HOUSING & HOSTELS – TRANSVAAL

1989

JULY – DEC.

City Press focuses on Durban

Street people in Durban on the increase

☑ BLACK people are presently moving to the urban areas of South Africa at an unprecedented rate. This influx of thousands of people is creating new problems and challenges for local urban authorities on a daily basis. This is not a temporary phenomenon. The Institute for Future Research at the University of Stellenbosch calculates that the population of the Pretoria/Witwatersrand/Vereeniging area will increase four-fold during the three decades following 1980. By 2010 about 23 million people will be living in this area, while about 9,4 million people will be congregated in the Durban-Pinetown area. The second Great Trek is in full swing.

127

2/7/89

Faceless families face bleak homeless future

Special Correspondent

THE movement of people during the Great Trek of the previous century differs from the present process in the sense that only about 20 000 people left the Cape Colony

Now, blacks are flocking in their thousands each week to the four large urban areas of the country the PWV area, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and the Durban/Pinetown area However, experts believe that the tempo of black urbanisation will increase

The Institute for Future Research (IFR) calculates that the country's urban population increased by 8,5 million during the 1980s

In the 1990s it will grow by an additional 9,8 million, of whom about 8,7 million will be black

The concentration of the population near the major cities will also never be reversed

People will continue to congregate in the urban areas, even if no more job opportunities are created there

Dr Willie Mostert, of the Institute for Sociological and Demographic Research of the Human Science Research Council, says this is already occurring in Cape Town, where people settle and then travel daily to the rural areas to work as labourers on farms

Nevertheless, this influx to the cities – deriving to a large extent from the so-called independent and self-governing areas – will not leave the rural areas depopulated

"The black population within these areas grows at such a rate that it will increase in the following decades, despite the flux to the cities," said Mostert

These rural areas, sometimes referred to as "huge dormitories", are areas where little is produced because the entrepreneurs look for opportunities elsewhere

At best, the urbanisation process would only prevent the deterioration of the present situation in these areas during the next decades, said Mostert

When the extent of the problems caused by urbanisation, which are already being experienced by urban local authorities, are being considered it seems unlikely that cities will be able to assimilate the influx of people predicted by the IFR

However, the director of the Unit for Urbanisation at the Urban Foundation, Anne Bernstein, believes that this can be achieved

There are developing countries which are experiencing similar population movements and they survive, she says

If it is handled correctly, urbanisation on a large scale could contain a variety of advantages

The local and international experience shows that urbanised women tend to have fewer children than women in rural areas because they come into contact with modern norms and values

Research shows that black women in Transkei have seven children on average while the average figure in Soweto is three to four children

If they come from poverty-stricken rural areas to squat near the cities, these opportunities will be lost

The government published a White Paper on urbanisation in 1986 in which a strategy for orderly urbanisation was set out

In 1987, Professor SP Cilliers of the University of Stellenbosch's sociology department appealed for a national strategy for urban growth and urbanisation which would realise the reasonable aspirations of all South Africans

Bernstein is completing the Private Sector Board on Urbanisation's proposal for a comprehensive urbanisation strategy

One can only hope that practical solutions will be found to solve the problem

A twilight child in his "home".

This woman was lucky enough to find some sort of cover against the elements.

DURBAN is facing increasing disorder, disease and crime

About 1,7 million people are already living in squatter conditions about 15 minutes drive from the city centre and the city council is considering urgent steps to relieve the problem

Next to Mexico City Durban is believed to be the fastest growing city in the world More than 1 000 people sleep on the pavements in the city centre in precarious conditions which bring to mind Bombay and New Dehli

However, Durban is not the only South African city which is experiencing an influx of squatters to its centre Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London have the same problem, although to a lesser extent

Experts believe that the tendency of squatters to move closer to the inner areas of cities will accelerate

Eight cases of gastric fever were reported recently in Durban, while cholera has reared its ugly head as some 400 new families a week settle as squatters on the outskirts of Durban

"Durban probably has the biggest potential for civil insurgence in the country because 50 percent of the nhabitants are already living in informal accommodation," says Jan Venter chairman of the city council's management committee

"In the evenings the pavements look as if huge deposits of garbage had been dumpd there

"When you get closer, you realisethat the 'deposits' are loving When you lift a piece of cardboard, youfind a whole family sleeing "

GARBAGE

Squatter have also moved to the municipal garbage dmps

The Durban Health Departmeirecently published a dronceerting report on theavement people Toilets are inadequate and there are hardly an facilities for cooking and washing Municipabilets close at 6pm dailynd these people relieve themselves in the streets

Food is cooked on the pavements, while there are no facilities for washing Water is bought from filling stations at exhorbirant prices

Children of six years old, with festering sores, play among the pavement people Offal and meat – which was fly covered after lying in the sun for days, is being sold to these people

"The city council has accepted the permenancy of the pavement people However, the area is only a few hundred metres away from houses and apartment buildings Burglaries, prostitution, assaults and drug abuse are increasing

White people closest to this area are impatient and they are pressuring the city council," Venter said

The first pavement people made their appearance shortly after the abolition of influx control

Initially they were mainly elderly women who hawked vegetables and slept on the pavements, covered by cardboard and plastic

Gradually their families joined them and the pavement population increased practically overnight to about 1 000 people

How to house these people remains a major problem and discussions on this problem will soon be held with the KwaZulu government

FRAGMENTED

"It is very difficult to find solutions under the present fragmented government control," says Peter Miller, Natal MEC for Local Government and Development

"For this financial year, only R87 million has been provided by the Treasury, while the Development Bank made R350 million available for housing in the greater Durban area, instead of the R1,2 billion which was proposed by the Natal/KwaZulu Planning Council and which was accepted last year by the government "

An implimentation committee has been appointed by the planning council, but the remainder of the R1,2 million will only be paid over a period of five years

Apart from the lack of money, not enough land is available, says Miller

The only suitable land belongs to KwaZulu and the Department of Development Aid, while other suitable areas have been proclaimed white or Indian areas

"Squatters, people living in the bush, vagrants and street children are even rapidly increasing in East London," said Graham Moore, acting director of protection services in the city

"Since churces started to provide food for these children and for vagrants in the city centre, the problem has increased "

In Port Elizabeth's Ibhayi Township there are 16 913 legal and 5 000 illegal squatters, according to the head of the city's health department, Andries Steyn

"Illegal squatters are being moved to transition camps like Motherwell until they can be moved to organised squatter camps like Small Soweto (70 000 inhabitants)," said Steyn

It has become notable that some coloured people have also started squatting, because of the waiting list for houses is at 7 000 " said Steyn

"Cape Town has only 280 squatter houses in the vicinity of the city, although there is a waiting list for 40 000 houses within the coloured community There are also about 14 000 illegal squatter houses in the backyards of coloured families," said Hans Smit, director of project services of the municipal town planning department

OUTDATED

"The ability of these institutions to handle the problem has become outdated and reminds one of the urban policy of the 1960's The squatter houses cannot be reconciled with the new urban demography and economy," said Dr Jeff McCarthy, senior manager of the urban policy of the Urban Foundation

He said town planning in South Africa clearly did not take Third World cities into consideration A flexible development strategy is needed which can combine the First and the Third World and which will not be hampered by legislation

"It is typical of the authorities to look at the symptom of pavement people instead of considering total urban development planning The problem will not be solved by moving the pavement people," McCarthy said

According to Tony Gilson, regional director of the Urban Foundation in Natal, the pavement people are the manifestation of the housing crisis in South Africa It points a finger to conventional housing, which is unsuitable and too expensive for the average black person

(127) Argus 3/7/89

Yvonne's house saved at last hour

By COLLETTE CAINE
Hotline Editor

YVONNE Ndlebe wept this week And for the first time in two years she wept tears of joy

When he read last week's *City Press* report that Yvonne stood to lose everything when the SA Perm auctioned her home this week, community leader Aubrey Mokoena and his brother Thabo stepped in to save her

Through their building company, DTZ Construction the Mokoenas paid off arrears on Yvonne's bond and will pay the monthly instalments until the end of next year when Yvonne qualifies as a teacher

"We are not millionaires, but our company has a social conscience And our actions speak louder than words," DTZ managing director Thabo told Yvonne and her younger brother Khaya when he presented them with a cheque for R4 500 in Johannesburg on Wednesday

Brother Aubrey also spoke at length – but in terms of a government banning order, he cannot be quoted.

"You have saved my life," a tearful Yvonne told them "This seems like dream I had given up hope – I just cried all the time If this wasn't happening to me, I would never believe people could be so generous "

Last week *City Press* reported that after the death of both her parents from cancer, the Welkom branch of the Perm got Yvonne – then a matric schoolgirl – to sign documents relating to her Thabong home

Yvonne thought she was inheriting the half-built house her dying mother had put all the family's saving into She was, in fact, signing a R28 000 bond in her own name – a bond she had no hope of paying off as a full-time student

The Perm took legal action against Yvonne and planned to auction the house on Friday.

"Yvonne's story in *City Press* really touched our whole family," said Mokoena "We felt we couldn't just stand by and allow this to happen

"We hope that our actions will encourage other business people to remember their responsibilities to the community

"Just because they have made it, business people mustn't think they can keep everything for themselves They must learn they can take action to prevent the kind of situation in which the Ndlebe children found themselves

"We must ask the question why home loans are given in this case for R40 000 – without insurance to prevent such tragedies," said Mokoena.

Accompanied by the Mokoenas, Yvonne deposited the cheque at the Perm. And as soon as they got their money, the Perm called off the auction

"Yvonne can return to school with a free mind

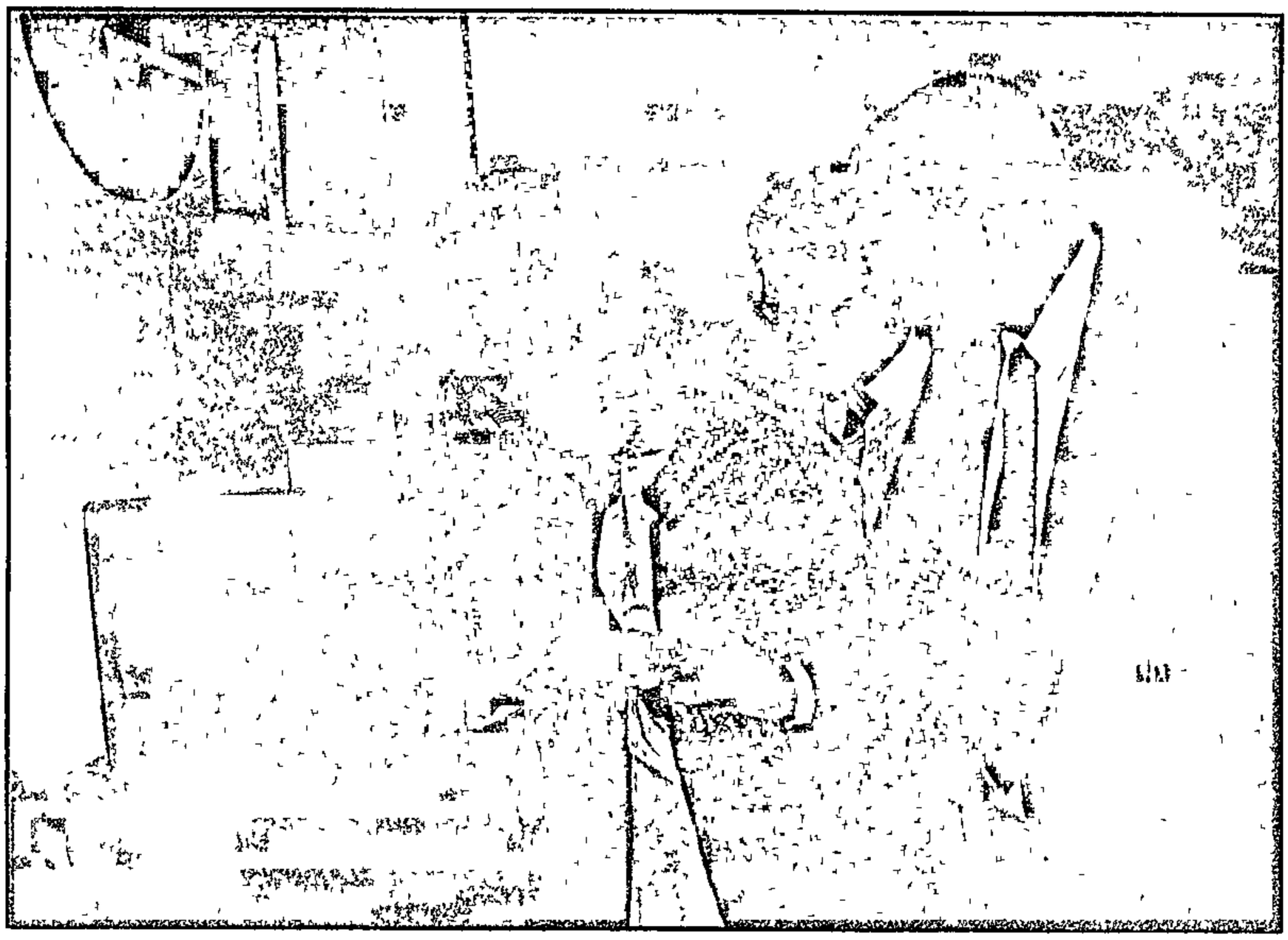
"Now she won't have the threat of losing her home hanging over her head We will keep up the R400 a month instalments until she gets a teaching post," Mokoena said.

Yvonne is studying at Sefikeng Teacher Training College and hopes to qualify as a senior primary school teacher next year

This is not the first time DTZ Construction has come to the aid of a desperate homeowner

In 1982, DTZ rebuilt – free of charge – the 55 Rockville home of the Tshabaku family after it was demolished by a runaway bus

The company – which employs more than 124 sub-constractors in housing projects in Dobsonville and Mohlakeng – is headed by Thabo Mokoena, with brother Aubrey as marketing director



An emotional Yvonne Ndlebe and her brother Khaya (left) deposit money into her account thus forestalling the auctioning of her house. Her benefactors Aubrey and Thabo Mokoena look on.

Van der Walt said two Development Aid officials were suspended during December but the normal audit inspections by the auditor-general were continuing — Sapa

Soweto blackout ends sooner than expected

(127) THEO RAWANA

ELECTRICAL power has been restored to all 15 000 Soweto houses hit by a power blackout last week

The Soweto Council had feared repairs to the Mapetla sub-station would take at least two weeks, but with help from Eskom, the work was completed within 36 hours

Soweto Mayor Sam Mkhwanazi said yesterday about 70 Eskom and council workers worked around the clock to design and build a temporary sub-station, and council PRO Johan Westhuizen said the council was working towards putting up a permanent structure

He cautioned that consumers could still get temporary power cuts lasting as long as an hour. B/Day 4/7/89.

Protea, Naledi Ext 2, Mapetla, Chiawelo, Senaoane, Phiri, part of Moroka, part of Molapo and the Midway Industrial Area were affected by the blackout.

Some of the Duduza residents who marched to work yesterday in protest against bus fare hikes.

The boy has since been buried.

Captain R A Crewe of the SAP public relations department in Pretoria denied police involvement in any assault on Simon.

Crewe confirmed that Simon was questioned (and not detained) on June 3, at the Klipriver police station in connection with a robbery case.

The police were investigating the circumstances surrounding Simon's death and a docket would be sent to the relevant judicial authority for a decision as soon as the investigation was completed, Crewe said.

Cafe

The robbed woman pointed out Simon to the police at a Klipriver cafe where he was playing machine games, said Dali.

He and four other boys were taken to the police station nearby.

Dali said Simon told them before he died that he was taken alone into a separate office and assaulted by two white police officers. He was later released when they realised that he had not been involved in the robbery, she said.

Dali said: "On

• To Page 2

Hundreds in bus boycott

Sowetan 4/7/89 (127)

REPORTS, pictures and comments in this edition may be censored in terms of the Government's state of emergency

HUNDREDS of residents of Duduza on the East Rand marched to work yesterday to protest a 25 percent bus fare increase introduced by the Nigel Town Council.

The increase was announced last month and came into effect yesterday.

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

A spokesman for the Duduza Civic Association said the decision to boycott buses was taken at a residents' meeting convened by affiliates of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

"We are also protesting against the slow progress of township development and against the detention of comrade Veli Mazibuko," the spokesman, who asked not to be named, said.

Residents would also embark on consumer

• To Page 2

Boycott

• From Page 1

(127)

action to show their dissatisfaction, the spokesman said.

The manager of the Nigel Town Council transport department, Mr Eben de Bruyn, said the boycott could cost more than R200 000 a month if it continued.

"We have not had a genuine increase for the past three and a half years and had to push up fares because of the rising cost in spares and general maintenance of the buses," he said.

Sowetan 4/7/89

Office block fight enters last day

(127)

Star 5/7/89.

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Today is the last day for public objections to be lodged against the controversial multimillion-rand office block in the Darrenwood Koppie area

Randburg residents are continuing their campaign against the development.

Mr Frans de Bruyn of Debruynplan Property Services said a hearing where the developers would put their case to the residents might take place in August

A spokesman for Jomag (Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group) said the town council could not act impartially in such a hearing since it had already designated the area for development

The Randburg Town Secretary, Mr Willem van Graan, said the area had been designated for partial low-density development and, in conjunction with the National Monuments Council and the ratepayers' association, the plan was approved.

Debruynplan Property Services of Pretoria intends to develop the site as a low-rise, low-density office park for corporate tenants.

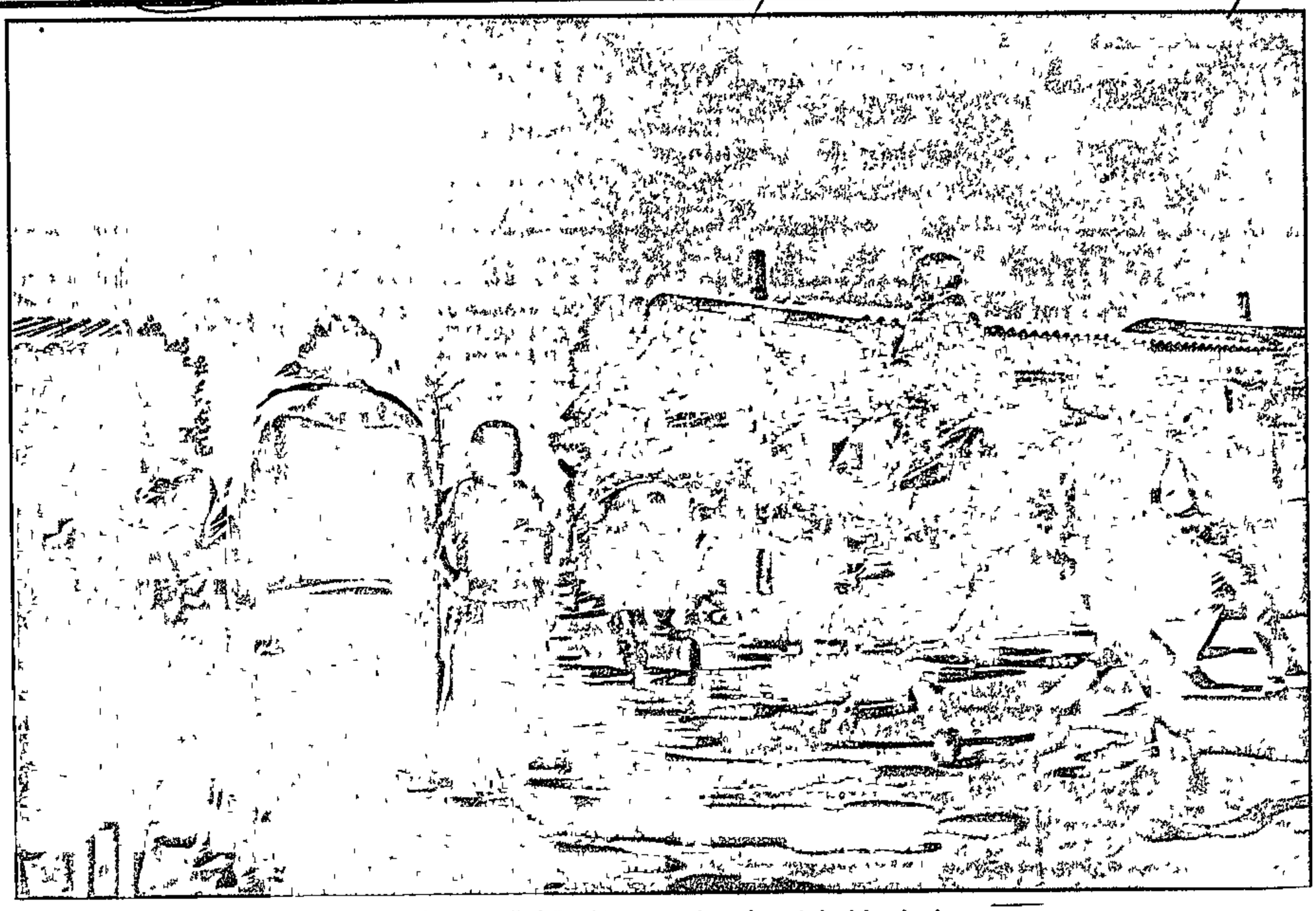
At a meeting on Sunday night residents agreed to draw up a petition which they would present to the Transvaal Administrator, objecting to the proposed construction

According to Mr Johan Ruinnard, chairman of the newly formed Southern Randburg Association, the proposed development did not only affect Ward 1 in Randburg.

With the recent third extension of Cresta shopping complex, now the third largest shopping centre in the country, and the ribbon development along D F Malan Drive, the entire nature of the suburban area was changing

Residents were concerned that office development at Darrenwood would result in immense traffic problems in an area already over-burdened.

Mr Ruinnard said Darrenwood Koppie had some of the oldest outcrops of stone on earth, believed to be 3 500 millionyears old



Mounted members of the South African Police patrolled Tembisa yesterday after pitched battles between hostel dwellers and residents in the township on Monday night. ● Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

Hostel men in alleged rampage

Staff Reporters

Houses were damaged and people are believed to have been injured when fighting broke out between hostel dwellers and residents of Tembisa on the East Rand on Monday night

A witness said about 500 hostel dwellers descended on nearby houses, armed with guns, knives, sticks and axes Mr Jimmy Mabuso alleged the group smashed windows and entered houses, sending the occupants fleeing

Police last night confirmed "certain incidents at the weekend", but declined to comment

Mr Mabaso, whose house was damaged, said the fighting followed an earlier dispute between the residents of Ethafeni and the Vusumuzi Hostel over accommodation

Mr Mabaso said the residents had bought houses which were once part of the hostel, but the hostel dwellers wanted to evict them, maintaining the houses belonged to the hostel

A spokesman for Tembisa Hospital did not know how many people had been injured

Relating the events Mr Mabaso said·

"At about 9 pm on Monday, I saw more than 500 people armed with sticks, guns and axes, coming from the hostel to our section of the township

"They smashed the windows in my house and some of them got into the house. Luckily, I escaped before they arrived ..."

He said furniture and clothes were stolen from his home

When representatives of The Star arrived in Tembisa yesterday, women from Ethafeni had gone to talk to the Tembisa town council

The mayor of Tembisa could not be reached for comment

Tembisa quiet after fighting by residents

127

By Dawn Barkhuizen and Noel Ndhlovu

Police are patrolling Tembisa township on the East Rand constantly since fighting erupted between residents this week. Star 6/7/89

A case of attempted murder is being investigated.

Late yesterday, the situation was quiet and the feuding parties had begun negotiations to resolve their differences.

Trouble erupted at the weekend between the occupants of houses and hostels. This led to an attack on householders by about 500 hostel dwellers on Monday night, according to a witness.

Police said several people were understood to have been hurt in an incident in which pangas and knives were used.

A house was later petrol-bombed.

According to police, a group of women who had gathered in the area on Tuesday dispersed when asked to do so by police and soldiers on horseback.

Mr Absalom Ntshangase, a spokesman for the householders, said a woman was trampled by an army horse during a patrol of the area.

He said army personnel had tried to stop women who were marching back home after meeting local municipal officials over the issue.

Lawyers are considering action.

Rent rises – traders resist

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Daveyton Chamber of Commerce and Industries will meet at the Lionel Kent Centre next Wednesday to discuss the rent increases which came into effect in Daveyton on Saturday.

Several business people said the new charges of R5 sq m for a built-up site and R2 sq m for a vacant site would hit their businesses very hard

They said in the past they were charged a flat rate for vacant and built-up sites

The chairman of the Chamber, Mr J P Masango, said the rent increases implemented by the council on Saturday were not realistic.

He said his executive had already met and had devised plans and strategies on the rent issue but needed to get a mandate from the members.

Another businessman, Mr Brian Jayiya, said a committee elected by the local traders went to see the mayor, Mr Shadrack Sinaba, on the rent issue on Monday but were told they should write to the council tabling their grievances.

The acting town clerk, Mr R Coetzee, said the tariff increases were implemented by a resolution of the council.

A resident said the increases would hit the residents as well.

First phase for Indian township

(127)

Star 6/7/89

The development of a new Indian township in Pretoria, Lotus Gardens, will start this month, the acting Minister of Housing in the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates, Mr Baldo Dookie, has announced

The State Tender Board had awarded the contract, worth nearly R19 million, to Focon Civil Transvaal (Pty).

The first development phase would provide for 1 532 residential and eight group housing sites, a central business district, schools, creches, parks and municipal offices

The second phase, which would be planned soon in an effort to meet housing requirements, would provide for a further 2 000 housing units. — Political Reporter

CONTRASTS IN THE CITY

The shiny side of Johannesburg reflects the wealth of the city centre While modern new buildings seem to be springing up every month, many landlords allow older residential buildings to all but fall apart

Nat MP wants more space for black taxi ranks

JOHANNESBURG Station's crowded taxi rank could get a facelift if Jeppe's National Party MP Hennie Bekker has his way

Bekker said his plan was to seal off the railway line to create more parking space for black taxis, which provide the area with invaluable service and revenue.

The trains could move underground and the open space created would be reserved for taxi ranks and further developments, making life easier for black commuters

A lot had been done to uplift central Johannesburg but this was separating the area around Joubert Park and Johannesburg Station from the centre of the city, Bekker said

"Plans to cover the railway line are at an advanced stage and there is the possibility of renting out the space above the railway line for other businesses.

"Commuter minibuses are rendering a valuable service and they must be accommodated to save the situation, which is threatening the safety of commuters These minibuses have taken all the parking space and something needs to be done

"Further, there is new life for the CBD with more building plans approved The buildings will go up over the next two years and will cover more than the total area of Sandton

"I am also concerned about security in the area I would like us to go back to the old days of the bobby on the beat

"I talked with the Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, about the possibility of establishing a police station or depot at Joubert Park"

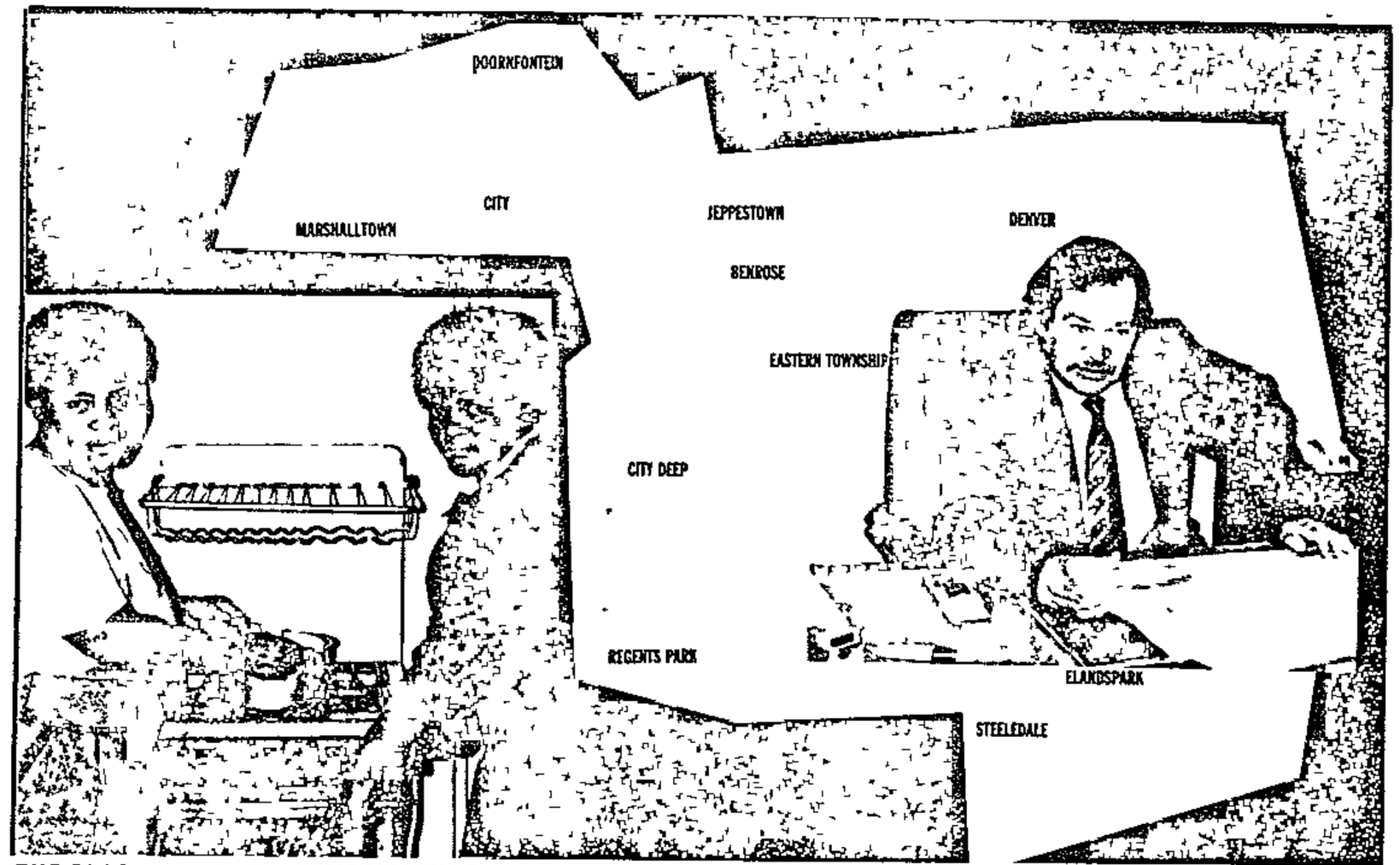
Bekker said he recognised the buying power of blacks in the area and wanted to do his "best for all the people in his area"

"A number of whites are leaving areas where blacks are moving in but some are remaining Those who remain will also have a better place once the plans have been carried out

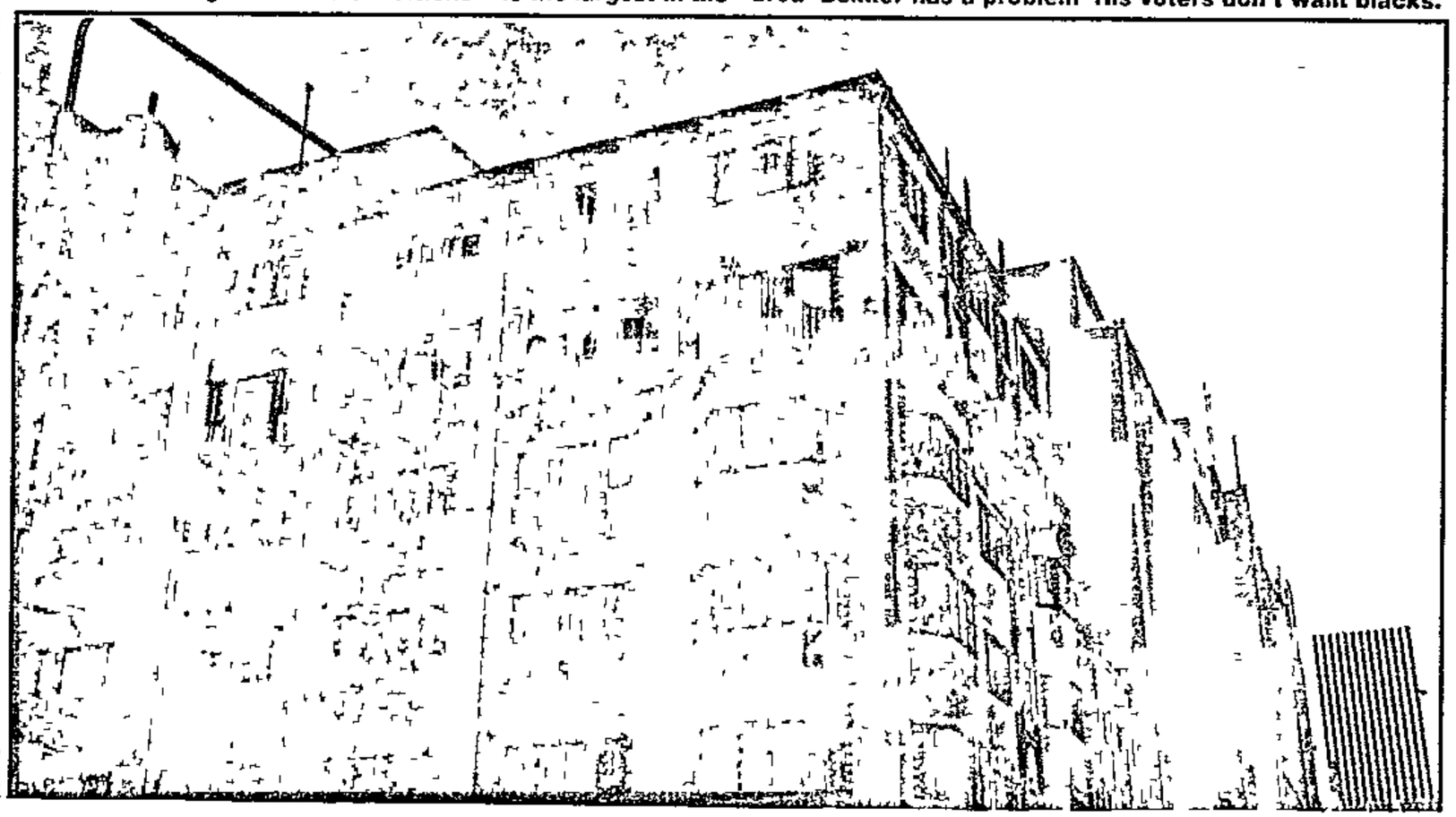
"I am faced with the mammoth task of lifting the standard of living in the area without jeopardising the improved race relations, which have been good over the past two years"

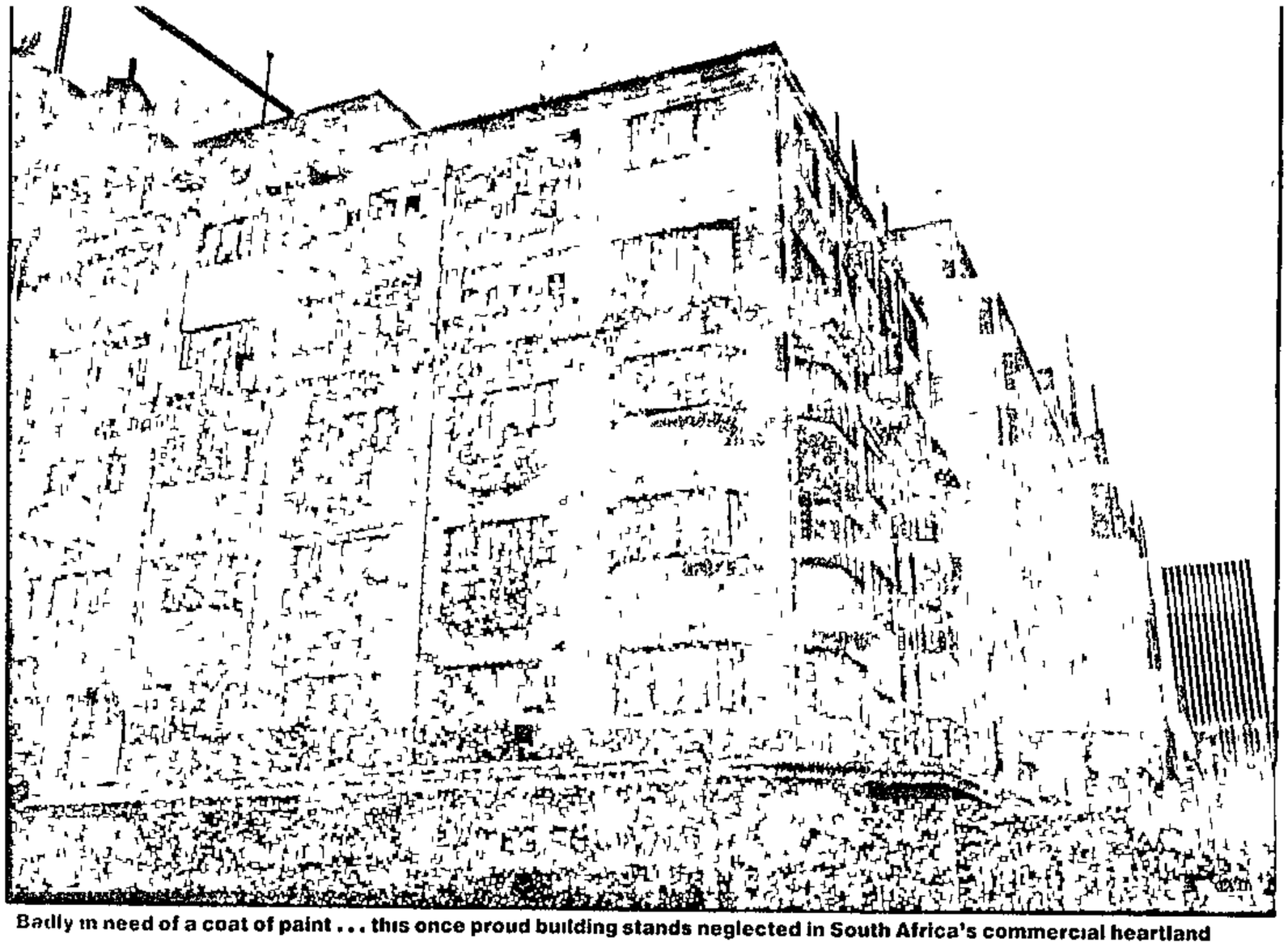
Bekker said he was opposed to pockets of open areas being created and wanted the area opened on a wider scale

Industrial and mining land could be bought for this purpose This would also stop the creation of slums and ghettos in the middle of Johannesburg, he said



THE BLACK HEART OF JOHANNESBURG the Jeppe parliamentary constituency – where many of 100 000 residents are blacks living in terrible conditions – is the largest in the city The map, with two residents in their flat and National Party MP Hennie Bekker inserted shows the vastness of the area Bekker has a problem His voters don't want blacks.





Badly in need of a coat of paint . . . this once proud building stands neglected in South Africa's commercial heartland

Going grey in poverty

Jeppe constituency in Johannesburg includes the city centre – a fast-greying flatland populated by a large number of blacks

SAMKELO KUMALO visited the area, MIKE MZILENI and GIDEON NHLAPO took the pictures

Slumlords make a fortune from downtown misery

THE parliamentary constituency of Jeppe, in Johannesburg, reflects the contradictions found in most of South Africa's greying inner cities

While the area is one of the richest commercial centres in South Africa – 65 percent of the country's wealth is administered there – it is also a fast-growing urban slum

Only blocks from the bright lights of banking and mining houses squalid slums are developing faster than the shanty towns of Soweto's Mshenguville and Cape Town's Crossroads

Johannesburg's biggest constituency area, Jeppe stretches from the M1 in the west, Kensington Ridge and Germiston in the east to City Deep in the south

It has 20 600 registered voters many of them Portuguese immigrants – and a population of 100 000 mostly under the age of 18

About half the population is black – concentrated in Joubert Park, the city centre and Doornfontein They will have no say in deciding whether the area will become a free settlement area nor will they have a vote in the September parliamentary elections

National Party MP Hennie Bekker currently holds the seat but the Democratic Party also has its eye on Jeppe and wants it declared open to all races

The NP has a problem Its voters do not want blacks in the area but the party does not want to be seen cracking down on black tenants

Despite being a Nat, Bekker says racists must learn to live with the greying of Jeppe An example of the success of integration, he lives in a mixed block of flats with black neighbours

Many whites have left the city centre Unscrupulous slumlords are cashing in on the influx of blacks and charging them exorbitant rentals

Bekker and Johannesburg city councillor Mike Levin took *City Press* on a tour of Jeppe

We started at Howarden Court on Wanderers Street near the busy Johannesburg station It is just one of the many rundown blocks of flats occupied by blacks in the city centre

Looking at the classical facade, one can see a trace of the building's former glory Now the once-white plaster is grey – not from pollution but from years of neglect by its owners

The crumbling lobby is littered with empty biscuit boxes, beer cans and other rubbish and the stairway is layered with the grime left by thousands of hands Residents have to use the stairs as the only lift in the building is permanently out of order

All the tenants use white names but are in fact black

They were scared to talk Fights with the landlords over high rents and evictions have made them wary about dealing with the Press

One tenant refused to give her name but let us into her flat

Inside, the ceiling is stained and peeling It has not been painted for 10 years

Adjacent to the grubby passage is an ill-lit kitchen, with an ancient stove which has not worked for years

The passage is a sittingroom during the day and a bedroom at night Two mattresses stand against the wall ready for use

In the dining room – garishly lit by neon lights from the street – a man and his wife sleep on the floor

The toilet has been out of order since they moved in months ago and they are forced to use public toilets at the station

Hot water is an unknown luxury

For this discomfort, tenants pay R270 a month

At these prices, people have to sublet to help foot the bill

The neighbouring buildings all wear the same tired dilapidated look Rows of washing hang on every balcony and broken windows have been patched with cardboard scraps

Our next stop was Karl Street – near Jeppe station

The viciousness of the slumlords here make their counterparts at the flats seem like philanthropists

Some twenty people live on a plot and pay R60 each to the Polish immigrant slumlord, who makes a small fortune from their misery

The front rooms in the house are lit and two women sit in the kitchen smoking the night away An open bottle of beer stands on the table

Two wrecked cars are parked in the backyard One of them serves as a bedroom for 49-year-old Daniel Gamede – the property's security guard

He has covered the car with plastic sheets and canvas to protect him and his girlfriend from the winter chill

At the back of the plot a clutch of shacks house about 15 families

An outside toilet has no walls – they collapsed years ago

While millions of rand have been earmarked for the upgrading of the CBD, flats occupied by blacks are steadily deteriorating

Bekker says there are plans to upgrade his constituency and property owners will be pressurised to make improvements

This will unfortunately, result in landlords increasing the rents but there is a statutory stipulation as to how much they can charge

"This area is irretrievably grey and no one can make it white I am not going to hunt down people who just want a roof over their heads but I will not stand by while people are exploited," he said

Rich mining houses rub shoulders with rundown flats

Residents refuse to pay rates

By Joe Openshaw (127)

The South Western Management Committee has advised residents not to pay the latest increased assessment rates and services because, they say, Mr Jan Burger, chairman of the Johannesburg City Council's management committee, had promised that increased tariffs would not be implemented until 1990 Star 10/7/89.

This has been denied by a council spokesman

A circular signed by 13 South Western Management Committee members was posted to all residents in Eldorado Park, Bosmont, Riverlea, Coronationville, Noordgesig and Klipspruit on Friday advising them not to pay the new rates which came into effect this month.

Mr Martin Ramjee, a member of the management committee, told The Star on Friday his committee had met the Johannesburg Management Committee on May 29 to discuss the 20 percent increase in rates

After long deliberation an agreement was reached between the two committees that "no increments would be implemented and that all increases would be reviewed in 1990".

Old tariffs would continue to be paid, but not the increases

Evicted 30 move again

Star 10/7/85 By Kevin Udemans (127)

About 30 former tenants of Allandene Residential, in Berea, Johannesburg, have moved from the St George's Presbyterian Church in Joubert Park to the Central Methodist Church on the corner of Pritchard and Smal streets

They were evicted from Allandene early last month and have not been able to find alternative accommodation They spent a few nights at Christ Church, in Hillbrow, before moving to St George's for three weeks.

City councillors Mr Theo Garrun and Mrs Judith Briggs, both members of the group areas committee of the Democratic Party caucus in Johannesburg, helped them find alternative accommodation last night.

20 families stranded

By SONTI MASEKO

ABOUT 20 homeless families living in the Hillbrow flatlands yesterday left their emergency home of three weeks at St George's Presbyterian Church and were housed at the Central Methodist Church for the night

Men, women and their children, including newly born babies waited with clothes, blankets and mattresses on the pavements to move to the church where they would stay for the night

It is still not certain whether there would be accommodation for them until they all find new homes when they leave the Methodist church today

Last night DP councillors, Mr Cliff Garren and Mrs Judith Briggs were helping the families with transport to move their belongings to the church

The families had to wait in the cold for a church service at the Methodist church which ended at 8pm before they could move in

The families were made homeless a month ago when they were kicked out of Allendene Court by the landlord following a rent squabble Temporary accommodation was secured at St George Presbyterian Church by Actstop and the Democratic Party for three weeks in the hope that the families would find some alternative accommodation

Star 11/7/89

Fight rates ripoff, sectional title owners are urged

(127)

By Sue Olswang

The chairman of a townhouse complex in Johannesburg's Parktown North has appealed to all sectional title residents to use their right to lodge objections about "grossly unfair" municipal charges for rates, refuse removal and sewage disposal

Mr James Pollard, chairman of the controlling body of Oakly Farm in 12th Avenue, says anyone wanting to object must do so in writing to the Town Clerk by July 12

"I hope to prompt people into some sort of action because they will finally know just how they are being ripped off"

APPALLED

Mr Pollard said when he started running the small townhouse complex a few years ago, he was appalled when he realised that most sectional title residents were unaware that the Johannesburg City Council had been "grossly overcharging these owners for rates, refuse removal and sewage disposal, even though it is legally done

"People should be made aware that the present regime has knowingly, over 15 years, been charging sectional title residents for rates and services on the same basis as businesses," the retired mining engineer told The Star

"These residents should be encouraged to use their voting power in this election year by demanding that their candidate publicly declares these anomalies will be rectified

"Exposing this rip-off will have a salutary effect on all city councillors who should then be more conscious of the needs of their constituents"

Mr Pollard said that prior to the promulgation of the Sectional Title Act (1971), residences were composed of freehold title homes and multi-residence blocks of rented flats

"Mr Freehold was, and still is, rated on the average land value of his stand and granted a rebate of 55 percent.

"He is levied a flat six-monthly clearing charge for his first refuse bin and a substantially lower charge for all subsequent bins used, as it was rightly recognised that from a single collection point the cost of refuse removal for the additional bins is considerably less

"Mr Freehold is also levied a flat six-monthly rate for sewerage and drainage discharge on the basis that because of the garden, only a certain percentage of the total water is returned

"Mr Flat Landlord, on the other hand, was also rated on the average land value of a much higher amount, being flat rights on his stand, and because he is treated as a business he only receives a 19 percent rebate. This was increased from 14 percent in July 1988

"His refuse is defined as 'business refuse' and the charge for a bin is substantially higher, irrespective of the number of bins In addition, Mr Flat Landlord's sewerage and drainage charge is levied on the total water consumption as, with little or no garden, almost all the water used is returned

STIPULATES

"When sectional title rights came into force, ownership was vested in the sectional residents who compose a single entity called 'The Body Corporate' The Act stipulates that no business may be conducted from any section

"The Johannesburg City Council, however, still treats this corporate owner exactly like Mr Flat Landlord, even though each residence is no different from a freehold one

"All costs should be fairly distributed between freehold and sectional title by the local authorities, and I am appealing to sectional title residents to object until this is done"

B/Day 12/7/89

Court action is renewed against landlord who keeps tenants in the dark

TANIA LEVY (127)

CONTEMPT of court proceedings have been instituted by Joubert Park rooming house tenants against their landlord for failing to restore their electricity supply, tenants' attorney Craig Snoyman said yesterday

An order for the immediate restoration of electricity at Ilkley Chambers was granted in the Rand Supreme Court against landlord Annsjoy Investments on June 20.

An affidavit in that case from tenant Christina Duze stated that after the electricity was cut, a baby died from the suffocating effects of the paraffin stoves which had to be used for cooking and warmth

The building had been in darkness ever since A Coetzee, known to tenants as the owner, cut all wiring on the building's two electricity boards on March 31, Lillian Ndlovu said in an affidavit

Ndlovu said she had been attacked twice in the early morning on her way to the communal bathroom.

"Passages throughout the building are now unlit, and the incidence of trespassing by unauthorised people and vagrants has increased significantly," she stated

"Rooms must be lit by candles at night. This creates a very real fire hazard as the rooms are too small to space furniture or store clothing in wardrobes," said Ndlovu.

The battle with the landlord began when tenants objected to an R80-a-month rent increase, which brought the total charge for a single room with use of ablution facilities to R245, Ndlovu said

She said a tenants' committee decided to pay R60 a month in an attempt to get the owner to negotiate directly with them about their grievances.

Ndlovu said tenants who paid reduced amounts ignored notice to vacate the premises when legal advisers told them the notice was invalid.

She said tenants who did not identify with the committee's decision and had continued to pay their rent in full were equally affected when the electricity was cut

B/Day 12/7/89

FAMILIES MUST WAIT

Sowetan 12/7/89

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

EIGHTY families in Wattville, Benoni, who were granted stands a month ago, may face big increases before they get their new homes.

Mayor of Wattville Mr John "Master" Nkosi said negotiations between the council and the developer, appointed by the residents to build them houses, have not yet been completed (127)

"There is a lot of paper work to be done before the building starts," he said. "We still have to cut the stands to the right sizes and price each stand according to its size."

Nkosi said they also have to meet the Government for their approval before building can start.

"The whole process will take about two months to complete," he said.

Project

Building costs are to go up by at least 20 percent in September and Nkosi said the council was working hard to complete the project before then.

One resident said: "I don't believe it possible for the work to be completed in two months - and I fear huge increases in the costs"

Pay us Govt is told

127

WITH the exception of those on holiday, all white residents of Zuurbekom smallholdings in the Losberg constituency have signed a petition asking the leader of the National Party, Mr F W de Klerk, to compensate whites who wished to leave the racially mixed area.

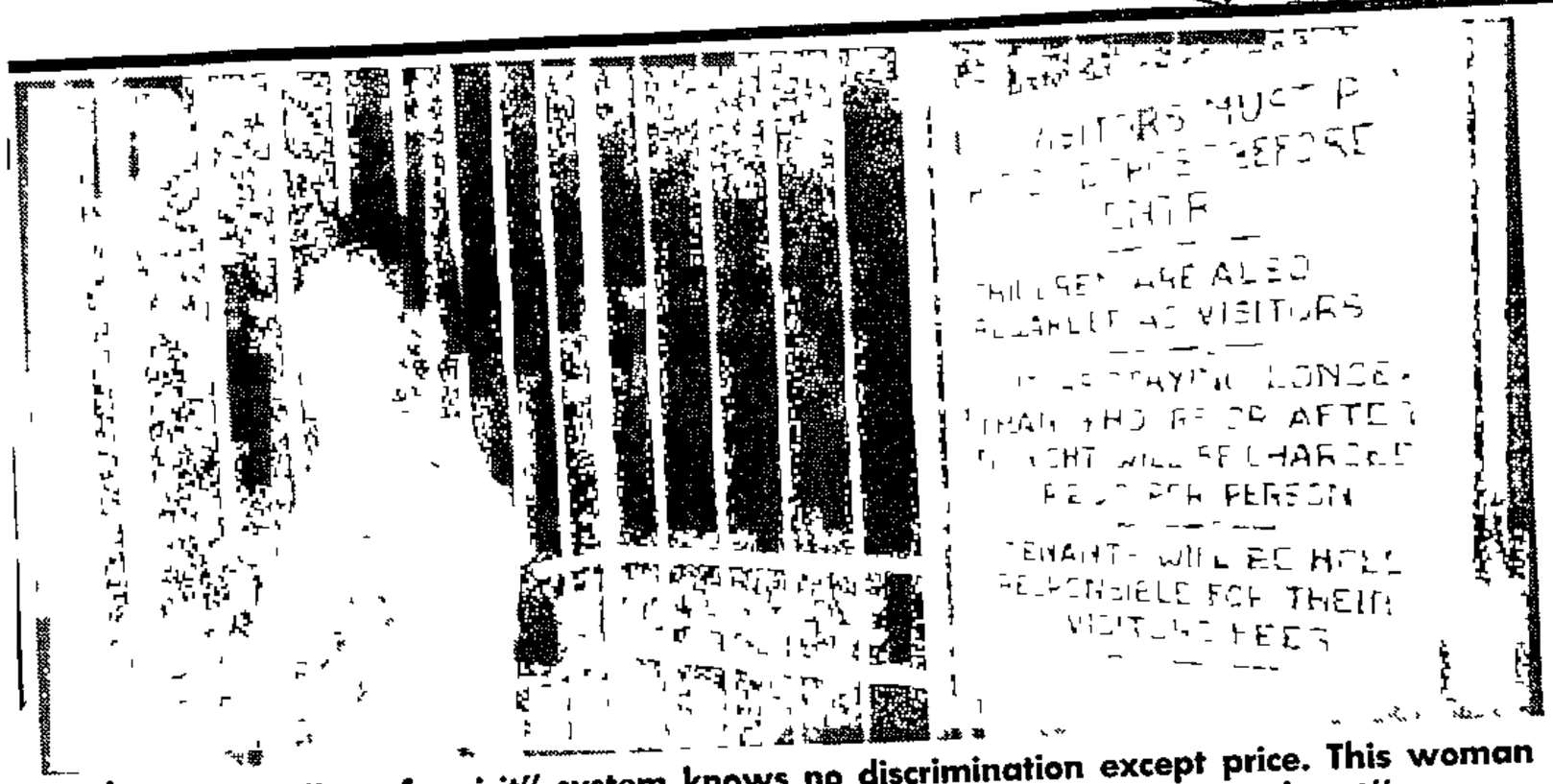
Sowetan 13/7/89

In a statement Mr S C Jacobs, Conservative Party MP for Losberg, said the area was earmarked in November last year for incorporation into Soweto and blacks were already moving into the area

He said the security situation in the area was deteriorating and recently a white resident was murdered by blacks

The current expectation on the part of the government that whites in Zuurbekom sell their property direct to blacks was causing great discontent, Jacobs said — Sapa

127



Guest House's "pay-for-visit" system knows no discrimination except price. This woman couldn't pay but was let in to show reporters that "the place has a heart".

Berea guest house charges visitors R2 admission fee

Boulevard Guest House in Berea, Johannesburg, is a residential flat with a difference — tenants' visitors can be admitted to the premises only after paying an admission fee

The fee is R2 a person for a four-hour stay, which is refundable if the visitor stays for less than four hours

There is no discrimination on the basis of sex or age and no discounts for children This "pay-for-a-visit" system apparently has the blessing of staff and some tenants

A member of staff, who wished to remain anonymous, told The Star that the fee served an invaluable purpose

'It keeps away outsiders, who might attack tenants, and hoboes, who overwhelm our facilities"

Mrs Ruth Africa, who has been a tenant at Boulevard for two years, said she was happy with the admission fee

The only comment the landlord, Mr Leon Bezem, would make was "You write your story in your Star, work out what you think I do not want any part in this Goodbye"

Safe landing . . . Root is removed from a coast guard aircraft in Florida.

Company wants 'key money'

Star 14/7/89 By Sue Olswang (127)

One of the tenants in Johannesburg's controversial Voortrekker Building, which has allegedly been leased to an investment company for R13 000 a month, claims the investment company has asked him for R150 000 "key money" and a monthly rental of nearly R10 000.

"I will be forced to close my business if they insist on these amounts because there is no way I can afford to pay that much money," said Mr L Gil, who owns the Ritz Butchery on the corner of Hoek and De Villiers streets.

He said he estimated that Hoek Street Investments, the company now leasing Voortrekker Building, would make close to R1 million in "key money" and about R60 000 a month in rentals.

"I occupy about 10 to 13 percent of the ground floor space in this building. Hoek Street Investments want R150 000 key money and R10 000 rent from me, so you can just imagine what they want from other tenants."

Hoek Street Investments are listed in the Johannesburg telephone directory but their Voortrekker Building offices were empty when The Star visited the building yesterday. There was no reply from the telephone number.

● The Johannesburg Management Committee was accused yesterday of dissipating ratepayers' money by leasing the six-storey building to Hoek Street Investments for R13 000 a month. The accusation was made by Democratic Party councillor Mr Clive Gilbert.

His deadly mistake

When Constable Jetta Sethwala turned left

City council promises to collect rent

Star 14/7/89

By Mckeed Kotlolo, Pretoria Bureau

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday ordered the City Council of Soweto to take steps to recover rent and service charges owed by residents

Councillors promised their full co-operation.

The MEC for local government, Mr OAW van Zyl, expressed concern about the issue — which dates back to 1986 — when members of the executive committee of the TPA and the Soweto City Council met at the TPA's Pretoria headquarters to discuss problems and projects in Soweto.

In a joint statement released after the meeting Mr van Zyl said he had told the council to take steps to recover at least the current debts.

Various other administrative problems were discussed at the meeting.

ARREARS MUST BE PAID

Sowetan 14/7/89

127

Soweto rent crisis

Soweto council is urged to take steps

THE Soweto City Council - plagued by a rent boycott for the past four years - was yesterday urged to take steps to recover rent arrears totalling millions of rands

After a lengthy meeting with the executive committee of the Transvaal Provincial Administration in Pretoria, the council promised its "full co-operation"

Mr Olaus van Zyl, MEC for local government, said the council should "recover at least the current debits"

Other issues that were discussed included the allocation of 1 000 stands at Orange Farm to families that are presently squatting at Mshenguville

On July 30 the families will accompany the chairman of the council's executive committee, Mr Mbutane Tshabalala, to the site where they will finalise formalities to acquire stands

Problems

The council and the TPA official also released a joint statement in which they expressed their serious concern at the financial problems and the acute housing shortage and possible solutions

Other matters which were discussed related to the collection of rent and service charges as well as problems experienced in the administration of Soweto, especially the cleansing contracts in the township According to the statement an investigation would be launched into these contracts

The joint statement also announced that the council had succeeded in obtaining the assistance of the Development Bank of Southern Africa to imple-

To Page 2

Mr Sam Mkwanazi

Mr Olaus van Zyl

REPORTS pictures and comments in this edition may be censored in terms of the Government's state of emergency

Choose the best street seller contest

SEE PAGE 4

Sowetan 14/7/89

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Soweto rent crisis

• From page 1

ment a financial adjustment programme which, it is anticipated, will assist in alleviating the financial problems currently experienced by the local authority.

Soweto mayor Samuel Mkhwanazi also announced that he had succeeded in obtaining financial assistance totalling R100 000 for the council's youth developmemnt programme. Mkhwanazi has also obtained R200 000 for the purpose of job creation in Soweto.

The Soweto Council promised the TPA its full co-operation in the collection of rent and informed the executive committee that progress was being made in the collection of current municipal accounts and the planning and implementing of a financial strategy.

Both Van Zyl and Mkhwanazi also announced the establishment of a Soweto Foundation, which will consist of representatives of the Soweto committee, the private sector and other parties.

Top level talks on rent crisis

127

Sowetan 14/7/89

THE Soweto People's Delegation is to meet the Transvaal Provincial Administration to discuss the Soweto rent crisis later this month.

This was said by the TPA's chief director of community services, Mr J J van der Walt, yesterday.

The Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, will lead the TPA delegation. He made it clear he would not meet the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) unless the Soweto City Council was present.

The SPD has also asked for meetings with the Rand Water Board and Escom, who supply water and electricity to Soweto. All the meetings are expected to be held this month

It is hoped they will lead to the resolution of the four-year-old rent boycott in Soweto.

Officials of the SPD were this week asked to submit a memorandum on issues to be discussed. TPA's executive members are also to be consulted on a suitable date for the meeting.

According to Van der Walt, he received a message from the SPD last Friday asking for a meeting to be held on Tuesday this week at 8 am. This date was unsuitable for the TPA

The SPD has rejected flat-rate service charges introduced by the Soweto council on May 2 but the two parties have agreed to continue discussing options that will lead to resolving the rent crisis in Soweto.

CP resort for sale . . . only to blacks

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE Donaldson Dam – at present a West Rand, white-controlled pleasure resort – will be sold with preference being given to blacks as it is no longer a viable financial proposition

Members of the former Bekkersdal Town Council confirmed that the resort was to be offered for sale at an estimated R2 million after the area was proclaimed for blacks last year

The resort, the sole property of CP-controlled Westonaria, has been put up for sale for incorporation into the black township of Bekkersdal

It is presently used exclusively by whites for fishing and boating

The present Bekkersdal Town Council claims the airstrip adjacent to the resort should also be incorporated into Bekkersdal

Town secretary Daan van den Bergh confirmed that the resort was for sale and that the Westonaria Town Council was to advertise for tenders very soon

However, he said the sale price has not yet been determined as valuators were still working on the project

Bekkersdal Mayor Freddy Shoai said: "The resort was offered for sale by the West Rand Regional Services Council last year but the CP has tried to obstruct the operation as part of its plans to render the RSCs unworkable"

Although several blacks, including a syndicate of black businessmen, have expressed interest in buying the resort, there has been speculation that the area will not be economically viable within the next five years and this is why white Westonaria now wants to get rid of it

127 Citizen 16/7/89.

Indian family well settled in spite of clash with CP

Star 17/7/84

(127)

Stan Hlophe

An Indian family which four months ago defied all attempts by the Conservative Party to stop it from moving into its home in Malvern, Johannesburg, is living peacefully with white neighbours.

In March the Naidoo family of Seventh Street was involved in a clash with angry CP supporters who tried to prevent it from occupying the home it had bought.

Scuffles broke out when the protesters lined up along the fence while family members passed belongings and furniture over their heads. There was near chaos when supporters of the Naidoo family and members of the anti-Group Areas Act organisation, Actstop, defended the family from being harrassed by CP supporters and members.

Mrs Shirley Naidoo said all that was now history.

"We now have a good relationship with our neighbours. All that happened is forgotten. We have a peaceful life. Everybody here is friendly to us and we are greeting each other.

"We have forgotten that nasty incident. Nobody came again to worry or threaten us. What matters now is the future for our kids. We have settled in and have been accepted by the neighbours.

"No more hard feelings. It's all forgotten and forgiven. Many people of colour have moved in after us without racial incident. It proves that it was only a few hotheads who were bent on making our lives unbearable.

"The support from Actstop and other people made us stronger than ever. This is our home and we have the right to live here like anybody else," she said.

An Actstop spokesman said evictions had stopped since the start of a court action against the forced removal of people of colour in areas such as Malvern, Mayfair, Berea and Hillbrow.

... George Bush laughs at a remark by UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at a private meeting before the final session of the G7 summit in Paris yesterday.

Picture REUTER

Nursing crisis puts pay pressure on govt

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The worsening nursing crisis — a 20% shortage nationwide — will compel government to make an early adjustment to nurses' salaries, sources here say. B/Day 17/7/89

At the weekend Deputy Health Minister Michael Veldman said government would use its limited funds to do everything possible to stop the flow of staff to the private sector.

Later this week the SA Nursing Association (Sana) is to submit a 15% increase demand to Health Minister Willie van Niekerk

Sana executive director Susan du Preez said the association had warned of the looming crisis repeatedly during the past decade Adjustments made to pay and service conditions had never gone far enough, she said.

☐ Johannesburg Hospital has not been brought to the point of collapse by the shortage of nurses, hospital superintendent R G Broekman said at the weekend. Hospital management was, however, gravely concerned.

Voters' rolls condemned

B/Day 17/7/89

EDYTH BULBRING

SPOKESMEN for the DP, NP and CP have all condemned the state of voters' rolls for the September 6 election as a shambles, filled with the names of dead and missing voters

Johannesburg NP councillor Robert Rousseau said he had written to the Department of Home Affairs about the Bezuidenhout constituency roll

He said there were many cases where people on the roll had been dead for more than five years, or had gone overseas.

He said there were also those on the roll who still used the old ID cards with a different digit count

He said after consulting with Johannesburg Council municipal voters officials, a meeting with senior Home Affairs officials had been arranged

It was suggested that people overseas be flagged (their names bracketed on the roll so they may not vote) until they returned and funeral directors be asked for data on all deaths in Johannesburg since 1986

But a new roll would only be ready for the next general election, he said

A DP spokesman said in Hillbrow, for example, about half of the 19 000 registered voters had moved away

Committee looks at Soweto rent crisis

ANIA LEVY

ISOLATING the more emotional content of issues such as rent payment would be the first step in addressing Soweto's financial difficulties, Development Bank of SA (DBSA) CE Simon Brand said yesterday

B/Day 17/7/89

"The issue of home ownership should be isolated from current payment of service charges," said Brand, who has been asked to chair a committee which will supervise Soweto's financial adjustment

Brand said he was sure that in the process of the financial adjustment Soweto's R210m rent debt would be looked into (127)

The committee, which comprises council and provincial administration members, will look at ways to cover Soweto's immediate deficits In the long term the committee will plan expenditure on an ongoing basis

East Rand blackouts

127

SCORES of families have been without electricity for more than a week in Wattville, Benoni.

Houses in Dube, Dlomo, Boikhutso and Baloyi Streets had their electricity cut off last Monday. Sowetan 17/7/89

Mayor of Wattville Mr John "Master" Nkosi said he had received reports about the blackouts and said the council was investigating the power failure

A resident said they were not informed why their lights were switched off.

Allandene case postponed

The case of 47 people charged with illegally occupying a block of Berea flats was postponed yesterday to August 24 by a Johannesburg magistrate.

The accused were not asked to plead to a charge of illegally occupying flats in the Allandene Residential building on June 13 this year, following a Supreme Court ruling to evict the flats Star 18/7/89

Warrants for the arrest of 23 accused were issued following their failure to attend court — Court Reporter (127)

No need for management committee – community leader

(127) Star 18/7/89

By Kevin Udemans

The chairman of the Save Riverlea Committee, Mr Ralph Peffer, said that the South Western Management Committee had no right to advise residents on what to do regarding the latest increases to assessment rates and services

Mr Peffer said they should hold public meetings and get mandates from the various communities to see what they felt about such issues

"These people are there by default and are just symbols of the apartheid system," he said

Mr Peffer said that he was not against what they were saying but they should get mandates from the people so that they could be sure that they were doing what the communities wanted

He said the management committees should resign en bloc "We can do without their services"

Mr Peffer as the leader of the Save Riverlea Committee obtained a mandate from Riverlea after it became apparent they faced the threat of resumed gold mining in the area

The mandate he and his committee received was to

- Adequately reflect the aspirations of the community
- Address the problem facing the community so that the largest possible percentage of the community may benefit by the proposed solutions
- Articulate the needs and demands of the community uncomprisingly and unflinchingly.

65 families homeless

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

SIXTY-FIVE families are still without accommodation following the demolition of their shacks by the Tokoza town council last week.

It was the third time in six months that shacks at Dunusa or Phola Park were demolished. Council officials said the shacks were demolished because they had been erected at the wrong place.

Deputy chairman of the council's management committee Mr Abraham Mzizi said: "Nobody is allowed to build shacks in that area because it is a swamp. When it rains, the place looks like a lake. We are not going to allow people to live there."

Mzizi said the council was still looking for an alternative place to accommodate the families.

By yesterday, the families were still in the open despite the council's promise that they would be sheltered.

Mzizi also announced that rent in Dunusa had been increased to R50 a month from July 1. Residents used to pay about R35 a month There are 3 750 squatter families living in the area.

He said rent was increased so the council could provide basic facilities like water and portable lavatories.

Residents have rejected the increases.

