

# South Africa Today

# Country in turmoil seeks solution to racist problem by apartheid policy

By ROBERT M. HALLETT  
The Christian Science Monitor

A line of modest stucco houses sits on the flanks of Devil's Peak. They overlook the busy harbor of Cape Town and the sea that brought European civilization to Southern Africa more than 300 years ago.

Each is almost identical to the next. But they are painted variously white, yellow, or cream. There is hardly an arm's length between them. Automobiles of respectable vintage edge the curbs of the steep narrow streets.

This little block of Colored persons' houses has been on the fringes of a white area for many years. Now the occupants may have to move under South Africa's Group Areas Act. They may have to make way for whites.

This is not easy for people who have had roots down for many years. Their plight tells much about the difficulties of trying to separate Colored and whites in Cape Town and Cape Province.

For three centuries their lives and fortunes have been intertwined. Unwinding the skein is proving difficult, if not impossible.

The shift is part of the government's apartheid policy — the separation of races. Its objective is to give each race an opportunity to live and manage its own affairs in its own sphere.

## Integrated Patterns

This policy may have some rationale in the case of Africans. Each tribe has its own historic homeland, its own language, culture, and traditions.

But the 1,700,000 Cape Coloreds (nearly 10 percent of the South African population) have no homeland, no values, no religion, and no patterns of life apart from those of whites.

The manner in which the government handles the Coloreds is a vital test of apartheid.

This part of South Africa tends to be relatively tolerant and sophisticated in racial matters. Cape Town has been a major world port for 300 years. Coloreds and whites have long lived in close proximity — although there were color bars and racial distinctions long before the Nationalists came to power.

Even Cape Afrikaners tend to be more open minded on racial and political matters — while still supporting the government — than upcountry compatriots.

In fact a small element within the Nationalist Party believes that Coloreds must sooner or later be completely integrated into white society. They feel the Coloreds could be natural allies of the white in a confrontation with the blacks.

## EDITOR'S NOTE —

Last year the Canadian Union of Students carried on a very active "Freedom in South Africa" program. The Dal Student Council voted not to support the project. The Gazette believes that students throughout the campus should become better informed on this, and other international problems to which CUS has turned its attention. We trust it will be read very carefully by members of last year's Council.

## Deep Roots

But attempts to impose the government's rigid racial policies by sharply delineating housing areas and segregating beaches, audiences, places of business, and social events goes down hard here.

One-third of the Cape Coloreds live within five miles of City Hall, Cape Town. They trace their roots back almost as far as the white man in South Africa. They are a blending of the white, the Hottentot, bushman, West African slave, and Malay.

The Malays still maintain a separate identity and religion (Islam) and live pretty much to themselves in a small area of Cape Town. Indians are another subgroup of the Coloreds but their numbers are small in this part of South Africa.

Five-sixths of the Coloreds are located in Cape Province. Many work and live in its farms and small villages. There are only a few other concentrations around the country.

There is a growing middle class of Coloreds who are clerks, secretaries, bank tellers, professors, lawyers, and businessmen. But some in the farming communities remain at a level little higher than that of the African.

## Workers Imported

Since the broader community has placed such emphasis on the whiteness of one's skin, many fair-complexioned Coloreds "pass" as white. This leads to some tragic family situations.

There have been cases where a family has been reclassified white but the mother has not been. Therefore the mother cannot live with the family in a white neighborhood.

In an attempt to sort people out, the government some time ago pressured certain industrialists to get rid of Africans and replace them with Coloreds. In order to make up the resultant labor

shortage, the government imported some Griquas from the Transkei who are technically Colored. However, they have lived in a remote area and completely in the African pattern of life for a long period.

## Persons Reclassified

In Cape Town they were given hard laboring jobs, and homes in Colored townships. More than half went back home within 18 months. They couldn't adjust to the work. They had no land to plant and felt ill at ease with neighbors who did not accept them.

Incidentally, color prejudice is not exclusively a white failing. Many Colored people feel superior to the African and tend to place a premium on the lightness of a person's skin.

Government boards sit to consider reclassification if individuals formerly registered as Colored.

Aside from the fairness of skin, one's associates, social activities, and job are taken into consideration. If a person has lived most of his life in white society the board has been lenient in granting reclassification.

