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This is a panoramic view showing the big crowd which drove to Bantule Cemetery, Pretoria, on Sunday, for the funeral of Mrs. Suzan Nkomo.

HUGE CROWD PAYS LAST TRIBUTE TO Mrs SUZAN NKOMO

ALL THE BUSTLING OF A USUALLY NOISY TOWNSHIP GAVE WAY TO AN EERIE SILENCE AT LADY SELBORNE LAST WEEK-END.

A MONOTONOUS KNELL AND REGULAR DRUM BEATS PROCLAIMED THEIR SORROWFUL MESSAGE OF THE DEPARTURE OF ONE LOVED BY ALL.

It was an eloquent testimony to the services by which Mrs. Suzan Nkomo endeared herself to the thousands.

She was the wife of Dr. W. F. Nkomo.

All Lady Selborne mourned. "Nothing like it, never," exclaimed 91-year-old Mrs. Mary Letlaka. She has lived in Lady Selborne since the beginning of the century.

"I grew up here. Never before has there been a funeral even half as big. She was the people's child. She was everybody's daughter."

From all parts of the country, people came to join the hundreds who buried Mrs. Nkomo.

All the local school-children came to form a guard of honour, which extended over a mile from the Nkomo home.

The local Methodist Church

was packed for the service, yet only about one-twentieth of the teeming crowds were able to get in.

An endless procession of 165 cars and 19 buses, all packed to capacity started from the church to the cemetery at Bantule.

The Rev. Mr. Ramasia officiated at the church service.

The Rev. S. M. Mdebuka conducted the burial ceremony.

Over 150 telegrams were received from all parts of the country and overseas.

Glowing tributes were paid to this "great daughter of Africa" by several speakers.

Mr. B. T. Kuzwayo, principal of Lady Selborne Methodist School: "Her class in my school was always by far the tidiest and neatest and her love for children and devotion to duty was unsurpassed."

Mrs. Mahabane, President of the Women's Manyano, Transvaal and Swaziland: "A God-fearing child; always en-

thusiastic in God's work; a pillar of strength in the organisation; her loss is irreparable."

Mr. Mareka, circuit steward: "One of the great pillars of our church. Ready and willing to render help in all ways at all times in spite of the overwhelming duties she had to perform as a member of many organisations."

Mr. Kwakwa, President of the Transvaal African Teachers Association: "It has often been asked why Mrs. Nkomo continued as a teacher. The answer is that this great soul taught not for material good, but to serve the African child."

Dr. Xuma: "Thank God that so many people, white and black, have been in so many ways inspired by the good work she has done."

Dr. Moroka: "We Africans should be proud that among us there are people like this."

Moral Re-Armament representative: "Another testimony of the greatness of her soul has been the fact that 1,000 people from 50 nations attended a memorial service in her honour in Switzerland last Thursday. She has won our hearts."

Among other speakers were a representative of the South African Institute of Race Relations, the Rev. Mr. Junod; Mrs. M. Ballinger M.P. and Mr. Brent.

Mr. Nana Sita brought a message of condolence from the Indian community.

Sudden Death of Mrs. W.F. Nkomo

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Suzan Nkomo, wife of Dr. W. F. Nkomo, of Ladyselborne, Pretoria. Mrs. Nkomo died in the general hospital last week a few hours after admission.

A teacher trained at Lovedale, Mrs. Nkomo was on the staff of the Ladyselborne Bantu High School.

She was the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. K. K. Ncwana of Korsten, Port Elizabeth, and sister to Mr.

L. D. Ncwana of Johannesburg. Her young sister, a graduate, is married to Mr. J. C. Mbata, former principal of the Sharpeville Bantu High, now studying medicine at Wentworth Medical School, Durban.

Mrs. Nkomo accompanied her husband to the M.R.A. conference at Caux in Europe last year.

Her work in Pretoria among women and children was known to all and her death leaves a sense of sorrow among her many friends throughout the country.

To Dr. Nkomo and her children we extend our deep sympathy. With the bereaved family we share their loss.

