

# VOORTREKKER CENTENARY

## CABINET AND "THE KING"

### PROTEST MEETING AT STELLENBOSCH

#### S.A. PRESS ASSOCIATION

STELLENBOSCH, Sunday. — A protest meeting against the reported decision to play "God Save the King" at the Voortrekker monument ceremony was attended by more than 2,000 people in the Coetzenberg Pavilion here on Saturday night.

The meeting was addressed by Professor E. C. Pienaar, of Stellenbosch University, and Dr. N. J. van der Merwe, M.P.

The following motion was carried unanimously: "This mass meeting of the students, teaching staff and public of Stellenbosch and environs wishes to give expression to a feeling of the bitterest regret and deepest indignation at the decision of the Government to include the 'British anthem' officially in the centenary programme at the laying of the foundation stone of the Voortrekker monument for the following reasons:

"Because it discloses to the whole world an atrocious lack of piety and historic respect towards our national past as regards the guiding motive of the Great Trek as well as an incomprehensible disdain of Afrikaans sentiment;

#### "RACIAL HATRED"

"Because the monument, bearing the seal of 'God Save the King' on it will not be witness of the united homage of the nation to the memory of the Voortrekkers, but memorial of the bitterest national strife and racial hatred ever perpetrated deliberately by a Government in South Africa.

"Because it will reduce the biggest national festival of Afrikanderdom, hallowed by a solemn pledge to their forebears, to a political farce as it stands to reason that thousands of Afrikaners will decline to participate in the festival."

The resolution continues "This gathering on behalf of the whole of Afrikanderdom makes an urgent appeal to the Prime Minister, as well as to the whole Government, to revoke this hapless decision and to refrain from playing 'God Save the King' and hoisting the Union Jack and rather to substitute a well-known Voortrekker hymn or song and thus to lend to the centenary proceedings the same pious tone which is revealed in the solemn vow made at Dunskraal 100 years ago."

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Afrikaans Nasionale Studentebond.

(News by A. Robson, S.A. Press Association.)