

THE NATAL MERCURY

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LEON SAYS HE CAN WIN NEXT SHOWDOWN

PRETORIA — The Coloured crisis will deepen next month with another display of defiance and non-co-operation from the leader and members of the Labour Party.

The leader, Mr. Sonny Leon, said yesterday that his party would boycott the opening of the budget session of the council due to open in Cape Town on November 6.

The July meeting of the council was prorogued on the Instructions of the Minister of Coloured Affairs; Dr. van der Merwe, after the Labour Party motion of no confidence was passed by a majority in the council.

The motion called for the abolition of the council and for the direct representation of Coloureds in the central White Parliament.

Mr. Leon said yesterday he intended using the budget debate as another no confidence

motion.

He believed the Labour Party would maintain majority support in the council, and that he would

be able to defeat the Federal Party, led by the chairman of the executive of the council, Mr. Tom Swartz.

Transkei defence strategy

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Mercury Reporter

UMTATA — Until an independent Transkei had "a competent defence force" its security would be guaranteed by treaties with the South African Government, the Homelands acting Chief Minister, Chief George Matanzima, said here yesterday.

At a gathering of churchmen at Qokolweni, the Chief also hinted that at least some White policemen would still be serving in the Transkei after independence.

"Police stations are being Africanised at an increasing tempo, and within a few years we may have a Black Transkeian police force with only a very few Whites left to assist," he said.

"I believe that Whites still required to stay on in the Transkei after independence will, in the interests of the whole Republic, have no hesitation in doing so.

CONFIDENCE

"If they are willing to defend South Africans in Rhodesia I have no reason to believe that they will not be prepared to perform an equally important task in the Transkei."

Independence for the Transkei was inevitable, but a sudden withdrawal by Whites would "leave a vacuum which can be disruptive to the development and administration of our country, and to the maintenance of essential services."

Black trainee travel plan

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From ORMANDE POLLOK
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—Black, Coloured and Indian information officers are to be trained abroad in South Africa's offices in New York, London, Cologne and Paris from next year.

Announcing the move yesterday, Dr. Connie Mulder, Minister of Information, said that this was only an extension of the training programme being conducted locally for information officers.

He said that three homeland governments had asked for their own information services, and there were signs that others would do the same.

Dr. Mulder said that while his department would assist homelands in setting up their own services, 63 experienced Black officials of his department were being encouraged to join the homeland services.

There were also 13 Coloured and Indian officers in his department, and representatives of their group would also be drawn into the training programmes for Blacks.

Foundations

Dr. Mulder recalled that an information service had been established in 1951 in the then Department of Native Affairs.

This was the year when the foundations for the constitutional development of the Blacks had been laid.

They now saw "information" as a necessity in their further constitutional development.

The development of separate information services had been accepted in principle in 1971, and in April this year the Transkei government announced that one would be attached to the Chief Minister's department.

Announcements could also be expected soon by the governments of the Ciskei and Bophutatswana.

The South African Government's information services would not be withdrawn from the homeland areas. All homelands had wanted close co-operation between the Government's and their own services.

Although homeland services could not be aimed externally at this time of their development, homeland governments were being encouraged to make members of their services available when foreign visitors toured their areas.

With the eventual development of the homelands into sovereign independent States in mind, and the Government's duty to train officials for service with their governments and abroad, Dr. Mulder said his department had already started a training programme.

Suitably qualified Blacks had been appointed to his department in March with foreign training in mind.

Black officials would be included in the training programme from next January.

Mao's China is 25 years old

- 3 OCT 1974

By
**GAVIN
DALE**

Great progress has been made, but with Mao aging and Chou ill, a testing leadership crisis lies ahead.



Mao



Chou En-lai

TWENTY FIVE years ago Mao Tse-tung stood on top of the Gate of Heavenly Peace, with his back to Peiping's ancient Forbidden City, and proclaimed the birth of the People's Republic of China.

The same day, the new rulers of the world's largest nation changed the name of their capital city from Peiping to Peking. It was the first gesture of the movement to new horizons. Behind them were 28 years and three months of the "Long March" just ended; an exercise which Mao had recently described as a "first step".

Where would the next step lead? If the collected commentaries of outside observers is any indication it has led to a multitude of turnings. China and Chairman Mao are forever presented at historic crossroads and forks in the political road.

"The Chinese people have stood up, nobody will insult us any more," was what Mao told the multitude in the Square of the Gate of Heavenly Peace. Nearly eight years later, US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declared that "communism is repugnant to the Chinese people", adding "confidently" that communism in China was a "passing and not a perpetual phase... we owe it to ourselves, to our allies and the Chinese people to do all that we can to contribute to that passing".

