

AFRICA

The Way Ahead

The Apartheid question i.e., the domination of more than 11,000,000 non-Europeans, mostly the indigenous Africans in South Africa by about 3,500,000 whites has been and still is a hot question. In Africa it is a problem to live with and in other countries it is a problem that is worrying the freedom-loving people.

Mr. Alan Abbott is definitely entitled to his views, however, as an African I would like to put my views too on his answers to Gazette's questions.

As a Kenyan citizen in training here intending to go back to help in the spirit of "Harambee" (i.e. willing co-operation of all Kenyans, irrespective of race, creed etc., to work together in eradication of ignorance, disease and poverty). I feel that Mr. Abbott's contentions on Kenya are unjustified. First his contention that the British Government abdicated "from Kenya before the rulers of that country were competent to run a kindergarten". Mr. Abbott has not, as far as I know, lived in Kenya so how he has become an authority on National Affairs in Kenya is beyond me.

I would like to ask Mr. Abbott when he would consider people to be competent "to rule themselves"? As a Kenyan I consider that we are able to rule and to run our own country. Does running a country mean a "European" way or what would Mr. Abbott consider to be "competent rule"? I am confident that Africans in Kenya and indeed everywhere else in Africa are competent to run their affairs the way they see fit, as they think fit, and as the means at their disposal allow. If by "incompetence" Mr. Abbott would mean

any internal disorders then I would ask him to just look at the past history of other people.

The African, like anyone else, wants progress, he wants to have a say in running of, at least, his own country in which Mr. Abbott thinks he is not competent to direct even his own destiny.

South Rhodesian Africans are uncivilized. Since I came to Dalhousie, some four years ago, I have heard Mr. Abbott argue in the press and out of it contending that the African is "uncivilized" — a Victorian term that was used by Imperial Powers to justify the "White Man's Burden" is partitioning Africa so as "to civilize and christianize" the barbarians, a term which should not be used by a man of Mr. Abbott's learning and social standing.

As an African I'll tell Mr. Abbott what it means to be ruled. It means pass laws that are very discriminating, it means miscarriage of justice, it means misrepresentation and at its best it means "big brother" paternalistic type of relationship. It means policing of ones private life not to mention the constant infringement of the basic human rights to decent wages for the amount of work done. It means controlled educational system and a tailored curriculum to fit the African as seen by the ruling alien masters; I could go on and on. I would ask Mr. Abbott how would he like to have the above conditions imposed upon him and his children after him?

The white community should realize that trying to hold the

By Bernard Kumau

Africans down by force will not do. They should cooperate with the Africans in the eradication of ignorance, disease, and poverty and thereby create a country worthy of living in for themselves and their children after them. To the African, those whites who would consider themselves Europeans rather than accept their African birth right, there is only one solution — pack and go home. There is room for those who are ready to work with the Africans in forming a nation.

Mr. Abbott's contention that the white man has created "almost anything of value in South Africa would be a good argument from an ordinary person but, I think, is a very poor justification of the apartheid policies. It takes engineers, surveyors and labourers to build roads, bridges etc. and none of the workers does the work on charity basis. The Africans work in the mines — the main source of South African riches — and indeed are to be found in almost all phases of South African economic system where they are allowed. The fact that the African does not hold the helm in the planning of the country is obviously because he is kept in subjection.

I'll try to offer a solution although, like Mr. Abbott I do not come from South Africa. The African wants to play a more important role in the running of his own country. He wants to move freely without police molesting him, he wants to be a co-worker and not a forced servant, he wants to study where he wants what he wants without tailored curriculum.

It is high time that Dr. Verwoerd and his Government recognized that they can keep the Africans under force for so long and no more. When violence, like Mau Mau in Kenya, FLN in Algeria, Eoka in Cyprus erupts then the blood of the victims will lie squarely upon the heads of the exponents of Apartheid.

On the question of mixed marriages it is borne by real cases that "it is highly probable that a white man and a black woman can be genuinely in love". In Kenya where I come from and also in Rhodesia where my friend Alan comes from there are such mixed families. Probably Mr. Abbott was projecting his own prejudice rather than the real situation in either his country or anywhere else races happen to be different.

