

DISTURBANCES AT AFRICAN SCHOOLS

According to reports by the Ministers of Justice and of Police in the Assembly on 11 and 23 May,¹⁸ 296 African pupils were arrested during 1972 as a result of disturbances at five African schools. The charges against them included public violence, malicious damage to property, and contraventions of the Riotous Assemblies Act. Of these pupils, 221 were released without trial, and 37 were convicted. (The sentences imposed were not stated.)

The number arrested during 1973 is likely to be higher. Various Press reports have given accounts of disturbances at six schools or teacher training institutions in the Lebowa area of the northern Transvaal, two schools in the Transkei, and one each in Zululand and the Ciskei. The Lebowa and Transkeian Governments appointed committees of inquiry. Two institutions were closed temporarily, the pupils being told to re-apply for admission. Other students were suspended. Full details were not recorded, but it appears that at least 572 were charged with various offences and at least 472 convicted, the sentences ranging from strokes with a light cane to imprisonment for a year (half suspended) plus a fine of R25. The 94 students (from a teacher training college) who received this severe sentence were granted leave to appeal.

Their appeal was heard on 26 November. The effective jail sentence was reduced to three months because the students had shown remorse, having repaid most of the cost of the damage to property that they had caused.

SCHOOL EDUCATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE COLOURED COMMUNITY

COLOURED PERSONS EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT

No. 53 OF 1973

This measure laid down that no person shall provide education for Coloured people for reward (except at a State or Aided school or through a registered correspondence college) unless the person concerned has been registered with the Department as a private school, and complies with prescribed requirements. Any private school may be inspected by officials. If it is deemed that the requirements prescribed are not being complied with, registration may be cancelled.

The Minister of Coloured Relations was empowered to grant financial assistance to university and other senior students (he already had the power to grant such assistance to school pupils).

During the second reading debate on the Bill Mr. D. M. Streicher (U.P.) pointed out¹ that, in terms of the principal Act, a

¹⁸ Hansard 13 col. 860, Hansard 15 col. 917.

¹ 28 March, Assembly Hansard 8 cols. 3635-6.

private school did not have to be registered unless it had more than 14 pupils. The amendment might prevent private coaching for reward, he said, which was particularly undesirable in view of the shortage of classrooms and teachers. The U.P. opposed the second reading.

The Minister insisted² that extra-mural tuition should be under control. Qualified teachers who gave extra instruction to pupils would not have to register, he said, but they needed official permission to accept fees for this work.

FINANCE

According to the table set out on page 292, in 1971-2 the Department of Coloured Relations and Rehoboth Affairs spent about R51 000 000 on all forms of education. This, presumably, includes expenditure by the Coloured Persons' Representative Council. The figure does not include capital expenditure on school buildings by the Department of Public Works.

There are no published figures indicating the total estimated expenditure on education for members of the Coloured community in 1973-4. The Public Works Department³ budgeted R11 418 950 for various educational buildings. The Revenue Vote of the Department of Coloured Relations and Rehoboth Affairs⁴ does not indicate this Department's estimated total expenditure on education, but one of the items in its budget was R2 109 300 for the administration of the University of the Western Cape.

As mentioned in an earlier chapter, the allocation from Revenue Account to the Coloured Persons' Representative Council was R111 091 000 in 1973-4. The allocation from Loan Account was R52 500. The Council plans to spend R69 287 800 on education.

It is reported earlier in this *Survey* that, according to the Minister,⁵ the *per capita* expenditure on Coloured pupils in 1971-2 was:

Primary classes	R91,04
Secondary classes	R120,18
General average	R94,41

INTRODUCTION OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION

Until 1963, education for members of the Coloured community was controlled by the provinces. A Natal Ordinance of 1942, as amended in 1952, rendered education compulsory for children aged seven years and over until they had completed their fifteenth year or had passed Std. VIII. A Cape Ordinance of 1945 provided that if sufficient and suitable accommodation existed, school boards

² Cols. 3654-6; 3739.

³ R.P. 3/1973, Loan Vote B.

⁴ R.P. 2/1973, Vote 44.

