

succeeded in overthrowing the Tzarist oppression, and eliminated the remnants of party influence from their country, their motherland. They established the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, a society which is free from exploitation of man by man, and which has been an everlasting source of inspiration to oppressed peoples the world over. The African youth fully realize that all these achievements would have been acquired with great difficulty were it not for the active participation of the Soviet youth. We, as the youth particularly applaud them for their sacrifices. Today we pledge ourselves and our support to the efforts of the Soviet people to oppose international war and in their fight for world peace. May they continue to give their support to the oppressed people. I think it is 'J. Putini' Mayebuye !

CHAIRMAN : (Rev. D.C. Thompson.) "Now, that ends the list of greetings. We are very grateful to them, and the gist of these messages will be communicated to the right source. Now, we come to the resolutions which will emanate from this meeting. Here are two resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 1.

This public meeting of South African citizens welcomes the (decision) of the Government in relaxing travel restrictions to the Soviet Union and hopes that this action will be applied to allow all the people of South Africa, irrespective of race, colour or class to be able to travel to the Soviet Union and not merely a small handful of people, as the announcement of the Minister of the Interior seems to indicate. I put that resolution to the meeting. Are you in favour of it ? All agreed ? Thank you. The next resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 2.

In keeping with the spirit of Geneva and the latest decision of the South African Government in relaxing travel restrictions, this public meeting further urges the Government of South Africa to raise the status of the Soviet consulate to one of an embassy, and to reciprocate the goodwill of the Soviet Union by sending a diplomatic representative to Moscow. This can only lead to improved trade and better understanding. I put this resolution to the meeting. All in favour ?

I am sure that this is in keeping with the aims and the objects of our society over many many years now. I can remember

speaking on this subject well up to 10 years ago, and it seems that after 10 years we are beginning to get somewhere. How important is the work of our society under the present circumstances, how important that you should support this society, not only with your material assistance, but your moral support. This is one society that has worked throughout the period of all the years under great difficulties, in times of great suspicion, and we are beginning to see the daylight. But be careful, lest by seeing the daylight, we also allow the dark clouds to overwhelm us again. How important therefore to be vigilant. Well, we have yet another speaker, but first this resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 3.

On the occasion of the thirty eighth anniversary of the Soviet Union, this meeting congratulate the people of the Soviet Union on their tremendous achievements along the final lapse of the road to a happy and prosperous society of free people. A society which is based on truly humanitatrian ideas. This meeting further congratulates the Soviet people and its Government on their wonderful successes in lessening international tension and bringing about an atmosphere of peace and friendly relations amongst the nations of the world. This meeting re-affirms the desire of the people of South Africa to live in close friendship with the people of the Soviet Union and pledge themselves to do this to the best of their ability. I put this resolution to the meeting. All in favour of it? Any opposed to it? None? Well, thank you very much. I am sure that these resolutions have been made covering the development of the position in South Africa, covering also the position in international affairs, and in congratulating the Soviet Union on its thirty eighth birthday. Thank you.

Now, having heard speeches, having heard messages, you cannot get awaywith it, we are going to take up a collection. Are you ready? Remember your support is important - we need your support to keep up the work of the society".

(Collection of Money.)

CHAIRMAN : "Having made your offerings - I hope you have been generous, I want to proceed. I want to raise this question, this question of membership of the organisation. During the past year, you know this society has brought out a few publications, and one of the publications was 'South Africans in the Soviet Union'. That has sold very good, and it has been a great work, we

hope we will be able to continue to do so. This society exist to build up friendship between our country and the Soviet Union, after that, greater friendship throughout the world - how needed in our time. We live in one world, we have got to learn to live together in one world, we have got to learn to work together, to play together, and to do all the things that man do, together. In city life, national life, international life, to bring friendship in the world situation, the international situation. Throughout the last year this society has struggled ceaselessly to make those things real and we are beginning to see the daylight, but we want membership, and if you will let Mr. Basil, the secretary there, know, let him know that you are willing to become a member of this society and support us, I am sure that you will be helping in this greatwork which must inevitably succeed. Let the good work continue - let our support of the situation be felt. Let us know at the table there, show your willingness to become a member of this society.

