

A REAL "AFFRONT"

Troubles never end when there are extremists determined to stir them up afresh. These unnational elements have got hold of the anthem issue, and will not let go. The one group wears an air of injured dignity over having been "affronted" on Union Day. Since they have already been given a guarantee that they will never again find cause for complaint, we do think they could drop the matter, in common courtesy towards the Prime Minister. The opposite group is less open to reason, because its particular "affront" is still pending. It is not due before December 16, when the Voortrekker Monument ceremony will take place. The Government decided that this shall be a State ceremony, which naturally means playing both *God Save the King* and *Die Stem van Suid-Afrika*. And why not, seeing that we are now in the year 1938, with a century of change intervening between the Voortrekkers and ourselves? Again, why not, seeing that the Voortrekkers were gentlemen enough in their own day to show respect for *God Save the King*? The dog-in-the-manger attitude of the extremists is the real "affront." They wish to share nothing whatsoever with their fellow-South Africans, but to Judaise their Afrikaans history, tradition and culture. The attitude we take is precisely that of the Government, namely, that the Voortrekker tradition is part and parcel of our common heritage as South Africans, and is to be honoured as such. Would it not be a grand thing if we could stand together, a united nation, on December 16? If we cannot, then it will be the worst tragedy that can befall a nation, especially a nation in the making.