

goods and for the salaries of people of British stock in the employment of the Lesotho Government. All this means is that the aid is passed to us by one hand and received back by the British by the other. We are not yet in a position to attach much reliance to this offer which could very likely be withdrawn in the event of my Government rejecting these conditions since their acceptance will be a serious reflection on our sense of sovereign independence. In any event, we are prepared to show our proposals to the British Government for their information only, but we certainly shall not allow them a word in the order of our priorities, or on how to instruct us, or to impose their views on the apportionment of the aid.

Circumstances being what they are it is extremely essential for me to seek aid from other sources. This will explain my intention to approach the President of the United States of America, Mr. Johnson, and also the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Pearson. In fact, I intend to put the question of Lesotho's economic take-off to all friendly states which believe in, and uphold, the principles of the Western type of Democratic Government. The request I shall put to them will, in all cases, be for technical and financial assistance at this early and critical stage of our economy.

It is my sincere hope and trust that the President of the United States of America and other leaders of fully developed countries will bear in mind the immortal words of the late President John F. Kennedy when he stated the purpose of the American people as being not to buy friends or hire alliance, but to defeat poverty. President Kennedy said: "Let us turn to the less developed nations - those whose struggle to escape the bonds of mass misery appeals to our hearts as well as to our hopes."