In 1972 the immensely publicized visit of US President Richard Nixon was almost universally accepted as "successful".

From the Bible

Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words remain forever.

(Matthew 24:35, Living Bible)

However, even given the withdrawal of American combat troops from Vietnam, major obstacles to détente — Taiwan, the continuing conflict in the south Asian mainland and the old ideological differences — remain. The Nixon-Chou communique's call for "the reduction of tension in the area", is differently viewed by the two sides.

In 1962, Mao outlined Chinese relations with Russia to the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. As one translation has it, he said: "After the victory of the revolution, he (Stalin) again suspected that China would be like Yugoslavia and I would turn into a Tito. Afterward, when I went to Moscow to conclude the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Alliance and Mutual Assistance, this also involved a struggle."

"He did not want to sign it, but finally agreed after two months of negotiations. When did Stalin begin to have confidence in us? It began in the winter of 1950, with the Resist America-Aid Korea campaign. Then he came to believe that we were not Tito and not Yugoslavia."

IMPLACABLE

Today, the Soviet Union would dearly love to have the Chinese as nice and friendly Yugoslavs. Instead, apart from the not-so-cold conflict between troops of either side on the frozen Sino-Soviet border, the two old allies are now quite implacably opposed to each other on international issues.

Political analysts generally agree that the main reason for the split was the Soviet Union's insistence on guiding China along the revolutionary road and Chinese determination to work out its own course. If so, China has taken resistance to Soviet control a step forward; its attacks on Russian "revisionist expansionism" is unrelenting.

For its own part, China's influence abroad has been extended on the basis that other countries should look

at China and learn, not the Chinese way, but the need to develop ways of their own. Unlike the Soviet Union, or for that matter

other influential nations, the Chinese do not offer the structures and solutions they have evolved for themselves as ideals to be duplicated.

As a policy it has had obvious appeal for the so-called third world and China's considerable influence, particularly in Africa and more understandably in Asia, is viewed with some concern in many powerful quarters. It has not always been successful or smooth. The breach with India is a long way from being healed.

In Africa, "the yellow man's burden" is a phrase used with more meaning than simply as a parody of Rudyard Kipling. More than one African state has broken off diplomatic relations with China because of Chinese "interference" in their domestic affairs. The presence of large Chinese populations in many countries, particularly in South-east Asia, has brought its own problems.

But the abiding impression in the developing world is that China's is an acceptable face.

Chinese aid programmes, notably the Tanzania-Zambia railway line, and bi-lateral trade agreements, like the rubber-rice pact with Sri Lanka, have included a number of spectacular successes. It has been slowly forging links with the rich world as well, Japan and Australia being recent examples.

Its many spasms of internal confusion, or so they have seemed to outsiders, have given China the most publicity abroad. Each one was supposed to be a critical crossing to manoeuvre, if not actually the beginning of the end, but the system has survived them. Perhaps there is something in Chairman Mao's view that constant self-criticism is essential if dynamism is to be maintained.

Meanwhile the most significant advances made by the country in the 25 years under Mao are not, according to the Chinese themselves, the development of its nuclear armory or entry into the United Nations, but

the "elimination of unemployment" and "self-sufficiency in food". A third, which everybody else seems to add to China's most singular achievements, but which that country does not see in quite the same light, is its success in cutting down its population growth to under one percent.

POPULATION POLICY

At the World Population Conference in Bucharest, Rumania, in August, China prevented the publication of what was by all accounts a highly laudatory first-hand report, prepared by a foreign population expert, about China's population policy. China refused to allow it because, it transpired, it did not want its policy to be confused with population control, and be foisted as such upon the developing world.

The current "cross-roads" at which, it seems, China finds itself is a crisis of leadership. Chairman Mao Tse-tung, it is rightly pointed out, is over 80 years old. Prime Minister Chou En-lai is not much younger and is now recovering in hospital after a heart-attack. The rest of the revolutionary Old Guard who are not already dead or discredited cannot be expected to be around for much longer. Who will take their places?

Everybody, it seems, bar the Chinese, are worried sick. The names of younger men and women are thrown about like confetti, apparently on the basis that some of them by the very fact that their names are known abroad, must surely settle in the seats of power. As the country celebrates its 25th anniversary, under communist rule, "thoughtful outsiders" are said to be worried about China after Mao.

A Chinese diplomat in the west was faced with just that point by a newspaperman. The Chinese looked inscrutable. "Ah, thoughtful," he repeated after some time. Then he brightened. "You mean 'thoughtless'?"