GAA task force is nearly ready

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A special Group Areas Act (GAA) task force of 14 men arrives in Cape Town early in August to help "sensitively" administer the controversial law and get the new Free Settlement Areas Act off the ground

The group, part of a government team to administer the two laws in major centres, will liase closely with the police, a spokesman for Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said yesterday

A similar task force of seven officials has already been appointed to investigate GAA complaints in Natal, but prosecutions are unlikely, reports Sapa

At the head of the project is Nico van Rensburg, secretary to Local Government, Housing and Works Minister Amie Venter. Van Rensburg said his team would "sensitively negotiate" with people who fell foul of the law

Special complaints offices would be set up and advertised so people needing advice or wanting to complain could contact his men

If his men succeeded with negotiations, cases would then be referred to the Public Works and Land Affairs Department who would refer to their housing pool and try to identify sites where people could live

Asked if this would not clash with police investigations into GAA contraventions, Van Rensburg said the idea was not to circumvent the law but to "avoid all these legal steps at the end of the day"

Kaufman briefed on Soweto rent boycott

SIPHO NGCOBO

BRITISH Labour Party shadow foreign secretary Gerald Kaufman yesterday visited Soweto, where the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) gave him a full overview of the rent boycott

Although the media was barred from talks held at the Funda Centre, a spokesman for the SACC — which is hosting Kaufman — said afterwards that the SPD had related the history of the boycott and what community leaders were planning to do about it

After the Soweto meeting, Kaufman met with Weekly Mail co-editor Anton Harber, The Star managing editor Harvey Tyson and Libby Lloyd of the Association of Democratic Journalists (ADJ) He leaves for Namibia today

Diepkloof blackout

AN electricity blackout hit the Diepmeadow townships of Diepkloof and Meadowlands last night (127)

The sudden blackout affected 10 000 residents in the four zones in the two townships. It started at about 6 pm Power had not been restored by 10 0pm last night.

Angry residents from Diepkloof zones 1, 3 and 5 and Meadowlands zone 1 phoned Sowetan last night requesting after hours telephone numbers of the electricity department or emergency services at the Diepmeadow council. Sowetan 19/7/89

Council officials could not be reached for comment late last night

CORRUPTION ALLEGED

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

Sowetan 19/7/89.

127

THE building of 412 houses for low-income groups has been halted in Daveyton near Benoni because of alleged corruption over prices being charged.

A joint housing scheme by the Daveyton Town Council and the South African Housing Trust in Etwatwa Extension 7 was suspended last Thursday at a meeting in the council chambers

Conditions put by the council and the SAHT were that:

* Stands and houses be granted to Daveyton residents only.

* Only people earning less than R800 a month would qualify for housing in the area, and

* Prospective owners buy their houses from agents appointed by the SAHT and not from other builders.

An investigation conducted by the Sowetan has revealed that all these conditions were violated by both the council and the SAHT. Each party is blaming the other for the confusion surrounding the housing scheme.

In one case the Sowetan found that a person earning R1 631 a month was sold a house and according to documents in the possession of the Sowetan, he was charged R23 120 for a house worth only R22 295.

This new price was allegedly decided upon by an SAHT estate agent without his organisation's approval.

This was confirmed by Mr W Peterson of the SAHT who said they were still re-assessing the selling procedure of houses in the area He refused to elaborate

Mayor of Daveyton Mr Shadrack Sinaba also confirmed that the housing project had been suspended

He said the council had decided that first priority should be given to Daveyton residents before outsiders could be considered. He said this was not done and the council decided to suspend the project and to launch an investigation

Mr M P Dzingwa, the estate agent appointed by the SAHT to sell the houses, said the council was not happy with the way he was conducting business in the area.

"As far as I am concerned I have done nothing wrong," Dzingwa said

Mega-city planned south of Reef

B/Day 20/7/87

ANDREW BUDDEN

GOVERNMENT's recently gazetted plans to make 12 650 hectares of land west of Soweto available for black housing will probably have to be abandoned if geological surveys of the area prove correct

Instead, the Transvaal Provincial Administration is considering proposals for a new black mega-city to the south of Johannesburg, between Vereeniging and Lenasia.

The move comes in the wake of growing pressure on government to set aside more land for black expansion The Witwatersrand's burgeoning squatter-population has been estimated at over 2,5-million

If approved, the new city will encompass the existing settlement areas of Grasmere and Evaton, making it bigger than Johannesburg itself

In its search for suitable land for black development, the TPA has encountered stiff resistance White opposition to the prospect of black neighbours has often outweighed development needs, officials say The land west of Soweto was, however, perceived as a relatively safe route for the city's expansion, since it does not border closely on any white area

Eleven farms in the area were re-zoned as a unified "black development area" in May — officially making them available for expansion to the city However, the original proposals for the so-called "Soweto-West" expansion immediately came under fire from geologists, who pointed out the area's geological instability

127

They claimed only a relatively small area of 1 500 hectares immediately to the west of Soweto was suitable for urban development Most of the rest lay on a dolomitic base which made it unsuitable for high-density development

Expenditure on municipal services, like water and sewerage, would have to be doubled to make the area safe, geologists said

127

Ex-councillors vow to fight off eviction attempts

Power Park row continues

By Jovial Rantao

The wrangle between the Soweto Council and former councillors over the occupation of "fortified houses" in Power Park, near Baragwanath Hospital, continues

The council is determined to get the 26 former councillors out of the houses, but the councillors say they have paid deposits for the houses and will fight any attempt by the council to evict them

The houses were bought from the Johannesburg City Council at the height of the Soweto uprisings by the Transvaal Provincial Administration on behalf of the Soweto council, which needed them to house councillors temporarily

The subject of the dispute houses in Power Park

Soweto Council says:

The mayor of Soweto, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi, said the council would instruct its attorneys to take legal action against the 26 former councillors if they refused to move out of the houses

He said the councillors had paid deposits on their houses in November last year, after they had been told they were going to be evicted

The Soweto council, he added, was investigating charges against the persons who accepted the "illegal" deposits from the former councillors

"They have been claiming that they have bought the houses from the council and not one has paid more than R5 000 on those houses," Mr Mkhwanazi said

According to Mr Mkhwanazi, Power Park is earmarked for professional people and students who are studying at Vista University and other institutions around Soweto

He said it was never the intention that the councillors would occupy the houses intentionally

The houses were bought by the Transvaal Provincial Administration on behalf of the Soweto Council

"The councillors were placed in those houses temporarily because of the unrest situation in the township two years ago

"They have other houses in Soweto and council by-laws do not permit a single person to own more than one house"

Ex-councillors say.

At a press conference at Power Park this week, the councillors said they would defend any legal action taken against them

Led by a former deputy mayor, Mr Isaac Buthelezi, they said the council should recuse itself from the matter since the houses were bought by the TPA

"It is surprising to realise that after eight months in office, the members of the present council seem only to be obsessed with the issue of Power Park and the former councillors when there is such a lot of work to be done by the council for Soweto residents"

The former councillors said they found it strange that the council wanted to prosecute the official who received their deposits when it did not bring charges against those who imposed levies on Soweto residents in the "backyards of the Sofasonke Party"

"The mayor's vindictive obsession with us is a smokescreen to cover up his failure to address the real issues and needs of the community"

The former councillors urged Mr Mkhwanazi to call a meeting between the two parties

"He can come to us as veterans for advice on how to run Soweto if he is having problems in the council"

One of the former councillors showed The Star a receipt which showed that he had paid a deposit on his house in April 1988

Sowetan
Page 4 20/7/89

Tariff hikes opposed

(127)

THE Krugersdorp Interim Co-Ordinating Committee has submitted a petition with close to 2 000 signatures to the Kagiso Town Council protesting against proposed tariff hikes

The petition was handed to the deputy town clerk, Mr G K Musi on Tuesday

It states among other things that the cost of living was high and that the unemployment rate was growing by day which made the increase in tariffs unjustifiable.

The residents contend that their streets are untarred and that there are no facilities like parks, swimming pools and other social amenities for the residents.

The mayor of Kagiso, Mr Edward Moeketsi, yesterday declined to comment on the matter.

Clean up in Alex

127

ALEXANDRA residents will take part in a clean-up campaign which starts at 9am tomorrow

"Operation clean-up" is sponsored by community organisations including the Alexandra Action Committee.

A statement released by chairman of the committee, Mr Moses Mayekiso, a trade union leader, said the campaign was prompted by the presence of unhygienic conditions in Alexandra

"Alexandra looks filthy with rubbish all over in the yards and in the streets. Children and residents suffer from all kinds of diseases because of this dirt," said Mayekiso

Sowetan 21/7/89

He appealed to all residents to participate fully in the campaign

(127)

Despite Nat talk of 'grey areas', Pageview's heartbreak goes on

PAT DEVEREAUX

"FIETAS" was given to the Asian people by President Paul Kruger in 1896 — but today Johannesburg's Pageview hangs in limbo as 67 remaining families continue their 27-year battle to remain in the area, under the axe of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning.

This week Democratic Party candidate for Johannesburg West Mr Willem Hefer met the Save Pageview Association's chairman, Mr Farouk Varachia, and secretary Mr Ebrahim Kharsany

The three went walkabout in what the Indian community has dubbed "the heartbreak suburb"

At its peak there were 8 000 people living in a bustling, cosmopolitan area where people of all races mingled and lived But it is clear the bulldozers and legislation have destroyed the heart of the community.

"They may have destroyed the heart, but not the spirit," said Mr Kharsany

"All the Pageview residents ask is that the Johannesburg City Council management committee or the Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Roelf Meyer — into whose constituency we fall — allow our suburb to be examined by the Free Settlement Board It is then up to the board to refuse or allow it to be declared a grey area," said Mr Varachia

Now, after years of constant battles against eviction, two historic mosques, two closed schools and 32 shabby housing units stand out conspicuously amid new low-cost housing for whites.

In 1962, with the stroke of a pen and the Group Areas Act, it was declared a white suburb and 6 000 Asian families were sent packing to Lenasia, 35 km away.

But 67 Indian families have refused to budge despite 27 years of harassment by Government officials.

Mr Hefer said: "I cannot understand how, with its talk of 'open and grey areas', the Government remains insensitive to the Indian community's sentimental attachment to Pageview

"A stable Indian community has been disrupted and replaced with a transient white community which is in arrears with rentals," he said

"Cape Town's District Six has gone, here it is not yet too late. Even the Islamic Bank has stated that it will finance the redevelopment of Pageview," he added.

HEARTBREAK SUBURB: Children play as their elders ponder. Mr Willem Hefer (centre) with Mr Ebrahim Kharsany and Mr Farouk Varachia. ● Photograph: Ken Oosterbroek.

The Pageview issue was left in limbo last month at a Johannesburg City Council meeting after an application from the Save Pageview Association for the suburb to be declared a free settlement area.

For a suburb to be examined by the Free Settlement Board it is necessary for the local authority (in this case the Johannesburg City Council) to support the application.

But at last month's council meeting the Pageview matter was withdrawn at the last minute after management committee chairman Mr Jan Burger admitted he had received "instructions from higher authorities"

This was yet another blow to the community which has a history of struggle.

In 1937 Parliament allowed the council to transfer ownership of land in Pageview to the Indian community.

In the mid-1970s the Department of Community Development once more offered the Indian families compensation and attempted to move them to Lenasia

"They then tried to move us under the Slums Act but ultimately only two houses were declared slums," said Mr Kharsany.

"Finally, the department resorted to the Group Areas Act and began to build low-cost white housing in the area, promising the council they would get us out. They moved the white families in and have forced racial integration, which we welcome," said Mr Varachia

"Now the Government's houses are rented out by the department at low rentals. Very few have been sold to white families Those that have bought these houses are attempting to re-sell their homes to Indian families in the hope that they will make an extraordinary profit," said Mr Kharsany.

In 1983 it was recommended by the President's Council that the situation be restored. But still there have been attempts to evict the families. To prevent eviction, the Save Pageview Association has spent thousands on court interdicts

And in April this year their application to the Free Settlement Board was blocked

The deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Meyer, said in a reply letter to the association:

"I have decided that Pageview cannot be supported as a free settlement area"

He said he believed the families living in the area, which falls into his constituency, should move to nearby integrated Mayfair.

"But Mr Meyer has never explained why Pageview has been excluded from the orbit of the Free Settlement Board," said Mr Hefer

"Not only do they refuse to request that the area be examined by the Free Settlement Board, they refuse to debate it in the council," said Mr Hefer He added: "These people are being used as pawns in an election strategy."

(127)

800 homeless families defy council

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

ABOUT 800 homeless families in Duduza on the East Rand have defied the local town council and erected shacks on the outskirts of the township

Council police were confronted by angry shack dwellers last week when they tried to demolish the first shacks to be erected

Yesterday more shacks were erected by desperate families at the Dunusa squatter camp

The camp has no toilet facilities and families share two communal taps

The mayor of Duduza, Mr Kebane Moloi, said they were aware the families had erected shacks in the area without the council's permission.

More taps and toilet buckets were to be provided this week

Trust

According to him, the South Africa Housing Trust was to build about 1 200 houses for the low-income group at the squatter site Building would start early next year.

He said: "The council met representatives of the families last Wednesday and it was agreed that only those on the housing waiting list be allowed to build shacks."

As from August 1, the families would be charged R17,20 for site rent and R12,80 for service charges Service charges include the removal of refuse and toilet buckets

A family arriving at Dunusa on Friday evening to erect their shack

De Klerk sowing division

Sowetan 24/7/89

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu has accused the National Party leader, Mr F W de Klerk, of trying to drive a wedge between Mr Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress

According to a statement released by the Archbishop, he was responding to a speech at the Cape congress of the National Party at the weekend in which De Klerk reportedly asked whether the ANC was "prepared to follow the lead given by Mandela and commit itself to the pursuit of peaceful solutions."

wrong

"Our liberation movements have sought change peacefully since before 1910 (the date of union)," he said in the statement

"It is his government which forced the ANC and PAC to turn to violence by banning them and it is his government

CUT HERE

Leon ejected from council in Pageview row

Star 26/7/89

By Joe Openshaw (127)

Mr Tony Leon, leader of the Democratic Party in the Johannesburg City Council, was last night removed from the chamber by municipal security guards on the orders of chairman Mr Jan van Blerk of the National Party

This happened while Mr Leon was trying to move that Mr van Blerk was incompetent to be chairman When Mr Leon was removed, the DP walked out and the meeting was adjourned

Mr Leon's removal came after a heated exchange between Mr van Blerk and himself over whether there could be a debate on Pageview.

Conservative Party leader Mr Jaques Theron and Mr Hendrik Claasens (CP, Mayfair) also walked out when Mr van Blerk refused to allow Mr Claasens to discuss Pageview

Mr van Blerk had ruled that Pageview could not be discussed because the item had been withdrawn at an earlier council meeting

In June the DP walked out after Mr van Blerk, as chairman, had cast his deciding vote for a recommendation to the Free Settlement Board that Pageview should not be a free settlement area

Mr Leon wanted to speak on the management committee's recommendation because the item on Pageview appeared in the minutes of the May meeting, but Mr van Blerk ruled him out of order as the item had subsequently been withdrawn

Mr Leon later said the NP was using bullying tactics to try to compensate for their lack of a majority in the council.

Benoni gives nod for Indians in white suburbs

"Benoni has taken a positive step in the right direction by clearly indicating its opposition to racialism and discrimination in stark contrast to certain of its neighbours and a small fraction within its ranks" (127)

This was the view of the chairman of the Benoni Town Council management committee, Mr Vic Penning, after the council had agreed to state in a letter to the Transvaal Provincial Administration that it had no objection to the application of two Indian families to reside in white Benoni suburbs Star 26/7/89

His decision is a sequel to a letter received from the East Rand regional director of the TPA four months ago in which he requested that the Benoni council make its feelings known on the two permit applications

Earlier at the monthly council meeting last night another councillor, Mr Aubrey Ritz, said he could not support any system that required people to apply for a permit to live in a particular area

The Conservative Party spokesman, Dr Willie Koen, accused the council of "delaying tactics" because it had taken so long to reply to the application — Staff Reporter

Bid to prevent slums

Council proposes landlord controls

127

Star 26/7/89.

By Joe Openshaw

New slums regulations to control overcrowding in Johannesburg buildings and to monitor letting practices in suburban backyards were accepted by the City Council last night.

The regulations, which will be sent to the administrator for approval, were introduced by Mrs Marietta Marx, chairman of the Health and Housing Committee and deputy chairman of the management committee They set fines for overcrowding at a maximum of R500 instead of the R200 in the old regulations promulgated in 1939

Mrs Marx said the regulations were needed because of the serious cases of overcrowding in Johannesburg buildings and would prevent landlords from exploiting the less fortunate She said they were non-racial

They give the City Health Department wider powers to control health and sanitation in city buildings and to prevent deterioration of accommodation.

They will control letting of garages and storerooms in the suburbs and overcrowding in servants' quarters

"The regulations do not only apply to Hillbrow and Berea but to the whole of the municipality We are talking about homeowners, landlords and estate agents," said Mrs Marx

She said the Health Department was geared up to follow up the provisions of the regulations and whenever any person had been convicted of an offence in terms of them, any continuation of the contravention after conviction would constitute a new offence

"Landlords won't be able to budget against the financial inconvenience of the regulations," she said

Provision is made for adequate floor space and free air space for tenants

Other provisions of the regulations are

- Landlords will not be allowed to permit people to sleep or live in latrines, passages, staircases, landings, bathrooms, cupboards, out buildings, garages, stables, lean-to sheds, cellars or storerooms without approval of the health authorities
- Landlords will not be able to let premises where there is no facility for preparing and cooking food
- The owner of any premises will have to provide one or more shower, bath or other ablution facilities
- The owner will have to ensure proper and sufficient hot water
- Premises will have to be clean and notice could be served on owners if any premises are found to be unhealthy, unhygenic and unfit for human habitation
- Baths, showers and wash basins will have to be provided in boarding houses
- Landlords will not be permitted to let adjoining rooms with connecting doors to more than one family unless each room is provided independently with light and ventilation
- Sanitary fittings, boilers, lighting and fire extinguishing equipment will have to be in proper working order
- Premises must be kept free of refuse, rubber and litter and measures taken to prevent breeding of rodents, flies and vermin
- The premises must be kept in a good state of repair
- Rooms must be supplied with electricity for lighting and power and passageways, stairways and lifts must be adequately lit

Transport and General Workers' Union

Dr Brand, who confirmed he and Professor Lombard were at the talks, said the presence of

and on the economic methods which would be employed to achieve a smooth transition"

Delegates were said to have agreed the economy was in crisis because of apartheid

Benoni gives nod for Indians in white suburbs

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The Conservative Party spokesman, Dr Willie Koen, accused the council of "delaying tactics" because it had taken so long to reply to the application — Staff Reporter

RW 27/7/89 (127)

Evicted tenant gets flat back

By Cathy Stagg

A tenant of a Joubert Park flat has successfully challenged his eviction by his landlord

Mr Justice N M MacArthur yesterday granted an order in the Rand Supreme Court which restored Mr Andrew Cecil Louw's occupation of 28 Stresa Court, 35 Koch Street

In papers Mr Louw said he had lived in the flat since November

On July 1, Mr R D van Wezel introduced himself to Mr Louw and other tenants as the new owner of the building and collected R332,89 rent from Mr Louw

On July 19, Mr Louw returned home to find his front door had been broken into Mr Paulus Sibu, Mr van Wezel and others were in the flat.

When he asked what was going on, Mr van Wezel said he had a new tenant, Mr Sibu

A new lock was fitted to the door and Mr Louw was told his possessions had to be removed by July 22.

The urgent application was launched late on Friday but was postponed until this week to give the respondents an opportunity to answer the allegations No new documents were filed and Mr Justice MacArthur granted a final order yesterday

The respondents were ordered to pay the costs of the application

Whites made 'arrogant by Group Areas'

Star 27/7/89

127

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

The Group Areas Act, more than any other discriminatory law, signified for black South Africans dispossession and rejection by the white community and entrenched apartheid further, a Peninsula Technikon lecturer, Mr Franklin Sonn, said last night.

Speaking at a well-attended Save Boksburg Committee meeting at Reiger Park, Mr Sonn attacked the Group Areas Act and condemned Conservative Party-controlled Boksburg Town Council's decision to re-impose petty apartheid in the town

"This Act more than any other piece of legislation made whites arrogant. It confirmed their belief that because they are white they are the chosen people of God and as such can arrogate unto themselves the best beaches, the parks, the mountains and, in Boksburg, even the public thoroughfares and roads"

RESISTANCE

Mr Sonn said the community of Reiger Park, which last night again decided to continue with the boycott of "white" Boksburg, would go down in history as having resisted "a bigoted, racist white community" grown accustomed to treating blacks as though they were inhuman

The town was known internationally for both "unbelievable racist arrogance and determined resistance against oppression, denial and exploitation".

He disclosed that he had received a letter from the "Wit Wolwe" threatening him with death.

"If the Wit Wolwe think they are making us afraid they are wrong, because they are indirectly telling us our actions are hurting them," said Mr Sonn

Archbishop Denis Hurley said it was sad that the Bible was used to justify Boksburg Town Council's flagrant disregard of human dignity

"The people of Boksburg are saying that you, who are made in the image of God, are good enough to associate with God, but you are not good enough to associate with them That is why apartheid is a heresy and blasphemy," Archbishop Hurley said

LATE EDITION

ANC accused of supplies racket

Star 27/7/89

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

African National Congress commanders and leaders are allegedly selling off supplies intended for insurgents inside South Africa and provided by Scandinavian countries, according to the South Africa Police.

Police said this information had been gleaned from various ANC defectors during questioning by the security forces.

According to the SAP public relations directorate, the defectors say the supplies were being seized by key ANC personnel and then sold for hard cash.

A ready market is said to exist on the black market in countries such as Zambia for these goods. Cash is then said to be pocketed by the ANC black marketeers, the sources said.

Clothing is said to form a large part of this illicit trade.

The defectors, according to the SAP, claim the selling off of the goods intended for insurgents in South Africa has caused considerable tension within the ANC in Lusaka.

2 men seen running from Alex clinic fire

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Staff Reporters

Star 27/7/89

Alexandra Health Clinic's nurses' hostel in Wynberg was badly damaged by fire early today after a security guard and staff heard two explosions and saw two men, one of them white, running from the scene

Staff did not get a clear view of the second man.

While doctors and nurses suspect the fire was caused by a petrol bomb, the police and fire brigade said it was caused by an electrical fault.

Nurses were slightly injured as they battled to escape the blaze through broken windows.

Dr Tim Wilson, head of the clinic, said there was no immediate evidence of a petrol bomb, but a security guard heard two explosions and saw the two men running from the scene.

In nearby Alexandra only 15 minutes later, the flat of Alexandra Youth Congress (AYCO) president, Mr Paul Mashadile, was damaged in a petrol bomb attack A plastic petrol container was found at the scene.

Police and fire department officials who were called to investigate the clinic blaze said they suspected the fire was caused by an electrical fault.

Heroes of the Alex Health Clinic fire ... Mr William Baloyi (left), Mr Nimrod Panya and Mr Solomon Mdau.

"The security guard said he heard an explosion, saw people running away, and thought a petrol bomb had been thrown. But we found no traces of anything to support this," said a fire department spokesman.

The explosion heard could have been glass shattering from heat, he said.

"The fire damaged the sitting room and spread to the kitchen area. The bedrooms were not damaged and fortunately the security guard managed to wake the nurses in time," he added

Sister Eugene Ngwekazi said she heard strange noises in the building at about 3 30 am

"When I opened my door the passage was full of smoke With my neighbour we crawled through the smoke towards the front door.

"Although I am still shocked I am lucky I wasn't injured Most of the other nurses had to get out of the building through windows and were badly cut," she said.

The flat of the president of the Alexandra Youth Congress (AYCO), Mr Paul Mashadile, was petrol-bombed at about 4 am today.

No-one was injured in the attack but considerable damage was caused.

Mr Mashadile told The Star he was asleep when a loud bang woke him.

The room was ablaze and he rushed to the next bedroom to wake his flatmate, Mr Jacob Mtshali, general secretary of AYCO

"We both rushed to the front door. We doused the flames with water and managed to get out," he said

Mr Mashadile said they found a 2 litre petrol container outside.

They are both restricted in terms of emeregency regulations and confined to the flat between 6 pm and 6 am.

7 000 sites for the homeless

Sowetan 27/7/89

127

THE mayor of Soweto, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi, yesterday said he had secured 7 000 sites at Orange Farm for Soweto's low-income families, especially Mshenguville residents.

He said residents wishing to be allocated sites at Orange Farm should report to his office at the Jabulani chambers today.

He has arranged a bus to take residents to Orange Farm to inspect the place and buses which will leave Mshenguville on Sunday, July 30, at 10 am. Orange Farm is near Grasmere, on the way to Evaton.

There is a train station near Orange Farm and buses and taxis drive past the area from Evaton and Sebokeng, said Mkhwanazi.

"I would like all residents of Mshenguville to apply for sites at Orange Farm as this is the council's last resort in resettling them. Those who fail to apply for sites will never get a chance as the council has no other land to accommodate people," said Mkhwanazi.

He said 1 000 sites will be reserved specifically for Mshenguville residents. Residents should have at least R50 deposit for the sites they apply for.

The 7 000 sites will be serviced by the Government which is presently installing water taps and providing ablution facilities.

Residents of the 1 000 sites are expected to build their own temporary accommodation and to build houses of their own choice later.

The other 6 000 sites will be developed for low income and middle-income families. Residents can buy the houses which will be priced from R20 000 and more.

VANISHING CATS END UP IN POTS

WASHING vanishes from clotheslines, milk bottles are swiped off doorsteps and pet cats disappear never to be seen again

SOWETAN Reporter

Residents of the Johannesburg suburb of Belgravia blame it all on "tent people" who live under the stars on Langerman Kop

The doings of the "tent people," who erect plastic shelters in Alexander Park above Belgravia and beg money from the residents, were disclosed at Tuesday night's Johannesburg City Council meeting by NP councillor, Mr Richard MacArthur

Chief among the rumours, he said, are that the vanishing cats go into cooking pots.

Children

"There are very young children among them and they are neglected and hungry," said MacArthur of the squatters "At night you can see the fires that keep them warm flickering on the koppie

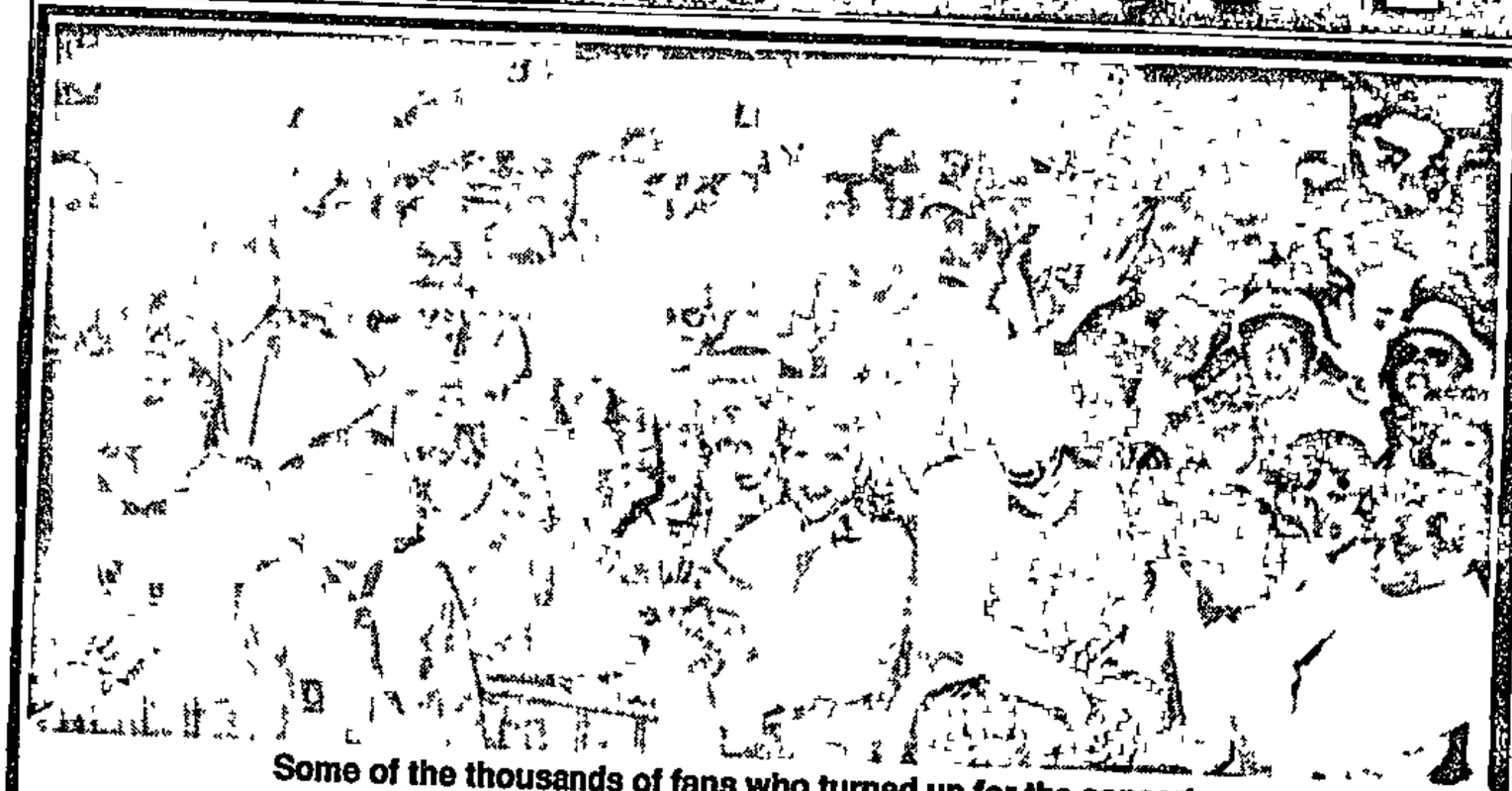
"The squatters say living on the koppie in winter is cold, but in summer it's great and they have one of the finest views in Johannesburg," said MacArthur

The "tent people" have been there for over a year and although some have accepted food and shelter from a clergyman, others have refused similar help offered by the Salvation Army.

Food

"Sometimes residents give the tent people food but complain that it is not eaten because the squatters are more interested in money to buy alcohol," said MacArthur, who baulks at the idea of the "tent people" being uprooted and dumped somewhere else

He feels it is a council responsibility to sit down and explain to them the advantages of permanent shelter, food and schooling for the children.



Some of the thousands of fans who turned up for the concert.

Swazi thrash a big success

Sowetan 27/7/89 (312)

MBABANE - Swinging Swaziland is recovering from the three-day concert which ended on Sunday and the organisers have said they are thinking of staging another.

Authorities dismissed reports of chaos at border posts where waiting of up to 10 hours were reported by visitors from South Africa

The authorities said these delays happened on the South African side of the border, and traffic flowed freely in Swaziland itself.

As the mammoth pop spectacular was being assessed the organisers called a Press conference and said they were so happy about it that they are tentatively planning another, for some in November.

It would be a day-long affair, but they could not give the name of possible star attractions.

Last weekend's concert was organised by the King's Trust committee to raise funds to help jobless young people, but the next concert would not necessarily be under the King's Trust banner, organisers said.

Auditors are still calculating how much had been taken at the gates and balancing it against expenses, so it was still too early to estimate the profit for the King's Trust, organisers said. The figure could be known by tomorrow, they said.

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'Decent living conditions in all areas'

Council in bid to stop overcrowding

By Joe Openshaw

Johannesburg's new slum regulations would be used to control overcrowding and exploitation of tenants by landlords in future free settlement areas, Mrs Marietta Marx, chairman of the City Council's Health and Housing Committee, said yesterday.

The regulations were not intended just for high-density population areas such as Hillbrow, but to give health authorities the "power and teeth", to ensure decent living conditions in any area, even in outbuildings in backyards of affluent suburbs

Mrs Marx was speaking at a media conference attended by Professor Hilliard Hurwitz, the city's Medical Officer of Health, and Mr Manie Venter, the Town Clerk

"These regulations are aimed at preventing ghettos in any part of the city and future free-settlement areas

"The regulations would be enforced as soon as approved of by the administrator and promulgated as by-laws," said Mrs Marx

Structural deterioration of buildings and insanitary conditions will fall under a multi-disciplined and inter-departmental working committee made up of Government and local authority representatives

The committee would welcome complaints of overcrowding, insanitary conditions and unacceptable living conditions from the public

Mrs Marx gave the assurance that people would not be displaced

Professor Hurwitz said overcrowding in Hillbrow was "grossly exaggerated"

"There are pockets of overcrowding but a Health Department survey shows occupancy in the area is not a great deal higher than otherwise expected

"The problem is not overcrowding but neglect of buildings and lack of decent sanitation and living standards Of 80 prosecutions recently there was not a single one for overcrowding," he said

There was a great deal of exploitation in Hillbrow where people were put into buildings not properly maintained and lifts and electric lights not working

Complaints can be telephoned to Civil Defence, (011) 724-3248, and Sanitary Department, (011) 403-2626

MEETING THE HOUSING CHALLENGE

127 Sowetan 28/7/89

Black/White joint ventures could be the answer

Co-operative ventures between white and black builders is one of the most effective ways of tackling the country's black housing backlog, says Mike Graham, Managing Director of Time Housing

We have long realised that this is the only logical and realistic route to take. Partnerships between ourselves and black builders have already resulted in 96 homes being built in less than four months at kwaGuqa near Witbank in 1987

A few months ago we teamed up with a group of black building entrepreneurs to form Tri Time (Pty) Ltd and this partnership is already yielding fruit.

In its first venture, the new company recently officially handed over the first three houses in a 50-home project to upgrade two blocks in 13th Avenue, Alexandra, near Sandton

Says Nel Khumalo a Director of the new company "We managed to build the first homes in six weeks which made us the first among several contractors who were allocated stands by the Alexandra City Council to complete some houses"

Says Mr Khumalo "Thus far we have experienced few hitches although we did encounter unstable soil in places which required unusually deep foundations of up to 1,5 m The delay caused by this was more than made up by our fast and efficient construction team

For many years there were no proper housing schemes that took into account all the needs of the residents of Alex. This has now changed dramatically

The company s two and three bedroomed homes are designed for the middle-to-upper income group and sell at between R39 000 and R64 000 including land. Homeowners have more than 100 designs and various finishes from which to choose.

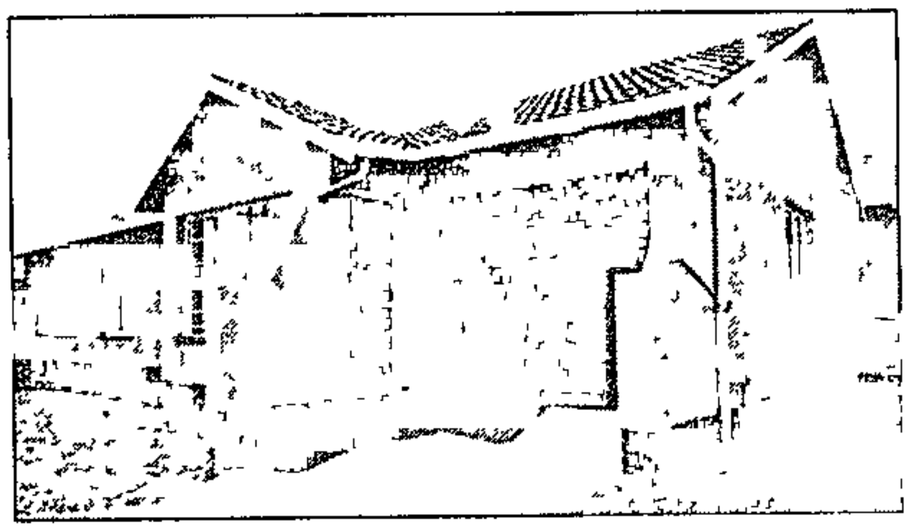
A timetable has been drawn up which will see the company expand its activities to other metropolitan areas in the Transvaal this year

Says Mr Khumalo We believe that partnerships between black and white entrepreneurs are crucial to the gradual elimination of the huge housing backlog. They also allow black entrepreneurs to grow much faster than would otherwise have been the case.

My partner Alf Molathoe and I have many years of experience in the building industry However a small building company needs a strong partner if it is to impact.

As a joint venture Tri Time is working exceptionally well Time Housing provides not only the financial muscle and expertise, but also on-going training in critically important areas such as marketing, administration bond registration and customer relations and its draughting and conveyancing services are invaluable to us Tri Time Housing may be contacted on 832 2040/9

(Extract from Housing in Southern Africa)



One of the three homes that were officially handed over by Tri Time (Pty) Ltd in a 50 home project to upgrade two blocks in 13th Avenue Alexandra, near Sandton

TOKOZA EXT 5 NOW RELEASED

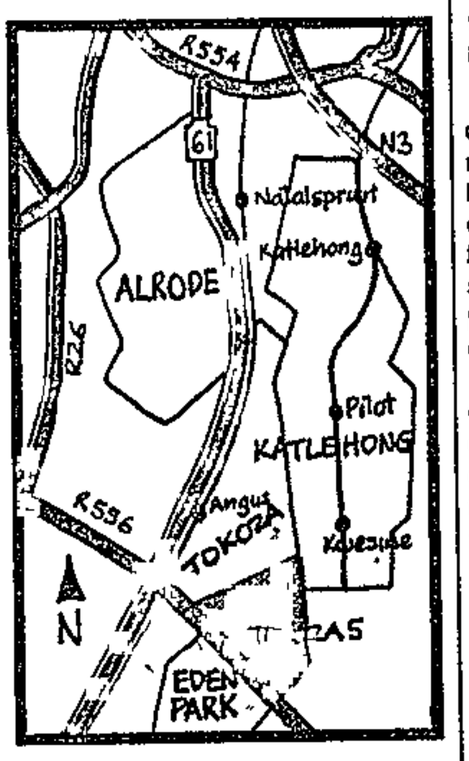
Time Housing have now commenced the services and roads to this exclusive new suburb in the East Rand During the next 5 years over 1 000 new homes will be built, all to the individual designs and finishes chosen by the families who will live there.

The suburb will have the best level of services provided such as water, sewers and full underground electricity as well as tarred roads and street lighting.

Land has also been made available for new schools, churches and creches as well as parks and plenty of open spaces

A show area which will be built by the end of the year will be open 7 days a week for enquiries

If you would like to find out more about this new area and a new home for your family, why not telephone our offices on 834 4871 or 880 6088 or call into our office in Central Johannesburg — New Street North, just off Rissik Street, Monday to Saturday 8 to 5 — we will be pleased to offer advice to you!



Time Housing builds over 100 new houses every month in the Johannesburg area!

It's no easy task says Pat Collins, Director of Time Housing, to hand over the keys to so many houses every month each one to an excited happy family, almost all who have never owned a brand new house!

Time Housing was formed in 1984, the home building development arm of the Time Holdings Ltd Group Since then over 20 branch offices have been opened to serve almost the whole of South Africa. Nearly 4 000 new homes will be built in 1989 of which 3 000 will be for black families and the balance for the Asian, Coloured and White communities.

In the Johannesburg area, Time are currently active in the suburbs of Vosloorus, Tokoza, Spruitview Daveyton Mohlakeng, Tsakane and Khutsong and their new prestigious suburb of Westside Park in Sebokeng is about to be launched.

The secret of Time s success is attributed to four major items. Firstly, every home is individually matched to the needs and financial constraints of the family budget, and the choice of finishes selected by the customer

Secondly, all the paperwork is handled by experienced Time staff who negotiate with town councils, building societies, banks and attorneys.

Thirdly, qualified Time consultants are always ready to give advice and keep their customers in touch with progress.

Fourthly every house is built with the best materials available and carefully supervised for quality Time Housing s after sales service is also available. Not here today, gone tomorrow!

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

127

The problems and Some Solutions

Sowetan 28/7/89

Some of the problems facing housing companies include the scarcity of land nationwide particularly inexpensive land and town councils which force developers to apply standards that are far too high and too costly for an effective solution In addition to this house prices tend to become inflated due to delays in conveyancing.

"Nevertheless at Time Housing we are confident that much can be done despite these problems This is particularly true in cases where one is able to develop a strong relationship with a major employer as most problems can be resolved on a co-operative basis.

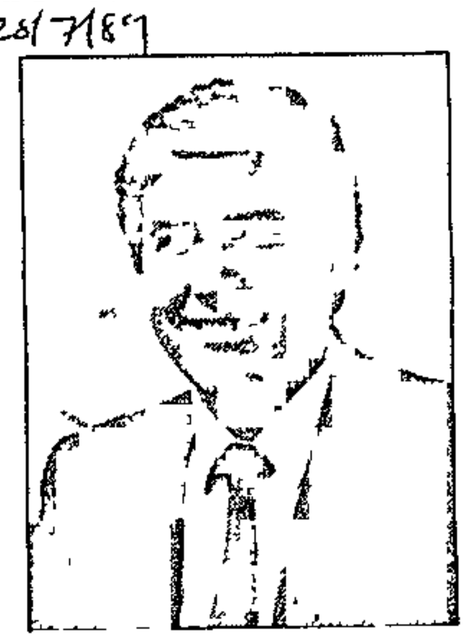
"For example, we have been having discussions with major employers with a view to them providing bridging finance to developers for temporary funding of low-cost schemes.

"This would enable the developer to be paid regularly while the employer would be reimbursed from the proceeds of bond registrations. This system would not only facilitate a smooth production flow, but also allow for construction to start two to three months earlier than normal.

"This in turn, would reduce the impact of inflation and escalating administrative costs while improving productivity and providing security for developer and homeowner alike.

"We are also trying to reduce the cost of serviced stands as much as possible because stands form a major part of the total housing package cost.

"Through effective township layout and efficient engineering services design, we are able to cut costs without compromising on quality and can therefore address lower income market requirements.



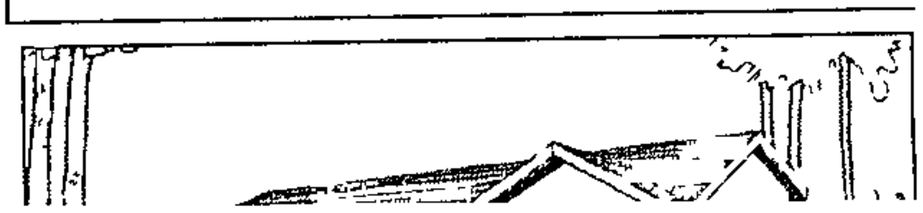
Mike Graham, Managing Director — Time Housing

"Other procedures that have been successful in assisting us to cope with the housing challenge and improving margins and productivity are tight control of overheads cost-effective designs and the use of alternative, inexpensive materials, excellent site security and strict quality controls.

We are convinced that by applying these criteria in collaboration with major employers, we create a sound way of efficiently tackling the low-cost market of providing economically priced quality homes while maintaining reasonable profit margins.

We believe the route we have taken is a logical one for the industry in our mixed First World Third World environment. We are convinced it will significantly contribute to the future prosperity of the country and all its peoples , says Mr Graham.

(Extract from Housing in Southern Africa)



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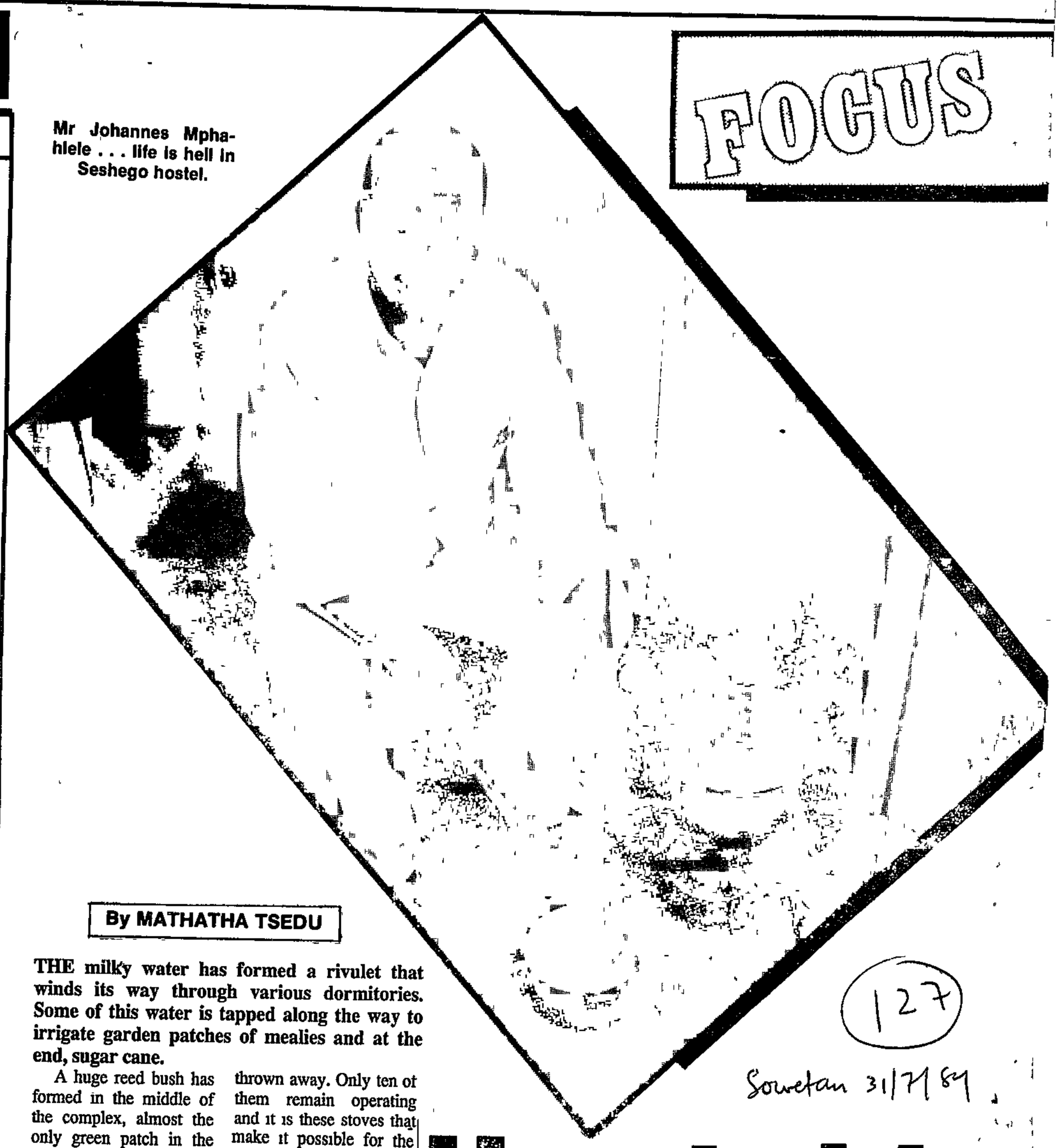
FOCUS



Mr Johannes Mphahlele . . . life is hell in Seshego hostel.

By MATHATHA TSEDU

127

Sowetan 31/7/89

Hostel is inviting a plague

THE milky water has formed a rivulet that winds its way through various dormitories. Some of this water is tapped along the way to irrigate garden patches of mealies and at the end, sugar cane.

A huge reed bush has formed in the middle of the complex, almost the only green patch in the squalor and dirt that makes the Seshego hostel

The milky water is from blocked drainages of showers and toilets. It is also from leaking taps that have not been attended to since the leaks started more than five years ago, according to residents.

The noise made by the leaking taps is audible from afar. The water level in the toilet and shower floors is more than 10 mm deep, resulting in people no longer using the toilets unless they have to. For urination, they just do it outside, avoiding walking into the flood.

The hostel near the burgeoning industrial site, houses over 500 people in shocking and unhygienic conditions It is as one resident said, an epidemic waiting to happen

Beds

The inmates sleep 20 to a room in 10 double decker beds, the beds, originally made of steel wire mesh cushioned in with a mat, have all but broken down. Inmates have used ordinary wires to keep themselves afloat

The hostel is divided into two zones Altogether, the hostel has 20 electric stoves, fitted last year. Of these, only f [illegible] al when *Sowetan* visited the hostel. Inmates said the others had worked for one week only.

Old coal stoves used before "modernisation" came were taken out and thrown away. Only ten of them remain operating and it is these stoves that make it possible for the inmates to cook.

The situation in the kitchen is however very serious as long queues for cooking form up to the early hours of the morning. The last meal is usually cooking at 1am, they said. After that, it is almost time to wake up and go to work again.

The kitchens are dirty and the sink basins blocked while taps have been broken for years without repairs, according to residents. One cleaner, in his sixties, said he had reported all the problems to the clerk several times without any action being taken.

The bleak and smelly surroundings house workers employed in Pietersburg and the local industry. They pay R2,50 per month or R4 for those in single rooms There are no facilities to store food so this is tucked under beds where cockroaches take marathons and half marathons using the pots as starting and finishing posts.

The inmates said the hostel conditions have deteriorated over the years. The last "renovation" made being the installation of steel mesh over windows to stop thefts from outside Before th[illegible] had been re[illegible]ed on the outside while conditions inside were ignored, they said.

Like all hostels, women are not allowed in. The only time they come close to the hostel is on Sundays when traditional dances are held nearby. It is here that various groups compete, and attempt, one might say, to drown their miseries in song and dance

Oldest

One of the oldest inmates, Mr Johannes Mphahlele, a member of the Nactu-affiliated Food Beverage Workers Union, said the inmates had no committee to address their grievances Speaking as he cooked in his room, Mphahlele said the hostel, opened in the seventies, had been deteriorating since

"We pay our rent but [illegible] maintenance [illegible] most looked after or expensive, would end up a ghetto if there is no maintenance. It is shameful that this situation is happening in a place that is controlled by people who claim to be our own leaders and who go about criticising whites for bad treatment of blacks," Mphahlele said

An official at the local health department said his office had not conducted an inspection of the hostel for many years He said he would be going on an inspection tour of the area. He expressed shock at the conditions as described by *Sowetan*.

The secretary for home affairs in Lebowa, which controls the hostel, Dr P P Pheme, said in response to inquiries by *Sowetan* that the Lebowa government felt that the concept of hostels was a "nuisance"

[illegible] inmates [illegible] the deteriorating conditions and said many "illegal" people were staying in the hostel. He said his department had made a study last year to renovate the hostel It would have cost R480 000, Pheme said.

He said the department was collecting "almost nothing" from the rent and said consideration was given to selling the complex to a private buyer

Stoves

Pheme said the electric stoves had not been working because "someone" had tampered with the electricity supply which resulted in the supply being unable to cope with the demand He said he had sent officials of his department to the ho[illegible] to check and also to co[illegible]tact the Department of Works about the electricity

"We were not aware that the situation is like that. But our position as a department and a government is that we would not have built a hostel because they are just a nuisance," Pheme said.

Toilets out of order 6 weeks

Sowetan 2/8/89 (127)

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

ABOUT 100 families at Unit F in Tokoza on the East Rand have been without toilet facilities for six weeks after sewerage pipes in the area burst

The families also claim that when they bought the houses, a joint project by the Tokoza Town Council and the Family Housing Association, they were promised:

* Electricity in their homes.
* Street lights.
* Tarred roads.

The section was established three years ago.

A spokesman for the Unit F Residents Committee, Miss Hillary Bendi, said they had written to the council and the FHA about their grievances.

"The council and the FHA must keep their promise," said Bendi.

The chief executive officer of the FHA, Mr Brian E Longley, said they only provided the infrastructure, including the sewer and water facilities at Unit F - a site and service scheme project.

Longley said: "In the contract we signed with the council, we never promised to provide electricity and tarred roads. The houses were meant for the low-income group."

The deputy chairman of the council's management committee, Mr Abraham Mzizi, said the families were never promised electricity and tarred roads.

"The council was granted R2,6-million by the East Rand Regional Services Council and part of the money would be used to improve the sewer system and tar the roads in the area," said Mzizi

He said the council has applied for more funds from the ERRSC to complete the electricity project in the section

SLUMS ACT (127)

Revised for Jo'burg

Johannesburg's new slums regulations have been well received The hard part will be implementing them

FINANCIAL MAIL AUGUST 4 1989

(127) fmail 4/8/89.

The regulations, yet to be approved by central government, must deal with 100 000 blacks living (illegally) in the inner city A consequent evil has been the emergence of unscrupulous landlords and mass evictions, with the allegation that landlords are exploiting the vulnerability of blacks living in a whites-only group area Landlords have avoided using the Group Areas Act and instead are using the common law principle, *rei vindicatio*, to evict black protestors Black tenants argue that, with almost 2m blacks in the PWV looking for accommodation, landlords can afford to be indifferent to the shocking state of many of the buildings

The council, however, has steadfastly refused to acknowledge racial segregation as being the root cause of the issue It says in the preface to its new regulations that they are needed because the previous regulations passed in 1934 "do not provide for the adequate control of overcrowding and the maintenance of satisfactory standards of residential premises"

Taking the past into account, the question now being asked by inner city residents is whether the laws will be used (as in the past) to justify black removals, or will they be used to put an end to exploitative landlordism?

Marietta Marx, the Nationalist deputy chairman of the city council's management committee, insists that the regulations are aimed at curbing the landlords She promises that black tenants will only be evicted after "adequate notification," and even so, this will only occur as a last resort "We want to protect the residents"

Marx says the by-laws are not politically motivated, but that the regulations are designed to improve the living conditions of all in the city Proof of the council's desire to achieve this is what she calls "the teeth" in the regulations, the council will be able to impose a fine of up to R500 Actstop, the organisation which articulates the grievances of black flat tenants, has supported the aspects of the regulations which seem to be curbing exploitation of tenants

But Actstop has its reservations "With 1,7m people in the PWV area living without security, we fear that landlords might find it economical to pay the fine and still evict the people without doing anything about the building" Actstop will hold the council responsible for any evictions and will demand that it provides alternative accommodation It believes that in order for the council to prove its good intentions, it must declare "a moratorium" on all evictions

Cliff Garrun, DP councillor for Berea-Hillbrow, welcomes the accumulating fines for offenders, but wonders about the council's ability to implement the laws This, he says, flows from their lack of popular support, which he blames on the council's refusal to talk to the black residents and Actstop He also says the provision of four health inspectors for Hillbrow is "totally inadequate"

The regulations prescribe a space limit of 3,7 m² per person, a prohibition on occupying garages, sheds, lean-tos, tents, latrines and bathrooms, and a prohibition on letting a premise to more than one family where there is insufficient space Owners will also have to provide, among other things, kitchen space accessible to all tenants, adequate washing facilities (including hot water) and accommodation facilities generally in accordance with the National Building Regulations

Where the MoH deems the premises to be unfit for human habitation, he can end occupation, thereby evicting the tenants ■

Families evicted

ABOUT 92 families in Daveyton, Benoni, have been evicted from their houses for owing rent and service charges.

Some owe as much as R7 000 according to the local town council.

Squatters living in the yards of the evicted famalies were also ejected from their shacks.

They were booted out after the council had applied for a court order

An official of the Daveyton Town Council said the matter was out of their hands and the families had to pay the full amount that each owed before they could allowed back into the houses

Shadrack Sinaba . . . mayor of Daveyton.

He said the families had not been paying rent for the past three years and they failed to honour agreements they made both with the council and the council's lawyers

Defaulters

The council referred the defaulters to their lawyers in 1987, the official said, and they were aware that they would be evicted if they did not pay their rent then

There was a good chance, however, that they would get the houses back if they paid the outstanding amounts immediately.

He said if the tenants failed to come up with the money they owed after 21 days, the council would have to rent the houses out to other people or sell them

One of the people affected by the eviction is Mr Thomas Cengani (79), a pensioner whose belongings and that of the other five families living in shacks in his yard were left on the pavement by the messenger of the court yesterday. (127)

His daughter-in-law, Mrs Valentia Cengani said they were given notice of eviction on Tuesday and the following day, before they were evicted, they went to the council with half of the R2 200 they owed but the council refused to accept the money.

Sowetan 7/8/89

"We were advised that we had to pay the full amount, which had suddenly risen to R4 400 They told us the additional costs included lawyers' fees and interest on the money we owed," she said

Eskom not in rent talks

127

LAST week's meeting between an Eskom delegation and the Soweto People's Delegation dealt specifically with electricity supply to Soweto and not the rent boycott. Sowetan 7/6/89

This was said by Eskom in a statement following Press reports issued by the SPD that the meeting was arranged to discuss -among other items- solutions to the rent boycott.

The senior manager of Eskom, Mr Nic Terblanche, said while Eskom recognised the predicament of the local community with regard to the issue of arrears, it did not see itself as party to the negotiation as suggested by the SPD.

Rent squeeze

(127)

Sowetan 7/8/89

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Soweto Council has stopped issuing forms used by residents wishing to extend their homes can raise loans from financial institutions.

According to deputy mayor Miss Esther Mkhabela this was a strategy to force people who were in arrears with rent to start paying up.

Meanwhile, building construction companies claim the council's decision is forcing them out of business as they were no longer building as many additional rooms and garages as they had been doing in the past

Two of the building construction companies said they may be forced to retrench their staff or close shop.

Decision

Mkhabela yesterday confirmed that the council took the decision in February

She said:"Nearly 80 percent of the residents in the township are in arrears with their rent payments and we told the builders that we could not give them the documents until their customers paid off their debts "

The Soweto Builders Association said they were negotiating with the council to rescind the decision.

A white builder based in Johannesburg who asked not to be named for fear of reprisals said

"I used to generate about R800 000 a month but now I can only make between R300 000 and R400 000

"If the situation does not change in the township, I may be forced to reduce my staff or close my business. Things are really bad." he said

Ruined

Another builder from Soweto said the council's decision had ruined his business

"If we are not allowed to build again, I may have to close shop. I have pleaded with the council in the past five months to revoke their decision but to no avail," the builder said.

He said he had more than 50 garages and two rooms to erect in the township but was stuck because of the council's action "I have stopped taking any new building contracts," he said.

ER rent meeting

(127)

THE Wattville Concerned Residents Committee invites all residents to a meeting at the local Anglican church tomorrow at 6pm Sowetan 8/8/86

A spokesman for the committee said the meeting will discuss, among others, the dissolution of the council, tariff hikes and the failure of the council to provide meter reading cards for electricity and water.

He said at the meeting held last week, residents resolved to pay R50 a month for rent, electricity and service charges.

He added that the committee was mandated to consult a lawyer with a view of challenging the council for the determining and collection of rent in the area.

CP chases black engineers out of Witbank

By Therese Anders, Highveld Bureau Star

Three black engineers, two working for Anglo American and the third for American-owned Cyanamid, have been hounded out of their company accommodation in white Witbank residential areas

Credit for evicting the Anglo engineering students from Highveld Steel's single quarters has been claimed by Witbank's Conservative Party MP, Mr Wynand van Wyk, a former NGK minister

He complained the men were contravening the Group Areas Act Anglo moved them to a racially open hotel in Witbank

Mr van Wyk said last week he had been involved in removing about 15 black residents from white Witbank suburbs "by asking the police to help, or the CP itself asking these people to go"

The Cyanamid chemical engineer, a coloured, and his family were recently forced out of town after receiving threatening telephone calls from unknown people telling them to leave

The family had been staying in a house normally used for white employees on Cyanamid property just north of Witbank

A Cyanamid spokesman said that "other arrangements" had been made for the coloured engineer and the company was building a house for him

The Star has learnt that the engineer is staying in the Kinross area and makes a 160 km round trip each day to get to work Cyanamid is building a house for him in Schoengezicht coloured area

Anglo American spokesman Mr Paul Clothier confirmed that two black engineering students had been removed from Highveld Steel's single quarters "following complaints from the CP that the corporation was contravening the Group Areas Act".

The men were then accommodated at Witbank's Boulevard Hotel

Said Mr Clothier "This incident highlights the need for the government to act on racial legislation like the Group Areas Act which hampers the endeavours of companies in the Anglo American group and others from employing, training, promoting and rewarding their employees irrespective of race"

Mr van Wyk gave up his ministry, a church house and R140 000 pension to stand for the CP in 1987

(Report by T Anders, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg)

8/8/89 (127)

Oukasie fight to continue

Sowetan 9/6/89

127

RESIDENTS of Oukasie township near Brits on Monday vowed to fight the pending resettlement of the about 5 000 people at Letlhabile township.

The decision was taken at a report-back meeting that was attended by more than 2 000 residents at the local Dutch Reformed Church on Monday night after a successful Supreme Court application by four local residents against the proclamation of their area as an emergency camp.

The proclamation was passed by the Administrator of the Transvaal in April last year.

Speakers, including members of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac), urged the local residents to fight for unity and freedom of the township

Mr Geoff Budlender of the Johannesburg Legal Resources Centre, who gave a report-back on judgment by Mr Justice van Dijkhorst, told the meeting that the victory against the declaration was not for the four applicants alone, "but for the whole community of Oukasie".

He urged the chanting crowd, some of whom remained outside because of lack of space inside the crammed church, which is affectionately called Oukasie's own Regina Mundi, to approach the authorities to re-establish Oukasie and develop it

A member of the Brits Action Committee (BAC), Mr Leonard Brown, appealed to the crowd that sang "Oukasie, freedom is coming", to continue to fight for the freedom of their area until the last day

He said the residents should forget their individual differences and fight side by side for the development of Oukasie. Brown said those people who left Oukasie during the forced removals to settle at Letlhabile were now trying to come back because they could not afford the expensive houses and the high monthly rental.

Sowetan 9/8/89 (127)

COUNCIL'S DENIAL

THE Soweto City Council had "definitely not" suspended all sales of houses in Soweto, the council said in a statement yesterday.

It said there had been a misunderstanding. The council had suspended sales earlier this year but "only on the old stock houses - no new houses were affected".

The council also stated it wished to expedite the sale of new houses and would assist building societies "in every possible way".

"The council will confer immediately with all building societies currently financing house loans in Soweto. This is regarded as a matter of urgency.

"The council's executive committee has resolved to abolish form 189 but it will be replaced by a new form as an individual step to protect the rights of registered tenants and dependants in the sale of property

"There are still matters to be cleared up as the sale of the old stock of houses are concerned. The housing committee under the chairmanship of Mr S Mkhize will release further details in due course." - Sapa.

Give us houses

127

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

RESIDENTS of Wattville on the East Rand warned at a meeting this week that they would put up shacks if the local town council failed to provide them with houses

Two hundred people who attended the meeting held at the Anglican Church on Wednesday night also resolved that women in the township should meet the mayor, Mr John "Master" Nkosi, by next Wednesday to discuss the housing crisis.

Sowetan 11/8/89

If he failed to address their grievances, the Benoni Town Council would be approached for land. Wattville town councillors would then have to resign for failing to satisfy residents

The meeting called by the Wattville Concerned Residents Committee decided that the shacks would be erected in Tent Town section.

Youths held after stones hit mosque

Star 12/8/89. (127)

JANET HEARD

MUSLIMS living in the controversial whites-only Pageview suburb, where a few months ago a pig's head was placed in one of the mosques, have been the victims of renewed attack — this time by a group of white youths who threw bricks and stones at the mosque in 23rd Street, shattering a few of the recently installed windows

People praying at the mosque last Friday were interrupted by the sound of breaking glass.

Quick-thinking worshippers rushed outside and managed to catch one of the youths who was seen throwing stones at the building

They took him to the Brixton police station and a charge of malicious damage to property has been laid — both against him and a friend who was identified as taking part in the attack

A police spokesman, describing the incident as a "prank by youngsters", confirmed that charges were being investigated against the two youths who are both under 18 years.

He said this was the first incident of stone-throwing at the mosques which had been reported to the police station since the pig's head incident which occurred at the other mosque in 15th Street

However, worshippers, who were reluctant to comment and wished to remain anonymous in fear of inciting "further attacks", said this was not the first time the building has been stoned

A spokesman for the mosque alleged that over the past month four mosque windows which had recently been installed during renovations had been shattered by vandals throwing stones and car windows parked outside the mosque had been broken.

Mosque members have spent more than R200 000 on renovations to the mosque, including R40 000 on the windows

Congregation members found themselves in an "awkward position"

While they felt it was important to highlight the attacks, they did not simultaneously wish to incite further incidents, which seemed to have occurred as a direct result of the publicity generated in the press about the pig's head incident

Indian residents of Pageview have for many years resisted all attempts by the Government to force them out of the area since Pageview was declared a whites-only area under the Group Areas Act

Although there are only 67 Indian families who still live in the suburb, the two mosques are frequented by Muslims from nearby suburbs, and are well-known historic landmarks

A distressed member of the mosque appealed to young people to respect other people's places of worship

Council to build 92 houses

(127)

The Alberton Town Council has applied for a loan of R2,7 million from the Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture to build 92 houses in Eden Park and Eden Park Extension 1 Star 14/8/89.

Eden Park, a new coloured township in Alberton, accommodates people who have been removed from the Germiston old location which has been declared a slum

The council also resolved at its monthly meeting to accept tenders of Stocks Houwing (Pty) Ltd for the erection of 400 houses in Eden Park Extension 4 — East Rand Bureau

Women will defy council

127

Sowetan 18/8/89

A MEETING of about 200 women in Wattville, Benoni, this week decided to go ahead with the putting up of shacks in the township

They said if the council failed to attend to their grievances by tomorrow, they would start a squatter camp in Tent Town section

They took this decision at a meeting held at the local Anglican Church on Wednesday which was to have been addressed by the local mayor, Mr John "Master" Nkosi.

He did not attend the meeting.

He said he was not told about the meeting and only learnt in the press that he was to have met the women.

"I am prepared to meet the residents but they must first write a formal letter to the council," Nkosi said.

The council was aware of the housing shortage in the township and was attending to the problem

"The residents must be patient and their problems will be solved.

SOWETAN Reporter

Building shacks will not solve the situation," Nkosi said.

A spokeswoman for the women's delegation said they went to his home and delivered a letter inviting him to the meeting. "He promised to come to the meeting," she said

(127)

Will our suburb be going grey?

Rosettenville will be won or lost over issue

ESMARÉ van der MERWE
Political Reporter

IN Rosettenville, the southern suburb of Johannesburg described by its 20 000-odd residents as a large town in the middle of the city, the September 6 election is being fought mainly on the contentious issue of proposed grey areas.

For the steady influx of people of colour into some poor southern suburbs has sparked furious reaction from residents, divided in roughly equal groups of Afrikaans-speakers, English people and mainly Portuguese and Greek immigrants

Next month's general election poses an acid test to the Conservative Party which is determined to prove its ability to draw support in urban constituencies

The preservation of white residential areas is an important weapon in the armour of CP candidate Mr Torrie van Tonder, father of former Transvaal rugby captain Cheese van Tonder and the owner of a wholesale butchery in the area

On the other hand, the National Party's glamour girl, ex-beauty queen and sitting MP Mrs Sheila Camerer, is trying to ward off the CP onslaught by assuring nervous voters that the constituency will not become a grey area

A tough fight between the NP and CP, but the joker in the pack is the Democratic Party's Miss Mia Euvrard, an arts consultant easily matching Mrs Camerer's charm and looks, who is trying to sell her party's view that selected grey areas do not solve problems, but in fact create them.

Standing in her first election, Miss Euvrard epitomises voters who have not had a political home for years, but have found one in the fledgling DP.

"There are so many people who could not relate to old-style politics They were looking for common sense, and they have found that in the DP. Whereas previously they thought they did not have a chance of breaking the pattern, they are participating in this year's election because of the complete turnabout in politics"

Conceding that the DP's organisation in the "Cinderella constituency" still has to be built up, she claims she has substantial support among these formerly apathetic voters

"This is not a NP/CP fight It is very much a three-cornered battle," says the woman who had been asked to contest the seat "because the DP wanted someone with nerves of steel"

As in many other constituencies where the DP's participation in a predominantly NP/CP contest could benefit the CP, Miss Euvrard has been accused by Mrs Camerer of "making the Conservative Party look a bit better"

To which Miss Euvrard responds quickly. "I have one question for the NP Why do they concentrate all their efforts on fighting the DP if they regard the CP as their greatest threat?