Now, I have to leave at 4 p.m., and I don't know how long my friend, Mr. Patel is going to be, but if he speaks for more than twenty minutes, I may have to leave you, but I want to take this opportunity to say thank you, Mr. Pieter Beyleveld for being present here this afternoon, we know he is an active fighter in many other spheres. Now, You are going to be addressed by Mr. A. Patel and he is going to speak to us on 'The Soviet Union and the Colonial People'."

A. PATEL : "Mr. Chairman and Friends, on this occasion I bring to you greetings from the Transvaal Indian Congress. We also congratulate the Soviet people on this thirty eighth anniversary. Mr. Chairman, although we have only a small gathering present here this afternoon to celebrate the occasion of the thirty eighth anniversary of the foundation of the Soviet Republic, I want you to feel, Sir, that it is not only the small band of people present here, but millions of freedom loving South Africans which rejoice today in South Africa. They may not be present here for some reason or another, but you can convey to the people of the Soviet Union greetings from millions of people from this country.

Mr. Chairmen and Friends, the Soviet Republic is established on the basis of a free union composed of free nations and in order to avoid a misunderstanding, at this stage we must examine the nationalities which occupy that great continent. It is not a people composed of one nation, it is not a people composed of one colour, it is a people of different nationalities...../14

nationalities and different colours, and those people chose to accept their own little governments, which again composes the U.S.S.R. Every nationality has the right to make their own decisions, and they have made their decisions, and these decisions are not only very important to themselves, but are important to the people the world over. The myth that has been told to us from time to time of colonialism and semi-colonialism, is not a true one but a false one.

The colonial powers of the world, Britain, France and others, always told the people they govern : you are not ready for self-government, you are not ready to determine your own destiny ; the Russian struggle against the Tzarist regime has proved to the world that this is just a fallacy - that people like themselves, perhaps backward, because under the conditions under which they live they have no education, etc., now, this fallacy has been exposed by the Soviet Union. They have shown the world that all the people and every people have the right to determine for themselves their own future, and their own destiny. Therefore just as we are assembled here, we see people throughout the world celebrating the thirty eighth anniversary of the establishment of the Peoples Republic of Soviet Russia.

Mr. Chairman, we also know that the Soviet Union has constantly opposed colonialism and semi-colonialism. Not only in their own country, but in world councils all over the world they have exposed this creed, of the enslavement of people, sometimes not directly, but indirectly, like for instance the British Empire, in which we find not only here but throughout the world in their colonies, they allow the people to govern themselves indirectly, but the decision of their governments are controlled by the Colonial Office in London.

Now, this is the sort of Government that has been opposed by the Russians, and because of their opposition and because they have allowed the people to decide for themselves what they want to do, they have made tremendous progress in a short span of time as the chairman has already pointed out. The Soviet people today, after the defeat of Fascism, have built up new cities, they have built up the devastated areas, which were bombed, as you know by the Nazis. Today they stretch out the hand of friendship, today they say let us build a raft of friendship, let there be reciprocation of the people throughout the world to build such a raft of friendship - let us know and let us learn from your experiences, of your culture, of your troubles, and of your country - we want to learn. They want their people to learn...../15

to learn their people, to learn their people what we have here in our country. We have heard so much of the so-called iron curtain, but today if we read our daily papers, this iron curtain is no more an iron curtain, but as the papers put it, the curtain has been lifted. I don't know whether this iron curtain ever existed or not, I was not there to see for myself, but I can say that there is an iron curtain in South Africa. Here you can see it for yourself. You will all know if you have read the daily papers, that a prominent Indian wanted to visit this country to study racial relations in this country, but according to the newspaper reports, he was refused a visa to enter this country.

Now you know where this iron curtain is, here or in Russia. Mr. Chairman, I think we know that the people of Russia are happy ; from the very little that I have read, not that I have seen ; they are happy, and if the people in that great country are not happy, then we would not have been celebrating their thirty eighth anniversary today. When the Soviet people took over the Government from the Tzarist regime there were speculation by the great powers, the colonial powers, whether they will be able to continue, whether they will be able to continue and govern themselves the way they wanted to..

It has been proved after thirty eight years that they have succeeded, and they have said : This is the way we wanted to live, and this is the way we want to be governed ! It is not for us to tell them what they must do, it is not for us to say what they must not do. The indications are that this great power which has already opposed and which is still opposing racial discrimination and colonialism - is a friend of peace, their whole attitude is an example of the way they think and the way they act. We from South Africa thank them.

