

Hard-hitting questions from a Khomasdal taxpayer

IN THE LIGHT of the fact that our Coloured schools have been in the news lately, I have a number of questions.

Myself and other parents looked forward to seeing what the pass percentages were of matriculants last year. Now I must read in a local newspaper that, according to the Administration for Coloureds, these figures are a secret. How on earth can the percentage passes be kept a secret?

As a Coloured taxpayer, I appeal to Mr Billy Phillips, Chairman of the Executive Committee and member charged with Education, to make known this figure, as well as that of the Standard Eights for last year.

Recently there have also been many reports that the Coloured schools in Khomasdal are full and that hundreds of students are sent home. According to Mr Koopman, Director of Education, the situation is to be ascribed to the following:

- * many parents have moved from rural areas to Windhoek

- * parents whose children were last year in South Africa, are now at schools in Windhoek

- * Coloureds in South Africa, who by virtue of present conditions there, send their children to Windhoek schools.

These reasons are correct, but Mr Koopman forgot to mention the most important one, namely the fact that children from Katutura are streaming into Khomasdal schools.

I am not a supporter of apartheid, not in the least. I am saying these things in the light of the apartheid kingdom (AG 8) which the Labour Party of Mr Dawid Bezuidenhout and Mr Billy Phillips and company, accepted, and according to which they govern.

If people accept a certain government system, then they should govern according to the letter and spirit of it, and not merely in accor-

dance with those parts which suit them.

In accordance with Proclamation AG 8, the personal tax of each taxpayer is paid to the second tier authority of the population group of which he is a member. A certain portion of that tax is used for education. I am sure that the greatest percentage of the Coloured budget is spent on education. In other words, the bulk of the taxpayer's money is spent on education.

In the light of this, Mr Phillips should reply immediately to the following questions:

- * Why are hundreds of black children allowed in our schools, while our own children are sent home?

- * Do the parents of black children pay taxes to the Coloured Administration?

If the answer is yes, then I would like to know what these parents pay.

Once again I wish to say that I am

strongly opposed to any form of apartheid but I want to prove that AG 8, which Mr Phillips and Company accepted, is not implementable, and our concern is because our children are losing out educationally.

In a radio interview, Mr Burden, Rector of the Khomasdal training college, said that 40 percent fewer students had been accepted at the College this year. I further hear that most of the students come from South Africa and other ethnic groups.

I call upon Mr Phillips to give us these figures too. How many students are from South Africa and other ethnic groups? Then I want to know the costs of running the College per annum.

Mr Phillips must also tell us why it is necessary to have an apartheid college near to the Academy? Is it a question of his imitating his white apartheid brothers?

Year after year we must hear how

teachers are imported from South Africa and placed in senior posts, while our own teachers with equal or higher qualifications are overlooked. With respect to the 'imported' teachers, I must say that some of them are the weakest teachers, who have said they could not get jobs in South Africa, but here they are given senior posts.

I want to ask Mr Phillips why he has made our schools, the rubbish heap of South African teachers?

The only way out of this government system (AG 8), which is acceptable to no one but the leaders of the Coloured Labour Party, is to scrap it in its totality. Let the true political leaders, and not the 'yes-boss' types and political opportunists, work out a system which is acceptable to the people of this country.

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