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Timol's crowd around the Dean of Johannesburg after sentence was passed yesterday. Picture by TOM KILLORAN

Dugard: Terror Act is 'monster'

Staff Reporter

THE TERRORISM Act had become a monster in South African society, and its repeal should become the aim of all right-thinking South Africans, Professor John Dugard, Professor of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand, said yesterday.

"The prosecution and conviction of the Dean of Johannesburg has drawn attention once again to the sinister implications of the Act and the severe restrictions it places upon freedom of speech and freedom of political activity," he said.

Churches and universities would have to take note that certain subjects were virtually taboo and beyond discussion.

IMPOSSIBLE

"The morality of violence, and civil disobedience, for instance, are subjects which will in future be practically impossible to discuss, despite the fact that they are widely debated in most Western countries.

"The prosecution of the dean emphasises that penetrating intellectual discussion may be classified as terrorism," Professor Dugard said.

The dean's prosecution and conviction showed the far-reaching restrictions on political activity imposed by the Terrorism Act, Prof. Dugard said.

"Events of the past week highlight the horrifying features of the detention-without-trial section of the Act.

"This Act has become a monster in our society. All right-thinking South Africans should aim at the total repeal of this statute," he said.

UP demand: Revise Sect. 6

By BERNARDI WESSELS
Political Correspondent

THE UNITED PARTY is to demand the revision of Section Six of the Terrorism Act — the law under which Ahmed Timol was being interrogated when he jumped to his death from the 10th floor of John Vorster Square last Wednesday.

Mr. Mike Mitchell, the United Party's shadow Minister of Justice, said yesterday the party would do everything in its power to have Section Six altered.

Meanwhile in PRETORIA, today will be a day of penitence and fasting for Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians and Methodists so that they can express their distress at Mr. Timol's death and the confinement in hospital of a second detainee, Mr. Mohamed Essop.

The Anglican Dean of Pretoria, the Very Rev. Mark Nye said last night: "It will be a way for those of us of the White race to express our penitence for our responsibility for these things."

PENITENCE

A short service would be held in St. Albans Cathedral at 1 pm at which the Bishop of Pretoria, the Right Rev. E. G. Knapp-Fischer and the Rev. Robert Orr, of the Presbyterian Church would officiate.

The period of prayer, fasting and penitence would end at 6 pm.

Mr. Mitchell said yesterday that although the Party had supported the second reading of the Bill in Parliament, because special legislation was necessary to deal with terrorists on the country's borders, it had vigorously opposed the section during the committee stage.

"We will again demand that it be revised. The party has always been consistent, and has always demanded its revision," he said.

POWER

"We can see no reason whatever why this section should be used in any area where judges are available, nor have we ever been given any reason by any Nationalist Minister nor anybody else.

"What reason can there possibly be for wanting to use it when judges are available, except:

- "That you don't want judges to hear both sides of the matter.
- "That you don't want judges to lay down conditions for the detention.
- "You have absolute 'carte

blanche' to use the detention for interrogation for whatever business you want, especially knowing that you are supported by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Police."

Mr. Mitchell said it was "disgraceful" for the Minister of Justice to say that the law under which people were detained could be left to the discretion of the police.

"Is he so unconcerned? Is he happy to abandon his responsibilities? It is time these Ministers, who are so intoxicated by the exuberance of their own power which they have wielded for so long, are put in their place."

Pressure for an inquiry into Mr. Timol's death is mounting.

In GRAHAMSTOWN, last

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Hertzog accuses PM

THERE WERE scuffles during Herenigde Nasionale Party leader, Dr. Albert Hertzog's speech yesterday in Bloemfontein accusing Mr. Vorster of making irresponsible statements to improve his image whenever it became clear his leadership was losing support for his party. Dr. Hertzog said that if the Government was allowed to continue "on its present course unchecked it would prepare a blood bath."