Mr. Chairman, as you have already indicated that you wanted to leave by 4 o'clock, and that is going to be another speaker after me, I do not want to be very long, and will allow my colleague to say a few words, but in conclusion I must convey through you the greetings of the Indian people of the Transvaal to the people of the U.S.S.R. Thank you. May they celebrate many many more anniversaries !" (Applaus.)

CHAIRMAN : (Rev. D.C. Thompson.) "When I was present in 1953 in Budapest at the World Peace Congress, I heard that Gen. (Sahemstocki) said, the Soviet Union, China and India will never...../16

never go war against one another. I have heard him say that with all the force of his conviction. Remember that he was an army man, who achieved much in the last war. Now, I have to leave you and I am going to ask Mr. P. Beyleveld to take the chair in my absence, and our next speaker is Mr. Henry Makgothi is it ?"

HENRY MAKGOTHI : "Mr. Chairman and Friends, On this the birthday of the great Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, I bring to this meeting and this gathering the greetings of the African National Congress in particular and the African people in general.

Mr. Chairman, several speakers have already spoken about the great achievements of the U.S.S.R. and about the significance of the celebrations that we are attending here today. I would like to say a few words Mr. Chairman on what the meaning of this celebrations is to the African people - what is the significance of the celebration that we are attending here today ? - the thirty eighth birthday of the U.S.S.R.

Mr. Chairman, I think that it is particularly important because propaganda are made in our country today by people, for reasons best known to themselves, and because they want to subdue us, they always try to point the finger at the struggles of the African people, the leaders of the African people, and seeing that these people are endangering the country, are sabotaging this country, I would like to say that the struggles of the African people are directed towards nothing but freedom. Briefly Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that this is the meaning of the founding, the significance of the foundation of the U.S.S.R. to the struggle of our people, to the Africans in particular, and the oppressed people in general in this country.

Firstly, Mr. Chairman, the U.S.S.R. is an example to us - it is an example to us and it is an inspiration to us, to look forward to the future, to see even in our day to day struggles, struggles the people are making for freedom, for peace and for liberty - the great Soviet Union stands to us as an example, an inspiration that life - even in our small struggles - Mr. Chairman, if we do not falter, then we also can look forward with some confidence to a future of peace. We can look forward Mr. Chairman to a future in which there will be no hatred.

I do not want to go into any details to describe.....A7

describe to you how our people today are oppressed, how the people are mis-guided, how the people in this country are mis-guided by the propoganda which comes from the Government, from the race maniacs, who are at the head of the country today.

When we look at the Soviet Union then we see how the Soviet Union has struggled and achieved freedom, then we see that even we in our multi-racial country can look forward to peace with confidence.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, the great Soviet Union has done away with exploitation of man by man. There is not exploitation in the Soviet Union of man by man, and we also, in the African National Congress and the people of the entire country, are looking forward to that day when exploitation of man by man will be something of the past.

Further Mr. Chairman, when we look at the Soviet Union today, we see the great peaceful constructions that are taking place in the Soviet Union. We see in the Soviet Union the creation of universities for the youth, the creation of facilities for the people of the Soviet Union. These people are creating better and better living conditions, creating a better life for the youth of the Soviet Union - creating huge wonderful universities and creating all kinds of places to enable the people of the Soviet Union to enjoy themselves and to live peaceful and without fear of war and without any desire to try and oppress other people.

When we look at these achievements, when we look at the manner in which the people of the Soviet Union have achieved all these wonderful conditions, then we also feel that there is hope in this world today, because today, Mr. Chairman, if you will allow me, there is a great deal of pessimism, pessimism amongst people who say that it is impossible for governments to co-exist with different government systems. People go about expressing the evil propoganda that it is impossible to live in peace with communism, that the only time that you can live with communism in peace, is when you can point a few guns at him and keep him at the position of 'Hands Up'. But we do not believe that this is a good policy to pursue. We believe that it is possible for people with different government systems to live together in the world in peace. Many people today have told me that they support the Vienna Peace Appeal, - that they do not want to die

needlessly, they don't want to die fighting wars of which they do not know the purpose. We would like to live in peace - see mankind live in peace, progress, creating wonderful things and creating wonderful opportunities to lead a better life. (Applause) That is what we would like to achieve and all these are the things which we are prepared to fight for and determined to fight for. We want peace and we want to live in peace - if need be we shall die for peace and for the realization of a better life. Thank you. Mayebuye! "

CHAIRMAN : (Pieter Beyleveld.) "Thank you very much. So you see that peace in a multi-racial country such as ours is possible. That brings us to the end of the meeting. We shall now close our meeting with the singing of the National Anthem".

