

interested in political attacks and counter-attacks. But you are interested in your own lives and your own welfare. I know that you are very poor and that you need to be helped. I know that you are starving and need help. I know that you are poorly clad and that you need to be helped with clothing. I know also that you need help in order to be able to plough your lands. I know that you need jobs in order to augment whatever crop harvest you may reap from your lands, in order that you may maintain your families.

These and many other things that would take me too long to enumerate here are your immediate needs and requirements which have to be attended to; but who do you hope would come to your assistance to satisfy these needs and help to solve your problems, unless it be your Government - a government of your own choice which is responsible to you. I know that you have been told how badly this Government is treating you. The question is, do those people who speak so loudly against this Government give you any kind of help in order to solve or minimise any of your difficulties? I do not think they do. I do not even think they will ever come to help you. Mark my words, they will always come to tell you how bad this Government is in order to discredit it in your eyes, but on the other hand they will do nothing concrete to help you.

Let me give you the assurance that Government is doing all it can to assist and help those people who are ready and willing to co-operate with their Government. No Government, however generous and sympathetic, can help anyone who is unco-operative and hostile to it; but your Government is always there at your disposal to help you whenever it is asked for help; although, here again, we must all understand the fact that we Basotho must, each and every one of us, work hard in order to help ourselves. We must be the first to take the initiative to improve our own lot in our villages; and this we can do by forming ourselves into farmers' co-operative societies; by grouping ourselves together to construct self-help roads in all our areas and villages; to construct dams, village water supplies and village latrines; to plant trees to combat soil erosion, which is causing serious havoc in our lands; and to lay out communal gardens in order to produce all varieties of vegetables for our own subsistence and that of our children.

I am sure that you too, like your brothers in all other areas of our country, are aware of the fact that Government is always there at your disposal, after you have decided which of these projects you wish to undertake, to provide you with