"It is because the DP is a real threat to them Their over-reaction is born out of fear"

After more than trebling the NP's 1981 victory in the 1987 general election, Mrs Camerer — a former MPC who made her parliamentary debute in 1987 — is determined to keep her massive 5 042 majority as intact as possible.

She says her campaign, supported by a 3½-minute video which shows her talking to her constituents, is aimed at "cutting the CP down to the size they deserve"

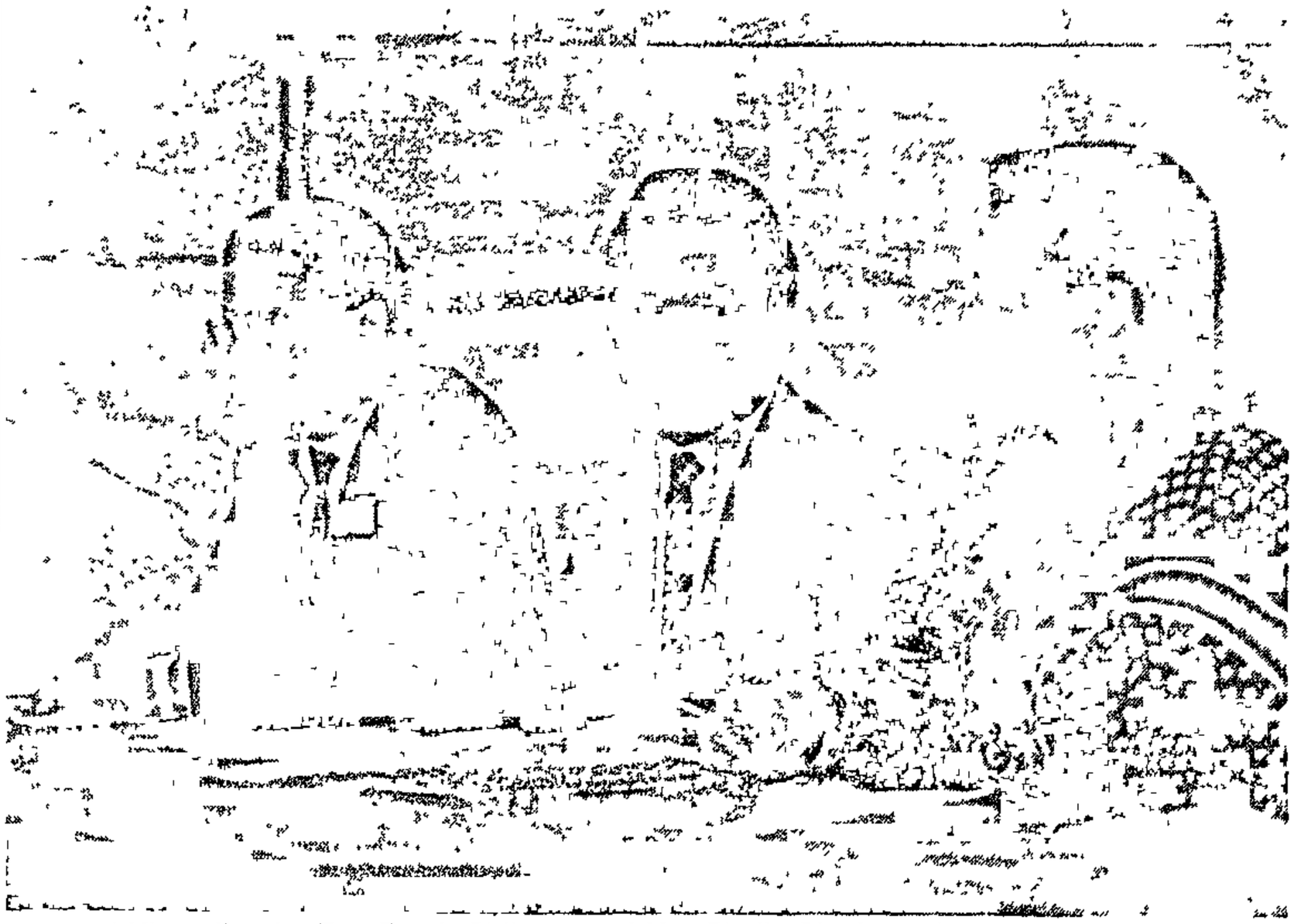
Although the CP did not succeed in winning any of the municipal wards in the constituency during last year's local government elections, it polled a substantial number of votes — fuelling Mr van Tonder's belief that his party can capture the traditional Nat seat this year

"I only lost by 123 votes in Ward 43. The swing since last year has been absolutely fantastic. Many Nats have joined the CP because of the economy, the lack of security and the influx of blacks Whites don't even want to go to our beautiful parks any more, or the musical fountains Everything has been swamped by blacks"

A Rosettenville resident since birth, Mr van Tonder says he knows the constituency like the palm of his hand

"The people are very dear to me I am particularly concerned about the pensioners and the poor. Rosettenville deserves a MP who will look after the interests of the white man"

(Report by E van der Merwe 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg)



Mr Vusi Khanyile, the Rev Frank Chikane and Mrs Sheila Sisulu at the anti-crime conference at the weekend.

Sowetan 21/8/89 (127)

Residents declare war on crime

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

SOWETO residents have decided to tackle the increasing crime rate in the townships by organising mass rallies where people will be mobilised to fight the scourge

A meeting held at the Ipelegeng Community Centre in White City Jabavu at the weekend heard spokesmen from a broad spectrum of community based organisations speak strongly about the breakdown in family life and how this had contributed to the upsurge in criminal activity

They also focused on the role police played in crime prevention and expressed dissatisfaction at the way they were handling criminal cases A committee was formed to "police" the police in their crime prevention methods.

In recent weeks gangs known as "Jackrollers" have flourished in the townships causing serious social problems in the community

These gangsters are held responsible for the increasing number of rapes and car hijacks.

.The meeting organised by the South African Council of Churches, (SACC), and chaired by Mr Vusi Khanyile, executive member of the restricted National Education Crisis Committee (NECC), was attended by about 500 people representing social workers, students, teachers, parents, business, trade unions and welfare organisations

"We must create structures for the physical protection of our people," said Dr Nthato Motlana, a community leader

During the 10-hour-long conference, speaker after speaker condemned the escalating violence, lawlessness and gang-

● To page 2

War on crime

Sowetan 21/8/89 (127)

● From page 1

terism in the township and schools.

The secretary of the SACC, the Reverend Frank Chikane, said he was disturbed by the increase in violence and drug abuse among students.

It was agreed that there should be a revival of local organisations at street level, the establishment of recreational facilities and rehabilitation centres in the township.

127 Citizen 27/8/89.

Massive power bills at Vosloorus homes

VOSLOORUS residents are up in arms about electricity bills of up to R400 a month

Residents of the new areas of Extension 8 and Mailula Park have been hit with electricity bills averaging R160 a month – with some having to pay R350 for a month's electricity.

One *City Press* reader, Mrs Amelia Oliphant, complained that her July bill was R190, a crippling addition to the more than R800 she has to pay on her bond.

"I moved to Extension 8 seven months ago, and my electricity bill gets higher every month It started at R60, now it's R190

"It would be better not to have electricity than to pay these high bills," she said

Another Extension 8 resident, Mrs Rachel Msimango, says she thought her bills were high at R180, but for the past few months, she has had bills of R250. This month's bill is R350.

"The home is empty during the day We only get home in the evening and cook on a hot plate, not even a stove"

Mr Zola Mzamo thought he was up to date with his payments, but received a bill this month for R400

"I can't afford to pay such a big amount My monthly average is R160"

Acting Town Clerk for Vosloorus, Mr Ben Smit, admitted the council had a constant stream of residents from all parts of Vosloorus complaining about high electricity bills

"We recently did a spot check on more than 30 electricity meters, and not one was faulty

"We can test individual meters, but this costs the consumer R10 If the meter is faulty, we refund the R10, calculate the amount overcharged and credit the consumer's account," he said

Mr Smit said the tariff for electricity in Vosloorus was roughly 12 percent higher than in other areas

This was due to high peak time consumption, and the fact there were few industrial consumers to share the burden with domestic consumers

Mr Smit felt the main reason for high bills was high consumption. He said many families used little electricty during the day, so thought their bills should be low

"But they use a lot at night – cooking, heating and running maybe three or four baths"

Mr Smit invited residents to bring complaints to the council offices and speak to Mr Danie Kruger of the Electricity Department

Electric shock

Sowetan 1/9/89

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

Scores of families in Vosloorus on the East Rand claim they are being charged exorbitant service charges of up to R400 a month.

The residents have rejected the bills and the council is switching off their lights if they fail to pay

The families claim that water and electricity metres were not being checked regularly The council has rejected their allegations.

The mayor of Vosloorus, Mr Douglas Montsheng, said most of the people who were claiming that their bills were high were in arrears with their site rent and service charges

"Some of these people are in arrears for more than four months," said Montsheng.

He said other cases were genuine. Montsheng said:"These are the cases we are presently investigating. .We have discovered in some instances that metres were not properly read and in such events, we refund the affected people."

Unionist bashed

Sowetan 1/9/89

By LEN MASEKO

A trade union organiser claimed he was punched and chased away by a Boksburg employer with whom he was to have had a meeting to discuss a labour dispute on Monday.

Mr Philemon Ntombela, organiser with the Steel Engineering and Allied Workers Union of South Africa (Seawusa), said he was assaulted by three whites - including the company's director, a Mr Poena van Zyl - on the premises of JP Welding in Boksburg North.

But Van Zyl yesterday denied having assaulted the Seawusa official, saying he had only reprimanded him for "coming late to the meeting".

Ntombela said his assailants told him that they did not want any trade union meddling in the company's affairs.

The rent increase that sparked a war

By STAN MHLONGO

EXACTLY five years ago, nationwide unrest was sparked off when Vaal residents rejected a rent increase imposed by the Lekoa Town Council

At least 175 people were killed in unrest-related incidents between September 3, 1984, and the end of the year, according to records kept by the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR)

A mass school stayaway started as Vaal children joined their parents in protesting against the R5 rent and service increases

The riots gained momentum and spread to the townships of Sharpeville, Evaton, Sebokeng, Boipatong, Bophelong, Zamdela and Refenkgotso

Figures given by the Department of Education and Training showed that 93 000 Vaal students stayed away from school during this period

The Vaal uprisings triggered off national discontent which shook the foundations of South African society and horrified the world with images of townships in flames

In November 1984, the SAIRR indicated that 400 000 pupils stayed away from school in the PWV area

"About seven percent of the 5,5 million African schoolgoers in South Africa were involved in school boycotts," said the SAIRR report

The government response was mass detentions and troop deployment in the townships

On October 21, 1984, 7 000 soldiers invaded the Vaal in an exercise called Operation Palmiet – which further fuelled the anger of the people

Life came to a standstill in Vaal townships as residents stayed away from school and work

"Revolution had entered through the backdoor, catching everybody unawares," recalls Morris Mokoena, a Sebokeng resident

Newspaper headlines captured the mood of the townships

"Soldiers rape two sixteen-year-olds in hippo"

"Councillors hacked to death in a storm of violence"

"900 arrested in Vaal townships"

It became apparent that death was ignorant of status, colour and age

■ Ten-year-old Nicholas Mgudlwa of Zone 7, Sebokeng, collapsed in a pool of blood after he was shot with a rubber bullet,

■ Sixteen-year-old Jacob Moleleki was allegedly fatally shot inside a police van,

■ Councillors Caesar Motjeane, Jacob Dlamini, Philemon Diphoko and Johannes Chakane were hacked to death by violent crowds, and

■ Three-week-old Blair Gordon died after he was hit by a stone as his white parents drove away to escape a crowd of stonethrowers

Sebokeng resident Moeketsi Molokoane points out "The situation has not changed much since all the trouble started in September 1984

"There is still confusion surrounding the amount that residents have to pay for rent"

The executive chairman of the Lekoa Council, Edwin Neko, recently announced that the rent would be lowered to R30 This followed an announcement by Sam Kolisang, the now suspended mayor that the rent would be R38

"Blacks are still the voteless majority and apartheid laws such as the Group Areas Act and others still exist," said Molokoane

Sowetan 4/9/89

Power bills shock

(127)

THE Vosloorus Town Council on the East Rand has appealed to residents whose monthly service charges are more than R150 to contact it

The council's response follows claims by residents that in some cases they are being charged up to R400 a month

For the past five months the council has been switching off lights of all rent defaulters So far, about 600 families have been affected

The mayor of Vosloorus, Mr Douglas Montsheng, said families who bills were high should contact him, the acting town clerk, Mr Ben Smit and the electricity department.

"It is not the council's policy to switch off anybody's electricity but if people do not contact us with their problems, we are forced to take such actions," said Montsheng

He also appealed to those families who had financial problems to contact the council to make payment arrangements concerning the arrears

Mr Wilson Dlamini of 7959 Extension 9 said his water and electricity bill for last month (July) was R346 "I paid the money last Thursday but my electricity supply was switched off," he said

Father Lord Mc Camel remembers September 3 1984 at a meeting in Sebokeng yesterday. Sowetan 4/9/89 (127)

Uprising on Vaal

Vaal-triangle residents yesterday packed a church hall in Sebokeng to observ the fifth anniversary of the Vaal uprising.

It was on September 3 1984 when residents of several Vaal townships took to the streets in protest against high rentals imposed by the Lekoa Council

About a 100 people died that day and scores of others were arrested

The meeting was called by the September 3 Commemoration Committee, (SCC), was called to remember "the heroes and heroines who had fallen in the fight against high rents and puppet councillors"

Security police kept a low profile a stone's throw away from the church while the meeting was in progress.

Speaker after speaker recalled the event of the "bloody September 3" and reaffirmed the community's committment to fight the aparthied system

Student and youth leaders said the day was remembrance to residents sentenced to long term imprisonment- the Delmas trialist and the Sharpeville Six- and called for "mass offensive against the apartheid system"

NO TO A TAVERN

Big protest in Protea North

127

By SONTI MASEKO

RESIDENTS of Protea North in Soweto have resolved to halt the opening of a tavern in their area which they say was a project approved by the Soweto Council without their consent.

A spoksman for the residents said the tavern, which is nearing completion, was being built on a residential site and the residents only came to know it was intended to be a tavern from the builders

"The site on which this structure is being built is not even in a business area, it is right among our houses and we have begun fearing what it will mean to the value of our property," said Mr J Msimanga, representing the concerned residents.

Msimanga said after they learnt about the development, the residents sent a letter of protest to the council through their township manager and their protests were "conveniently ignored."

"The senior building inspector at the council was informed by our township manager but despite that the construction is still going on, we feel there are vested interests of quite a number of people there," Msimanga said.

Taxis

He added that besides not having been informed about the building, the tavern would be badly situated as it was being built on a taxi route where there would be no parking facilities

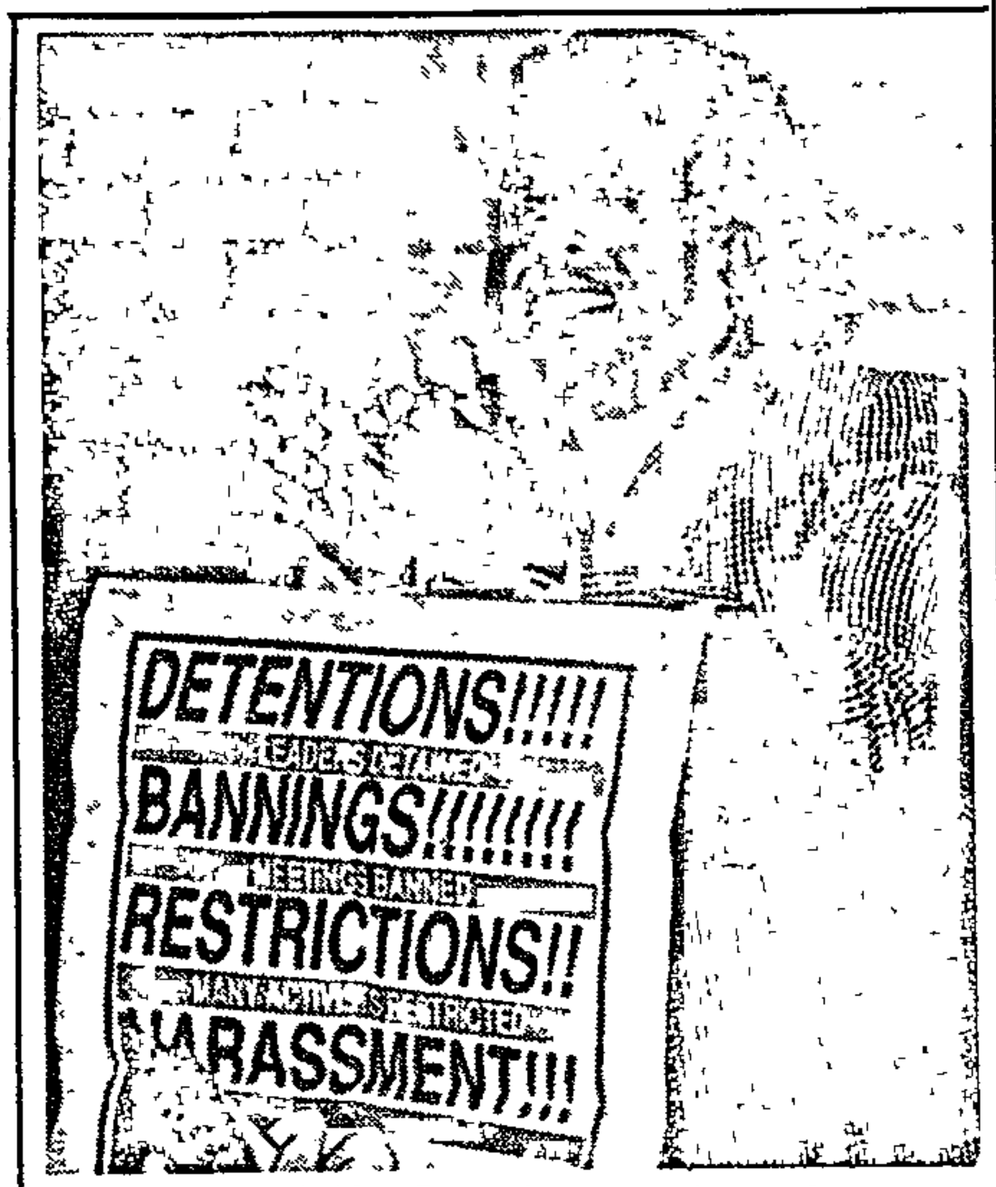
Lack of consultation with the residents would also mean an apparent violation of the rules of the Liquor Licencing Board which requires that before a licence is granted, neighbours in the immediate vicinity of the proposed tavern be consulted for approval.

Residents expressed concern about the influence the tavern might have on the children and the criminal elements that such places could possibly bring about.

"We view the construction of this tavern as a violation of our rights as residents and we request you to give the matter your attention as tempers are already running high on this issue."

The council has denied that it gave approval for the construction of the tavern, "the council only gives consent for taverners to operate their businesses, but the actual licence must still be applied for from the liquor board," said Dr van der Westhuizen, public relations officer of the council.

He said the residents could go directly to the liquor board, which would investigate any problem area and suggested that they contact thir ward councillor for advice.



Father Lord Mc Camel remembers September 3 1984 at a meeting in Sebokeng yesterday. Sowetan 4/9/89

Uprising on Vaal

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No tenders for contracts, inquiry told

(127)

THEO RAWANA

WASTE-REMOVAL contracts were never tendered for, but were simply granted to certain companies when privatisation was introduced in Soweto, the Malan Commission of Inquiry was told yesterday

The three-man commission, headed by RAU's Professor F Malan, was appointed by the Soweto City Council to investigate corruption and irregularities in the council over the past five years

Head of cleansing and transport services, Jeremiah Mokotong, told the inquiry Wade Waste took over some of Soweto's cleansing services during the council workers' strike last year

Mokotong, who said Soweto was run not by the council but by some white officials, alleged that Wade Waste had been given power in writing by City Secretary Louis Geldenhuys and roads and stormwater manager Dirk Lourens to "sack" other contractors

He said two contractors, Waste Dynamics and Wykom Coal, had objected to this in writing B/Day 7/9/89.

Half-loads

Lourens had testified earlier that he had been assigned the task of privatising services as Soweto was getting dirtier during the strike

There had been no formal tender, but officials and the council had discussed an offer by Wade Waste, which had the adequate plant, equipment and resources to handle the cleansing task He said the TPA had given approval

Mokotong said companies were taking half-loads to tips and charging for full loads, and servicing housess twice a week while charging for a full week

He said the council must have lost between R2m and R4m when Wade Waste trebled claims for refuse-compaction units, claiming for 63m³ when a unit could only take 21m³

Mokotong, who said council officials did not want him to testify, alleged that Geldenhuys had misled councillors into believing that they could use vehicles bought for use by officials

He alleged that, to circumvent a regulation forbidding purchase of council property by councillors, nine fairly new council-owned Cressidas were sold to a Roodepoort dealer which resold them to councillors for between R3 000 and R6 000

B/Day 13/9/89

Comparison of rates for Reef's 10 largest towns

127

VAL PIENAAR

IF SOUND financial management practices work for some town councils, why does the same approach not help others keep their assessment rates down to a comparable level?

Figures released recently by Multi Listing Services (MLS) indicate that the basic tariff for Benoni, for example, is more than four times that for Edenvale

The schedule released by MLS compares the rates in 10 large Reef towns Listing them from most expensive to least expensive (taking into account the rebate allowed on residential properties) they are Benoni, Krugersdorp, Kempton Park, Roodepoort, Germiston, Boksburg, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Edenvale

"We keep our costs — and therefore our rates — down by controlling our expenditure," explained Randburg deputy town treasurer Gert Botha

He said they constantly monitored projects and adhered strictly to their five-year plan which kept the annual growth of the budget for capital projects within defined limits

By contrast, Benoni's budgeting appears to be carried out from the opposite direction — by assessing how much the town is spending, and setting the rates accordingly

Acting town treasurer Frank Mearns said their income had not kept pace with their expenditure

They were committed to several large capital projects, while operating costs were dependent on external factors

In Edenvale, town treasurer Nico de Lange said the council's investment funds were actually generating an income

"Edenvale is fairly fully developed, and most of our capital expenses are channelled into upgrading and maintaining existing facilities

"It is also Edenvale's policy to keep its assessment rates low and rather let the users of our services pay for them," he said

Krugersdorp deputy town treasurer Izak Coetzee said he believed a true reflection of the situation could be obtained only by taking average land values into account

"Krugersdorp's valuations are very low Our most expensive erven would be valued at about R35 000, while those in, for instance, Sandton or Randburg, would be far higher"

Coetzee rejected the suggestion that Krugersdorp ratepayers were effectively being penalised for the low value of their property investments

In Roodepoort — which has the second highest basic tariff of all the towns, and the fourth highest residential tariff — the council has made a conscious decision to gear its rates heavily in favour of the residential user

City treasurer Adriaan de Villiers said they had a very low business and industrial component and were not very concerned with lowering the rates to attract industry

"In fact, we offer additional assistance to certain residential property owners"

This takes the form of a remission on rates in addition to the residential 1 rebate for areas where property values rose out of proportion to the rest of Roodepoort

On the industrial front, Krugersdorp, a heavy industrial area, ranks third highest after Benoni and Roodepoort

Krugersdorp's electricity tariffs for industrial users are set at 6,04c/kWh — about 30% less than the household tariff — with a R16,83/kVA maximum demand charge

In Benoni, heavy industrial users (defined as those using over 100kVA) pay only 3,37c/kWh with a maximum demand charge of R16,10/kVA The council also imposes a 23% surcharge across the board

Edenvale's electricity rates are comparatively high, at 7,05c/unit and R19,68/kVA for industrial users

COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF ASSESSMENT RATES

TOWN/CITY	TARIFF Cents in the Rand	RESIDENTIAL 1 REBATE	ASSESSMENT RATE BASED ON A RESIDENTIAL 1 STAND VALUED AT R50 000
JOHANNESBURG	3 97	55 %	R 893 25 pa
SANDTON	3 65	60 %	R 730,00 pa
RANDBURG	2 5331	40 %	R 759 93 pa
KEMPTON PARK	4 3	37,2 %	R1 350,20 pa
ROODEPOORT	5 6	40 %	R1 260,00 pa
EDENVALE	1,4	40 %	R 420,00 pa
BENONI	6 0	40 %	R1 800 00 pa
BOKSBURG	3 85	40 %	R1 155 00 pa
GERMISTON	3 9	40 %	R1 170,00 pa
KRUGERSDORP	4,56	31,36%	R1 564,99 pa

3 coloured families are evicted from their homes

Star 15/9/89

(127)

By Montshiwa Moroke

At least three families were thrown out of their homes in Noordgesig coloured township yesterday after action by the Johannesburg City Council

One of the families, including an 11-month-old baby, spent last night in the open. Another family, defiantly, moved back into the house

The eviction of one of the families was effected with a court order All the affected families said no notice had previously been served on them

Two families claimed they were ejected without any reasons being given

In one instance, the home of Mr Lance Abrahams was unlocked while he and his wife were away at work and their furniture was dumped outside

The director of housing, Mr F W Robins, said the procedure to evict the families had started last year and action had been taken with the "full approval" of the South West Management Committee

Mr William Barnes, of 710 A, Hazeldale Street, said white officials walked in and ordered them to "get out"

"Two hours after the eviction, we received a R66,75 account for rent arrears for September We are not behind with our rent," he said

Another couple, Mr Dan von Villing, and his wife, Sandra, were away at work when the eviction took place

Mr Robins said he could not comment on the merits of individual cases.

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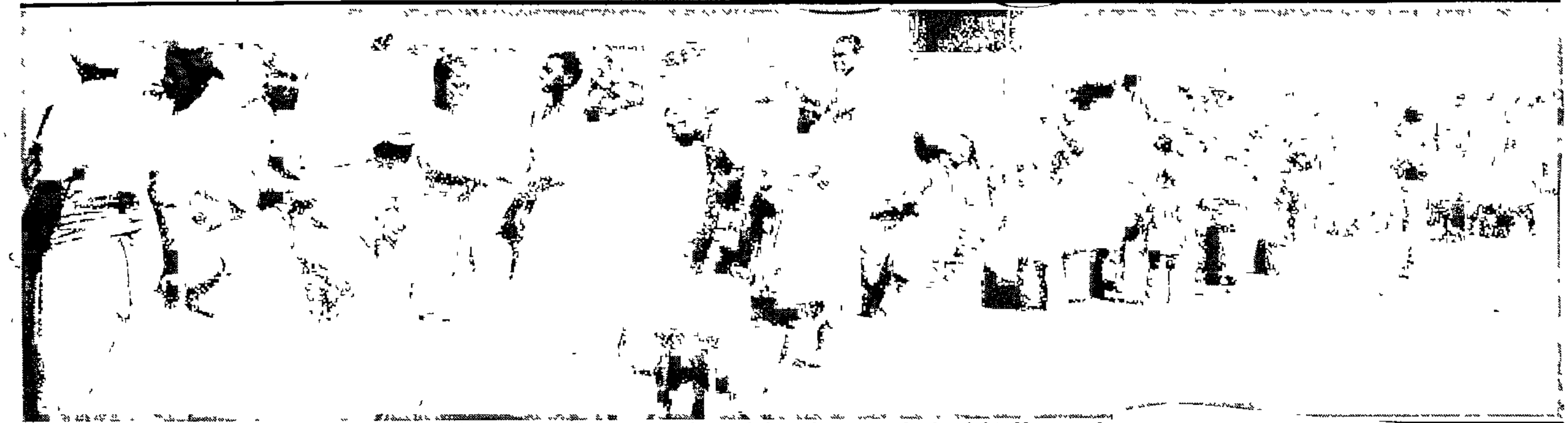


Residents of Katlehong and Tokoza have been without water for two months and there is no respite in sight. Many residents travel as far as Vosloorus to fetch water daily. Residents say the fetching of water is time-consuming and unnecessary and appeal to the councils in the areas to do something about the shortage. PIC: MBUZENI ZULU.

Nightsoils spills from buckets in Alexandra township posing the threat of an an epidemic in the township.

Sowetan 15/9/89 127

Big stink hits Alex

NIGHTSOIL which has not been collected for more than six weeks, has begun spilling into the yards and streets of Alexandra Township

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

Angry families yesterday blamed the town council for the mess which had left the township engulfed in a big stench

Residents said they paid R1 per household for the service and new buckets but the situation had worsened

Mr Michael Yende of 11th Avenue has been emptying his nightsoil bucket into a trench in the township The council's nightsoil trucks have not been seen for weeks

Mr Joseph Kudumela, in whose backyard night soil had accumulated in heaps said he had consulted with the council on several occasions about the mess but in vain

Miss Elizabeth Motaung said she was worried by the accumulation of waste which she said an epidemic could break out

The mayor, Mrs Agnes Pooe said she was not aware of the problems and her council would investigate immediately

Water supply back

127

18/9/89

Sowetan

The water supply at the East Rand townships of Katlehong and Tokoza has been restored

Thousands of residents in the two areas have been without water since last Monday after the main pipe supplying the townships burst The pipe is connected to the Alrode reservoir

Men women and children walked to the nearby Vosloorus township to fetch water Some used trucks vans, cars and wheelbarrows

Eleven-year-old Sonto Nkosi who was in the company of other children searching for water in Katlehong was struck by a car and had to be treated for shoulder and leg injuries at Natalspruit Hospital

The mayor of Katlehong Mr Dominic Styles" Magagula, said the pipe was damaged by a grader

Govt to push ahead with Zwartkoppies development

(127) Star 19/9/89.

Pretoria Correspondent

The Department of Constitutional Development and Planning is to push ahead with the development of a coloured area east of Silverton — in spite of mining activities which previously occurred on the site

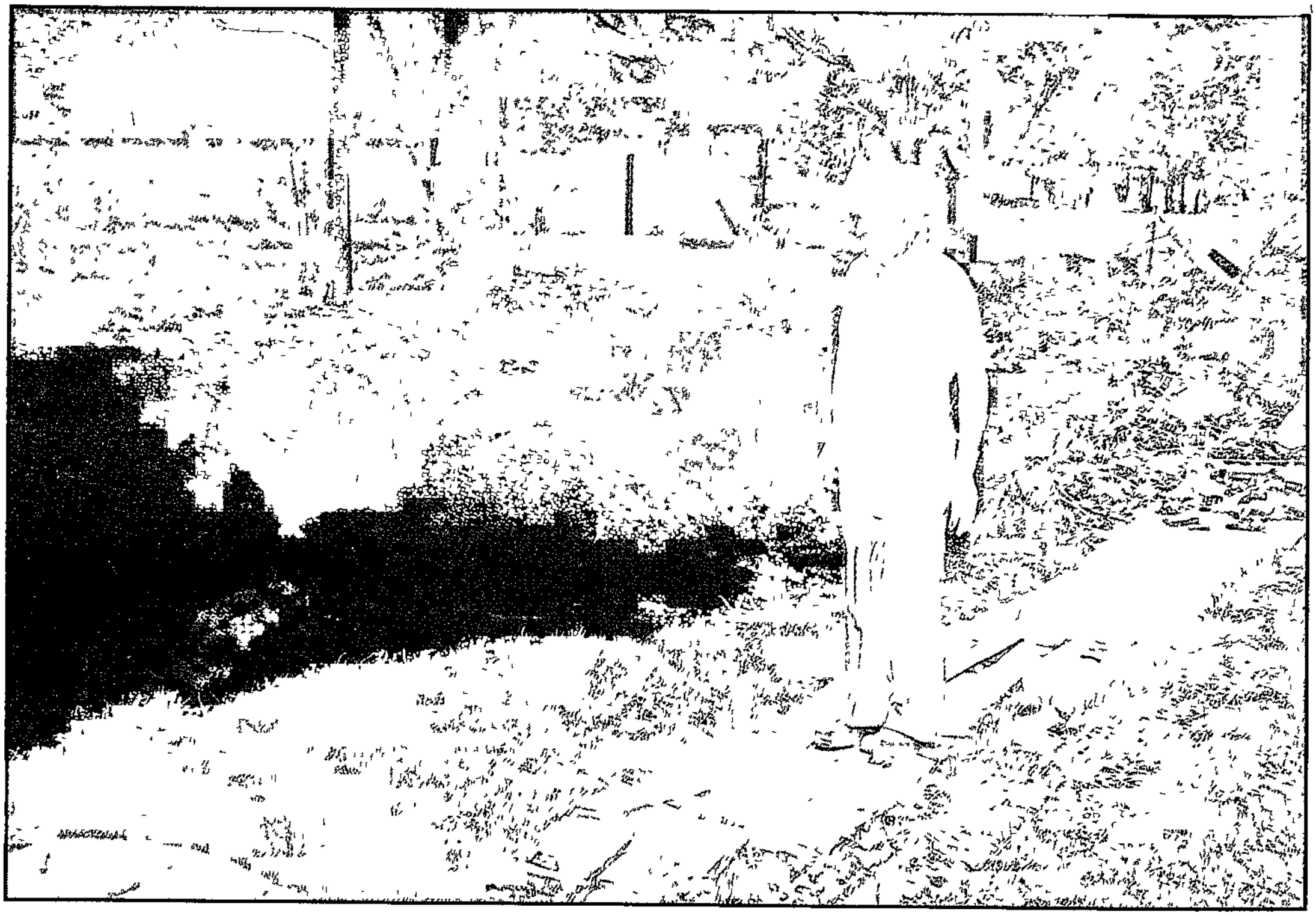
Mr Roelf Meyer, Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, said an inspection of the Zwartkoppies site showed that there had been no noticeable subsidence in the 70 years since mining activities ceased.

During May Mr Meyer said the department had approved in principle that an area north of the old Pretoria/Bronkhorstspruit road be proclaimed a coloured group area and developed to ease the housing need in Eersterus.

Following a report in *The Pretoria News* the development was postponed while the extent of mining in the area was investigated.

Mr Meyer said that the disused mine shafts should not have a meaningful effect on development of the wider area. But he said that if detailed investigations indicated that areas were unsuitable for housing development they would be used for other purposes, for example parks

He said good progress had been made in compiling a "diagram" of the area and as soon as this had been received from the Surveyor-General the township proclamation would be submitted for approval



Mr Johannes Wagener (73), one of the residents who refuses to leave unless he is compensated, views earth blackened from the underground fire. ● Picture by Therese Anders.

Families refuse to leave homes in fire zone

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

Nineteen Witbank families are said by mining experts to be in imminent danger from the subsiding ground around a raging underground fire, but they refuse to leave their homes until they are compensated

The mostly elderly and impoverished residents at the old Transvaal and Delagoa Bay Colliery (T&DB) village west of Witbank claim Rand Mines, to which ownership of the land will revert in 2052, is liable to make good their property losses

But Rand Mines says a clear indemnity against mine damage was written into the 1953 land leasehold agreement it entered into when it sold the village houses to the Paul Grobler family

Mr Grobler's family subsequently resold many of the houses, but Mr Grobler's 89-year-old widow has continued to hold the leasehold rights and lives in the village

Said a Rand Mines director, Mr Nilo Zolezzi "The present owners of the property are the Grobler family We are not liable, and that is assisted by legal opinion"

IN DANGER

Mr Zolezzi said the residents were in imminent danger

"They must move in either with friends or relatives, then try to get redress from whoever put them in this position"

He said Rand Mines "felt deeply" for the people involved

The residents' long-running battle to save their homes or get proper compensation officially ended in the Pretoria Supreme Court last week when it was ruled that the 19 houses must be demolished.

The ruling quoted the threat to residents of the fast approaching underground fire

The application was brought by the Peri Urban Board A number of homes closest to the fire have already been demolished.

Several residents yesterday said they felt "desperate" about their future

Mr Dick Ferreira (75), pensioners Mr and Mrs Johannes Wagner and Mrs Susanna Potgieter said they had nowhere to go and no money to rent elsewhere

Said Mrs Joey Wagner "We're all crying here We know we're in danger, but we can't go without a cent into the unknown"

Alex advised on use of power

127

AN electricity information centre offering a free advisory service to householders has been opened in Alexandra

The Alexelek Electricity Information Centre, sponsored by Eskom and situated c/o Rooseveldt Street and 8th Avenue, was opened last Friday

The centre offers advice on.

* The benefits of electricity;
* The safe use of electricity;
* How best to use appliances and save costs,
* The use of card-operated meters,
* How to monitor household electricity consumption; and
* How electricity payments should be made

Leaflets on all aspects of electricity are also available free of charge to visitors

Alexelek staff are planning a full programme of events to be held at the centre These include cooking demonstrations and seminars on food technology

The centre is staffed by three advisors· Mr Samuel Khuzwayo, Mr Motsamai Choabi and Miss Catherine Mathabe, who have been trained by Eskom and are employed by the council.

The centre is open between 8am and 4pm from Monday to Friday, but the council intends extending operating hours to evenings and weekends to enable people who work late to benefit from the service

Officially opening the centre, Eskom's general manager (management services), Mr J P van den Bergh, said more such centres would be established in various parts of the country "We have chosen Alexandra as a pilot study and if this centre proves to be a success, we will spread the idea to other townships," said van den Bergh

The mayoress of Alexandra, Mrs Jacobeth Pooe, appealed to local residents to make use of the centre

Vital role

The council's public relations officer, Mr Nunka Mkhalipe, said the Alexandra urban renewal programme was well under way and the council was aiming at having all homes in the township supplied with electricity

"Alexelek will play a vital role in helping people, many of whom are first time users, to operate electricity economically and safely," said Mkhalipe

The centre can be contacted at (011) 887-8600

Gutted Fordsburg house bulldozed

STar 25/9/89

An Indian family, who spent a month in a burnt out house in Fordsburg, had their furniture covered in rubble as their landlord gave orders to have the walls knocked down

Mrs Zarina Adam of 55 Crown Road said their house, which is attached to their shop, caught fire about a month ago as a result of a fault in the electric wiring

"We experienced a number of power failures prior to the incident which we reported to the electricity department," Mrs Adam said

"They told us that the wiring system could no longer cope

"We immediately informed our landlord but she just ignored the warning," she said

Later, the landlord asked them to pay their regular rent and fixed the lights in the shop section only (127)

"We continued to live in the dark and were then told to move out of the premises in 30 days as the landlord claimed we were responsible for the fire," she said

The landlord, Mrs Momeen Dimingo, said her lawyers were handling the matter and she would not comment

Star 27/9/89

Middelburg residents win

127

CP council rules out Iscor project

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

Middelburg residents have won a long battle against Iscor's controversial proposed "suburban" opencast colliery

Last night, the town's Conservative Party-controlled council announced the mine would not go ahead

Management committee chairman Mr John Carlile said "When we came to power in October we said we'd back the people and the people have overwhelmingly said they don't want the mine, so it's off"

He said 90 percent of the almost 400 residents who voted on the issue at a public meeting earlier this month had opposed the mine

Iscor's R3 million tender for the proposed mine had already been accepted by the previous National Party-led council before most residents became aware of the project

It was due to be sited 1,5 km from the nearest house in the prestige suburb of Gholfsig. Residents were quickly in an uproar over the possibility of dust, noise and water pollution, cracking from blasting and devaluation of property

Protest meetings were held and a petition circulated On September 11, the council arranged a public meeting for residents to question senior Iscor officials on their proposed pollution safeguards.

Nearly 400 residents, many visibly angry, left the Iscor men in no doubt as to their feelings on the mine

Mr Carlile said the council, which had still to inform Iscor of the decision, would have to foot a R183 000 bill for drilling which Iscor had already completed at the site

Goldstein has R90m in building contracts

(127) EDWARD WEST

FOLLOWING a drop in activity in 1988 and the resultant shift of its operations from Natal to Johannesburg, Goldstein Housing has emerged a hive of activity with nine contracts worth more than R90m on its order books

In a statement, Goldstein Housing said some 350 houses, hostels and other structures were currently under construction on six of these contracts at various sites in the Transvaal and Free State

In Klerksdorp, 45 houses are being built This R1,5m Time Housing contract is due for completion in August In Welkom, 45 middle-income houses valued at R1,5m are being built and are scheduled for completion in September. B/Day 28/9/89

SM Goldstein's Housing division has also been awarded a number of JCI contracts at Atok Platinum Mine, valued at R21m In the mine residential area 19 houses are being built for R6m. Completion date is December

At Ellisras, 120 houses valued at R10m are being built for Iscor

A R2,5m Lifetime Housing contract will provide 88 middle-income houses in Tembisa. A further R1,95m contract for the same client is scheduled for completion in August B/Day 28/9/89

Goldstein Housing is a division of SM Goldstein whose businesses merged with Group Five earlier this year.

Houses for the East Rand

Sowetan 28/9/87

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

2500 houses are being built, mainly for the low-income group, in the East Rand townships of Kwa-Thema and Tsakane.

The project was started last week in Kwa-Thema's Extension 2 and Tsakane's Itumeleng Park by FHA Homes

The chief executive officer of FHA Homes, Mr Brian Longley, said they would be spending about R6-million in the two townships He said the houses would cost between R18000 and R32000, excluding the stand price, of about R10 000

"We are going to build 400 houses in Kwa-Thema and the rest in Tsakane This is in keeping with our policy of developing townships which offer a complete lifestyle, and our main concern is to house families in the lower and middle income groups," said Longley

He said the first houses would be ready for occupation in four months time

110 houses a month for Tsakane

(127)

Sowetan 28/9/89

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

VERBRI Projects has started building 10500 new houses estimated to cost about R9-m in Tsakane on the East Rand

The first 100 houses have been completed and some of the occupants have moved in, said the company's managing director, Mr Awie Britz

He said his company was hoping to build at least 110 houses per month. Britz said the houses were for people in the middle- and upper-income groups There are 25 different housing plans to choose from

All houses, selling for between R26000 and R60000, would be provided with a sink, electric stove and floor covering specified by the home buyer

Tarred roads

The company has hired 350 bricklayers, tilers, plasterers and other tradesmen on subcontracts There is also a team of 50 specialists - including architects, engineers and town planners

The township would also be provided with tarred roads, electricity, sewerage and stormwater drainage.

Britz said his company had also made provision for the building of schools, churches, creches, business sites, clinics, parks, community and sports centres.

"The demand for housing in the area is astounding. We have decided to step up production to meet the demand," said Britz.

Over 100 designs and finishes

(127) Sowetan 28/9/89

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

TRI-TIME (Pty) Ltd - a joint venture between black and white entrepreneurs - has reported substantial growth in developing its housing project for blacks.

It has already sold more than 100 homes, despite the prevailing high mortgage rates.

The company plans to have about 200 homes completed in the PWV area by December this year.

Tri-Time is a member of the Dobsonville Builders Association and the Black Building Federation.

It has concentrated mainly on two- and three-bedroomed homes for the middle and upper income groups

The houses are priced between R39000 and R64000, including land.

Homeowners have more than 100 designs and attractive finishes from which to choose.

Tri-Time was born from a merger of interests between Time Housing (Pty) Ltd and Time Holdings Ltd, a group of black building entrepreneurs.

"The black housing market is affected by all the economic ups and downs of the country, and this sector has the same needs and aspirations as any other," said Nel Khumalo, a director of Tri-Time.

"We are committed to providing good value-for-money homes."

He said the company offered an excellent personal service and tried to obtain the best possible packages for clients.

"Tri-Time will assist and guide owners through the entire process - from obtaining finance to getting plans approved and collecting all the relevant documentation from the town councils," said Khumalo.

The first venture undertaken by the company since its formation in 1987 was the development of 23 homes - part of a 50-home project to upgrade two entire blocks in Alexandra.

"By the end of the year our company will be active in housing projects in Dobsonville, Tokoza, Vosloorus, Tembisa, Alexandra, Spruitview and Daveyton," said Khumalo.

VAAL • RENT SHOCK

Sowetan 28/9/89

127

38 councillors are warned to pay up or lose their seats

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

MORE than 30 Lekoa town councillors have been given 14 days to pay up their rent arrears amounting to about R43 000 or lose their status as councillors.

This was confirmed by the council's acting town clerk, Mr J van der Westhuizen who said the letters were sent to 38 councillors including the deputy mayor Mrs Kate Ngwenya

Some of the councillors who have been warned in terms of Section 9 of Act 102 of 1982 as amended are the newly elected members of the executive committee Mr Esau Mahlatsi (chairman) Ngwenya (deputy chairman) Mr S D Matsaneng Mr Chester Motloung, and Mr Fellow Motloung

Service

Mahlatsi has been informed that he owes the municipality R4042,05 in respect of the selling scheme and service charges for his business and his home

Ngwenya has been been informed in similar notices that she owed R6697 60 in rent and service charges, Matsaneng owes R1518,69, Motloung R684 and Motloung R556

Vaal Triangle town-

• To page 2

Brenda robbed

Singer Brenda Fassie - Mbambo is comforted by her husband, Nhlanhla, after the couple found their Fleurhof, Johannesburg home ransacked yesterday Household goods worth several thousands of rand were stolen during the raid by six armed men Brenda and her husband were not home at the time

● From page 1

Vaal rent shock

(127)

Sowetan 28/9/87

ships are still face with the problem of on-payment of tariffs

Residents in the area have not been paying rent and service charges since september 3, 1984, when violence broke out in the area

Van der Westhuizen said in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act any councillors who failed to pay rent and service charges will be liable for dismissal from the council

Regarding the non-payment for services by the residents, Van der Westhuizen said the majority of people were now starting to pay, but he could not estimated how many were already doing so

The council has been more than R35-million in the red as a result of the rent boycott

The matter will be discussed at the council's monthly meeting today at 6 pm

Sowetan 29/9/89.

Phone shocks

Victim warned to pay R1 000

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

SCORES of Soweto residents were this week baffled after receiving exorbitant telephone accounts - in one instance a woman got a bill of R700,52 but she has no phone in her house.

The bills vary between R100 and R1 000 and most of the victims come from Diepkloof

A spokesman for Post and Telecommunications, Mrs I Campbell, confirmed that hundreds of families in the area especially those from Diepkloof, had received exorbitant telephone bills and blamed a computer for causing the "mix-up"

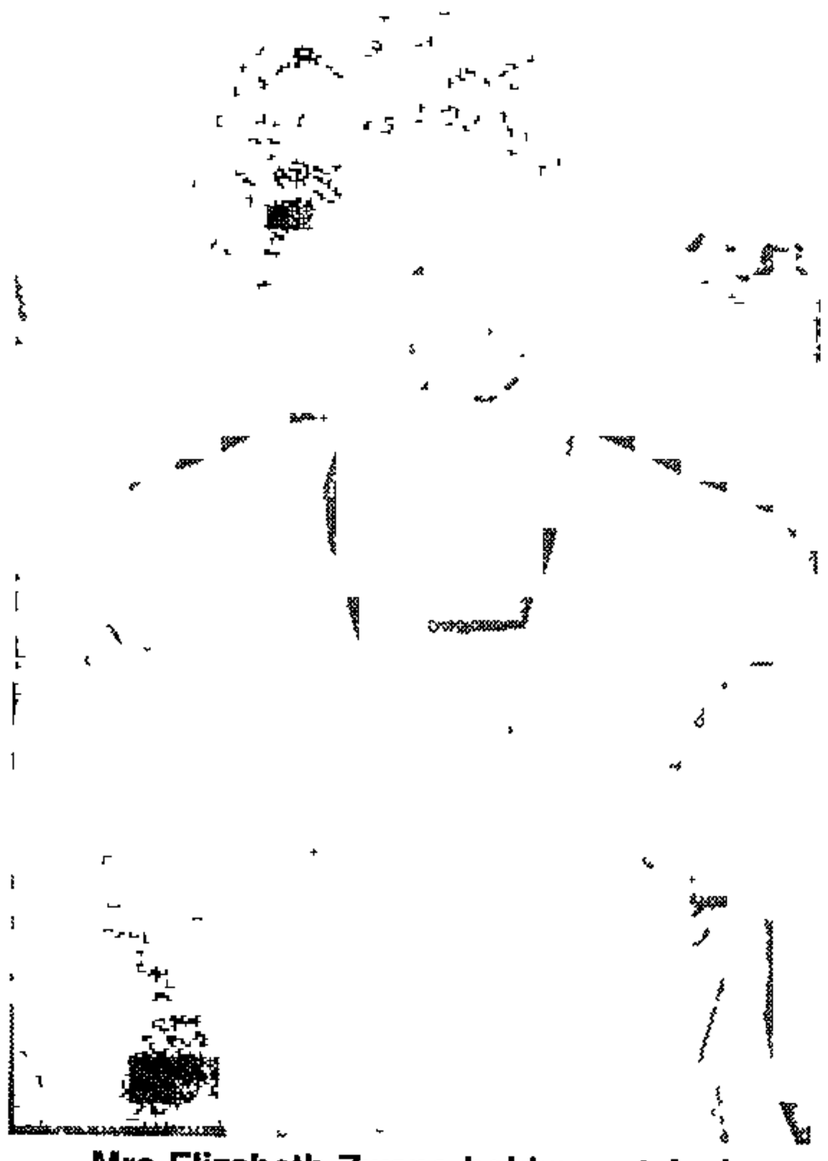
We are aware of the mistake and we hope to rectify it soon We apologise for the inconvenience The computer was fed with wrong information It is a real mix-up and we are working round the clock to solve the mess" said Campbell

She appealed to all those people whose telephone numbers start with 980, 935 985 and 938 and were having problems with their accounts to contact the Krugersdorp office of the P and T at this telephone number (011) 668-2911 during office hours

Mrs Elizabeth Zwane, of 3250 Zone 3 Pimville, received a bill of R700,52 on Monday and has been warned to pay before the end of the month or her "services" would be disconnected

"I have no telephone in my house and I was shocked when I received the statement It is over six months since I made an application for a phone and I am still waiting for the post office people to install one," said Zwane

Mr Langa Skosana of Diepkloof Extension received an account of R1 118,82



Mrs Elizabeth Zwane holding a telephone account of R700 but she has no phone in her house.

PIC BY LEN KUMALO

Proclamation red tape a big obstacle

Bold joint venture to boost housing

STAR 29/9/89 127

By Norman Chandler, Pretoria Bureau

A bold new plan to cut through the red tape which is strangling efforts to beat South Africa's housing crisis is being developed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration

The Southern African Development Bank, the private sector, regional services councils and economic development boards are working with the TPA to put together an urban development support programme (UDSP)

Mr Andre Cornelissen, director-general of the TPA, told a black township development conference at Broederstroom yesterday that the UDSP was "equal to the best such programmes in the world".

More details on how it would operate would be released later, he said. The UDSP would cover every aspect of the provision of housing, from land to finance

In some areas, Mr Cornelissen said, TPA officials had "broken world records" with laying out townships and providing services to speed up the provision of housing

The meeting heard earlier from working groups which have been studying housing problems that there would by the year 2010 be 16 million people living in the PWV area

Delays in developing land for housing would result in a massive bottleneck, so urgent action was necessary

It was said that the proclamation of land for township use took "ages", and provision had to be made for the elimination of red tape

The establishment of a "land bank" was also mooted This would involve buying up tens of thousands of hectares at current prices and releasing it to developers as the need arises At present, land in the PWV area costs R15 000 to R38 000 a hectare.

Key element

Provision of land was pinpointed as a key element in the findings of all working groups. They reported on land, finance, sources of income for black townships, infrastructure, and educational and recreational services

It was recommended that the Government — "preferably a Cabinet Minister" — be asked to make direct representations to mining houses for the release of land owned by them in the PWV

Mining houses would also be approached to assist with the financing of schools and other facilities A bid would be made to obtain tax relief for mines which offered such assistance.

The meeting heard that the provincial and State authorities were unable to pay for new schools or to buy the land required for educational purposes

There were already moves to allow private-sector organisations to provide schools and hospitals "which could be taken over at a later date by the relevant authorities".

The meeting heard that people living in existing townships were not enthusiastic about moving to areas which did not have schools, shopping facilities, or medical services

The possibility of designating township shopping areas as free trade areas was also urged

In terms of existing legislation, these shopping areas could be open to all races.

SA 'urgently needs national housing policy'

By Jacqueline Myburgh

South Africa is in desperate need of a national housing policy, Mr Keith Nurcombe of Toncoro — holding company for Corobrik — said yesterday

He called on housing and building associations throughout South Africa, and the Ministers responsible for housing in all three Houses of Parliament, to combine their efforts to produce a national policy and a clear action-plan to implement agreed strategies

He said the housing backlog in SA was out of control, with the number of homes needed now exceeding 1,25 million

"Efforts made so far by the South African Housing Trust with its involvement in projects valued at R865 million are a drop in the ocean," he said

Estimates indicated that 3,7 million squatters existed in and around the major cities and towns, and by the year 2000 this figure could increase to 34 million

Mr Nurcombe said 56,4 percent of blacks in South Africa could not afford a housing loan, and it was therefore up to both the public and private sectors to co-operate in providing affordable housing for these people

STAR 29/9/89

Proclamation red tape a big obstacle

Bold joint venture to boost housing

STAR 29/8/89

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Estimates indicated that 3,7 million squatters existed in and around the major cities and towns, and by the year 2000 this figure could increase to 34 million.

Mr Nurcombe said 36,4 percent of blacks in South Africa could not afford a housing loan, and it was therefore up to both the public and private sectors to co-operate in providing affordable housing for these people.

Rent increase

Sowetan 29/9/89

(127)

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE executive committee of the Lekoa Town Council under newly-elected chairman and former mayor, Mr Esau Mahlatsi, has decided to increase rent and service charges by an average of R24.

The new tariffs which are to be implemented at a date still to be decided, are still to be approved by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, according to sources yesterday.

The decision to increase rents was finally approved by the council at its monthly meeting in Sebokeng last month.

The council's acting town clerk, Mr J van der Westhuizen, yesterday confirmed that the council had approved an increase in rents when it discussed the 1989/90 budget.

He could not give details of the new rates which will affect thousands of residents in the townships of Sharpeville, Bophelong, Boipatong, Sebokeng, Refengkgotso and Zamdela.

Van der westhuizen said that the council would invite residents, organisations and interested people to respond to the new proposal by the council. Their views would be passed on to the TPA before approving the budget.

The increases in rent have been a thorny issue in the Vaal Triangle townships. They sparked off conflict leading to unrest in 1984.

Rent protest planned for Johannesburg

(127)

Star 30/9/89

POLICE in Johannesburg will again be tested on "the right to protest" issue when a crowd, expected to exceed 1 000, plans to march from the Carlton Centre to Joubert Park today to protest over "poor living conditions and high rents".

The protest will be against agents Malan and Cohen to expose the plight of families living in six blocks of flats in Joubert Park and one in Hillbrow, an Actstop spokesman said yesterday. Star 30/9/89

Permission to hold the march has not been sought from the authorities, the spokesman said, saying poor living conditions was a civil issue which did not concern the police and therefore no permission was needed.

"Provided we observe the 18-metres-apart rule we do not foresee problems with the police," Actstop's organising secretary Pressage Nkosi said, who said residents of the blocks have been harassed with illegal evictions when refusing to pay their rents.

Mr David Malan, of Malan and Cohen, who has twice been defeated with costs in illegal eviction court cases, refused to comment yesterday when contacted by Sapa.

Actstop lawyer Mr Krish Naidoo said Mr Malan owed his company about R10 000 following the two cases.

The blocks concerned are Argyle Court, Claridge Court, Protea Mansions, Branksome Towers, Stanhope Mansions and Manhattan Court in the Wanderers Street area of Joubert Park, and Margate Court in Hillbrow.

The owners of the

● TO PAGE 2.

Protest

● FROM PAGE 1

buildings, Gorfil Investments, indicated yesterday they disapproved of the way Malan and Cohen was handling their blocks, but could not do anything about the situation in terms of a five-year lease

In other protests this week, an estimated 40 000 people packed Oxford Street in East London on Wednesday in what the organiser, the Border Crisis Committee, described as a march for peace freedom and justice The march was led by the Anglican Bishop David Russell of Grahamstown (127) 30/9/89

In Kimberley, close to 7 500 protesters led by clerics marched peacefully to the Transvaal Road police station from Galeshewe on Thursday

On the way they handed a list of grievances to the mayor, Mr H T Bosvark. They then marched to the district commander in Transvaal Road where another document, asking for the abolition of apartheid, was handed over

Star 30/9/89

There were no incidents of violence or police action

In Maritzburg a 16-year-old girl died and two youths were injured on Thursday after a march into the city by more than 700 black students from four schools

In King Williams Town yesterday 20 000 people filled the town centre in the largest peaceful protest march to be witnessed there

The march was from the Anglican Holy Trinity Church to security police headquarters where statements were handed over — Sapa

Mr Clase said these

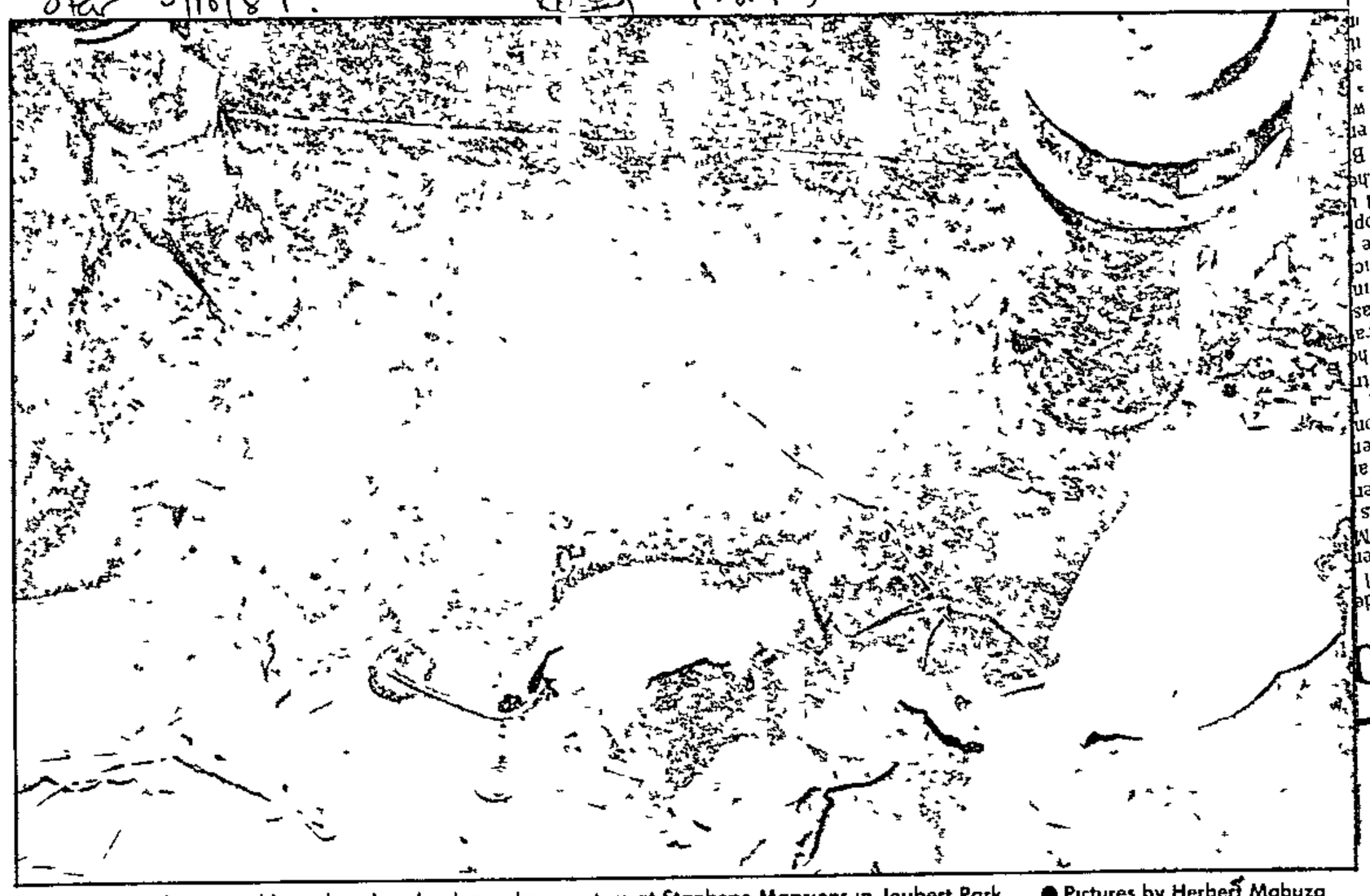
level," Mr Gerber said

PRINTED by The Newspaper Printing Company for the proprietors and publishers the Argus Printing and Publishing Company Ltd, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg

Getting tough on the landlords

Star 3/10/89. (127)

Actstop an organisation representing tenants has campaigned — to no avail — for better living conditions and an end to landlord exploitation in Johannesburg s inner city buildings since 1987 Twice in the last two years The Star has run major series exposing the plight of the inner city residents — to no avail Now Actstop is considering new moves to clean up the Golden City's squalid core reports **HELEN GRANGE**



Sign of squalor a bloated rat lies dead in a drain system at Stanhope Mansions in Joubert Park ● Pictures by Herbert Mabuza

Tactics shift in battle of the inner-city slums

Actsop has begun to rethink its strategies as complaints to some landlords about high rents overcrowding and slum conditions continue to fall on deaf ears

The organisation representing mainly black tenants is considering becoming actively involved in the repair and maintenance of run-down buildings

Mr Cas Coovadia publicity secretary for Actstop said vesterdav that among the strategies being considered was a process wherebv a certain amount of monev from tenants rentals would be used by Actstop for maintenance purposes

Actstop plans to get quotes for the repair of facilities in badly maintained buildings A certain percentage of monev from each rental would be used for maintenance and the balance would be submitted to the landlord

Mr Coovadia added that although this plan was still under discussion legal opinion on it was favourable

We will also be assessing new channels of public protest to bring more pressure to bear on landlords he said

There was an increasingly antagonistic attitude being adopted by landlords against tenants fighting exploitation he said

Tenants protested

For instance the landlord of several blocks of flats in the Joubert Park area Mr David Malan had allegedly harassed' tenants he knew to be members of Actstop by cutting lights and locking doors

These are the kind of intimidatory practices against which tenants protested against on Saturday — as well as his refusal to take responsibility for maintaining his buildings said Mr Coovadia

Tenants of Argyle Court Claridge Court, Branksome Towers and Stanhope Mansions held a picket on Saturday after calling off a protest march for fear of police action

The Star visited Mr Malan s buildings last year and again yesterday but noticed little difference in living conditions

A putrid smell pervades every building Lifts are out of order and windows are broken. Every building sports heaps of rubbish in the concrete stairwells

In Claridge Court and Branksome Towers some attempts have been made to sweep rubbish from the corridors and stairwells.

Moves were made recently by the Johannesburg Health Department to clean up slum conditions in the city and 80 warnings were sent out

According to Medical Officer of Health Professor Hilliard Hurwitz, there has been no reply to 50 warnings and five prosecutions against landlords are pending

A certain amount of time has been granted to building owners and landlords to meet health standards depending on the repairs to be done In some cases where major renovations such as plumbing need to be done several weeks (leeway) have been granted

Mr Malan told The Star his buildings were cleaned everv day' but would not comment further on allegations of exploitation and lack of maintenance

According to Actstop fieldworker Mr Aob Mavet cleaning up operations in Branksome Towers and Claridge Court could be the result of tenant pressure In the case of Branksome Towers, Mr Malan is also probablv improving the building before auction ing it he said

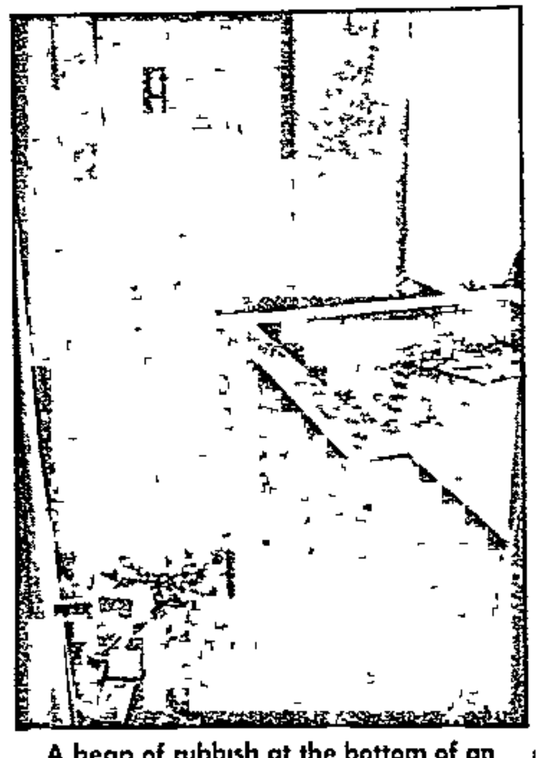
Mrs Desiree Simpson NP councillor for Joubert Park said Mr Malan has received five spot summonses from the Health Department

Apart from Mr Malan, other landlords like Mr Tonv Pharboo are also being prosecuted The court has photographic evidence of the filthy conditions of Miltherd and Milton Courts (Mr Pharboo s buildings), including pictures of baths half filled with urine

We are hitting these landlords hard' Mrs Simpson said adding that she was distributing pamphlets on tenants' rights

The Johannesburg City Council s new slum regulations have been approved by the Government, a step likely to increase pressure on landlords who allow overcrowding and illegal letting

Fines for overcrowding have been increased from R200 to R500 and the city s Health Department has been given wider powers to control health and sanitation



A heap of rubbish at the bottom of an old stairwell a familiar site in some of the "grey" buildings of Hillbrow and Joubert Park

Eviction victims to 'stay on pavement'

5/10/89

STAR

The 19 families who were evicted from the Cresthill block of flats in Hillbrow last night following a court order vowed today to remain on the pavement until they got their flats back

Members of the Cresthill Residents' Committee said the landlord had in the past ignored their pleas in connection with high rentals and poor service

The committee members said they will be meeting Actstop, an anti-eviction organisation, to decide their immediate plan of action.