(Nkosi Sekelele Afrika.)

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MEETING : SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE  
U.S.S.R. : ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTIONS IN RUSSIA (39TH).  
GANHDI HALL : 50 FOX STREET : JOHANNESBURG : 7TH NOVEMBER, 1956.  
( 8 p.m. )

D.C. THOMPSON : (Chairman) "I would like my friends to come forward please. It seems to me that we will hear better then".

SPEAKER FROM THE FLOOR : "Mr. chairman, your indulgence please sir. I do not presume to stop this meeting - it is for the authorities to do that if they want to - but, Mr. Chairman in the name of humanity - in the name of the hundreds of thousands of South Africans who feel as we do - I request you to stop this meeting, and Mr. Chairman, I ask this gathering to stand up for two minutes in memory of what is happening in Hungary".

D.C. THOMPSON : "I think that in answer to that, sir, whilst we appreciate your motion, I think that you must hear what we have to say - you must hear what we have to say about the miseries that are aggravating mankind today.

My dear friends, we are gathered here this evening to celebrate the 39th anniversary of the foundation of the Soviet Union. We meet here in critical times - there are tensions, tensions in the lives of persons all over the world, in the world in which we are living today. These are times of great stress and turmoil. I even respect the point of view of those people (indicating the gentleman who requested that the meeting be closed) with agreeing with them. We have to look at these matters not from the point of view of one nation. In times of crises there are always two points of view to be remembered. This is a time of danger, a time of crises, but crises is always opportunity, and these are times of crises in which we live.

I have said for many years as a student of history that we live in an age between the ages. Mankind has known this before in its history, and an age between the ages is always a time of trouble. This is an age, when the old age is going out, and the new age is ushered in. In this stage there will inevitable be difficulties. I want to say that I do not agree with Kipling when he said 'East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet'. I say - 'We live in one world'. Today we have great international slabs of power, great international blocks - not like in the days of the 'Pact Romana' which ruled over the whole of the then known world. We live in a different period when there are at least three great powers, at least three with many others surging upwards.

It is nearly forty years since in the Soviet Union the people brought about a new order of society - what they had hoped for and dreamed of. We have seen the great changes during the war. .../2

Notwithstanding the wars of intervention and the second world war, the Soviet Union has consolidated itself and now plays an important part in the new order of mankind. The problems confronting the establishment of the Soviet system has been great, and we have seen changes, even in the Soviet Union itself we have noticed changes since the beginning of this year. The twentieth congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has brought about changes effecting the lives of the people of the Soviet Union, and this is very significant.

We are gathered here this evening to review many things that have taken place in this period, but that does not alter our conviction that in this age tremendous problems are being worked out, and it behoves us to understand it - the answer to the problems of the rest of the world and the Soviet Union are still being worked out.

I read a book of Arnold Toynbee, one of the greatest historians of the last few years, called 'The World and the Rest'. I would commend that book to many people, it is a good book. Its thesis has been challenged - the world, the Soviet Union, and the rest of the world. It illustrates the difficulties which the rest of the world are facing, and the difficulties the world are facing on account of the rest of the world - the western world, the capitalist world. I commend that book to you. If you read it then you come to appreciate the other man's point of view. None of us stand here tonight totally unperplexed, but we don't despair of the future of mankind in this age between the ages.

Our first speaker is Mrs. Lillian Ngoyi - a recent visitor to the Soviet Union - come here to give us here her impressions of the Soviet Union."

LILLIAN NGOYI : "Mr. Chairman and friends, it is indeed a great pleasure that I have to address you about the Soviet Union and it is a pity that I have to talk at a time when everything is not normal.