Recently a new Colored political party, so far unnamed, was launched, partly tongue in cheek. It demanded the Western Cape including Cape Town and Namaqualand as the exclusive national home of "coloredstan" of its people.

However the Colored people have not been very active politically for some time.

Parliament has four seats representing Colored constituencies. The Provincial Council has two. All seats must be held by whites. In contrast, the Cape Town City Council still has six Colored members.

Originally Colored people — some 50,000 of them — voted on the common voters roll. But when they were taken off about five years ago and given their own roll only 26,000 registered and of those only 11,000 voted in 1961. Eligible voters would be in the neighborhood of 150,000.

## Labor Shortage

Prime Minister H.F. Verwoerd some time ago warned whites about mixing in non-white politics. But as long as the Colored seats must be held by whites it is hard to see how this policy can be followed.

The aggravated labor shortage in booming South Africa has tended to militate against the government's apartheid policy. For

example, the clothing industry under the government's job reservation law is supposed to be for whites only. But in the Cape about 90 percent of the workers are Colored.

Nevertheless this does permit the government to hold those powers in reserve and enforce them should there be a surplus of white labor at any point.

Coloreds also provide the majority of skilled workers in the building trades.

A Colored intellectual said apartheid was producing some benefits for his people:

"I would not say that apartheid is the answer. But at this stage it is giving our people a chance to prove they can do jobs — as matrons of hospitals, bank managers, principals in schools, inspectors, bus drivers, and ticket takers serving our own people — they never were thought capable of doing before."

Coloreds have made dramatic progress, particularly since World War II. A social survey of Cape Town before the war estimated that 52 percent of those people were below the "poverty" line. Today the figure is under 27 percent.

## Jobs Found Overseas

Nevertheless many Colored intellectuals feel a deep sense of frustration and bitterness because of what they consider a ceiling on their abilities. A number of the most promising have fled to Canada, England, or the United States where some have been very successful.

In a well-to-do Colored neighborhood, a well-dressed housewife said there was not a family in her block which did not have relatives overseas.

The government has set up an advisory body in the form of a Union Council of Colored Affairs which works with the Department of Colored Affairs. The council consists of elected and nominated Colored people who consult with the government on their people's problems.

The council, according to the government, will be extended and given more direct administrative control over Colored affairs in the future. The idea is to broaden it to become something more or less like a provincial council.

The basic question remains, however, whether it is possible for the long tradition to multi-racialism in the Cape to be repatterned into the policy of separate development.

## This Semester in Halifax Foreign films next month at Hyland Theater

By JANE MASSY  
Literary Editor

How often one hears the old groan that "Halifax is dead." Not so! Read on and know what is going on.

Perhaps of most interest is the foreign film festival at the Hyland theatre, to be known after Oct. 11 as the Hyland Cinema.

The change in name will kick off a new policy, and a series of foreign films to be shown Oct. 11 to Oct. 20, one per day at the price of \$1.00 per student.

Included will be that well-known Canadian film, "Nobody Waved Goodbye," the American "One Potato, Two Potatoes" (best actress award winner at the Cannes Film Festival) and the Saltzberg performance of Strauss' "Der Rosenkavalier" (in color).

"Black Orpheus", 1959 winner of the Grand Prix, and Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" are among the older "greats" to be shown. Films from France — "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" from Russia "Dimka" and from Japan "Woman of the Dunes" will add to the foreign flavour.

The Capitol on Barrington also has some good films coming up: "Zorba the Greek" (Sept. 30), "The Collector with Terence Stamp" on Oct. 15th and "La Boheme" on Oct. 27. The latter is a special two-day feature and seats must be reserved.

If you are interested in hair raising titles such as "Curse of the Mummy's Tomb, The Gorgons, or Nightmare in the Sun, or in wild beach parties with the Crickets, Beach Boys, or Frankie Avalon, most of the other

theatres in town will satisfy you.

This type of film is drawing the biggest crowds; one theatre manager frankly told me: "Let's face it, our biggest box drawer last year was Samson and Goliath. After all — 'The Lively Set', the 'Fast Ones' and 'Young Fury' would make anybody's blood pound."