This morning, the evicted families were still standing next to their household goods Some of them did not go to work for fear that their goods might be stolen

A legal representative for the families said they have refused offers for alternative accommodation, saying all they wanted was to get back to their flats

The residents, in conjunction with Actstop, will hold a press conference later today to announce their plan of action

127 FMail 6/10/89

RESIDENTIAL

Defying gravity

House sales aren't performing as they should be. The market should be battening down the hatches in reaction to anticipated higher mortgage rates and the continuing efforts to cool the economy

But agents report weekend show houses continue to attract streams of people and there is no shortage of offers — particularly for good stock in the R200 000-plus bracket

One view is that demand is a factor primarily of long-term perceptions, rather than concern over where bond rates are headed There's no question the market received a boost in confidence from the general election result

Allied's GM, Regions, Geoff Bowker says there's not a shadow of doubt that there is still a lot of money available for higher priced units One of the country's big seven estate agents tells him that 30% of all sales in the R200 000-plus market are cash sales

There could be several reasons for this One is that in spite of what bank statistics may say, money is still plentiful Another is that buyers could be taking large cash piles with them when they sell their exisiting properties and trade up

"I gather it's a very different matter in the less expensive end of the market," says Bowker "Who would have believed that bonds would have risen in such a short time from 12,5% to 20%? A lot of people must have got hurt"

Nevertheless, he says, demand for bonds has remained steady throughout the market, particularly for black housing. Two possible exceptions are a slackening in demand for coloured homes in the western Cape and early signs that the demand for residential property in the eastern Cape is softening

Liberty Life Properties director Gavin Main says his own organisation's exposure to building costs is an indication of why the upper end of the housing market is holding up so well

"People who want new accommodation are securing it now because they realise that in three or four years, the cost of building a new home will probably have risen by between 20% and 40%

"They're saying 'If I commit myself now, not only am I getting it at a cost at which I won't get it again in the future, but, hopefully, as my income grows, my repayment commitment should at least remain static or possibly even decline if interest rates fall'"

He believes an additional factor could be that those buying more expensive homes often have housing packages as part of their employment remuneration packages If, for example, this brings the real rate of interest down to say 3,5%, it pays handsomely to buy up — even with perks tax "I believe that's why the market is still so buoyant"

Eskel Jawitz's view is that perceptions of events, rather than interest rates, are the driving force behind demand for property and prices

"High interest rates, for example, may spark a panic which leads many people to put their homes on the market A glut develops and prices fall However, if it is felt that high interest rates aren't onerous, more people will sit on their homes, demand will exceed supply and prices will rise Generally, I would say today's house prices are the best they've ever been"

Jawitz ascribes this to a positive perception of events in SA, particularly in terms of the result of the general election

He adds "Johannesburg's decision to open amenities to all races may be construed as negative in some areas, but people in the main will welcome this as another positive measure It is this sort of thing which affects the buoyancy of the property market" ■

CAPE TOWN HARBOUR FMail 6/10/89

Stepping out

(127)

Two important steps have been taken towards the implementation of Cape Town's Victoria and Alfred Waterfront project

Moreover, the developers believe the measures, taken by the council and the Sats board, will go some way towards silencing critics who claim progress on the project is too slow

The first was council agreement, in principal, to the development framework put forward by the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront company (VAW), the Sats subsidiary responsible for the development It deals with the change in harbour usage to "mixed-use," stating "the key goals and defining the policies by which rehabilitation and development will occur " This means the council and VAW now agree, at a policy level, on such crucial issues as land use within the 14 designated precincts, traffic and transport, public open space and urban conservation

However, just as important was a meeting between VAW MD David Jack and the Sats board to discuss finances

Sats originally agreed to spend R35m over five years on infrastructure and maintaining and developing existing assets in the dockland

According to Jack, Sats has now agreed to speed up spending and increase the amount it is willing to invest He hopes approval will soon be forthcoming from Sats to proceed with the installation of infrastructure and services

The significance of the agreement with the council is that it is a requirement of the Sats Act No 65 of 1981 that "development shall only take place after agreement has been reached with the relevant local authority and after such consultation as the local authority may deem necessary "

The council stressed some months ago that it would sanction development on an ad hoc basis However, VAW was not in a position, until agreement had been reached, to sign any contracts with the many potential private sector partners

Critics, impatient to see a start made on site, or at least the award of major contracts, perhaps failed to understand this In fact, some maintain the planning process has been quick — bearing in mind two overriding needs for caution

The first is the nature of the project It is a one-off affair whose success or failure has tremendous implications for the future economic health of the city With the development so markedly public in nature, it is not surprising that both the VAW company and the council are anxious to tread carefully

Secondly, this is the first major privatisation project undertaken by Sats Unravelling the Sats-council-developer triad is proving to be a novel experience This, and the desire to make a success of the project, militate against undue haste

What remains now is for agreement to be reached between VAW and the city on the provision and financing of services by the council Parallel to this, the public and interested parties will be invited to comment on the development framework Jack hopes both of these processes will be completed by the end of November The formal, if not legal, confirmation of last week's agreement in principal should then also be given by council

If all goes to plan, Jack anticipates that the first part of next year will see the installation of services in the Pier Head area and the award of contracts with hoteliers and retail developers The end of 1990 should see the opening of the development's first hotel, restaurants, retail and food and entertainment elements ■

Tutu ... first-ever meeting with Hough

However, she welcomed what was interpreted as a thaw in the attitude of the authorities towards negotiating with extra-municipal organisations (such as the delegation) and their more flexible stance on rent and service charge arrears

In addition to the meetings, a joint investigative committee of "technical people" from the three groups will be established to look at the "factual matter" surrounding the dispute According to a spokesman for Hough's office, a decision will then be taken on the desirability of establishing a working committee to "investigate all the problems of Soweto"

The spokesman stressed that last week's meeting was no publicity exercise. it had tangible results "Of the five issues discussed there are now only two on which the administration differs with the Soweto delegation. In all the rest we totally agree with the delegation and even where we disagreed it was a matter of nuance rather than real disagreement"

Those two issues are that although the TPA is "extremely sympathetic to Soweto," it cannot agree to waive all rent and service charge arrears (amounting to R265m in Soweto), and it cannot agree to the ownership of all houses built by government being transferred unconditionally to residents

But "this week's meeting was in excellent spirit and was full of promise for the future" ■

6/10/84

RENT BOYCOTT (127) FMail

Inching forward

If mutual respect was enough to solve problems, then this week's first-ever meeting between the Transvaal Administrator and representatives of the Soweto Peoples' Delegation would have produced a solution to the long-running Soweto-Vaal Triangle rent boycott

But the impasse can only be resolved if means can be found to bridge the gap which exists between the residents and the authorities That is the word from the office of Administrator Danie Hough after his meeting with two groups, the delegation headed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, miners' leader Cyril Ramaphosa and members of the Soweto City Council

However, a slightly different view is held by the delegation, which believes Hough has not yet grasped what is really at stake Delegation representative Sister Bernard Ncube says the basic issues which initiated the boycott still exist They relate to corruption and the system of calculating service charges in Soweto.

Ramaphosa ... headed one delegation

'We're staying' say flat dwellers

By PHIL MOLEFE

NINETEEN families camping on a Hillbrow pavement after being evicted from their block of flats this week have vowed to stay there until the owners let them back in.

The families were evicted from Cresthill flats on the corner of Twist and Pietersen Streets after the estate agents Whitefield won a court order on behalf of the owner, Alta Kritzinger.

In a statement released yesterday, the tenants' rights organisation Actstop said the families, comprising around 100 people, had been evicted while negotiations over rents and service costs were still continuing.

Tenants said they had reduced their rents by around R100 in protest against exorbitant electricity and water charges and unsatisfactory services and were still waiting to discuss their grievances with the owner.

Thobeka Ralephenyo, who slept in the open on Wednesday night with her one-year-old baby, said about 10 white and black men arrived at her flat with a list of tenants who were supposed to be evicted.

"They kicked the door, trying to force it open but I shouted that I had a key to open for them.

"Our clothes, dishes, cups and other small items were all rolled into my carpet and dumped outside the building," said Ralephenyo.

(127) WMail 6-12/10/89.

(127) Star 8/10/89.

Rent arrears may be waived

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has agreed to waive a portion of the Soweto rent arrears, which total nearly R265 million

This emerged from discussions this week between Danie Hough, Administrator of the Transvaal, the Soweto People's Delegation and the Soweto City Council

The talks related to rent and service charge arrears, the transfer of houses to the residents of Soweto, the present standard and cost of services and a joint tax base for Johannesburg and Soweto

Hough said prior to the 1988 municipal elections, the TPA commissioned Dr Simon Brand of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, to investigate ways to improve the quality of life in Soweto

Brand's report has now been completed and the planning of development and financial adjustment programmes has reached an advanced stage

The SPD request that all rent arrears and service charges be scrapped was also discussed, but Hough said the Government could not agree to this

Hough said unconditional exemption from rent and service charges would be unfair to residents who regularly paid their accounts

"People must pay for the services they receive as the state does not have sufficient funds to subsidise residents who fail to pay their rent," he said

Hough said houses would not be unconditionally transferred to those who rented them.

"It is inconceivable that a person may claim an asset simply because he has rented it for 30 years."

He said exemption from payment of municipal accounts would be unfair, and warned that if suppliers of municipal services stopped their supply, the City Council and the SPD would have joint responsibility for the consequences.

On the question of a joint tax base for Johannesburg and Soweto, Hough said regional services councils were established to generate funds and employ them in areas of greatest need

"Demographic principles indicate it would be impractical to unite Johannesburg and Soweto into a single city."

Already R153 millio has been transferred fro the regional services council to Soweto, with a budget of R92 million set for the next financial year

The SPD pointed out that Soweto residents were willing to pay for services.

"But the boycott will continue until a solution has been negotiated by all the parties involved and accepted by the residents"

The TPA agreed in principle to.

- Negotiate the writing off of certain arrears,
- Transfer houses to the residents and negotiate the process and costs;
- Support SPD proposals to upgrade services;
- Help design an affordable service charge formula

The Sta

Catch-22 situation is creating a slum

Racially mixed Hillbrow is not only grey in human terms but also in a legal context The Group Areas Act has put tenants and landlords in a fix, leaving both without any real legal rights And as the State dallies over the suburb's status, a slum is being created almost overnight, reports **DAWN BARKHUIZEN**

The Group Areas Act has resulted in a lawless situation in white" Hillbrow because there are no legal contracts binding tenants and landlords

It is a situation which is creating a slum overnight, lawyers acting for both parties agree

In terms of the Group Areas Act, both the black tenants and landlords in Hillbrow are in breach of the law — the former for being resident in a 'white" suburb and the latter for allowing black tenants in

Public disturbances

As a result, tenants, who find themselves in flats where standards have fallen substantially, cannot legally insist that their buildings be maintained or repaired

Landlords cannot legally evict tenants who fail to pay their rents pay partial rentals or create public disturbances

Tales of tenants being forced to climb nine storeys for three years because their lifts were out of order are not uncommon The most common complaint by landlords is that tenants damage flats, only pay partial rentals or refuse to pay

Lawyers agree that the Group Areas Act is at the root of the catch-22 situation

Lawyers said they were not aware of a single case in which Hillbrow residents had been charged under the Act Nor did they know of cases where police were evicting black residents under the Act

Actstop's legal representative Mr Krish Naidoo said "There are 10 000 people breaking the law in Hillbrow every day The only people I know who have been charged with contravening the Group Areas Act are Indian families in Homestead Park. But their cases have been postponed by the courts for months."

Landlords attempting to evict tenants on other grounds face strong opposition from Actstop, which has pledged to fight every case and has obtained interdicts against evictions as well as judgments supporting decisions to reduce rentals

Mr Naidoo maintains that while the Act prohibits tenants from having contracts, they do have common-law rights whereby they are entitled to notice of one month, and to have their buildings maintained or deduct rent for repairs to be done

A landlord's lawyer said tenants have taken the law into their own hands

"A landlord cannot get residents out even if he does give them a month's notice He has to eject them on the basis of an agreement and that agreement, be it verbal or written, is invalid because black people are theoretically not allowed to be in Hillbrow The landlords are stuck unless tenants fail to defend themselves in legal actions"

Mr Naidoo believes the Act, coupled with landlords charging inflated rentals — sometimes up to R600 for a single-bedroom flat — were to blame for the situation

"The landlords started off on an exploitative ticket trying to make a fast buck, taking advantage of housing demands and setting outrageously high rentals," he said

"They tried to evict Actstop members, wanting to replace them with people prepared to pay inflated rents

"There are fly-by-night landlords, landlords who keep deposits; and the landlord you have at night might not be the landlord you have the next morning," he said

"Now the landlords find themselves in a fix because tenants have started taking collective action Actstop has promised to fight every action We approach judges at all times of the night seeking interdicts to keep people in place"

Both parties losing

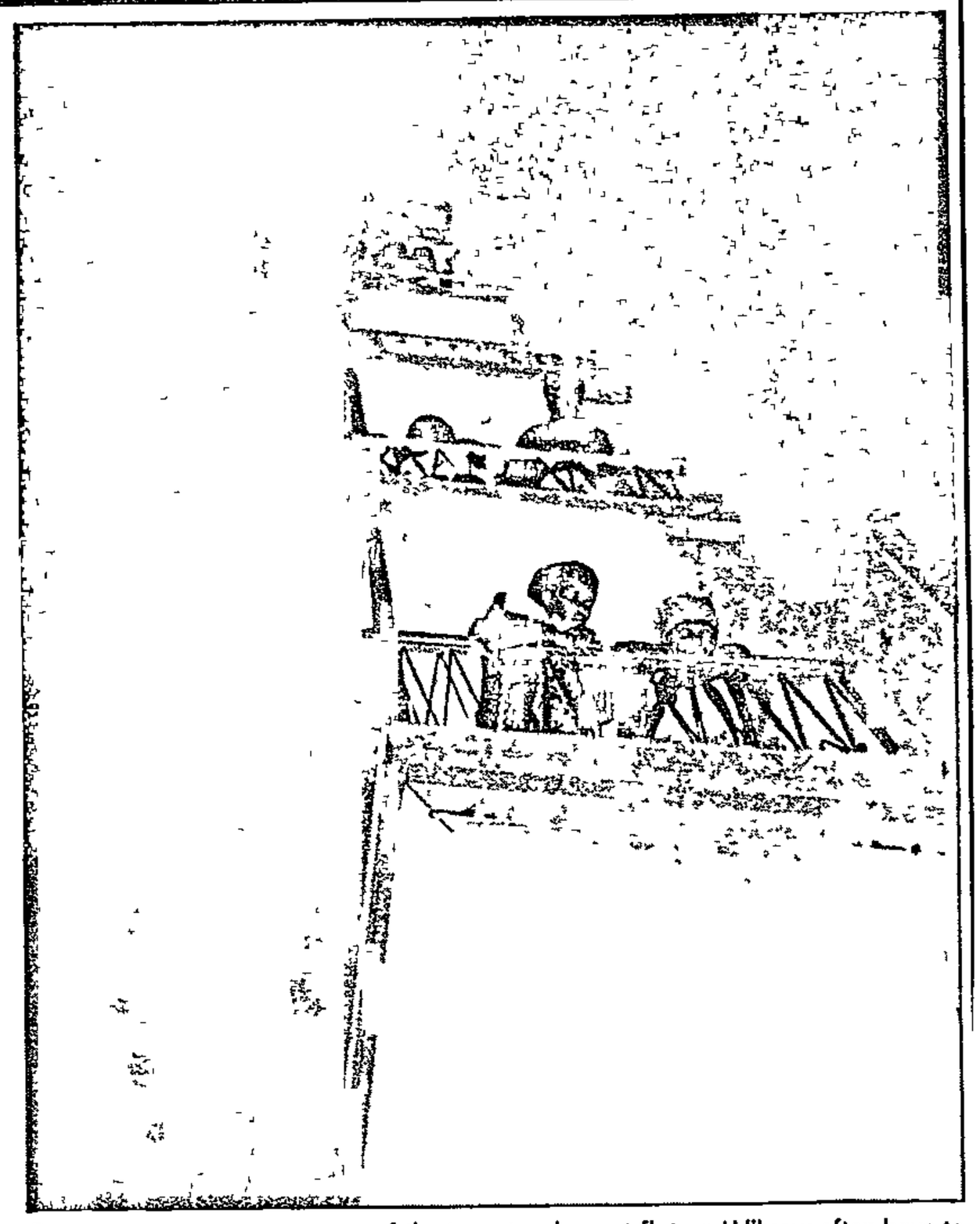
In addition, the organisation plans to act as controlling agents, deducting portions of rental for repairs It also plans to launch an "injury to one is an injury to all" campaign whereby people will not fill flats from which residents have been evicted.

The landlord's lawyer said both parties were losing

"A landlord might not agree with rents unilaterally set by tenants," he said

"He winds up unable to pay his bond Repairs are not done and a slum is being created rapidly The municipality is able to prosecute landlords for allowing a slum to develop and landlords face the prospects of liquidation.

"The landlord cannot rely on the Group Areas Act to evict people because he allowed them in in the first place and because it is a political time-bomb in which there is no guarantee of success"



Evictions are common some of the tenants who rent flats in Hillbrow often have to watch their neighbours evicted at short notice and find it difficult to walk down nine storeys when lifts are out of order

Mrs Stephanie Correira and her husband, Tony, with little Adelia, were one of the families who had to leave Drakensburg Flats in Sunnyridge, Germiston, last night after wind blew the roof off, causing damage estimated at thousands of rands. Firemen were called to assist in removing the pieces of corrigated iron flapping in the wind Other calls for help were received by the fire department from people in the Primrose and city areas, where trees were uprooted and telephone poles were snapped off in strong winds

Roof blown off block of flats, hits cars, houses

(127)

Star 17/10/89

By Dawn Barkhuizen

Flat dwellers evacuated their homes last night after wind blew the roof off a Sunnyridge, Germiston, block of flats

The roof of Drakensburg Flats, in St Joseph's Street, damaged at least four houses and three cars and snapped telephone polls, cutting electricity in the area Damage to one house was estimated at R10 000

Nobody was injured

Last night firemen received numerous reports of uprooted trees blocking streets in the Primrose and Germiston areas

Mrs Sandy Vianello, of Cyrildene, told The Star that a huge tree on the corner of Friedland and Marcia streets was uprooted at about 8 30 pm

"It blocked Friedland Street for a while before the fire department arrived to cut it up," she said

The incident at Drakensburg Flats occurred shortly after 7 pm when gusts ripped sheets of corrugated iron from the roof of the three-storey block of flats and blew them on to houses and a parking garage below, according to eyewitness, Gavin Lawrence (11)

NOISE LIKE THUNDER

"My dad and I were locking the car when we heard a noise like thunder and looked up to see huge pieces of roof flying off My dad grabbed me and threw me into the house I was terrified," said Gavin

Mr Rudolf Pretorius, whose house is next to the flats, had a narrow escape when the large piece of roof that flattened his washing line and crashed into his pool and roof landed within a metre of his bedroom window as he lay inside reading

Drakensburg residents Mrs Stephanie Correira and her husband, Tony, showed The Star holes in the ceiling through which the sky could be seen

"I've got a tiny baby. I can't risk the rain or having more pieces of iron blowing into the flat We're moving out," said Mrs Correira.

Angry residents complained that the block of flats was in a state of disrepair "What do you expect when you get a roof of that magnitude banged on with six-inch nails," Mrs Monica Thorne asked.

Rained out . . . Ms Jill Richards had to pack up and move out of her top-storey flat in Germiston when rain poured in through the ceiling after the roof was blown off in high winds.
● Picture by Karen Fletcher.

Germiston flats are flooded after roof blown off by winds

By Abel Mushi

Tenants of The Drakensberg flats in Primrose, Germiston, whose roof was blown off in high winds on Monday last week, had rain pouring into their flats at the weekend.

They claim their landlord has not bothered to replace the roof.

Ms Jill Richards (29), a tenant, showed her flat to The Star The walls were damp, floor tiles flaking off, carpets saturated with rainwater and the air musty She said conditions were like that in most of the 12 flats on the third floor.

"We called the landlord as soon as it happened but he hasn't been to see us. Our caretaker is also not saying anything and we are going to have a meeting with a lawyer concerning the matter," Ms Richards said yesterday

Ms Richards said she had stored some of her furniture at a friend's garage and was staying with someone on the ground floor at the moment.

"It's very difficult to live under these conditions I believe you rent a flat because you want to be looked after. It would have been a totally different case if it happened to one's own home," she said.

CLEAN UP MESS

It rained on Friday and Saturday night and Sunday morning, she said.

Another tenant, Mrs Winifred van der Walt (67), said she objected when the caretaker ordered domestic servants who work for individuals staying in the flats to clean up the mess.

"These ceilings can fall any time and the poor maids can't work under such conditions Some of them are very old and the caretaker herself must find people to fix those things," she said

Materials from the roof were flung over a wide area and caused damage to roofs at two nearby houses and to a car.

Mr Dennis Meskin, landlord and one of the directors of Tor Flats Investments, told The Star that those who were not covered by their own insurance could make claims through his company.

He said tent canvas had been used to provide shelter in the meantime

When The Star arrived at the scene yesterday morning, there were men working on the roof. The caretaker was not available for comment

Star 22/10/89

175 arrested in raid

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

A hundred and seventy five people were arrested by police during a pre-dawn raid on three separate blocks of flats in Johannesburg yesterday.

According to a police spokesman, Captain Eugene Opperman, police raided the Goldway Mansions, Tudor Mansions and Criterium Place and arrested 20 people for drinking in public and 165 for trespassing

He said police action was requested from the owners of the buildings and from various residents in the area

He said some of those arrested appeared in court yesterday.

Meanwhile, anti-eviction group, Actstop, said about 180 tenants were arrested by police yesterday

Actstop's spokesman, Mr Cas Coovadia, said he was informed that tenants would be charged with trespassing

However, he said charges were dropped against some except 51 who appeared in court yesterday

Coovadia said his organisation was concerned by the action of the police during the raid, claiming that several doors were damaged in the process

He said Actstop was considering legal action against the police and also would make the organisation's strongest objection with the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok

Councils get final warning on rent debt

By ALINAH DUBE

THE Government has threatened to stop the Soweto and Lekoa city councils' electricity and water services if they fail to resolve the rent crisis which will result in a R279 million deficit by December 31 this year

This was announced at a Press conference by Mr Olaus van Zyl MEC for the TPA, in Pretoria yesterday

He said the administration wanted to act because "the City Council of Soweto had neglected to exercise its powers and functions and to perform its duties satisfactorily."

He said the city councils of Soweto and Lekoa were both served with notices giving them until December 31 "to get their house in order"

Van Zyl said the notice served on the Soweto local authority was in terms of Section 29 (1) of the Black Local Authorities Act

The notice gives the council a period of 60 days to address representations to the administrator in respect of the particular aspect with which it is charged

"The notice is a final warning to the council to work out a strategy to resolve the suffering of the community it is serving The council is being charged, inter alia with the poor services it renders to the community of Soweto, its failure to act against residents who do not pay their municipal accounts, failure or the unwillingness to collect outstanding debts and rent and service levies amounting to R279 million" he said.

Van Zyl also blamed the council for failing to sell government owned houses in Soweto He said there was lack of control and discipline in the council.

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Sowetan 1/11/89

Warning on rent

• From page 1

If the council failed to take remedial decision by the set date, the administrator may consider taking away their functions and appointing persons or institutions to run their affairs.

Regarding the notice served on the City Council of Lekoa, the administrator may dismiss councillors from their seats if they do not find a solution before December 31.

"Meetings of the council take place in a hostile atmosphere, hindering proper decision making and as a result the community suffers. The financial circumstances of the City Council of Lekoa have deteriorated so much that the administration would be neglecting its duties if it did not take steps to persuade the council to rectify this undesirable state of affairs," the press conference was told

Sowetan 1/11/89

(27)

BUSINESS

Province says it won't foot the bill for PWV townships

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has run out of money to keep the crisis-ridden township councils afloat. Now it has threatened action against Soweto and Lekoa. HILARY JOFFE reports

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration's ultimatum this week to the Soweto and Lekoa town councils to get their financial houses in order appears to be a desperation measure

It may also illuminate some of the factors which led it to enter negotiations last month with the Soweto People's Delegation over the future of the giant township, no doubt in the hope that the talks would bring some resolution to the four-year boycott of rent and service charge payments

The TPA's bridging loans to black local authorities totalled nearly R890-million, Olaus van Zyl, member of executive committee for local government, said this week

"For various reasons it is no longer feasible to continue rendering that form of aid," he said

Provincial officials are said to have admitted to the SPD last month that the administration had run out of bridging finance And this week Van Zyl publicly admitted it in a memorandum he said funds were no longer available to provide bridging loans to local authorities

"The situation developed where the TPA could, at the end of October, only assist local authorities to pay the salaries of their staff," he said

If the councils failed to settle their accounts with bulk suppliers of services (such as Eskom or the Rand Water Board), this would inevitably lead to the suppliers "terminating" the services

And he referred implicitly to the negotiations with the SPD, which demanded that arrears resulting from the boycott be written off Van Zyl clarified the TPA's position it was prepared to negotiate about part of this debt but "any remission of debt must be accompanied by a *quid pro quo* from the council and the residents"

The boycott of rents and service charges has caused township city councils to run up massive arrears While payments by residents cover, on average, 70 to 80 percent of expenditure in the country as a whole, the figure for Lekoa, the complex of townships in the Vaal Triangle, and Soweto is between 20 and 30 percent Soweto is estimated to be losing between R5-million and R7-million a month on electricity alone, depending on the season

Van Zyl said this week the Soweto City Council had failed to collect "outstanding debts and rent and service levies" of almost R279-million The council "completely ignored" tariff increases this year by Eskom and the Rand Water Board and this has resulted in a R3,3-million loss

"The residents will eventually have to make up these losses, which will probably cause an excessive increase on their monthly accounts " He said estimated operating losses on consumer accounts for the past financial year totalled R20-million

The administrator of the Transvaal has served notice on the town clerk, mayor and councillors of both Soweto and Lekoa.

He has charged the Soweto council with rendering poor services to the community, failing to act against residents who do not pay their municipal accounts, failing to collect debts and rent and service levies, failing to sell houses to the community and failure to observe its financial regulations.

Van Zyl said the Transvaal administrator believed the Soweto council's actions — or lack thereof — had led "to the deterioration of the rendering of services to the community of Soweto to such an extent that the community is suffering as a result"

Van Zyl said if the Soweto council did not submit representations which satisfied the administrator within 60 days, he might give final instructions with target dates to the council If the council failed to obey these, the administrator could take steps to rectify the council's actions or authorise "another person or body" to take steps on behalf of the council

It's not clear whether this is significant in the light of negotiations taking place between Eskom and various organisations, particularly the Soweto People's Delegation Eskom plans to set up a private company, with community support, which would take over the supply of electricity from the Soweto council In terms of the Black Local Authorities Act of 1982 the council is the only body authorised to supply electricity in the township Councillors have been resisting giving up this function because it would narrow their power base

The administrator's ultimatum this week to the Lekoa councillors differed from the Soweto one in that TPA threatened to dismiss the councillors or dissolve the council altogether if it should fail to observe province's instructions

Van Zyl said since last year's municipal elections four different executive committees had been elected in Lekoa, with meetings taking place in a "hostile atmosphere, hindering proper decision-making and, as a result, the community suffers" He said the TPA had to act against the council because of the extent to which its financial situation had deteriorated

"Power struggles and changes of power seem to be in the order of the day in the city council of Lekoa, to such an extent that important work that would have benefited the residents do not receive the necessary attention "

The administrator has ordered the Lekoa council to collect monthly levies and outstanding debts, to act to determine tariffs and institute proper budgeting and budgetary control, to complete its financial statements and to hold orderly meetings

Van Zyl said the Lekoa council had asked for a total of R31-million in bridging loans this year but the TPA had only agreed to give R20-million "essential assistance to enable the city council to survive financially"

The TPA is clearly trying to hold the crisis-ridden black local authority system together — and it is also acknowledging the crisis as never before

In a memorandum issued this week Van Zyl stressed the importance of "sound local government" and referred to the "democratic tradition" in which the 1988 municipal elections took place — although he also referred to the "unrealistic expectations" councillors had raised with election promises of lower tariffs

"The present elected councillors are recognised by the TPA as the only official representatives of the communities concerned in so far as local government is concerned," he said, but added that the TPA was prepared to negotiate with "other groups in the communities which may be able to play an important part".

And Van Zyl went some way to admitting a point which has been stressed by both the SPD and the Development Bank of South Africa in a recent report — that the financial crisis of the black local authorities arises from their very narrow revenue base, and that, in turn, is a legacy of apartheid geography

Township residents can't afford services and the councils can't raise revenue from commerce and industry — where township residents work — as the white cities do

Said Van Zyl "It is accepted that the policies of the past contributed to the fact that black communities were adversely affected and that conditions leave much to be desired " He referred to "a poor economic base for, among other things, the reason that local authorities have few or no industries within their municipalities" He also admitted many residents could not afford to pay for services

However, he stressed it was policy that township residents must pay for services — but people who could not afford to do so should be "accorded humane treatment"

Survey reveals 2 million live in Greater Soweto

IT's official – Soweto's population is two million.

The latest figure, given by the Transvaal Provincial Administration this week in a fact sheet on the township, contrasts with previous official figures — such as the 1,2-million and the 1,5-million given by then Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis at different times last year.

The fact sheet also reveals the official housing backlog is 31 995 and there are about 40 509 shacks in Soweto — but that there are only 12 762 building sites available in Greater Soweto.

It refers to "excellent progress" with the upgrading of existing houses, financed mostly by the private sectors, with alterations and additions to more than 3 600 houses in Greater Soweto underway at a cost of R30-million.

From 1980 to 1989, 9 238 new houses have been built, and 150 building plans at a cost of R4,6-million had been approved by September 1989.

According to the TPA, R103-million has been spent on upgrading Soweto's essential services — including such projects as bus stations, bridges, roads, stormwater drainage and water pipe-lines

Chris Heunis

And R181,7-million has been spent on electrifying Soweto.

The TPA says Soweto has about 3 000 shebeens, 1 227 trading sites, 10 banks and building societies, 11 bottle stores and two industrial parks.

Lekoa, the municipality which covers the Vaal Triangle townships of Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Boipatong, Bophelong, Zamdela and Refengkgotso, accommodates about 650 000 residents.

The central business district in Sebokeng has a supermarket and bank and building society agencies.

The new Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, (front left) argues with Soweto's mayor, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi (right) yesterday, as a number of other senior officials look on. ● Picture by Herbert Mabuza.

New Minister clashes with Soweto mayor

By Thabo Leshilo

STAR 6/10/89

The mayor of Soweto, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi, and the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, had a heated argument yesterday over the incorporation of Zuurbekom into the sprawling township

The incident occurred during the Minister's courtesy visit to Soweto, during which he was shown Zuurbekom, west of Soweto

Mr Mkhwanazi told the newly appointed Minister that his council needed the land to solve Soweto's chronic land shortage

Mr Kriel said there was no way the land could be given to Soweto because it would mean more people staying without paying

He then attacked the mayor and his council for failing to solve the rent boycott According to Mr Kriel, the rent dispute had left Soweto more than R250 million in the red

Mr Mkhwanazi said the rent boycott was sparked by incorrect meter readings by the previous council's officials Mr Kriel replied by challenging him to ensure proper accounts were kept.

"I will think about the land You think about your administration," said Mr Kriel

"Not me alone but us We are partners in this," said the mayor

At the end of the tour the Minister, his deputy and the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, were presented with gifts

Mr Kriel later told reporters a local authority was not a "charitable organisation" and any community had to pay for services provided

The Zuurbekom issue would be considered by his department from a planning point of view, he added

Ex-mayor evicted me - mother of 7

A DOBSONVILLE mother of seven was evicted from her house and it was given to a cousin of a former mayor, Mr Steve Kgame, a commission of inquiry into aspects of administration in the township heard yesterday

Mrs Sara Sibodi, presently living at the Dobsonville hostel, said she was forced to leave house number 2744 although she had paid rent arrears totalling R271.72c from the previous owner, a Mr Phakathi.

She told the commission that before being evicted she and her family were forced to occupy the dining-room while Kgame's cousin occupied the other three rooms

Steve Kgame . . . named.

The commission which has been sitting since Monday is chaired by Mr B J Olivier

Another witness, Mr Vusimuzi Desmond Tutu, said he was forced to pay R100 to the council for a vendor's licence.

This was despite the fact that he had to pay R10 to the Licensing Board

Tutu also testified that he bought a house in the area in 1985 only to be awoken by council policemen a few days later for failing to pay rent and electricity arrears left by the previous owner

"I was told to go and look for the previous owner who had since disappeared I then came

• To page 2

Mother evicted

• From page 1

back to the council to ask if they could write off the debt as I could not locate the previous owner.

"My request was ignored. But I am not paying," he said.

A former councillor, Mr Freddy Mohajane, earlier told the commission that an amount of R750 000, allocated by the Government for the upgrading of the hostel was used to pay salaries as the council's coffers were dry because of the rent boycott

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Sowetan 10/11/89

Midrand area waits on 'open' go-ahead

EDYTH BULBRING

AN UPMARKET, multi-racial residential area in Midrand is awaiting President F W de Klerk's announcement declaring Country View a free settlement area.

It is believed De Klerk will make his decision within two weeks

Sage Schachat MD Rob Crockett said yesterday the company had completed infrastructure and services in the Midrand township known as Country View and was landscaping the area

He said the company would be ready to start selling stands within less than a month after an announcement by De Klerk declaring the area open to all races The stands would sell in the region of R35 000 to R45 000 and would cater for about 1 100 dwelling units

The residential stands were 800m², while the group housing sites were 500m²

Crockett said said sites had been planned for schools, creches and social clubs, and a lake was being constructed on the river in the area

If the decison was taken by the President not to open the area to all races, the stands would be sold to whites, Crockett said

Free Settlement Areas Board chairman Hein Kruger said the area under consideration was the land housing the Development Bank known as Headway Hill, the Country View residential area, and an area where the headquarters of the Secretariat of the Economic Community of SA (Secosaf) is to be built.

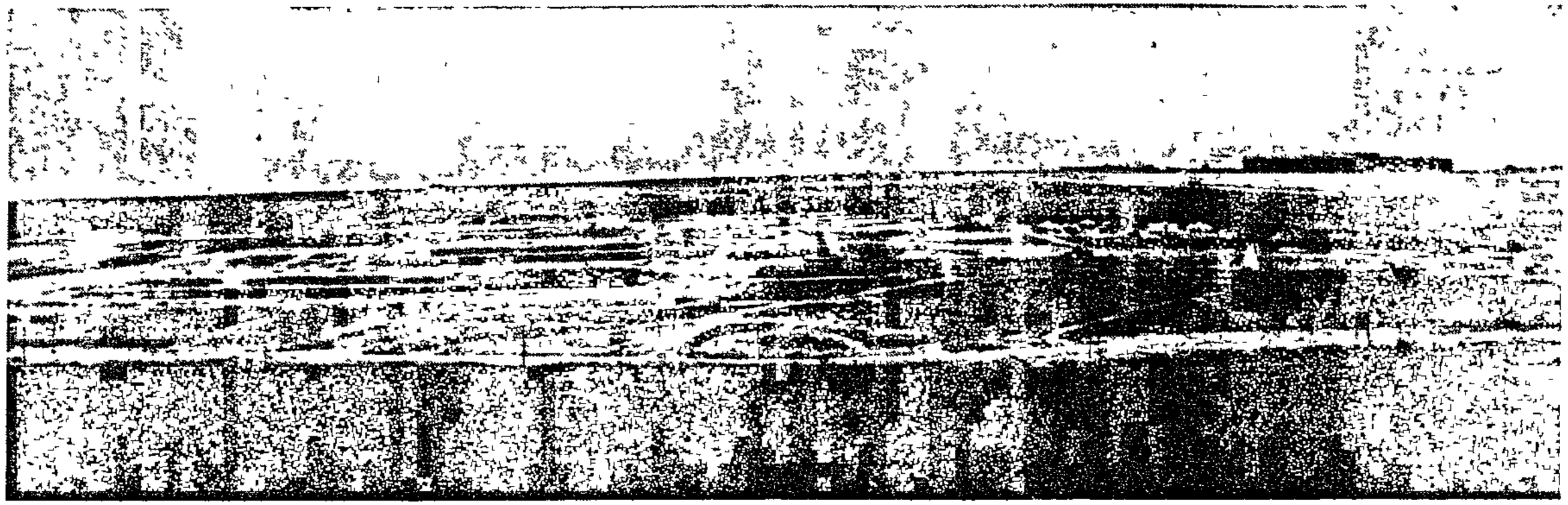
The area was 480ha in size and the board's recommendation, which is believed to favour the area being opened, had been forwarded to the President.

The application to have Country View declared a free settlement area was made by Sage The Ministers' Council of the House of Assembly backed the application and included an application for the other two areas.

Development Bank GM Andre le Grange said yesterday there were a number of professional people employed by the Development Bank and by multinationals in the Midrand area whose residential preferences had been restricted by the Group Areas Act.

The Development Bank supported the application to the Free Settlment Board because it wanted to create residential opportunities for black professional people working in the area.

The Development Bank would also support social infrastructure, like multi-racial schools in the free settlement area, Le Grange said



Country View in Midrand, which is expected to be declared a free settlement area. The Development Bank offices are at the top right of the picture.

B/Day 16/11/87 (127)

Plight of Hillbrow elderly 'horrific'

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Researchers have been "horrified" at the plight of elderly people living in Hillbrow, Joubert Park and Johannesburg's inner city area.

The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) is to launch an intensive survey in the areas on November 20 An exploratory study disclosed "gross exploitation" by flat landlords who evicted pensioners and replaced them with black tenants, according to researcher Monica Ferreira.

It was also found that there were 16 to 32 blacks living in one-bedroom flats and gangs who terrorised old people to such an extent that they were too scared to venture outdoors.

"Many of the pensioners have been living in the same flat for 48 years and have no economic alternative but to continue living there," Ferreira said

Two phases

"Their situation will repeat itself in other areas and it's therefore essential to research the problem and find solutions"

Ferreira said the survey would be conducted in co-operation with various other bodies, including the Johannesburg City Council, the Regional Welfare Board of the Southern Transvaal and the Department of Health and Welfare.

The survey, Ferreira said, would focus mainly on aspects of personal safety, security of tenure and social problems

It would be undertaken in two phases — the first, to start on Monday, involved 300 old people living in the area who would be interviewed by HSRC researchers

She said that during the exploratory study, elderly whites reported being afraid of staying in the area.

Problems identified as serious included the increase in crime, noise, hobos, prostitution, street children and illegal liquor selling

The study is being made against a background of intense debating by city councillors, politicians and city officials on the current deterioration of Hillbrow, which is one of the country's first politically grey areas

Safety

"Last month Foreign Minister Pik Botha said the NP in Johannesburg had decided to speed up the proclamation of Hillbrow and environs as a free settlement area," Ferreira said

Ferreira said in recent meetings between Botha and the city council, an official decisions was taken to act to relieve the plight of senior white citizens and to ensure their physical safety

Dental nurse loses house because of late subsidy

(184) C. Press 19/11/89

GOVERNMENT employees get fantastic housing subsidies – but stand to lose a lot more than their houses if there is a delay in payment of the subsidy

Working as a dental nurse in a State clinic enabled Paulina Seroto to buy a R45 000 home in Kagiso last year

The United Building Society granted her a bond and repayments were due to start in February

But the subsidy was paid for the first time in September – by which time the UBS had already taken legal action to repossess the house and call in the guarantee

The UBS says it was forced to take action because nothing was paid off the bond

Mrs Seroto says she applied for a subsidy and signed a stop order authorising her department to deduct her portion of the repayments from her salary.

She says she repeatedly inquired from her department what was happening with her subsidy

But the department says it has no record of these inquiries.

This week Mrs Seroto and her three children are waiting to be evicted – and she is faced with a debt of R9 000 to her employers, the Transvaal Provincial Administration's Department of Hospital Services

When the UBS repossessed the house, it bought it for the amount owing, less the R9 000 guarantee it could call in from Mrs Seroto's employers

Now she has to pay back the R9 000 – plus 16 percent interest

Government employees get housing subsidies based on their salaries and years of service

Guarantees – to cover what would usually be required as a deposit – are put up for all government employees by the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs

On the basis of this guarantee and a promised monthly subsidy for most of the bond repayment, building societies grant large bonds to government employees

In Mrs Seroto's case, a guarantee was made for R9 000 and her monthly subsidy amounted to just over R500 of the R700 bond repayment, which comes to more than Mrs Seroto's take-home pay

Things went wrong when there was an eight-month delay in the subsidy being paid to the UBS

The UBS informed the Public Works Department in May that the bond was not being paid and PWD records show the letter was passed to the Department of Health Services, which replied that Mrs Seroto's subsidy had been delayed, but had been sorted out and was functioning

"My department told me the delay was because of the computer. They said I would get all the arrears when the subsidy started," a distraught Mrs Seroto told *City Press*

A TPA spokesman said the delay was caused by Mrs Seroto not submitting supporting documents with her application for a subsidy.

He said the department could not take responsibility for the situation she found herself in and would take steps to get her to repay the R9 000 paid to the UBS

All the department could do was allow her longer than the usual 12 months in which to repay the debt

"A year ago I thought I would have a beautiful new home – a safe place for my kids to grow up Now I have nothing How can I pay back more than R9 000 for a house which I don't even have?" Mrs Seroto asked.

"I don't know where I am going to go or how we are going to live."

If she resigned, the department would take her pension and claim the balance – almost R5 000

READERS' HOTLINE

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Hostel inmates attack families

Police use teargas to stop fighting

BY JAPIE MOKWEBO

TEMBISA hostel inmates went on the rampage this week, attacking families living there.

When the battle was eventually stopped by police using teargas, several residents had to be rushed to hospital but no inmates of the Ethafeni Hostel were injured

The battle was the latest in the territorial struggle between migrant hostel dwellers and homeless families who moved into some of the 600 units that make up the hostel

The Tembisa Town Council formally allocated the flats to the families, but did not evict the hostel dwellers

A council spokesman said. "We have spoken to the inmates' employers about housing them in a proper hostel, as those houses in Ethafeni are now owned by families

" Presently we have police protection for the people who were attacked and have had a meeting with them," he said

Jerry Mabaso, of flat 361, said "A group of about 600 armed men appeared and started throwing stones at my house Gunshots were also fired and we had to dash for cover "

An Ethafeni residents' committee spokesman told *City Press* residents blamed the council

Hostel inmates and families share the accommodation at Tembisa. ■ Pic: ANDRIES MCINEKA

"Since we moved into these houses in 1986 we have had several meetings with the officials The council issued us with permits and prices for the houses and most of us have now bought our houses

"The council has still not moved the inmates from the houses to proper hostels We are now attacked in our own houses by bands of armed impis who are illegally in the area, yet they are not charged "

C Press 19/11/89

De Beer lashes out at free settlement areas

B/Day 28/11/89 (127)

Political Staff

THE people of Hillbrow would be discriminated against and shabbily treated, simply because the NP did not have the guts or gumption to get itself a proper policy on abolishing the Group Areas Act, DP co-leader Zach de Beer said last night

The moment areas like Hillbrow became "free settlement areas" there was going to be a flood of would-be-occupants of the properties and the result was likely to be gross overcrowding with problems of noise, sanitation and so on

De Beer was speaking at a meeting in the suburb protesting against the decision to declare Hillbrow a free settlement area.

"Hillbrow is in its situation because the Nationalists, controlling both the city and the state, either are without a policy or are unwilling to apply whatever their policy may be," he said.

The DP did not believe the rights or privileges of any human being should be determined by race, sex, creed or class.

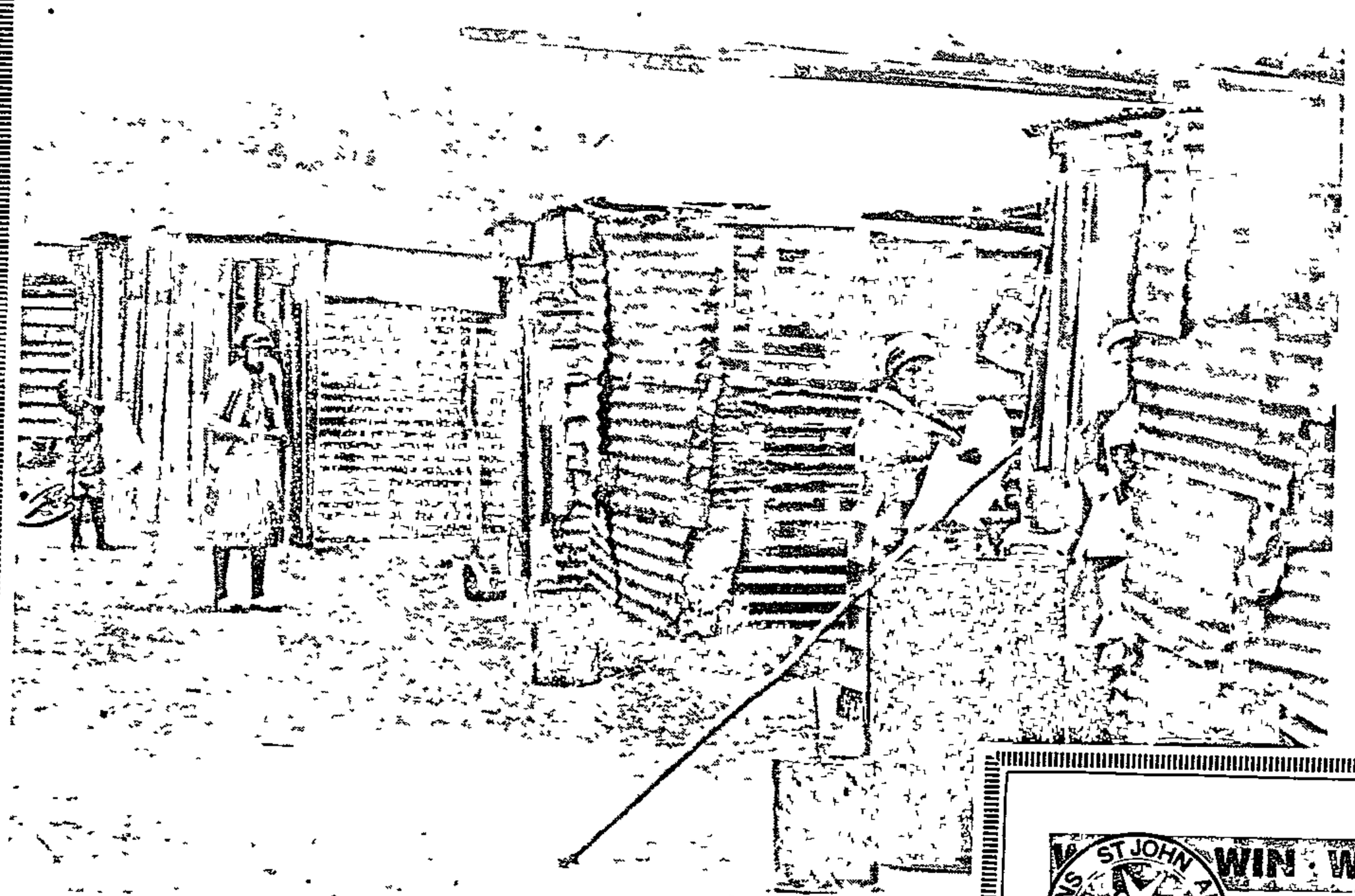
"It follows that we consider it unnecessary to classify South Africans in terms of racial group. We want to see a free market in fixed property, in which anyonee has the right to buy, sell or rent any dwelling anywhere, subject only to appropriate regulations affecting such matters as population density, sanitation, noise and pollution — which regulations would of course affect everyone in any particular area in exactly the same way."

People would then all decide where they wished to work on the basis of what they could afford, which location suited them best and who they wanted as neighbours.

"In this as in almost every matter you can name, the attitude of the National Party one of face-both-ways, fiddle-in-the-middle, all-things-to-all-men

If any compromise on the Free Settlement Act had to be considered, it had to be along the lines of a whole city becoming open so that the supply of property may be sufficient to meet the demand, and enable free choice to apply

"Instead, what the Nats are proposing is to victimise the population of Hillbrow by singling your suburb out to be opened up to all the pent-up demand for homes which exists among people of colour, while telling white people elsewhere that they will continue to be protected (that is the Nats' word, not mine) by the Group Areas Act," De Beer said



Residents at Khalanyoni enjoy their new found freedom

A HOM

127

THE F

A WHITE farmer on the West Rand is making a whopping R10000 a month from scores of desperate homeseekers who have built shacks on his farm

The shanty town, on the outskirts of Kagiso near Krugersdorp is nicknamed *Khalanyoni* because it is in the middle of nowhere It was opened for settlement three months ago and already contains more than 230 shacks Each shackdweller pays R40 a month

It has three communal taps but no toilets Tin houses of different sizes are fenced in with cardboard scraps of metal and corrugated iron

Most of the tenants are satisfied with the area

At least we have freedom and independence ' said Mrs Eunice Ndlovu an unemployed mother of seven

The owner has promised to build us low-income houses We use pit toilets at the moment but it is much better than the life we were leading as backyard lodgers in the townships '

The growing squatter camp is on a portion of Rietvalei farm which belongs to Mr SG Swanepoel

Swanepoel says he is already negotiating to rezone his 376-hectre farm as a black settlement area

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HOME ON THE FARM

Sowetan 1/12/89

By PUMLA ROYI and PHANGISILE MTSHALI

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...mp is on a portion of Rietvalei ... Swanepoel ...ready negotiating to rezone his ...tlement area

I have been battling for years with the Government to rezone the area, he said

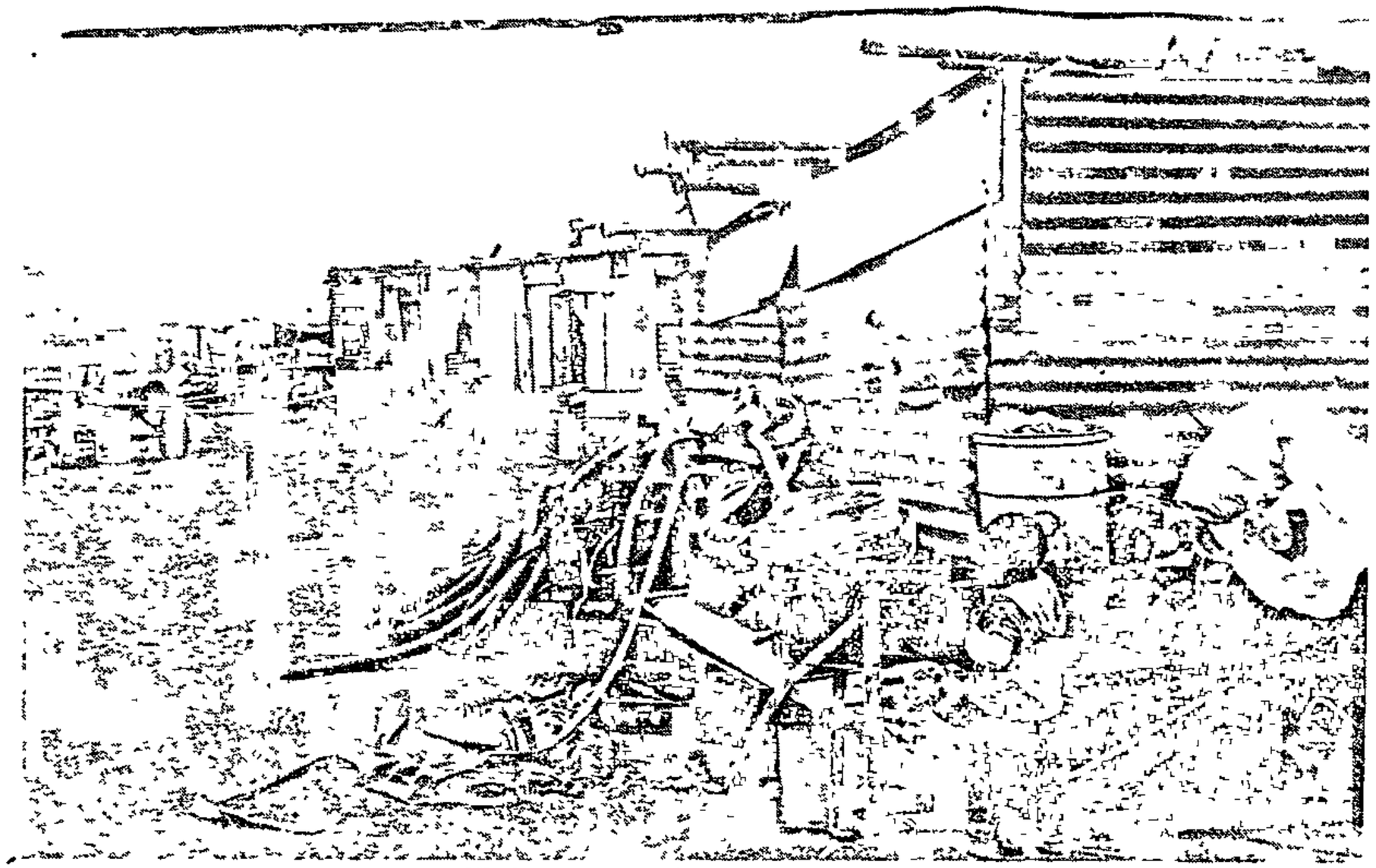
"The housing crisis has forced them to consider my application I will start building cheaper houses soon after they have declared it a black settlement area "

The public relations officer for the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Mr P J Wilken, said Negotiations are under way with the owner to purchase the land We will decide after concluding the deal what to do with it '

Swanepoel firmly dismissed claims that his farm was being turned into a slum area

' When I get the green light from the authorities I will start building low-income housing on the SSS scheme The residents will be trained by the Department of Manpower to make bricks and build their own houses

' My land can accommodate more than 19000 housing units and the householders will also be holders of title deeds They will only pay tariffs for the infrastructure, which will also be very cheap '



Khalanyoni - a welcome home for some

WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN · WIN

THE BALL COMPETITION Nº 2

Fmail 1/12/89.

BLACK HOUSING (127)

New initiatives

Last year it was estimated that the housing shortage in KwaZulu stood at about 100 000 units — more than the total number of houses currently in the homeland.

Since then, the housing shortage has become even more critical. It is fast becoming the most serious problem facing KwaZulu and Natal.

The SA Housing Trust has subsequently entered the picture by agreeing to make a R100m loan available to the KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation to finance low-cost housing It took more than a year for the corporation to persuade the housing trust that it had the expertise to manage the funds

The initial R100m has been allocated for the installation of services and for low interest loans of up to R20 000 each to be made available in the next 18 months It won't solve the housing crisis, but it will help to make a significant dent in the backlog.

Even more encouraging is that the loan is not a one-off deal. The housing trust will make a succession of R50m loans available for housing in KwaZulu and Natal, through the corporation, as funds become available.

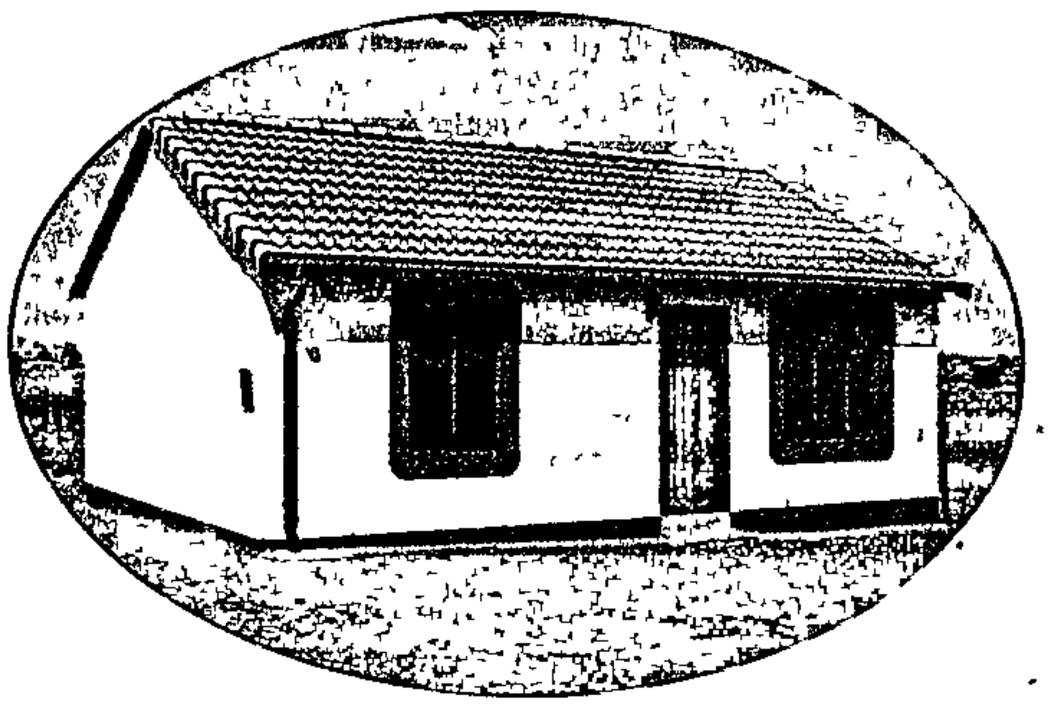
Despite some encouraging moves a few years ago, private sector financial institutions are still concentrating on the top end of the market and appear to be reluctant to seriously enter the lower end of the black home loan market, where the need for housing is most urgent.

The experiment in KwaZulu intends to prove that the risks involved in financing low cost housing are not as great as perceived.

The co-operation between the two organisations, the housing trust which is a national, joint private sector-government agency and the KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation, which is the economic arm of the KwaZulu government, makes sense Funds and effort will not be wasted through duplication, as has happened in the past.

Progress is also being made in other areas to make affordable housing available to blacks. The Urban Foundation's utility company, FHA Homes, recently launched a scheme to sell two-bedroomed houses and land to buyers for R28 000. The first of these homes will be built on 500 stands acquired in Vosloorus, east of Johannesburg

FHA Home's operations GM John Weaver claims it's possible to get prices down to this level by streamlining procedures, offering only two designs and removing the frills that go with housing packages



Black housing ... R28 000 with land

Two leading financial institutions have offered finance for the scheme. Weaver regards this as a breakthrough.

Previously, financial institutions and local councils demanded that housing be of a much higher standard.

The foundation recently launched its loan guarantee fund. Its residential development division claims if blacks take full advantage of the the first-time homebuyer's subsidy scheme and provided most financial institutions base their assessment of what a homebuyer can afford on family, rather than individual income, 40% of black families will be able to afford the lower loans available through the guarantee fund. At existing interest rates the required basic household income is R584 a month.

The foundation is also still lobbying for improvements to the government housing subsidy system to encourage the private sector to play a more meaningful role in providing lower income housing. ■

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Scrapping of Group Areas 'sole answer' for Hillbrow

Hillbrow residents are caught up in a web of uncertainty about their future while different political parties try to find a solution to the problems facing the decaying and over-populated "grey" suburb **JANET HEARD** reports

Apartheid had distorted the traditional movement of young people to the night life of Hillbrow as well as disrupting the flow of senior citizens to an area that is high density and close to facilities, according to a specialist in urban geography

Examining declining living standards in the inner city suburb, Professor Keith Beavon of the University of the Witwatersrand said the suburb had not adapted to the new population density which had developed over recent years

This had produced a dire shortage of facilities to cater for the increasing number of people who had moved into the grey area

'Whites would utilise Hillbrow in a classic way — young "swinging singles", tended to look for living accommodation close to the downtown area where everything happened When they got married, they moved out and purchased a house in the suburbs. Towards the end of their life cycles, they would return to suburbs close to the cities," Prof Beavon said.

Pressures on space

He said conditions of uncertainty prevailed in downtown city areas in most western cities.

Johannesburg was undergoing a period of revitalisation and development which placed more pressure on already limited living space, resulting in increased uncertainty, particularly for black tenants who in terms of the law were illegal residents

According to Actstop, the anti group areas organisation, there are more than 60 000 black "illegals' living in greater Hillbrow

Prof Beavon said Hillbrow had begun reflecting a "beachhead" position in the cities for people other than white.

'The continued pressure on residential space in the townships and the significant increase in employment in the downtown area have reinforced the relative attractiveness of Hillbrow as a location for a large number of black people.

"Although blacks are present in Hillbrow in relatively large numbers, the legality of their position in terms of existing legislation is very precarious.

"Consequently they find themselves living in buildings and apartments which are in need of maintenance and possible upgrading Given their legal status as tenants, they find themselves squeezed by the landlords who are out to make a quick buck."

He said unscrupulous landlords had moved into a "rack-renting" mode, which was related to the increase in rent without improving the facilities or service.

This encouraged people to bring in friends and relatives to share the rent.

While greater Hillbrow did not qualify as a slum, it was fast gaining that status

He said if Hillbrow was declared an open area, then much of the present dysfunctions could begin to be remedied — the tenants would be legal, they could form tenants associations and sue unscrupulous landlords

He warned, however, that Hillbrow's problems could not be solved by declaring the suburb a free settlement area in isolation of the rest of Johannesburg.

"The entire (Group Areas) Act must be abolished. The free settlement concept draws the line around the existing system and will legalise the tenants positions, but not allow the market to adjust and solve overcrowding which will still be contained in a specific area "

In addition, he said the regulations which related to the administration of free settlement area were "far from clear"

Ms Louise Stack, a researcher at the Centre for Policy Studies, said the declaration of Hillbrow as a free settlement area was a step in the right direction, but she cautioned that it must be administered correctly

Under existing legislation, she said, "if an area becomes a free settlement area, it has a management committee but the existing residents can opt to remain on the local authority Even if the minority remain on this body, they will have more power than the management committee, which only has advisory status."

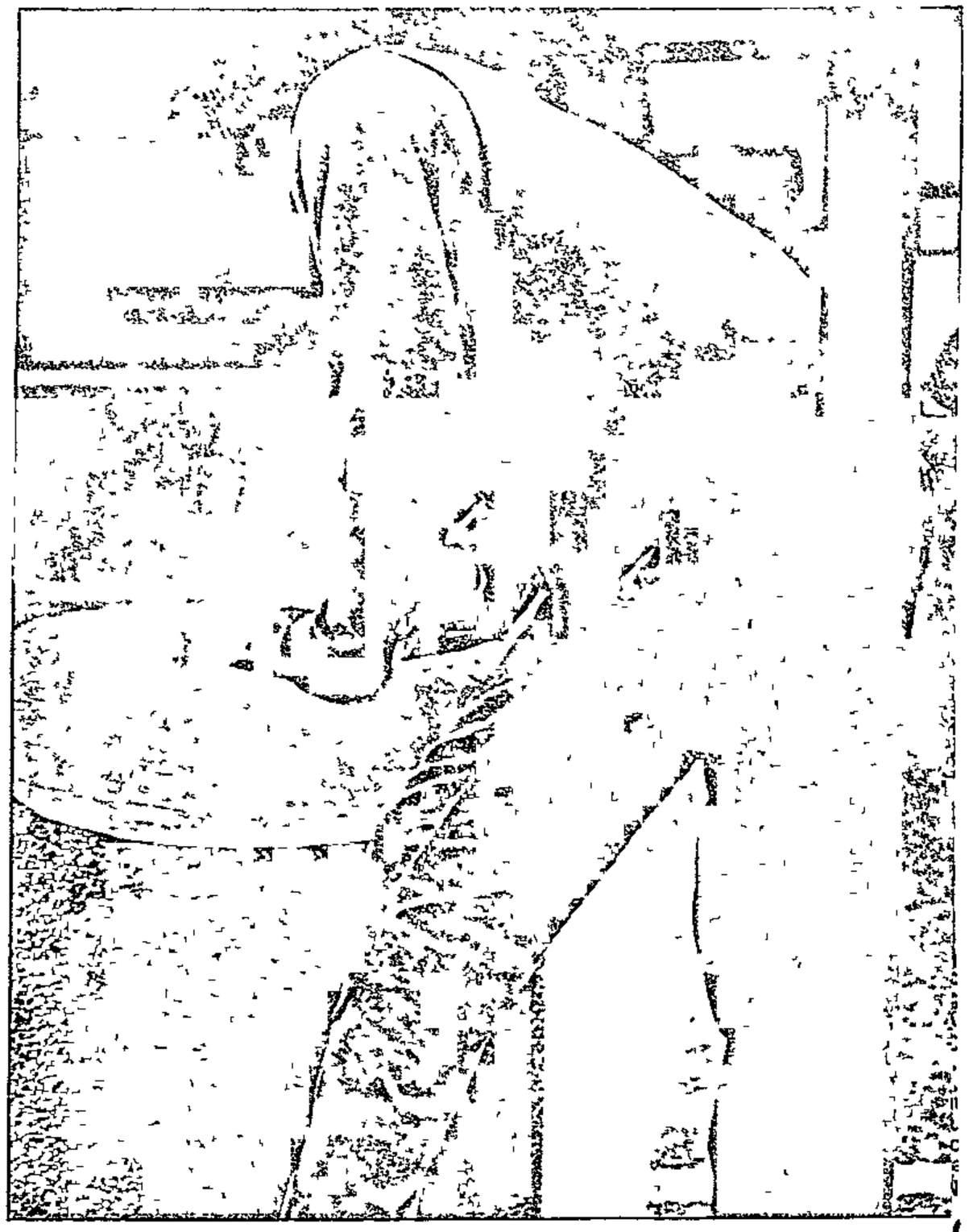
Total repeal

Actstop publicity secretary, Mr Cas Coovadia, said the declaration of certain suburbs as free settlement areas would be "disastrous" for places such as Hillbrow, Joubert Park and central town.

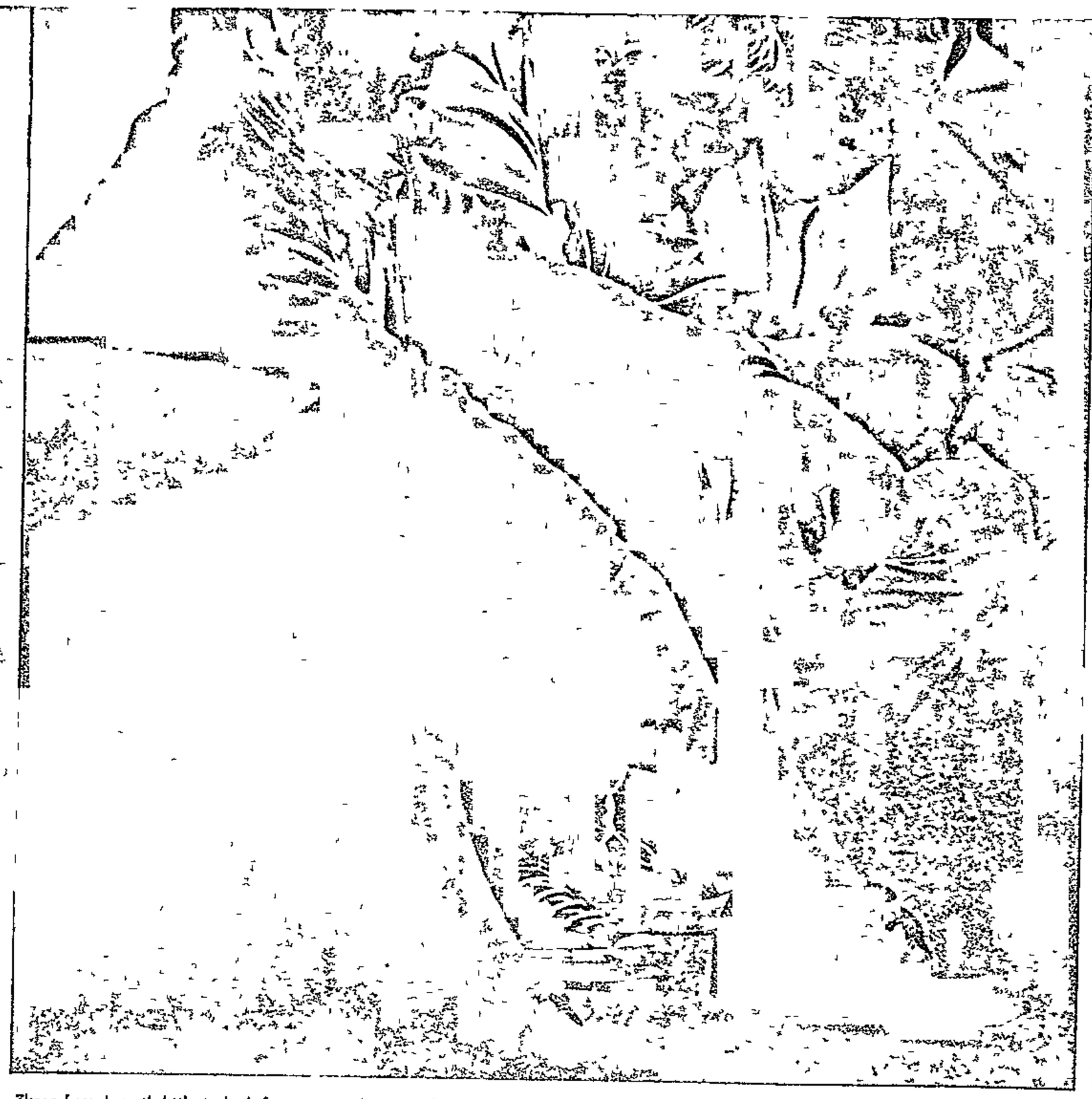
He said in Hillbrow the infrastructure had not been developed to cope with the increased demand for living space and landlords did not maintain the buildings, which created slum conditions.

