

AFRICA in Today's World

ONE AFRICAN LEADER who seems to have particularly impressed Dan Shannon with his. democratic ideas during the Los Angeles Times writer's current tour of the Dark Continent is the Kyabazinga of Bugosa, nominal ruler of 800,000 Ugandans in a semi-autonomous state on the shores of beautiful Lake Victoria. He also is Sir Wilberforce Nadiope, vice president of all Uganda.

In addition to being head man in Bugosa and Uganda's No. 2 executive, Sir Wilberforce is a top official in the nation's governing party, the United People's Congress (UPC), which he helped found. He became Hyabazinga, a position halfway between king and chief, by inheritance. He became Sir Wilberforce when the British crown knighted him for his services in colonial days.

Sir Wilberforce became a leader in the national independence movement in 1954 when he gave up his chieftainship temporarily to serve as minister of internal affairs in Uganda's British protectorate government. He quickly saw the need for a national political party to work for independence.

HIS FACILITY IN SEVEN of Uganda's eight principal languages -- English is the only universal language of the country -- was a big advantage to him in party organization work.

The United People's Congress has been gaining increasing strength in the national parliament with the disintegration of regional parties. And there are signs that Uganda, like its Kenyan and Tanzanian partners in East Africa, is moving toward a single-party state, something Sir Wilberforce is not enthusiastic

"I wouldn't mind if everybody joined the he said, "but they should have a free choice. Unless the opposition is willing to dissolve itself, I don't think they should be forced by law as in Kenya and Tanzania.'

AS FOR FEDERATION with the two neighbor states, a possibility that appears to become Our struggle is to save the soul more remote with the separation of East African of America. currencies and other divisive trends, the vice president said: "I am sure federation will come

But he warned that the three newly independent nations have great problems of their own to deal with before they can move on to the larger responsibilities of a federation.

When you buy a new pair of shoes you have to break them in before you can run a race in them," he said.

Like most of his countrymen, Sir Wilberforce is quick to point out that Uganda differs from Kenya and Tanzania in that native government had developed long before the British arrived.

"Ours is more a task of modernizing existing institutions and bringing the different regions of the country together, he said.

ONE PROBLEM UGANDA does not have is the presence of white settlers, which complicated Kenya's transition to independence and is still a factor in Kenya's political life. This was one of the reasons Uganda held back from federation at time of independence.

Sir Wilberforce believes the semi-autonomous states such as his and the kingdoms of Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole and Toro helped to

make the republic one of Africa's most stable. "If the people hadn't had respect for their rulers, there might have been the violence here that has occurred in the rest of Africa," he said.

With the growing strength of the central government, the old units--with the exceptions

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What Moderation

(President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference)

I think it is necessary to set forth the meaning of moderation. If moderation means slowing up in the move for justice and capitulating to the undemocratic practices of the guardians of the status

quo, I think moderation is wrong and I would not consider myself a moderate in that manner, but if moderation means moving on toward the goal of justice with cal m reasonableness and

w i s e restraint I DR. KING think it is a great virtue that all men of good will must seek to achieve during this period of

So when I say "can't wait" I think this is the kind of militant. moderation that is necessary to make the American dream a reality. I think it is necessary to solve this problem now, I think the moment is urgent, we have waited more than 344 years for our basic and God-given constitutional rights now only to discover that we are still far from the promised land of civil rights.

I think it is necessary now more than ever before to make it clear that we can't wait because these things are so basic not only for ourselves, because I think this struggle is much larger than the Negro gaining his constitutional rights. I think it is the question now of the destiny of our nation.

Stress Non-Violence

I think it is necessary for Negro leaders all over the country to stress non-violence more than ever before because there are forces

and in order to counteract this I think it is necessary to make it clear that violence is wrong, it's impractical, it creates many more social problems than it solves, and that this is not the way to call the attention of a community to its social ills.

I think we must make it clear that our greatest gains come through non-violence. There is a need for training programs all over the country and in many northern communities right now in the non-violent discipline just as we do in many of the communities in the South.

On the other hand I would like to lift the issue to something else because I think it is much deeper than a racial conflict that we have here. It's something that comes from economically deprived individuals.

From Frustration

Anti-social responses are environmental and not racial and I think it is necessary to see that these very ugly acts of violence came from individuals who out of frustration, discontent, bitterness and despair as a result of social isolation and economic deprivaconditions.

I think it is necessary to work as hard to get rid of the conditions that bring these behavior patterns into being as it is to condemn the acts. This is not saying that they is necessary to condemn them.

I think legal and judicial meaof the conditions, get rid of the ence.

that are seeking to stress violence causal bases instead of merely condemning the effects, because when you develop a generation of people who feel that they have no stake in the society and they see life as little more than a long corridor with no exit sign, then they turn to these behavior patterns which can become tragic to the whole community.

Most Non-Violent

I don't think we have too many leaders advocating violence. The vast majority of Negro leaders are still advocating non-violence. Here and there you get one commited to what is known as "Black Nationalism" and some other ideologies that will say that the Negro should engage in retaliatory or at least defensive violence. But all of the leaders of the major organizations advocate non-violence and I would say that the leadership is still in the hands of these individuals. Negroes by and large are still willing to follow at least tactical non-violence-that is, they are willing to use non-violence as a technique even though they may not accept it as a way of life.

I am convinced that if we can continue to make meaningful strides and if we make progress tion turned to these meaningless and concrete victories are achievand tragic acts because of these ed then the leadership will stay in the hands of these persons. But if we face continued se packs, if we don't get a strong Civil Rights Bill then I do think the more extreme elements will gain a greater foothold in the Negro communmust not be condemned. I think it ity and will have a greater influ-

So I think to a large extent the sures must be used - police ac- leadership in the white community tion - but after this I think the of our nation will determine whethcommunity must work to get rid er there will be wide-spread viol-

of Buganda and Bugosa--are being gradually downgraded in importance.

Despite Sir Wilberforce's hereditary position as Kyabazinga, he does not advocate feudal rule. "I don't believe in dictatorship. Everyone should share in government."

HIS OWN MINISTERS are elected by the parliament and the state's nine members of the national legislature are elected directly by the people.

Sir Wilberforce is concerned about his country's economic future. "All we have is land and we need everything else."

He has done much in his own state, and Bugosa now takes pride in the Owens Falls hydroelectric plant which harnesses the Nile at its source, a copper smelter and two textile plants. "That gives us most of the industry in Uganda," he says.

To prepare his people for further industrialization, he is energetically promoting education. Bugosa has the most active adult education program in all Uganda,

All in all, with a leader like Sir Wilberforce, Uganda seems to have a good chance to progress--at least a better chance than many other new African nations.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICAT to the INTERESTS and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE of the NEGRO CITIZENS of the STATE of NEVADA

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EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION OFFICES to Owens Ave. (Golden West Shopping Center) Las Vegas, Nevada Telephone: 642-5308

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ * One year - \$6 * Two years - \$10 (Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permit pending at Las Vegas, Nevada)