

At the same time, so that our people's labours shall not be in vein in all these projects and activities if "Iketsitse", Chiefs, Sub-Chiefs, Headmen and all others must appreciate and accept their responsibilities to ensure that the nation's crops are protected against all forms of destruction - against stock-theft, uprooting of trees and trespassing on personal property. It is your duty to see to it that all national activities, such as the building of dams, wells, construction of roads, conservation of soil, are protected. In this connection Government is now contemplating legislation which will contain very severe punishment measures against all those who are found to be destroying what the nation is trying to build - whether it be tree-planting or any other form of activity.

Do your utmost to protect your people's fields and crops, for they are the primary source of your livelihood. Time has passed when a Chief could blatantly misappropriate anybody's land, except he do so in accordance with the Land Procedure Act and on the advice of five men elected by the people in terms of this Act. If a Chief is, by law and custom, entitled to inherit his parents' Lands, why should an ordinary Mosotho not enjoy similar rights? That is why I issued my circular asking you Chiefs to exercise some circumspection and, in line with the march of the time, share your large fields with your people and cede them, if necessary, to the poor, who are always with you. They are your unavoidable burden. Here, too, Government is contemplating legislation to protect the rights of people's tenure of land, in the same way as Chiefs' rights are protected. This is intended to give individual farmers security so that they may not be at the mercy of a Chief's whims, and so that they can improve their own lands or plots without interference. Because this Government has been elected by the people, it shall, as never before, be jealous of the people's hitherto neglected human rights. They too must have a place in the sun.

To round off this talk, I want to repeat my previous warning about the spread of communism - a warning which Mr. Mokhehle said was a mere scarecrow. This danger is apparent. Its literature is abundant and the deceitful harm it does is incalculable - not only that, but funds with strings attached are pouring in from communist countries. They are a means by which the communists are trying to get a foothold in our country and convert it into a sort of Egypt, or turn our people into agents of this dreadful ideology in the same way as they use Moses Kotane of the African National Congress and Joe Matthews by giving them large sums of money which they give under the guise of helping our people and certain associations to help to promote their course.

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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.