

## Red smear

**T**HE practice of smearing political and doctrinal adversaries with Red paint is not only dirty but is all too likely to recoil, and it has got to stop.

It is not new in this country. But last Sunday a new round began. "Dagbreek" had an article by Professor Pont of the N.H.K. insinuating that the Christian Institute and the Methodist Church were tools of Communism, and that there was also something fishy about churchmen who gave interviews to non-Christian journalists (which of course meant Jews).

Following hard on this the "Vaderland" said that the shooting of Kennedy proved McCarthy was right. It implicitly defended McCarthy's method, which is the method of the smear, and dragged in Moral Rearmament and Chief Poto. So even in this brief, two-day exchange of snurdery a whole lot of people and groups have been sprayed.

This is not only un-South African. It is dangerous. This is one country where it is a crime to promote Communism and if anyone thinks it is being done he should be direct about it and lay a charge with the police. To make general insinuations blurs the whole issue and makes it much harder for the police to know who is and who is not playing the Communist game.