

VOTE OF THANKS : CECIL RHODES COMMEMORATION LECTURE : 29 JULY 1981

WE HAVE REMEMBERED TODAY CECIL JOHN RHODES WHO, THROUGH HIS INTEREST IN HIGHER EDUCATION, MADE POSSIBLE THE FOUNDING OF THIS UNIVERSITY. IN PAYING TRIBUTE TO HIM WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE PROUD TRADITIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN BUILT SINCE THE UNIVERSITY WAS ESTABLISHED. WE ARE CONSCIOUS, TOO, OF THE SERVICES WHICH HAVE BEEN RENDERED BY THE MEMBERS OF ITS COUNCIL AND OF ITS STAFF AND OF THE DILIGENCE AND SCHOLARLY ATTAINMENTS OF ITS STUDENTS. WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO HAVE JOINED WITH THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY ON THIS HISTORIC OCCASION AND ESPECIALLY TO THE DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER WHO HAS HONOURED THE UNIVERSITY BY HIS PRESENCE.

IT IS PERHAPS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE DATE OF PROFESSOR SHEPPERSON'S LECTURE SHOULD HAVE CLASHED WITH ANOTHER EVENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - THAT OF THE WEDDING OF PRINCE CHARLES TO LADY DIANA SPENCER. PERHAPS THERE SHOULD IN FUTURE BE CLOSER LIAISON BETWEEN RHODES UNIVERSITY AND BUCKINGHAM PALACE?

HOWEVER, I MAY SAY THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LECTURE WERE SET IN TRAIN
PRIOR TO THE WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT.

IT NOW GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ASK PROFESSOR SHEPPERSON TO ACCEPT
THIS MEDAL IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS LECTURE AND DOUBTLESS, TOO, OF HIS
STAY WITH US AT RHODES.

D S HENDERSON
29 JULY 1981