

THE VOORTREKKER

THE OLD SPIRIT AND THE NEW

To the Editor of The Star

Sir,—I was looking at the picture of Mr. van Wouw's beautiful statue "The Spirit of the Voortrekkers," the beautiful woman looking to heaven for help and praying for the protection and happiness of her children.

In the same paper I read of how some of the Nationalists wish to debar the English section from taking any part in the Voortrekker celebrations, and how they wish to wound the sentiments of the English by refusing to allow the playing of "God Save the King."

I looked at the picture of the beautiful woman again and then realised what her spirit was, and how different it was from theirs. Hers was a spirit of love for her children, of love for South Africa. Her desire was to show her gratitude to God for this beautiful land. She had no carping, ungenerous, narrow-minded thoughts. She knew that happiness is born a twin. Her hands were ready to grasp in friendship those who were willing to help her to make South Africa a beautiful happy land.

The people, who wish to make trouble and who wish to ban the playing of "God Save the King" at the Voortrekker Memorial celebrations are not imbued with the spirit of South Africa. They are being disloyal to the Spirit of the Voortrekkers.

She would not wish her spirit to be represented by a section, whose chief wish is to have power in order that they might domineer over others. There is no domination in the serene beauty of her eyes and in her sweet expression.

M. E. BEEBY.