

WORLD OF BOOKS

By LOUISE P. DUMETZ
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

RHODESIA: BACKGROUND TO CONFLICT; By B. VILINDLELA MTSHALI, With foreword by KENNETH D. KAUNDA, President, Zambia Republic; Published by HAWTHORN BOOKS, INC., New York; 255 pp., \$5.95

THE STRIFE-TORN country of Rhodesia is carefully examined in this timely writing. A devastating confrontation between a white minority and a black majority has wrought a schism which has plunged the country into a state of virtual siege.

Mtshali describes African "nationalism" as two-pronged and affecting both whites and blacks. Europeans who have made Africa their home and fear losing material advantages exhibit "settler nationalism."

According to the author, "The 'settler nationalists' hold with fanatical zeal to their feeling that civilization is the white man's gift to Africa. Majority rule by Africans is regarded as the road to ruin, the return to barbarism, the end of all the white man has toiled to build. The African is regarded as possessing inherent incapacity to overcome nature and rule himself."

IN DEFINING "black African nationalism," Mtshali refers to a statement by Daniel Manin during the occupation of Italy by Austria: "We do not ask that Austria be humane and liberal.... we ask her to get out. We wish to be masters in our own house!"

The book describes Rhodesia's past history, colonization, early self-government risings, and traces the growth of economic, governmental and educational systems. The story unfolded is richly human--sad, sordid, sometimes humorous, but most of all, tragic.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AMONG COMMUNISTS, By ROBERT H. McNEAL; Published by PRENTICE-HALL, New York; 192 pp, \$4.95

The in-fighting among the various Communist nations is the topic of this newest offering by an experienced writer. Robert H. McNeal knows his subject. An associate professor of history at the University of Toronto, he is the author of "The Bolshevik Tradition: Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev," and the editor of "Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev: Voices of Bolshevism."

THROUGH 45 original documents and pronouncements, the author examines the history of relations among Communists from the early days of Lenin to the present, showing the difficulties and rifts they have encountered--the Sino-Soviet split, the Hungarian Revolution, Tito's ostracism.

Many of these problems, he states, are due to the levels of communication that exist; meetings between diplomats representing the national governments, and meetings between delegates representing the national parties.

These two levels, McNeal says, not only complicate the process of negotiation between nations, they also indicate the basic conflict--the clash between an ideology of fraternity and the reality of national self-interest.

THE FAILURE of the Communists to maintain an easy course of relations among themselves, the author contends, may cause "international relations among Communists to blend into international relations as a whole, which should be a net gain for the cause of peace."

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(BANKER, from page 1)

to idiocy. First of all, you'd have to know Simon to understand that "front," "tokenism," and "first" mean little or nothing to him.

"I will not be placed in a position where I will be on the defensive to prove anything to skeptics," said Simon, dapper in a gray mohair suit, burgundy tie, white-on-white shirt. "I started at Main State Bank here in Chicago where I was paid \$204 a month," he said. "And with that, I had to support a wife and child."

Obviously, then, you begin to wonder just what goes into the make-up of a Norman A. Simon, bank president-type.

SIMON, considered by all who know him to be a man's man; a quiet in-fighter who has been through the proverbial mill, is one of that rare breed: a self-made man. He's the kind of guy who never accepts "second best;" the kind of guy who never even dreams of giving up once he has set his sights on a goal really worth achieving.

Being a Negro man in America today is a full-time career in itself. There is a great deal of grooming and preparation necessary for one to face the world each day.

It is, therefore, not really of significance here when Mr. Simon decided to become a banker. What does warm the heart of every Negro impressed with his recent election, is the fact that he was well-qualified to assume his new responsibilities.

SO, WHEN the official bank press release stated: "Norman A. Simon was elected president of Guaranty Bank and Trust Company at a board of directors meeting at the bank..." you somehow know that there was no "tokenism" involved.

A member of the board's screening committee said: "We were especially impressed by Simon's professional record, particularly with the fact that his outstanding success was self-made."

What really makes a bank president? I guess the same thing that makes a carpenter, a printer, or a writer.

First, of all, the desire must be there; you must be qualified, and not the least thing, dedicated; willing to make unbelievable sacrifices to secure the things you so desire.

The 45-year-old Negro came to Chicago in 1940, joined the U.S. army in 1942, and emerged as a technical sergeant with five combat campaigns under his belt from the ETO (European Theatre of Operations.).

From 1946 until 1949, he worked at Maremont Auto Products as a time checker in the assembly plant. He worked a short time as an insurance agent with Mammoth Life.

IN 1950, Simon entered Roosevelt University and became the "first" Negro in the history of that staid institution to earn a bachelor of science degree in accounting and economics. His degree, taken in only three years, was financed by a night job at the U.S. Post Office, where he worked as a clerk.

His \$204-a-month job was obtained in 1953 as a teller and he worked his way progressively through the positions of loan teller and book-keeper.

Remington Rand utilized his services as a sales representative from 1955 until 1957, when he returned to his first love: banking.

Another "first" for Simon was his appointment as executive assistant at Exchange National Bank in downtown Chicago. In 1964, he was named assistant vice president, a position he held until gaining his office at Guaranty.

SIMON, WHO is soft-spoken and highly intellectual, finds that being "first" has become old hat to him. He worries quite a bit now about the lack of young Negroes in the banking business.

"I sincerely hope," he says, "that my appointment to head a white bank will encourage others to consider banking and finance as a career. After all, how many careers begin as a trainee at an annual salary of \$6,500?"

Although his rise, 14 years, is considered by those in the trade to be "rocket-like," Simon feels that recent rulings by government agencies and the Federal Deposits Insurance Corporation will make it easier for Negroes who wish to follow in his footsteps.

"Since most banks have some federal monies on deposit," he said, "it is very likely that more jobs will open for qualified Negroes."

Did you notice what "kind" of Negroes will probably get these jobs? That's right, qualified!

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What can be sweeter than the gratitude of a child?--VOICE photographer was honored, indeed, when the local "Mickey Mouse" Club surprised him with an "Appreciation Party" honoring him as the club's favorite photographer--In top photo, Wright is pictured with Ethel Tatum, Club President; and, on the left, the Mickey Mousers adorable Queen, Dwyer Davis--Beaming his pleasure, on the right, is His Royal Majesty, King Ronald Johnson... In photo below, Wright is pictured again with members of the Club and their "helpers".

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