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Warns Basothos

By PERCY QOBOZA

AFTER the coming elections next month, leaders of Basutoland will have the colossal job of ensuring livelihood for the thousands of Basothos in the country, according to Mr P. Q Vundla

Mr. Vundla has just returned to Joburg from Basutoland where he attended a Moral Re-Armament Conference at Roma University

He said: "The problem of poverty is one that will have to be given top priority by the leaders who will be elected next month.

"As I see it able bodied men have the best chance of making a living, while women are completely out

"This is because there are no industries like those in the

Republic that offer employment opportunities to women.

"These problems must be taken seriously, especially since it is hoped that Basutoland will enjoy complete independence twelve months after the elections, added Mr. Vundla.

"Whoever is elected next month will have the job of devising means by which the future of the territory can be safeguarded.

"Most of us do not know the problems that the Basotho nation will face, and one has to see the country to appreciate the numerous problems facing this little territory.

"As I see it the only hope of economic advancement will depend entirely on the efforts and ability of

the leaders to ensure good relationships with the South African Government and people.

"Without the goodwill and friendship of the Republic, the Basutoland people will never be able to cope up with the many problems that will face the territory after independence, Children in the area are underfed as well as underclad."

Mr. Vundla admired the political awareness of the Basotho nation, especially among the children of the territory.

He said: "I was surprised to see young children saluting the different political groups to which their parents belong. "This shows that remarkable political awareness has gripped the country."