

countries of the world and we are continuing to do so with others.

Government's policy of peaceful co-existence with our neighbour, the Republic of South Africa, has paid appreciable dividends, the latest of which is the R4 million accruing from Customs Duty collected for us by the Republic of South Africa. This money will be used for developmental schemes and the welfare of the nation.

One of the items on Government's programme in 1970 is to complete the preparations to bring the Oxbow scheme into operation. This will not be possible without co-operation from the Republic of South Africa because it is only she that can buy the water and electricity that will be generated from the Oxbow dam.

All these things Government has achieved and will achieve because of the unswerving support from you, the people of Lesotho. The Government have had encouraging support from you in 1969 and we are all the more inspired by this continued co-operation. The success achieved by the nation in its various aspects of life will be doubled next year if we carry on in the same spirit. Thus my message is: **UNITY IS STRENGTH!**

Let us continue to be at one with our Government for the progress not only of our country but also that of our own families for generations to come. In the coming New Year we must forget petty political bickerings and should not allow ourselves to be confused by politicians whose intention is to retard our progress.

As we face the general elections in 1970, my appeal to you is that we should support whichever Party wins so long as it serves the nation. We must realise that our first loyalty is to Lesotho and not to political parties. Lesotho must come before all else. There is one Lesotho; one Nation; one culture; one language; one Government - the Government of the people.

Let us march forward, my dear people, with the determination that peace, prosperity and stability which we enjoyed in 1969 shall continue during the New Year.

I offer you my wishes for a bright, happy NEW YEAR. Let us tomorrow join hands with confidence that Lesotho will progress as a peaceful, happy LAND.

KHOTSO! FULA! NALA!