

TRANSLATION

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER, CHIEF
LEABUA JONATHAN, AT A NATIONAL PITSO, AT SENEKANE'S,
ON SUNDAY, 26TH OCTOBER, 1969



Here in the constituency of Senekane where Mr. Stephen Motlamelle, a Basutoland Congress Party Member of Parliament, was elected, I would like you, the people of this constituency, as in others where members of the B.C.P. were elected, to know what your candidate has done for you. If he has done nothing, as is the case with the rest of the B.C.P. Members who were elected, including their leader Ntsu Mokhehle, the question is: Now that they are asking you to re-elect them, even though since 1965 they have done nothing worth while for you, what miracle do they hope to perform and are you not again wasting your time?

If, on the other hand, you were to ask us of the Basotho National Party what our achievements are, we can readily show you, as they speak for themselves; they are practical and indisputable even in the eyes of the Opposition forces.

A dam has been built here, and wells are in the process of construction at Khohlooa's and 'Matholoana's.

Since Independence, we have been able to achieve the following:

There are 80 acres of land in the mountain areas used for seed multiplication.

The poultry population has increased from 5,000 at the end of 1965 to 40,000 to date. There are 700 poultry-keepers who have adopted improved methods of husbandry.

The Lesotho National Development Corporation has brought in revenue totalling R4,000,000.

Industries

A candle factory has been established at Kolonyama. There is a carpet factory and a tyre retreading plant in Maseru; a blanket factory at Thabana-li-'Mele. An international hotel now under construction will pay more than R400,000 per year in taxes and R16,000 per month in wages.

Agreements have been signed with Lonrho and Rio Tinto to explore professionally our diamond deposits.

Government has employed experts to survey our roads and roads covering a distance of 180 miles have been constructed.

Work on the Oxbow project will soon start. Dams have been constructed in 300 villages; 200 wells have been completed and 15 are being worked on.

Electricity