

# "ONLY HALF A LOAF" *in-churn 1-5-57*

By The REV. HORACE A. WHITE  
(Pastor, Plymouth Congregational Church)

The Rev. Malcolm B. Sylvester of the St. Andrews Presbyterian church spoke before the Booker T. Washington Trade Association,



REV. HORACE A. WHITE

on the subject "A White Detroit Looks at Desegregation." Mr. Sylvester does well in his analysis when he enumerates five reasons why race segregation is "an evil and warrants condemnation."

Mr. Sylvester is a southerner and has been wise enough to see the ugly manifestations of race segregation at work

in close range. He knows what it does to the souls of men who are segregated.

When he talks about this desegregation to the Negro he becomes moving. You do not listen long, nor read far in his speech, before you see you are dealing with "a half a loaf instead of a whole loaf." He goes on to say, "I believe with all my heart and all my mind that segregation is wrong." you are dealing with "a half a loaf instead of a whole loaf." He goes on to say, "I believe with all my heart and all my mind that segregation is wrong."

You expect him to dedicate himself in the next few sentences to eradicating race segregation as much as he can through the force of his own personality. Instead of this, he asks another question, "Who is going to do the job of desegregation, bringing about the idea of integration?"

In this statement he gives a clue to the fact that he is dishing out a half loaf rather than a whole loaf. He goes on to say, following this question, "The heavy work in the job of desegregation and the burden of integration is upon the Negro, himself."

The half loaf in Mr. Sylvester's speech lies in the fact that he, himself, does not feel that the sin of segregation is as much against the full developments of the white man as it is a sin against the Negro. In other words, unless Mr. Sylvester sees that the burden of the job of getting rid of race segregation is as much incumbent upon white people as it is upon the Negro his preachments are false on their face.

The white people will be as much benefited spiritually and mentally if they could get out of the trap of race segregation.

The Negro cannot liberate himself from legal segregation. He must have forthcoming in this struggle the aid of the American people. The big end of the job is not in the hands of the Negro himself, as Mr. Sylvester would have us believe.

The big end of the job must rest with the ruling majority in this country. Mr. Sylvester is correct when he says the Negro will receive great benefit by becoming a free member of the American society. The catch in the whole question is, that the Negro cannot become a free moving member of our society without the majority of the people recognizing and taking equal responsibility, no more than equal, for the Negroes full participation and benefits of our society.

This is as true in the north as it is in the south. It is also as true in the north that the white citizen must share equally in the process of extending liberty and full citizenship to the Negro.

The Negro must fight in terms of the framework of the law. But he must have unrelenting support from people like Mr. Sylvester. Mr. Sylvester has no right to analyze the proofs of desegregation and then end up a speech by saying it is the responsibility of the segregated to liberate themselves.

"I once had trouble with the water board out here and Orville took care of everything. I'm for Hubbard in this matter and believe Negroes should stay out of Dearborn entirely."

Only two people questioned had never heard of

the planned school and knew nothing about the controversy.

Several of the five people who refused to comment on the grounds that they were with Orvie, said there had been too many people around asking questions lately.

Arthur Fendler of 5415 Williamson said:

"I believe in Hubbard's principles and I believe in segregation. I used to live in River Rouge where my boys had to go to a school that was over half colored. I came to Dearborn to get away from that sort of thing."

Eugene Rizzo of 5437 Williamson stated that he would never live in Detroit.

"I believe in segregation," he said, "I believe that Mayor Hubbard's idea of keeping a vacant strip of property between Inkster and Dearborn is a good idea."

A 31-year resident of Dearborn, Mrs. Helen Oleksy said: "Anything Hubbard does is O.K. with me. I believe in segregated schools."

Pauline Demson, 5250 Reuter, a 10-year resident of Dearborn, says she agrees with Hubbard's policy to keep "niggers" out of Dearborn. "I wouldn't live in the same neighborhood with them."

An old time resident of