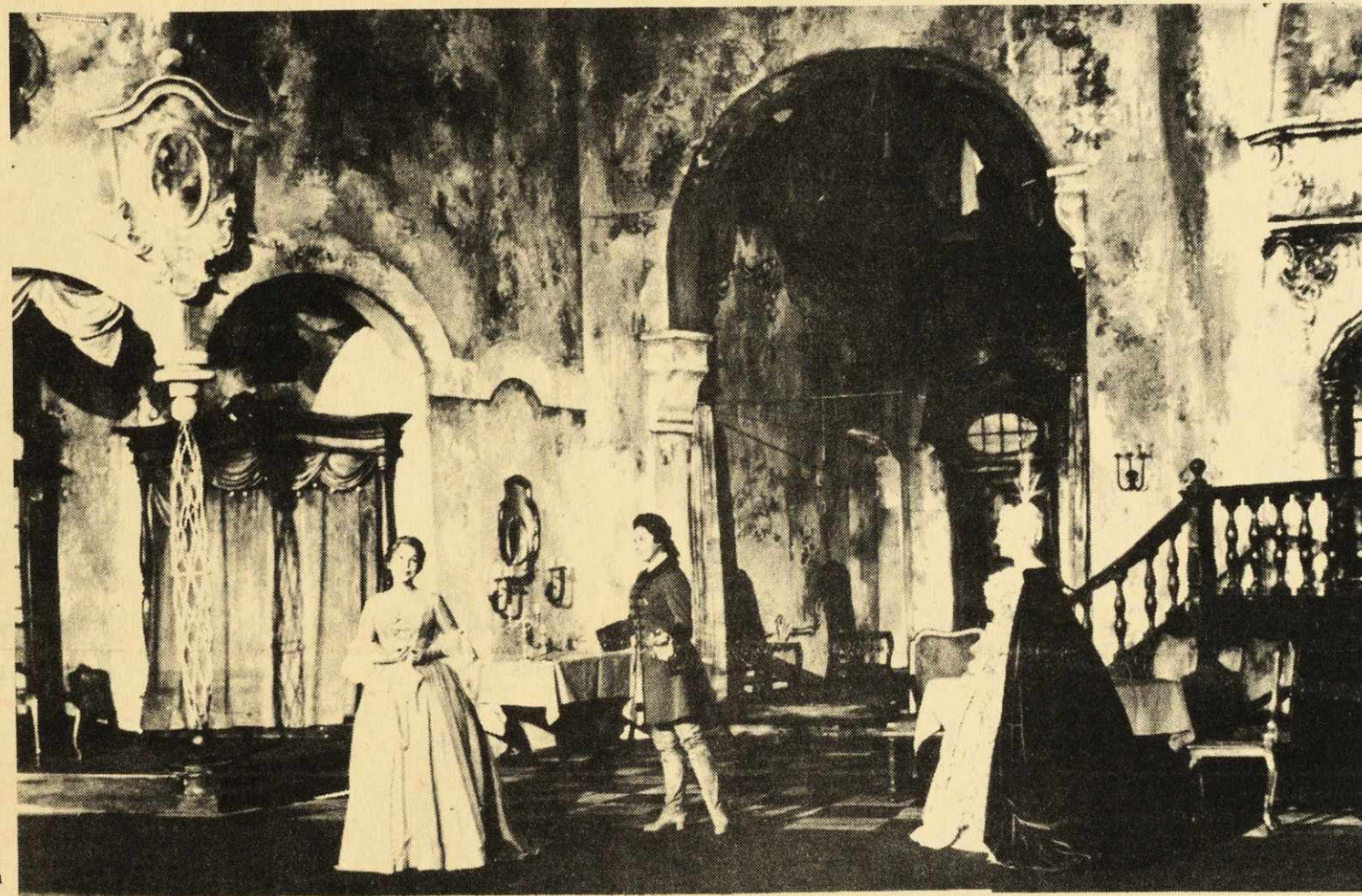
In the way of drama now — the Dalhousie Drama Workshop is putting on "Julius Caesar" November 9-13 and hopes to have a number of public poetry readings during the winter. D.G.D.S. will be helping with Julius Caesar, but for various reasons will present nothing until January Shield One-Act play series (approximately 20 entries and the biggest they've put on so far).

