

# "Spirit and atmosphere are un-Afrikaans"

**T**his new Broederbond offensive seems linked to the Government's growing hostility to M.R.A. — shown in the recent ban on a proposed "goodwill" visit by six Chinese members of M.R.A.

Warning against M.R.A.'s

"dangerous tendencies," the Broederbond's executive said:

"Everyone who comes into contact with these movements (must) be on his guard against subtle influences expressed not so much in words, but in a spirit of gentle benevolence to one and all—a spirit which can easily take the form of irresolute submission

to forces which threaten our national existence."

International movements such as M.R.A. tried to water down differences of principle and uprooted people, placing them at the mercy of "every wind of foreign doctrine."

Charging that Rotarians, Lions International and the Round Table have a "denationalising" influence on Afrikaners, the Broederbond said:

"Although Afrikaans is officially recognised by some of these organisations and they are keen to enlarge their Afrikaans membership, it is a fact that they do not give Afrikaans its proper due and that their spirit and atmosphere is un-Afrikaans.

Their activities often had political implications, and it seemed "in wide circles that they are not completely free of political tendencies."

This often placed Afrikaans members in an embarrassing position and reflected on their good faith.

## Danger to youth

There was a special danger in the influence of these bodies on those Afrikaans youths "who are not so firm in their calling as Afrikaners."

"Although there is no direct link between Freemasonry and these organisations it happens that their leading members are mainly Freemasons; indeed, it is a fact that these organisations are semi-officially regarded and used in some circles as the innocent public arm of Freemasonry.

"Alas, we know only too well how often Afrikaners who, as youths had the right spirit, were led through these organisations to Freemasonry.

"How subtle a threat against which we have to protect our youth, appears inter alia from the Rotarian keenness to welcome the head boy and girl of the Afrikaans schools to luncheons in the urban centres.

"Because of the Afrikaner's inferior economic position, it is also not advisable to attempt to engage in open competition with these organisations."

Instead, Broeders should build up their own exclusive cultural organisations.

"Every Afrikaner should be encouraged first to discharge his Christian and Afrikaner duty towards his own flesh and blood before he thinks of co-operation in wider circles.

"Friends are asked, in particular, to throw their weight behind the Rapportryers, for example, and ensure that the Rapportryerskorps are created where they do not exist."