

## LUTULI—Continued

grizzled hair, he is earnest, dignified, eloquent and possesses great personal charm.

His ban expired in 1959. For a short time before it was reimposed, he made a great impact on many white people when he addressed public meetings in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Many who went through curiosity to see this strange creature, a man who by his position was the leading "black agitator" in South Africa, were won over by his manifest sincerity and clear reasoning.

White audiences were impressed by his insistence on the rights of the white man, his un-failing pleas for justice for *all* racial groups, and his subsequent opposition to the more radical Pan-African Congress.

### A Signal Honour

THE Black Sash National Conference congratulated ex-Chief Lutuli on the award of the Nobel Peace Prize — "a signal honour given for the first time to a South African." The statement issued said:

"We are delighted that the Government have granted him a passport to receive the award in person. However, we deprecate the belittling remarks made by Radio South Africa and by the Hon. Mr. De Klerk in announcing the Government's decision; remarks not only about Mr. Lutuli, but also about those who made the award.

"The Black Sash remembers with gratitude his efforts through the years to find a solution to our problems by non-violent methods and through co-operation between the races. He is truly a man of peace."

In a letter to the *Cape Argus* applauding the award to Mr. Lutuli, Mrs. E. Stott said:

"We are constantly aware of how tragic it is that his banning largely prevents his own people benefiting from his wise and moderate leadership and makes it impossible for White South Africans to know him and understand the reasonableness of his cause."

A brief sketch of his life, spent in patient obscurity until 1952, reveals his uncompromising character.

He was educated in the mission station in the Grootville reserve, governed by Christian tradition and the hierarchical Zulu society. He went from the mission school to Adams College, the American mission high school, where he remained to teach, his particular interest being Zulu history and literature. In this period he worked for the advancement of the African teacher.

While at Adams College he was approached by the elders of his tribe to become their chief. It took him two years to decide to leave the larger and financially more remunerative life of the teacher to revert to the hierarchy, the squabbles and the difficulties which would be implicit in the chieftainship.

Eventually he decided that his duty lay in accepting the chieftainship, and for 17 years he was absorbed in the parochial affairs of Grootville. During this period he became the adviser and right-hand man of the Zulu Paramount Chief, Mshiyeni.

The Cape African vote disappeared in 1935. In 1946, with reservations, Mr. Lutuli joined the Natives' Representative Council. Shortly afterwards he left, being in agreement with the view of Prof. Z. K. Matthews that it was simply a "toy telephone." In the same year he joined the African National Congress.

He visited India as a delegate to the World Council of Churches, and the United States, where he travelled through the country as guest lecturer of the American Mission Board.

In 1952, determined that its action should be non-violent, he supported the defiance campaign. In that same year, defying the ultimatum from the Government, he was dismissed from his post as Chief.

Those were the series of events that have led a man who now describes himself as a peasant farmer to the Great Hall of the University of Oslo, from his place of banishment and the Johannesburg Gaol to the royal banquet of King Olav of Norway.

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*Mankind which is always in rebellion against the prophets, nevertheless ends by applauding them heartily.*—George N. Shuster.

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