"The declaration of such areas as free settlement areas, while maintaining the Group Areas Act in adjacent areas, would naturally lead to an influx from the adjacent areas to the free settlement areas. This would exacerbate all the problems (facing tenants) and can only be a recipe for disaster "

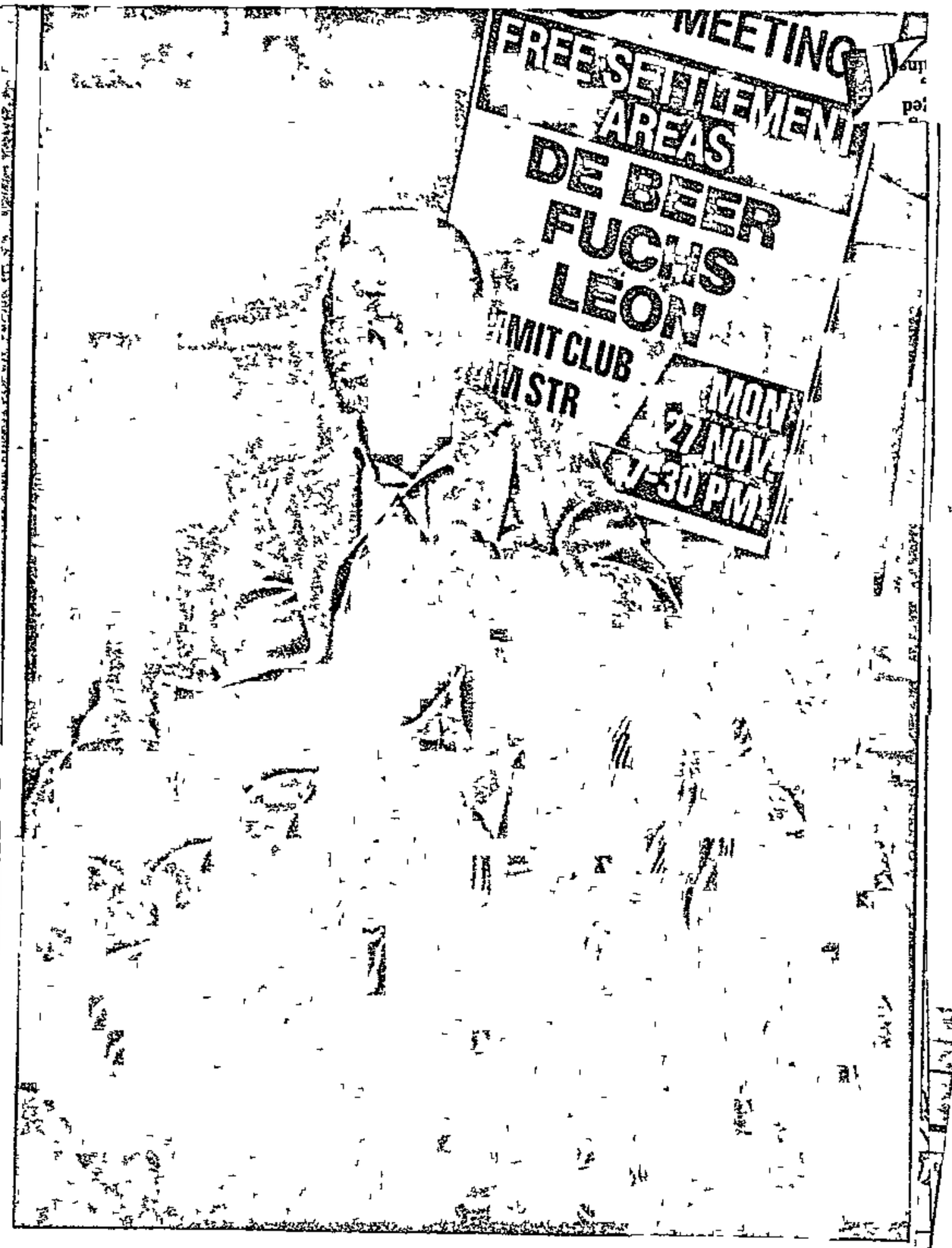
He said the only "positive first step" towards addressing the problem was the total repeal of the Act.



Hillbrow, the inner city suburb which caters for all types of people in search of something



Three friends with little to look forward to share a joke on the pavement in Pretorius Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg They are, from left to right Mr Dicki Swanenberg, Mr Geoffrey Keitzmann and Mr Louis Cambridge



The future for residents of Hillbrow hangs in the balance while attempts are made by political parties to solve the problems facing the congested but vibrant inner city

© Pictures by Stephen Davimes

Grey areas may fail as examples of integrated settlements

Star 4/12/89

127

The Transvaal's first legal grey areas appear destined to fail as examples of racially integrated settlements. Instead, they may serve to reinforce the character of group areas. **HELEN GRANGE** reports.

The Government's recent reform initiative — the declaration of free settlement areas — has already begun to show glaring flaws.

Far from the "integrated living" concept of free settlement areas, both Windmill Park in Boksburg and Country View in Midrand are destined to become predominantly, if not entirely, Indian.

The declaration of the two suburbs last month — one completely undeveloped and the other with only 45 existing houses — has given land owners and estate agents the long-awaited opportunity to sell property for good prices to a needy market, a situation some critics believe will lead to gross exploitation brought about by the "group areas-created" housing shortage.

In the case of Windmill Park, several estate agents are currently battling over profits to be made out of homes being sold by whites in the suburb.

Most of the 13 white homeowners moving out have already sold for good prices to Indians, while the others are still bargaining for better deals.

The sudden exodus of whites from Windmill Park has raised questions about the readiness of whites in South Africa to live in racially integrated suburbs.

Apart from the good prices they have been paid for their homes since the area has been proclaimed, at least three white families have added their desire to "live amongst our own" to the reasons for their leaving.

For the 21 white families who have lived in Windmill Park, the area's declaration has ended years of uncertainty over its status. But for many it was an opportunity to execute long-standing decisions to move out.

The fact that only Indians wished to buy homes in the suburb meant they had to wait for the suburb to be proclaimed before a legal transaction could be entered.

Space for expansion

"When we bought here, it was a white suburb," said Mrs Jenny Joubert, who has sold her house to an Indian family for R85 000.

"Then Indians started moving in and the area was to be declared an Indian township. Many whites had already decided then to sell. We have waited ever since for the area to be declared."

In Country View, plots are rapidly being sold to Indians — mostly from Pretoria's Indian township, Laudium. Well over 600 applications from Indians have been received by the land owners, Sage Schachat, for 850 sq m sites selling from R32 000 upwards.

The average cost of accommodation in either Windmill Park or Country View — including the stand and building costs — is expected to reach at least R100 000, which means the two townships will be middle to upper middle class.

Both suburbs are surrounded by vast tracts of land, leaving developers plenty of space for expansion. Country View occupies 258 ha and offers 1 100 sites. Future plans cater for only 224 of these.

Windmill Park, currently offering stands for R30 000 upwards, occupies 60 ha but land surrounding the suburb amounts to another 190 ha.

The fact that free settlement areas have been declared in these two effectively undeveloped areas, instead of attention being given to inner-city areas that have been grey for years, has met with strong criticism from the Democratic Party.

"The inner city area of Johannesburg is conspicuously absent from the plans. It looks as though the Government is going to do with free settlement what it has done with free trade areas — thin out the process of urban desegregation over three to five years," said Mr Tony Leon, MP and DP spokesman for local government in the Transvaal.

The management committee of Midrand's Town Council has also slated the idea.

"We would far rather have seen the total abolition of group areas or a vast region being opened to all races. Opening up localised spots will only enhance the group areas characteristic," says Mr Ian Bekker, chairman of the management committee.

Professor Nic Olivier, an expert in constitutional development and a former DP MP, says the the concept is bound to raise administrative problems in respect of jurisdiction by local authorities and voting rights.

The Government had made provision in the Free Settlement Areas Act for the creation of a separate management committee to control affairs in free settlement areas, but this committee would be 'separate and inferior' to other local authorities according to Professor Olivier.

Failing this the policy of separate racial local authorities would be maintained and would present cumbersome administrative problems.

Regarding the vote, whites would remain on the voters list of the white local authority, but such a vote would have little content in terms of services to the free settlement area if the area is governed by its own management committee.

Then there is the question of educational provisions in the two free settlement areas. Those currently living in Windmill Park have voiced their need to have facilities in the area, which has until now been slow to develop.

The Government although it has hinted at launching State run multi racial schools has yet not come up with a plan of action.

Exactly what provisions will be made is still a matter of speculation, said Mr J D V Terblanche, superintendent general fo the Department of Education and Culture last week.

Mr Jaap van Veen is relieved by the proclamation of Windmill Park as a free settlement area. "It ends the uncertainty," he says.

Mrs Sandy Rajpal with her sons, Jordach (left) and Duran. "We re very pleased. We plan to sell and buy a bigger house in Windmill Park."

● Pictures by Karen Fletcher

Hillbrow 'free settlement' opposed

Star 4/12/89 By Janet Heard (127)

The average black "illegal" person living in Johannesburg's inner suburbs spent between a third and three-fifths of his salary on rent, according to Mr Cas Coovadia, publicity secretary of Actstop

He said while Actstop welcomed any move towards non-racialism, if Hillbrow were declared a free settlement area, it would give unscrupulous landlords more potential to exploit tenants It would exacerbate overcrowding

And, he said, Actstop could not accept the proposed administration of a free settlement area, by which a non-racial management committee with advisory powers was under the jurisdiction of a racially based city council

He said there were approximately 60 000 black "illegals" living in inner city areas.

Overcrowding was the result of the "homelessness created by apartheid legislation" and of tenants being forced to share accommodation to be able to afford exploitative rentals.

"The conception amongst some people is that the people who have come to this area in seach of shelter are responsible for causing the ruin of Hillbrow and other areas."

He said because people were living in contravention of the Group Areas Act, the Johannesburg City Council "has pretended there has been no movement of significant numbers of people into these areas"

He said property owners had used the increase in demand for accommodation to raise rentals to unaffordable levels

Others had let entire buildings to middle-men who exploited tenants.

He acknowledged that there were isolated cases where tenants did not play their part in contributing to the upkeep of buildings. This was not peculiar to the greater Hillbrow area, but a feature of all areas

"Our experience, by far, has been that individual apartments are neat and well-kept, even though the general building area may be badly maintained," he said

Light, water cut for 1 000 families

Star 4/12/89 (127)

By John Miller

More than 1 000 families in Claremont, Newlands, Montclare and Triomf were without water and electricity yesterday when municipal electricians cut off supplies after home-owners had failed to pay their accounts.

Two Claremont residents told how officials arrived at their homes yesterday morning and left a notice warning their electricity would be cut if immediate payment was not made

Miss Jane Stiglingh said her 27-year-old sister, a mother of three, received a Government grant of R420 a month and was unable to pay for electricity.

Miss Stiglingh said she could not believe how uncaring the Johannesburg Municipality was as many of the almost 500 homeowners in Claremont were in a similar position.

She said her sister now owed the council about R1 000 but was unable to find a job

Mrs Maria Botha, a 24-year-old mother of two, said she had been unable to pay her account for the past three years and owed almost R1 500 and a friend of hers owed around R4 000

One of the more fortunate residents of Claremont said she was forced to sell her unemployed husband's car about two weeks ago to pay the electricity account of about R1 200

She is 28 years old and has five children aged from four to nine

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Municipality's Emergency Services last night confirmed that about 1 000 home-owners had had their power and water cut off

Star 5/12/89

Sarhwu to challenge evictions

(127)

By Drew Forrest

The SA Railway and Harbour Workers Union is to launch further court actions this week, challenging the eviction of fired strikers from railway hostels.

Sarhwu general-secretary Mr Martin Sebakwane said yesterday the actions would be test cases with key implications for 500 workers evicted from hostels in Johannesburg, the Reef, Bloemfontein and Pretoria.

Papers were served on SA Transport Services last week over two evictions, he said.

Sats had withdrawn one and denied the other had taken place.

Mr Sebakwane confirmed Sats had rejected a union proposal of mediation on its demands for pay talks and the reinstatement of 4 900 dismissed strikers at a meeting yesterday.

Sats spokesman Mr Alan Lubbe said the meeting had ended in deadlock and that the dismissal of strikers could resume. Dismissals were suspended last week during negotiations.

B/Day 5/12/89

Futures are set to go formal

GRETA STEYN

SA'S financial futures industry will come of age in a fully regulated formal market, with floor and screen trading, some time next year But the road to respectability has not been without controversy

The delays in getting the formal market going have caused frustration There have been disputes over the need for both floor and screen trading, the costs of setting up an exchange, proposed trading hours and exams dealers have to write There have been veiled accusations that "vested interests" were dominating the development of the market

The difficulty in getting the SA Futures Exchange (Safex) off the ground begs the question are formalisation and regulation necessary when the informal market is thriving?

Reserve Bank senior deputy governor Japie Jacobs is emphatic that regulation is essential He criticises "self-styled" adherents of free markets "who contend that financial markets should not be regulated by the authorities at all and that they should best be left to themselves"

"Concern for competition and efficiency should be tempered with concern for the safety and soundness of financial markets," he said

The authorities are limiting their regulatory role in favour of self-regulation Rand Merchant Bank started the informal market, and its MD, G T Ferreira, says "I hate regulation for regulation's sake, but with a formal market there is an important difference in perceptions of how safe the market is"

The self-regulators have come under fire, with Cape Investment Bank MD Andy Swartz accusing them of "a severe lack of vision" He called on them to come to grips with the real issues This was a reference, among others, to the cost of setting up a floor which most of the market does not want

Contribution

On the issue of a R2m Reserve Bank subsidy for setting up the market, Swartz said "It seems to be assumed in many quarters that this subsidy will be applied to create and maintain archaic medieval concrete structures, the age of which is long past in sophisticated financial markets" He appealed to them to get rid of their fears of change and technology

Although many traders were happy with the existing system of trading by telephone on information from screens, the JSE insisted there should be an open outcry floor market

However, says Safex spokesman Stuart Rees "I believe with the Reserve Bank's generous contribution of R2m, the whole controversy about costs should die down"

Asked whether the exams to be written by dealers on the exchange were not a case of over-regulation, Swartz said he did not question the validity of the system

"The crux of the issue, however, is the content of the exams If the content is going to be of a nature to test the academic skills of dealers — economic or mathematical — the examination committee will be going beyond their mandate since the decision on the level of competence of dealers should lie with their employees"

SA Futures Industry Association (Safia) spokesman Brenda Greyling says, however, the exams give the industry teeth to get rid of the bad apples It is the need to protect the public that makes such apparently extreme regulation necessary

Despite the controversies, the market has flourished For instance, open contracts in interest rate futures have swollen from about 1 000 in August 1988 to 20 000 in September 1989

B/Day 5/12/89

Strong demand for 'open' land

MOST of the land in the first phase of development in the recently opened Free Settlement Area at Country View in Midrand has already been sold

The first 120 plots were sold within a matter of hours, a spokesman for a major utility company involved in the development, Lesley Abrahams, said yesterday

He said 90% of the land had been sold to Indians, mostly from Laudium outside Pretoria

Country View is alongside the Ben Schoeman freeway, midway between Pretoria and Johannesburg

Prices ranged from between R30 000 to R40 000 on average, for 800m² plots

Laudium Management Committee chairman and Free Settlement Areas Board member Sattar Cassim said he believed Indians were flocking to the new area because of the crying need for land among the local community

He said Country View would not ease the housing shortage in Laudium There were more than 2 000 people on the council's official waiting list. — Sapa

Star 5/12/89. (127)

2 162 homeowners owe city council

There will be more power cuts – warning

By John Miller, Star Line

The Johannesburg City Treasurer's department has warned those homeowners who are still in arrears with their electricity payments that they too will have their power cut as has happened to about 1 000 people on Sunday

Mr L Opperman, senior deputy city treasurer, said yesterday the department had sent out almost 6 000 requests at the beginning of November asking people to come and see them and "bring their current accounts up to date."

Outstanding amounts

He said only 1 000 homeowners had taken advantage of the offer

"We asked these consumers to come and see us and at least bring their current accounts up to date and at the same time come to some arrangement whereby they will be given time to reduce the outstanding amounts."

He said that a total of 2 162 homeowners each owed the city council about R1 500.

By yesterday afternoon 1 300 across the city had been visited by municipal electricians who had cut their power, with a further 800 people to be visited by the end of this week.

"Almost all these people have had their power cut at least twice during the past eighteen months and have failed to respond to several requests to settle their accounts"

Mr Opperman said that many of these homeowners had also broken open the sealed electrical box and reconnected the power illegally after previously being visited by electricians.

DD Qs have main say in press club

Call for more open areas

EDYTH BULBRING

THREE more areas are being investigated by the Free Settlement Areas Board (FSAB), which if declared, will help calm the scramble for property which has occurred since Midrand's Country View was declared open

FSAB member and Laudium management committee chairman Sattar Cassim said yesterday the areas were Diepsloot, which borders Sandton, Waterval Farm in Midrand, and Olievenhoutbosch in Verwoerdburg

"If people knew that a lot more land was to become available, they wouldn't have to grab," he said.

Opening more areas would also reduce the bargaining power of the suppliers, he said.

Country View developer Sage Schachat Group MD Rob Crockett said the 124 sites in the first phase of Country View's development had been sold.

Twenty of the sites were reserved for a private school, and 12 for the Development Bank B/Day 7/12/89

There was a waiting list for the further 100 in the second phase, which would soon be available. There were 1 100 sites available in total.

The 800m² sites cost in the region of R32 000/R42 000 and an entire package costs around R100 000, Crockett said

People wanting to establish clinics and businesses had also applied for sites

Cassim said the majority of people buying sites at Country View were Indians who were "starved" for properties. However, most of the buyers were not people who genuinely needed homes, but speculators who would sell later

These speculators were "making a killing, taking advantage of the crying need for housing", he said

Star 7/12/89 (127)

Warnings of dangers in electricity cut-offs

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

The Johannesburg City Council has been warned of a "Soweto-type situation" developing in high-density flatlands unless immediate improvements are made to the present system of levying charges for electricity, water and gas.

In the wake of the council's latest blitz on consumers who are more than three months in arrears, Democratic Party councillor Mr Clive Gilbert has urged a rethink on the metering system in flats

He said it was prejudicing innocent tenants in favour of defaulters.

In many highrise buildings the landlords were forced to "carry" tenants who failed to pay, or the electricity supply to the whole block was cut off.

Senior deputy City Treasurer Mr Lucas Opperman said about 1 000 of 6 000 consumers owing a total of R10 million in arrears had reacted to last month's warnings of cut-offs.

By Monday about R5,5 million had been paid. Others were "drifting in" to pay.

About 2 200 were on the final "hit-list" — of which about 1 800 had already been cut off.

Mr Gilbert said a more equitable system was replacing the present single meter for entire blocks by separate meters for each tenant, probably meaning another 60 000 to 100 000 accounts being added to the council computer, instead of landlords acting as its collection agents.

This would avoid duplication and reduce costs, because landlords were forced to employ private meter readers to check individual tenants after the council had read the main meter.

Mr Opperman said: "Generally, if the services are in arrears, we take the landlord to court before cutting off electricity.

"The council is investigating the matter."

Residents of Suurbekom in a sour mood

Staff Reporter

The Deputy Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Andre Fourie, last night undertook to tackle thorny problems surrounding racially-mixed Suurbekom in Westonaria.

Angry white home-owners, unable to sell their houses and smallholdings, rejected the sympathy offered by Mr Fourie, demanding action instead.

About 200 white residents said they were unable to sell their properties for market related prices in an area earmarked to be rezoned a black group area.

Potential black buyers were unable to pay prices ranging between R200 000 and R450 000, white home-owners said In addition, black people had difficulty in raising loans.

White home-owners insisted that the Government should compensate those trapped in the area and forced to sell their properties at a loss.

They claimed there had been a number of racial incidents and said it was unsafe for whites to travel on certain roads and that their children were being harassed

A number of pensioners complained they had invested their life savings, intending to spend their retirement in Suurbekom

New homes poorly built – claim

(127) (City Press 10/12/89)

By SAMKELO KUMALO

RESIDENTS of Marimba Gardens, near Vosloorus, are up in arms and are considering taking legal action against the company that built their houses

Their complaints include cracked walls and doors, rattling windows, leaking roofs and geysers and unpainted houses which were not built to specifications. They also allege their houses do not have the extras stipulated in their contracts and that the builders used inferior materials to build their homes, which costs between R35 000 and R65 000

The residents told *City Press* they had lodged their complaints with the contractor and were told their contract with the company had expired.

The residents claim, however, that the contractor is in breach of the National Association of Home Builders' contract

According to regulations guarding against low-quality work, the contractor undertakes to make good any latent material faults or defects which become apparent within three months of completion date

The contractor, the residents argue, is bound to make good leakages and damage to work done within 12 months from the date of completion

They say if their houses are not repaired they will start a campaign to discourage would-be home buyers from dealing with the company.

A company representative, who refused to comment, referred *City Press* to his lawyer, who also had nothing to say.

One of the complainants, Kenny Keele, said he had cancelled his contract with the company, claiming the house was not built according to specifications.

"I asked the contractor to use facebricks and instead he used a different type of brick. Also, my main bedroom is not what we agreed on," he said.

"For this I have decided to cancel the deal and my financiers have agreed to give me a second bond pending the finalisation of the fight I have with the contractor," he said

Many people will lose out with expropriation, particularly pensioners, says city councillor Verster

Southern suburbs angry at toll road plans

Star 11/12/89 (127)

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Department of Transport (DOT) plans to expropriate houses for the M4 section of the Springs/Krugersdorp toll highway have outraged residents in Johannesburg's southern suburbs, where a city councillor has threatened to take the matter to court.

Mr Dave Verster (DP) said claims by toll consortium Expressways that residents of Roseacres, Regents Park and Elands Park had been consulted about the road only dated back to April this year when a poorly attended meeting was held in the Carlton Centre, far from the affected suburbs.

"A recent public meeting called by Mr Hennie Bekker MP in Rewlatch was disbanded in disarray with members of the 150-strong audience accusing him of being 'spunkless'," he said.

Not enough

Expressways has announced that construction on the central section of the N17 toll road would start in February/March 1990.

"I take issue with the DOT for not warning my residents well in advance. Despite Expressways' reassurance, many people will lose out, including pensioners, particularly in Henderson Street, Roseacres

"The compensation for their homes will not be enough to buy similar accommodation and they will be forced to become bond holders at a late stage in their lives."

Mr Verster said a residents' action committee had been formed, petitions were being drawn up and his call for the alignment of the road to be shifted further north through vacant mine land was being backed.

Mr Glen Kruger, councillor for Elands Park, said only eight houses (some only two years old) would be affected in his area while 58 would be hit in the two suburbs in Mr Verster's ward.

He was convinced those residents who were expropriated at the present peak house prices would benefit and traffic from Rand Airport would be rerouted, but it was vital to ensure there would be no negative impact on the environment for those who remained.

Expressways spokesman Mr Leon Shirley said residents had appointed three committees and information brochures had been distributed to all residents affected by the road.

Expressways managing director Mr Ian Madden said the benefits to the community were paramount in a decision to expropriate.

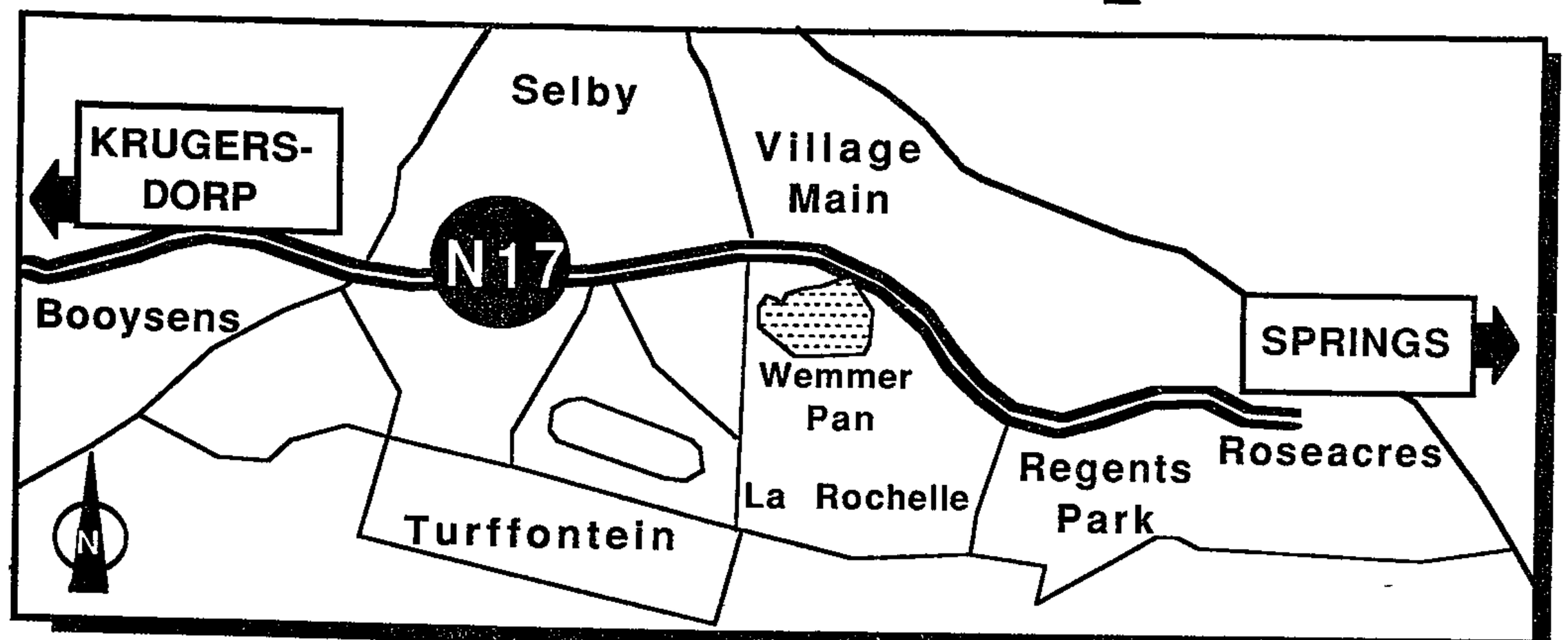
Market value determined by independent property valuators guided compensation, ignoring any depreciation or appreciation of the property's value as a result of the road's construction.

The expropriation price was negotiated individually, then the matter was referred to the South African Roads Board for approval and payment was made within 60 days.

There was provision for additional compensation for direct losses such as bond and transfer fees, curtains and removal costs. Provision was also made for assisting owners in securing new property by advancing payments for deposits.

In cases where agreement could not be reached, the courts determined compensation

Expressways said an option being considered for suburbs where the road would cause depreciation, was limited rezoning.



The central section of the proposed route of the Springs/Krugersdorp toll highway.

Highway protesters offensive, claims Mandy

Municipal Reporter

Allegations of rigged agendas and partisan chairmanship have been flung at Government appointees trying to involve the public in reassessing the need for an east-west highway through Randburg and Sandton.

Former President P W Botha ordered councils to freeze the plans until the need for the road had been reassessed — and that the public be involved.

Last week Mr Nigel Mandy, who has been appointed by the Metropolitan Transport Advisory Board (Jomet) as facilitator in the public participation process, criticised the public for being "offensive and rude" at recent meetings

Mr Conrad Berge, secretary of the Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group (Jomag), has hit back, saying the negative response was inevitable

Rejecting Mr Mandy's complaints about the public being rude and "an insult to our professional integrity", Mr Berge said "this reassessment of a hated proposal is a landmark in reforming physical planning in South Africa and exposing it to democracy".

"It is bound to release years of pent-up anger and counter-arguments from a public hitherto helpless before the bulldozers of autocrats and technocrats"

He said all opposing bodies had accepted Mr Mandy's appointment, though they were aware he represented organised commerce on the Metropolitan Transport Advisory Board

The public accepted Mr Mandy because commerce itself had strongly queried the need for the PWV3 connector

In 1983 Mr Mandy drafted a letter from the Witwatersrand Chamber of Commerce and Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce to the Government along these lines, said Mr Berge

He also dismissed Mr Mandy's criticism of a point made by a member of the public at a meeting on November 16, and said Mr Mandy was polarising opinion rather than facilitating negotiation.

Mr Mandy should devote his efforts to dispelling sentiments that the study had been "rigged", he added.

Another problem area was that the technical report by consultants had been prepared behind closed doors

In the garden of their "matchbox house" Nester Dlamini (standing at back) and her husband, Ephraim (in check shirt), have to support 31 grandchildren on their joint pension of R300. ● Picture by Alf Kumalo.

'Matchbox' two-bedroom house is home to 33 people

(127) Star 14/12/89

By Jacqueline Myburgh

The standard four-room Soweto home is known as a "matchbox house". Ideally, it should include two bedrooms and sleep — at a push — six people.

But yesterday The Star visited one such "matchbox house" which is home to 33 people Thirty-one of them are under 20

Ephraim and Nester Dlamini, aged 71 and 69 respectively, are grandparents to these children, some of whom are still in nappies.

Mr and Mrs Dlamini are both old-age pensioners and with the R150 monthly pension which they each receive, they pay the rent for their "matchbox house" and manage to feed 31 children

Operation Hunger has taken this family under its wing and tries to help by taking food once a week

At night, the house is "carpeted" from wall-to-wall with sleeping children They sleep under the dining-room table in one room, on the kitchen floor in the second room, around the grandparents' double bed in the third room and like sardines in the fourth

Mr Dlamini began to build extra rooms on his property a few years ago, but he ran out of money before he could finish them Nevertheless, these half-completed corrugated iron structures are home to some of his grandchildren

One of Mr Dlamini's sons also stays with him in Jabulani. Only two of his daughters are married and employed The other 14 of his 16 children cannot find work

Those who knife the heart of Jo'burg

BISHOP PETER STOREY of the Methodist Church expresses his concern for the slum conditions in central Johannesburg, an area he has ministered for 17 years

The centre of Johannesburg is well on its way to becoming a foetid slum and the fault lies mainly with a small group of greedy landlords

The combination of a massive black influx into the city centre and the continued existence of the Group Areas Act has handed them a licence for exploitation and the opportunity to make profits such as they never dreamed of But in the process they are destroying Johannesburg's best chance of becoming a non racial city The result of their greed will be a poverty-ridden black ghetto

The formula is a simple one. it began when black "illegals" filtered into empty apartments in white" Johannesburg, usually through some white person being willing to sign their lease for them. This suited everyone The landlords were happy, the tenants were grateful and well-behaved and the Group Areas inspectors were less than energetic in chasing them out.

But as the process gathered momentum, some small landlords — owners of maybe one or two blocks of flats who had battled with slender profit margins because of rent control — suddenly saw a chance to make a killing because their new tenants were transgressing the law simply by living there, they could be exploited with impunity What black tenant, desperate for accommodation, would dare to complain to the rent board? Or to the Health Department? Or to anyone?

Dangerous consequences

Soon, in rent-controlled flats where white tenants were paying, say, R150 a month, their black neighbours were being fleeced for R300 and even R400 for a similar apartment. The landlords were on to a goldmine and this had two very dangerous consequences for Johannesburg's future.

First rather than give up their flats, blacks began to take in sub-tenants to help them pay the rent and the process of overcrowding began

Second, landlords began to harass white tenants in the hope that they would leave, thus making room for more exploitable blacks and more and more blocks became exclusively black.

These two consequences of short-term greed spell disaster for the centre city, and nothing is being done to stop them Unfettered avarice has no limits and it extends to the fabric of the buildings themselves In block after block, now badly overcrowded, landlords are simply refusing to pay for any repairs. Why bother when the tenants have no rights of complaint and where, even if they do, the only comeback is on them?

So lifts break down, drains and toilets block up, light bulbs are not replaced Passages begin to stink muggers prowl the corridors and law and order breaks down People live in fear and community spirit is replaced by aggression and hostility

This is happening now in dozens of previously happy blocks of flats Recently a woman was raped by friends of her neighbour on the same floor A pregnant woman living on the 10th floor of a block when the lift was out of order for six months gave birth on the stairs half way between her flat and ground level

When they complained, tenants were called pigs and dogs' by their landlord It was the second such occurrence in her block. Where there is no recourse to legal protection, the bully element takes over Anger at the powerlessness of it all takes murderous forms — rent collectors go into flats with armed guards

Inevitably the superficial judgment is made. "Ever since the blacks came, things have gone from bad to worse", and white resentment provides fertile soil for right wing agitation. It all seems to confirm the worst of white prejudices about blacks

But who are the real culprits?

Take the ugly saga of a neat block of flats recently sold to a private landlord

When the sale went through, 10 of the flats were unoccupied The rest had a mixture of white old-age and disability pensioners and younger black couples or individuals

Each flat was neatly carpeted and had a modern stove No-one paid more than R130 rent per month

The first act of the new owner was to rip out the stoves from the unoccupied flats — presumably to sell for a quick few thousand rands Then each tenant was visited and asked to disclose his or her income — and even though there is no legal requirement for this, many tenants were too scared to refuse

Landlords without scruples

Notice was then served on a number of them, together with a raising of the rent for those remaining to around R180 Vacancies thus caused as pensionrs left were immediately filled at the new rent, but only after the stoves had been removed.

There is every reason to believe that rentals will be rapidly increased to approach the R300 mark and that whenever a current tenant leaves another stove will be ripped out and sold The newcomers will not complain — they will pay up and smile

The flats used to be serviced too — all for R130 per month — and this has ceased The descent towards a slum has begun

Some will ask whether it is in the interests of landlords to allow such deterioration of their properties Surely the lack of maintenance means that these places will become unlivable? Of course they will, but so long as there is the kind of housing shortage we have in South Africa people will continue to pay to live there

For landlords without scruples title to such properties is a licence to print money Like their fellow exploiters in cities overseas, when properties reach a condition fit only for rats and vagrants the landlords will walk away rich, dumping the problem on the city council

The time for drastic action against these people is now It is criminal to let a small club of profiteers destroy the soul of Johannesburg

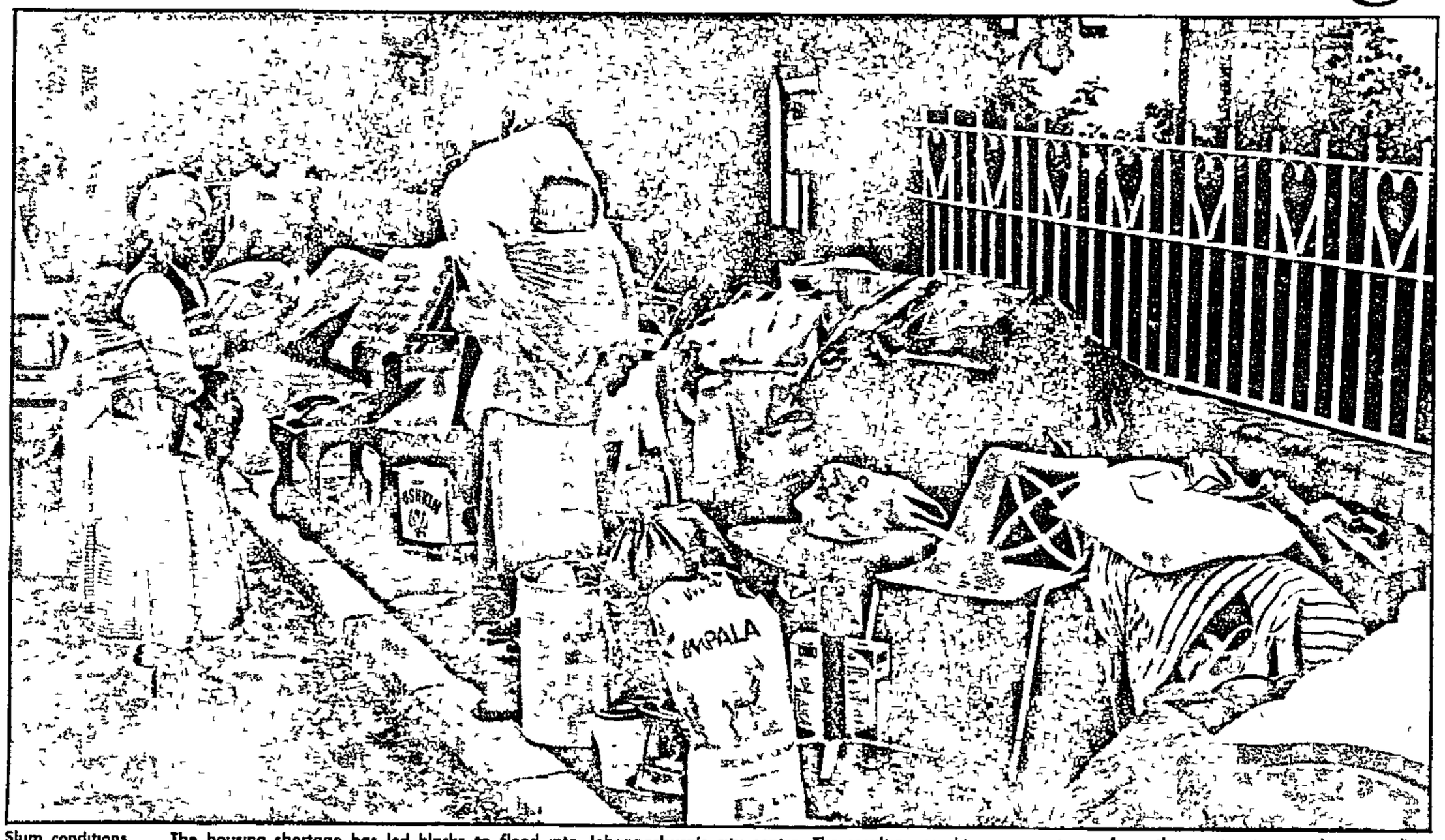
Actstop has put up a valiant fight against the crudest forms of extortion and eviction and has performed a crucial service by organising tenants into flat committees across the city but because of its politicised stance it has been snubbed by the city fathers.

What is urgently required is a coalition of all parties who have a stake in the future of Johannesburg as a non racial, secure city Let all tenants organise themselves with shop owners, hoteliers, large property owners, businesses and churches to force the council to frame decent anti-exploitation by-laws and ensure that they are policed

Let slumlords be forced to negotiate reasonable rentals and property maintenance policies with flat committees and those committees in turn be obliged to police overcrowding in their buildings.

Rent control is outdated but a collective bargaining system could perform its protective role and still ensure fair profits for flat owners.

Above all, the Group Areas Act, which gives exploiters the right to do what they like and city officials the excuse to do nothing, must go — now If the government won't lift it the council must defy it. The future of the city centre is at stake



Slum conditions The housing shortage has led blacks to flood into Johannesburg's city centre The resulting conditions serve to reinforce the most extreme white prejudices about blacks, but the truth is the situation has been created by unscrupulous landlords who use the Group Areas Act to reap fat profits.

(123) Star 14/10/89

127

BUSINESS

Soweto people negotiate over power – and end the boycott

There s a bright light on Soweto's horizon — Eskom and the city s representatives are negotiating a deal to improve the electricity supply By HILARY JOFFE and ELAINE COSSER

ESKOM and the Soweto People's Delegation are in the advanced stages of a negotiation process which could see an end to the four-year boycott of electricity bills and an upgrading of the township's electrical service

If negotiations succeed a new independent company established by Eskom with community participation and support would take over the supply of electricity from the Soweto City Council — if the council agreed to grant it the rights of supply

A permanent consumer structure and direct representation to give consumers a say in the quality and cost of their electr city supply would be part of the deal In the interim a phase is envisaged whereby the service would be restored while a suitable permanent supply authority is organised

Consumers are also expected to have an input in this phase

A technical committee comprising SPD and Eskom Soweto Project representatives has been meeting regularly since August following talks between senior Eskom officials, including chief executive Ian Macrae, and an SPD delegation which included leaders such as Reverend Frank Chikane, National Union of Mineworkers general secretary Cyril Ramaphosa and Fedtraw president Albertina Sisulu This round of talks has now ended and the SPD is considering Eskom's proposals

Eskom has set up a subsidiary, Econelec, as the interim vehicle to establish the new system For the project to be established, Econolec has to negotiate with many community groups and leaders and the city council But the company has made it clear that it views the SPD as representing the interests of a broad sector of the community and, among others, an important negotiating partner in establishing a new electricity supply service

An Eskom spokesman says they estimate R100-million will have to be invested over a two-year period to upgrade Soweto's electricity infrastructure and the administrative support system, in addition to the R25-million a year which the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has committed to capital maintenance and upgrading of the system

It is intended that the additional funds would come from the Development Bank of South Africa as "soft" (low interest) loans on a "subordinated" basis — in other words, interest has to be paid only once the company starts making operating profits

Eskom projections put the company as breaking even only after 10 years since it will take seven years to cover the debts incurred in the first three years

Soweto is South Africa s fifth largest domestic user of electricity, with 125 000 supply points — so that the vast majority of formal households are electrified But electricity in the township is costly and subject to frequent blackouts

In a position paper presented to Eskom earlier this year, the SPD outlined a series of criteria which would have to be met by the new scheme for it to gain the support of Soweto residents These included

- Non racialism
- Exclusion of the Greater Soweto local authorities
- Efficient supply of electricity
- Establishment of a new entity
- Non profit basis
- Grant finance
- Arrears must be written off
- New tariff structure

The two sides are likely to agree on many of these principles, although some, an Eskom respresentative stresses touch on areas in which the electricity corporation is "not a player" He also said Eskom must *ipso facto* recognise the position and functions of the local authority

A key issue is the SPD s demand that electricity arrears be written off Eskom has agreed with the delegation that the new company will not take responsibility for Soweto's historical debt Thus there is no question of it trying to recover past arrears through higher tariffs once residents start paying But Eskom has stressed writing off the debt is a government decision

State and provincial officials publicly reject writing off all the arrears, arguing this would be unfair to township residents, in other townships as well as Soweto, who have paid rent and service charges

Albertina Sisulu

Cyril Ramaphosa

The SPD's historic recent meeting with the TPA, and the beginnings of a process of SPD province negotiation may therefore be the essential backdrop for the success of the electricity project

Eskom and the SPD have also agreed that the new scheme must involve community participation, although the nature of this has not yet been decided

It could take the form of community representation on the board of the new company, but it is more likely that in the short term it would take the form of a some sort of consumer board with which the new company would liaise

Another important area of agreement is tariffs Eskom has agreed that tariffs in Soweto will be no higher than those in Johannesburg

At this level tariffs will initially not cover the costs of the project The sides have jointly identified a number of ways in which costs can be reduced to make it viable

But the affordable tariffs issue touches on a key SPD proposal non-racialism The delegation has called for Soweto and Johannesburg to be one city, with a unified tax base

This is a national constitutional issue — and in Eskom's view it cannot be a player in the political debate that will determine this

But it is also an economic issue, one which may be vital to the success of the new project in ensuring affordable electricity tariffs

Eskom can t change the constitution — but it acknowledges that there may be considerable economic advantages for Soweto in having its electricity network linked to Johannesburg's

Electricity experts say if it were to link the Johannesburg and Soweto systems, electricity costs would drop in both areas because the usage pattern would change Eskom supplies electricity in bulk to the Johannesburg and Soweto councils charging on the basis of the relative pattern of peak-load and base load usage If the two grids were linked, this pattern would change such that the total bill would be cut by several million a year

There appears to be broad agreement between Eskom and the SPD about the quality of service which consumers would find acceptable

This covers such issues as reliability of supply, responses to customer queries or problems, frequency of meter reading and audit meter readings Around five percent of electricity bills are wrong because of human error or damaged meters a big problem in Soweto at the moment is that the council insists people pay their accounts and does not do audit readings if they complain

One issue which Eskom and the SPD still have to sort out is tariffs for the poorest consumers

The Soweto delegation called for a new tariff structure involving subsidisation mechanisms designed to address the issues of affordability basic needs and differential paying capacities '

It is estimated about 3 000 to 4 000 families (about two percent) have formal incomes of R2 500 a year or less and would be hard pressed to pay anything for electricity

Econolec is opposed to direct subsidisation of the poorest, on the grounds that it would be economically unhealthy for the company to run on this basis

One possible obstacle which has still to be resolved is the role of the black local authorities For the plan to go ahead the councils of Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Soweto will have to transfer their responsibility for electricity supply to the new company But some members within these councils fear a loss of status and the admission of defeat if they allow another party to take over one of their functions They may also stand to lose financially because councils are graded and their officials remunerated based on their gross turnover, of which electricity supply comprises a major part

Provincial officials have assured councillors this issue will be attended to Legal experts have noted that the provincial administrator does not have the power to over-rule a council should it refuse to transfer authority over electricity to Econolec But they note that in the current political climate this would damage the credibility of the councils which the province is keen to protect

One other area on which Eskom and the SPD have yet to agree is the eventual structure of the new project.

Econolec has been registered as a "shell" company awaiting the conclusion of negotiations and is intended by Eskom to be a partnership with the community and with private business Under Eskom's control, the company will arrange the physical upgrading of infrastucture, implement a large scale customer service system and reorganise the accounting system, which is in disarray

The company will act in an interim capacity as it is not clear what shape the final supply entity will take

Possible options are electricity supplies could be administered by a non-profit company or by local community-based co-operatives Eskom would like to see responsibility for the project eventually handed over to the Soweto community

Eskom's involvement in the Soweto talks is in line with its mission of Electricity for All — in terms of which it wants to see affordable electricity made available to the estimated 60 percent of black South Africans who currently have no access to this At present many other initiatives are underway around the country

But it is also an attempt to pre-empt a situation in which Soweto finally runs out of money and Eskom has to cut off the "juice'

The four-year boycott of rent and service charges by Soweto residents has so far not affected Eskom, despite the fact that the township's arrears on electricity are running at between R5-million and R7-million a month The Transvaal Provincial Administration has been providing bridging finance to cover the debts of the Soweto City Council, which in terms of the Black Local Government Act of 1982 has sole right to supply electricity in the township

But Soweto's debts are vast — up to R1-billion in total — and the TPA admitted in talks last week with the SPD that it had run out of bridging finance for the Transvaal's townships and this month is drawing from a special fund to cover township debts

The Star

18/12/89

(127)

Star

The slums on Jo'burg's skyline

THE GREYING of Johannesburg has been a sorry tale ... of subterfuge, exploitation, rent abuse, neglect and deterioration, with no end in sight. It is made worse by governmental inaction. And it undermines the good that breaching apartheid should achieve. It angers blacks and it angers whites.

If living conditions in Hillbrow are poor, those of central Johannesburg are worse. It is all part of a housing shortage that has roots deeper than apartheid and as pressing as poverty. But there is no doubt these factors have been aggravated by the white monopoly of government, by the Group Areas Act and by an absence of official caring.

Last week Methodist Bishop Peter Storey highlighted in an article in The Star the problems in central Johannesburg, accusing greedy landlords of exploiting apartheid to cause the scourge of flatland slums. He mentioned rent exploitation of residents not legally permitted to live in the area, the deliberate neglect of services, the harassment of white tenants so they will leave to make room for greater numbers of black tenants who can be further exploited and the lack of any move by the city council to halt the slide in living conditions.

All this is true, but not all tenants are saints either. They themselves have contributed to their misery by taking in sub-tenants on a scale that has seriously abused the facilities. Many have also been guilty of failing to pay rent, refusing to leave when given notice and seriously embarrassing the landlords financially. They have helped bring down some of those sanctions on themselves.

While there is no quick answer to the spread of slums, the broad lines of the solution are clear. The Government must admit that group areas and even free settlement areas concentrate the problem, that lack of black representation in government means weighted decisions and that inadequate sums for housing have created a chronic crisis. In the new South Africa, this disgraceful situation must be tackled with utmost urgency.

E Rand council in bid to house the jobless

18/12/89

Star

By Abel Mabelane

127

The mayor of Daveyton, Mr Tom Boya, said last week his council was considering making available 40 ha of land to the Permanent Building Society to erect 1 000 housing units at less than R10 000 each

The target group of the housing project were the unemployed, low-income earners or those in the informal sector

Development would be undertaken by a newly-formed enterprise, Emathupheni Trust, whose management would intially be undertaken by the Perm The new development will be known as Emathupheni City.

As the proposed development progresses the management would be taken over by people elected from within the community itself

The Government, private sector organisations, the Daveyton City Council, development agencies and community organisations will play a supportive role

Houses standing empty

300 Eden Park families find homes

(127) Star 20/8/89

By Jovial Rantao

More than 300 families from Eden Park on the East Rand yesterday moved into new houses that had been standing empty for over 10 months

The houses had been reserved for residents of the "Germiston old location"

Alberton town clerk Mr J J Prinsloo said Eden Park residents could occupy the houses only if they could afford them

Housing list

"As far as we are concerned the Germiston people won't be moving anymore and these people are welcome to stay only if they can afford to pay the money required before occupying the houses The problem has been solved," Mr Prinsloo said

Eden Park residents said they had been on the housing list for over nine years and residents from Germiston "old location" had refused to be resettled in Eden Park Consequently, the houses have been empty since being finished 10 months ago.

The residents, who enjoy the support of the local MP Mr Arthur Roper and members of the local management committee, started moving into the houses on Monday night and by yesterday afternoon all 400 houses had been occupied

According to the six-member "Force" committee, which was formed to address the housing problem, representations to the Alberton Town Council yielded no results and families had been forced to live in squalid conditions

Committee spokeswoman Ms Barbara Khan said residents were tired of being given promises while no action was taken to allocate houses to them

"We are sick and tired of being shunted from one office to the other with promises that we will be allocated houses We also warned the Alberton Town Council that if they did not act quickly residents would move into the houses without permission," Ms Khan said

She said the residents had vowed to remain in the houses

According to the chairman of the management committee, Mr B Kraai, and his deputy, Ms Sally Petersen, the residents acted within their rights in moving into the houses

Emergency meeting

"We have been aware of this problem for a long time and we have constantly made representations in this regard at all council meetings The Alberton Town Council has not given us a proper answer and if the people feel they can't take it any longer, they have our support," Ms Petersen said

An emergency meeting, attended by representatives of the Alberton Town Council, the Force Committee and Mr Roper, was held at the local town council offices to seek a solution to the problem

Mr G van Rensburg of the Alberton Town Council assured residents, who had gathered outside the council offices, that the problem would be solved

He confirmed that the houses were reserved for Germiston "old location" residents and that the Germiston City Council had until December 31 to resettle them.

Mr G van Rensburg, a representative of the Alberton Town Council, addresses Eden Park residents outside the council offices yesterday. On his left is Ms Barbara Khan of the "Force" Committee. ● Picture: Karen Fletcher.

Alexandra 4 plan new housing protest

EDYTH BULBRING

A SECOND march protesting against poor housing in Alexandra is planned for the New Year B/Day 20/12/89

Four Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) activists were detained after the first protest march on November 30

Addressing a Press conference after their release on Monday, Paul Tshabalala, Richard Mdakane, Mzwanele Mayekiso and Sipho Khubeka — who went on hunger strike while in prison — vowed to continue their struggle for better housing

Tsabalala said the New Year march would include the white community and other Johannesburg organisations.

ACO publicity secretary Obed Bapela said the detentions, intended to scare those demanding decent housing, had mobilised people instead. (127)

Bapela added that 1 000 residents had received summonses for rent owed since the rent boycott began in 1986 On Friday 133 residents would appear in court.

Fired Haggie workers have quit hostels

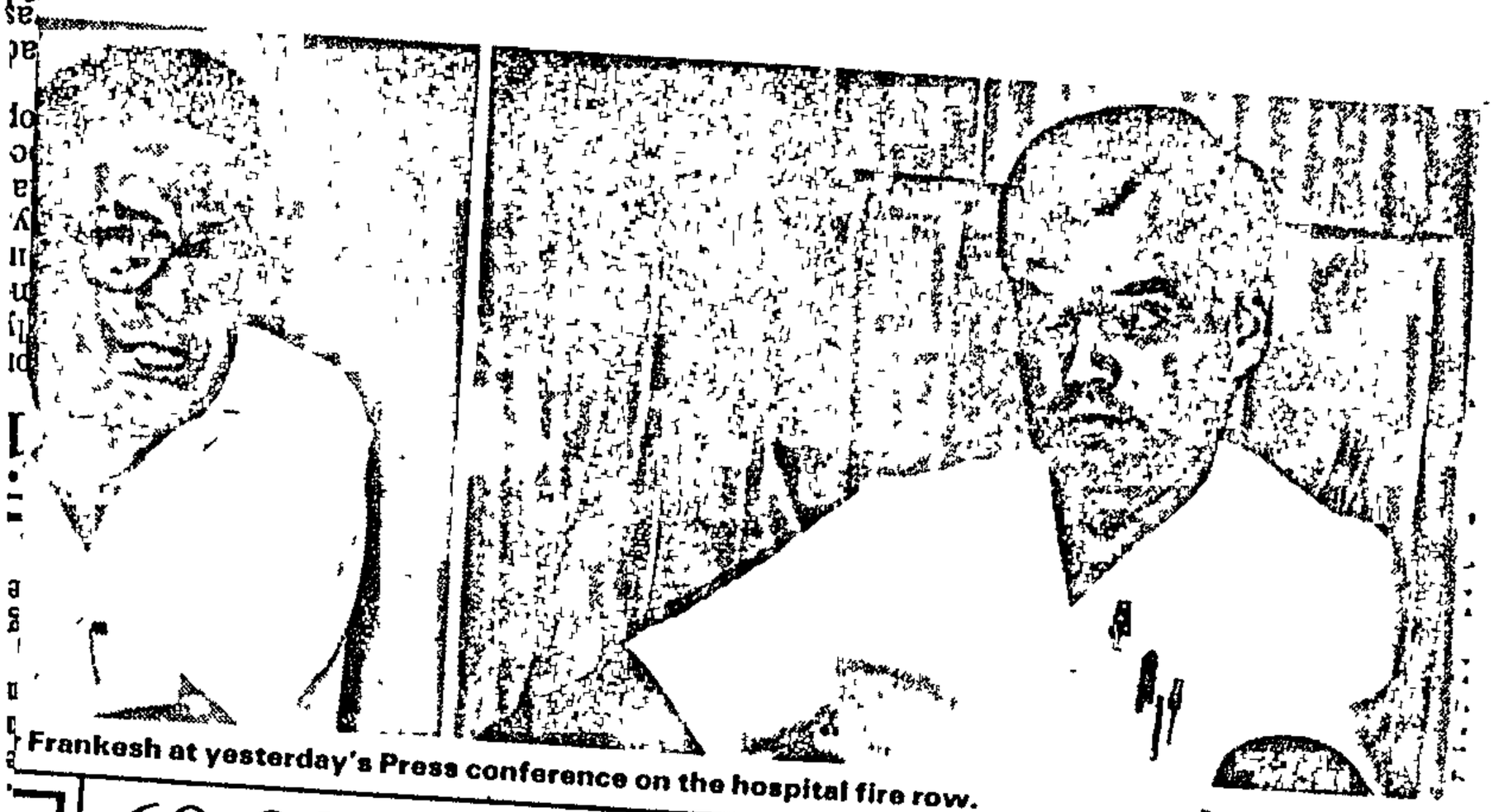
Ninety-three fired Haggie Rand workers have vacated a company hostel in compliance with a Supreme Court order.

The workers were among 232 dismissed and evicted from Haggie's Jupiter plant compound after occupying management offices during a dispute over overtime in October.

This week, the Rand Supreme Court finalised an order declaring their dismissal and eviction lawful and requiring them to leave the hostel by today.

The workers had vacated the hostel peacefully, said a Haggie spokesman. — Labour Reporter.

Star 21/12/89 (627)



Frankesh at yesterday's Press conference on the hospital fire row.

Pictures ROBERT BOTHA

60 000 to get leasehold rights

PRETORIA — More than 60 000 blacks in the Transvaal will be able to acquire 99-year leasehold title on their properties from January 10

These are people who, before 1978, built their own houses on government land, or bought council ones, or who as businessmen built or bought business premises on government land B/Day 29/4/89

An announcement on these properties was made yesterday by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough

Hough said in a statement this development followed the decision by the Transvaal Executive Committee to approve the regulations drafted in terms of the Conversion of Certain Rights to Leasehold Act, 1988 (Act 81 of 1988), that was to be promulgated on January 10.

The figure included 14 851 people who had built their own houses, 45 150 who had bought council homes, and 1 669 businessmen who had bought or built business premises

Hough said it had to be emphasised that the Act did not apply to rented houses that were allocated by virtue of a residential permit

Tenants of these houses could have acquired leasehold rights from December 15 1978 in terms of Regulation 2 471 (of December 15 1978) However, they had preferred to continue renting their property.

Any expectations among tenants of such rented houses, therefore, that they too would be able to obtain leasehold title on their houses from January 10, were without foundation, Hough said. — Sapa.

Tempers rise over township water crisis near Balfour

(Press 31/12/89)

Special Correspondent

THE 25 000 inhabitants of Siyathemba near Balfour in the Transvaal have suffered a serious water crisis for 12 days since a pump providing water from Balfour broke down

Balfour's mayor and member of the Conservative Party Tinus Claassen said he knew nothing about the crisis

"There are no problems with the provision of water to Siyathemba People are telling stories which are out of context," Claassen replied when asked about the cause of the water crisis

He refused to comment further on the matter

Siyathemba's town clerk, Pottie Potgieter, said tensions were mounting among township inhabitants because of the water shortage

According to Potgieter, Balfour's town council – controlled by the CP – does not provide satisfactory answers to queries from Siyathemba's council

"Different replies are being given to each query and there are no prospects of solving the problem," he said

In a letter to State President FW De Klerk this week, Siyathemba mayor Daniel Maphosha asked De Klerk to give his personal attention to the "extremely explosive" situation in Siyathemba

Two water tankers provided by the Transvaal Provincial Administration's regional office in Germiston are being used to transport water from Siyathemba's two boreholes to the township

Although the boreholes are situated only two kilometres from the township, it is a "tremendous task" to meet demand for water in this manner, said Potgieter

It takes an hour to fill a tanker and an hour to empty it Each tanker makes eight trips a day between the township and the boreholes

On Friday, about 1 200 Siyathemba inhabitants marched to the municipal offices, demanding the suspension of the township's council

Potgieter said Siyathemba had had water supply breakdowns for the past five years due to problems with the pumping system

Siyathemba's councillors meet on Thursday to discuss the grievances

Shooting ends love triangle lows

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

A LOVE triangle went terribly wrong for former Kagiso Mayor Jeremiah Mahutsana Mangope, now charged with attempted murder

The story unfolded before magistrate Chris Eksteen in Krugersdorp Regional Court recently where Mangope, 54, a schoolmaster, pleaded not guilty

The court heard sales representative Lucas Marobyane tell of a love triangle involving him, a woman teacher who was not named, and Mangope

Trouble began when Marobyane clashed with his live-in lover because she constantly accompanied Mangope

"Each time I had a quarrel with her she would threaten to call Mangope to discipline me," said Marobyane

As a result of these quarrels he left their home

However, he phoned Mangope's wife and told her about the affair, because he wanted Mangope to stay away from his lover

On August 8 Mangope went to Marobyane's house and allegedly shot him after a quarrel Marobyane spent six weeks in hospital

The case was postponed to January 10

Political comment and newsbills by K Sibiya, headlines and sub-editing by J Beffon, both of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg

Why I let black nurses sleep in white hostel, by hospital chief

By GWEN GILL

Star 31/12/87

THE hospital chief who said no to officialdom this week reckons it was "no big deal"

Dr Trevor Frankish, acting superintendent at Johannesburg Hospital, ignored an order banning black Hillbrow Hospital staff from sleeping at his hospital's "white" staff quarters after their own rooms had been gutted in a R200 000 fire

"It was late at night, there were people without homes and we gave them rooms," he said

The order came from the Transvaal provincial hospital authorities, and staff at Hillbrow Hospital believe it was given because blacks sleeping in white residences would be against the Group Areas Act.

Earlier in the day the TPA authorities had agreed that the homeless doctors, nurses, radiographers and other vital health workers could sleep in empty rooms at the white hospital residences

Later provincial authorities said staff members had to sleep at Baragwanath, a 30-minute ride away from work They refused

High-ranking staff at both Hillbrow Hospital and at the TPA claim not to know who was responsible for that instruction

But the Transvaal's MEC in charge of hospitals, Mr Fanie Ferreira, said "it was probably a deputy director who'd already made arrangements for staff to be accommodated at Bara

"When they've made that kind of decision, they tend to stick to them"

About 40 of the staff refused beds at Johannesburg Hospital before Dr Frankish stepped in actually work at the "white" hospital

127

Angry

But they are not allowed to live there because the provincial hospital authorities enforce the Group Areas Act.

"Here I am with nothing but the clothes I stand up in, and the place where I work won't even let me sleep there after going through this terrible ordeal," said one sister who did not want to be named

She was speaking at an angry staff meeting at Hillbrow Hospital on the night of the fire

Staff who have long complained about their living conditions and are now calling them "unsafe and uninhabitable" staged a sit-in at the hospital cafeteria because they still had nowhere to sleep and had not been able to bathe or change after coming off duty

At about 11pm Dr Frankish agreed to let them stay at his hospital

Mr Ferreira later admitted that he had done the correct thing

Many of the staff are now saying they won't leave the Johannesburg Hospital residence

On Friday the TPA said they could stay for only a further seven days

But, says, S A Health Workers' Congress spokesman Dr Aslam Dasoo "If they want us to move out, they will have to use force"

Mr Ferreira has promised a look at the who-stays-where policy

"We're living in a new atmosphere in this country and I hope we'll resolve all the problems of accommodation."

Democratic Party leader Zach de Beer said the hospital issue was "a test of the Government's sincerity"

HOUSING & HOSTELS – T.V.L.

1990

JANUARY – JUNE

SOWETAN Tuesday Jan

Housing sale a 'big flop'

Sowetan 2/1/90

(127)

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE "big housing sale" introduced by the Government four years ago is a big flop, people and organisations the *Sowetan* spoke to said.

According to figures released by the State, 112359 houses have been sold by the end of September

A further 220648 houses are still on sale

In the Transvaal 78647 houses have been sold

The breakdown for the other areas is· Eastern Cape (8221), Western Cape (3312), Northern Cape (7503), Natal (4996), and Free State (9680)

In September alone, 558 houses were sold in the Transvaal, 172 (Eastern Cape), 85 (Western Cape), 40 (Northern Cape), 71 (Natal), and 117 (Free State)

The West Rand sold more houses than the other areas

The breakdown for the Transvaal areas is: Western Transvaal (2722), Central Transvaal (8075), Northern Transvaal (1409), Eastern Transvaal (8680), East Rand (11116) and West Rand (46645)

In September houses sold in the Western Cape (18), Central Transvaal (71), Eastern Transvaal (49), East Rand 236) and West rand (184)

No houses were sold in the Northern Transvaal

The prices for the two, three and four-roomed houses ranges between R1000 and R2500

A spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Mr A Loubusche, said the TPA was presently working out a new plan with the black local authorities and if all went according to plan, a new system which will make it easy for people to buy their houses will be introduced next year

"It is still early to discuss the plan," he said

The president of the United Municipalities of South Africa, Mr Tom Boya, said the whole scheme was a flop because no proper marketing was done by the Government

He said "A lot of people do not know how to go about in buying their houses and I still believe that the councils should not be involved in the selling of the houses The whole thing should be left to housing experts"

Boya also said most of the people could not afford to pay cash for the houses as is the case now

Star 4/1/90

127

Indians in fear of racist attacks

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia

Thirty Indian families in Welkom's all-white residential areas are living in fear of right-wing harassment

A frightened businessman, who wished to remain anonymous, told The Star that in the past two weeks there had been an upsurge in harassment of Indians

Two days before Christmas, Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) stickers were plastered on the doors of six Indian homes Every time the stickers were removed they were replaced, he said

At about 2 am on New Year's Day, right-wingers threw fishing sinkers at the windows of four family homes

"I'm afraid it's going to get worse"

Most of the families were afraid to take up the issue because they were contravening the Group Areas Act, he said

"Families have reported the racial incidents to the police, but we are in a tight spot. It may mean that we will be evicted from our premises Since most of us are businessmen, it means we could lose our livelihood On the other hand, we cannot remain silent if our lives are in danger"

MURMURINGS

Two years ago, when Indian families moved to Welkom, there were murmurings among members of the white community, but never serious enough to warrant attacks on the families, he said,

"There were complaints about different races living next to each other I can live with complaints, but harassment is altogether a different issue"

He said that previously they had lived on isolated farms

"However, in the past six months, a number of us have moved to town I think we are more conspicious and this may be the reason for the attacks"

Another victim of two right-wing attacks said 'I don t know what to do There are a few of us living here and we re scared stiff

"A week ago AWB stickers were plastered on my front door My neighbour, who is white, tore them down We get along with our white neighbours but obviously some people want to stir trouble"

In another attack, on New Year's Day, three of his windows were broken when fishing sinkers were thrown at them

Free State police comment could not be obtained last night

Toilets blocked for 3 weeks

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

ABOUT 350 families in Vosloorus on the East Rand are without toilet facilities after sewerage pipes in the area burst

The residents are from the township's Mailula Park and Masimini Section

Their toilets have been blocked for the past three weeks

One of the residents, Mr Mabuse Kupa, of Masimini, said when he reported the matter to the town council he was told nothing could be done because all its employees were off for the festive season

Kupa said "I had to walk up to half a kilometre to get a toilet"

Another resident, Mr Patrick Seboko, of Mailula Park, said· "The mess from the burst toilet was overflowing in my yard

"I had to keep my windows closed all the time but that did not help.

"My family had a messy Christmas this year I reported the matter to the council about six times but nothing was done," he said

Council spokesman Mr A van Niekerk said· "We had a problem in getting new pipes to replace the damaged ones as most firms were closed over the festive period

"We managed to get a new pipe on Tuesday and we are busy repairing the pipe."

By late yesterday afternoon, the council's workmen were still busy repairing the damaged pipes.

(127)

Sowetan

4/01/90

Siyathemba dry again

SOWETAN (127) 5/1/90

Fury as water crisis spoils festive season

By THEMBA MOLEFE

THE 25-year-old water crisis in Siyathemba Township, Balfour, which seemed to have ended last year, has reared its head again.

This time the harried residents of the small location have called on town committee members to resign.

And the mayor, Mr Daniel Maphohoshe, has appealed to the State President, Mr F W de Klerk, to intervene in the crisis

Last year Maphohoshe and the mayor of the white Balfour Town Council, Mr M J Claasen, jointly announced the water crisis had been resolved when a new system supplying the two towns was introduced.

There would be no more water cuts in Siyathemba, they said.

