

To this end the Lesotho National Development Corporation has been established. This Institution is another remarkable example of friendship and co-operation as between Nations, and as between Government, on the one hand, and private enterprise on the other. Its initial finance has been provided by the British Government through the latter's Grant-in-aid. Dr. Anton Rupert, that eminent business man, has seconded to us from his own organisation, Mr. W.J.J. van Graan as Managing Director of the Corporation. Dr. Rupert has thus earned our deepest gratitude for his very real and practical interest in our welfare. Mr. van Graan and his staff have already proved their ability, not least by accomplishing the feat of balancing their budget, and by the exercise of their modest resources to stimulate an impressive range of industrial and commercial enterprises. These include a tyre re-treading factory, a candle factory, and a carpet factory.

In the field of agriculture we are critically re-assessing past policies and it is now our intention to concentrate our efforts in specific areas and on specific schemes, so that the results will be apparent and our resources will not be dissipated. There have been gratifying developments in the growth of farms co-operatives, and credit unions, and special attention is being paid to the marketing of produce in order to ensure that both the farmer and the Nation derive the greatest possible benefit. We have enjoyed invaluable assistance from the South African Government itself and such organisations as the South African Wool Board, but undoubtedly the most convincing evidence of our friendship with our neighbours was the recent operation "Big Plough" when the farmers of Clocolan crossed the border to help their fellow farmers at Eka and Kolonyama to plough their lands.

A variety of countries and organisations have given practical evidence of their concern for the health and welfare of the Basotho people. I recall with gratitude the gift of a

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