

THIRD & FINAL VERSION
Recorded Monday, November 26, 1984
for broadcast in January.

Mr. Buckland
I have put some
statistical info
at the end which
could be useful for
future reference
SSA 26/11/84

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE FOR S.A.B.C

The year 1984 has generally been kind to Rhodes University. Despite the troubled times, we avoided any ~~serious~~ dislocation in our business of imparting, preserving and extending knowledge. Neither George Orwell's gloomy prognostications nor the delay in the proper introduction of the new subsidy formula did us any lasting harm.

By careful husbandry we overcame the financial hurdles, thus preserving the stability that a university needs ~~if it is~~ to perform properly. The prospects in 1985 remain problematic and we ~~at Rhodes~~ have budgeted ~~fairly~~ conservatively.

Our last major construction project for some time to come, ~~Gold Fields House~~ is a residence for 78 men and is the result of a handsome donation from the Gold Fields Foundation. This ~~probably~~ marks the end of a sustained expansionary period during which student numbers ~~have~~ increased by an ~~average of~~ four per cent per annum. Our total ~~all-in~~ student numbers ^{enrolment} may reach 3 500 in 1985, of whom ~~about~~ 2 900 will be full-time in Grahamstown.

A general deceleration in university expansion, and consequent selectivity is a healthy development, for ^{compared} ~~in comparison~~ with other countries South Africa should have a greater proportion of its tertiary education directed towards technikons and allied institutions.

Our East London Division is, however, likely to expand to ^{over} ~~nearly~~ 200 ~~undergraduates~~ and about 20 ~~postgraduate~~ students, most of whom will enrol for the B Com and B Ed degrees.

The recent ~~confusion and disorder~~ in certain Eastern Cape schools makes Rhodes ^{US} ~~University~~ very conscious of ^{our} ~~its~~ place in society. Our prime commitment is to scholarship, and it is vital that we work in an atmosphere

of objectivity and ^{order} ~~order~~. The Senate and Council and, to a large extent,
the student body ^{do not wish to see the University become politicised} ~~are conscious of the need to avoid the politicisation of~~
~~the University.~~ What has been built up at Rhodes with toil and patience
over 80 years must be guarded very carefully. In 1985 we shall be working
hard to ensure that all that is best in our great tradition remains intact
for future generations.

It finally read at 2 mins 06 sec with the further
changes above.

i.e. 306 words in 2,1 minutes
or 146 words/minute

D.S.H

26/11/84

140 - 150 words a minute is
about right for public speaking.