However, the township had a dry festive season with the water supply being stopped from the end of last November until New Year's Day

Pipe

The town committee's explanation was that a pipe supplying the township with water had broken down and was being repaired

In a recent memorandum to the town committee the Siyathemba Crisis Committee (SCC) said residents demanded the councillors' resignation because they had failed to halt the constant water cuts in the township

Residents said they had also failed to consult the community to thrash out the issue

The SCC claimed the water cuts were deliberate and racist as the neighbouring white Balfour town was not without water during that period and had also ordered the stoppage

Therefore the Siyathemba Town Committee was "toothless," the SYC said

Balfour and Siyathemba receive water from the same source and the supply to Siyathemba is controlled by the white Balfour Town Council

SCC

The SCC said the town committee charged residents R10 a month for water and paid the white council more than R60 000 a month for water

During the stoppage residents got water from tanks placed at various points in the township

Others paid whites in Balfour R2 for a 25 litre drum of water

SCC spokesman Mr Lucas Shongwe said residents felt the water drawn from an emergency borehole in the township was contaminated and not fit for consumption

He said 'The borehole is situated less than 50m from a sewerage depository dam and independent laboratory tests had proved the water was contaminated

"To add insult to injury, residents also received huge water bills for December while the whole township was dry," said Shongwe

A resident, Mr Azael Mbele, received a R28,50 water bill

The statement said he used 20 kilolitres of water in December alone

Many other residents have received letters of demand from the town committee for water accounts which were in arrears

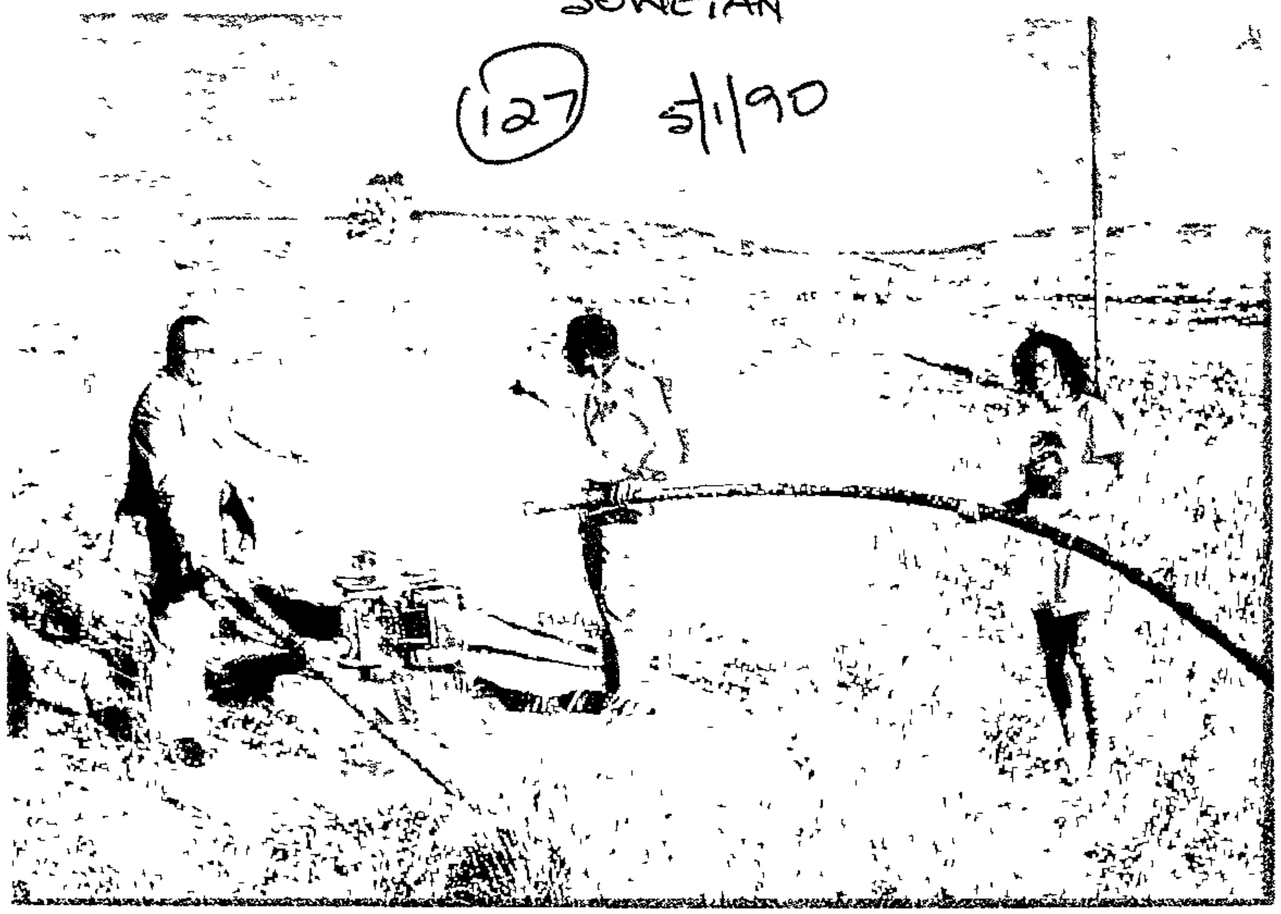
The SCC said the situation was worse for residents of a squatter camp in the township because they used communal taps and had no running water or proper toilets

In its memorandum, the SCC also charged that refuse removal and nightsoil collection were irregular while residents paid for the services

The water from the boreholes had been tested and was not contaminated, said Maphohoshe

He admitted that there was a water crisis in the township and said the council would meet the SCC on January 10 to respond to the memorandum

He said residents who believed there were irregularities in their water accounts should take them to the council's offices



Siyathemba Crisis Committee members at the emergency borehole situated next to a sewerage repository dam. From left are Mr Molefe Letsoko (chairman), Mr Liphoko Lephatsoane and Mr Khulu Mbonani. Pic LEN KUMALO

Council may put up rents

THE Atteridgeville City Council has recommended a rent increase varying between R23 and R177 a month ~~on~~ houses and business premises. (127)

The proposals were made at a special council meeting last month where discussions centered on the wiping out the council's R8-million deficit.

Mr Theo Van Strijp, treasurer and acting town clerk, yesterday confirmed that the council had proposed to increase tariffs. He stressed, however, that no final decision had been taken on the matter.

According to the proposals, tenants would fork out an extra R23 a month. The hardest hit would be garage and cinema owners, whose rent would increase from R887.04 and R763.95 to R1064.45 and R916 74 a month respectively. Sowetan 10/1/90

The council implemented an average R25-a-month rent increase in January last year amid strong criticism and anger from locals who argued that tariff increases were not necessary as the township had not embarked on a rent boycott.

Residents also complained that councillors made decisions without consulting them

Estate agents seek abolition of group areas

B/Day 10/1/90

ACHMED KARIEM

THE SA Institute of Estate Agents is to ask government to abolish the Group Areas Act.

Executive director Jan van der Merwe said yesterday the organisation's executive committee would invite government representatives to a meeting "shortly" He declined to give details

The institute's policy was to serve the public, and it sought to promote the free enterprise system and the rights of all

Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel said government would consider the institute's request for a meeting

J H Isaacs Property Management (Tvl), which collects rent on 30 000 properties each month, would like to see the Act scrapped "as soon as possible", MD Peter Holling said yesterday

I Kuper MD Ronnie Sevitz said his company was instructed by clients whether or not to open their flats to everyone, but fear of having a licence revoked was a major factor preventing landlords from doing this

Meanwhile, Actstop plans an all-out campaign against the Act this year

Actstop Mayfair committee chairman Cassim Saloojee said yesterday the organisation, which monitors and opposes forced removals under the Act, hoped to spearhead a "fierce" campaign which would allow people to live "normal lives on a non-discriminatory basis" (127)

DP co-leader Denis Worrall said the Group Areas Act and other discriminatory legislation had to go "Seen against the pace of change in Eastern Europe, SA cannot continue at an ox-wagon rate," he said yesterday

Shanty dwellers given day to quit

Star 10/1/90

Residents of a shanty town in Duduza near Nigel have been given a day's notice to uproot themselves from the land where they were told by the local municipality to establish themselves a few months ago.

Mr William Hixton of Johannesburg told The Star his former domestic worker was told by Duduza Municipality that she and about 200 other families living in the Dunoza shanty town had a day to move their homes and belongings to another piece of ground in the township or else their homes would be bulldozed.

A municipal spokesman said residents had been told on Sunday they had to move.

"The ground is too wet. It is freezing in winter and there are no facilities. We're constructing facilities like sewerage on the other piece of land. If residents have difficulty moving, we will help them." — Staff Reporter.

E Tvl town shaken by evictions and 'kidnap'

C/Press 7/1/90

By BONGANI HLATSHWAYO (127)

THE Eastern Transvaal township of KwaGuqa near Witbank was shaken this week following the eviction of 12 families from hostel dwellings and the alleged kidnapping of township mayor Shadrack Riba

Riba was allegedly kidnapped by a group of youths

The evictions took place on Wednesday at about 10am and sources said the mayor was kidnapped from his home for a few hours on Wednesday night

The youths allegedly insisted Riba not reveal their identities and ordered him to return to his office and put his house in order

However, Riba denied the kidnap claims and said "Did they mention that it was the mayor that was kidnapped? Then it was supposed to have been me, but I have not been intimidated by anyone"

When *City Press* arrived at the scene, the council had held an emergency meeting called by the mayor "to try and resolve the situation", said Paul Masombuka, the public relations officer for the council

He said the council had decided to give back the keys to the evicted families and to give letters advising them of where and how to pay their arrears

"We were in the house when they just kicked the door open, pulled curtains off their rails and started throwing everything outside I only owed them R228 as I had paid R120 last month," said Simon Bafedi

He said when he tried to show his receipt, he was ignored

Just opposite Bafedi's, the Messenger of the Court and his crew found no one home

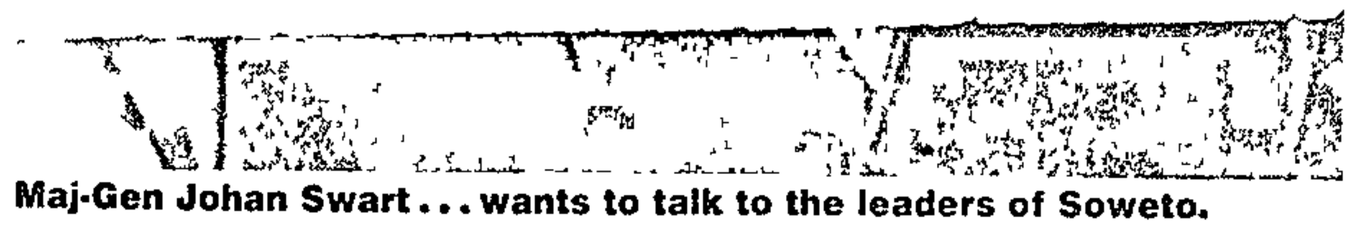
"They took a hammer and broke a window to gain entry into the house and started stripping the house of its ceiling, built-in wardrobes and removed all the furniture from the house The owners found it all outside when they arrived home," said witnesses

Simon Bafedi . . . eviction victim.

At Catherine Sindani's flat number 26 kitchen chairs were lying in a heap outside the door, after they were broken by the evictors for the R92 she owed

Riba said in the urgent meeting the council resolved that keys be given back to the tenants "unreservedly because the council did not resolve that such action be taken"

"I want the council to be exonerated and we will be suing the Messenger of Court for damage to council property As for the people, they should lodge their own claims," he said



Maj-Gen Johan Swart . . . wants to talk to the leaders of Soweto.

Homes now a reality

127

Sowetan 10/1/90

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE overdue building of 80 houses in Wattville on the East Rand has at last become a reality.

The houses will be built in the township's Tent Town Section.

The local town council and Longhomes, the company erecting the houses, will start with the infrastucture which includes the installation of electricity, water pipes, storm water drainage, and tarred roads.

March

Wattville mayor Mr John "Master" Nkosi yesterday said the infrastructure will be completed within the next five weeks and the houses will be ready for occupation in March.

"We had land but we were delayed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration for the approval of our infrastructure plans," said Nkosi.

(127)

Dispute over hotel lock-out

An irate tenant, Mr Solly Latolla, holds a petition which was signed by residents of Norstell Residential, opposing the high rentals.

By Helen Grange

Over 60 tenants of Norstell Royal Residential Hotel in Mayfair, Johannesburg, were locked out by the landlord yesterday after a dispute over increased rental

The tenants — some with young children — said they would camp outside the hotel until their landlord, Mr Solly Essak, agreed to negotiate over grievances, which included "exhorbitant rental, lack of hot water, inadequate domestic service and the exclusion of breakfast in the hotel services"

Tenants added that they had called on Actstop, an organisation representing tenants, to facilitate an agreement

Contradicting versions of events leading to the lock-out emerged yesterday

Tenants say:

Mr Essak has refused to listen to our grievances in spite of several attempts to hold meetings with him

When we withheld our rent this month, he gave us until January 8 to pay or face eviction

Without the legal month's notice, we were locked out on Tuesday night, but the night watchman, Mr Hendry van Niekerk, allowed us in on humanitarian grounds He was fired yesterday as a result

There are up to 30 tenants using a single bathroom and toilet The building is in poor condition and the rental is too high Cleaning services are not regular enough for our needs

Over the Christmas period, there was no hot water

Mr Essak says:

Notice was given to tenants in November last year that rentals would be raised by R25 to R325 for a single room, R375 for a large single room and R475 for a double room from this month

Tenants requested a meeting with me regarding grievances in December, but no agreement was reached

Tenants refused to pay rent on January 1 However, they were not locked out on Tuesday night, although only registered tenants were allowed in to stop overcrowding

Mr van Niekerk was not fired He was only hired temporarily

Tenants were locked out yesterday, but I have invited them to discuss any assistance they may need to meet their rentals

The boiler broke down over the Christmas period and technicians were unavailable However this problem is currently being resolved

Conditions in the building have not transgressed requirements We are not obliged to provide breakfast The hotel, however, has a kitchen with facilities as well as a lounge

The hotel is not a charity organisation If people do not pay rent, they may not continue to stay Hopefully a settlement will soon be reached with Actstop attorneys

Landlord Mr Solly Essak locked out more than 60 tenants of his building, Norstell Royal Residential Hotel, yesterday.
● Picture by Herbert Mabusa.

Actstop talks to lock-out landlord

Staff Reporter (127)

Tenants of Norstell Royal Residential Hotel in Mayfair, Johannesburg, locked out on Wednesday by their landlord over a rental dispute, have been allowed back pending a meeting tonight to try to resolve the issue Star 12/1/90

Actstop, an organisation representing tenants, will attempt to resolve residents' grievances with the landlord, Mr Solly Essak, who increased rentals by R25 this month

Tenants have complained the rental is "too high for services rendered".

ction in this television picture taken yester-
c backdrop of space.

Landlady led 4-hour attack, tenants claim

SHIRLEY WOODGATE (127)

TENANTS of a block of flats in central Johannesburg claim they were beaten and assaulted for four hours on Thursday night by a team of thugs headed by the owner of the building.

But Mrs Baby Naidoo, the owner of the six-storey Goldway Mansions on the corner of Gold and Jeppe streets has denied that any assaults took place. Police support her account.

A spokesman for the tenants said the thugs — wielding hammers, crowbars, knives and knobkieries — smashed down doors and terrorised the residents.

The tenants sought an urgent court interdict today, said a spokesman for Actstop. Star 13/1/90

In reply Mrs Naidoo said the tenants had ignored her legal notice to vacate the premises by December 8 so that the delapidated building could be renovated.

Residents say they have been without electricity for three years.

Families evicted from Joubert Park building

By Grace Rapholo and Jovial Rantao

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About 24 families were yesterday evicted from the Heathgate Residence in Joubert Park, Johannesburg, by messengers of the court accompanied by police, for paying only a portion of the rent stipulated by the landlord.

The families, all members of Actstop, said no prior notice was served on them before they were kicked out. They were only issued with the court order when they were evicted.

The families, who had been paying R130 instead of R250 for one room, were yesterday packing their belongings on the pavement as they had no alternative accommodation.

BAD STATE

When evicting the tenants, messengers of the court took possession of goods they deemed equivalent to the rent owed by the tenants.

Mr Pressage Nkosi of Actstop said the families started paying only half of their rent four months ago because the building was in a bad state and was used for office as well as residential purposes

He said Actstop has arranged an urgent meeting with lawyers representing the owner, Mr Umberto Frescura, in an attempt to reach a settlement

Seven tenants evicted from the residence told The Star they had been employed by the caretaker, whose name they did not know, as security guards in the building

They said they had not been paid their salaries since they were hired five months ago.

Mr Ricco Mhlophe, one of the security guards, said the caretaker told them they did not have to pay rent as they worked at the building He said they were surprised when they were evicted.

"All I want now is my money and I will find alternative accommodation elsewhere. The caretaker promised to pay us R400 per month," he said.

Other security guards evicted are Mr Dout Mlambo, Mr Henry Ndaba, Mr Vincent Ngcobo, Mr Phelani Moyo, Mr Gabriel Mhlophe and Mr Dennis Luphahla

One of the residents, Mr S Mhlangu, said tenants decided to pay R130 instead of R250 because the building was old and was in a bad state

"We decided to pay less than the amount required because of the conditions we live in here. We arranged meetings with the agent who never turned up for a single meeting."

Mr H Raynal, a spokesman for lawyers representing Mr Frescura, said he could not say whether or not they were going to meet with Actstop because he was not sure what his client's attitude was towards negotiations was

16/11/90

City block tenants evicted

Sowetan 16/1/90

A pile of furniture and a crowd of onlookers were gathered outside an inner-city block of flats in Johannesburg yesterday as police hustled evicted tenants onto the pavement.

An eviction docket, noting Mr Uberto Frescura as the plaintiff and Mr Jerry Jeffery Sithole as the defendant, has been handed to residents.

Mr Jacob Ngcobo, who lives in a one-bedroomed flat in Heathgate, Joubert Park, with his brother, said he did not know either of these two people.

Rent doubled

127

Ngcobo said he had been paying R150 for his flat under an agreement reached by all the tenants of the block.

The landlord is asking R383 a month.

"I use a paraffin stove, so electricity does not come to much," he said.

"I don't know where I'm going to go to now."

Police would not allow journalists upstairs to talk to the plaintiff's attorney, and were not prepared to offer comment themselves. - Sapa.

Residents lay down rates

Sowetan 16/1/90

(127)

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

RESIDENTS in Vosloorus on the East Rand have decided to pay a flat rate of R60-a-month for site rent and service charges.

They took this decision at meetings held in various parts of the township on Sunday

The new rates will be paid from the beginning of February.

The community has vowed to pay this ammount until the local council deals with their grievances

The meetings were called by the Vosloorus Crisis Committee following complaints from residents that they were charged exorbitant rents of between R100 and R500 a month.

The residents also resolved that Putco and taxis should be allowed to operate in the newly developed areas because of a transport crisis in the areas.

Meanwhile, the public relations officer of the Vosloorus Crisis Committee, Mr Keith Montsisi, yesterday said the residents would march to the local council offices on February 25 to present councillors with a petition containing a number of grievances.

The march will start at the Vosloorus Stadium at 10am.

Star 16/1/90

(127)

'Hitmen' hired to patrol flats, says Actstop

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Men living in single-sex hostels in Johannesburg and probably employed by private security firms, are being hired as hit squads to patrol "troublesome" blocks of flats in the city, Actstop warned yesterday

A spokesman for the organisation said it appeared incidents where tenants had been beaten up if they did not comply with landlords' demands, involved paid vigilantes from hostels run by Transvaal Provincial Administration

Disturbing indications were that the Inkatha/United Democratic Front dispute which has been raging in Natal was being introduced in Johannesburg, he said

"It appears these hostel vigilantes are becoming the third force in this city and the hit squad has already been in action in Midhill Gardens, Manhattan and Stanhope Mansions in the last two months and now Goldway Mansions on the corner of Gold and Jeppe streets, where tenants and their landlord Mrs Baby Naidoo are locked in dispute

Terrorised

"Tenants reported they had been terrorised for four hours on Thursday night by thugs who had kicked down doors and had beaten residents with hammers, crowbars, and knobkieries," he said

Fearing a repeat of last week's attack, residents were forming a "defence committee" to protect tenants' lives

Mrs Naidoo refused to comment and referred calls to her lawyer whom she failed to name

Police liaison officer Colonel Frans Malherbe called on Acstop and the affected tenants to lay a charge as the matter was "something for the Security Police"

Mr A Hartwig, senior provincial administration officer, said about 10 500 single men were housed in the George Goch hostel in Benrose (3103), Wolhuter (3131), Denver 3 521) and Master Builders' Association hostels

Most of the men hired the premises individually but some were paid for by the businesses which employed them

The hostels were policed by the TPA security force housed at Jubilee but this only applied to cases where there was internal trouble or fighting, Mr Hartwig said

Star 16/1/90

Ex-tramps aim to build new nation from SA's 'rejected people'

Union for homeless formed

By Winnie Graham

Babies are being born and reared as "child hobos" on the streets of Johannesburg.

Some people in the city have been homeless and unemployed for 20 years. between 10 and 20 people join their ranks every day.

Homelessness is the greatest builder of bridges between black and white

These are the facts Andrew Masilela and Costa Ndlovu uncovered when, homeless and unemployed, they tramped the streets in search of a job and a place to sleep Their experiences have prompted them to form the National Association for the Homeless and Unemployed, an organisation controlled by a 15-strong committee which aims at creating structures to rebuild "a new nation from rejected people".

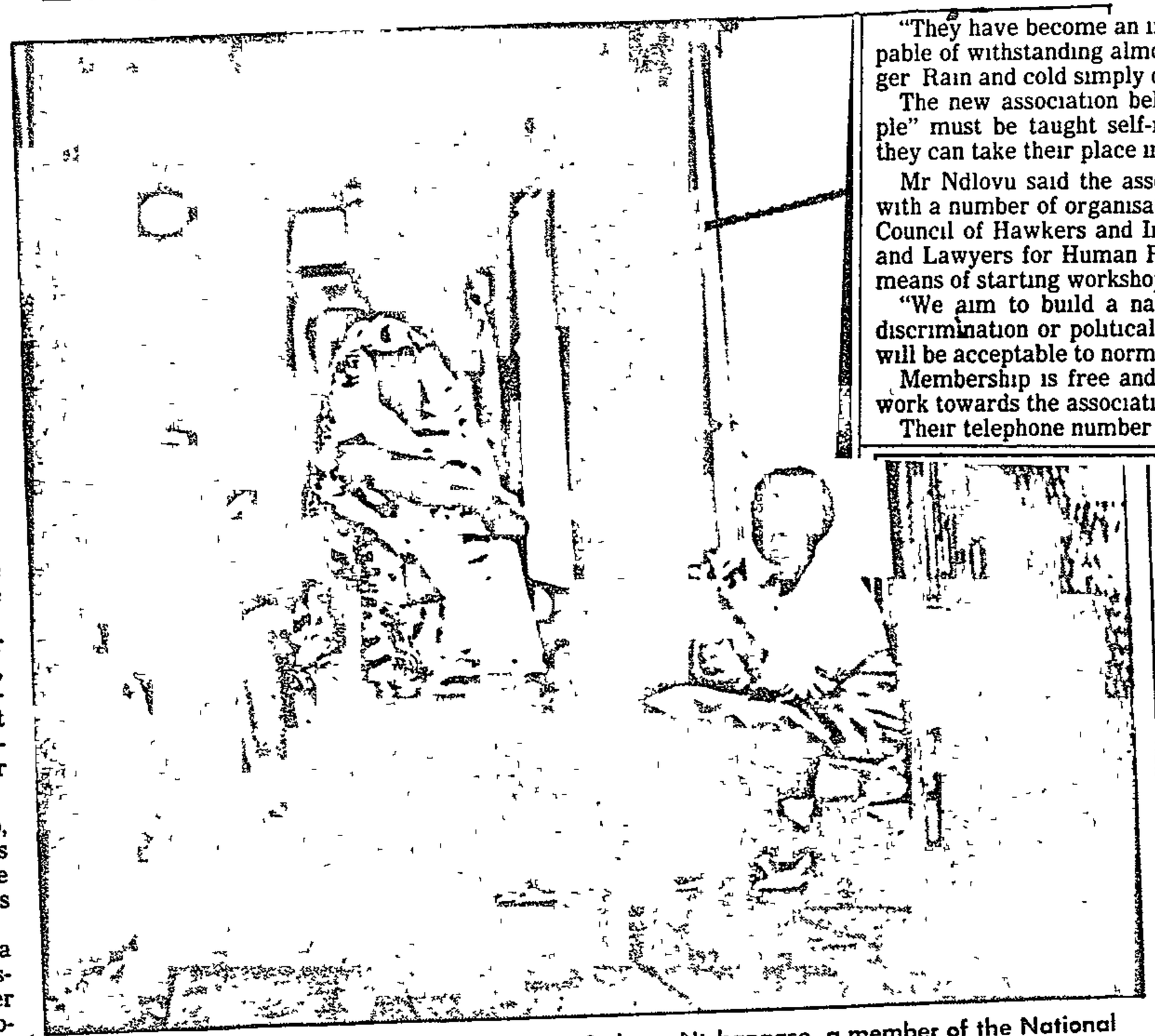
The two men believe every man, woman and child is entitled to a chance in life.

"We know our association could bridge the gap between the races as few other organisations," Mr Masilela said "We have found that people who are homeless and jobless willingly share the bread or the blanket they have — regardless of colour or creed."

Before launching their association in November last year, the two men spent months doing research, speaking to literally thousands of homeless and unemployed people. They learned that many had lost their jobs through retrenchment following disinvestment. Many were evicted when they could no longer pay rent or instalments on their bonds.

They found hobo mothers who, with no place to go, gave birth to their children in alleyways and gutters — then reared their children as hobos because there was no escape "Skokiaan" and food from rubbish bins formed their diet.

Mr Masilela said many people had spent virtually a lifetime on the streets living a hand-to-mouth existence. So-called "hobos" and "vagrants" lived under motorways, at railway stations, in the lanes of suburbs such as Turffontein and Rosettenville, in shop doorways and city alleyways They kept moving and accumulated nothing.



Bedtime . in the streets of Johannesburg. Mr Siphiwe Ntshangase, a member of the National Association for the Homeless and Unemployed, talks to a homeless person in End Street ● Picture by Sean Woods

"They have become an incredibly strong people capable of withstanding almost any pain, illness or hunger Rain and cold simply does not affect them."

The new association believes these "rejected people" must be taught self-reliance and skills so that they can take their place in society

Mr Ndlovu said the association had been in touch with a number of organisations, including the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) and Lawyers for Human Rights, to discuss ways and means of starting workshops and training projects.

"We aim to build a nation irrespective of racial discrimination or political background, a nation that will be acceptable to normal society," he said

Membership is free and open to anyone willing to work towards the association's objectives

Their telephone number is (011) 29-3918

Tension over Joubert Park evictions

By Guy Jepson

Tension mounted in Joubert Park, Johannesburg, last night after tenants evicted from the Heathgate Residence staged a demonstration outside the building

Star 18/1/90 (127)

Earlier in the evening a group of about 900 residents attended an Actstop meeting at the Central Methodist Church protesting against the ongoing evictions of Heathgate tenants which started on Monday, Actstop member Mr Moses Moshoeshoe said last night

A meeting yesterday afternoon between tenants, Actsop and agents representing Mr Umberto Frescura, the owner of the building, had not resolved the crisis, Mr Moshoeshoe said Tenants were served with eviction notices after paying only a portion of the stipulated rent

About 900 people marched from the church to the building

When the Star arrived on the scene a group of tenants were gathered with their possessions on the pavement outside Argyle Court, which borders Heathgate Residence Tenants in adjoining buildings threw bottles onto Smit Street Police were on the scene and an a section of the street was cordoned off

Mr Moshoeshoe said two tenants were arrested

Witwatersrand police spokesman Colonel Frans Malherbe last night said he could not confirm the incident

Tenants' defence

(127)

DEFENCE committees to protect inner city flat residents from alleged vigilante attacks will be established by Actstop, the organisation formed to help "illegal" tenants living in white buildings W/Mail 19/11/90 - 25/11/90

Actstop publicity secretary Cas Coovadia said the organisation decided this week to protect tenants of a Johannesburg block who were assaulted by vigilantes who arrived in two buses armed with sjamboks and pipes.

Councils' deadline expires

C/Press 21/1/90

127

TOMORROW is D-Day for the Soweto and Lekoa Councils when the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) executive committee meets to decide whether the councils have met the conditions of a "put your house in order" deadline

The executive committee's decision would be mainly based on the findings of a detailed report setting out the present economic conditions of Soweto and the best possible ways of maintaining and encouraging a better economic life for the city

Lekoa council announced on Friday that tomorrow their police would swoop on rent defaulters – a move described by residents as the kicks of a dying horse

Warnings will be issued to Lekoa residents warning them to pay within 21 days or face legal action Soweto mayor Sam Khwanazi said there were no summonses planned in his township and he was holding meetings with the Soweto People's Delegation on the rent boycott

Both councils have been accused by the TPA of failing to collect or demand rent from residents and this has forced the TPA to cushion the rent debts by providing loans for services in the townships

The TPA gave Soweto and Lekoa a 60-day deadline which ended on December 31 to collect rent and other service charges to ensure the councils could render effective services to residents

The TPA believed the more than R300 million owed in rent areas seriously hampered the effective running of the townships There were also limited resources available from the province as bridging finance

MEC in charge of local government Olaus van Zyl said a detailed report on Soweto was presently before the executive committee and a decision would be reached tomorrow

He said before that meeting, which would also be attended by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough, nothing substantial could be said on whether the Soweto Council had been able to meet the conditions as set out in the deadline

■ In November Van Zyl was reported as saying the TPA provided Soweto with R15 million for service charges and R8 million towards non-payment of rent as bridging finance for the Soweto Council

Actstop to launch mass action

Fifty-two Hillbrow residents were this week evicted from Heathgate residential block and had their belongings dumped on the pavement. Actstop, the organisation for the so-called illegal tenants living in "white" areas, resolved at a meeting this week to intensify the fight against the exploitation of "illegals".

(127) Star 21/1/90

■ Pic: TLADI KHUELE

Low-cost homes plan 'malicious'

(127)

By Helen Grange

The Boksburg Town Council is to decide this week whether to press on with a plan to create low-cost, predominantly black housing in the free settlement area of Windmill Park.

In a move to kill the prospect of the newly-declared suburb becoming an upper middle-class area, the council's Conservative Party caucus proposed at a recent meeting to buy as much land as possible to build low-cost houses, and possibly a men's hostel to accommodate black municipal employees and families.

Mr T J Ferreira, the CP chief whip, said the employees' homes would be subsidised by the council up to 55 percent — the same concession as for white municipal employees.

There have already been hundreds of applications from black council workers for housing, and Mr Ferreira said he would "personally subsidise" houses for four of his black employees.

Homes in March

He said the council had options on 12 stands and planned to buy more Up to 150 workers and their families could begin moving into Windmill Park by March.

"The Government has created this situation. Now it must live with it. And the Indians mustn't come crying to us when their suburb is turned into a slum

"I have already had several phone calls from Indians living there They must accept blacks into their fold in the spirit of Government reform"

Asked if the council move was not a forced attempt to mould the area into a black township, Mr Ferreira replied. "The Government forced a free settlement area on us"

Tremendous demand

The council's move has met with a volley of criticism from the recently-formed Windmill Park management committee and an estate agent operating in the area

"The plan is motivated by malice, and the intention is to create a slum to discredit the concept of free settlement areas," said Mr Mannetjies Ford of Ford Estate Agents.

He said any plans for development by the council would have to be approved by the Windmill Park management committee.

"There is no way we will approve low-cost housing. Our objective is to maintain the standard of housing already in existence The council can easily find cheaper accommodation for workers in Vosloorus."

Mr Ford said there had been a tremendous demand for stands and houses in Windmill Park, mostly by Indians.

Seven stands had been sold to blacks and nine to coloureds And a number of mixed families were moving in Apart from seven white families already there, no others had bought land.

"We don't appreciate Mr Ferreira trying to frighten people off their land in fear of the suburb becoming a slum. This is not going to happen," said Mr Ford.

Tukkies row over mixed residences

A group of students at the University of Pretoria were yesterday prevented from distributing pamphlets protesting against the opening of Tukkies residences to all races

The pamphlets were being handed to new students and their parents by members of the Anti-Opening Committee (AOC) during orientation week When a member of the Students' Representative Council objected, the university's director of campus security demanded that students stop distributing the pamphlets

The AOC and the Afrikaaner Student Front (ASF) have both expressed strong opposition to multiracial residences, which they say will make white students suffer

The pamphlet said multiracial residences would lead to "your son or daughter sharing toilets, showers, swimming pools etc, with non-whites'

"Your son or daughter will be forced to have social contact with non-whites," it added

It further stated that after University of the Witwatersrand residences were opened to all races, academic standards dropped drastically and now whites are discriminated against on an academic level"

"Multiracial residences mean racial clashes Racial clashes lead to a negative academic atmosphere, the pamphlet read

The ASF has requested the university administration to hold a ballot on the issue among students living in residences — Sapa

Alex plans march for third time

RESIDENTS of Alexandra township are preparing for a march and mass rally on February 3 to demonstrate to the Government their "serious grievances" about housing and the township's upgrading scheme.

Should permission for the march be refused, the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has pledged to "defy the authorities in our thousands".

Mr Obed Bapela, a spokesman for the ACO said in a statement yesterday that last year permission for two planned marches was refused by a Randburg magistrate and the Alexandra City Council

"This led to a tense situation and the detention of members of the ACO, who immediately embarked on a hunger strike," Bapela said

"We were surprised to learn that our applications were turned down We do not know why, except that the council had written an affidavit to the magistrate telling him not to allow the march as we are their political enemies

"Our people are still asking 'Why are marches allowed in other townships and not in Alexandra?' The march was, and still is, going to be peaceful We demand the right to march and this time if they do not allow us, we will defy in our thousands," he said

Replies

Bapela said applications to hold the march and rally had been sent to a Randburg magistrate, the Alex City Council and the Sandton City Council

The ACO was still awaiting replies

* A protest march is being planned by residents, of the Asherville and Masizakhe townships in Graaff Reinet for the same day

Former ANC secretary-general Mr Walter Sisulu, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches Dr Allan Boesak and regional president of the UDF in the Eastern Cape Mr Edgar Ngoyi, have been invited to lead the march

WALTER SISULU

The three men are to address a rally after the march

An application to hold the event has been made to the magistrate and town clerk - Sapa

Sowetan 25/1/90

Boksburg still to decide on low-cost housing

(127)

SOWETAN Reporter

The Conservative Party-controlled Boksburg Town Council is still to decide whether to press on with a plan to create low-cost, predominantly black, housing in the free-settlement area of Windmill Park.

In a move to kill the prospect of the newly declared suburb becoming an upper middle-class area, the council's caucus proposed at a recent meeting to buy as much land as possible to build low-cost houses and possibly a men's hostel to accommodate municipal employees and their families

Mr T J Ferreira, the CP chief whip, said the employees' homes would be subsidised by the council up to 55 percent - the same concession as for white municipal employees.

There have already been hundreds of applications from black council workers for housing and Ferreira said he would "personally subsidise" houses for four of his black employees

He said the council had options on 12 stands and planned to buy more Up to 500 workers and their families could begin moving into Windmill Park by March

"The Government has created this situation Now it must live with it And the Indians must not come crying to us when their suburb is turned into a slum

"I have already had several phone calls from Indians living there They must accept blacks into their fold in the spirit of Government reform"

Critics

Asked if the council move was not a forced attempt to mould the area into a black township, Ferreira replied

"The Government forced a free-settlement area on us"

The council's move has been criticised by the recently formed Windmill Park management committee and an estate agent operating in the area

"The plan is being motivated by malice and the intention is to create a slum to discredit the concept of free-settlement areas," said Mr Mannetjies Ford of Ford Estate Agents

He said any council plans for development would have to be approved by the Windmill Park management committee

"There is no way we will approve low-cost housing Our objective is to maintain the standard of housing already in existence The council can easily find cheaper accommodation for workers in Vosloorus"

Ford said there had been a tremendous demand for stands and houses in the area, mostly by Indians

Seven stands had been sold to blacks and nine to coloureds. And a number of mixed families were moving in Apart from seven white families already there, no others had bought land.

"We do not appreciate Ferreira trying to frighten people off their land in fear of the suburb becoming a slum This is not going to happen," said Ford.

Homeowners buckle under bond blues

Sowetan 25/1/90 (127)

Sowetan Correspondent

HOUSE repossessions by banks and building societies are running at record levels as more and more homeowners fail to keep pace with the surge in bond repayment bills caused by sky-high interest rates.

New counts taken by the Information Trust Corporation show that the number of homeowners hammered by the courts for debts on home loans has climbed to almost 18 000 a year.

Debt judgments handed down by magistrates courts in the past three months - October to December - soared to 3 256. Supreme Court judgments jumped to 1 228.

Repossessions

The quarterly total of 4484 shows an increase of no less than 65 percent compared with a year ago, when the number of legal actions on debts was already starting to flow faster.

In terms of value, the judgments covered debts - usually the total still outstanding on bonds - of almost R230 million

Virtually all of the debtors risked repossession of their homes unless they were able to reach agreement on a settlement plan with creditors.

Banks and building societies normally decline to release individual statistics on the rate of repossession orders going out.

Council agrees to discuss grievances

(127)

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia

The Vosloorus Town Council on the East Rand yesterday agreed to discuss grievances of residents after more than 20 000 people staged a peaceful march to the council to protest against high rentals and electricity tariffs and lack of infrastructure.

Vosloorus town clerk Mr George Prinsloo told executive members of the Vosloorus Crisis Committee (VCC), who were responsible for the march, that the council would discuss residents' complaints.

Mr Prinsloo said "The first council meeting will be held on January 31 We will discuss the matter and report back"

Star 26/1/90

TABLED DEMANDS

Earlier, police prevented the crowd from entering council premises and allowed only executive members of the VCC to present a petition to the council.

Residents demanded a R50 flat rate for rent and electricity and that the council upgrade existing infrastructure and provide more facilities.

After a brief meeting, residents decided to implement their first demand, which was to pay a flat rate of R50, regardless of the council's proposal to look into the matter

"We are not prepared to pay exorbitant rates. We are currently paying about R350 in electricity and service charges. As of this month we will only pay R50," said the chairman of the VCC, Mr Ali Maziya.

ANC and PAC flags flew high and residents toyi-toyied and sang freedom songs after Mr Maziya reported back to the crowd.

After an hour of heavy tension between police and the crowd, who squatted to wait for a reply to the petition from the town council, residents dispersed

Police were out in force but kept a low profile.

Prior to the march, residents gathered at the Vosloorus Stadium to listen to speeches by the VCC, local priests and representatives from the UDF East Rand Branch and members of the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu).

"The apartheid system cannot work and the so-called leaders (town councillors) continue to rule by decree. It is in the interest of every community to defend their existence," Mr Maziya said.

"We don't benefit from the economic development of Boksburg The white people receive subsidies from the State. We cannot tolerate this inequity," he said

Members of the UDF and Nactu pledged their support for the struggle waged by Vosloorus residents

Mr Morrison Sinokela, the mayor, praised the marchers for keeping the protest peaceful.

Sandton may seek 'open' status

Star 27/1/90

SUE OLSWANG

127

THE Sandton Town Council's management committee has resolved to conduct a referendum of registered voters in the area on whether or not to apply for the Group Areas Act to be amended to exclude Sandton

This is according to Mr Peter Jardine, chairman of the Democratic Party (DP) in the Sandton Town Council

Mr Jardine, who is also chairman of the council's Section 59 Investigation Committee into Free Settlement Areas, said that if the outcome of the referendum is positive, the management committee will petition the State President to have the Group Areas Act amended

Mr Jardine estimated that about 80 percent of the area's registered voters would vote in favour of scrapping the Group Areas Act

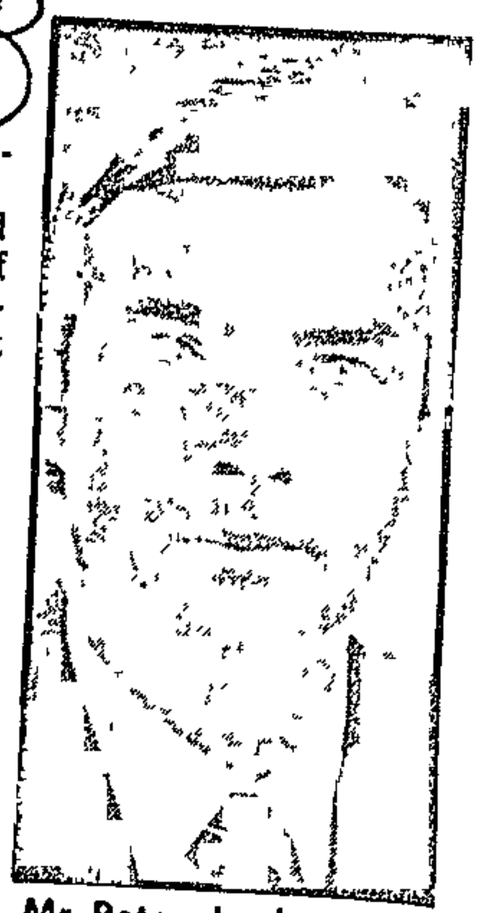
But he said "If the outcome of the referendum is positive but the petition to the State President is unsuccessful, the management committee will instruct the Section 59 Investigation Committee to hold discussions with the Marlboro Gardens management committee, neighbouring municipalities, the Minister of Constitutional Development and the Administrator of the Transvaal

"The point of these would be to examine and report back on the practical implications of whether or not to apply for the entire municipal area to be declared a free settlement area"

Mr Jardine said the council was totally opposed to.

- The Group Areas Act.
- The fragmentation of Sandton into a number of free settlement areas with an attendant multiplicity of management committees.
- The current franchise provisions of Local Government Affairs in the Free Settlement Areas Act

"The legal advice obtained and the statements of government ministers and officials indicate that there is nothing to prevent an entire municipality from applying to be a free settlement area," Mr Jardine said.



Mr Peter Jardine ... to hold referendum.

Youth taking interest in civic affairs

By SOPHIE TEMA

CIVIC matters in Soweto are no longer the sole concern of adults

A group of young men and women known as the Soweto Junior City Councillors have now dedicated themselves to becoming involved in these affairs C/Press 28/1/90

The 28-member junior council was inaugurated three weeks ago and held its first Press conference this week

Junior Mayor Jerry Moloi said his council – comprised of young people from various organisations – has dedicated itself to serving the community

He said junior councillors served on a voluntary basis and were not sponsored by Soweto City Council

"We are responding to a need in the community prompted by parental concern over the problems experienced by youth in the townships," said Moloi

"We will be addressing ourselves to the social aspects of youth

"We believe youth has a responsibility towards the community and also wants to see Soweto develop into a real city with proper facilities for everyone"

Women toyi-toyi through the streets during the protest. Pic: TLADI KHUELE.

Vosloorus stands still for protest

C/Press 28/1/90

By STAN MHLONGO

VOSLOORUS came to a standstill this week when 50 000 residents shut their homes, schools and businesses and staged a protest march to the council offices with a petition listing their grievances

Topping the list is the complaint that rent should be lowered to R50 Residents claim they are paying between R200 and R300 a month.

The green and gold colours of the ANC and placards with "Long live the ANC" featured prominently Permission for the march had been granted by a Boksburg magistrate

Grievances were about the poor administration of the township, the evictions of hostel dwellers, high rent, insufficient schools and creches, poor infrastructure, and poor medical and transport services

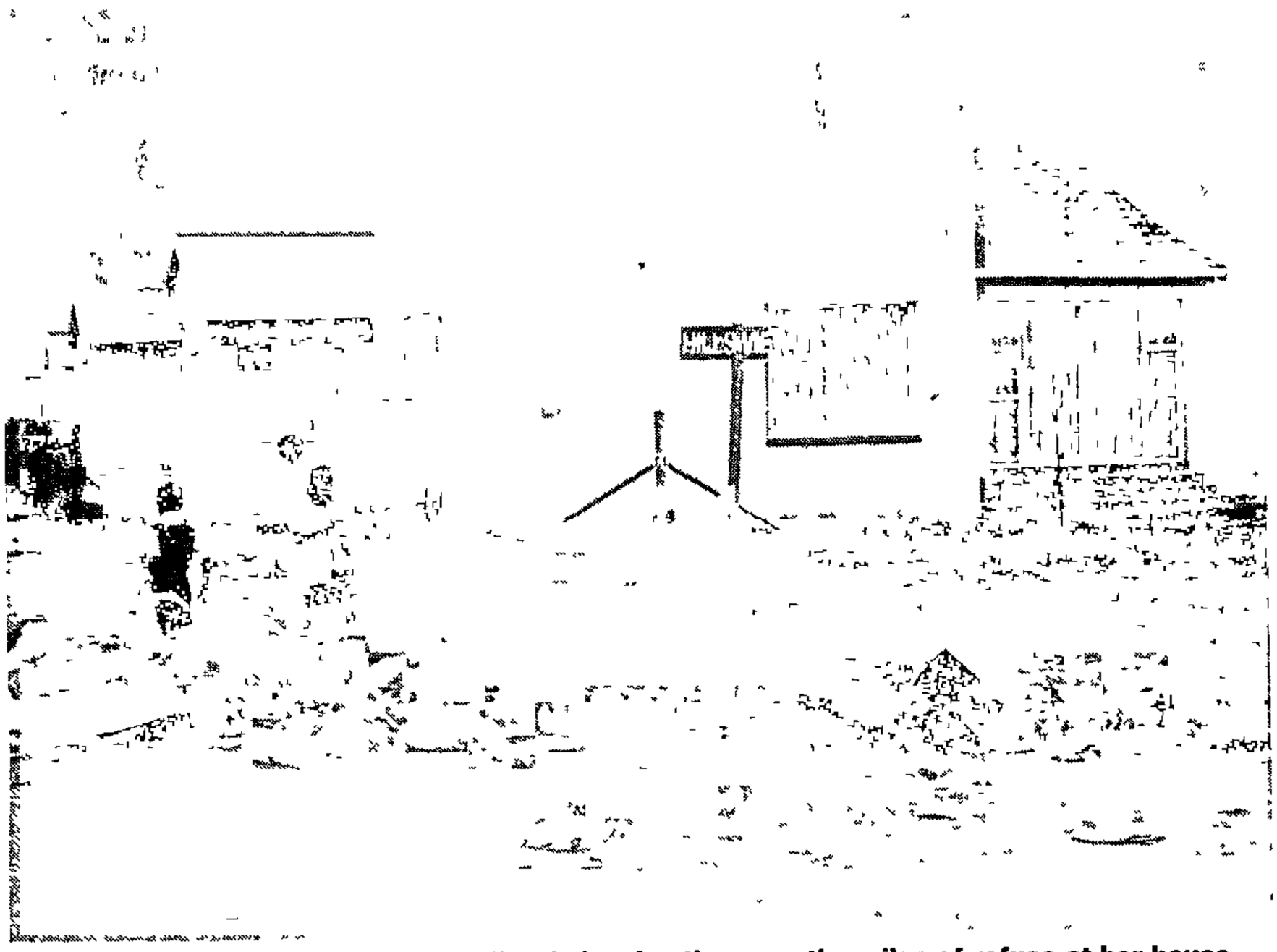
Reacting to the petition, Vosloorus mayor Morrison Sinukela said his council had called a meeting with the DET on January 19, where it was decided to discuss the education crisis on February 14

"Both the DET and the Transvaal Provincial Administration have attributed their inability to provide enough schools and medical services to financial constraints," he said

"In fact, the council has allocated 16 sites to the DET to build schools in the area"

Fears that the march, organised by the Vosloorus Crisis Committee, could turn violent – like the one in Khutsong where two residents were shot this week – fizzled out as police kept a low profile throughout the march

The issue of high rents would be discussed at a council meeting on Wednesday, said Sinukela



Sarah Mhlongo's house on the West Rand showing the mounting piles of refuse at her house.

Teacher's dream house surrounded by refuse

127

By ZB MOLEFE C/Press 28/1/90

HELL hath no fury like an environment-conscious woman scorned

Soweto teacher Sarah Mhlongo is fighting mad since the surroundings of her R60 000 West Rand home threaten to become a refuse dumping ground

The mother of two said she does not want to leave her dream house, which is currently valued at R97 000 and she says she has spent R30 000 on improvements

Matters came to a head this week when an angry Mhlongo contacted the National Environmental Awareness Council (Neac) in a bid to protect her property

The result of this move is that Neac is talking to the Kagiso Civic Association about her problem, which ended in bad blood in the neighbourhood after a court appearance

" We are not ending the matter by just talking to the civic association," added Neac president Japhta Lekgetho "The whole matter goes to the Provincial Administration (TPA) next week This is a test case "

Mhlongo says her troubles started last year when she moved to the swank "Hills View" area and a refuse dump started nearby and "cheapened" her house

This shattered her dreams of staying in her dream house with all the trappings of surburbia – neat lawns, flowers and a pleasing environment

" I'm very much an environmental person That's why those people who are dumping refuse near my house have accused me of acting like 'a white person' when I object to their bad habits," said Mhlongo

"I could not take it any longer and I went to the local health inspector and complained He said there was nothing he could do because the whole township had a refuse removal problem," she said

Dissatisfied with the turn of events, Mhlongo pressed the Kagiso council to do something Eventually in October last year, armed with the names of 10 neighbours who were allegedly dumping refuse in front of her house, Mhlongo managed to get some action

The council sent its cleansing department and her problem seemed to have been solved.

However the refuse problem surfaced again in December. She confronted a few neighbours who were dumping refuse at the open spot in front of her house and matters got out of hand when she was allegedly assaulted by the "offenders"

This incident ended in court when she brought assault charges against them

At a Krugersdorp court hearing this month, her alleged assailants were discharged

Meantime, she said this week, refuse dumping continues near her house

But this week councillor Doris Zulu, whose two children were in court facing assault charges, told a different story

Zulu said her council was aware of the refuse removal problem in the township and as a result the council last year elected a health committee to look into the problem

"Mhlongo is not the only resident affected, refuse has become so serious that our council has decided to put it in the hands of a private company," said Zulu, whose husband Anthony is senior health inspector in the township

She promised that the refuse problem would be a priority when the council resumes meetings later this week

Call for Oukasie residents to unite against vigilantes

Sowetan 29/1/90

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Sowetan Reporter

OUKASIE residents need to unite against vigilantes as they did against forced removals, the Rev Morote Makhanya of the Pretoria Council of Churches said at a meeting in the township on Saturday.

Makhanya said the unity and love through which Oukasie had triumphed over forced removal were needed now as vigilante action against activists threatened to divide the people of the township.

Referring to recent vigilante attacks, Makhanya said: "You know that some of you are afraid of your children, some of your husbands, some of your wives, and some of your daughters. The seed of division has crept in."

Oukasie, he said, was a typical example of the progress that had been made in the struggle for liberation. The weapons they used drew no blood and nobody was killed.

"The enemy realised that those weapons were too strong for it," he said. He warned the residents of Oukasie not to lay down the weapons that have given them the victory.

Lekoa mayor 'unaware' of tariff hike

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By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE mayor of Lekoa, Ms Kate Ngwenya, has asked residents to ignore notices sent out last week informing them of tariff increases.

She told the *Sowetan* yesterday that she did not know about the new tariffs, and urged them to ignore the letter while she investigated the matter

In the notices Vaal Triangle residents were warned that they faced prosecution or eviction if they did not pay tariff increases of about R40 from January 31

They were sent by the Lekoa town council clerk Mr N P Louw, to Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Boipatong and Zamdela.

Boycott

Louw said if the amounts were not paid or acceptable arrangements made, steps would be taken to recover the money and all other amounts, including costs, which may be owing to the council

But an angry Ngwenya said she did not see how the council could approve increases while the five-year-old rent boycott was still unresolved She said that, before she was elected mayor late last year, the council had approved rent increases.

But the new budget, which has been sent to the Transvaal Provincial Administration for approval, did not provide for an increase in rates

Council sources have disclosed that increases were approved at a meeting last Thursday. Councillors were divided on the issue - one group contending that residents had not been consulted, and others demanding that increases be effected immediately

An irate resident said councillors had forgotten the promises they made to consult with householders before tariffs were increased "They are trying to save face in the wake of the warning by the TPA to get their houses in order," the resident said

Vote on group areas

The Sandton Town Council will hold a referendum within three months to determine whether its voters want the town to be exempt from group areas laws (127)

Chairman of the Section 59 Council Committee dealing with Free Settlement Areas, Mr Peter Jardine said the referendum was a matter of urgency. A date will be set and registered voters in Sandton will have to vote "Yes" or "No" for an open Sandton. Sowetan 3/11/90

The council wants approval for an amendment to the Group Areas Act to exclude the entire municipal area of Sandton.

2 injured in hostel skirmish

By MONK NKOMO

A 28-YEAR-OLD man is under police guard at the Kalafong hospital after being shot by a community councillor whose family and shop were allegedly attacked on Monday night.

Injured councillor Mr Henry Nchabeleng yesterday said the attack followed an electricity power failure at the Saulsville hostel in Atteridgeville from 3pm to about 11pm. A group of hostel dwellers, angry because they could not cook or iron their clothing, attacked him at his shop situated inside the hostel premises at about 7.30pm.

Fearing for his life, Nchabeleng said he fired a warning shot but when the mob did not disperse he fired seven bullets at the group. Sowetan 31/1/90

A police spokesman confirmed that they had a 28-year-old man under guard and said they were investigating charges of public violence.

Hostel dwellers said Nchabeleng opened fire without any provocation as they passed his shop to go and negotiate with the police about the power failure.

Single tax base for Jo'burg - Actstop

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Sowetan 31/1/90

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

ACTSTOP has called for the re-unification of all Johannesburg suburbs into one city with one tax base and one democratically elected local authority

This was among the resolutions taken at the organisation's annual general meeting at the weekend

Actstop was started three years ago to fight for black tenants' rights in "white areas" and against their exploitation

Actstop challenged the Government to provide adequate and affordable accommodation for all and to scrap the Land, Group Areas and Squatting Acts "which are responsible for over seven million South Africans being homeless"

"We call on the Government to declare a moratorium on evictions," publicity secretary Mr Cas Coovadia said

"The lack of legal protection for black tenants against exploitation by unscrupulous landlords has resulted in the recent spate of evictions which exacerbate rather than solve tensions between tenants and landlords," he said

"The Johannesburg City Council has in the past two months broken its own health regulations. It suspended water supplies and created a health hazard It still refuses to enter into contracts with so-called illegal tenants We condemn its racist refusal to contract black tenants," he said

The meeting also slammed the decision of the Rent Board to "decontrol scores of buildings sometimes without application from landlords and following proper procedures" They called for the dissolution of the Rent Board and for a new one to be democratically elected

Tsakane has stands, but no money

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Tsakane Town Council on the East Rand has almost 5 000 empty residential stands but it has no money to erect houses on them.

About 4 000 families stay in backyard shacks in the township but, according to the council, 90 percent of them earn between R60 and R350 a month and cannot afford to build their own homes

Deputy mayor of Tsakane Mrs Connie Nkosi said they needed about R16 million for the housing project

Nkosi said her council could not get a Government loan because they owed the National Housing Commission about R22 m

This money was used to erect new houses in the township's Skopas section a few years ago

Sowetan 31/1/90

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Evicted tenants in pavement protest

Cape Times 31/1/90 (127)

JOHANNESBURG. — A crowd of evicted tenants, shouting and gesturing angrily at police, filled the pavement outside Manhattan Court flats here yesterday morning.

Those evicted are refusing to pay the R190 demanded for their flats — which comprise a bedroom, small bathroom and kitchen and, with several, a small balcony.

One woman, Mrs Fransina Dhlamini, who is on the Actstop committee for the area, said the rent board had told her a fair rental was R166.

The agent for Manhattan, Mr Rob Maclachlan of Letcor, said his company had taken the lease over from a Mr David Malan in December 1988.

Mr Malan had been demanding R275 a month rental.

Mr Maclachlan brought it down to R190 a month and was also in the porcess of renovating the building.

"Those who have paid or who even tell me now they will pay, can stay," he said. — Sapa

Atteridgeville to march on Sunday

Pretoria Bureau

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Atteridgeville residents are to march to the local town council offices at the weekend in protest against the ever increasing rent and evictions.

The general secretary of the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (ASRO), Mr Reeves Maditsi, said ASRO had been granted permission to hold a peaceful march to the town council offices on Sunday afternoon

Mr Maditsi said the protestors would submit a memorandum of grievances which frustrate the entire community

STAR 1/2/90

Demolitions: 4 500 march on East Rand

(127) Cape Times 1/2/90

JOHANNESBURG — About 4 500 members of the Etwatwa Civic Association (ECA) marched on the town council offices yesterday and were dispersed by teargas and birdshot, police and ECA members said.

In an interim unrest report, police said windows in the council buildings were smashed and furniture set alight

The march followed the demolition of squatter shacks at Etwatwa East at Daveyton on the East Rand on Tuesday

According to ECA secretary Mr Nehemiah Masomduka, Daveyton mayor Mr Tom Boya said he had ordered the shacks demolished

Mr Boya reportedly told ECA members he was sorry about the death of a four-month-old child in yesterday's clash and would pay for the funeral

The police report said "A rumour was started that a child had died but to date the police have no information regarding such a death"

An earlier unrest report said that three people — including a policeman — were killed and four injured in violence on Tuesday

Policeman shot dead

In Durban, a policeman was shot dead by an unknown gunman at KwaMashu and police found the bodies of two men with stab wounds and burns at Inanda

In the same area a group of men attacked a special constable and shot him with his shotgun after wrestling it from him The policeman is in a critical condition in hospital

At KwaDabeka near Durban a man was shot and wounded by unknown attackers

A man was shot and wounded at Mangaung near Bloemfontein when police used shotguns to disperse a crowd which attacked the township's municipal offices

A later unrest report, issued after inquiries from the media, said that 41 injured people were treated at the Pelonomi Hospital after the shootings

A man was injured at Batho, also near Bloemfontein, in one of a number of stone-throwing incidents

Also, "a number of houses and vehicles were damaged in various incidents of unrest throughout the country on Tuesday", the report said. — Sapa

Eviction of tenants suspended

(127)

Star 1/2/90

1/2/90

By Stan Hlophe

The eviction of tenants from Manhattan Court in Johannesburg has been temporarily suspended until tomorrow to allow the Rand Supreme Court to make a ruling on the matter.

Confirming this in a statement yesterday, SAP spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman emphasised that police had been on the scene only to protect the messenger of the court and did not at any time carry out furniture themselves, as some reports had alleged

This is a sequel to a dispute between about 200 tenants and the landlord, Mr Rob McLachlan of Lector Property Management, over payment of rent and lease agreements

Mr McLachlan was earlier granted a court order to eject the tenants because they were in arrears and refused to sign lease agreements Tenants insisted the court order was invalid and they were up to date with their payments

Police armed with batons stood guard at the building while a heated argument raged between tenants and landlord Tenants maintained that the agreement was that they would pay monthly rental of R152 while Mr McLachlan was adamant that the amount agreed upon was R166 excluding water and electricity

Yesterday, Mr Mohammed Dangor, an Actstop spokesman, described the turn of events as a relief for tenants, who would attempt to negotiate with the landlord without the involvement of third parties

B/Day 1/2/90. (127)

Group areas doubts stymie home loans

EDYTH BULBRING

ATTEMPTS by would-be home-owners — regardless of their race — to secure bonds in Johannesburg's integrated inner city suburbs are being frustrated as banks and building societies decline to grant home loans.

Although none of the institutions has a publicly stated policy against granting bonds in grey areas, they concede the status of these areas does not guarantee security for their investments

Two prospective homebuyers in the Troyeville area recently had their bond application turned down by Standard Bank, although their financial situation was found to be satisfactory.

The official reason given was that Standard Bank could not grant a loan on the property as assessed. Unofficially, they were told the area was considered a "slum" locality

The Community Development Act of 1966 declared areas like Jeppe, Troyeville and Fairview urban renewal areas, effectively freezing all development for 10 years while plans for rebuilding were considered They have since been deproclaimed

Standard Bank divisional GM of home loans Terry Power said the question that needed to be answered before loans were granted in any area was whether they represented good security The bank would be reluctant to grant a loan if there was a question mark over the status of an area

The environment, the property, the undesirable element and the crime rate in the area needed to be assessed. In addition, the bank needed to be satisfied that there was a ready market for houses in the area and that it would get its money back if the house was sold

Confidence

The same homebuyers approached the United building society to be told the United did not grant bonds in Troyeville at all When asked how United policy applied in other grey areas such as Bezuidenhout Valley, Bellevue and Yeoville, they were told bonds were granted there on a "selective" basis The uncertainty surrounding grey areas pending government clarity was the reason given by United for the reluctance to grant bonds

United MD Mike de Blanche said there was a lack of confidence in grey areas Property values were affected because of the legal uncertainty, he said The United had a precautionary attitude to granting home loans in grey areas, but this did not mean bonds were never granted

Allied Group MD Kevin de Villiers said the Allied did not "redline" any areas However, in areas of uncertainty, like grey areas, it was difficult to put a value on property. As long as there was this uncertainty, the Allied was forced to excercise caution

First National Bank communications chief Brent Chalmers said FNB was careful about home loans in unofficially declared grey areas It had to assess whether it could sell the property if need be, and would not give a 100% loan in "shaky" areas.

NBS head office assistant GM. mortgage lending Trevor Olivier said certain financial institutions had suffered losses or faced potential losses because of the greying of certain areas

If properties in grey areas degenerated, or the general area deteriorated, this would affect their decision to grant a bond, he said

TrustBank spokesman Louis de Villiers said its bonds were granted on the merit of the qualifying customer, and were subject to the evaluation of the property and/or the building plans The location of the house was not necessarily taken into consideration

Houses for ER shack people

TOM BOYA

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

THE land struggle between the Daveyton Town Council and 1 000 homeless families who had squatted at Etwatwa East was resolved yesterday.

After a two-hour meeting between the council and the Etwatwa East Action Committee it was resolved that 5 000 stands in Etwatwa extensions nine and 10 would be given to the squatters who would move there from February 26.

Apart from those "defiantly squatting" in the area, preference will also be given to those on the housing waiting list.

The mayor of Daveyton, Mr Tom Boya, said the council town planners had already started lay-out plans for the area.

Sites would be 200 square metres each and chemical toilets, water tankers and boreholes would be provided, he said.

The plots would initially be made available to people for R50 which residents would continue to pay as a monthly rental until sites could be sold to them after costs had been calculated.

The chairman of the Etwatwa East Action Committee, Mr Morgan Duze, said: "We called off the stayaway in the hope that the matter would be resolved satisfactorily.

"We are indeed pleased with the outcome of the meeting."

Boya, who previously distanced himself from events at the camp said: "I hope our resolutions will serve as an example to other interest groups to exhaust all channels before resorting to confrontation."

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Old hostel to go residential

Sowetan 2/2/90.

By ALI MPHAKI

THE Soweto city council will receive a grant of more than R1 million from the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for use in converting Dube hostel into a residential area

After investigating the viability of converting single sex hostels in the townships to flats and townhouses, the Soweto Council decided that only the Dube hostel would be suitable

It is estimated that the infrastructure will be completed in four months

Stadium

Meanwhile, the Dobsonville town council has requested financial assistance in order to improve facilities and upgrade the Dobsonville stadium

The stadium is the home ground of Giant Blackpool Football Club and serves 34 semi-professional and amateur teams

Changes to the stadium include seating for 20 000 spectators, a crowd control fence and flood lighting

ruary 2 1990

Residents of Evaton up in arms

RESIDENTS of Evaton in the Vaal Triangle have rejected the Lekoa Town Council's plans to introduce a card-operated water and electricity meter system. (127)

They say meter boxes should continue to be used. Sowetan 2/2/90

The residents voiced their objections at two meetings recently called by the Evaton branch of the Vaal Civic Association. - *Sowetan Reporter*

Township residents march for lower rents

W/Mail 2/2 – 8/2/90 (127)

By MZIMKULU MALUNGA

THOUSANDS of Alexandra and Pretoria residents are expected to participate in two protest marches this weekend to demand lower rents and better living conditions

Permission for both marches has been granted by the chief magistrates of Randburg and Pretoria respectively

The Alexandra march is scheduled for tomorrow, while the Atteridgeville/Saulsville one will take place on Sunday

According to the publicity secretary of the Alexandra Civic Organisation, Obed Bapela, residents will first gather at the Alexandra Stadium at 1pm before marching to the local town council offices as well as the Alex police station an hour later

"We will be having about 200 marshals at the mass rally and during the march The action is going to be peaceful that has been our intention even in the past," he said.

Last year the ACO failed on two occasions to obtain permission to march Four executive committee were detained when they led an illegal march in November last year

Among those who will speak at the rally will be Popo Molefe, general secretary of the United Democratic Front, Elijah Barayi, president of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, and Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela

Bapela said various community, church and student organisations had been invited to march.

Meanwhile, in Pretoria, several representatives from foreign embassies, members of the Mass Democratic Movement and representatives of church organisations are expected to be at the march

The spokesman of the Atteridgeville Residents Organisation, Reeves Mabitsi, said residents will gather at the Roman Catholic Church next to Kalafong Hospital at 1pm for a brief meeting and thereafter the procession will proceed to the local town council offices — where officials of the town council will receive memoranda on education and rent crisis

"This will be the biggest march in the township since the declaration of the State of Emergency and we are appealing to our people to restrain from any actions that shall disrupt the peaceful protest," said Mabitsi

Star Times 2/12/90

Council to sell township sites

DAVEYTON, East Rand — Newly developed sites in two sections of Etwatwa, where demonstrators protested at the demolition of shacks on Wednesday, are to be made available for an advance fee of R50, a statement from Daveyton City Council said yesterday.

The council resolved in a meeting yesterday morning to make available sites "to individuals on the waiting list and other cases on merit"

The resolution comes after Wednesday's confrontation between about 4 500 Etwatwa Civic Association members and the authorities, and an appeal to Daveyton mayor Mr Tom Boya — Sapa

STAR

March fails, commuters are stranded

(127)

By Abel Mabelane, East Rand Bureau

Many commuters in Tembisa were left stranded today as a call for a work stayaway, which was later to be followed by a protest march against the high township electricity and water charges, failed to materialise.

The stayaway call was made by a group of unidentified youths at a meeting convened by opposition councillors at the Jan Lubbe Stadium yesterday.

Residents at the meeting told the youths they would not support their call either for a work stayaway or the protest march.

The youths, who said they were against councillors, also attempted to disrupt the meeting, but left after they were confronted by residents.

Although Putco buses and trains operated as usual, the majority of commuters were left stranded and were late for work because of the few taxis which operated in the township.

The situation improved later when more taxis took to the streets after 7 am.

Garankuwa residents to march

GARANKUWA residents will march to the local commissioner's offices on Wednesday (127)

This was decided at a meeting attended by about 2 500 people at the weekend. Sowetan 5/2/90

The meeting at the Garankuwa community hall on Saturday was organised by the Azanian Peoples Organisation, African National Congress, Mass Democratic Movement, Congress of South African Trade Unions, and the National Council of Trade Unions.

Speakers praised the organisations involved in setting up the meeting for coming together for the first time in their political history.

STAR 6/2/90 (127)

Barricades set up after march halted

Youths seal off E Rand township

By Stan Hlophe and Abel Mabelane

Youths in Tembisa, near Kempton Park, threw stones, burnt vehicles and set up barricades to all routes leading to the township yesterday

Burning tyres were found on most main roads and street corners — reminiscent of events in the PWV area during the 1984/85 upheavels

The township was filled with angry and defiant youths who stood on street corners in groups while policemen in armoured vehicles and cars patrolled the area

The youths' actions were seemingly a retaliation following police action earlier in the day when they dispersed a march by about 10 000 residents to the local municipal offices

Van overturned

When The Star visited the area late yesterday afternoon, the area was inaccessible

Barricades blocked all roads A burnt-out delivery van was found overturned, blocking the main road

Youths stood at strategic points and stoned passing vehicles

When police passed by, youths would run for cover and reappear a few minutes later

The township was tense Buses and taxis were not operating and those residents trying to get home from work were left stranded and were seen hitch-hiking in an effort to reach home before sunset

Thousands of rands' damage was caused when the house and shop of Tembisa mayor Mr Solomon More were set alight, a few hours after police dispersed protest marchers with teargas at Tsepo Section yesterday morning

The protesters had demanded the resignation of the mayor, the release of detainees and the reduction of allegedly excessive electricity and water charges

Several people and a child were injured when marchers stampeded after teargas was fired Tembisa hospital spokesmen said nobody had been admitted with serious injuries.

Some time before the shop was set alight, groups of youths stopped motorists and asked for petrol

Later a pall of smoke was seen coming from the direction of the shop Residents in the vicinity stood and watched while the shop burnt

Police arrived too late to extinguish the fire

The mayor's house at Sedibeng Section was stoned and set alight but the fire was quickly extinguished by the police A car on the premises was destroyed by fire

The Tembisa administration offices were out of bounds to residents as chanting youths sealed off the road leading to the council offices, which were guarded by armed municipal police.

