

In order to do this it will not be sufficient merely to preserve a reputation for responsibility and stability. We must take a full and active part in our own salvation. We are deeply indebted to the young men and women from various countries and organisations who come here as volunteers to take up the challenge offered by Lesotho. But I would dearly like to see our own young people, inspired by their example, also take up this challenge, sharing and continuing their efforts. The frightening menace of soil-erosion would alone provide more than sufficient scope for their endeavours. Youth brigades, working at week-ends and during holidays, could make a valuable and impressive contribution by planting trees, building dams, and assisting with works to prevent gully erosion. Our own young people should lead the struggle to save our soil.

You will see from what I have already said that our whole endeavour is international and multi-racial in character. With this in mind, let us remember Moshoeshoe's words, that there should be no discrimination against peoples of other Nations. Let us welcome everyone who comes into our country to improve it and not merely to carry its wealth away. Men of all races who come here to help must regard themselves as Basotho. Our thanks go out to all those who seek to leave this country better than they found it.

We have proved that we can develop: that the Basotho people can and do help themselves: that we have many friends to assist us, and that we have resources to exploit. We have not yet achieved our goal of a fully developed economy, but I know that with the help of God and the will of you, the people of Lesotho, we shall succeed. We shall have peace and plenty.

KHOTSO, FULA, NALA.