

IAN SMITH He ignores the adamant demand of 3,500,000 Africans for an end to white minority rule.

I AST month's elections in Rhodesia really represent nothing, and solve nothing. The Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr. lan Smith, can arrogantly blether away on TV about having the support of the "majority" of the people -but at best, he is supported by the majority of the minority.

Some 90,000 Europeans (out

200,000) were registered on the "A" roll which elected 50 European M.Ps. To get on this roll one needs to have an income of at least £330 a year, or to be a Chief.

To get on the "B" roll which elects the other 15 seats (mainly African), one needs to have an income of £132 a year or be a headman or minister of religion.

Average earnings for Africans are £114 a year. Most workers get less. And peaof a total white population of sants, who are the majority of to play.

Why

the 3,500,000 Africans, receive a gross cash income of only £12 per family holding per year.

Less than 11,000 Africans registered for this farcical "B" roll in 1964, alongside 608 Europeans, 114 Asians and 176 coloureds.

Last month's election exposes the farce still further. While the white settlers voted solidly for both Smith and for the maintenance of white domination, giving him all 50 seats on the "A" roll, the total number of voters on the "B' roll amounted to only 1,782—and that must have included some Europeans, Asians and Coloureds.

So, with the votes of a few hundred Africans, Smith ignores the adamant demand of 3.500,000 Africans for an end to white minority rule.

The Zimbabwe African People's Union (Z.A.P.U.), which voices the aspirations of the African people, has declared this week that it "does not attach any significance to the results of the election, hor does it recognise the the election, the results of the election, and the Government in Rhodesia.

"This is simply because in 1961 we rejected the present Constitution: we reject it now together with the elections and the laws under this same Constitution."

SPECULATION

Most British papers are speculating what Smith will do now. But the real question is what will the British Government do for Smith, despite his bluster, has very few cards

Smooth With Smith? Mr.

A British Journalist and expert on African Affairs JACK WODDIS discusses the situation in Rhodesia following last month's elections.

The threat to make a unilateral declaration of independence (known as U.D.I.) support of decisive white forces in Rhodesia.

The Rhodesian Tobacco Association, the Institute of Directors, the Association of Rhodesian Industries, the Associated Chambers of Commerce, and the Rhodesian National Farmers" Union the country's major industrial, commercial and farming organisations—have all warned of the disastrous economic effects which would follow U.D.I.

The United Nations Security Council last week adopted a resolution requesting the British Government to take all necessary action to prevent

As the Fabian journal Venture, wrote this month:

"Smith brandished U.D.I. like an actor with a sword made of papier mache. He knew that if he had to use

it in earnest he would be done for."

But Smith can go on waving does not even command the his papier mache sword because the British Labour Government refuses to act.

Worse still, the continued talk and speculation about whether Smith will jump the gun or not serves to cover up the real problem—which is to end white minority rule and give the African people the right to run their own coun-

It is all very well for Wilson to assert, at regular intervals (during which time Smith is free to consolidate his position), that if Smith declare independence, then the British Government will do this. that, and the other.

Why cannot the same pressure be used right now against the white settlers?

Why cannot Britain use all possible political, diplomatic. economic and other pressures or compel Smith to release the political prisoners, to end white domination and allow

the African people to take the decessary decisions for their OWN COUNTRY?

If it is believed in Government circles that a mere threat from Wilson is enough to deter Smith from taking the plunge, then why is it not con-sidered possible that a similar threat (if not action) could be used now to bring Smith and the settlers to heel?

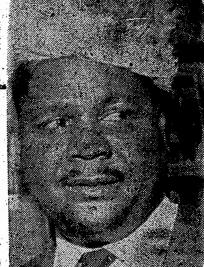
Instead, we have the pathetic spectacle of Lord Caradon (formerly Sir Hugh Foot). who resigned from his U.N. post under the Tory Government as a protest against the repressive regime in Rhodesia, now abstaining in the Security Council, even on a vote calling on the British Government to take action to prevent U.D.I.

The British Government could suspend the Rhodesian Constitution tomorrow, and call a conference of all the main parties in Rhodesia to arrange for the handing over of power to the people on the basis of democracy and one man, one vote.

CONSTITUTION

By its refusal to act, and by its futile attempt to persuade the African political leaders to give the miserable 1961 Constitution a chance, the British Labour Government is only helping Smith and the settlers to maintain the appalling status quo.

Now, with his two-thirds majority, Smith is threatening



JOSHUA NKOMO African Nationalist Leader

to change the Constitution. allowing still more seats on the predominantly European "A" roll and reducing still further the value and significance (not that it ever amounted to much) of the mainly African "B" roll.

It is time to end the deadlock. Time to end the farce. Wilson's stream of love-letters to Smith will solve nothing. Nor will his game of "wan't and-see."

Smith is praying that nothing will happen before Rhodesia has sold its valuable tobacco crop, the June meeting of Commonwealth Premiers and the June Afro-Asian Conference.

He mustn't be allowed to get away with it any longer. The British Government must act now by suspending the 1961 Constitution and taking all necessary measures to end white minority rule in Rhode-