⁵ Assembly Hansard 17 col. 974.

might request that education be made compulsory for children between the ages of 7 and 14 years who lived within a radius of three miles of an undenominational school, unless they had passed Std. IV or were in regular employment. By 1963 these permissive powers had been exercised in six school board areas only, including Keiskammahoek and Alice. There was no compulsory education for Coloured children in the Transvaal or Free State.

As mentioned in previous issues of this *Survey*, a Government Notice of 1968 as amended in 1972 rendered it compulsory for a Coloured child in the Cape, Transvaal, or Free State, irrespective of the age or standard he had attained, to attend a class regularly until the end of a year if he had enrolled in that class at the commencement of the year, and if the class was conducted within 5 km of his home.

Further steps were taken in 1973, in terms of Government Notice R1709 of 21 September. They are to come into effect from 1 January 1974.

- (a) In Natal, education will be compulsory for all Coloured children who reach the age of seven years before 1 July 1974, and before 1 July of every succeeding year, until the end of the school year in which the child reaches the age of 16 years or passes Std. VIII. This will apply irrespective of how far a child lives from a State or Aided school.
- (b) In the Keiskammahoek and Alice districts, education will be compulsory for every Coloured child who, before 1 July 1974 and before 1 July of every succeeding year, has reached the age of seven years and has not reached the age of 14 years, provided that the child lives within 5 km of a school specified in the Government Notice.
- (c) In the rest of the Cape and in the Transvaal and Free State, education will be compulsory for Coloured children who reach the age of seven years between 1 July 1973 and 30 June 1974, if these children live within 5 km of a State or Aided school or of a boarding point for transport to the school.

Explaining this last provision,⁶ the Minister of Coloured Relations said that it was the first stage of a campaign to make education compulsory up to the age of 13 by 1979. Each year, school attendance would be enforced for children in an additional year's age group (i.e. in 1975 for seven- and eight-year-olds, etc.). There would not be truant officers. School officials and inspectors would see that the regulation was carried out. At least R500 000 had been provided for new schools and teachers, and it was anticipated that there would be adequate accommodation for the additional influx of pupils in 1974. The double shift system would have to be retained at some schools for the time being.

⁶ *Rand Daily Mail*, 25 September.

DOUBLE SESSIONS

In reply to a question in the Assembly on 7 June,⁷ the Minister said that the double session (or shift) system operated in 1 797 classes, mainly between Sub A and Std. I, but in a few cases in Stds. II to IV as well. There were 61 098 pupils involved.

PUPILS

On 25 April the Minister gave the following statistics in regard to Coloured pupils.⁸ Those for the Republic relate to the end of the third school quarter in 1972, while those for South West Africa are as at 6 March 1973.

	Republic		South West Africa	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Sub A	104 092	18,95	2 130	14,74
Sub B	88 450	16,11	2 063	14,28
Std. I	78 883	14,36	1 990	13,78
Std. II	66 649	12,14	1 842	12,75
Std. III	57 916	10,55	1 617	11,19
Std. IV	48 485	8,83	1 377	9,53
Std. V	38 524	7,01	1 196	8,28
<i>Total primary</i>	482 999	87,95	12 215	84,55
Std. VI	29 313	5,34	1 024	7,09
Std. VII	17 894	3,26	619	4,28
Std. VIII	11 715	2,13	379	2,62
<i>Total junior secondary</i>	58 922	10,73	2 022	13,99
Std. IX	4 766	0,87	164	1,13
Std. X	2 483	0,45	48	0,33
<i>Total senior secondary</i>	7 249	1,32	212	1,46
<i>Combined totals</i>	549 170	100,00	14 449	100,00

According to information given by Mr. Tom Swartz, chairman of the executive of the Coloured Persons' Representative Council,⁹ at the beginning of the 1973 school year the enrolment in the Republic was:

	Number	Percentage
Primary	508 564	87,06
Junior secondary	67 248	11,51
Senior secondary	8 309	1,42
<i>Totals</i>	584 121	99,99

⁷ Hansard 17 col. 972.

