

"Black Spots" Removal Plan.

~~The scheme~~ To say that the scheme agreed to between the Minister of Native Affairs, Dr. H. F. Verwoerd, and the City Council of Johannesburg - ~~is the removal of Johannesburg, Martindale and Newclare~~ - is for the removal of the City's Black spots so to disguise the true motive behind the ~~scheme~~ ^{plan} which is to destroy freehold ownership of land ~~and homes~~ by African. It is move to ~~remove~~ ^{bring} security of Africans and bring Africans under direct control of municipalities and the Government with not a vestige of security and independence left.

Between 1900 and 1912 these townships were laid out and were open for purchase by Africans. They were miles out from the town itself and were considered waste land where Africans could develop away from Europeans. In fact, were the Western Native Location is now was a sewage and the areas could not, therefore, have been considered healthy and suitable for human habitation. Since then however the areas have been developed and with the increase of population the Europeans have encroached upon and encircled these areas and with ~~the~~ increasing ~~colonisation~~ ^{exploitation} of colour prejudice by white politicians African property owners in these areas are ~~not~~ considered property owners delibera

tely because it is they and not Africans
 as such who are objected and are the
^{target} target of this scheme. That is why the
 West Native Township, the City's
 Compound, the Municipal barracks
 that go with them and Domestic Servants
^{various mine} are not mentioned Compound are
 not the object for removal.

This is plan to take away title
 deeds to land from African. It is well
 for the Government and the City Council
 to know this. The African can be deceived
 no more. He is studying the Europeans
 and looks behind and deeper than
 sugar-coated words which are used
 to lull him to sleep.

If not Can the Minister and
 and the City Council, explain why
 Western Native Township if ^{not} to
 be removed if shini areas are removed
 Those two roomed structures are over-
 crowded and sub-litig. It was
 increase accommodation that African
^{people} who have grown up sons and
 daughters built up verandas. It
 was an attempt at separation of sexes
 and relieving over crowded.

Because the principle of 'might
 is right' prevails in colour relations
 the Minister of Native Affairs ^{and the City Council} has refused
 to meet the rate-payers since they
 exercise authoritarian powers over the
 African people. Although farmers are
 consulted when the South African Native
 Land Trust wants to buy land for

African occupation, it has not been thought necessary to consult the African owners and rate payers in these areas. The difference is that white farmers have a vote and the Africans have no vote.

As a matter of fact the scheme is not in public or ~~interest~~ social interest. It is a vote catching scheme. It is good political propaganda which appeals to a certain class of voter. It may seem devoid of humane and ethical considerations but must be considered a worthy price for the constituencies of Westdene and Johannesburg West.

It is what is surprising is to find the City Council of Johannesburg and Government embarking upon this scheme when Johannesburg has still over 50,000 families to provide houses under the Urban Areas Act in addition to residents at Moroka and Jabavu Camps which were temporary controlled squatters to be removed within five years from 1945. They are still there and seem to become permanent.

Are the prior claims of these people to proper housing to be ignored in favour of this luxury scheme? Is it realised that people who have no proper home are exposed to the dangers of ill-health and that bad housing are direct factors in crime and immorality. To add another 20,000 or more families to the homeless through this scheme on the part of the Minister of Native Affairs and the City Council is to increase

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the toll of Tuberculosis, to encourage more crime and other social vices attendant with the situation that will arise.

We demand consultation of the African if South Africa is a democracy.

~~It is not~~ African view if it was in the interests of apartheid that the scheme was envisaged, we see no need for the removal of the African residents in this area because it is already exclusively inhabited by Africans.

Since the African have not encroached upon the European and it is the Europeans who encroached upon these, it is fair and reasonable remove portions of these European townships and convert them into industrial sites where the inhabitants of the non-Europeans may be employed without the transport problems that much be solved with the proposed removal. Besides, there is less hardship in moving Europeans because they have free access to the land of the country.

To African this scheme is a challenge. It aims at destroying their independence under mining their security. It is in fact, part of a policy of economic strangulation. It must be fought tooth and nail. The Africans must not be merely defensive on this question of land ownership. They must fight for and demand extension of freehold ownership of land to all sections. For the African the question is fight or die. It is a question of self-preservation. It is more honourable to die fighting than to surrender.

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