

G NPhQBCh cDvt 45%
 %/ WZNGGLISH LEWSPAPERS FAVOUR A
 ' e l v0 I QM it the constitu-
 .t: 1: mm at It said it had beenv . . _
 By TOEJ WEIG'ITZEL tempted to SUPporta ?gtion were rejected, it
 Political vote, but had come to the would Probably step pro-
 C d t conclusion that the new gress that had been made
 orrespon en constitution did not em-vl" movmg away fromh
 ELEVEN daily and body true reform.
 weekly English-language
 newspapers have advised
 their readers to vote No
 Advertiser said a No vote
 'apartheid.
 All groups might lose
 The Diamond Fields something in the process.
 in the referendum next would force the Govern- Advice
 week, while seven have ment to think again.
 adv'ised them to vote
 Yes.
 , The Friend of Bloem-
 It would force it to fontein said hopefully the
 come un with a constitn- weaknesses would be
 The combined circula- tion that was acceptable hrectified in time.
 tion of the No dailyand that would work.
 news apers is approxi-
 . _ i Advising businessmen
 The Natal Witness said 10 vote Yes, the Finan-
 mate Y 514000 an thatamong its objections to cial Mail said this would
 Of the NO weeklles, aP' the constitution was the hardly make the consti.
 proximately 202 000.
 exclusion of blacks, the tution less of an abortion.
 The Yes dailies have a reduction of the role of
 circulation of 165 000 and the largely English-
 the Yes weeklies, 524 000. speaking opposition and
 There was, however,
 the hope that the experi-
 ment in improving race
 In favour of a No votethe entrenchment Oftrelations that the Gov-
 are The Argus, Pretoria apartheid.
 News, Daily News, Dia-
 . ternment had embarked
 The Sunday Tribune upon would be encour-
 mond Fields Advertiser, pointed out that even aged by such a response,
 Sunday Tribune, Thesupporters of the Yes The Natal Mercury
 Cape Times, Rand Daily vote were scathing about
 Mail, Evening Post, East- the flaws in the constitu-
 ern Province Herald, Na- tion.
 tal Witness and Sunday
 Express.
 Qualified
 Those who support a
 Yes vote are the Daily
 Dispatch, Sunday Times,
 said it was giving a
 qualified Yes.
 Reform implied im- Foolish
 provement but, under the Opting for change with
 new system, black, 001- a Yes vote did not mean
 OUFEd and Indian people acceptance of all the
 would face more. not constitution contained,
 fewer, frustrations. If It just as n was not an en-
 was a step anywhere, it dorsement of anything
 Natal Mercury, The wasastep towards disas-else the Government
 Friend, The Citizen and ter.
 the Financial Mail and
 Finance Week.
 The Star has recom-l
 mended abstention.
 said it was a terrible
 stood for.

The Citizen said that to
 believe that a Yes would
 be the end of change was
 inadequate
 The Sunday Express
 The support given for foolish, undemocratic, would see to it that
 a Yes vote has tended to unworkable plan. Its Own change continued until an
 be qualified, while oppo-
 sition has been ex-
 pressed with some said that, at best, the new
 constitution was wholly
 regret.

The Argus said in an
 editorial that the pro-
 posed constitution did not
 allow South Africa to
 strike a bargain of true
 power-sharing.

Dictate
 It was half-baked and
 ill-conceived. It was sim-
 ply not good enough.
 South Africans had to try
 again for wider reform
 together.

The Cape Times has
 said No to the constitu-
 tion in a number of edito-
 rials but its attitude has
 been that it cannot spe-
 cifically dictate to its
 readers what they must
 do.

It said recently that a
 No vote would help calm
 the rising black anger,
 keeping open the option
 of negotiated constitu-
 tional development.

The attitude of the
 Eastern Province Herald
 has been similar to that
 of The Cape Times.

Regretful
 supporters had serious
 sition to the new consti-
 tution reached with the blacks.

A No would mean the
 end of reform, for the
 inadequate; at 'worst' all same reasons.
 Machiavellian design to The Star was the only
 place the National Party newspaper to call for ab-
 stention permanently in the drive for
 a permanent seat with a multi-
 racial collection of passions. Concert
 for cosmetic effect, It said that all
 The Rand Daily Mail Citizens should opt for
 - - the most politically un-
 said South Africans were .
 capable of finding a bet- ter popular option of all and
 abstain.

The new constitution. They would then be 39%":
 was a Nationalist plan in concert with an 3% en-
 created by Nationalists majority of 40% ac 'n
 ' - brown moderates who

Without any consultation had no vote.
 Potential (Now. by Mr Wenuol. 12: a
 Foremost among them - Goovoo's Stun. Capo
 Yes newspapers, the Sun- day Times said that the
 new constitution was

flawed, but that it was worth a Ly.

Imperfect, incomplete and in some areas calamitously deficient as the new constitution might be, there was, nevertheless, contained within it an astounding, even exciting, potential for evolutionary reform in South Africa.

The first newspaper to

The Pretoria News

't'oolish since events:

accommodation was.

While refraining from come out in favour of a committing itself fully, it Yes vote, the Daily Dis-

has indicated that it is patch of East London.

leaning toward a No

vote.

Its sister newspaper in

Port Elizabeth, the Even-

ing Post, regretfully said

No.