As a South African women I would tell you that it was in 1954 when we received an invitation from the World Federation of Women to attend the World Congress of Mothers. There I got an invitation to go to the Soviet Union. I really felt very small because I expected that all the people I met there would be aware of the conditions that prevail in South Africa. I felt that perhaps they would push me into a kitchen or some place where our people are usually put, but I was received with great enthusiasm, they did not think of my colour, they did not think I was not

human because I was from South Africa. I felt very happy.

All the time I had this in mind. When we speak of the Soviet Union, we speak of - behind the iron curtain. I found that I never saw this curtain. I looked everywhere but never saw this curtain, instead I saw a huge building, I saw the Moscow university - it had a big red star on top of it. But what impressed me most - the great joy of the people of the Soviet Union.....One asked me did you wash? I said yes! We stayed in a hotel; I expected, as in South Africa, that the hotels would be reserved from us Non-Europeans, but all the same it was not so, and Dora Tamane who took ill - she was with me - was taken to hospital. I expected to find her in a separate room, but she was placed in the same room with other Europeans, and she was attended by the same doctors and nurses who attended the Europeans. They do not discriminate there because of colour or race.

It was then, Mr. Chairman I started to realise that I was a human being myself. I started to realise that inspite of my colour they regard us Africans as human beings. We afterwards went to see the universities of the Soviet Union. The lives of the people are so full of education there, and we were taken everywhere and shown everything, even the apparatus in the hospitals as if we were doctors. We were afterwards shown rock rabbits which are used as quinea pigs, and then we remembered that in our country we Africans were being used as quinea pigs. After all, a few years back, I had a child which was sick, it had a torn bladder. I took the child to the Baragwanah hospital but after a few days the doctor send the child back to me. I discovered then that the child had a torn bladder and I asked this professional doctor why he had send the child home, and he said Oh! I thought the tear was a small one'.

But before I tell you more about the Zoo - I wanted first to see the Zoo - not because I wanted to see whether they had (dragons from Araby!) I did not see any! I saw a lion there and they told me it was given them by Dr. Thompson from South Africa. This lion was kept in the same cage as a dog, and then I thought to myself 'Why can't us Africans and the other people, yes, even the Afrikaners stay together peacefully in one country?' If the dog and the lion can remain in one cage then we can stay in one country without some thinking that they are inferior and the other that they are superior.

We went on Mr. Chairman, to the mausoleum where we were shown the mausoleum of one of the leaders of the Soviet Union, Lenin. I then really felt that we should fight for our rights in this country. You know the Czar of Russia fought against the people of Russia in the name of Jesus Christ, but through the leadership of Lenin and Stalin they got their freedom. We were also shown a 400 ton bell, a church bell - the Czars with precious metals on their horses's harness went to church whilst the people were oppressed, whilst the people were starving, but after the revolution there was plenty for everybody.

Even in the big universities you find children of poor parents and not only children of rich parents like here where only some people can afford to send their children to school, education there is given to people on the same level. I asked them to take me to church. They took me to a Roman Catholic Church. You know here we hear propaganda that the people there don't worship. In this church I saw only a few elderly people, but they then took me to the Russian Orthodox church. That was not like our churches - you know us Africans when we go to church we beat our chest and tell God about our weaknesses - the music was lovely, I am not a lover of music and I could not understand the words, but the music seemed to say 'Holy ! Holy! Lord God Almighty ! The People being free ! They looked happy, Mr. Chairman.

On this 39th anniversary of the Soviet Union, we know as an oppressed nation that in the Soviet Union there is no longer oppression of man by man. There is no longer a minority of people who oppress the others. The people there love peace. Peace is one of the things they want, they hate war. The Soviet people have spent a great deal of energy and skill to efface the scars left by the war. And we have been told that economically the Soviet Union has made tremendous progress. Industrially they produce three times as much as before the war. We have been told that in the post-war years the greatest hydro-electric power station in the world has been completed and others are in construction. Thousands of hectares of virgin land has been reclaimed - they run the first electric power station with atomic energy in the world. More and more discoveries are made in biology, science, etc., and these discoveries are being used to the benefit of the people.

The eyes of the country are turned to the future, they desire the happiness of their children. They are building schools, creches, sanatoriums, pioneer camps - all for the benefit of the children. In the last 4 years they have built 500,000 new schools. In my conclusion Mr. Chairman, I would like to mention painless labour. Such things really impressed me. We rejoice with the .../5

Soviet Union in celebrating this 39th anniversary".

