

to gain some short term political advantage for the B.C.P. He said that his Party does not support the King in his demand for executive powers, but he believed that the matter should be referred to the Nation by way of a referendum. This is a complete contradiction.

There is yet another matter on which I must speak, not only as the Prime Minister, but also as the Minister responsible for Defence and Internal Security. I want to make it plain to everyone that peace and security will be preserved throughout Lesotho. I am especially determined to root out ^{the} evil of stock theft, not only as this vicious crime has been the ruin of many innocent and law abiding farmers. It has also caused violence and bloodshed on an alarming scale. You should know that Parliament has recently passed a law making new and improved provisions for the trial and punishment of law breakers. They will be treated without mercy.

Finally I want to speak about the Public Service. About those who are employed by the State of Basotho and whose salaries are met by the taxpayer. To all of them I say let us work together faithfully and unreservedly for the good of the nation. Let us stop quarrelling and intruiging about promotion. It is only by merit and faithful service that we can earn advancement. Do not let us discriminate against one another because we are all public servants working for the same cause.

In this land of Lesotho there is no place for discrimination on grounds of colour, creed or sex. Unhappily there are some among us who do not accept this principle and who criticise bitterly the employment of civil servants merely because they belong to another race and without regard to their loyalty and efficiency. Let me make it plain that Government cannot be influenced by race alone. Naturally as Basotho we would wish to see every post in the civil service filled by one of our own people and we shall work to that end as rapidly as the interests of the nation allow. But in the meantime, we are grateful for the help of expatriates in doing those essential jobs which as yet cannot be done by Basotho because there are no Basotho with the necessary qualifications and experience. I need only give you one example. How could I replace our present flying doctor. If I agreed to do without his services because he is not a Mosotho, what would be the feelings of all our people in the mountain areas who depend on him for medical care. It would be just as foolish as if I were to expel Ministers of Religion or traders, merely because they were European. All these people provide us with services and assistance essential at this time to our future progress and prosperity. I can, however, give you the

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