

believe that their rights to allocate land and deprive people of their lands are being undermined; forgetting the great principle that whatever powers they exercise emanate from the people themselves, who are the true owners of the land for its use in agriculture, mining and industry.

Does it make any sense that after achieving independence we must at all costs dismiss expatriate experts, even before we ourselves have succeeded in training our own experts? One wonders how we can derive benefits from wealthier countries than our own if we do not have specialist experts to help us bring our projects to fruition.

Our politicians are not keen to have South African specialists or those of the Peace Corps. They reject those from England and all others who wish to give us aid - the main objection being that such aid comes from the imperialist countries of the world.

The South Africans are ready to teach us, but it seems we are somewhat reluctant to learn from them.

Today I am not only pleased, but confident, that the stronghold of the Congress Party in Leribe is now annihilated.

I shall not sit down before I talk about one thing which for a long time has retarded our progress and development in Lesotho. Although this problem is unpleasant, the time has now come when it has got to be faced squarely. This is the problem of the King and the Constitution of 1966. The King has associated himself with these politicians who do not observe the Constitution by not recognising the elected Government. These wily politicians use the name of the King to impede progress and industry of any kind, which the Government intends to set up so that you may get employment in your own country.

Over and above all this, these people retard agricultural development because your lands are being confiscated now and again, and this is no incentive to the improvement of these lands so that you may realise a high yield. This is the difficulty I have experienced ever since you elected me to be your Prime Minister. This is the granite rock placed in the way of your progress and development. This is your ultimate right which these people want to keep to themselves.

But I say that the time has come now when this land right has to revert to the Basotho nation because those who

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