

My further thanks go to the Consultants, Messrs. Merz and McLellan, who not only assisted in the discussions and investigations but also designed the connections and associated switchgear. I need not repeat how useful these connections are in relation to our printing industry and higher education. I hope that some of the machines presently at the Maseru Power Station will soon be transferred and reassembled at Mphahle's Hoek in the South. According to our plan this should be completed in November 1968.

From these beginnings we envisage that by stages electric power will be made available to the Basotho people in their villages and industrial centres all throughout the country. This will be a comparatively cheaper source of electric power, bringing greater benefits to our people, than that which was considered at the time when the old Legislative Assembly was accused of denying the Basotho people facilities for progress. The fact is, the benefits which our people would derive from the supply of electricity from that source would have been seriously reduced by its cost of production.

To me and my colleagues in Government and to all clear-thinking people in Lesotho, this ceremony is an important landmark in the advancement of our country. It is a great achievement because in the same way as there would be no development without roads, electricity is vital for industry and office work.

To celebrate this occasion in a really fitting fashion it is my great desire that a prominent electric globe be put up on the Goatsaneng Mountain near Maseru to bear the following inscription in both Sesotho and English:

"Lebone la tsoelopele le Chabile Lesotho"

"The Light of Progress is shining in Lesotho"

In conclusion, I feel it is my duty to express my appreciation for the co-operation and realistic manner in which the people of our two countries and our Governments approach matters of mutual interest in building the economy of the respective countries. The Republic of South Africa has sold us ESCOM electricity and tomorrow I shall be selling them my water and electricity from OXBOW. No greater example could there be of a reasonable give and take. I hope and trust we shall not permit this beneficial co-operation, which is already bearing rich fruits, to be tampered with by outside interference. Our fate is in our hands - no outside influence should be allowed to decide our destiny.

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.