The Neptune theatre is presenting "As You Like It", "Tunnel of Love," and "Epitaph of George Dillon," on Sept. 30, Oct. 1, and 2 at 9 p.m. — price 1.10. We are told that during the last part of October and November two French-Canadian plays will also be staged. After October 1, the company goes on tour and Neptune will be rented out. Criers Publications will bring Oklahoma here on November 9-13.

Rumour has it that Mr. Marzieson, Litz's last living pupil will also be heard sometime during that month, and a presentation given of Finian's Rainbow. To bring the Christmas season to a close Miss Archibald hopes to present the children's Christmas play "Why the Chimes Rang."

To end this section mention of the Acadia Drama Workshop production "West Side Story," at Queen Elizabeth's High School. Oct. 13-16.

To music lovers, the Dalhousie — Please turn to page six —



OPERA AT THE MOVIES  
The famous Strauss opera Der Rosenkavalier will be one of the features of the International Film Festival at the new Hyland Cinema.

## Introducing 60-member cast D.G.D.S. to stage South Pacific; rehearsals planned for Nov.

The Dalhousie Glee and Dramatics Society has announced plans for the production of South Pacific in February of 1966. The Society, which in past years has produced such musicals as Li'l Abner, Guys and Dolls, Bye Bye Birdie, and Brigadoon, feels that there is a great demand for the production of musicals by the Society and this year has chosen the extremely popular, South Pacific.

The production will be presented in the Capitol Theatre on February 24, 25, 26, and 27. Directed by Miss Genni Archibald of the Nova Scotia Department of Adult Education, the musical will have a cast of about sixty students.

Although no definite date has been set for the beginning of rehearsals, it is expected that they start late in November. Casting will be done during the month of November, following the production of Julius Caesar.

Anyone interested in any phase of the production, from ticket sales to musical roles, should fill out a membership application form at the Glee and Dramatics Society office as soon as possible.

For the first time in twenty years, Julius Caesar, by William Shakespeare, will be presented at Dalhousie University. Directed by Dr. J.D. Ripley of

the University English Department, it will be presented by the Dalhousie Drama Workshop, in co-operation with the Dalhousie Glee and Dramatics Society. The production will be held in the Dalhousie Gymnasium from November 10 to 13. The special stage that was constructed for last year's production of Romeo and Juliet has been rebuilt and, with the addition of a

new acoustical ceiling in the Gym, many of the problems of last year should be overcome. Continued this year will be last year's practice of matinee performances at reduced prices for high school students in the Halifax, Dartmouth, and County area. Nearly all roles for the production have been cast and costumes are already being produced at the University.

## Review rates UBC professors

VANCOUVER (CUP) — The Black and Blue Review tells you all about the science professors at the University of British Columbia. For only 75 cents a copy, and they're going fast, you get the dope on the teaching ability of every science faculty professor.

The review, compiled from questionnaires filled out by 8,000 students last year, uses frank language to describe members of the faculty.

Donald York, editor of the review and a graduate student at UBC assigned grades from excellent to very poor to each professor after the questionnaires were compiled.

Thirty-three professors out of 133 were considered outstanding while 60 others were rated above average.

Mr. York called the review an anti-calendar since it removes the sugar-coating from the university calendar's description of the courses.

He considers the review a healthy reaction against the publish or perish criterion for rating teachers in Canadian universities. This criterion is responsible for the large number of poor teachers who lecture in science at UBC, he says.

Reaction from the professors is, quite naturally, mixed. Insulted or pleased depending on things said about them, a few are worried that the review could acquire some importance in guiding the board of governors and prospective students.

UBC president John Macdonald

## Congress raps pavilion design

LENNOXVILLE (CUP) — The Youth Pavilion of Expo '67 may not be finished in time for the exposition, and there is little hope that its design will reflect the needs and aspirations of young Canadians.

This was the consensus of discussions during the recent congress of the Canadian Union of Students at Bishop's University, CUS has been one of the organizations sponsoring the Pavilion, as a member of a Youth Advisory Committee.

Patrick Kenniff, president of the union, reported that the whole concept of the pavilion has been altered from the original plans drawn up a year ago by the advisory committee.

