

districts of Feka and Kolonyama on this side of the Caledon river. It would be such a fortunate thing if farmers from other parts of the Republic could follow suit - for, indeed, our people - because of a very poor harvest last season and the miserable condition of their oxen - are in dire need. Such timely assistance would go a long way towards relieving the unhappy situation - were other friendly farmers to do what their brothers in Clocolan have done.

Here I would make a direct appeal to you, our friends in the Chamber of Commerce in Lesotho. Your friends, the Basotho, among whom you carry on trade and business, have literally fallen on their faces - on their noses; they and their families are crying for help - immediate help. It is in adversity that one looks to one's friends and neighbours.

Now that the Americans, through the Catholic Relief Service, have already made a valuable contribution and the farmers of the Republic have assisted the Basotho farmers, would you not, as traders, businessmen and friends of the Basotho - inspired by a spirit of love and compassion - do likewise? It would be a timely and happy gesture for, even were it to rain, the poor people would not be able to plough their lands.

I thus make this appeal, on behalf of the Basotho people, to you our friends, the Chamber of Commerce of Lesotho, and to all those in the country who may be in a position to assist. And I shall not cease to knock again and again at the doors of our neighbours in the Republic so that they may continue to extend this remarkable act of charity, love and neighbourliness which they have already demonstrated at Feka and Kolonyama and that the flame of this spirit should sweep on like the wild veld fire.