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The Daily News

Governing Natal

THE important thing for Natal is that, whatever new system of provincial government might emerge, it should retain the elements of local democracy. It should not provide a means for Pretoria to stamp grey uniformity on a province that is different in demographic composition, culture, tradition — even religion — from the rest of the country.

Just a few years ago, talk of abolishing the Natal Provincial Council could have meant only one thing — the Nationalists achieving by force majeure what they could not achieve electorally. However, today there are encouraging differences. A non-Nationalist has been appointed Administrator to preside over the process. Mr Chris

Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development, indicates that the provinces themselves will be drawn into the decision-making; there will be negotiation between the communities concerned (white, Coloured and Indian) as to what should be administered at provincial level. This flexibility opens up the prospect of true consociational government for Natal - rule by inter-group consensus. And practicalities (as exemplified by the Exco/KwaZulu joint committees) could eventually draw in the Zulu people as well.

It is an exciting prospect. The Government would be most unwise to attempt to stamp on Natal the formulae that might be appropriate for other regions.

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SUZMAN...agreed on one thing at least...

THE current problems within the Progressive Federal Party should not be considered surprising.

In any democratic country the PFP would never have been formed let alone have survived as a cohesive political force.

It is only the abnormal situation in South Africa that led to the creation of the party in the first place and the fact that it has held together at all.

And for the same reason it is likely to overcome its present difficulties.

In any true democratic country political parties are formed on the grounds of economic political philosophy. All the popular political movements from the West whether Marxism or Reaganomics have economics as their common thread.

But South Africa's political parties are formed and divide on an attitude to the colour of a person's skin.

PROGFEDS MORE AN ALLIANCE OF DISPARATE GROUPINGS OPPOSED TO APARTHEID

An unlikely partyanyway

By BRUCE CAMERON, Political Correspondent

It has often been pointed out in the past that to refer to the National Party as a rightwing party is really ludicrous as in international terms for many years its economic policies, with giant state industries, have been more closely aligned to the socialist parties of Europe.

National Party economic policy spurred a top South African businessman, Dr A.D. Wassenaar, to publish a book called "Assault on private enterprise: The freeway to communism."

To refer to the PFP generally as left-wing is, on the same principle, just as absurd and to align the PFP with the Communist Party is laughable.

Within the PFP there are totally disparate groupings ranging from committed socialists through to capitalists. The party was formed to oppose the National Party's insistence on making laws and ruling people, deciding on where they should live and work, on the basis of the colour of their skin.

No matter what differences there are between Dr Alex Boraine, Mrs Helen Suzman and Mr Harry Schwarz on one point they stand solidly together. They find National Party racial policies abhorrent.

On the basic party policy of a geographic federation, universal franchise, minority vetoes and proportional representation they agree.

Where they don't agree is on economics and on the tactics to be used to achieve their aims of creating a free society.

Mr Harry Schwarz for instance describes himself as a social democrat. Mrs Helen Suzman is a capitalist as is the financial director of the PFP, Mr Max Borkum, one-time chairman of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The major differences however are based on tactics.

The basic difference on tactics is how different members perceive the function of the PFP. Some feel that the PFP will never achieve power so should serve the function of educating peo-

SCHWARZ...abhorrence of apartheid

ple to enable them to adjest to changes even if stating unpopular facts means losing support. In other wo the party would main a pressure group.

The other side says that if one enters politics then one plays power politics. This means that the policies of the party should be tailored so that they are moe acceptable to the electorate. The name of the game being to win seats in Parliament.

In the end the Progressive Federal Party should be considered as nothing but a convenient coalition in which differences will continue to occur.

They said it

- I don't think it is yet accepted for a woman to write about sex. Erica Jong.
- Princess Di has set the look for all women and is definitely the number one beauty of the world. — Miss Germany.
- Anyone who says that I do not believe in the Resurrection or the Incarnation is a liar. Dr David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham.

BAILY NEWS MONIN

Zulu trust has

Daily News Reporter 1984.

THE KwaZulu Training Trust's education fund, started in April 1983, has raised more than R1 million.

The fund was launched to provide the KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation with another source of money and was registered as a trust so donations could be tax-deductible.

While the biggest donor has been the KwaZulu Government, big grants have come from 15 companies, including Suncrush, Via Afrika, Lion Match, C.G. Smith, Total Africa and Ottermill Switchgear.

Smith, Total Africa and Ottermill Switchgear.

The R1-million does not include money from companies for specific projects such as the technical centre at Ogwini High School in Umlazi, or the Fundikhono Skills Training Centre at Umbumbulu.

Projects financed by the education fund include the Mboza Community Learning Centre in Ubombo and the learning centre planned for Mfolweni, near Umbumbulu.

Three US blacks The Star James 1984 held at SA embassy

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By Gerald L'Ange, The Star Bureau

Washington

Three leading black Americans were arrested and taken handcuffed from the South African Embassy yesterday after a sit-in at Ambassador Brand Fourie's office.

They were demanding the release of trade unionists detained in South Africa.

One of the arrested men was Congressman Walter Fauntroy, who represents the District of Columbia.

The dramatic demonstration, which received wide television coverage this evening, was said by the organisers to be one of a series planned at South Afican diplomatic offices in the United States.

After refusing an offer to be released on their own recognisances — without bail — the four were held in police cells. They are to appear in court tomorrow on charges of unlawful entry into the South African Embassy.

Long-standing appointment

Arrested with Mr Fauntroy were Mr Randall Robinson, executive director of Transafrica, a black political and lobbying organisation, and Professor Mary Berry, professor of history and law at Howard University in Washington and a member of the US Civil Rights Commission.

They were accompanied into the ambassador's office by Professor Eleanor Holmes Norton, professor of law at Georgetown University in Washington and former chairman of the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the Carter Administration.

Reporters and television crewmen, who had been tipped off in advance, were present as the three blacks were taken from the embassy by Secret Service officers. Demonstrators waving placards paraded near the embassy.

Embassy staff were apparently unaware of the sit-in plan when the four arrived for a long-standing appointment with Mr Fourie. They had asked to see him to discuss the situation in South Africa, according to an embassy statement.

The first intimation the embassy staff had of the plan to stage a sit-in was when telephone calls began coming in from reporters.

After Professor Norton had left the meeting, Mr Fauntroy told the ambassador he and his companions would refuse to leave the embassy until they got assurances that 13 trade unionists detained in South Africa would be freed.

A later statement by the embassy said they had demanded the release of the three men detained after giving up the refuge they had sought in the British Consulate in Durban.

But Transafrica insisted they had demanded only the release of the 13 trade unionists.

When the three refused the ambassador's request to leave, the embassy telephoned the US. State Department, which called

in the Secret Service, responsible for the security of embassies in Washington.

After refusing the request of Secret Service officers to leave, the three were handcuffed and taken away in police cars.

Routine

A Secret Service spokesman said the handcuffing was routine procedure.

Though the embassy asked for their removal from its premises (technically regarded as South African territory), it did not ask for their arrest or press charges, said an embassy statement.

The Secret Service spokesman said the charges were laid at the initiative of his own department.

While the drama was unfolding, urgent consultations were being held by senior officials in the State Department building.

They are thought to have included Dr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, who has just returned from meetings in South Africa and neighbouring countries to pursue the Namibia settlement efforts.

A trial could give the arrested three an opportunity for additional publicity for their cause, and both South Africa and the State Department would probably prefer to see the charges dropped.