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HTUOS AFRICA

Santam Eller

H. W. Shepherd Lovedale)

Africans in Cape Colony were given the right to be on the same parliamentary roll as Europeans, provided they had certain educational and property qualifications. The position is that ans in Cape Colony that in 1854 he political that South

the latter year about 12,000 Africans were on the register. In 1936, by over a two thirds majority in Parliament, but against the advice of such liberals as the late Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr and the late Senator F. S. Malan (both of Dutch race), Africans were removed from the common register and given separate representation. They were allowed three members, who must be Europeans, in the House of Assembly, which had a total membership of 153. General Hertzog piloted the measure through Parliament, with the help of a coalition Government in which General Smuts was Deputy Prime Minister. General This was maintained till 1936. In e latter year about 12,000

r Provinces of the the Orange Free

Regarding the removal of Africans from the common roll and the giving them separate representation, General Hertzog made plain statements. He openly avowed that he was moved by fear, for he said, "If there are two things which have always made the white population of South Africa very anxious, they are, firstly, the danger that there was of intermingling of blood, and secondly, the danger that there was of being dominated by the Natives." He went on, "If the Natives get the necessary education and the necessary education and the necessary schooling, they must eventually get the upper hand, if only they have the desire to take it. And no one can ever doubt that when the Native gets that upper hand at the ballot box, he will not omit to use it in his own favour and be able to dominate the Europeans."

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Representative Voice

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In advocating such policies and saying such things, General Hertzog was representative of hosts of European South Africans, and nothing is to be gained by ignoring that fact. The European fear is simply that, as Africans outnumber Europeans by three or four to one, should they all become educated, the future of the white race in the Union would not be worth a moment's purchase. They have a vague but benumbing fear for the future, especially as it may affect their descendants. They believe, and with reason, that Western civilisation is a precious thing, and

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remarkable story of the service rendered to seamen by the BRITISH SAILORS SOCIETY?

(founded in 1818).

your (arkable

State, Africans had never been given parliamentary voting rights. In Natal theoretically they had rights, but only a handful were ever registered.

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Moved by Fear

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In the Senate or upper house there had been since 1910 four senators, appointed because of their acquaintance with the more senators were addelected by the African 1 the Union, voting in four d races of South A and wishes of the of South Africa." legislation four ere added, to be African people of in four electoral

cerned. Their fears are not lessened by the greater birthrate among Africans than among Europeans. Today in the province of Natal, Europeans are not only vastly outnumbered by Africans, but even the Asiatics are now more BLACK WHITE YELLOW

Some Facts to Remember
In facing the question of African
rights some facts must be kept in
mind. The Europeans and the
Bantu were not the original inhabitants of South Africa. Long before
them were the Bushmen and the
Hottentots. These races have almost perished. The Bantu invaded

the country from the north and the Europeans from the Cape at approximately the same time, some three hundred years ago.

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NEHRU

Again, South Africa is different from such countries as India or China in that it has no ancient civilisation to speak of, no architecture or literature or recorded history. Africans are proud of their race, so that the danger of intermarriage with Europeans is slight. Seretse Khama—a former pupil of the writer — by his marriage to a white woman did a most uncom-

committee of a European club in Malays was forced to resign over an invitation to a Sultan attend a club dinner. At home, though Peter Abrahams is accepted in the white circles in which he moves, Leary Constantine was thrown out of an hotel because he was not white. He that ath no sin, even in face of our small tension, let him cast the first stone.

Colour prejudice is not a white invention. It happens merely that when the power to dominate nillions of our fellow human beings became practicable in the world, white men had it. Whether they have used it more vilely than other races would have done is debatable. What matters now that in the long course of history we have reached the point where all men must revise their leas on the question of race—before it is too late. We are not drifting towards trouble, we are undering towards catastrophe on a scale and of a bitterness too great and too deep to contemate without fear.

plate without fear.

The clash of the races in Southern and Central Africa is not an African affair. There can be nothing but sympathy for a white population, a tiny minority, trying to preserve the riches of its own inheritance in an ocean of colour, most of it ignorant and much of it backward. Only the emotional "idealist" ignores or regards as illegitimate such an aspiration. Our South African cut problem. But if the immediacy of a multi-racial society is not felt by us, one thing is borne Government of the Union of South Africa can lead only to disaster for all of white Africa and, as "coloured" kin on the face of the earth.

No man with sense asks for — as Malan would have South Africans believe — miracles of of the internal self-preservation of the civilisation white men are anxious to maintain, that the promise of an earlier hope might return to Africa and the dark night of Nazi imspired retrogreesend and lose its own soul?

The world cannot believe that there is not in all Africa, the grace and the skill among white races can discover how to live together in equility and in peace. It is easy to say. In face of fear, that will not mean white destruction in Africa? If there is, make it plain, for the night is far spent and the black day is at hand. The black m'llions have resolved that Malan's solution shall

MALAN MOROKA WHITE BLACK BROWN MHILE BLACK KETFOM WHITE BROWN both races that miscegenation is to be found. But while Airicans are proud of their race, the intelligentsia among them wish unhindered access to the Europeans' religious, political and economic life. For them Animism is dead, African custom is perishing. Africa's future, in the South, lies along the way of Western civilisation.

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BROWN BROWN apartheid — separation between races — favoured by the present Government, and General Hertzog's simile of two pyramids, one Black and one White, with freedom for every man to rise to the top of his own pyramid, never contemplate anything else than that the white man should rule and be dominant. The European way of life must be preserved, is the constant thought.

If any inhabitant of Britain inclines to lose patience with this attitude or the Europeans' fears and anxieties, let him remember the race intends to maintain. The European has no intention of leaving South Africa as has been done in India. The great cities are "European" cities. To a large number of Europeans in South Africa one of the most familiar sights is the outline of the city of Johannesburg with its towering skyscrapers silhouetted against the blue. It is a remarkable sight in a land of wide vistas and sparseness of population. To many Europeans that outline speaks of romance. For the city is only just over sixty years old, and yet its population numbers nearly a million. And something of the same romance has gathered about such other cities as Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and Pretoria. The European brain has been behind all South Africa's development and the plan is that it should always be so. (The contribution of African brawn often goes unrecognised.) Even the doctrine of Now in South Africa there has been built up an outpost of Western civilisation which the white race intends to maintain. The To Preserve a Way of Life

it of Britain in-ice with this atti-seans' fears and remember the ed in Britain for which Roman