

ELECTION

IN THE 1964 ELECTION, ANC lost Mufulira to UNIP's trade unionist John Chisata, but retained all seats in the Southern province except Livingstone (which went to UNIP's Mainza Chona with a majority of 489 out of 19,841), and won one, Chisamba, in the Central province (Chisamba is a Tonga-group district). Nkumbula's candidate took Mwinilunga.

At the outset of the election, 24 UNIP candidates were unopposed, and in most constituencies received overwhelming support on polling day (e.g. Lundazi—UNIP 20,800, ANC 155).

The election passed peacefully, but fighting broke out between ANC and UNIP supporters in Mufulira when the results were known.

POST-ELECTION

IN CHOOSING HIS CABINET, Prime Minister Kaunda has had to appoint both the best men for the job, and the men whose position in the party demands that they be given seats, the result being a group of men who represent

almost every aspect of national life, from the fiery youth leader to the cool headed economist. The key posts have gone to Mr. Simon Kapepwe (Interior), Mr. Mainza Chona the country's first African barrister (Justice—his parliamentary secretary is Mr. James Skinner, an attorney, and UNIP's only White candidate on the main roll: he won Lusaka East with a 5,722 majority out of 22,000), and Mr. Arthur Wina (Finance), economist graduate of American universities.

THE CONTEXT

IF FOR SOME PEOPLE, Africa begins at the Ebro, they would find on travelling further, that South Africa begins at the Congo-Zambezi watershed. This does not mean being hit in the eye with a Whites-only notice the moment you step into Northern Rhodesia from Katanga, but that you are made welcome by a friendly miner, employed by Harry Oppenheimer, with the offer of a Cold Castle (brewed in Ndola) a Rothman's cigarette or its sibling Peter Stuyvesant (made in Lusaka).

According to Margery Perham in one of her Reith

Words

Words

Words

THE DRIEST OF ENGLISH-PRESS political correspondents have had their little joke about the Odendaal Report, even if only about that perennial laugh-subject, the Bushmen. Let us now praise the report, concerning nevertheless that its stern periods and ingenious cover-up arguments have their hilarious moments. Let us praise the editing of this Inquiry into South West African Affairs in one particular. A real attempt has been made to make it seem composed within universal, modern systems of thought. The technique is fairly simple: almost all words that connote Afrikaner Nationalist systems of thought have been cut out, or used to the minimum, and a thick overlay of humanitarian pro-African argument papers over the quite considerable cracks created by nearly fifty years of South African colonialist rule. The word apartheid, nowadays a shy stranger to our shores, is not to be found at all, likewise separate development, a phrase which the inner ear of

every UN diplomat must hear in Eric Louw's shrill and best-forgotten bark. Bantu is scarcely to be found, and even that useful word Native takes on the respectability of inverted commas here and there.

THE PRO-AFRICAN ARGUMENT stems from the terms of reference themselves. Were not these for the Commission "to enquire thoroughly into promoting the material and moral welfare and the social progress of the inhabitants of South West Africa and more particularly of its non-white inhabitants"? Aside from a repeated boast that the whites stopped the blacks from killing each other off, and were responsible for the progress of the non-whites in "the social, economic and religious fields", the whites now fade from the scene, and the moral and material welfare of the blacks become the sole concern of Professor Bruwer, the brains behind the Report. (The hideous anti-Herero carnage of the 1904 German-Herero war is not mentioned).

THE SKILL OF the Odendaal Commission in hiding the 70,000 whites in their 60% of the land causes one to hunt the whites even more, and to wonder why they too have not been split up into their ethnic groups. An unreported interview between the Herero Chief's council and the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner underlines this. The Chief's Council, consisting of Herero leaders, some from distant parts of the Territory, was to have met the Administrator,

Mr. Wentzel du Plessis, on 30 January in Windhoek. The Chief's spokesman, Mr. Clement Kapuuo, went to protest to the Republican official when some of the councillors were told they could not stay on in Windhoek location until the date of the meeting. Mr. Eaton's suggestion that they go home and return in time for the 30th, must have struck even this BAD official as unhelpful, for he followed it up by telling Mr. Kapuuo that such worries would soon no longer afflict the Herero, who were to be placed all together in "their own homeland." The aristocratic Mr. Kapuuo's icy "And who has decided this?" must have made Professor Bruwer's unaristocratic ears tingle down in Stellenbosch.

THEN WHEN OFFICIALLY INFORMED of the Odendaal Report's findings, Mr Kapuuo asked, who was to decide where this was to stop. If the Ovambos, Hereros, Okavangos, Kaokovelders, East Caprivians, Bushmen, Damaras, Tswanas, Namas and Rehoboth "Basters" are to have each their own homeland, why not the Afrikaners, the Germans, the English and the Jews? It may sound a naïve question, but there is no logical answer to it.

It is difficult to say whether this question, or Mr. Kapuuo's earlier one—"And who has decided this?"—is the more lethal, despite the elaborate word-play, maps and statistics of a solid year's highly expensive work by Professor Bruwer and his less active colleagues.