

house 400 men at a maximum but have so far only 320 men in them. There are 12 lavatories and 12 showers available for them.

The excuse that the Administration gives for all this is firstly lack of money. The other major excuse is equally real and that is that unless they allow such a state of affairs the men will not be allowed to work in Cape Town and will be denied the wages that are better than they would find under maybe easier living conditions nearer the Transkei, and the men want the money.

Any complaint will only come into open conflict with the Bantu Affairs authorities and all the men will lose their jobs and any further hopes of migrant contracts in Cape Town. It seems to be a period of make or break as far as the labour requirements of the Western Cape are concerned and so our "seeking to co-operate with local authorities to improve the living conditions of migrant labourers" is going to be very difficult.

Perhaps the definition Dr. Oscar Wolheim gave at a Conference on Poverty in June 1967 on what constitutes a slum will be a help to those who have to try to implement this resolution if it is passed. He said that if the following four conditions are not met in a household dwelling you have the conditions of a slum before people ever move into it:—

- (1) that father and mother should have privacy at night — internal doors.
- (2) that growing boys and girls should have separate sleeping quarters, with doors.

- (3) that the different functions of life should take part in separate rooms.
- (4) that it is not difficult or impossible to keep yourselves and your premises clean.

According to this definition Cape Town City Council is the biggest owner and constructor of slum property in the city! and yet the City may only build houses according to the pattern laid down by the Government. Group areas has caused havoc in the already harrassed position in the City's Housing Department. In regard to Coloured Housing over 20,000 families await houses and that does not take into consideration the newly wed couples who start married life in a single room in the home of the parents of one of them and will be lucky if they get a home of their own by the time they have three children. To alleviate the distress of the Coloured people, the City is able to build between 1,500 and 2,000 new match boxes a year. There are a few schemes for home ownership, in one case daintily arranged around the perimeter of a sub-economic block. It improves the view from the National road.

Administration Officials and one local member of Parliament with whom I am in correspondence are overwhelmed by the facts on paper and they are formidable, but through the years we have all lost sight of what is necessary for a human being to have in order to remain human. It seems that we must enquire into and make known the facts so that the crippling conditions imposed on the migrant workers be improved.

DICTIONARY

By JOYCE HARRIS

THIS *DICTIONARY* is intended to provide a brief, quick, easy source of reference for those who wish to interpret and understand statements by representatives of the Government. Its purpose is to introduce some clarity into the welter of confusion that prevails because of a breakdown in the essential lines of communication. When words are deprived of their generally recognised meaning it is imperative that they be re-defined.

FIRST INSTALMENT

Abolition, as in "abolition of passes": Introduction of reference books which it is compulsory for African men and women to carry at all times.

Apartheid: archaic, no longer traditional, see Separate development.

Border, as in "Border Industries": a dividing line which itself may have a width of 40 or more miles, a demarcation made valid by simple proclamation, not to be confused with recognised, geographical boundaries.

Decentralisation: proclamation of existing industrial areas as "border industries."

Development, as in "Separate development"; restriction to inadequate homelands, restriction of labour market, restriction of avenues of employment, restriction to special prescribed school syllabi.

Education as in "Bantu education": tuition to ensure that Africans know their place in life.

Extension, as in "Extension of Universities": removal of rights of non-whites to attend open universities.

Equal, as in "separate but equal": disproportionate land apportionment, disproportionate allotment of national income, disproportionate educational facilities, disproportionate taxation, disproportionate civic facilities.

Fraud: That which is perpetrated on a gullible public by a brilliant and calculated abuse of the written and spoken word.

Humanism: always qualified as sickly, unhealthy quality of being human, unhealthy devotion to human interests, unhealthy concern with the welfare of the human race, unhealthy facet of Western civilisation — see "liberalism."

To be continued.