⁸ Assembly Hansard 11 cols. 716-7. Percentages calculated by the writer.

⁹ *Rand Daily Mail* report, 18 August. A summary made by the writer is given here.

Calculating from information given by the Minister in the Assembly on 28 February,¹⁰ during 1972 about 62,64 per cent of the pupils were in government schools, 36,70 per cent in aided schools, and 0,66 per cent in private schools.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

The examination results achieved by Coloured pupils in 1972 were given by the Minister in the Assembly on 7 June.¹¹

Junior Certificate	Republic		South West Africa	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Number of candidates ...	11 222	—	365	—
Candidates who passed:				
First class	640	5,70	18	4,93
Second class	6 963	62,05	256	70,14
<i>Total passes</i>	7 603	67,75	274	75,07

Senior Certificate or Matriculation

Number of candidates ...	2 499	—	51	—
Candidates who passed:				
First class	113	4,52	2	3,92
Second class	1 488	59,54	42	82,35
<i>Total passes</i>	1 601	64,06	44	86,27

Of the candidates who passed the Senior Certificate or Matriculation examinations, 831 in the Republic and 26 in South West Africa obtained matriculation exemption passes.

On 25 February the Minister indicated¹² that a number of pupils had entered for supplementary examinations. Their results were not reported.

COLOURED TEACHERS

Asked in the Assembly about the qualifications of Coloured teachers, the Minister gave information contained in the table below.¹³ The statistics for the Republic relate to the position on 31 March 1973, while those for South West Africa are as at 9 May 1973.

¹⁰ Hansard 4 col. 250.

¹¹ Hansard 17 col. 976. Percentages calculated by the writer. Slightly different figures for Junior Certificate passes were given in the issue of *Alpha* for March.

¹² Hansard 4 cols. 250-1.

¹³ 15 June, Hansard 18 cols. 1025-6. Percentages calculated by the writer.

	<i>Republic</i>		<i>South West Africa</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Professionally qualified and:</i>				
had a university degree ...	680	3,69	1	0,32
passed Matriculation or equivalent ...	3 985	21,64	80	25,89
passed J.C. or equivalent	12 756	69,25	171	55,34
<i>No professional qualifications but:</i>				
had a university degree ...	108	0,59	1	0,32
passed Matriculation or equivalent ...	297	1,61	21	6,80
had technical or other qualifications ...	76	0,41	—	—
had not attained Matriculation level and held no technical or other qualifications ...	518	2,81	35	11,33
<i>Totals ...</i>	18 420	100,00	309	100,00

The 17½ per cent increase in the salaries of Coloured, African, and Asian teachers from 1 April, as against a 15 per cent increase for White teachers, is mentioned earlier. Mr. Franz E. Auerbach calculated in 1972 that, on average, Coloured and Asian teachers were earning 65 per cent of the amounts paid to Whites with similar qualifications, employed in similar posts. He estimates that since 1 April this ratio has risen to 66½ per cent.

COLOURED STUDENT TEACHERS

In the Assembly on 7 June the Minister gave information¹⁴ about the courses of training for which Coloured student teachers were enrolled in 1972, and those who qualified at the end of that year:

<i>Number enrolled</i>	<i>1st year</i>	<i>2nd year</i>	<i>3rd year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Lower primary Teachers' Certificate ...	1 381	1 176	—	2 557	53,48
Primary Teachers' Diploma ...	724	626	415	1 765	36,92
Lower Primary Specialist Certificate ...	—	—	—	103	2,15
Lower Secondary Teachers' Diploma ...	109	43	19	171	3,58
Secondary Teachers' Diploma (non-graduate) ...				10	0,21
Secondary Teachers' Diploma (graduate) ...				36	0,75
Adaptation Classes Diploma ...				11	0,23
Post-graduate degrees in education ...				14	0,29
Commercial Teachers' Diploma	44	34	17	95	1,99
Technical Teachers' Diploma ...	7	4	8	19	0,40
<i>Totals ...</i>				4 781	100,00

¹⁴ Hansard 17 cols. 973-4. Percentages calculated by the writer.