



RENTS PLAY

COMMUNITY plays are becoming a common sight in Lavender Hill.

On Sunday March 18, a large number of Lavender Hill Residents gathered in Shepherd Court to watch a play about the Day of Action.

The play attracted a lot of attention.

People staying in the courts hung out of their windows and others stood in the doorways while a lot of youth packed the staircases in the court.

Everyone took part in the fun and laughter and as the play progressed some people were so caught up in the excitement that they joined in.

The play however also told about serious problems in the area like the high rents and lack of maintenance.

Organised by the Lavender Hill Residents Association, the play was the second of its kind held in the area in the last year.

Both were very successful in that there was a great deal of community involvement and it brought more people into contact with the Residents Association.



Minister wrong on Lavis lights - CHL

THE people of Bishop Lavis have re-emphasised their determination to have electricity in their houses.

At a meeting on March 12, the people discussed articles in Grassroots and a weekly paper which said it was possible for the Citizens Housing League to obtain a loan from businesses (if they cannot get money from the government) without first getting permission from the Department of Community Development.

CHL always told Lavistown residents they had to get permission first before they could apply for a loan.

At the mass meeting a delegation of 12 people were elected to go to CHL's head office to find out why they had not yet tried to find a loan on the open market.

They went to see CHL's managing director Mr E Pohl on March 19.

At the start of the meeting Mr Pohl contradicted the Minister of Community Development's statement (as published in Grassroots) that CHL did not require his permission to get a loan.

He said the installation of electricity depended entirely on Community Development (DCD). They had approved a government

loan for electricity and had to make the money available. As far as he knew, the DCD did not have money at this point.

Asked if it was not possible for CHL to have used the money they are presently spending on building luxury homes for whites, Mr Pohl said: 'When CHL works with money, it merely thinks in terms of black and white.'

The delegation felt that with this statement he implied that the projects which were to benefit the whites re-

ceived priority.

After the meeting the people expressed their extreme dissatisfaction at the manner in which the CHL and DCD are treating the people's call for electricity.

A member of the delegation said they took exception to Mr Pohl's apparent racist statement and the manner in which CHL and DCD seem to be contradicting each other and always passing the buck.

He continued: 'The delegation feels disgusted at the fact that while

CHL was not prepared to make the long-promised fund available for electricity, it was prepared to subsidise homes (by about (R1-m) for whites in District Six.

'The people of Bishop Lavis feel that the DCD should get its priorities straight and take responsibility for providing the promised money for electricity.

'We are aware that the CHL and DCD will always try to pass the buck. We have pledged to continue the struggle for electricity until we succeed.'

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