ANC flags

Yesterday morning's march was in protest against the high electricity and water charges in the township and claims that the council had granted 85 percent of the open spaces in Tembisa to a white developer

Several priests led the march, which started at the squatter camp near Oakmore station at about 9 am Other people joined the march as it proceeded to the council offices, where a petition was to be presented to council officials

The marchers, holding ANC flags and those of other organisations, were stopped by police, supported by members of the SADF, at Tsepo Section on the main road to Tembisa West

Claims that the marchers had obtained permission for the march could not be confirmed

Schools in Tembisa were empty yesterday with most children taking part in the march.

Atteridgeville Council gets ultimatum from residents

Sowetan 7/2/90

By MONK NKOMO

127

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation, which staged a mass protest march in the township on Sunday, has given the local city council a month to respond to their grievances failing which councillors should resign, they warned.

About 60 000 residents marched to the local city council offices to protest against the intended rent increase and the alleged misappropriation of public funds by the council. Asro also called on the council to publish a proper audited financial statement of the council which should be inspected by residents.

The council has not had an audited financial statement during the past three years.

A delegation of three people including Dr Abe Nkomo, chairman of Asro, presented a petition to the mayor, Mr Velaphi Mathebula.

Asro, in their petition, urged the council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration to respond to the petition within one month "failing which councillors should resign en block".

Sowetan 7/2/90 Page 9

Widening of street: demos on the march

127

By SY MAKARINGE

SCORES of Jabulani, Soweto, residents staged a placard demonstration yesterday morning to protest against the widening of a street into a double carriage-way by the Soweto Council

The demonstration was a culmination of a series of meetings over the last four months between the council and the residents' delegation.

In a petition sent to the Mayor of Soweto, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi, in October last year, the residents said they were against the reconstruction of Koma Street, one of the busiest taxi routes in the township, as it posed a serious danger to pedestrians, especially children.

"More lanes on the carriage-way will cause the traffic to move faster than normal, and by so doing, will endanger other road users," the petition said.

Tembisa grievances 'ignored for years'

Flare-up council's fault, say residents

Star 7/2/90 (127)

By Stan Hlophe

The trouble which flared up in Tembisa on Monday was sparked off by the town council's maladministration, housing shortage, lack of facilities and high tariffs, the residents said yesterday

They told The Star that their dissatisfaction was common to all other townships which have been neglected for more than 40 years because of past Government policy of regarding blacks as temporary sojourners in urban areas

They claimed they had presented their grievances to the council, but to no avail

Until 1987, after persistent pressure by the community, it was using the old "bucket" sewerage system Only 40 percent of the township is electrified — at an installation cost of R1 500 per home-owner — and residents are charged up to R300 a month for electricity tariffs Only 30 percent of the streets are tarred

It was against this background that the Tembisa Residents Association (TRA) organised a march to present a petition to the local council, police, and education authorities with demands that

- Affordable service charges and housing be provided
- The council gives an undertaking that it will take over the electrification scheme
- Roads will be tarred and refuse collected
- Restrictions placed on local activists be lifted and the state of emergency terminated

Declared illegal

When thousands of residents took to the streets on Monday on their way to the council offices, they were stopped halfway by police who declared the march illegal because the organisers had not been granted permission by the local magistrate

Teargas was fired, leading to at least 19 people being injured Youths stoned and burnt passing vehicles and set up barricades to all routes leading to the township

TRA secretary general Mr Pat Baloyi said organisers would stage another march on February 17, provided permission is granted.

Police in an interim unrest report issued on Monday night said police used teargas to disperse illegal gatherings in Tembisa on Monday

They said two houses, a municipal store and two vehicles were damaged by arsonists but no injuries were reported

Soweto council inquiry

By Montshiwa Moroke

The Malan Commission of Inquiry into alleged corruption and irregularities within the Soweto Council has been completed and the report has been submitted to the council (127)

A spokesman for the legal firm which led the inquiry confirmed the report had been released but the council was still to study the document which he described as "fairly voluminous"

The report, which was completed last month, has not been formally presented to the council and it was anticipated that the chairman of the commission, Professor F R Malan, would address the full council on its contents

The three-man commission was appointed by the council last year to investigate possible corruption and irregularities in the allocation of land and other council property by the previous council, over the past five years Star 7/2/90

Tembisa residents organised a march on Monday to present a petition to council authorities demanding, among other things, that roads be tarred and refuse collected.

● Picture by Herbert Mabuza

Sowetan 9/2/90

(127)

Sowetan 9/2/90

Move to flats ends 10-year misery of bus people

By ALI MPHAKI

A new era has dawned for 104 Alexandra families who have been living in old buses for more than 10 years. Yesterday they were all housed in flats thanks to the efforts of the Alexandra Civic Association.

A spokesman for the association, Mr Lucas Letsoalo, said they had identified 205 bus families but because of lack of accommodation were able to house only 104 of the families.

He said the Alexandra Town Council had initially promised them five blocks of flats but later offered them only two blocks - leaving the remaining 146 families without proper shelter.

Survey

Letsoalo said his association had pressured the council since last year to accommodate the families who could not afford the high prices of the newly built flats in the area. He said a survey will be conducted on the salary scales of the new tenants before rental of their flats can be determined.

"We are also in the process of securing accommodation for the other families who are living in squalor conditions in shacks," he said.

There was a mixed reaction from the bus people when their belongings were moved to flats yesterday.

Former journalist Miss Nana Mkhonza, who was also living in a bus for the past 10 years, said she was thrilled to be out of her leaking bus and in a flat of her own.

Advice on appeals

LAWYERS for Hum Rights said yesterday was forming a body assist Death Ro prisoners in makir fresh submissions to official advisory boa or the Appelate Div sion.

The Minister of tice, Mr Kobie Coe told Parliament week an advisory would evaluate sentences of every demned prisoner.

The National Dir tor of Lawyers for H man Rights, Mr Br Currin, said in Pret yesterday the LHR's visers would be lo and foreign law with expertise not o in the South Afr capital system, but in the application of ital systems internat ally.

Currin said he comed the ref measures announced Coetsee. - Sapa.

(127)

Wattville ready to march

Sowetan 13/2/90

RESIDENTS of Wattville have planned a protest march to the Benoni City Council Chambers tomorrow against "irregularities within their town council."

The march, organised by the Wattville Concerned Residents Committee, will start at 10am from the local Anglican Church to the Benoni City Council Chambers, a spokesman of the committee said yesterday.

Permission to hold the march has already been sought from the local magistrate and the committee was still awaiting a response. People from the neighbouring Actonville are also expected to take part in the march, the spokesman said.

The residents will present a memorandum to the council, stating their grievances which include high rents, the allocation of sites to private developers without regard to homeless people who have been on the waiting list for more than 20 years, and the lack of schools in the area.

PROPERTY B/Day 14/2/90

(127)

New all-race town planned

Reports by VAL PIENAAR

A MULTIRACIAL township, Cosmo City, could be established northwest of Johannesburg, on the R512 between Randburg and Lanseria, if a recent application to the Free Settlement Board is approved.

The application was lodged by Pretoria developer Bester Homes, which said it owned all but one of the 17 properties involved.

The outstanding property is owned by Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder

Van Tonder said he was in favour of the development of a township, which was already "imminent", but he would oppose the application for a free settlement area, since he "cannot see the sense of it".

"We've already submitted plans for a township in the area, comprising 7 000 stands ranging from 500m² to 2 000m²

"The area can carry a township of this size, and there is a need for residential property in this range. We would just have to put in the infrastructure, but this would not present any problems," he said.

The proposed township covers 1 000ha, with the Lion Park on its northern boundary It was first mooted in 1986, but was shelved in the face of opposition from local residents.

Property owners in the Diepsloot area, a few kilometres to the northeast of the proposed Cosmo City, have welcomed the application, which they believe will take pressure off them for the development of the much contested Norweto township.

Atmosphere

"The Free Settlement Board seems to have shelved the Diepsloot issue. When I spoke to them in September last year they said it had been put on ice," said Diepsloot Residents' & Landowners' Association chairman Stuart Aitchison.

Meanwhile, Rabie Properties is believed to have let its options lapse on 23 properties in the Diepsloot area, and to resist any continued threat to Diepsloot's rural atmosphere, Inanda Country Base is buying up large tracts of surrounding land

"We could see properties in the area being subdivided to 4ha plots, but most of the residents are determined to maintain a green belt," said Aitchison.

"Cosmo City is a far more logical development. It's on the planned route of the PWV3, which will probably go through, whereas Diepsloot is on the PWV9, which remains open to question."

However, a final decision on the development of the whole area would seem to depend on the findings of the Witwatersrand Development Guide Plan, which is being revised by the TPA

A reshuffling of boundaries is taking place among towns in the northwestern suburbs Chartwell and Farmall have established an independent local area committee, while the farming area to the north of the R28 — generally recognised as a natural boundary — have applied to form a rural council

Boycott of rent in Tokoza

(127)

Sowetan 16/2/90

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

RESIDENTS in Tokoza have decided to stop paying rent in the East Rand township until their grievances, which include the building of more houses, are addressed

They took this decision at a meeting held at the local stadium on Wednesday

Earlier in the day more than 80 000 residents marched to the offices of the local town council where they presented a memorandum containing their grievances to the town clerk, Mr HA Combrink

Residents claim that they are being charged monthly rents, which include service charges, ranging between R150 and R300

They are also demanding the building of more houses

President of the Tokoza Civic Association, Mr Sam Ntuli, said "Nearly all council owned houses in the township are dilapidated but we are charged exorbitant rents We demand that they should be reduced "

Ntuli said they would be meeting with the council within the next two weeks to discuss the residents' grievances

Meanwhile, the two people who were shot dead during last weekend's riots in the township will be buried next weekend, Ntuli said

The two were killed during a confrontation with the police following a rally held by residents to discuss their problems

Several others were injured.

A police report had stated that up to five people had been killed in the township but Ntuli has denied this.

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Duduza residents take to streets

Fears of CP prevent march to Nigel

By LULAMA LUTI and SELLO SERIPE

ABOUT 6 000 Duduza residents took to the streets of the dusty East Rand township yesterday to present a memorandum to Nigel National Party MP Piet Vermaak.

He was asked to foward the demands to the relevant ministers.

The march was organised by the Duduza Civic Association (DCA).

Police escorted the marchers from the bus terminus to Servaas railway station just outside the township, where the delegation handed the memorandum to Vermaak.

DCA chairman Alex Montoedi said residents were to march to the Conservative Party-controlled town of Nigel, but changed the plan when told it was feared that CP members would try to stop the march.

Montoedi said organisers conceded to meeting Vermaak outside the township

Montoedi said top on the list of grievances was the demand for more teachers because there were classrooms standing empty in schools where principals claimed the DET did not want to supply teachers.

They also demand the building of more houses for the thousands of squatter families and suspension of the R13 rent increases by the local council pending a meeting with the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Endorsing the nationwide call for the scrapping of all apartheid laws, they also demanded the release of DCA members Ben Tlatsi and Veli Mazibuko who are currently on trial for terrorism and furthering the aims of the now unbanned ANC.

Council got its lines crossed over rent hike

12.7

Sowetan 20/2/90

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents, disillusioned by the city council's inefficiency, yesterday called on all councillors to resign following secret moves to increase rent.

By MONK NKOMO

Investigations by *Sowetan* revealed the council, through its acting town clerk Mr Theo Van Strijp, placed notices of its intention to increase rent in an English morning newspaper on February 8 this year The increase, according to the notice was authorised by the council on November 14 1989

The notices were placed four days after about 80 000 residents marched on the council offices to deliver a petition containing numerous grievances, including a rent increase, to mayor Mr Velaphi Mathebula

Mathebula said yesterday he was not aware of the notices because the proposals were never finalised by the council

"I am going to suspend the proposed tariffs," said Mathebula

The Atteridgeville Residents Organisation (Asro) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industries yesterday condemned the council for proposing rent increases without a mandate from residents. They called on councillors to resign immediately

Irregularities

A spokesman for the local traders said a meeting with the council last week scheduled to discuss irregularities in the allocation of business sites was called off because only the mayor attended

Meanwhile about 1 000 employees of the Mamelodi City Council staged a sit-in yesterday morning in protest against the council's reluctance to pay wage increases which they said were promised last year

Mr R M BURROWS Why? [Interjections]

The MINISTER If hon members will give me a chance, I will try to explain For instance, it is normally cheaper to have primary school children at school than it is to have secondary school children at school Therefore if one just divides the whole sum into the number of children, one gets a distorted picture [Interjections]

I am not saying for one moment that we are spending the same amount on Black and White children! [Interjections] I am not saying for one moment that the situation as it is is desirable What I am stating is we are doing what we can within the limitations of overall expenditure We are doing what we can for Black education and we will continue to do so Over the past five years something like 13 000 classrooms have been built [Interjections] but the explosion of the classroom population by 6% per annum for over 40 years is something that would tax the best education department in the world and something that would sorely test on any budget We are doing what we can in this regard

Hansard 20/2/90

*At this stage I also want to pay tribute to the employees of the department who do a tremendous job under extremely difficult circumstances and extreme provocation, and do so with the limited means at their disposal If the other side would play their part, they would use the available schools for the purposes for which they were intended If they did not leave the schools standing empty so that they could go protesting in the streets, our final examination results would also improve [Time expired]

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

General Affairs

Hansard 20/2/90

Presidential Guard in the Comores: non-financial assistance

*1 Adv T LANGLEY asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs †

Whether the Government of the Republic of South Africa rendered any non-financial assistance to the Presidential Guard in the Comores, if so, (a) in which years, (b) what type of assistance, and (c) from the vote of which State department, in each case?

Hansard 20/2/90 B38E

†The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Department of Foreign Affairs did not render any non-financial assistance to the Presidential Guard in the Comores

(a), (b) and (c) fall away

Soweto Town Council: bridging finance

*2 Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs †

(1) What amount has the Transvaal Provincial Administration provided to the Town Council of Soweto as bridging finance since July 1986,

(2) whether any arrangements have been made for the repayment of this amount, if so, (a) what arrangements and (b) what amount has been repaid?

B40E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) Since July 1986 the following amounts were allocated to the City Council of Soweto as bridging loans

1986/87 — financial year	R69 989 500
1987/88 — financial year	R106 712 513
1988/89 — financial year	R136 801 226
1 April 1989 — 31 January 1990	R151 116 005
Total	R464 619 244

(2) (a) All bridging loans are made available against a debt-obligation which makes provision for the loans to be repaid interest free, over a period of five years

(b) As a result of the present financial situation of the City Council of Soweto it has not yet been possible to pay back any instalments

Munsieville military base. personnel

*3 Mr H J COETZEE asked the Minister of Defence † Hansard 20/2/90

(1) Whether any of the military personnel at the Munsieville military base, Transvaal, are Non-white, if so,

(2) whether provision is made at this base for separate (a) sleeping quarters, (b) bathroom facilities and (c) toilets for the various population groups?

Hansard 20/2/90 B96E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(1) No, not at present

(2) The base referred to by the hon member is an operational base and the SA Defence Force's personnel policy, as contained in paragraph 54 of the Briefing Document on the Organisation and Functions of the SA Defence Force and the Armaments Corporation of South Africa, Limited, 1990, which was recently distributed to all Members of Parliament, is also applicable in this instance

4 Dr W J Snyman — Transport †[Question standing over]

PE: name-board for airport

*5 Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Transport †

Whether a name-board with the official name of the airport at Port Elizabeth has been put up at a conspicuous place at the airport terminal, if not, why not, if so, (a) where has this name-board been put up and (b) what is written on it?

Hansard 20/2/90 B102E

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (for the Minister of Transport)

Yes.

(a) On the upper edge of the facade on the air-side of the terminal building, and

(b) H F Verwoerd

SAP/Roodepoort: renovation of single quarters

*6 Adv J J S Prinsloo asked the Minister of Law and Order † Hansard 20/2/90

(1) Whether it is the intention to renovate the single quarters of the South African Police at Roodepoort, if so, on what date will this renovation be commenced,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B104E

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) and (2) 127

Negotiations for the restoration of the building have already been conducted with the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs As alternative, the rental of substitute accommodation is being considered The matter could unfortunately not be finalized up until now, due to a lack of funds Hansard 20/2/90

†Mr J J S PRINSLOO Mr Chairman arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is it correct that he confirmed during October 1988 that his department had already confirmed in July of that year that repairs to the single quarters were necessary?

†The MINISTER Mr Chairman, of course I do not have the detailed information here with me now, but I shall go into the matter and give the hon member a reply

†Mr J J S PRINSLOO Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, is the hon the Minister himself aware of the physical condition of the single quarters, that they are actually falling apart, and if not, what does he intend doing in order to bring himself up to date with the physical condition of these single quarters?

†The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am aware of the fact that the condition of the accommodation is poor that is why I told the hon member that we are negotiating at present to try to obtain substitute accommodation in the mean time As I have also indicated, we cannot conclude the matter yet due to lack of funds

†Mr J J S PRINSLOO Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, with respect to the substitute accommodation to which he is referring, can he indicate what substitute accommodation is being considered and, in respect of that, when is it envisaged to be put to possible use?

†The MINISTER Mr Chairman, we are looking for better accommodation for the young men, and we are giving priority to this matter, but we cannot indicate a date

Munsieville military base: maintenance cost

*7 Mr J H VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Defence † Hansard 20/2/90

(1) What was the cost of maintaining a military base at Munsieville in the Transvaal

Civic group gives march cold shoulder

(127) Sowetan 21/2/90

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Katlehong Civic Association has dissociated itself from pamphlets distributed in the township calling for a march today to protest against a number of grievances, including high rents

The pamphlets were distributed at the weekend by an organisation calling itself the Katlehong Peoples' Association

The KPA was formed by a member of the local council and former mayor of the township, Mr Albert Khumalo, in 1984 as an opposition party in the council

Khumalo was yesterday not available for comment

A spokesman for the civic association, Mr Paul Maseko, said his organisation knows nothing about the march He said the KCA was still planning a march to be held within the next few weeks

Grievances

Meanwhile, the meeting which was to have been held by the civic association and the local town council yesterday to discuss the residents' grievances has been called off

The residents are complaining about high rents and the electricity master plan scheme of which they are presently paying R7 a month

They are also calling for the resignation of councillors and the building of affordable houses

Mayor of Katlehong Mr Tau Molotsi said the council can only meet the civic association next month "We are presently tied up and cannot meet the residents at this stage

Rondebosch's non-racial students' res in trouble

CAPE TIMES 21/2/80 (124)

By JILYAN PITMAN

THE Rouwkoop/Albion Road area of Rondebosch has complained about the existence of the 250-place male student residence, Rouwkoop House, which will be taken over by the Leadership Education and Advancement Foundation (Leaf) from the Cape Technikon at the end of the year

Leaf intends to use the site and buildings as a non-racial residence for students studying science and mathematics

Residents have complained not only to their local councillor, Mr Arthur Wienburg, but also to Mr Richard Todd, the national director of Leaf, about excessive noise, parking problems, vandalism, inadequate sporting facilities and the fate of four "statutory tenants" on the 1,9 ha property whose occupancy is protected by law

Legitimate

One resident says that "enough is enough . there have been too many problems for too long, and the area doesn't need another batch of students

"The area should keep its 'village' atmosphere and be upgraded by either demolishing the buildings or converting them into an old-age home."

WE WILL IMPROVE, STUDENTS PROMISE

Mr Wienburg says that while Leaf's concept is good, "the site is wrong" because "kids need the right place to let off steam and enjoy themselves. Residents have a legitimate set of complaints"

Mrs Micky Munro, a long-standing resident of the area, says that the noise from the students is "too much".

"We feel strongly that we don't want any more students here This is a sedate area, and these students have been a source of friction for years."

On February 9, according to Mrs Munro, a group of residents in the area lodged a petition with the town planner, making clear their objections to the proposal, but there has been no response.

"In the meantime some of the residents have received a form requesting their consent to Myrtle Manor being converted into classrooms.

"A reply is requested within 21 days, but there is no return date on the form except a rather indistinguishable date when the form was sent out, and only some of the residents have received a form As usual, confusion reigns."

Females

Mrs Munro feels certain other residents will continue to petition "Why can't Leaf go somewhere else?"

But Leaf's Mr Richard Todd this week vowed "We will be nicer neighbours"

Mr Todd says the Technikon had occupied the site for about 15 years and had then sold it to a developer, who in turn had sold it to Leaf

When Leaf takes over the property, Mr Todd says, there will be "less stress" because it will enrol less than half the number of men students accommodated in the past.

Enrolment will probably consist of about 130 male and 100 female students, and "women students use less recreational facilities than male students, those who want sporting facilities can use the pool and two tennis courts, or will be able to join local clubs

"As for reports of excessive noise and reports of vandalism in the area, we will do our best to prevent this happening

"Students will not be allowed to have cars and the three statutory tenants will be able to stay on for as long as they wish"

Mr Todd says that the Board of Executors has carried out a feasibility study on the site, and has found that it would not be feasible to turn the site into a park or convert the buildings into an old-age home

There are no lifts in the three-storey residence, he says, and large communal bathroom areas are not suitable for elderly people Demolishing the site for a park would not be viable, either.

Home improvement

Alex gives security to 50 000

127

THE Rand Supreme Court has issued an order restraining the Alexandra Town Council from selling land in the township - effectively granting security of tenure to some 50 000 residents.

The case against the council was brought by a resident, Mr Samuel Motboa, who said in papers before the court that his rent had increased almost five-fold since a neighbour bought the property from the council

At least 50 000 residents legally occupy shacks on hundreds of properties in the township, and some properties have up to 14 makeshift dwellings

Mr Justice Weyers did not give reasons for the decision as the town council indicated it would not oppose the court application

Explaining the background to the case, the general secretary of the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) Mr Obed Bapela, said that in 1987 the now-disbanded West Rand Administration Board previous administrators of Alex had granted thousands of residents permits to erect shacks on properties

The residents paid rent to the board

When the council took over the properties in late 1987 it set about reselling the land

"What took place was that scores of people, some even outsiders, began buying up properties and immediately began charging their tenants up to five times more than they paid the administration board

"If they did not pay up, they were evicted by the new owners and other people brought in to take over the dwelling" said Bapela

After studying their grievances, attorney Geoff Budlender of the Legal Resources Centre agreed the tenants had a case as the council had contravened special regulations affecting Alexandra residents

"The judgment won't affect other townships, but it will mean that thousands of people will now be able to continue paying the old rates for rents etc

"People will now continue paying the council the old rentals," said Budlender

Bapela, standing amid a group of supporters outside the Rand Supreme Court, said the judgment had vindicated them morally, politically and legally - Sapa.

Residents oppose tote, plan march

(127)

South 22/2 - 28/2/90

IRATE Grassy Park residents opposed to the opening of a tote at a liqour outlet in the area are planning a march and picket demonstration at the outlet this Saturday

Mr Russell McGregor, a spokesperson for the action committee, said residents would deliver a letter of protest to the owners of the outlet, the Peninsula Country Club, after the march

He said the marchers were also sending a protest letter to the Minister of Local government and Housing, Mr David Curry

Grassy Park MP and chairman of the management committee, Mr Sulaiman Ebrahim, said Curry had overruled the management committee and had given permission for the tote

Earlier this week, about 250 residents attended a protest meeting at the Grassy Park Civic Centre — the first protest meeting in the area in more than a year.

Speakers at the meeting outlined the detrimental effect the complex would have on the area

127

'Ruling affects 70% living in Alexandra'

DANIEL FELDMAN

THE Rand Supreme Court decision in favour of Samuel Mothoa in the Alexandra eviction case is regarded as a legal test and may affect an estimated 70% of Alexandra's 200 000 population.

The interdict was backed by the Alexandra Civic Organisation whose chairman, Moses Mayekiso, yesterday said: "This was a great victory for the Alexandra community and for the affordable housing campaign."

He said over 200 Alexandra residents had cases pending concerning similar resales They are represented by Legal Resources Centre advocate Geoff Budlender.

In a letter to the affected landlord, which was made public yesterday, the Alexandra town council confirmed the sale of properties had stopped.

No word about kidnapped prof

B/Day 22/2/90

WITS University's Prof David Stephenson, 46, and millionaire Zimbabwean company director Dudley Searle, 40, are still missing following their reported kidnapping by Renamo rebels last Friday.

British consular officials yesterday confirmed Stephenson was a British citizen, adding that Britain's Maputo Embassy and the High Commission in Harare were in close contact with the authorities and the International Red Cross.

Vice-consul Keith Wilson could not confirm that the kidnappers were Renamo, but added the two were travelling in known Renamo country and the kidnapping modus operandi was typical of Renamo.

Stephenson, head of the Water Systems Research Unit at Wits, was travelling to assess a road rehabilitation project near Beira. — Sapa.

Judge overrules eviction

B/Day 22/2/90

127

SUSAN RUSSELL

A MAN who was threatened with the loss of his home after the Alexandra City Council sold it to another family living on the property, had his right to remain in the house confirmed by an order granted in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday

The Alexandra City Council yesterday consented to an order setting aside its decision to sell the property to Patricia Jass, whose family is one of three living at 28, 3rd Ave

Samuel Mothoa's was declared entitled to occupy the property and the deed of sale between the council and Jass was declared null and void

Mothoa — who has lived in his house since 1978 and spent R12 000 on improvements which include electricty — sued the council when he was told the Jass family had bought the property and was threatened with eviction.

He said the purported sale of his home was unlawful and that he had a statutory right of occupation in terms of the regulations governing his residence in Alexandra

He contended that as long as he continued to pay his rent of R21,50 and his residential permit was not cancelled, he was entitled to live on the property

Mothoa also stated in an affidavit that the terms laid down by the council for the sale had not been complied with

Permit

Mothoa said the terms of his residence were governed by the Regulations for the Designated Area of Alexandra issued in terms of the Better Administration of Designated Areas Act 51 of 1963

When he took up residence Mothoa was issued with a residential permit by the West Rand Bantu Affairs Administration Board which was then the authority responsible for Alexandra

He said permit had never been cancelled

In March last year, he said, residents were informed that the council was going to sell land in its area to people living there

Mothoa said he filled in the relevant application form and was told to bring the deposit to the council offices on January 9 this year

When his wife got there with her employer they were told the house had already been sold to Jass

Mothoa said he continued to pay rent as before

He subsequently received a lawyer's letter informing him that Vincent Jass was the owner and that he had to vacate by July 15 last year, failing which eviction proceedings would be instituted

Mothoa contended he had a right to a hearing before the council

The council also consented to an order making them liable for the costs of the application

There are two sets of clues, but the answers are the same

10 MINUTE X-WORD 7536

No money

(127)

THE KwaThema Town Council on the East Rand has no money to build low-cost houses.

Former mayor Mrs Muntu Motlhaping last year said the council had raised funds to build low-cost houses and upgrade streets.

Refuting the statement as "empty promises", present mayor Mr Ezra Radebe said the council had no money to build houses.

Sowetan 3/2/90

A R15-m plan to accommodate blacks in the centre of Jo'burg

W/Mail 23/2 - 1/3/90 (127)

By HILARY ANDERSSON

A BLACK property consortium, Kubheka Investments, is trying the market road to solving the black accommodation problem in Johannesburg's central business district. It plans a R15-million project in which it will become head lessee of various Hillbrow buildings.

But the project, the first of its kind, will face more than one type of impediment.

KI's founders say they want to save their own people from the exploitation of the previous white head lessees. They intend to rent nine buildings and eventually to purchase and market these to black tenants.

But they will have to prove the investment plan is economically feasible — and that it is viable given the time scale imposed by the politics of the Group Areas Act. And there's no guarantee the black tenants will be better off than before.

The first stage of their plan, becoming head lessee and sub-letting, should succeed given the blind eye which has been turned to black tenants in central Johannesburg. An Actstop representative estimates their number at between 100 000 and 150 000.

But is clear KI's investment plan cannot bear the financial weight of a prolonged legal limit on their purchase of the buildings.

Stan Kubheka, one of the three partners in the company, said it is investigating ways of buying the buildings without waiting for the repeal of the Group Areas Act. It is well known that there are many loopholes in the Act. Kubheka rules out using a nominee.

Uncertainty about group areas could mean the tenants in these buildings would have no better prospect of long lasting, solid and secure tenancies under the new plan than they have now.

"We are businessmen, not politicians," says Kubheka — and this may be the real problem in the ambitious project.

The buildings in question are notorious for a series of problems involving non-payment of rent and bills. One building alone, Manhattan Court in Plein Street, has run up a debt of well over R650 000 in only six months.

Kubheka says his company has come up with an "imaginative but realistic solution wherein market forces determine that a fair and equitable rental be paid for each individual unit". The plan, he says, will "provide secure tenancy in central Johannesburg for our people".

A priority, KI stresses, is to rehabilitate the buildings, continue renovations and at the same time require lower rents "from decent people who will treat the buildings in a proper manner".

It's not clear that this would be a profitable strategy. But the company has put its money on the belief that the previous lessees — whom Kubheka describes as "unscrupulous traders" — extracted an exploitative profit, and a fairer deal is feasible.

KI's founders also believe good intentions and a focus on consultation with the tenants is good business policy.

Family units

23/12/90 Sowetan

THE Mzimhlophe Men's Hostel will be converted into family units, the Diepmeadow Town Council said yesterday.

A R15-m plan to accommodate blacks in the centre of Jo'burg

W/Mail 23/2 - 1/3/90 · (127)

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Dipmeadow mayor MK Khumalo . . . consultant appointed.

R39-m allocataed to council for upgrading hostel

C/Press 25/2/90

(127)

By SOPHIE TEMA

DIEPMEADOW City Council has started phasing out single men's hostels to house families who are desperate for accommodation

This week the council announced it had been allocated R39,4-million by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the larger part of the money would be used to upgrade the hostel.

Early this year the council started converting the hostel and almost 200 families have already been housed in what used to be single men's units

The people to be accommodated are families whose men have come to the city as migrant workers Provision will also be made for those living in shacks in the Meadowlands area and the council has told them to demolish their shacks once they move into the hostel

Diepmeadow mayor MJ Khumalo said "The council started with this move because it is no longer prepared to put up with the appalling living conditions and the criminal elements which are characteristic of all hostels"

A decade ago hundreds of families were moved from Kliptown after their homes were flooded from heavy summer rains and resettled at the Meadowlands men's hostel to wait for better houses

The 13 long years of waiting have seen a community grow out of filth, squalor and hardship.

Because the hostel was originally designed for single men the communal toilets and ablution blocks were not fit for use by families

The area was also badly lit and the crime level had become unacceptably high and most of the communal facilities had become a health hazard.

This week, Khumalo, councillors, the Press and members of the Meadowlands Hostel Committee inspected the area

Smells from the uncared-for and blocked toilets and damaged ablution blocks mingle with those from rotten food remnants strewn around In contrast, the area in which families live has been laid out with beautiful vegetable and flower gardens and lawns.

Said Khumalo "In order to improve the situation, the council has appointed a consultant to investigate, in conjunction with the community, ways of improving the living conditions of all people in the hostel."

A committee had been set up for this purpose and would meet regularly

Committee is formed at Tsakane

HIGH rentals and a vast housing shortage have caused residents of an East Rand township to elect a committee to become their mouthpiece during meetings with the local town council.

A meeting was held last week where more than 3 000 Tsakane residents elected members of Tsakane Civic Association at Tsakane Stadium.

A 12-member committee was elected and mandated by the community to urgently hold a meeting with the local town council on February 28, when rental and squatter problems will be addressed.

UPNEWS 25/2/90

Cheaper to share facilities with Jo'burg

The Soweto People's Delegation says it will be cheaper for Soweto to share an electricity system with Johannesburg NKOPANE MAKOBANE reports

Soweto should talk about electricity - SPD

(127)

Sowetan 26/2/90

THE Soweto People's Delegation has urged local residents to attend meetings to discuss and decide on their options about the supply and payment of electricity.

The SPD was elected in 1988 by the Soweto Civic Association to meet with the Soweto City Council to talk about the four-year-old rent boycott Since then, the SPD has met with the Rand Water Board, Escom, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Development Bank of Southern Africa

In its latest monthly newsletter, the SPD says it has alerted Escom to the deteriorating electricity problem in Soweto and has thought of ways to improve the supply of electricity.

According to it (SPD), although changing the system will take a long time, it will be cheapest and best for Soweto to share an electricity system with Johannesburg

The SPD poses two questions to residents should they wait for Johannesburg and Soweto to have one electricity system? or should they do something about the problem in the interim?

The SPD suggests that residents get current through either a consumer co-operative (co-op) or a service council Here is a brief description of each of these options:

An electricity consumer co-op can work like a civic body There will be electricity committees for each block, branch, zone, and inter-zone

These committees will elect an electricity super inter-zone committee The latter will choose an executive committee which in turn will choose a management which will carry out the decisions of the co-op members All members will have a vote in how the co-op works

Company

The co-op will buy electricity from Escom and sell it to the members The co-op will not make a profit and any extra money will be used to help it do its work better These co-ops would be a way for people to control the supply of electricity

A service council People will join a consumer association which will not sell electricity to its members Electricity will be sold to the residents of Soweto by a private company

The consumer association will try to get the company to do what the members want It will do this by meeting with the company once a year

This meeting will be called the services council Any resident can join the consumer association and there will be a membership fee The consumer association will work in the same way as the consumer co-op

The SPD maintains that residents pay more for electricity than those of Johannesburg It says the reasons are that Escom sells electricity to the Soweto Council at 9 7 cents a unit while it sells electricity to Johannesburg City Council at only 6 9 cents a unit Johannesburg can get this lower price because it uses more electricity

The SPD also maintains that the Johannesburg City Council can afford to sell electricity to Johannesburg residents at a lower price because it sells electricity to business in the area at a high price Soweto does not have many businesses

We believe that the Soweto residents will pay less for electricity if Johannesburg and Soweto have one electricity system, ' says the SPD

"The Soweto Council borrowed lots of money to put electricity into Soweto The electricity system in Soweto does not work well and is also not big enough for the township We say that residents should not be forced to pay this money back

Big march

RESIDENTS in Daveyton on the East Rand are to march in the township tomorrow to protest against alleged corruption within the Daveyton Town Council

The march has been organised by the Daveyton Peoples Delegation

It will start at the Sinaba stadium at 8.30am and proceed to the Lionel Kent centre

Sowetan 27/2/90

127

Davey 60 000 decide on rent boycott

127

Sowetan Reporter

ABOUT 60 000 people in Daveyton on the East Rand decided to boycott rent payments until their grievances, which include the reduction of rents, were resolved.

They took this decision at a mass meeting at Sinaba Stadium.

Earlier in the day, the residents marched to the offices of the local town council chambers where they had hoped to present a petition and a memorandum containing their grievances, to Transvaal Provincial Administration officials who failed to arrive.

The march was organised by the Daveyton Peoples' Delegation.

After the meeting a delegation was appointed to take the documents to the Pretoria offices of the TPA.

Shops, creches and schools were closed in the morning. They opened late in the afternoon.

The residents are demanding that rents be reduced, councillors resign, electricity be installed in Etwatwa East and houses be built to house shack dwellers.

Sowetan 2/3/90

Objections to rent increase

(127)

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Chamber of Commerce and Industries yesterday lodged objections to the proposed rent hikes in the township and urged that immediate police investigations be launched into the chaotic financial state of the city council.

In a letter to the acting town clerk, Mr Theo Van Stryp, the chamber said newspaper reports that financial books of the council could not be audited for the past four years due to lack of skilled staff, "leaves a lot of questions."

A spokesman said they were very disturbed by a report in Monday's *Sowetan* which revealed that the financial position of the council was in shambles because of extravagance, maladministration and lack of skilled employees.

Hike in water tariffs

Sowetan 2/3/90

By SY MAKARINGE

WATER tariffs will be increased by 12 percent from the beginning of April.

This was announced this week by Mr Vincent Bath, executive director of the Rand Water Board.

Bath said a typical householder's water account within the board's area of jurisdiction would vary from R20 to R50 a month, depending on consumption and water rates applied by the different local authorities.

The increase meant that consumers would from April 1 pay 52,75 cents a kilolitre — an increase of about 5,65 cents on last year's rates.

Bath said the increase was well below the current inflation rate.

nday March 5 1990

Marching in the rain

These people defied the heavy weekend rains and marched in Jouberton, Klerksdorp, on Saturday to demand the resignation of all town councillors. The march was organised by the Jouberton Civic Association which also called for affordable and decent housing. The civic association's delegation was led by its chairman, Mr Henry Molema. They also observed a moment of silence for Robben Island hunger strikers.

(127) Sowetan 5/3/90

Pic. MBUZENI ZULU

Taximen urged to stop 'war'

127

By MOKGADI PELA

THOUSANDS of residents attended a meeting in Katlehong yesterday to resolve the ongoing taxi war that has claimed seven lives and left about 50 people injured in the past 10 days.

The meeting, held at Huntersfield stadium, followed demands by the community for the unification of the two warring bodies - the Katlehong Taxi Organisation (Kato) and the Germiston and District Taxi Association (GND).

Sowetan 5/3/90

The fight between the two associations is over the use of routes in the area.

Addressing the audience, the secretary of the Katlehong Civic Association, Mr Ike Motloung, said the taxi violence started after talks between the two taxi bodies were deadlocked.

A representative of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, Mr Solly Maseko, called on the two groups to end the violence.

He said: "We would not like to see the bloody Natal situation replayed in Katlehong." Maseko said black-on-black violence was a shame that had to be discouraged. He urged the Katlehong Civic Association to convene a meeting between Kato and GND within 48 hours.

Trust launches R85-m housing scheme for poor

127

ARGUS 6/3/90

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — An R85-million housing project for the low-income group has been launched by the South African Housing Trust (SAHT)

The whole site, at Palm Springs near Vereeniging, measures 1 408ha and will be divided into 22 000 residential stands

About 4 300 stands will be developed in the first phase of the project. Houses will cost an average of R20 000, including the price of the serviced stand.

Launching the project, Nafcoc senior vice-president Mr A S Nkonyeni said housing was a national crisis with which all parties (government, the private sector and financial institutions) had to come to grips

Research in 1988 had found there were 3,7 million squatters in South Africa.

In the Western Cape, 30 000 people settled every month, and in the early 80s it was estimated that greater Durban was growing at the same rate as Mexico City. The PWV had a housing backlog of more than a million units.

He welcomed the development and saw it as a positive contribution to the socio-economic upliftment of the homeless.

He urged employers and financial institutions to be committed to the provision of more and better houses for their employees to increase productivity and stability in the country.

Palm Springs will be about 35km south of Soweto, adjacent to Evaton. The site is the old Wildebeesfontein farm

It is near Stretford station, providing a rail link to Johannesburg

End the violence, pleads community

Sowetan 7/3/90

(127)

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

THE South African Black Taxi Association, community and political leaders yesterday pleaded for an end to the violence in Katlehong on the East Rand.

"We, as the mother organisation, have made a call for the halt to all hostilities in the area," Mr Jabu Mabuza, Sabta's public relations officer said yesterday.

"We appeal to our affiliate, the Germiston and District Taxi Association, and the Katlehong Taxi Organisation to stop this senseless killing and damage to property."

Mabuza said a meeting between their affiliate and civic leaders to discuss the situation was being arranged for today.

JABU MABUZA

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, also condemned the violence.

"Please stop the violence," he pleaded.

"We cannot afford to destroy ourselves just when we are on the threshold of victory.

"We call on our people to exercise discipline and restraint.

"We express our deepest sympathies to the bereaved families."

The public relations officer of the Southern Transvaal branch of the United Democratic Front also pleaded with warring factions "to stop this retrogressive violence, cease their actions and to address the problems through the only viable solution and that is the peaceful settlement".

"The differences between taxi owners and the community of Katlehong at large must be resolved amicably through democratic channels.

"Violence can never be the solution to such differences.

"There are more areas of agreement than differences and this is what must inform our approach to our differences."

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

(1) Places of safety in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983

	(a)	(b)(i)	(ii)
White	7	491	392
*Coloured	8	700	506
**Indian	2	140	102
***Black	11	1 435	709

* One place of safety *inter alia* with a detention section for ten youths in which ten youths awaiting trial are being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

** One place of safety *inter alia* with a detention section for ninety youths in which one youth awaiting trial is being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

*** Four places of safety with accommodation for seven hundred and fifty youths of which two hundred and four youths are being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

this information is furnished as at 16 February 1990,

(2) no

(a) and (b) fall away

Universities: persons studying

140 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education †

(1) How many (a) Whites, (b) Indians and (c) Coloureds are at present studying at each university under his control,

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished? B315E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
University of Zululand	32	14	1
University of the North	36	3	3
Medical University of Southern Africa	213	105	17
Vista University	58	33	233

(2) 6 June 1989

Technikons: persons studying

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(1) How many (a) Whites, (b) Indians and (c) Coloureds are at present studying at each technikon under his control,

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished? B316E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
Technikon Northern Transvaal	17	0	1

(2) 5 September 1989

Own Affairs

Hillbrow constituency: rent-controlled premises

1 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Health Services, Welfare and Housing.

(1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Hillbrow constituency as at 31 December 1989,

(2) how many such premises were decontrolled in 1989,

(3) whether he will furnish the House with the (a) address and (b) description of each of the premises so decontrolled, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details? B31E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES, WELFARE AND HOUSING

(1) Due to the fact that *all* buildings erected before or on 21 October 1949 automatically became subject to rent control, only such premises over which queries arose, were kept on record Periodic demolitions of and structural changes to buildings further contributed to the fact that statistics concerning rent controlled premises became totally unreliable It can therefor not be determined exactly how many premises were subject to rent control in the Hillbrow constituency on 31 December 1989,

(2) 1 121 units were conditionally exempted from rent control during 1989,

(3) Yes

(a) *Address*	(b) *Property description*
Flats 1-12, 14-37, Roseneath Mansions, corner of Quartz- and Goldreich Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3869 and 3870, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-6, 101-106, 201-206, 301-306, 401-406, and 501-506, Margate Court, corner of Kaptein- and Banket Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 1321, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-8, 29, 31-39, 41-49, Emberton Court, 10 Bruce Street, Hillbrow	Erf 4007, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 17, 21-23, and 26, Soldon Court, 16 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 219, Johannesburg at Berea
73 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 297, Johannesburg at Berea
74 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 383 and 384, Johannesburg at Berea
64 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Portion A of Erf 379 and 380, Johannesburg at Berea
60 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 377, Johannesburg at Berea
62 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 378 and Remainder of Erf 379, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12, 14 and 15, Sandhurst, 57-63 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 301, 302, 303, 304, 305 and 306, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-4, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74, Kenwood Court, 86 Edith Cavelle Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 5183, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
42 York Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 679, Johannesburg at Berea
38 Dorris Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 653 and 655, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 10-12, 20-22, 30-32, 40-42, 50-52, 60-62, and 70-72, Hillsborough Mansions, corner of Pretoria and Klein Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.	Erf 4681, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12, 14, 15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-56 and 61-63, Duchess Court, 20 O'Reilly Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 55, 56 and 57, Johannesburg at Berea
31 Johnston Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1248, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 1, 3, 101-112, 112A, 114, 115, 201-216 and 301-316, Rosabel Place 62 Quartz Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.	Erf 2637, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-2, 14-17, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 51-56, 61-66, 71-76 and 81-86, Raynor Court, 87 Claim Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4534, Johannesburg at Hillbrow

(a) Address	(b) Property description
Flats 1-12 and 14-19, Harewood Court, 26 Abel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Remainder of Erf 169 and Erf 171, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-6, 11, 12, 14-17, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 51-56 and 61-66, Girton Court, corner of Lily Avenue and O'Reilly Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 33, 34 and 35, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12 and 14-22, Polana court, Abel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1466, Johannesburg at Berea
48 Joel Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 369, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12, 101-112, 201-212, 301-312, 401-412, 501-512, 601-612, 701-712 and 801-812, Avonal Court, corner of Edith Carvell and Van der Merwe Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4987, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12, 12A, 14, 15, 21-25, 31-35, 41-45, 51-55, 61-65, 71-75 and 81-85, Arthur Mansions, 44 Caroline Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3963, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-4, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74, Kenwood Court, 86 Edith Cavelle Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 5183, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-5, 10-12, 14-15, 20-24, 30-34, 40-44, 50-54, 60-64, 70-74, 80-84, 101-105, 201-205, 301-305, 401-405 and 501-505, Breamar Court, 123 Claim Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3856, 3857, 3858 and 3860, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12 and 14-19, Olivia Court, corner of Olivia Road and Fife Avenue, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 227 and 228, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-4, 11-12, 14-15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74, Curzon Court, corner of Kaptein and Klein Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3064 and 3065, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-7, 11, 12, 12A, 14-17, 21-27, 31-37, 41-47, 51-57, 61-67, 71-77, Geraldine Court, corner of Wolmarans and Quartz Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 2141 and 2142, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-4, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64, 71-74 and 81-85, Montgomery Mansions, corner of Lily Avenue and Soper Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 131 and 132, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 1-12 and 14-41, Pall Mall Court, 22 Abel Road, Berea, Johannesburg.	Erven 173, 175 and 176, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-7, 11, 12, 14-18, 21-27, 31-37, 41-47, 51-57 and 61-67, Guildford Court, corner of Abel Road and Tudhope Avenue, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 151, 153 and 154, Johannesburg at Berea

(a) Address	(b) Property description
Flats 1-12 and 14-31, Kings Norton, corner of Soper and fife Avenue, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 91 and 92, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12 and 14-56, Lorna Court, corner of Twist and Wolmarans Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 2132 and 2133, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
83 and 83A Banket Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3254 and 3155, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12 and 14-28, Clive Mansions, 27 East Avenue, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4026, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12, 12A and 14-42, Manley Court, 4 Goldreich Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3898, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
60 Mitchell Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 1090 and 1091, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 31-33, 41-43, 51-53 and 61-63, Millson House, 106A Twist Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3621, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-11 and 14-28, Marina Court, corner of Tudhope Avenue and Soper Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 113, 114 and 117, Johannesburg at Berea
28 Mitchell Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1009, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12 and 14, Dunvista Mansions, 70 Banket Street, Johannesburg	Erven 3123, 3124 and 3125, Johannesburg
Flats 1-12 and 14-16, Grasmere Court, corner of Twist and Caroline Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3914 and 3915, Johannesburg at Hillbrow

National Senior Certificate examinations: results

4 Mr J H MOMBERG asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) How many pupils at schools falling under the control of his Department (a)(i) passed, (ii) failed and (iii) obtained matriculation exemption and (b) wrote the matriculation examinations in the 1989 National Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1989,

(2) how many of these pupils obtained (a) A, (b) B, (c) C, (d) D, (e) E, (f) F and (g) other aggregate symbols in the 1989 matriculation examinations,

(3) how many of these pupils passed in (a) Mathematics and (b) Physical Science in the above-mentioned year?

Hansard 7/3/90 B113E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) (a) (i) 790
(ii) 1 166
(iii) 346,
(b) 1 950,

(2) (a) 9
(b) 68
(c) 257
(d) 528
(e) 624
(f) 94
(g) 91,

(3) (a) 491
(b) 245

Shelters for battered women

14 Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of Health Services, Welfare and Housing

Whether his Department is responsible for any shelters for battered women in (a) Cape Town, (b) Durban, (c) Johannesburg, (d) Bloemfon-

Hansard 7/3/90

Residents to march on council

127

RESIDENTS of Katlehong on the East Rand will today march to the council's offices to receive a reply to a petition handed to the council last week.

Katlehong Civic Association spokesman Mr Paul Maseko said the march would start at Huntersfield Stadium at 10am.

Sowetan 7/3/90

Maseko also said the latest developments in the the ongoing taxi war would also be addressed

Residents' grievances include the housing shortage and high rents.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

Hansard 7/3/90

(1) Places of safety in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983

	(a)	(b)(i)	(ii)
White	7	491	392
*Coloured	8	700	506
**Indian	2	140	102
***Black	11	1 435	709

* One place of safety *inter alia* with a detention section for ten youths in which ten youths awaiting trial are being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

** One place of safety *inter alia* with a detention section for ninety youths in which one youth awaiting trial is being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

*** Four places of safety with accommodation for seven hundred and fifty youths of which two hundred and four youths are being held in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977

this information is furnished as at 16 February 1990,

(2) no

(a) and (b) fall away

Universities: persons studying

140. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education †

Hansard 7/3/90

(1) How many (a) Whites, (b) Indians and (c) Coloureds are at present studying at each university under his control,

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished? B315E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
University of Zululand	32	14	1
University of the North	36	3	3
Medical University of Southern Africa	213	105	17
Vista University	58	33	233

(2) 6 June 1989.

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(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

Hansard 7/3/90 B316E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
Technikon Northern Transvaal	17	0	1

(2) 5 September 1989

Own Affairs

Hillbrow constituency: rent-controlled premises

1 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Health Services, Welfare and Housing (127)

(1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Hillbrow constituency as at 31 December 1989;

(2) how many such premises were decontrolled in 1989,

(3) whether he will furnish the House with the (a) address and (b) description of each of the premises so decontrolled, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

Hansard 7/3/90 B31E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES, WELFARE AND HOUSING

(1) Due to the fact that *all* buildings erected before or on 21 October 1949 automatically became subject to rent control, only such premises over which queries arose, were kept on record Periodic demolitions of and structural changes to buildings further contributed to the fact that statistics concerning rent controlled premises became totally unreliable. It can therefor not be determined exactly how many premises were subject to rent control in the Hillbrow constituency on 31 December 1989,

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(127)

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Flats 1-8, 29, 31-39, 41-49, Emberton Court, 10 Bruce Street, Hillbrow	Erf 4007, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 17, 21-23, and 26, Soldon Court, 16 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 219, Johannesburg at Berea
73 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 297, Johannesburg at Berea.
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64 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Portion A of Erf 379 and 380, Johannesburg at Berea
60 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 377, Johannesburg at Berea
62 Joel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 378 and Remainder of Erf 379, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12, 14 and 15, Sandhurst, 57-63 Olivia Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 301, 302, 303, 304, 305 and 306, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-4, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74, Kenwood Court, 86 Edith Cavelle Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.	Erf 5183, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
42 York Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 679, Johannesburg at Berea
38 Dorris Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 653 and 655, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 10-12, 20-22, 30-32, 40-42, 50-52, 60-62, and 70-72, Hillsborough Mansions, corner of Pretoria and Klein Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4681, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.
Flats 1-12, 14, 15, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-56 and 61-63, Duchess Court, 20 O'Reilly Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 55, 56 and 57, Johannesburg at Berea.
31 Johnston Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1248, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1, 3, 101-112, 112A, 114, 115, 201-216 and 301-316, Rosabel Place 62 Quartz Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.	Erf 2637, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.
Flats 1-2, 14-17, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 51-56, 61-66, 71-76 and 81-86, Raynor Court, 87 Claim Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4534, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.

(a) Address	(b) Property description
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Flats 1-6, 11, 12, 14-17, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 51-56 and 61-66, Girton Court, corner of Lily Avenue and O'Reilly Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 33, 34 and 35, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 1-12 and 14-22, Polana court, Abel Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1466, Johannesburg at Berea
48 Joel Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 369, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 1-12, 101-112, 201-212, 301-312, 401-412, 501-512, 601-612, 701-712 and 801-812, Avonal Court, corner of Edith Carvell and Van der Merwe Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4987, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12, 12A, 14, 15, 21-25, 31-35, 41-45, 51-55, 61-65, 71-75 and 81-85, Arthur Mansions, 44 Caroline Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3963, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
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Flats 1-5, 10-12, 14-15, 20-24, 30-34, 40-44, 50-54, 60-64, 70-74, 80-84, 101-105, 201-205, 301-305, 401-405 and 501-505, Breamar Court, 123 Claim Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3856, 3857, 3858 and 3860, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12 and 14-19, Olivia Court, corner of Olivia Road and Fife Avenue, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 227 and 228, Johannesburg at Berea.
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Flats 1-4, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64, 71-74 and 81-85, Montgomery Mansions, corner of Lily Avenue and Soper Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 131 and 132, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 1-12 and 14-41, Pall Mall Court, 22 Abel Road, Berea, Johannesburg.	Erven 173, 175 and 176, Johannesburg at Berea
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Flats 1-12 and 14-56, Lorna Court, corner of Twist and Wolmarans Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 2132 and 2133, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
83 and 83A Banket Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3254 and 3155, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-12 and 14-28, Clive Mansions, 27 East Avenue, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 4026, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.
Flats 1-12, 12A and 14-42, Manley Court, 4 Goldreich Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3898, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.
60 Mitchell Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 1090 and 1091, Johannesburg at Berea.
Flats 31-33, 41-43, 51-53 and 61-63, Millson House, 106A Twist Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erf 3621, Johannesburg at Hillbrow
Flats 1-11 and 14-28, Marina Court, corner of Tudhope Avenue and Soper Road, Berea, Johannesburg	Erven 113, 114 and 117, Johannesburg at Berea
28 Mitchell Street, Berea, Johannesburg	Erf 1009, Johannesburg at Berea
Flats 1-12 and 14, Dunvista Mansions, 70 Banket Street, Johannesburg	Erven 3123, 3124 and 3125, Johannesburg
Flats 1-12 and 14-16, Grasmere Court, corner of Twist and Caroline Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg	Erven 3914 and 3915, Johannesburg at Hillbrow.

National Senior Certificate examinations: results

4 Mr J H MOMBERG asked the Minister of Education and Culture.

(1) How many pupils at schools falling under the control of his Department (a)(i) passed, (ii) failed and (iii) obtained matriculation exemption and (b) wrote the matriculation examinations in the 1989 National Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1989,

(2) how many of these pupils obtained (a) A, (b) B, (c) C, (d) D, (e) E, (f) F and (g) other aggregate symbols in the 1989 matriculation examinations;

(3) how many of these pupils passed in (a) Mathematics and (b) Physical Science in the above-mentioned year?

Hansard 7/3/90 B113E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE.

(1) (a) (i) 790
(ii) 1 166
(iii) 346,
(b) 1 950,
(2) (a) 9
(b) 68
(c) 257
(d) 528
(e) 624
(f) 94
(g) 91,
(3) (a) 491
(b) 245

Shelters for battered women

14. Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of Health Services, Welfare and Housing:

Whether his Department is responsible for any shelters for battered women in (a) Cape Town, (b) Durban, (c) Johannesburg, (d) Bloemfon-

Hansard 7/3/90

Katlehong residents in protest over rates

B/Day 8/3/90 DANIEL FELDMAN 127

VIOLENCE broke out when about 75 000 residents of Katlehong township on the East Rand held a mass rally and march yesterday to protest against high rent and electricity rates, as well as the recent violence between rival taxi groups.

An interim police report said 28 people had been injured and admitted to Natalsprult Hospital after police used shotguns to disperse the crowd. Others were injured when police fired teargas.

Police surrounded the township.

Community leaders later rejected as insufficient a cut in electricity tariffs announced by the town council after the march.

Though relatively peaceful, the situation remained tense. Residents carried petrol bombs and an assortment of weapons.

The crowd first marched to the Administration Board office to deliver a petition calling for lower rates and then moved on to Huntersfield Stadium

Speakers from the Katlehong Civic Association's Crisis Committee, Cosatu and the NUM addressed the crowd.

The town council said they would reduce electricity rates to R5,84 per month from the current R30-R40.

However, rents would stay at R53 per month. Residents pay rent for services which include electricity and sanitation, even though most areas of the town have neither of these facilities. The council promised to supply electricity by 1991

Community leader the Rev Israel Klouway said. "The council's reply was very unsatisfactory. It doesn't meet any of the needs of the residents of Katlehong."

Residents would refuse to pay their rents until policy was changed Klouway called on the council to resign.

Residents were also protesting against recent violence caused by the feud between two rival taxi groups, the Germiston & District Taxi Association and the Katlehong Taxi Organisation. On Tuesday, six pupils and teachers were killed and more than 80 others injured when the taxi feud spilled into school yards

Sapa reported that the SA Black Taxi Association (Sabta) issued a statement saying it "abhorred the wanton destruction of property and senseless killings that have taken place in Katlehong"

Sabta suspended the Germiston & District Taxi Association and announced the appointment of a one-man commission to investigate the violence

No taxis were operating in the area yesterday.

Stores and other facilities were closed.

NATAL UNREST DEATHS

September 1987 — January 1989:	668
February 1989 — March 6 1990:	671
Past 24 hours' official toll:	1
TOTAL:	1 340

Council 2 resign after demands

(127)

ABOUT 20 000 people who gathered peacefully at the Tsakane Stadium yesterday heard that their demands for all Tsakane's town councillors to quit had brought about the resignations of two.

Sowetan 12/3/90

Tsakane town councillors Mr P Tsokodibane and Mr Lucky Ngobene bowed to pressure to resign after the people's demands were presented to the local administration offices, Tsakane Civic Association Mr Koos Mabiletse said after yesterday's meeting.

He said residents had mandated the Tsakane Civic Association to present to the council a set of resolutions related to community grievances concerning maladministration, inadequate services, rents and housing.

No violent incidents were reported at the rally.

People dispersed peacefully at the request of organisers, Mabiletse said.

Another peaceful mass protest action was being planned for Wednesday by the Tsakane Civic Association.

(2) Yes.

(3) No

A decision will be taken as soon as the investigation has been completed

(4) No

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Soweto houses

15 Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs †

(1) (a) How many houses were originally intended to be sold to Black persons inSoweto and (b) how many of these houses are still unsold,

(2) (a) what total amount is in arrears in respect of the houses that have been sold and (b) what percentage does this represent of the original amount due,

(3) in respect of what dates is this information furnished?

Hansard 14/3/90 3 127

B39E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) (a) 72 521

(b) 46 470

(2) (a) R7 230 777,72

(b) 36,26%

(3) Question One 31/1/90

Question Two 31/12/89

Public service: persons employed

17 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister for Administration and Privatisation

(1) What was the total number of persons employed in each department and organizational component referred to in section 6(1) of the Public Service Act, No 111 of 1984, as at 30 September 1989,

(2) (a) how many such persons were employed in each of the following eight salary intervals in each such department and organizational component, viz (i) more than R165 000, (ii) R120 001 to R165 000, (iii) R110 001 to R120 000, (iv) R87 001 to R110 000, (v) R74 001 to R87 000, (vi) R49 001 to R74 000, (vii) R38 001 to R49 000 and (viii) R29 001 to R38 000 and (b) to which population group did each of these persons belong?

Hansard 14/3/90

B42E

The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PRIVATISATION

According to particulars supplied by the relevant departements and organizational components,the figures are as follows

Aministration House of Delegates

(1) 16 023

(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	1	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	1	0
(iii)	0	0	0	0
(iv)	2	0	2	0
(v)	6	0	5	0
(vi)	49	0	687	0
(vii)	31	0	1 665	0
(viii)	48	1	2 811	0

Administration House of Representatives

(1) 60 060

(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	1	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	0	1	0	0
(iv)	4	5	1	0
(v)	16	2	1	0
(vi)	271	1 436	19	0
(vii)	274	2 051	19	0
(viii)	669	4 038	33	2

(2) Yes

(3) No

A decision will be taken as soon as the investigation has been completed

(4) No

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

or written reply

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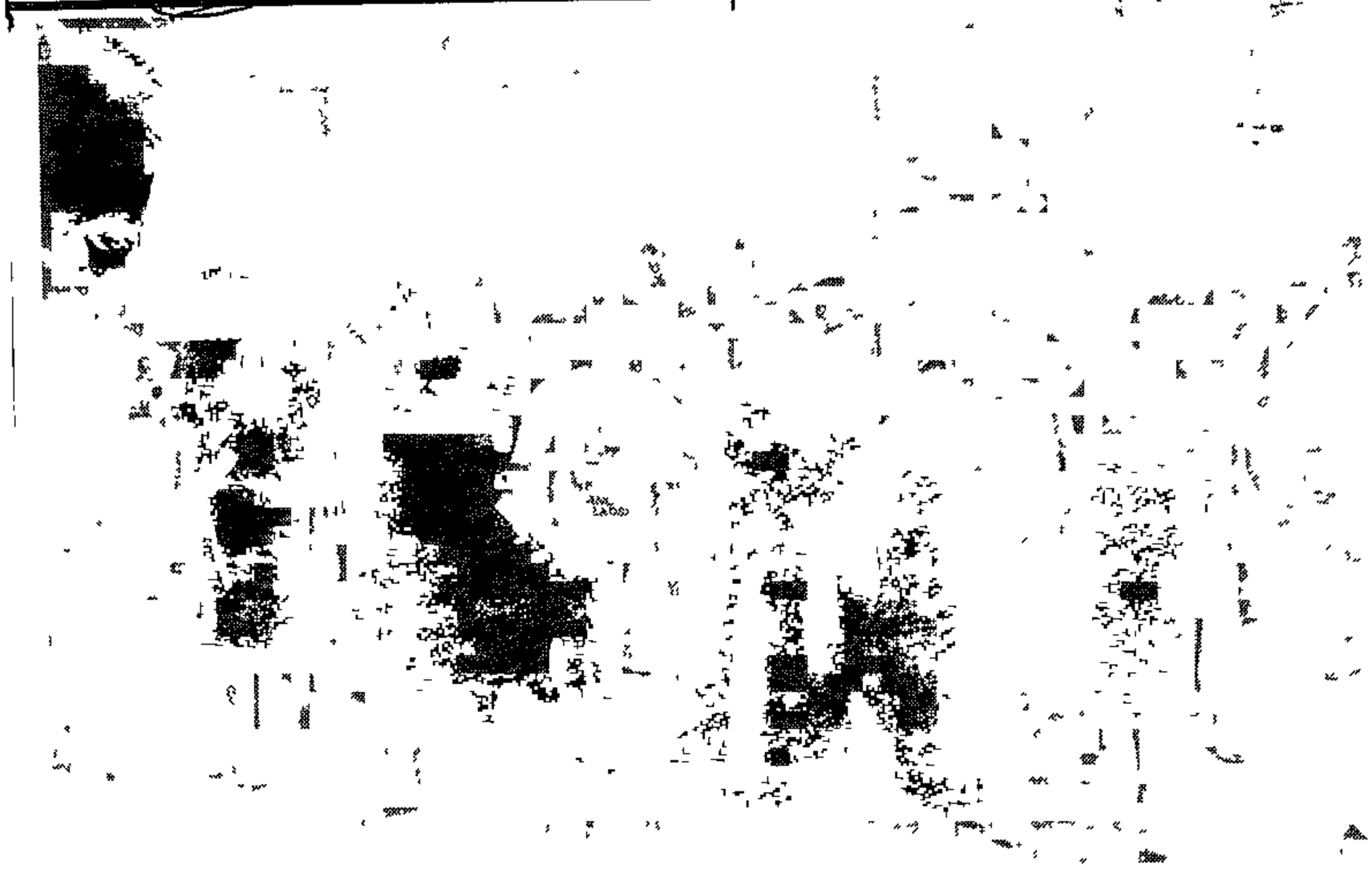
(iv)	4	5	1	0
(v)	16	2	1	0
(vi)	271	1 436	19	0
(vii)	274	2 051	19	0
(viii)	669	4 038	33	2

Sowetan 13/3/90 (127)



Arm in arm.... Recently released political prisoner Barbara Hogan and Sister Bernard Ncube lead a march to the Munsieville Town Council offices on the West Rand as African National Congress and South African Communist Party flags fly in the background.
Pic: JOE MOLEFE

Hogan leads demos in W Rand march

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

RECENTLY released ANC member Barbara Hogan and several civic leaders led a peaceful protest march to the Munsieville Town Council yesterday.

More than 3 000 people heeded a call for a stayaway and gathered at a local soccer field to hear speaker after speaker condemn apartheid and its government-created town councils.

Groups of youths dressed in ANC colours waved the green, black and gold banner and the red South African Communist Party flags flew high.

Riot and security police kept a low profile while marshalls controlled the crowd through the streets of the West Rand township.

However, security police filmed the procession from time to time while riot police vans drove freely among the toyi-toying crowd.

A delegation of civic leaders including Ms Hogan, handed a memorandum to the acting town clerk, Mr Riaan van Vuuren.

He acknowledged by signing the petition and announced that he would reply in writing by May 12.

Other community demands included the immediate resignation of the town council and proper houses.

Residents also requested the Government to speed-up the building of schools still under construction to be ready for use by the end of April.

Community leaders appealed to a ululating crowd to disperse peacefully and be disciplined in their actions.

The march was organised by the Munsieville Youth Congress, Munseville Parents and Teachers Association and the Munseville Women Organisation.

Local body quits

South 15/3 - 21/3/90 127

By REHANA ROSSOUW

THE resignation of the Reiger Park, Johannesburg management committee last week has been hailed as a "bloodless coup" and could herald the end of this system in other parts of the country, say activists in the area.

For the past two years, the Save Boksburg Committee has been involved in a feud with the Conservative Party-controlled town council.

They have challenged the council's attempts to apply the Separate Amenities Act and the Group Areas Act through actions such as consumer boycotts and picnics, and marches at whites-only facilities.

"Although it started off as a campaign against the town council, the Committee grew, and we began to include other demands, such as the resignation of the management committee of Reiger Park," said a spokesperson for the Save Boksburg Committee, Mr Henry Jeffreys

"We began working around civic issues such as housing We called for their resignations on every platform "

Jeffreys said the campaign against the management committee intensified when the committee questioned the allocation of 320 new houses in Reiger Park

People who had been on the waiting list were not given houses, while others moved in. The community marched to the house of the chairperson of the management committee and demanded that he call a meeting to explain how houses were allocated.

Last Tuesday, the management committee met and decided to resign. Committee members called a public meeting on Thursday to explain their decision to the community

"About 800 people attended the meeting They would not allow the management committee members to speak but booed them and threw tomatoes at them," Jeffreys said.

"They would allow only our speakers to address them. We stood up, declared the resignations a victory for the people, called for one town, one town council, and left the meeting "

Jeffreys said the people of Reiger Park found the system of management committees "objectionable" and a major stumbling block in the progress of change

He said since the meeting last Thursday, members of the committee had received telephone calls from people all over the country who wanted advice to get rid of their management committees.

"Ours was a bloodless coup, and we hope that it signals the beginning of the end for management committees all over the country," Jeffreys said

"Our demand is that the town council should accept Reiger Park representatives and reincorporate Vosloorus, the African township, into Boksburg "

A spokesman for the Reiger Park management committee, Mr Boets Jantjies, said the resignation had nothing to do with the allocation of housing

"From the time we were elected, we said publicly our first priority was that this was going to be the last management committee Reiger Park ever had," said Jantjies.

"We resigned because we want one management committee for one town council in Boksburg .

"The CP town council went against everything we decided, forcing their ideology down our throats.

"We have a message for other management committees pack up and get out The longer you sit there, the longer the government will drag its feet "

Tsakane rent boycott

(127)

MORE than 150 000 people in Tsakane on the East Rand yesterday decided to boycott rent and service charges Sowetan 15/3/90.

They took this decision at the Tsakane Stadium after they had presented a memorandum to the local town council containing their grievances.

Police kept a low profile and no incidents were reported - *Sowetan Reporter*

The capital of apartheid, where a black man can't buy a book

127

W/Mail 16/3 - 22/3/90

There's a quaint, feel about the rural town of Morgenzon The buildings are old-fashioned and the residents dress in the clothes of yester-year. But there is something strange here . . almost everyone is white.

