

lovers of Lesotho. But the determined men and women of the Basotho National Party Government resolutely applied all their energies to rid Lesotho of the stigma of a century of colonial rule. Should we not regard the Opposition Parties as traitors ?

We are now facing elections as an independent state. We have raised Lesotho to a position of respect. We have a Constitution. We have a King. Whilst yesterday we struggled alone for independence and all that it stood for, today we face the elections with the members of the Opposition much more eager for positions than anybody else. That same traitorous handful of men and women who opposed and boycotted independence now come forward seeking to be elected. The Basotho will never be fools. According to their policy on boycotts, the Opposition Parties had better boycott elections !

When we sought independence, we were fighting for a position in which the Basotho would play a full role in matters that affect their livelihood. We wanted the Basotho to improve their economic position themselves. We want the Basotho to make their own roads. We want the Basotho to build their own dams. In short, we want the Basotho to organize themselves in a manner that will make them enjoy life better.

In this connection, I wish to refer to the Thaba Phats'oa scheme. The Thaba Phats'oa project is a praiseworthy effort. It is a scheme which has an immediate meaning to the farmer. The scheme has now been in operation for two to three years. I am told that the results are encouraging.

Under the Thaba Phats'oa project, the farmers have the fields. In addition, there is water in the dam - a man-made dam. The water is pumped from the dam and irrigates the fields. In the fields seed of known quality is sown. Right fertilizer in the right quantities and at the right time is applied. Weed is removed in time so that it may not harm the crops. Insecticides are used to protect the crops from deadly insects. Here mechanical operations take place. Men and women come forth to work preliminary.

Preliminary...../4.