

FEBRUARY 1975

The fate of banned eight

FIVE years ago eight young intellectuals were banned.

Civil death for five years for the sin of wanting a change of government — peaceful change. They had

never advocated violence.

There was a big outcry in the Press at the time and it may interest your readers to know what happened to the eight.

One had a severe nervous

breakdown. One was later prosecuted for the crime of allegedly attending a party to open up his bookshop.

Another was prosecuted for the crime of playing bridge with his friends.

One fled the country after his car had been petrol-bombed. Another was prosecuted for meeting his friends and fled the country.

Another was jailed for trying to flee the country and was later given an exit permit. Yet another fled the country.

And one, my son, after suffering much harassment, including bombing of his house, was finally murdered.

No need to tell you how deeply their families suffered with them. — JANE TURNER, Cape.

What a nerve, Dan Rossouw

MR DAN Rossouw (SAP, Port Elizabeth Central) is reported to have said in the Assembly that anyone who admitted admiring the exiled East London editor, Mr Donald Woods, was not worthy of being called a South African.

What utter gall on this MP's part. Who is Mr Rossouw to evaluate the necessary qualities of a good South African?

I not only admire Woods, but I saw him bringing up his family to love South Africa as their country. We can be patriotic South Africans and not subscribe to the particular political party to which Mr Rossouw has given his support. We can criticise our country constructively. — DESMOND HATTON, Pretoria.

They are all restricted to magisterial districts, may not communicate with each other or other banned persons, be quoted or enter or teach at an educational institution.

They also may not attend gatherings, enter factories or courts, or prepare or take part in anything intended for publications. They may also not be quoted.

The further effect of the banning orders are that none of the people involved may further their studies at universities or lecture or attend to any matter involving Nusas or student organizations.

The terms of the banning orders were released yesterday by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Peet Pelser, after the Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, announced that he was tabling the interim report of the commission of inquiry into Nusas and that he had accepted its recommendations to ban the eight people.

One fell swoop

The effect of the banning order is to restrict in one fell swoop the Nusas president, his two vice-presidents and the head office permanent secretary of the 24 000-member student organization.

The shock announcement by Mr. Vorster met with immediate and fierce opposition from the Progressive Party's MP, Mrs. Helen Suzman, who said she could think of nothing more provocative than as universities were reopening.

The United Party, which unanimously supported the commission's findings, said through Mr. Marais Steyn, MP for Yeuville, that it was unhappy with the banning announcement because one of the eight people involved was motivated by communistic objectives.

Desired disaster'

"It should be said that nowhere could the commission find that these activists, who are abusing the organization of Nusas, had been motivated by any intention to further the ends of communism," he said.

At the same time the leaders, by working towards a polarization of White and Black in South Africa, were people who desired disaster".

The names of the people restricted are:

- Mr. Paul Pretorius, Nusas president.
- Miss Paula Ensor, vice-president and secretary-general of Nususel.
- Mr. Philippe le Roux, vice-president and secretary-general of Aquarius.
- Mr. Neville Curtis, former Nusas president before Mr. Pretorius.
- Miss Sheila Lapinsky, general secretary of Nusas (permanent).
- Dr. Richard Albert David Turner, Natal University political science lecturer and Nusas adviser.
- Mr. Clive William Arthur Keegan, former Nusas executive member.
- Mr. Chris Wood, editor of the University of Cape Town student newspaper "Varsity".

Climate for revolution'



Mr. Roy Ainsley, new acting president of Nusas.

Mr. Vorster said the commission had found that an organization operating for students was desirable, that the present organization was controlled by a "clique" and that only five per cent of the student body at English-language universities took an active interest in it.

Mr. Vorster accepted the commission's findings that the leaders were creating "a climate for revolution" and that the danger of agitation leading to student violence had to receive urgent attention.

Mr. Vorster warned that he would not tolerate disorderliness under any circumstances.

- Action against Nusas ringleaders urged, page 4.
- Permanent security body to be set up, page 4.
- 10 restricted since '64, page 3.
- Bannings seen as provocation, page 3.
- By-passing the courts—leading article, page 12.

The report states that the political policy and trends of Nusas were determined and guided by a small group of activists within Nusas and are also influenced by per-

from within and outside South Africa.

It said also that the leadership from time to time took "extraordinary steps to create



Mr. Keegan



Mrs. Lapinsky



Mr. Pretorius



Mr. Le Roux



Miss Ensor



Mr. Wood



Mr. Curtis



Mr. Turner

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