EXTRACT OF SPEECH BY DR. F. VAN ZYL SLABBERT, M.P., TO STUDENTS AT THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NATAL, DURBAN 11 APRIL, 1984

It is good to keep alive a positive climate for reform which can be exploited to bring about real change. It is dangerous, however, for whites in particular, to live in a false sense of euphoria, simply because of the Nkomati Accord and the results of the referendum.

The Nkomati Accord stabilized relationships between Mozambique and South Africa. It did not bring about reform between black and white inside South Africa. It does however make it possible to divert time, energy and resources to finding new solutions to old problems in our domestic situation. However, the signs for such new solutions are not forthcoming. We must not forget that this Government's policy toward fellow black South Africars is premised on the assumption that:

- (a) They are not South African citizens;
- (b) therefore cannot be part of a common South African Constitution;
- (c) their migration to the cities to look for work

  must be subject to influx control which breaks up

  family life and treats them as foreigners in the

  land of their birth;



We are approaching the Easter recess of the last session of the present Parliament and so far there is no evidence that the Government is prepared to depart from these assumptions.

The new Constitution, which will be in effect in the next full session of Parliament does not address itself to these problems and one of the biggest challenges facing white South Africa, is whether a seriously flawed constitution can be used to not only keep the white-black constitutional debate alive, but also to bring about real socio-economic reform. We will have to do so at a time when :-

our economy is caught in a serious recession; there is stark and ravaging hunger and poverty in our rural areas; there is increased urbanization of blacks corresponding with increasing unemployment in our cities.

Under these circumstances, it is not only silly to be euphoric; it is very dangerous.