The pavilion has been moved from the Theme sector to the Recreation sector and will be built by the Coca-Cola company. The area for creative exhibits along cultural and social themes has been de-emphasized in favor of a dance area and coffee shop.

These changes were announced without prior consultation with the advisory committee.

When a request for reconsideration, passed unanimously by the Youth Advisory Committee, was not answered satisfactorily by the Expo Corporation, several of the youth and student organizations withdrew from participation in the project, among them the Union Generale des Etudiants du Quebec.

A substantial number of the delegates at the CUS Congress favored immediate withdrawal from the project, but the majority supported Mr. Kenniff's suggestion that the board of CUS be authorized to withdraw in November if the Pavilion had not been changed to give a balanced picture of Canadian youth as suggested by their representative organizations.

In any case, Mr. Kenniff pointed out, the original plans called for construction to begin over two months ago.

## Did Warner's scheme fail?

# Audrey Hepburn "Accomplished" in My Fair Lady

By PIERS GRAY  
Review Editor

Jack L. Warner must be one of Hollywood's cleverest producers. Unfortunately, like so many clever men certain of his schemes ultimately fail. The most recent instance of this is of course in the movie of My Fair Lady for which Warner chose Audrey Hepburn to play Eliza Doolittle rather than Julie Andrews, the stage and record star.

Unhappily for Warner he did not reckon on Walt Disney, and the old master's eye for talent. As is now commonly known, Hepburn got the role in My Fair Lady, while Andrews was given Mary Poppins and an Oscar.

This preamble relates to the question which pops into every head about the film. For though Miss Hepburn is undoubtedly attractive and graceful throughout, one cannot help wondering how Miss Andrews would have suc-

ceeded in the same part. Despite this, the film is on the whole entertaining and successful.

Its plot must be common knowledge to all by now. For those unfamiliar with the big city etc., it is basically about a phonetics professor, Henry Higgins, played by Rex Harrison, who takes on the challenge of socially remodelling Eliza Doolittle, a common flower girl with a broad cockney accent. It is Higgins' promise that by merely changing this one weakness, he can dupe London's high society into accepting her.

End of story? Unfortunately not. At the film's finale, each realizes that the one needs the other, and, after half an hour of blustering and thundering, Harrison and Hepburn achieve what one might call a state of pre-marital bliss — Eliza learns to fetch her master's slippers.

The acting and singing in this musical are on the whole excellent. Mr. Harrison, a hold-over from the Broadway performances, is delightfully supercilious, and an admirable bachelor. His combination of singing and talking to music is full of verve and is certainly pleasing to the ear.

Stanley Holloway, another Broadway veteran, who plays Eliza's father, almost steals the show as a philosophically immortal dustman; Wilfred Hyde-White as Colonel Pickering Higgins' accomplice in the venture, is delightfully entertaining at times and is ably balanced by the professor's tough cynical mother, played by Gladys Cooper.

As for Miss Hepburn, she acts in an accomplished manner; though her struggle with the Cockney dialect and her lack of singing ability are serious faults. This is, perhaps, the film's greatest weakness. As is well known, her singing voice was dubbed, and the change in the timbre of her voice was often very noticeable. (One felt that Mr. Warner could have the decency to give credit to the person responsible for Miss Hepburn's golden tones)

My Fair Lady is colorful well acted, superbly produced but in the end, unfortunately bland. But see it soon.



Rita Tushingham is looking for the YWCA, but finds instead a student and his teacher bent on showing him how to acquire the knack of making it big with women. "The Knack . . . and how to get it," a United Artists-Lopert Pictures release, will open The New International Film Festival on October 11th at The Odeon Hyland Cinema.

## NOGGIN NOCKERS

- The following sequence is lacking three letters. Can you supply them?  
O, T, T, F, F, S, S, . . .
  - The following is a well known phrase in Shakespeare. Can you decipher it?  
THORN TOOTI TEETO  
IUNTS ABBQE EOSHT
  - Supposing one allows letters to replace digits, one would be confronted with a problem like this:  
IF ZOO times ZOO equals TOPAZ, what does the sum of TOP and PAT equal?
- Answers will appear in next week's issue.

