

City Council on the Retreat at Retreat

Owing to the militant stand taken by the people at Retreat against the expropriation plans of the City Council, it is reported by Councillor Viljoen that: "At a meeting of the Housing Committee of the City Council held on the 5th May, he moved that it be on instruction to the Property Committee that in future properties purchased at Retreat between Retreat Road and Boundary Road be BY AGREEMENT ONLY."

This was unanimously carried. The chairman, in supporting the motion said that, in view of the strong opposition and the general dissatisfaction at Retreat, he felt that this would be the wisest course. The Retreat Action Committee which played a great part in the campaign is an affiliated member organisation of the Co-ordinating Unity Committee, Cape Town.

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Poll-Tax the Coloured

In the Provincial Council last Monday, during the debate on increased taxation, Mr. E. C. Solomon, United Party member for Sea Point, said that in order to ease the "burden" of Coloured Education in the Cape the very "loyal Coloured" persons would be prepared to pay a special tax for educational purposes. He suggested a poll-tax on Coloured persons for the education of Coloured pupils.

BETTER BUS SERVICES Tiervlei and Matroosfontein

The Traffic Superintendent of the Golden Arrow Bus Service, Mr. Mendicoff, was interviewed by a deputation of the A.P.O. led by Mr. H. Holmes and including members of the Matroosfontein branch. The deputation asked for general improvement in the Matroosfontein services, especially in New Town, and the extension of the bus service to Tiervlei. The Traffic Superintendent received concrete suggestions in connection with the times and standard of the bus services. He assured the deputation that Tiervlei will have a service in the next four weeks. Matroosfontein will have more double-deckers when new stock arrives. Parow station will be the starting point on the Tiervlei service. A reduction in existing fares was not possible yet. The deputation was assured that cleaners will attend to buses at the termini.

COMMUNIST PARTY ATTITUDE ON THE JEWISH QUESTION

One of the major tasks confronting the Nations in the post-war world is the eradication of anti-Semitism and Jewish persecution. The world has had to pay a bitter price in destruction of life and wealth as a result of the Fascist drive for war, which used anti-Semitism as one of its weapons in gaining support for its ideas. With the defeat of Nazism a serious blow has been struck at these poisonous racial doctrines of discrimination, but in many capitalist countries the problem still remains and has indeed become intensified.

In South Africa the groups and political parties which prior to and during the war made anti-Semitism one of their main planks, still continue to function. With the growing political uncertainty due to the forthcoming general election the position of the Jew is once again becoming a matter of party warfare. The reactionary political groups will undoubtedly attempt to make the anti-Jewish cry one of the main features of their propaganda.

But even the ranks of the United Party are not free from this taint. No less a person than Field-Marshal Smuts recently expressed views in the House concerning the Jews which are in essence indistinguishable from those held by Dr. Malan.

The Communist Party condemns any form of discrimination against Jews or any other racial group. It regards anti-Semitism as part of the general reactionary trend under capitalism, particularly in a country where discrimination on the ground of race or colour is the order of the day. There can be no security for the Jews or any other national or racial minority so long as fascist ideas are allowed to flourish and democracy is denied to the large masses of South Africans. Only a truly democratic Government based on the presently disfranchised masses can provide a guarantee against anti-Semitism in the future.

The Communist Party fully recognises the tremendous achievements of the Jews who have settled in Palestine and condemns the actions of the British Imperial Government which has instituted a reign of terror in the country. The Party supports the creation of a free and independent Palestine in which both Jew and Arab will live together as equals under a guarantee of full democracy. It calls upon the South African Government to support this proposal at the U.N.O. which is now considering the future of Palestine.

The Communist Party regards with deep sympathy the plight of the anti-Fascist displaced persons and former refugees, most of them Jewish, who as a result of Nazi terror have been uprooted from their homelands, and thousands of whom are at present herded in camps in Germany and elsewhere. It demands that these people should at once be enabled and encouraged

WHAT THE A.M.E. CHURCH MEANS TO THE AFRICAN

By Dr. ADAMS, Ph.D.

The races on earth speak of and refer to their nationalities with a becoming gusto and pride, at times being forced to public expressions due to warm sentiments and justifiable emotions. These expressions may be lavished upon conditions and surroundings, upon Church or State, but in each case there is a mental reaction that makes the writer feel that he is right, and that his interpretations are true.

Without a doubt when Richard Allen organised the African Methodist Episcopal Church because of Social and Religious oppression in 1816, he acted more wisely than he foresaw at that time.

He knew the story of the landing of Africans on a Dutch ship in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619. He knew the trials and severe hardships through which this rapidly multiplying group was passing. One hundred and ninety-seven years had written their history in the life and experiences of these human beings and stamped an impress in their memory which passed down from generation to generation. Perhaps, from purely racial instincts, Allen thought that the designation of his new organisation or Church to be styled "African" would have a sympathetic appeal to every person of African descent.

I believe that it was the design of a gracious Providence in thus uniting us, to mark out a way by which the despised African race might have an opportunity of receiving from their own brethren that religious instruction from which they had been kept by persons claiming to be superior and thereby privileged to sit under their own vine and fig tree. And though opposed by the prejudices of times, persecuted by the tongue of calumny, and buffeted by the great adversary of God and man,

to return to their homelands now under democratic Governments, where for the first time they have the opportunity of enjoying freedom and security, and where they may help in the great task of democratic reconstruction. In regard to those who nevertheless wish to emigrate from Europe, the Party demands that all countries including South Africa, should open their doors to them.

For Jews and Arabs alike, no solution can be found for their individual and common problems in the camp of British or American imperialism. As long as they allow themselves to be used as pawns in the imperialist game, neither Jew nor Arab can hope to secure peace or build friendship in Palestine. The Jews, as well as Arabs, like the colonial peoples and working classes throughout the world, can best secure their interests by supporting the States and social forces that are working for the end of imperialism, war, class oppression and racial persecution.

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FIGURE THIS OUT FOR YOURSELF



Those are the total figures: they don't tell the whole story. The December figures were nearly double the January figures last year. The accident rate is increasing rapidly.

If those figures are not reduced, one person in every six will be involved in an accident during a lifetime. If the figures go on increasing, the chances will soon be 1 in 5—and so on.

Keep Death off the roads

R.S.15

(Continued in col. 4)