COMMUNISM IN AFRICA

The Cold War has divided the world into two big camps and the neutral group. To many in the West it seems that if an African gets an education from the East and if he holds an important position in his Government, as in Zanzibar, the whole country is said to go to the East. This is not so. I can assure my friend Alan and others that we in Africa are not interested in the Cold War. We have such a formidable task to educate our people and industrialize our economies and to wipe out poverty that there is no time for tug-of-war. We are prepared to trade with anyone who is willing, accept any educational grants or any other help that may be required by our countries from whoever is willing to help.

In closing I would like to invite my friend Alan and others, as well to join with me to help the African help himself.

THE LISTENING POST

by ANDY WHITE

Our Critics:



This week, the Gazette finds itself the target once more of criticism from familiar source. The usual, long and rambling letter, replete with vague and, to use a favorite word "jejeune" criticisms of an article in the paper was almost to be expected; the only surprising thing about the affair is the fact that the letter was so long in the writing.

OPINIONS WELCOMED

It could be said that the writer of the letter is entitled to his opinion, and this is, no doubt true. However, it must be pointed out that, owing to the necessity of publishing a review as soon as possible, the opening show had to be covered. As anyone with a vestige of intelligence knows, opening nights are scarcely the time to attend a play if really stellar performances are expected.

DALHOUSIE SENILE?

Therefore, we would like to inform a certain little group on this campus who have quite recently banded together to rejuvenate Dalhousie, and to which the writer of the "angry young man" letter belongs, that plays like beer, have a habit of improving with a certain amount of age. Unlike a movie, each performance of a play is a separate entity in itself, as, in fact, Mr. Barbour well knows.

REJUVENATORS BARE FANGS
Instead therefore, of this being an honest criticism, to be taken as the somewhat splenetic, but essentially heartfelt outpourings of an interested party, it must be regarded as another of the futile and bootless attempts of a small group of pseudo-intellectuals to influence to a degree far greater than their numbers would warrant, the material that appears in this newspaper. Considering the nature of the features section, it has been "hon-

How responsible

ored" to receive the brunt of several sneering remarks, concerning the material published. Instead of activities of interest and benefit, these pages should, according to them contain many lines of meaningless 'avantgarde' poetry. Articles concerning what constitutes "literature" and the like should be the main stay of the prose section. Admittedly, this, would find a place in a literary journal or broadsheet, and if these people want to publish such material for their own edification and for that of others of their ilk, this is indeed their privilege. However, the primary purpose of a newspaper's feature section should be the dissemination of material which will reach a broad section of its readers, both to inform and to entertain, but first of all, to reach.

The material above described will, in our opinion, do neither, and therefore, it has not appeared nor will it. When anything in the world of culture worthy of note takes place in the area, the GAZETTE reviews it, and passes on the competent opinions of its reviewers to the readership as soon as possible. If this means the covering of an opening night, this is the way it has to be, and things will have to fall as they will. If the bearded and sandaled shades of the opposition are unhappy about this, let them write their own review, print it, and circulate it as they wish.

The height of human wisdom is to bring our tempers down to our circumstances, and to make a calm within, under the weight of the greatest storm without.

— Daniel DeFoe

FILTER
Players

The best-tasting filter cigarette

The Dal-Tech Newman Club

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEATURED

The intellectual contribution was spotlighted by an excellent talk by Dr. Gregory Tompkins on "Planned Parenthood". A panel discussion on the pros and cons of a Secular university was hotly contested as well as providing a good stomping ground for many "personal beefs" held by members of the panel. The Spiritual Committee has this year managed to do something - which in itself is a feat. They had a Communion Breakfast at which Peter Pitso spoke inromptu on his native contry Basutoland, giving us a birds eye account of the major parts of the land, and most eloquently too. Furthermore a Communion Supper is on the planning board for late February.

SOON OPEN TO OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Perhaps the most significant and important point in this Newman Capsule is the role that the Newman Club hopes to play in the formation and sustenance of the Christian Campus Council which has been proposed by the S.C.M.

It goes without saying that Newman Club welcomes any Roman Catholic student to its membership and maybe in the years to come we can also welcome students of any denomination to our membership. We, of Newman Club, look forward to that day.

NEW VITALITY

There is a new vitality in the club this year, - efforts are being made to present the best, the most entertaining, varied and stimulating programmes. The republication of the "Tip Sheet" is in itself an indication of this new life for Newman Club. The Social Aspect of the club has been stretched this year - we have presented the refreshing talents of the well-known folk-singers "Bruce and Bernadette", a four-piece combo, a Hard-Times Dance, and a very successful Monte Carlo Night.