

violence to take financial risks, as well as moral cour-  
age. Donald Woods, a small-town editor who  
declined all offers to move to the big-city  
press, is an outstanding example. The *Rand*  
*Daily Mail* of Johannesburg, edited by  
Allister Sparks, is another.

And then, of course, there is the special  
case of Percy Qoboza. In a paper he wrote for  
SATV (a conference in Cape Town last May, Qoboza  
said that South Africans of all colours must  
eventually sit down round a conference  
table to "devise a formula acceptable for fu-  
ture co-existence". He continued:

Our country is full of noble black men  
who have been silenced under the secu-  
rity laws for advancing just these types of  
ideas. Many are called Communists sim-  
ply because they believe in the dignity of  
man. Many have been labelled agitators  
simply because they call for a society  
where merit and not colour is the crite-  
rion by which man must be judged.

Indeed, all those with whom the Gov-  
ernment should be talking in the black  
community have been subjected to puni-  
tive actions. The danger is that the time

may well come when the authorities are  
forced to talk to somebody, and there will  
be nobody to talk to.

Qoboza's newspaper, *The World*, is a  
subsidiary of the Argus Printing and Pub-  
lishing Co., a white-owned, English-lan-  
guage press giant. Argus also owns the  
*Johannesburg Star*, a fat afternoon daily of  
the North American type designed for En-  
glish-speaking whites, as well as other pa-  
pers in South Africa and Rhodesia. *The*  
*World*, a tabloid for blacks, used to be con-  
cerned mainly with sex, crime and sports. It  
was designed for the mainly English-speak-  
ing black residential townships, especially  
Soweto, where Qoboza lived. *The World* was  
a commercial success, with a daily circula-  
tion of about 150,000.

#### After Soweto

As Soweto began to express its rage by  
means of rioting and various kinds of illegal  
or extra-legal political action, *The World*  
and its editor provided a voice for the muz-  
zled masses of their sprawling ghetto. The  
paper became more and more political.

