



AFRICA in Today's World

FOR SOME TIME PAST, this column has been predicting that the Republic of South Africa was headed for serious economic trouble. But continued reports of ever-increasing prosperity in that stronghold of racial segregation seemed to indicate we were talking through our hat--or at least indulging in some highly wishful thinking.

Now comes a United Press-International dispatch from Johannesburg that confirms much of the information we have been passing on to readers of the VOICE. Significantly, the UPI story does not mention that the government's strict controls over its black population may have contributed to the present precarious situation. This most likely was the price the UPI correspondent had to pay for official statements contained in the report, which follows:

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A FOUR-YEAR, HIGH SPENDING BOOM PERIOD HAS COME TO A SHARP END IN SOUTH AFRICA.

With imports rising alarmingly, exports dropping and gold and foreign reserves dwindling rapidly, the country's leaders have warned South Africans to tighten their belts.

A wide credit squeeze is already showing signs of checking the spiralling economy.

Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd is leading the drive to cut down spending.

"We are a nation in a hurry and it is necessary for the government to tone down the present tremendous development to a somewhat slower rate," he said.

South Africans would have to save more and spend less "so that we can progress to a development curve that will always rise."

His call for a hold down came on the eve of a special trip to Europe by Finance Minister T. E. Donges to hunt up loan money and raise further export credits.

BEFORE DEPARTING, Donges said South Africa was living above its income and a brake would have to be put on the economy.

"There is substantial overtrading, particularly in the building industry, and the shortage of manpower is a bottleneck which in turn again increases the cost structure," he told the South African Institution of Civil Engineers.

A wide range of consumer goods has been hit by newly announced import restrictions in a government bid to curb foreign spending and check the decline in South Africa's gold and foreign reserves.

Economic Affairs Minister N. Diederichs said the restrictions would apply to those consumer goods which could have their supplies curtailed without affecting the country's economy.

Reserve Bank Governor Gerard Rissik gave notice that further measures would be necessary to tighten the credit squeeze, a step which would make it more difficult for both businessmen and private people to obtain loans or overdrafts.

HE THREATENED still further restrictions unless financial institutions, industrialists, commerce and labor cooperated in reducing capital investment and consumer spending.

Rissik added that South Africa need not fear in growing more slowly for a time, that it was likely to experience a recession.

"On the contrary, it will lay the foundation for sounder and more enduring growth in the future," he said.

The campaign to halt the inflationary trend

VOICE READERS COMPRISE a \$30,000,000 MARKET

EDITORIAL

School Desegregation Making Noticeable Gain

BY ROY WILKINS

The race relations confrontation news comes from Natchez, Miss., and Plymouth, N.C., but the real news comes from the public school openings. For the first time since 1954 in the Deep South, desegregation is occurring on a noticeable scale. Individual items are packed with drama.

Selma, Ala., is admitting Negro students to previously all-white schools.

The first Negro students have been enrolled in Shreveport, La., long regarded as one of the toughest seats of die-hard segregationists in the entire South.

Nine Negro students entered a previously all-white school in Philadelphia, Miss., on the outskirts of which three civil rights workers were murdered in 1964.

Resorts Reveal Progress

Mansfield, Tex., scene of a mass protest against school integration in 1956, had 70 Negro pupils in desegregated classes this year.

Hayneville, Ala., in hard-bitten Lowndes County, where a white priest was killed and another wounded last month because of their involvement in civil rights, had five Negro children in mixed classes.

It Was This Way, See?

WELL, IT FINALLY HAPPENED!

It took us 100 weeks of uninterrupted publication to fall prey to one of this business's most insidious traps--but we finally "made it."

There's little point to explaining HOW or WHY it happened. But for those who are still trying to figure out WHAT happened to make the mysterious August 26 issue of the VOICE a variation of the cross-word puzzle, we hasten to explain that the copy intended for page 3 (a full-page Golden West Shopping Center advertisement) wound up on page 15, and the material that should have been on page 15 (continuation of a list of Adult and Vocational Education courses that started on page 14) landed on page 3.

In other words, pages 3 and 15 were transposed, a fact which probably became evident to careful readers who were temporarily confused as to what page 3 was all about.

However, if you happen to be interested in scanning a complete and connected list of the various Adult and Vocational Education courses being offered by the Clark County School District during the school year starting next week, and you also were unable to solve our cute little puzzle of last week, we can only suggest that you retrieve a copy of the August 26 issue (a limited supply is available at the VOICE offices in the West Mall of the Golden West Shopping Center) and put 15 and 3 together in order to get 18--whoa!--we mean place pages 15 and 3 side-by-side and you will get a complete and connected list of the various Adult . . .

Let's go, Gladys. This is where we came in.

(Who? Oh, HIM? Last time we heard of that lame-brain, he was trying to get a job on the Kit Carson Reporter as puzzle editor.)

is already being widely felt. Money, which was, until recently, freely available for homes, furnishings, cars and business enterprises is now difficult to come by.

Businessmen who had grandiose expansion plans have had to modify or even abandon them.

The man in the street who was thinking of building a home or buying a new car has suddenly found no one wants to finance him.

South Africans are learning painfully that boom times, great while they last, do not go on forever.

FLY THE FLAG
CITIZENSHIP DAY
SEPT. 17

Virginia added to its historical role as a trend-setter for the Deep South by beginning the integration of the teaching staffs of its Richmond school system: The Charlotte, N.C., board of education was in step with Richmond in its announcement that practically all high schools and junior high schools this year will have some teachers of both races.

Sunflower County, Miss., headquarters and virtual birthplace in 1954 of the White Citizens Councils, said Negro pupils would be admitted to white classes.

In Bogalusa, La., where violence broke out, seven Negroes were admitted to desegregated classes and in Jackson, Miss., 21 Negro students are in classes with whites.

Two Florida towns completely integrated their high schools, closing their Negro schools. And the Strom Thurmond High School in South Carolina now has 19 Negro students.

This trend, needless to say, encountered resistance. The wealthiest Texas suburb, Highland Park of Dallas, with only one eligible Negro student, has refused to admit him to its school. White students in Lexington, Miss., boycotted the school opening as 51 Negroes were enrolled, while their parents planned a private, all-white school.

Still Token, but Healthier

Of course, on an overall basis, the 1965 integration is token, but it is a much more healthy token than in previous years. Also, under the prodding of Title Six of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, integration is spreading from the cities into rural areas. Another plus is the really significant expansion of some city integration into a solid movement.

Considering the court battles and the street battles, the insults, the threats, the punitive laws and the discharges from jobs, the Negro parents and children are heroes in this struggle. (Can any white person possibly estimate the family courage necessary for Negro children to present themselves for enrollment in a white school in Sunflower County, Miss., or in Hayneville, Ala.?)

But heroes of a kind, too, are the reluctant and resentful ones among Southern white people who are accepting a change much more profound for them than that involved in a Northern white person working alongside a Negro or living on the same block with him.

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