown had been severed.

Racialistic monarchists thus had the wind taken out of their sails, and their former opposition to the Nationalists did not seem to have much point any more.

The second step was to intimidate the white electorate with threats of Communist plots and sabotage, and the perils of black nationalism. This may be seen in such pieces of legislation as the 1962 "Sabotage Act". It is difficult to see that this was for any other purpose than to frighten the white electorate into voting Nat. It is a blatant piece of political legislation. Sabotage could quite easily have been dealt with by existing legislation, or some modification of the laws relating to wanton and malicious destruction of property, and murder, would have been adequate to deal with the situation. This would also probably have caused less unfavourable publicity to be given to the trial of saboteurs in the overseas Press.

It would also not have had the effect of causing a near-Nazi patriotic hysteria in the white electorate.

Natal, which is no doubt the reason why its members are watched, followed and threatened by members of the political police.

The action taken by the Government to eliminate effective opposition has been two-fold—legislative and administrative. The legislative action has taken the form of the banning of political parties, such as the Communist Party, the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress. There has also been action to prevent trade unions from affiliating with any political party, which had the effect of killing both the Labour Party and the trade union movement in South Africa. There has also been the banning of individual members of political parties and organizations, which is a mixture of legislative and administrative action.

COMMON

Administrative action is becoming increasingly common, where civil servants, no doubt with the instructions of the Minister concerned, have placed obstacles in the way of the effective opposition parties. Examples which readily come to mind are the case of the Transkei election candidates who were well known for their opposition to Government policies, who were detained under the 90-day clause in the heat of the campaign, which could not but have influenced their chances of election. **One of the Progressive Party candidates in the Cape Provincial elections was not allowed to address meetings in some areas, whereas his opponent experienced no such difficulty, because the Minister said that he was the elected representative of the Coloured people.** The intimidation of members of the Liberal Party is well known. The Government is obviously reluctant to ban the Liberal Party at present, but it is almost as effective to ban those members of the party who are active in promoting its policies. Police have threatened many of the ordinary members of the party, particularly in the rural districts of Natal.

FOOLS ?

I cannot believe that they are quite such fools as to seriously believe that the Liberal Party as such is a threat to the internal security of the State. However, it is a serious threat to the security of the Nationalist Party, and it should be fairly obvious whose interests the police are protecting. For some time past—

about the last 18 years—loyalty to South Africa has been regarded as synonymous with loyalty to the National Party, and so other parties are regarded as "un-South African" and thus a threat to the internal security of South Africa.

This is the kind of fascist mentality that leads to a one-party State—a mentality that is not peculiar to South Africa, but which can also be seen in Franco of Spain, Nkrumah of Ghana, Sukarno of Indonesia and Salazar of Portugal.

A General Election is due next year. The result is practically certain to be another overwhelming Nationalist victory. It will probably mark the elimination of the Progressives in Parliament. More action can be expected against the Liberal Party, which will probably be banned shortly before, or shortly after, the General Election. The idea of an opposition in Parliament will be seen as un-South African—they don't have such an anomaly in the Free State Provincial Council. Even the United Party will eventually be too much, and the one party State will be heralded as the next great step for our nation after the Republic. **The United Party would be the last to think of going down with the flag flying—it lost the flag in 1961 anyway—and would more likely unite with the Government, so we could all live miserably ever after.**

NOTHING SHORT OF A WAR

Nothing short of a war will remove the present Government. It took a war to get rid of the Nazis in Germany, and it will need a war to remove the Nationalists here. The white electorate have gone too far along the road to change their course now—so elections will not remove the Government. Boycotts and sanctions, whatever else they may do, will not change the hearts of the white electorate of the Nationalist Government, but only harden them.

John Harris lived long enough after the Provincial Elections to see that his bomb did not cause the massive revulsion against Government policy which he had hoped for. Sabotage will thus do not good. An internal revolution cannot succeed, because the Government is far too strong, and can count on the unquestioning support of the army and police force. A war might remove the Government, but the cure might well be as bad, if not worse than the disease.

What can be done?

Politically, very little. The opposition parties will be dead or underground before long. The United Party will die by itself, the others will have to be forcibly killed. Strangulation is already being tried on the Liberal Party.

SOMETHING TO KILL

Possibly the most important thing is to make sure that there is something to kill.

The Liberal Party should put up candidates in the next election, in the Coloured seats, and even in the Free State, to go down with the flag flying.

But above all, what is most important, it should continue its work of political education, and make an all out effort to disseminate its policies and ideas as widely as possible.

It should make a maximum effort to persuade as many people as possible to accept these ideas, by holding meetings where questions can be asked by those who doubt or disagree.

In, this way the party can ensure that, though the Nats may destroy the Liberal Party, they will never destroy the idea of freedom, which may one day emerge from the chaos intact to play a part in shaping the new South Africa.

JAMES BOND

007's LAST RIDE

Agent 007 glanced at his watch, but it was no use, he couldn't tell what the time was. It was too dark in the bush in which he was sitting. The luminous points were no good to him because he could never tell which one was at the top, from which to start counting. There was a streetlight near the bush to his right, so he cautiously stuck his hand out through the leaves into the light. But—something was still wrong—he still couldn't see the time. Then, in flash, it came to him—he realised that the rest of him was still totally enclosed by foliage, so he could not see the dial! Slowly and soundlessly, 007 raised himself up, so that his head gradually emerged through the leaves. It seemed to take an age. At last sweating with strain, he was in a position to see his wrist.

"Haai, nee man. Vervlaks!"

He had stuck out the wrong arm.

Gradually, silently, 007 submerged like a U-Boat into the bush again. The latest Order from the Minister, which was "Never let your right hand know what your left hand is doing", had its drawbacks, thought 007; but then he censured himself for thinking this: "Voetsak is always right", he muttered to himself, repeating another Order. But what was he to do? His position was desperate. A team of Government scientists had been working for years to ascertain at what precise time people were deepest asleep, and thus would be most intimidated and discomforted when awoken. They found that this was at exactly 4 a.m. (with one minority opinion of 3 minutes past 4 being sent to Robben Island). A minute before or after this precise time and some of the effect of his visitation would be lost. 007 sweated anew when he thought of the responsibility which lay on his shoulders. People of his own skin colour were relying on him not to let this happen!

And his left, wristwatch arm was on the side of the bush opposite the streetlight—outside of which lay an area of Stygian darkness.

"Wat gaan ek nou maak?" muttered 007. He laid his hand on the regulation copy of Mein Kampf in the pocket over his heart and mumbled a prayer. This book had saved his life on one occasion when he had stood too near the dartboard in the canteen.

VOICES?

007's meditations came to an abrupt halt when he heard voices approaching the bush. He froze and listened, his ears tingling. Suddenly his blood chilled, then it boiled, curdled, fizzed, bubbled and turned to vodka. (Unfortunately, it did not clot.) The voices were speaking Sotho! Bantoe!

007 galumphed out of the bush like a runaway jabberwock.

"Haai, you Kaffers!" he screamed in a falsetto that was delirious with rage. "What are you does-ing yere at night now, hey?" (007 always spoke English to Kaffers.) "I arrest you for contempt of court." With split-second timing he punched them both simultaneously in the face and handcuffed them. He then battered them senseless and left them