D.C. THOMPSON : "Thank you Mrs. Ngoyi. Our next speaker is Mr. Paul Joseph, he will address us on 'The Soviet Union and its Allies'.

PAUL JOSEPH : "Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, it is rather sad that on the 39th anniversary of the foundation of the Soviet Union we have reached the stage in South Africa where the Soviet Consul has been expelled - I feel that the Soviet Union should be requested to send their consul back.

I have been paging through 'The Star' of 1943, 1944 and 1945, and inter alia have been reading speeches made by Mr. Winston Churchill, then leader of the opposition. You know in those days it was considered correct to celebrate the victories of the Soviet Army over Nazi Germany. I remember in 1943 we had a meeting here in Johannesburg celebrating the victory of the Soviet Union, and it was attended by 100,000 people - even Jan Hofmeyer sent us a message of goodwill, in which he stated, quoted how the Red Army swept over the Nazis. (quote), we also received a message from Dr. Osborn of the Labour Party, he said, quote, we must follow the example of the Russians....., and in 1945 when the war draw to its close, when Winston Churchill said in the House of Commons, although with his tongue in his cheek, quote, it is the desire of this house that there shall be friendship between the British and Russian people.....

For 39 years the people of Russia have been free from oppression - have they progressed on the path of Socialism. From 1917 the question was asked, 'Can a Socialist country like the Soviet Union exist side by side with capitalist countries?', and the policy of the Soviet Union has been, 'We can at least exist side by side with the capitalist countries'. They believe in peaceful co-existence. It is a fundamental fact that the people of the Soviet Union have completely changed the whole political structure of their society, and they have a society where the whole of the country and its products are theirs. It is true that they had tremendous setbacks. As a result of the 1914-18 war they lost 4 million people, and in the last war they lost 1½ million people, but since 1917 they have brought freedom to countries like Lithuania, Estonia, etc. Since the early thirties Hitlerism threatened them, but they continued to safeguard the interests of the people, and we also know that since the last war the capitalist countries have been trying to provoke the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union however, has consistently worked for peace, in Uno, in Trade Union bodies, at Youth Festivals, everywhere. they have endeavoured to secure peace amongst the five

great powers. To show its goodwill the Soviet Union has reduced its armaments, and has tried to induce the Western powers to do the same - it came forward with the plea that the armed strength of the Soviet Union and the United States should be minimized to 1 1/2 million men and that of France and Britain to 650,000 men. But by all kinds of pretences the Western Powers refused these overtures by the Soviet Union to solve the problems of the world. There is no doubt that the Soviet Union tries to come to an understanding with the rest of the world.

Alone the Soviet Union reduced its armed forces,; the Soviet Union reduced its armed forces in Eastern Germany and many other places. That is positive proof that the Soviet Union intends to solve the peace question, and to show her determination in this respect, she has invited pundits of other countries to come and visit the Soviet Union - Mr. Nehru of India, Dr. Soekarno of Indonesia. For 39 years the Soviet Union has extended the hand of friendship and assistance. The Soviet Union has even extended help to capitalist countries. We think of the visit of the Bolshoi Theatre Group to England, the personal successes of Ulanova; 60,000 people visited the theatre in three nights, and Britain retaliated with provocation unprecedented in history - the arrest of Nina Pomorieva for the alleged theft of, I think hats, the charges were afterwards dropped. (Member of the audience - 'She was convicted!')

The Soviet Union has spent thousands of pounds to assist the underdeveloped countries of the world. They have given technical assistance to Burma, have built an atomic re-actor in Egypt. Bulgaria, a country which formerly could not even produce a steel plate, today builds ships. And then I do not even mention the help the Soviet Union has given to Korea and China, and these help has been given to countries which are in no way communist countries. We have the evidence of a man like John Gunther - nobody can accuse him of being a communist. He says, (quote): 34% increase in the production of Egypt after Russian assistance. He visited Ethiopia where he visited a hospital staffed by Russians. This Hospital is already 40 years old, and after the revolution in Russia the Russians decided to carry on with the hospital. The people of Ethiopia have close links with the Soviet Union, especially the Ethiopian Church which dates from 1896.

