

STRAIGHT TALK...

THE KOORNHOF DICHOTOMY

The end of the year elections under the stamp of the Black Local Authorities Act produced what must have been the most unpalatable Christmas forecast for Piet Koornhof and his lieutenants in the so-called Department of Co-operation and Development. Staged as the ultimate barometer for the government's wooing of the Black urban community into acceptance of a rotten carrot policy which is yet another toxic dressing of the Constitutional fraud, the low turnout during the campaign was definitely a resounding rebuff to the regime's ruses.

The elections, a step towards the creation of local government structures were doubtlessly intended as a Christmas package to lull the turbulent Black urban millions in the face of mounting opposition to the regime's imposition of the tri-cameral parliamentary process which rivals only Nazism with its crude design.

This being the case, the results serve to demonstrate that the people have long awakened from the slumber effect of apartheid's tactics of always polishing the self-same old and rusted facade of racist-capitalist intrigue. They are learning well the art of higher political vigilance and non-compromise with the artful oppressor. This can only mean that the discredited and absolutely genocidal policies of the Nationalist Party government which go under the historically rejected label of Separate Development, are even being drawn to the rocks.

Looked at from the standpoint of the overall poll for the first round of the elections being not more than 21 percent, the fact that Koornhof could see 'progress' and express 'satisfaction' over the results proves cynical and at the worst ludicrous. His words are utterances of a punch drunk fighter rising from the canvass after a head-rocking combination. He is not admitting the superiority of his adversary nor the defeat but cries that he is still the best and only foul play is the problem.

NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

The point however is not that the regime has to face up to increased frustrations by the Black urban populace as time goes by. The big question for the enemy is how to tighten its hold over the entire Black masses in the whole of the country. In this line therefore, the outcome of the elections ascends to the higher plane of national signifi-

cance. This is precisely so because Pretoria's main theatre of operation in its political exercise at excising the Blacks from power and economic benefit remains the so-called homelands and the rest of the Group Areas. The oppressed have to launch frontal attacks in all these areas to inject more into the present successes which are being added to the idiom of South Africa's struggle for freedom and democracy. We are now witnessing the trading of hot blows but the enemy is far from being cornered. We must hit harder, even hardest when he is going down.

This talker warns that the regime, as has been customary, will proceed with the imposition of the local authorities despite the overwhelming opposition already manifest. This attitude is undisguisedly expressed in a statement made to the *Financil Mail* by John Hitge, Director of Local Government in Koornhof's department when he stressed that though a low poll would be considered (by the government) a 'disappointment', the process of creating town and village councils was one which 'must continue'.

F A R C E

In other words, the reform farce will continue being forced down the throats of our people. We have to intensify our efforts now to prepare conditions for vomiting this rubbish wholly at the moment of reckoning. Our energy as the oppressed should yank the sluiceways of popular dissent and let well up from behind the edifice of the Pretoria regime, a fateful tide.

That time will come when we have sufficiently demonstrated in mind and limb that we do not only see through boer-fascist preaching but hate the preacher and his church bitterly. That we are not interested to wade anymore in the big cesspool of political deprivation, poverty, homelessness under segregated electricity which will all be governed by a band of local clowns to be called the Black Authority. No more, we want something of our own choosing.

With us, even the exit of Thebehali is not a serious political event. What with Mangope, Mphephu, Matanzima, Gatsha, etc., still there. Ephraim Tshabalala will now wear the crown. It remains to be seen whether he will choose the same mantle and doublet — as was preferred by Thebehali — the past-master at singing Nationalist Party tunes, a hateful turncoat and spineless chameleon. As for us the boat he is rowing is still the same. The change in the oarsman doesn't suggest a change of course — not yet.

The broad anti-racist democratic front which constitutes a crucial factor for the ultimate defeat of the system must rally even more forces to the path of popular struggle. A united and determined people is assured of victory.

We of Umkhonto we Sizwe will continue to provide the decisive cutting edge to the national political fight.

F O R W A R D E V E R !

VICTORY OR DEATH — WE SHALL WIN!

