"Revolutions no answer to problems of Africa"

MANY of the upheavals in Africa today are not revolutions at all, says an editorial in the Nairobi, East Africa, newspaper AIM FOR AFRICA, edited in the Kenya capital by Andrew Peppetta, a former South African Xhosa.

"Corruption has its hands at the throat of Africa," writes Peppetta. "In one African country 60 per cent of the taxes were unpaid last year. A real revolution — the kind which Africans need so badly — is when people ask and answer some simple questions like 'Have I been part of the corruption?', 'Have I paid my taxes?', and 'Am I wanting more pay for less work?', " writes Mr. Peppetta.

"If the answer to these questions is 'Yes'," says Peppetta, "then you are part of the disease of the Continent."

Peppetta makes the point that when governments or people use the whip, the bullet, or the slaughterhouse to deal with problems aroused by human greed, then violence must be maintained by greater violence. "Remember that Nkrumah and company were first elected to power by the people who now rejoice over their downfall," says Mr. Peppetta.

"Let us stop day-dreaming that overthrowing governments will answer our problems," writes Peppetta. "Africans must start to demonstrate how the selfless, incorruptible African will bring stability, progress and unity to the Continent," concludes Mr. Peppetta.