The allies of the Soviet Union, in it you find nothing which resembles colonialism - like in the colonial country where the first thing you find is poverty. The Soviet Union has no ulterior.. 7

motive, like the Western Colonial powers - cheap labour. Cheap labour you only find in colonial countries. When we see the conditions in the colonial countries amongst the subjugated people, where are the humanitarians then? These imperialist countries are out for war, for antagonism, as the events surrounding the Suez Canal show. The Soviet Union on the other hand has taken positive steps to lessen strife in this era.

Austria is one of the countries which was occupied after the war by other European countries - the United States of America, Britain, France and the Soviet Union. Last year Mr. Julius Raab, the Austrian Chancellor went to Russia to conclude a treaty and after his return from Moscow, he said 'We got more than we expected'. And Austria is not a communist country. Then there is Finland - the imperialists usually say that when the Russians depart from a country - they left it a puppet communist state - there is no greater lie! The Russians left Finland, and Finland is not a socialist state, simply because the people there did not choose socialism.

According to the Potsdam agreement Austria was to have paid the Soviet Union a huge sum for war compensation. The Soviet Union waived that compensation - a sum to the extent of (250,000) Austrian shillings, and they gave back to Austria, a country rich in oil, its oil (fields). Then a bourgeois newspaper in France said it was to ensure the friendship and neutrality of Austria. Slanderers say that the U.S.S.R. are keeping the Hungarians in bonds. I have here a little document that comes from London - it says the U.S.S.R. stands for peaceful co-existence, understanding and respect for other countries, and the U.S.S.R. government has in 1956 as a result of a pact, granted to Hungary 100 million roubles as a loan, repayable annually at an interest rate of 2 %, and you know that other countries has been assisted by the Soviet Union - Siam and Libya for instance, and nobody can accuse the Soviet Union of giving this assistance for the purpose of conquest, as is the case with America, when she gives aid, it has strings attached to it.

Egypt for instance ; Nasser first went to the Western powers for assistance, he could not get aid to build the Aswan dam, and then he appealed to the Soviet Union and got aid to help him to build the dam. I can go on like that with quoting figures showing how the Soviet Union assisted underdeveloped countries - Poland, Albania, etc. Even leaders from Capitalist countries say that the Soviet Union and capitalist countries can exist side by side. Clement Attlee said 'I believe in co-existence, the only other alternative is war'.

We have to realise that the Soviet Union has now been in existence for 39 years, and nothing on earth can change that. The 39th anniversary witnesses great changes in the Soviet Union - significant changes - the 20th Communist Party Congress set itself the task of removing the rubbish - bureaucracy and the cult of the individual, and it set in motion 5 - 5 year plans to improve the conditions of the people, culturally and economically; there are to be a vast increase in consumer goods. They hope to reclaim in the first 5 years 300 million acres of land ; to enable them to grow more food. We must face it, whether we like communism or not, the Russian people have chosen communism, and we can choose what we like in South Africa, but we have to acknowledge that they exist and have to recognise them. This has been set out in principle at the Bandung Conference, they call it the (Panda-chilla) principles I think. That the Soviet Union exist, and will continue to exist, and will rise to greater heights, and that they extend the hand of friendship to us the people of South Africa, that we know, since we are oppressed, and they want to find a solution for the problems of the world, for all the people in the world."

D.C. THOMPSON : "Thank you Mrs Joseph, for having dealt so ably with this question. I think now is an opportune time to take up a collection. We need funds to propagate the truth - you know the people hear only one side of the question and we do hope that they will also hear the other side of the question. If you do not know the facts, then you are prejudiced. The work of our society is to promote peace and friendship with the Soviet Union. I also stand here as the chairman of the Peace Council - a body which deals with others aspects of the same question.

There is no better time than the present to build up understanding. But we need funds in these difficult times - we know the truth is with us - the truth will prevail. We are selling literature at the door there, and remember to remain at the end of the meeting for cold drinks and biscuits. I remember times when we enjoyed something stronger than cold drinks. I hope you will remain.

(Collection amongst audience.)

Anybody going Orlando way ? Mrs. Ngoyi wants a seat.

Our next speaker will be Advocate Duma Nokwe, he is well-known to you. He is going to speak on 'The Soviet Union and Colonialism - with special reference to Hungary'. Questions will be admitted at the end of the meeting, please. "Mr. Nokwe".

P.P.D. NOKWE : "Mr. Chairman and friends, I regard this as a privilege

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**RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961**

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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