

the country in the various road-building schemes. In fact, Government is at the moment the biggest employer in Lesotho of permanent and temporary staff.

I would give you the assurance, however, that Government is not satisfied to stop at this point; we are doing our utmost to explore all possible means and ways of increasing opportunities for employment. I am sure you have already heard that we are doing all in our power to attract all manner of light industries into the country. Government is also engaged in looking for financial assistance to develop our water resources. Here I have in mind, in particular, the OXBOW project. If our plans in this regard come to fruition it means that employment will be given to some thousands of our people - and when this project has actually been completed it will be the means of bringing vastly increased revenue into our country.

Government is also in the process of implementing its plans to exploit the mineral resources of Lesotho, starting with the Letseng-la-Teraf diamond fields, which if proved to be a profitable undertaking, will further provide employment for many more of our Basotho people. This again has been achieved within a very short period after gaining our independence. It is indeed no exaggeration to say that even at this very early stage we are beginning to lift ourselves off the ground and can look back at the 100 years of neglect and stagnation under colonial rule as a thing of the past.

But - and here I must be very frank and honest with you - if you really wish to make faster progress than you have done so far, you must help me to remove the obstacles that are constantly

Sethabathaba Fund to meet the cost of higher education. I cannot see any reason why they should not once again apply themselves to the task rather than see this University stagnate - when it should, on the contrary, now be growing from strength to strength, to the extent where it can provide all the facilities necessary for this country's development. The performance of this University deserves such consideration. It has turned out men of standing in the African society of today. To mention but a few, I would name the first pre-independence Prime Minister of Uganda, Mr. Benedict Kiwanuka, who is today the Leader of the Opposition in that country's Parliament; Mr. John Tembo, the Minister of Finance in the Government of Malawi is the product of our University and so is Mr. Masinde Muliro, a Minister in the Republic of Kenya. These men represent praiseworthy achievements for which we must be proud of our University and particularly grateful to those friends of the University who have assisted so far in its establishment and development. The United Kingdom, over and above the grant-in-aid to Lesotho, makes a special contribution towards the maintenance of the University; the Americans and the Canadians have in a number of ways also extended a helping hand. Here I would like to express a special word of thanks to Canada, because the establishment of our University was the direct result of the work of missionaries of Canadian extraction.

Like all emerging countries in Africa, we are faced with many problems. We are no exception to the rule that education needs to be adapted to the changing requirements brought about by development. It will require hard work and great effort - but I am positive that the response of all sectors of the population to this appeal which I and my Government are launching will bear wholesome fruits. We shall then go on to build properly for the future on a clear-cut policy which will lead to success.