PHILIPPA GARSON reports

MORGENZON is so small that a traveller passing through would barely notice its existence, let alone recognise it as the capital city of the proclaimed *Boerestaat* many Afrikaners see as their last vestige of hope

A few old-fashioned houses and shops, a post office, police station, church, a couple of banks and garages comprise the small Eastern Transvaal town which superficially resembles so many other tiny South African *dorpe*

But on closer look, Morgenzon is a unique place there are few blacks and many of the white residents seem preoccupied with their own make-believe world They wear conservative, simple clothes — men in khaki casual suits and felt hats and women in dated cotton dresses Some are overly friendly, others blatantly hostile, but all are painfully aware of passing visitors who do not belong there

The public toilet at one garage is decorated with doilies, lacy curtains and a sackcloth *boere*-doll which graces a shelf above the basin like a shrine

The dominant shop in the town is a *boekwinkel* which not only sells books such as *Witman waar is jou vryheid?* (White man where is your freedom?) but braaivleis sets, potjiekos pots and busts of the architect of apartheid, Hendrik Verwoerd But more important, this shop is the office of the Vereeniging van Oranjewerkers, an organisation of Afrikaners who came to Morgenzon four years ago to establish their own self-sufficient homeland

The office resembles a museum, with plaques, maps of the "homeland", portraits and statuettes of their hero Verwoerd and pictures of ox-wagons on the wall

Verwoerd's son, who has inherited not only his father's first name but the same piercing blue eyes, is a director of the organisation. He is 49 and married with five children

Though Verwoerd was preoccupied this week with trying to spur the police into taking action against squatters at the nearby township of Savukile — who the Oranjewerkers say are stealing zinc sheeting from their *veeshuis* where they annually commemorate "the Day of the Vow" on December 16 — he was only too willing to talk about the Oranjewerkers' mission, and agreed to do so in English

He says the idea of a separate homeland for whites began in the 1970s, when Afrikaners began to feel overwhelmed by the black majority.

Acting mayor ... Sibeko

Like father like son ... Verwoerd

"Despite being deeply involved in the economic structure, in the social sense, they (blacks) started more and more to create their own atmosphere in the streets, in the shops, in daily life and Afrikaners began to feel like strangers in their own country"

The Oranjewerkers believe there are only two options total racial integration without apartheid, or total separation. They opted for the latter because they felt they would otherwise "be absorbed in the long run"

Verwoerd practiced as a missionary among Sotho people in northern Lebowa for 10 years He felt "their culture" to be a "stabilising factor in community life" and this strengthened his desire for the same situation for Afrikaners

He then joined the South African Bureau of Racial Affairs in 1975, which developed the idea of a separate homeland for Afrikaners

Officially formed in 1980, the organisation set out to put this ideal of carving out an "exclusive geographical area for our people" into practice

One of the key principles of the Oranjewerkers is doing without black labour

"We chose Morgenzon because one can farm cattle, sheep, maize and sunflowers, which are not labour intensive

"Also, it is very central to a large part of the country, where blacks were not present historically," he said

This includes the Eastern Transvaal and the Northern Free State which these Afrikaner fundamentalists would like to colonise as their own It is also an area rich in coal mines, electricity power stations and Sasol plants These industries, says Verwoerd are not particularly labour intensive

children) — a third of the tiny white Morgenzon population Other sources say there are far fewer Oranjewerkers in the region. Verwoerd stresses, however, that though their numbers are small, the "character of the community" has changed considerably

Initially Morgenzon residents resisted the newcomers and were particularly against the idea of sacrificing black labour, but now, says Verwoerd, the tiny dorp has settled down

Most of the Morgenzon members are academics, and though whites have been known to work for them, Verwoerd says the approach is "to do the work ourselves"

The Oranjewerkers are hoping to attract disillusioned white workers to Morgenzon "We are already getting queries about jobs from white workers who are being forced out of work by black and coloured people who are taking over"

Though the Oranjewerkers have no formal relations with the Conservative Party or the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging, Verwoerd says they maintain "friendly" links with the two organisations The AWB is also promoting the idea of a *Boerestaat*, but has different means of achieving it

He adds, however, that the Oranjewerkers' methods are more constructive, and many Afrikaners sloganeer about a separate homeland without making the necessary sacrifices

The biggest thorn in the side of the Oranjewerkers is the black township Sivukile, a few hundred metres from Morgenzon

"The black townships are our biggest problem, I must admit," says Verwoerd. He hopes black residents will "spontaneously move away" because "we don't give them any work and they are not welcome here"

But the present government is spoiling everything, says Verwoerd "(State President FW) De Klerk and those influencing him are pressing us to integrate and forcing us to accept sharing everything with blacks in the country

"We are not even sure that here in Morgenzon we will be excluded"

Blacks in Morgenzon are prohibited from entering the bookshop and a fabric shop and most stores have separate entrances for blacks and whites

Verwoerd says the Oranjewerkers will continue to encourage Afrikaners

COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMUNITY OF ALEXANDRA
FROM THE PUTCO HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORATE

127 Sta 16/3/90

1 At 12h00 on Thursday 8 March 1990 dismissal notices were handed to **STRIKING** workers at Wynberg, Alexandra. Because of the immense inconvenience the **STRIKE** had caused to many bus commuters on the Reef, more particularly to the Alexandra commuters, the management of Putco believes that the Company should provide the **FACTS** surrounding the strike to all its commuters. The **STRIKE** arose from certain grievances, tabled by the workforce against the Divisional Manager at Wynberg, followed by a demand for his immediate removal from that Division.

2. Prior to commencing their **STRIKE ACTION** the workforce were offered, and they accepted, a comprehensive investigation into all their grievances; they were also satisfied with the senior manager who was nominated to investigate these grievances.

3. The workforce did not accept the findings of the investigator and, following protracted negotiations during which senior managers from the Company's Head Office offered outside arbitration as a reasonable solution to the impasse, the workforce also rejected that proposal and they then embarked on a **STRIKE.** The management of the Company is of the opinion that this extreme action was premature and unnecessary because if an arbitrator, appointed by **BOTH PARTIES,** should have found the Divisional Manager substantially guilty of mismanaging the workforce, the Company would not have hesitated to order his removal from the Division

4 A fundamental principle is embodied in the doctrines of equity and fairness which is that no individual should be treated as if he was guilty **BEFORE PROVEN** guilty.

5. The workforce continued to **STRIKE** and, in a final effort to break the impasse, the Managing Director of Putco personally met with the Trade Union and Workers Representatives. He said that he had the power to remove the Divisional Manager and indicated that he would do so **PROVIDED** that the Divisional Manager's guilt is **PROVEN.** He pointed out that a continuation of the strike was not benefiting (a) commuters (b) the workforce nor (c) the Company. He also suggested that the workforce return to work and that an outside arbitrator be appointed, acceptable to both parties. Again this **REASONABLE** course of action was rejected with the comment that the strike would continue until the Divisional Manager was removed. The Managing Director responded that he had no facts to prove the Divisional Manager's guilt and therefore refused to remove him He said that he was extremely disappointed with the attitude of the Trade Union and Workers Representatives, who were substituting **REASONABLENESS** with **FORCE.**

6. Shortly after that meeting, the Divisional Manager informed the Putco management at Head Office that he had decided not to return to the Division. Since this **UNILATERAL** decision was seen as another opportunity to break the **STRIKE,** the decision was immediately communicated to the workforce, via their leaders.

7. The workforce now demanded that they be paid for the period while they were on strike The Company **WILL NOT** under any circumstances agree to this for the following reasons:
   - ★ The workforce brought the loss of pay upon themselves when deciding to **STRIKE** instead of following the contractual grievance procedure;
   - ★ The Company has already sustained substanial losses as a result of the **STRIKE;**
   - ★ The Company did everything in its power to investigate the grievances and, when the enquiry was rejected, it offered outside arbitration as a means of discovering the substance of these grievances;
   - ★ The community suffered, not because the Company did not want to operate its scheduled services but because the workforce took the law into their own hands;
   - ★ The payment of wages during a **STRIKE** constitutes an **UNACCEPTABLE PRINCIPLE** in industrial relations; once this principle is established **STRIKES** will become the only means of settling industrial disputes, since all the stakeholders in and around the **STRIKE** will suffer except those who are **RESPONSIBLE.**

8. The management of Putco wants to re-instate the service as quickly as possible but refuses to re-employ the dismissed workforce **UNCONDITIONALLY.** It is suggested that the community persuades the workforce, who were dismissed at their own request, to re-apply for employment. The Company will be reasonable with its terms of re-engagement but **WILL NOT** move away from the established principle of **"NO WORK, NO PAY".**

0565456

TOWN PLANNING F/M 16/3/90

Residential backlash

A property storm brewing in Johannesburg's northern suburbs has already drawn in DP parliamentary leader Zach de Beer.

Residents and ratepayer associations are alarmed at the use of what they see as undemocratic planning methods that allow authorities to ride roughshod over them by removing property rights in their title deeds without providing compensation or giving them a fair hearing

Among the issues to have triggered the latest furore are proposals to allow ribbon commercial development along Jan Smuts Avenue and the persistent office encroachment in Parktown. Also under threat for the same reason are the exclusive suburbs of Parkwood, Saxonwold and Houghton

So angry are these groups that they have banded together to campaign for more say in decision-making and greater answerability from the authorities

Parktown association's Flo Bird says the fundamental issue concerns the arbitrary powers held by planning authorities under the Removal of Restrictions Act. There are two ways of rezoning property in Transvaal urban areas, she explains One is through the Town Planning ordinance and the other under the Act. The two differ considerably.

Tribunals 127

Under the ordinance there are a series of checks and balances, from an application's first hearing in a planning tribunal to the right of appeal through the Department of Local Government and Public Works and the Townships Board. All sides are heard by the decision-maker. Furthermore, the basis for his conclusions are made public. Only in the case of a second appeal is the matter referred to the minister, who is not obliged to explain his decision.

By contrast, under the Act, the matter is considered by the Townships Board, which makes recommendations to the minister (usually someone nominated by him such as the provincial administrator) for a first and final decision The grounds for the finding are kept confidential

Bird points out that there are three anomalies in the second procedure which immediately make it suspect. The decision-maker is not the person who visits the site and listens to applicant and objectors; no reasons for the decision are given, and there is no right of appeal.

"A fair trial or hearing is a fundamental legal principle. Furthermore, property own-

F/M 16/3/90

ers without direct contact or involvement have no way of knowing whether the anonymous decision-maker in Pretoria has even been acquainted with their views "

Bird maintains the conclusions reached in this arbitrary manner permanently affect people's lives, property values and the scale and form of development in sensitive areas They also frequently ignore carefully prepared township schemes. 127

"At the same time they remove the property owners' fundamental rights There have been occasions where the objections of more than 100 owners were simply ignored by the administrator When there is no accountability, it's simple for a distant authority to impose its will on Johannesburg planning The result is that the council is invariably overruled when it opposes subdivisions of stands or the granting of business rights in residential areas."

The Parktown association, with the backing of Westcliff, Forest Town, Saxonwold and Parkwood associations and the Northern Areas Group, has drafted proposed amendments to the Act They have met local MP Zach de Beer to explain their objections and are meeting a ministerial representative to discuss the problem Both are apparently sympathetic to their complaints ■

Nevertheless, the use of the PDL is more tactical and should be used critically given the questions of validity, bias and so forth. SII's are used critically in this book, as a reference point against which to measure wages in this study and other comparable ones. Nothing well-defined are statutory minima.

Financial Mail 16/3/90

can, therefore, be used a challenge to their wage praxis.

Rent boycott may hit the East Rand

C/Press 18/3/90 (127)

By LULAMA LUTI

A LONG "cold war" over the rent issue on the East Rand could soon give way to a rent boycott similar to that which plagued Soweto two years ago.

KwaThema residents have been called to a meeting at the local stadium today and are expected to decide on a plan of action against high rent and service charges in the township.

Spokesman for the local civic body, Bangilizwe Solo, said an unofficial estimate of the number of people in the township's housing waiting list was 7 000.

He said the policy of the civic body was that putting up shacks was not a solution to the housing backlog in the township.

"Already people are being asked to pay R500 towards the allocation of sites for shacks.

"The area that has been set aside for the building of shacks – known as "Fresher fresher" – is a refuse dumping site on the outskirts of the township and it is unacceptable as it is a health hazard.

"People are being charged exhorbitant prices for services and are also made to pay for an 'electric master plan' when some of the areas do not even have electricity."

He said people could put up shacks as a last resort, but the authorities should shoulder the responsibility of building houses for people in the low income group.

Solo expects residents to come up with a concrete programme of action for tackling the problem at the meeting.

Local mayor Ezra Radebe confirmed the area set aside for housing development was being used as a refuse dumping site.

He said his council had taken a unanimous decision to allow people to put up shacks in some areas of the dump while they waited for the building of their houses to start.

Contrary to the number given by Solo, Radebe said a rough estimate of people on the waiting list was about 3 000. He denied KwaThema residents were paying high services charges.

"It's not true, and in fact some areas are even paying 100 percent more than we do.

"Our rentals have been standing at a constant R20 and has not been increased since 1985," he said.

■ The Transvaal Provincial Administration has agreed to conduct a commission of inquiry into allegations of maladministration and misconduct in the Daveyton Town Council.

A report back rally on the meeting held recently between the Daveyton People's Delegation and TPA regional director PJV Du Toit, will be held at the Daveyton Sinaba Stadium today.

Rent boycott suspended

127

Sowetan 20/3/90

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

Daveyton residents in the East Rand yesterday resolved to temporarily suspend their three-week old rent boycott pending a meeting, hopefully this week, between the Daveyton Peoples' Delegation and the Transvaal Provincial Administration officials.

The residents had embarked on the rent boycott until their demands had been met. They include the resignation of councillors; the setting up of a commission of inquiry to look into the administration; management and financial matters of the council; and the reduction of tariffs.

At a report-back meeting attended by thousands of residents at Sinaba stadium at the weekend, the nine-man delegation told the crowd that it met with a senior official of the TPA, a Mr Van der Walt, in Germiston last Tuesday.

A residents' memorandum, which was to have been handed to the TPA during a protest march on February 28, had also been discussed at length with him.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

General Affairs

Hillbrow area health conditions

*1 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(1) Whether her Department recently investigated health conditions in the Hillbrow area, if not, why not, if so (a) when and (b) with what result

(2) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 21/3/90 C22E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

(1) No, in terms of section 20 of the Health Act, 1977 (Act 63 of 1977) it is the duty of the City Council of Johannesburg to take all lawful, necessary and reasonably practicable measures to maintain its district at all times in a hygienic and clean condition and to prevent the occurrence of any nuisance within its district Where any condition which will or could be harmful or dangerous to the health of any person occurs within the district of a local authority, it is the responsibility of the local authority to remedy such condition

Whenever I receive a complaint that the health of any person within the district of a local authority is endangered by any harmful condition however the Department of National Health and Population Development may take certain steps in terms of Act 63 of 1977 No such complaint has recently been received as far as the Hillbrow area is concerned and therefore no recent investigation was conducted by the Department I am however aware of the fact that the City Council of Johannesburg is at present intensively investigating health conditions in the specific area,

(2) no

Toekomsrus police station

*2 Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) Whether it is the intention to build a police station in Toekomsrus, Randfontein, if not why not, if so, (a) where in Toekomsrus and (b) when is it anticipated that building operations will be (i) commenced and (ii) completed,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 21/3/90 C23E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) No because the need for a police station has up until now, not yet been identified

(a) and (b) Fall away

(2) If the honourable member is of the opinion that there is a need for a police station in the area, on request I am prepared to have a feasibility study carried out for that purpose

Riverlea post office

*3 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises Hansard 21/3/90

(1) Whether any progress has been made in regard to the building of a post office in Riverlea Johannesburg, if so, (a) what progress and (b) when is it anticipated that building operations will be (i) commenced and (ii) completed,

(2) whether any problems have arisen in regard to this post office if so, what problems,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C24E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises)

(1) Yes,

(a) A suitable site has been acquired and planning of the building has commenced

(b) (i) May 1991

(ii) November 1991,

(2) no, Hansard 21/3/90

(3) no

UWC: payment of certain staff members

*4 Mr P A S MOPP asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(1) Whether an amount of R759 000 is to be paid over to her Department for payment of certain staff members of the University of the Western Cape upon retirement, if so,

(2) whether she will furnish particulars of the staff members concerned, if not, why not, if so, what are their (a) names and (b) ages,

(3) whether part of this amount is to be paid out as a result of legal action that was instituted, if so, what are the relevant details,

(4) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 21/3/90 C28E

†The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

(1) Yes,

(2) yes,

(a) *Names*	(b) *Ages at retirement*
Mr P P Kirstein	58
Mr J H C Stassen	48
Mr H J Pienaar	53
Prof P J Smith	53
Mr N K Prins	40
Mr A D P J v Rensburg	52
Mr A P S de Kock	59
Mr A J P P v Rensburg	47
Mr E J van Zyl	48
Prof N M du Plessis	53
Prof T J Roos	57
Mr J M Paley	41
Mrs C E du Plessis	49
Mr M B de Kock	51
Mrs C J Strutt	34
Mr G D Bekker	52
Mr F H Boot	52

(3) no,

(4) no

Fire-arm licences: different requirements

*5 Mr A ESSOP asked the Minister of Law and Order †

Whether different requirements are set for the issue of fire-arm licences to Whites and non-Whites, if not, what requirements are set, if so, what requirements are set for (a) Whites, (b) Coloureds, (c) Indians and (d) Blacks?

Hansard 21/3/90 C29E

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

No

Irrespective of race and sex, each application is considered on the basis of the personal circumstances of the applicant concerned and certain general and specific guidelines

Personal circumstance include inter alia the applicant's age, educational qualifications, status in the community marital status and the nature of the profession or occupation

General guidelines include inter alia the following

Whether the fire-arm is suitable for the purpose for which it is required,

Whether it is required for the protection of life and/or property,

Whether it is required for practising sport

Specific guidelines include inter alia the following

The applicant's knowledge of the handling of the fire-arm concerned

The applicant's knowledge of the legal provisions regarding the safekeeping and use of fire-arms,

The applicant's previous convictions,

Does the applicant have a safe place for storage of the weapon

Has the applicant previously been declared unfit to possess a fire-arm,

Has the applicant previously lost a weapon or were any of his fire-arms confiscated,

Does the applicant live in an urban or rural area,

Does the applicant possess any other fire-arm,

Exceptional circumstances which may influence the applicant's application

Hansard 21/3/90

Cape	29 159
Natal	10 176
Orange Free State	3 568
Transvaal	14 953

(b) (i) complete information is not yet available regarding the data for 1989 The following information is as at 28 April 1989 and is included in the reply to Question 420 of 1989,

Cape	9 639
Natal	9 447
Orange Free State	2 773
Transvaal	10 283

(ii) notified deaths,

Cape	1 171
Natal	59
Orange Free State	36
Transvaal	644

Aids information programme

158 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

Whether the Government has given consideration to the implementation of an Aids information programme for use in schools, if so, (a) who is to devise such a programme, (b) when is it to be introduced into schools and (c) in which schools or categories of schools is it to be used, if not, why not?

Hansard 21/3/90 B377E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

Yes,

(a) programmes are being devised by all education authorities in collaboration with the Department of National Health and Population Development,

(b) as soon as it has been finalised,

(c) to be decided by the relevant educational authorities

Neo-natal deaths

179 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

What is the most common cause of neo-natal deaths amongst (a) Whites, (b) Coloureds, (c) Indians and (d) Blacks in (i) urban and (ii) rural areas? Hansard 21/3/90 B440E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

Hansard 21/3/90

Information regarding separate figures for urban and rural areas are not readily available Information is available for 1987 only Prematurity and low birthweight are the causes of 47,7% of all neo-natal deaths The percentage for the various population groups is as follows

(a) Whites	33,7%
(b) Coloureds	50,5%
(c) Indians	53,2%
(d) Blacks	48,0%

Strikes

205 Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Manpower Hansard 21/3/90

(a) How many strikes occurred in 1989, (b) in how many cases did the strikes arise out of wage demands and (c) what were the main causes of the remainder of the strikes? B485E

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER

(a) 738

The Department of Manpower only keeps record of strikes which have to be reported in terms of the Labour Relations Act, 1956

(b) 267

The figures furnished are for strikes and workstoppages as separate figures are not kept.

(c) Working conditions
Disciplinary measures
Wages and other matters
Trade union matters
Other or unknown

Note

The figures furnished are for the period 1 November 1988 until 31 October 1989

Own Affairs

Land transferred to White farmers

27 Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agricultural Development † (3) General

(1) Whether any land has been transferred to his Department by the Department of (a) Development Aid and (b) Public Works Hansard 21/3/90

and Land Affairs with the view to making it available to White farmers, if so, (i) how many hectares (aa) have been transferred and (bb) are still to be transferred by each of these Departments, (ii) what pieces of land are involved and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) what procedure is followed in allocating land that is again made available to White famers,

(3) whether the political affiliations of persons applying for such land play a role in the allocation thereof, if so, to what extent? B248E

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Reply bound in Annexures of House — *see* M/205–1990

Group Areas Act: permits for Hillbrow

33 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government

Whether his Department received any applications for permits in terms of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, in respect of (a) business and (b) residential premises in the Hansard 21/3/90 (127)

Hillbrow constituency in 1989, if so, (i) how many such applications had been (aa) granted and (bb) refused as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (ii) what were the reasons for (aa) granting and (bb) refusing each application? Hansard 21/3/90 B293E

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Statistics of applications for permits per constituency are not kept For the area known as Hillbrow the situation since taking over the function on 21 July 1989 to 31 January 1989 is as follows

(a) Yes

(i) (aa) 2

(bb) None

(ii) (aa) and (bb) Each application is considered on merit in terms of the provisions of section 21(2)(a) of the Group Areas Act, 1966

(b) Yes

(i) (aa) 10

(bb) None

(ii) (aa) and (bb) Each application is considered on merit in terms of the provisions of section 21(2)(a) of the Group Areas Act, 1966

March on W Rand

127

BEKKERSDAL residents yesterday marched to the local council offices to submit a memorandum listing several demands.

The residents demand - among others - the reduction of rent, building of low-cost houses and an end to the eviction of rent defaulters.

Hundreds of residents stayed away from work and by late yesterday the township was tense.

In Mohlakeng near Randfontein, schools were disrupted and a service to commemorate March 21 was held at the local Lutheran Church.

S9 22/3/90

Soweto march on

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

SOWETO residents will march to the local council chambers on Saturday to present a list of their demands.

Sowetan 22/3/90

Soweto Civic Association president Isaac Mogase - whose organisation is spearheading the march - said: "It will be one of the biggest marches South Africa has ever seen".

127

"Although Soweto has organised the march, we invite Dobsonville and Diepkloof residents to join us, because we feel we have the same problems that need to be tackled from a united front," he said.

The march will start at Elkah Stadium in Rockville at 9am.

Mogase and two other speakers will address the crowd before the march.

All businesses and shops are asked to close from 10am until 3pm and youths are asked not to hijack vehicles.

Mogase said the Soweto Council had been informed about the march and permission has been sought from the Johannesburg chief magistrate. Organisers expect a reply before Saturday.

Demands include: that old houses in Soweto, Diepkloof and Dobsonville be transferred to residents; that an affordable service charge be formulated; that affordable lower-income group houses be built; that police stop the high crime rate; that councillors stop threatening residents with eviction and that a common tax base be created with Johannesburg.

New aid for home buyers

(127)

C/Press 25/5/90

BLACK home buyers should have fewer problems following the introduction of a three-month training course for black house sales consultants

The course, introduced by Damelin Management School, could go a long towards addressing the communication breakdown between seller and buyer in the township housing market.

Selling housing in the black townships differs from the white market as township houses are normally new stock sold by large white companies rather than private deals by homeowners.

The course also equips personnel officers to assist staff with housing. They learn to liaise with councils and to process loan applications

C/Press 25/3/90 (127)

City Press

PROPERTY

No money for Soweto highrise

By PATRICK MAFAFO

The R560 million highrise flats planned for Soweto will be a great improvement on hostels like these, and will provide much-needed facilities.

DEVELOPERS of the R560 million highrise flats in Nancefield, Soweto, seem to be having problems raising money for the structure

The project was to have been financed by local and outside institutions, but so far nothing has come forth None of the local institutions are giving reasons for the two-year delay since the project was first announced by non-profit company, Foundation for Community Development

Besides badly-needed accommodation, it aims to provide many amenities for parts of Soweto These will include 12 soccer fields, a stadium, 24 schools and two office blocks

In scoffing at the project, finance house officials claim it will turn into an expensive ghetto. They claim the black housing market is in transit and say the scrapping of the Group Areas Act will lead to an influx of blacks to white suburbs.

However, trends in independent African states prove otherwise

Namibia is a typical example Despite independence, the bustling township of Katatura is expected to remain, though it will be non-racial and houses will improve as its inhabitants' living standards rise

A place like Soweto needs this kind of development Surveys show 10 people share a stand The Brand Report on the economy of Soweto points out the city needs an industrial and commercial base to generate revenue to finance itself

This means in future a larger part of Soweto will be set aside for development

Reasons offered for the failure of overseas developments similar to that planned for Soweto are multiple

But reasons offered do not apply in SA

The Economist recently published reasons for some of these failures in the United States

By 1988, half of the blacks in metropolitan areas had come to the cities of Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago and Washington from rural areas in the south

Gradually, as black migrants saved their money, they set off for the suburbs. The inner cities left behind were desolate and dangerous by night

The Economist reports that only prejudiced readings of contemporary history blame the ravaging of some of America's northern cities on the black invasion from the south

"The migrants were not shiftless they tended to be an industrious lot, until the jobs ran out Racial strife then helped to lay some city centres to waste," said *The Economist*

Portland Cement Institute executive director Deon Norton said there is no guarantee high-rise flats will solve any country's housing problems

He said in the post-war years high-rise flats have been built in many Western countries because of savings in both land and construction costs

However, he admits many of these buildings were later demolished because of vandalism in public areas such as passages, lifts, and entrance halls

On the other hand, Norton said, in developing countries there are often cultural and religious reasons which prevent the success of highrise flats

"In Malaysia, for example, highrise flats were built to resettle local villagers These flats are standing empty because villagers refuse to live there, preferring traditional houses"

In Jeddah a R369 million housing scheme consisting of 32 blocks of flats each 24 storeys high was completed in 1980.

limited land for housing, but these schemes should not go ahead before a proper feasibility study is conducted

Yet the study done by the FCD has shown there is demand for a highrise project of the type planned

In evaluating high-rise housing, Norton said the following points should be noted

- Cultural, religious and traditional aspects of housing need to be considered, and
- Security is vital It should be provided either by the tenants in the case of the affluent or by the landlord for low income tenants

The spacious flats have a wide variety of amenities including separate lifts for men and women – a religious requirement

"The rents are minimal but the flats are also standing empty," said Norton

Clearly high dwellings are a major need in a developing country with

He said countries such as Russia and Hong Kong had had greater success with high-rise flats mainly because of the high degree of personal discipline in Russian and Chinese culture

Who said Sowetans do not have discipline?

Now civic bodies are talking to the govt

C/Press 25/3/90 J 27

By PATRICK MAFAFO

PRESIDENT FW de Klerk's initiatives have brought about a new pragmatism among the most vocal of black civic associations – including the UDF.

For the benefit of local communities, previously unheard-of negotiations with government structures such as black councils are taking place.

First in this regard are various community groups affiliated to the UDF.

In Kagiso two UDF stalwarts, Lawrence Ntlokwa and Hector Moeketsi, are planning an estimated R30 million multi-purpose centre to cater for a community of close to 250 000 people This will include not only Kagiso, but Munsieville and Randfontein on the West Rand.

The centre will include conference, cinema and theatre facilities, a cricket pitch, a gym, a large swimming pool, an ice rink, resident medical and social workers and possibly a school of performing arts based on the TV series *Fame*

Ntlokwa sees his concept as a much needed micro-level approach to address bread-and-butter issues in black communities. He said, however, this did not mean that civic associations were moving away from the UDF's stated goal of addressing macro concerns brought about by the apartheid system

"Ours is a micro approach which makes up the bits and pieces which add up to the UDF's stated aims "

Ntlokwa says the centre will also cater for maths and science classes, and include the required laboratories Such is the enthusiasm for his scheme from the UDF leadership that he claims another UDF stalwart, Sister Bernard Ncube, has taken the initial sketches of the scheme to the United States to raise funding

Ntlokwa says he will not rely only on Ncube, he plans to have the centre financed along the lines of the Market Theatre The centre will be divided into various sections which will be adopted by various companies who buy naming rights

A site of 10 000 square metres has been identified for the project next to a planned new shopping complex to be called Kagiso Plaza Ntlokwa and his colleagues plan to hold discussions with Deon Meyer, chairman of the shopping centre development company Quantum, which is a major developer in black townships

127

Thousands of people gathered at the Masenkeng stadium, Evaton, yesterday to plan a march for Vaal triangle residents today. The people are protesting rents, high electricity bills and poor living conditions in the Vaal. They also want all councillors to resign. Mr Bavumile Vilakazi (above), who addressed the crowd, appealed to pupils to put more effort into the schoolwork. The march starts at Evaton and Sebokeng and ends at Vereeniging.

R194m owed for electricity arrears

MIKE ROBERTSON (127)

CAPE TOWN — Electricity arrears totalling R194m were owed by Soweto and Mamelodi residents at the beginning of the year, Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday.

Kriel said in reply to a question from Louis Stofberg (CP Sasolburg) that the arrears in Mamelodi amounted to R3,4m. In Soweto the arrears amounted to R190,7m.

The minister said Mamelodi residents had been given 30 days notice to pay their overdue accounts. Those who remained in default were handed over to the council's attorneys.

The Soweto City Council had been ordered to take steps, within three months, to discontinue electricity supplies and then to take legal steps if consumers failed to pay.

In the case of Mamelodi, there was no intention of writing off the amount owing.

The Soweto Council had been instructed to read all electricity and water meters by February 28 and submit proposals, with full reasons, for the writing off of arrears before the end of September.

It had also been instructed to reconcile the amounts owing before the end of August. The amounts are in respect of arrears consumption for each consumer up to the date of applicability of its new tariff by-laws. B/Day 28/3/90

'LPG is cheap and safe

(127)

MORE than 70 percent of homes in South Africa's 208 black townships have no electricity, according Mr Colin Harris, marketing manager of Easigas (Pty) Ltd.

Harris said, for example, that Alexandra township, which is only two kilometres from the affluent Johannesburg suburb of Sandton, had a mere 30 percent of its houses supplied with electricity.

"We believe that developers must look to other energy sources if they are to meet the ever increasing demand for power supplies," he said Sowetan 29/3/9

"Liquified petroleum gas (LPG) is, to my mind, the most logical and practical solution to this enormous problem. LPG is an excellent energy source and is perfectly safe provided sensible precautions are taken," Harris said

He said LPG fulfilled all the power needs of the ordinary household: cooking, lighting, heating, hot water and even refrigeration.

"As a heat source, LPG is tremendously popular in this country because of its convenience. Conventional cylinders are portable, and LPG provides instant heat and gives off no pungent odour.

"It is an economical fuel because you use only what you need

"The typical household installations have two cylinders which ensure that LPG is always available. As soon as one cylinder is empty, all it takes is a turn of a manifold lever to switch over to the other cylinder," he said.

He said a security cage could also be installed to protect cylinders from potential theft

Pta residents decide on rent boycott

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents yesterday resolved to stop paying rent and called on councillors to resign with immediate effect.

At a meeting at the Super Stadium, attended by about 3 000 people, residents also resolved to boycott local taxis from today unless taxi owners charged R1,30 a trip to town.

The present fare is R1,50

Area representatives of the local residents orgnisation - (ASRO) - submitted reports of decissions taken by tenants which endorsed the call for councillors to resign and for residents to stop paying rent.

Residents said the move followed disillusionment over alleged misapropriation of public funds by councillors and officials.

Speakers at the meeting said residents were also angry over the mysterious disappearance of thousands of rands from the council's treasury department.

The Kriel Commission which investigated allegations of corruption in the council last year, has recommended the dissolution of the council and the appointment of an administrator because of the poor control of public funds

Mr Reeves Mabitsi, Asro's secretary, said should councillors resign, they would embark on a project of having one council for all areas.

Brenda Fassi at the Rand Show.

other vehicles, pedes- regulation.

Tembisa open its homes to its white neighbours

Sowetan 4/4/90

A HUNDRED Tembisa families will open their homes to whites from neighbouring areas this weekend, as part of the Tembisa Encounter organised by Koinonia

People from Midrand, Kempton Park and Edenvale will take part in township life for four days on the grassroots reconciliation programme.

"Many hosting these Encounter participants have never had whites staying in their homes before," said Barry Poppleton Tembisa Koinonia co-ordinator.

"We believe that by inviting these people into their homes, Tembisa residents can provide them with an insight into the realities of township life.

"Change at national level will be fruitless, unless it is translated into reality at the level of the ordinary person.

"To help South Africans understand this change and understand the people we have been separated from for years, the activities of this weekend will be invaluable," Poppleton added

Koinonia - established by Dr Nico Smith - is a Christian organisation that brings together people of different races to prepare them for a non-racial and equal South Africa

The organisation received the international Beyond War Award last year for its work in bridging the gap between whites and blacks

The Tembisa Encounter is the fourth of its kind in South Africa, and follows social contact between Tembisa residents and their neighbours over the last year

Those interested should phone Koinonia Tembisa at 924-1750, or visit the office at Room 14, Tembi Centre, 232 Gqhagqha Section, Tembisa

New Modder area for Indian occupation

WILSON ZWANE

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is to allow Indians to occupy the New Modder area in Benoni, East Rand, due to the declining interest among white people in living there (127)

In a statement, MEC for physical planning and land use, Willie Woods, said the decision to grant permits to 88 Indians, in accordance with the Group Areas Act, was taken by the Transvaal executive committee on Monday.

"The decision was not taken haphazardly and each application will be considered strictly on merit," Woods said.

He said diminishing interest among whites in New Modder had resulted in the suspension of the Benoni municipality's bus service and closure of the primary school B/Day 4/4/90

Interest among Indians in the area, caused by the overpopulation of Actonville and the proclamation of Rynsoord as an Indian group area, had risen and led the executive committee to approve Indians' applications to obtain and occupy properties in the area.

Benoni municipality commercial manager Johan Vlok said the municipality's bus service was suspended four months ago for economic reasons.

NEWS

Old age home now a Wits residence

Star 4/4/90

127

By Janet Heard, Education Reporter

The University of the Witwatersrand on Monday took ownership of a retirement home in Berea in a bid to solve the university's accommodation crisis

The R1,6 million building was bought after a campaign run jointly by the Black Students' Society and the Students' Representative Council and a three-day class boycott by more than 3 000 students last month.

Renovations to transform the home into a residence for about 190 homeless students got underway immediately, according to Mrs Peta Stevens, a spokesman for the Students Affairs Office.

She said the building would hopefully be ready for students to move in at the start of the second term — on April 23

Re-admitted

The on-going BSS/SRC campaign against the exclusion policy at the university has resulted in 39 black students who were previously excluded being readmitted on review.

An independent commission of inquiry has been established to look into the present policy of exclusions and the SRC/BSS have called for a halting of all exclusions pending its findings.

A joint BSS/SRC statement said "We do not stand for the position that no exclusions should ever take place — but they should be fairly conducted and based on criteria which take into account the needs of redressing the imbalances which are caused by apartheid education"

B/Day 5/4/90

Owners warned on slum devaluation

(127)

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

PROPERTY owners should assess their interests in residential and commercial areas which are most vulnerable to "ghetto-isation" and value decline following deregulation.

Writing in Property Prices in Post Apartheid SA published by Real Estate Surveys, Erwin and Antoinette Rode said the phenomenon of grey areas was fundamental and unavoidable

Therefore the Group Areas Act should be scrapped or the local option, where large municipalities were simultaneously deregulated, should be implemented

Grey areas would eventually have to be declared open and most other white suburbs were not in danger of "invasion".

"All the negative factors arising from a total abolition of the Group Areas Act will apply in a more severe form to slow, incremental deregulation," the authors said

They urged the abolition of rent control because it allowed the poor to occupy areas in a manner inconsistent with free market forces and discouraged constant refurbishment, aiding slum formation.

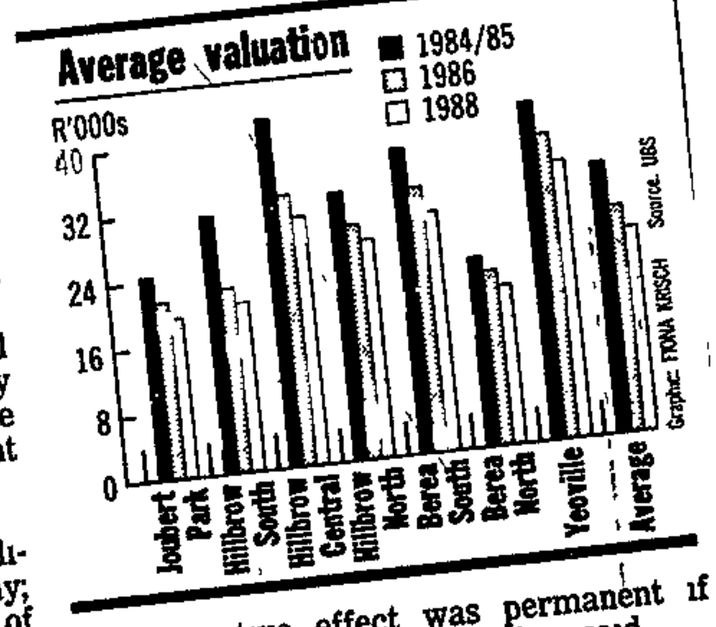
Areas susceptible to invasion were

- Older precincts close to the metropolitan core and already prone to urban decay;
- Areas where a large proportion of accommodation was rented rather than owned; and
- Areas close to the social infrastructure of black people's residential areas.

They cited figures provided by the United Building Society (UBS) which showed the valuation of flats in seven grey zones around Johannesburg had declined by 24,1% on average between 1984 and 1988.

As no general index for flat prices was available for comparison, this was contrasted with the UBS's index for smaller houses in Johannesburg showing an increase of 9,1% in valuation in 1984, a decline of 8,2% and 0,9% in 1985 and 1986 and increases of 2,4% and 16%, in 1987 and the first half of 1988 respectively.

Invasion usually had an initial, if not permanent, negative effect on the residential environment and therefore on prices



The negative effect was permanent if "slumification" took place, they said.

The "slumification" of a residential area would also drag down the values of commercial properties in that area

"A number of coastal holiday resorts in the SA metropolitan areas are exposed to instant value depreciation through invasion by buses during the peak holiday season," the said.

Eviction law is too harsh, says probe

127.

THE Malan Commission of Inquiry has recommended that certain provisions of the Housing Act, which empowered black councils to carry out evictions, should be repealed because they were far-reaching and interferred with the jurisdiction of the courts.

This is one of the recommendations made by the commission to the Soweto Council.

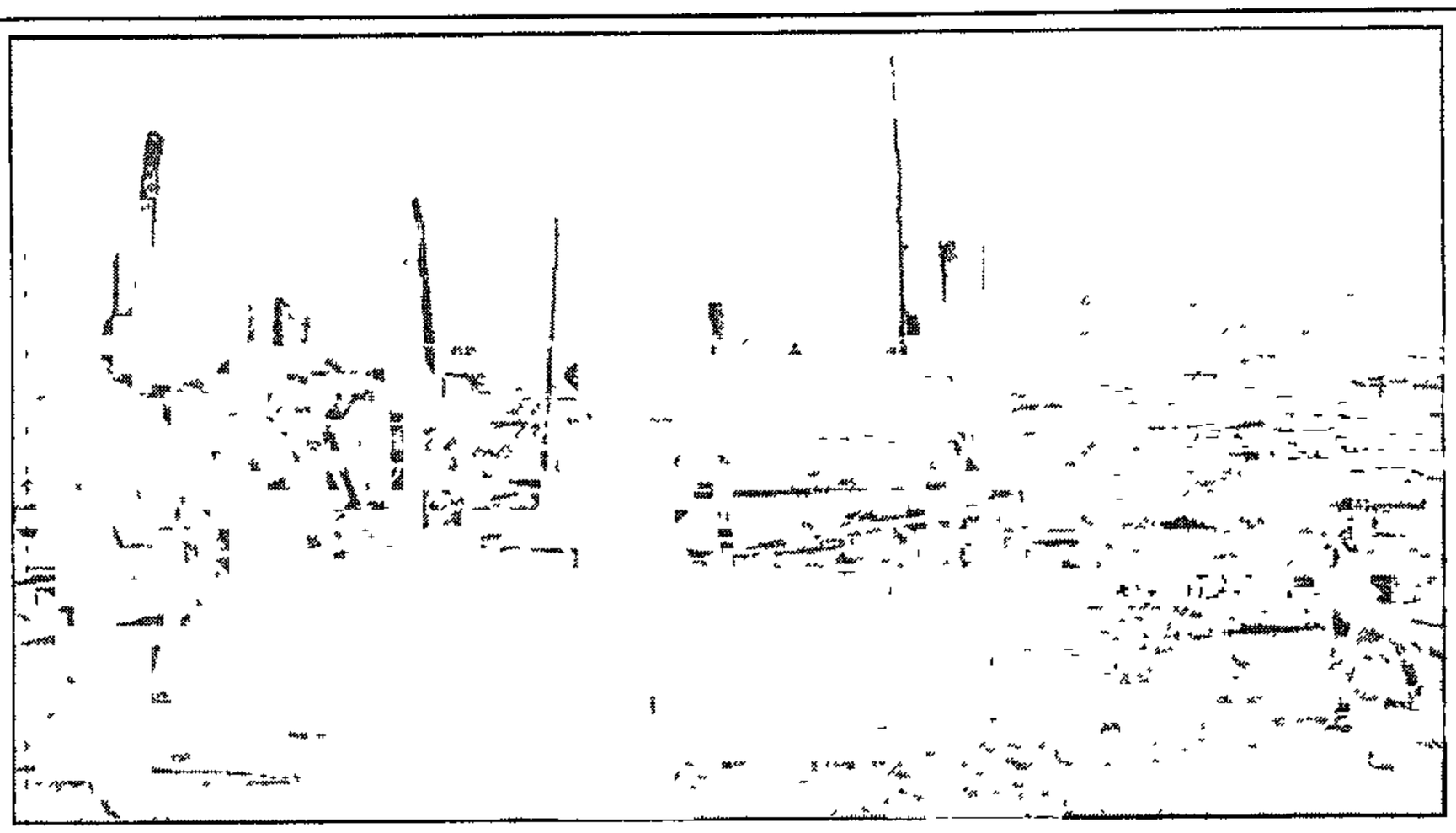
The commission, under the chairmanship of Professor FR Malan, was appointed by Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi to investigate possible corruption and irregularities in the council in March last year.

By SY MAKARINGE

Section 65 empowered an authorised officer, after a seven-day notice had been served, to evict people without a court order.

"The commission doubts whether a provision as far-reaching as this one, ousting the jurisdiction of the courts and affecting a sensitive and highly politicised matter such as housing can be tolerated in our society today," the report, published recently, said.

It also recommended that councillors' approval in allocating houses for leasing or sale be "dispensed with" as this could lead to irregularities and injustice.



Estimates show that South Africa needs to build the equivalent of 40 cities each about the size of Soweto, to shelter its homeless Many black people have no choice but to live in squatter dwellings like this one being erected in Tembisa (left), while only one in 10 families can afford a home like these in a South African Housing Trust project in Alexandra (right) But now there is a ray of hope with the announcement by Mr F W de Klerk of a R3 billion budget for black social upliftment **MICHAEL CHESTER** reports

Hope in black housing's 'Mission Impossible'

Star 5/4/90 (127)

The next few months promise to see the launch of a series of massive operations to tackle a dilemma that until now sounded like the ticking of a socio-economic time-bomb — the black housing crisis

The ticking has been growing louder as overcrowded townships bulge at the seams and squatter settlements spread in ever wider orbit around metropolitan centres

The Housing Policy Unit of the Urban Foundation laments that no fewer than seven million South Africans are now living in backyard shacks, temporary shelters and squatter camps

Its newest survey found overcrowding of tragic dimensions It was not uncommon for 10 or even 16 people to share a basic four-room house — or two whole families sharing a single room in hostel blocks

On recent calculations by Transvaal MEC Mr John Mavuso there are already one million adults and children packed into squatter camps, euphemistically called informal settlements, in the PVW zone alone

What aggravates matters is the massive extra pressure caused by the pace of the population growth rate

Mr Mike Fowldes, market development manager of the SA Housing Trust, estimates that South Africa needs to build the equivalent of 40 cities, all around the size of Soweto, to properly shelter the homeless

It has sounded like Mission Impossible

Now, however, fresh hopes of an escape from disaster have been stirred by plans to open the sluice gates of high finance to douse the time-bomb fuses with the biggest housing programme on record

Squads of planners will be going into action with combined budgets running into billions of rands

The monumental task start to wipe out a housing backlog that stands at a phenomenal one million homes — and threatens to top two million by the end of the 1990s unless trends can be reversed

The formidable size and complexity of the problem has been outlined by researchers at the Urban Foundation

- On a count taken to measure the problem in 1988, the number of new homes needed to clear the black housing backlog was a stunning 800 000
- Projections showed demand set to grow by 127 000 homes year in and year out over the rest of the 1990s
- That compared with an actual estimated supply of new homes that was running at no more than 45 000 new homes a year.
- And trends had to take into account that a phenomenal two million more families were likely to be started between now and the year 2010

Perhaps the deepest tragedy buried in the statistics was an estimate that a mere one in 10 black families had the sort of income to even consider buying a home in what has come to be regarded as the conventional mould — a house costing a minimum of around R35 000, often seen by building societies as the cheapest they were prepared to consider as propositions for mortgage agreements

Now there comes the first glow of optimism about the chances of turning the tide on a dilemma that has gnawed at the roots of reform pledges about social democracy

Most recent headlines have focused on the R3 billion budget that President de Klerk has set aside for black social upliftment programmes

The biggest chunk of it, R2 billion, has been handed over to Mr Jan Steyn, former chairman of the Urban Foundation, to plough into the creation of more job opportunities, better education facilities, and bringing home ownership within the grasp of even the lowest income groups

Neutral hands

Observers are all the more encouraged by the decision to pass the funds over to independent neutral hands — well away from state bureaucracy and the possible stigma of political links with the Government and The System.

Mr Steyn has yet to spell out details of how the cash will be spent, but indications point to heavy stress on the provision of land and services — the key to allowing even families on the bottom rungs of the income ladder to tackle at least self-help projects to build homes of their own

Mr Steyn, at the helm of the Urban Foundation, was also among the architects of a bold new housing scheme which is to be launched in the next few weeks

It is a totally separate R1 billion operation put together by the Urban Foundation to solve the problems of the middle layer of homeless black families — the ones whose budgets have been unable to cope with bond repayments on R35 000 but with the resources to cope with buying a home under a scheme bringing the minimum to as low as R12 500

The Urban Foundation works out that the R1 billion will fund the first phase of the programme and provide more than a quarter of a million new homes

Moreover, not only has the foundation persuaded the big financial institutions, such as building societies and banks, to pledge R1 billion in mortgage funds, it has also drawn pledges from them to plough in another R2 billion when that initial fund has been exhausted

What triggered the institutions to lower the minimum price tag on homes in their mortgage orbit from around R35 000 to a new R12 500 minimum was a special insurance plan that protected them from bad debts

The magic wand was waved by the creation of a special Loan Guarantee Fund, put together with a R20 million injection provided by donations from the governments of Britain, West Germany and Switzerland, plus from several companies in Japan

With such displays of willingness from outside to protect loans, building societies and banks may have little option but to agree on lowering their target range of customers to families eager to find less expensive roofs over their heads

Mr Matthew Nell of the Urban Foundation estimates that springing open the doors to home loans on houses in price brackets as low as R12 500 promises to give no fewer than 264 000 families their first real chance of owning their own homes

Even that, however, is still beyond the reach of no fewer than 55 percent of homeless black families

The best solution, says Ms Jill Strelitz, is a radical change of attitudes by local authorities and financial institutions whose rules on housing standards may be far too high — and the removal of all red tape that hinders private sector initiatives in the housing market

That, she says, should go hand in hand with a R2 billion programme to provide capital subsidies for the massive bottom layer of low-income families

The subsidies should go into the provision of land and services, clearing the first hurdle of cost

Hopes are running high that the idea of such capital subsidies — at a community rather than individual level — will be high among the priorities Mr Jan Steyn will have when he puts the new R2 billion fund into action

Mr Joseph Makgatho, ever hopeful, sits in on yet another telephone call by Mr Michael Ndobela trying to work out with a building society how a home bond can be arranged.

Star 5/4/90 (127)

Family man shut out by the bond system

Joseph Makgatho is 49, with a steady job he has held for 16 years, a wife and seven children — and still unable to find the route into a bank or building society bond to buy his own home.

This is a puzzle Mr Makgatho, a labourer for a large blue-chip company in Johannesburg, has been trying to solve for more than 15 years of house-hunting.

A solution has also evaded Mr Michael Ndobela, the personnel and training officer at the company where he works.

"The problem," says Mr Ndobela, "is that the banks and building societies fix their standards far too high for most black workers.

"They insist houses must be in price brackets around R30 000 or higher — and then set out deposits and minimum bond repayments well beyond the reach of the bulk of black families."

Mr Makgatho is typical of thousands of other workers.

His gross income of R1 075 a month is trimmed down to take-home pay of R886,45 by deductions for tax, pension fund, union dues and the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

The rent for the two rooms at a Meadowview hostel, into which his family of nine somehow fits, takes R30. Paraffin and candles come to R40.

Daily travel to work costs R64. His wife needs about R600 for shopping, plus R12,80 for trips to the shops and back. That leaves a grand total of R12,80.

Mr Makgatho has felt several times he was near a solution. The latest burst of enthusiasm was about a two-bedroomed house at Vosloosrus, south-east of Johannesburg.

Then the numbers started to chatter out of the building society computers

The house price came out at R32 335. As a start, he had saved R1 500 — and there was about R1 000 he could draw from his trade union's loan scheme.

The 10 percent deposit demanded came to R3 233, still leaving a mortgage of R29 102 — meaning monthly repayments of R512. By digging into subsidy schemes he could chop that by R166, lowering repayments to R346 a month.

Mr Makgatho still saw the dream house as within reach. But the building society insisted on a minimum monthly gross income of R1 154 to qualify for a bond. He was short — by R79.

"I'll go on trying," he responds. "I must. But the system all starts to look a bit odd."

SOWETO F/M 6/4/90 (127)

Still boycotting

Since June 1986, about 80% of Soweto's 800 000 households have not paid rent nor for municipal services Electricity arrears alone total R190,7m Soweto owes the Transvaal Provincial Administration a total of R464,6m for bridging finance The town council is negotiating to lower both these amounts

The boycott doesn't appear to be waning though mayor Sam Mkhwanazi says residents are not being asked to pay rent arrears They continue to say they want better services before they will consider paying for the ones they already have Two weeks ago police tear-gassed 10 000 demonstrators

F/M 6/4/90 (127)

marching to the town council offices with a petition demanding a reduction in tariffs and an end to both the Group Areas Act and privatisation of housing

Soweto town clerk Piet Geers, who took over on March 1, says there cannot be an amnesty for services arrears "As an administrator, I need the money"

The council is under orders from the provincial administration to collect the debt Mkhwanazi says only 10%-20% of residents are not paying the new flat-rate charge of R50 for electricity and R22,50 for services Geers says it is a lower, temporary rate, which will be used to phase in payments until higher tariffs are imposed

A poll released last month found that 61% of Sowetans supported the boycott — because costs were unreasonable — and 14% said they could not afford to pay their bills Geers acknowledges the fees bite deeply into the average Soweto household's monthly income of R500 Without an industrial and business sector to serve as a tax base the service bills fall heavily on individuals

He foresees a joining of Johannesburg, Soweto and Lenasia into a "mini Regional Services Council" to spread the costs He would also like to see Soweto's vast stock of rented property become freehold — so residents would pay property taxes instead of rent — to give them a stake in the city

He faces strong opposition from people who say such a plan is designed to keep blacks in Soweto when they should be allowed to live wherever they want ■

Councils take a tumble

A whole new ball game as officials respond to MDM call

Lekoa councillor Esau Mahlatsi . . . urged residents to pay their rents.

LOCAL governments in black townships are beginning to tumble

The recent resignation of 19 Lekoa councillors, who resigned following a call by the MDM and residents to disband, appears to bear evidence to this fact.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela had a meeting recently with the Soweto Council behind closed doors. This is thought to be a prelude to the possible dismantling of the council.

Mandela said he would first have to consult his colleagues, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) to inform them about the issues raised by council members.

Now, even the United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa) has joined the call for the dismantling of local government and their replacement by a metropolitan type of government.

Groups in some areas have called on the government to appoint administrators to replace the councils, while others want it to revert to the method whereby Soweto and other townships were controlled by white municipalities such as the Johannesburg City Council.

Some people who served on local councils were attacked by elements opposed to their involvement in government bodies.

Several had their homes destroyed by petrol bombs while others lost their lives.

In an attempt to deal with residents' grievances, the government embarked on the upgrading of several programmes in many urban townships to provide services, jobs and houses However, this upgrading strategy did not gain favour with the residents and political organisations who argued the time for upgrading certain projects was overdue.

Rent boycotts involving the non-payment of rent and service charges, which began in 1984, spread to 55 black townships countrywide, and although local authorities attempted to use a variety of strategies during 1988 to collect all arrears on rent and service charges they were generally unsuccessful.

In its 1988/89 survey report, the South African Institute of Race Relations pointed out that by the end of 1988, negotiations between black local authorities and township residents in the Transvaal indicated the boycott might be resolved in 1989

According to the survey report the then Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Chris Heunis, had told Parliament that by December 31, 1987, arrears in rent and service charges owed to black local authorities amounted to R387 million.

In August, the Bureau for Information said the amount in arrears stood at R475 million, of which R361 million was owing on the Witwatersrand alone, and the townships which had the largest arrears were Soweto (Johannesburg), Diepmeadow (Johannesburg), Lekoa (Vaal), Mamelodi (Pretoria) and Tembisa (East Rand)

Scores of families were also evicted from their homes in townships all over Soweto and other areas including the Vaal for non-payment of rent and service charges.

The rent crisis showdown came in Febraury 1987 when 1 000 residents of White City Jabavu marched to the local municipal offices to protest against the evictions of 28 families in their area.

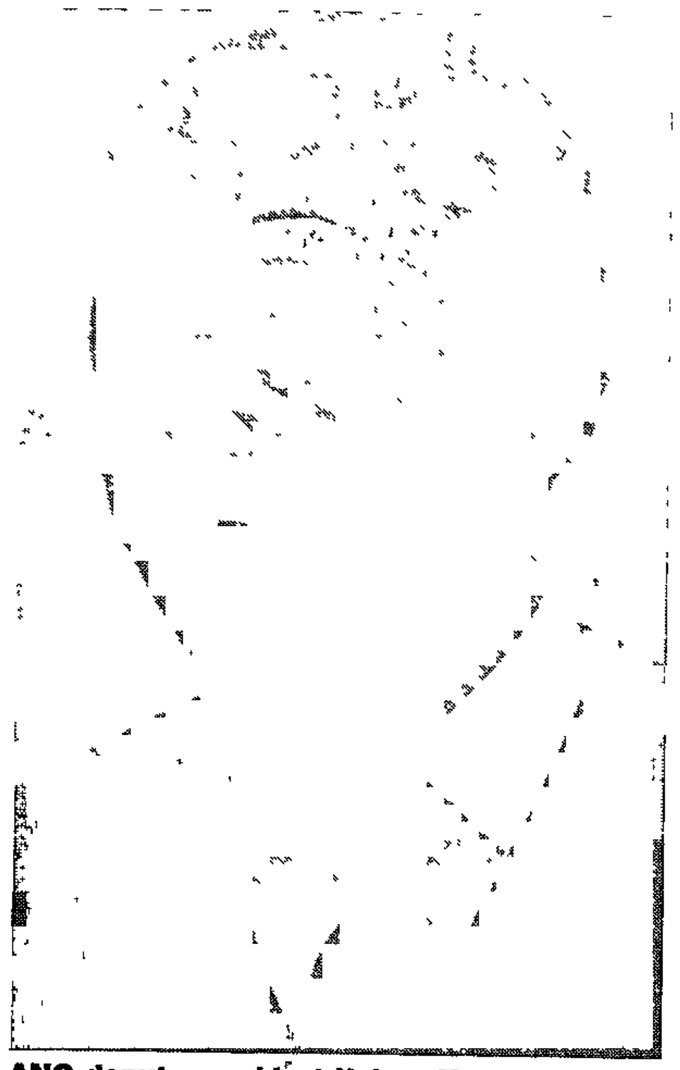
A few months later the council adopted a new strategy to break the rent boycott and ordered that the doors be removed from the houses of evicted tenants to stop them from moving back into the houses.

Later residents of the Vaal Triangle townships held a meeting in Sharpeville at which it was proposed that tenants pay R30 a month for rent and service charges to the Lekoa Town Council

The meeting also called on the council to write off the rent arrears that had accumulated since September 1984, which were reported to be no less than R50 million

But the council, that was headed by Esau Mahlatsi, rejected the offer and urged residents to pay the full amount of R67,32 for rent and service charges.

Requests by different political and community organisations including the SPD, to have the entire arrears of all townships affected by the rent boycott written off, were turned down by the Transvaal Provincial Administration



ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela . . . met the Soweto City Council recently.

In the same month residents in Diepkloof and Meadowlands agreed at a meeting to pay R15 a month for site rent and R30 for the consumption of water and electricity

Electricity cuts were also introduced in most townships in Soweto and in Tembisa in the East Rand – some reported to have lasted for periods ranging from a week to over a month

The ball is now in the government's court – to decide whether these local governments should be dismantled or whether they should continue existing much against the wishes of the people

BUSINESS DAY, Monday, April 9 1990

Opposition to proposed opening of country areas

(127) EDYTH BULBRING

THE proposed declaration of Mooikloof near Pretoria and Cosmo City near Randburg as free settlement areas has been strongly opposed by residents of the country areas

Free Settlement Areas Board chairman Hein Kruger said on Friday residents had voiced objections to the proposals at a hearing last week

He said the main concern of residents, who owned huge properties in the areas' vicinity, was that low-cost housing would be built, spoiling the area. They were also concerned that townships housing more than 20 000 people would be developed

However, developers who owned land felt there was no demand from the white market and had chosen to aim for an open market, Kruger said

Meanwhile, last Monday's deadline for objections to the opening of areas in Johannesburg, which the Ministers' Council has asked the board to investigate, had been extended, Kruger said

CBD Association chairman Nigel Mandy said in a letter to the board that the areas it was investigating were inadequate They include Houghton, Lorentzville and Yeoville

He said they excluded most of the CBD, Braamfontein, Hillbrow, Pageview, Vrededorp and Mayfair West

He said he would ask for the investigation to be extended to the whole Johannesburg municipal area.

Investors return to residential market as sectional title revives

B/Day 11/4/90

THE sectional title concept is continuing to gain ground in the residential property market and investors are returning to the arena, according to Sable Holdings MD Paul Nash.

Sable's property arm is well established as property investor and, more recently, developer

The company now has four office blocks, three industrial complexes and one block of flats on its investment portfolio, as well as seven developments on stream In addition, it owns two hotels including the 340-room Protea Gardens in Berea

Its total property portfolio has an estimated value of R65m. This division of the company's operations will account for 40% of its profits this year, the balance being made by its industrial division Steiner Services

"Investors are now increasingly recognising the value of a sectional title investment, and frequently buy up three or four flats at a time," said financial director Andy Bolleurs.

He said sectional title office blocks were generally less successful than flats, since businessmen tended to prefer to own an individual stand-alone block.

"We have developed and sold six mini-office blocks in Randburg In addition, we're planning a similar development of two- to three-storey buildings, each amounting to 600-800m², on another 8 000m² site in Randburg," he said.

"There is a strong demand for this type of development, which enables the smaller company to own its own readily identifiable office property, without having to take the sectional title option."

But Bolleurs stressed that sectional title residential development remained one of Sable's major property interests.

On the industrial side, Sable is currently involved with Abcon in the joint R35m development of a 5ha property in Strydom Park

to deny these things That is what the hon the Minister said in front of these hon Ministers in the Chamber of Parliament That bothers one, because the R36,6 million came to nothing as a result of a lack of negotiation, in that the hon the Minister of Finance withdrew the amount

When I spoke to the hon the Minister the other day, some hon members said to me across the floor "Tell him about the R36 million he stole " This was the amount to which they were referring If we did not negotiate these amounts of money, we should not leak out things which create expectations among struggling pensioners and the recipients of maintenance allowances, because that confuses them I want to tell the hon the Minister that I shall do everything in my power to ensure parity I think we should get together somewhere, however, and try to see eye to eye on the true state of affairs Then the hon the Chief Whip need not shout at me that I am confused [Time expired]

*Mr P W SAAIMAN Mr Chairman, these reports created great expectations and we cannot get away from that, because our aged people took cognisance of the prospect of a better dispensation for them in this political climate I am sure our elderly people put these questions to hon members when they were in their constituencies during the recess That is why these questions must be put here and why we must get an answer with regard to what the hon the Minister and the negotiation team intend to do to redress the situation Will a bonus be paid again this year? Would it not be better to pay twice as much and then announce a monthly increase of approximately R10 or R15? If it is done retrospectively, at least the R25 will be supplemented by R15 We sincerely hope that the hon the Minister will get the R36,6 million he needs for pensions to comply with the means test The question, however, is whether this will meet the expectations of the public

Our elderly people and our pensioners are really amazed, because even if we get the new dispensation about which so much has been said, an allowance creates the impression that the aged are not entitled to it This does not change anything because, due to the apartheid structure, our people did not have the employment opportunities, nor did they earn enough to join a recognised pension scheme At present we are fighting for the farm workers, for example—a large group—who do not have a pension scheme We can forget about that, because very soon those farm workers will be pensioners [Time expired]

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE Mr Chairman, I want to come back to the report that appeared in the *Cape Times* of 21 March 1988 I read to hon members what it said Very well, I did not read the entire report, but I did read the section which says "It is likely to spark a bitter debate with the Government coming under attack from the CP "

†That was the crux of the matter

*As a result, however, on 21 March the hon the Minister of Finance I was just going to read it I do not know whether the hon member can remember I do not know whether or not he was present that day I was just going to read it, when I received a message that the hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council had received a letter from the hon the Minister of Finance He indicated in a letter that he had instructed the Treasury in terms of section 8(1) of the Exchequer and Audit Act of 1975 to suspend an amount of R36,6 million on the 1988-89 budget of the Administration House of Representatives [Interjections]

My department and the Ministers' Council constantly strive for the elimination of disparities in social pensions and allowances I want to tell the hon member that I have a list He must see how much is needed every year It is worked out by my department It is given to the department of the hon the Minister of the Budget and they negotiate these matters with the hon the Minister of Finance I shall give hon members the information I can single out a year, for example, . . [Time expired]

Mr G H J THOMAS Mr Chairman, the issue regarding old age pensions has been riddled to such an extent that to ask more questions will only add to the string of unanswered questions. [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member for Matroosfontein may continue

Mr G H J THOMAS I want to ask the hon the Minister of Health Services and Welfare whether the R36,6 million had been requested again in order to bring pensions closer to parity The other day in the main Chamber of Parliament the hon the Minister of Finance pointed out that for three years the hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council did not come forward to ask for financial assistance Can it now be assumed that the hon the Minister of Health Services and Welfare did not make the request again? When I recall his speech I give credit to the hon the Minister [Time expired]

*Mr J A RABIE Mr Chairman, I merely want to react to the last statement made by the hon the Minister I was not trying to indicate that the hon the Ministers were not doing their work in trying to effect this parity My problem is the question of negotiation It is all very well to place prepared documents in an official's hand so that he can negotiate The official, however, will not state the case with the same feeling and in the same spirit contained in those prepared documents which must be given to the treasurer I propose that the hon the Minister consider suspending the business of this House at some stage so that they can conduct an urgent interview with the hon the Minister of Finance in respect of these matters, so that we can get this sorted out and do not constantly go for one another across the floor, whether we do so unknowingly or deliberately This matter must receive attention now, because those old people deserve it [Interjections]

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE Mr Chairman, I can assure the hon member for Reigerpark that we began the negotiations when we got a new hon State President [Interjections] Hon members know that the previous State President was angry with us

*The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE That was because of the swimming, as hon members know [Interjections]

*The MINISTER There were problems with the previous State President Since the present hon State President has taken over, the matter has been brought to his attention I can assure the hon member that the hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council sent the hon the State President a letter in order to initiate discussions on this matter once again, and we received very favourable reaction this morning

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Riverlea Extension 1: development

*1 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing Hansard 17/4/90

(1) Whether any recommendations for the development of houses for Riverlea Extension 1 were made to his Department, if so, by whom,

(2) whether his Department refused to pass the plans submitted for these houses, if not, why not, if so, for what reasons,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

(127) C46E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE (for the Minister of Housing)

(1) Yes The City Council of Johannesburg

(2) Yes The Housing Board did not approve the project, but recommended that an assisted self-help project or privatisation be considered in view of the fact that the estimated building costs for the erection of the dwellings by conventional methods would be above the limit determined to be affordable by the lower income group

(3) No

Riverlea Extensions 1 and 2

*2 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether K1 and K2 projects were envisaged for Riverlea Extensions 1 and 2, if so,

(2) whether he intends proceeding with these projects, if not, why not,

(3) whether it is his intention to enlarge Riverlea, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) (i) what area is involved and (ii) what is the extent of this area,

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 17/4/90 C47E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE (for the Minister of Housing) (127)

(1) No

(2) No, due to the many physical and geological restrictions on the land,

(3) No, because suitable land for future extension and economical development is not available

(a), (b) (i) and (ii) Fall away

(4) No

Local affairs/management committees: members

*3 Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture

(1) Whether any members of the House of Representatives are currently serving on local affairs committees and mangement committees, if so,

(2) whether he will furnish the names of such members, if not, why not, if so, who are they,

(3) whether it is anticipated that public representatives will be prevented from serving on bodies at more than one level of government, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) in terms of what legislation,

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Hansard 17/4/90 C65E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE

(1) Yes

(2) Yes —

Mr J W Christians (MP Ravensmead)
Mr S Ebrahim (MP Grassy Park)
Mr C M George (MP Greenwood Park)
Mr C B Herandien (MP Macassar)
Mr N M Isaacs (MP Bishop Lavis)
Mr P W Saaiman (MP Mid Karoo)

(3) Yes Hansard 17/4/90

(a) It is not possible to say when as the proposed legislation regarding uniform elections must still be approved,

(b) proposed legislation regarding a uniform electoral act

(4) No

Mr T ABRAHAMS Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I would like to ask him how he feels about members serving on more than one level of government

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am bound by the party's policy, and the party's policy is my policy

Austerville, Durban: day-care centre

*4 Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare

(1) Whether it is intended to establish a day-care centre in Austerville, Durban, if so,

(2) whether the old Northgate Primary School site has been considered for this purpose, if so,

(3) whether this site was found suited to the purpose, if not, why not,

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C66E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE Hansard 17/4/90

(1) No

(2) Falls away

(3) Falls away

(4) No

For written reply

General Affairs

Hansard 17/4/90

Prisons service: applications

15 Mr W J MEYER asked the Minister of Justice†

(1) (a) How many applications did the Prisons Service receive during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available in respect of

promotion examinations for (i) sergeants to the rank of warrant officer, (ii) warrant officers to the rank of lieutenant and (iii) lieutenants to the rank of captain and (b) how many (i) men and (ii) women were successful in the examinations in respect of each of these ranks,

(2) with reference to each of the above categories, (a) how many applications were received from Pollsmoor and (b) how many candidates from Pollsmoor (i) sat for the examinations and (ii) were successful?

Hansard 17/4/90 C41E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) During the period 1 March 1989 to 28 February 1990 promotional examinations only took place on one occasion

(a) (i) 1 611

(ii) 608

(iii) Officers are not required to complete promotional examinations as promotion takes place according to merit

(b) (i) Sergeant to Warrant officer 50
Warrant officer to Lieutenant 9

(ii) Sergeant to Warrant officer 20
Warrant officer to Lieutenant 3

(2) (a) Sergeant to Warrant officer, Men 59, Women 5
Warrant officer to Lieutenant, Men . 23, Women 1

(b) (i) Sergeant to Warrant officer, Men 25, Women 1
Warrant officer to Lieutenant, Men 6, Women 0

(ii) No candidate at Pollsmoor was successful in the completion of the promotional examination

New prisons

16 Mr W J MEYER asked the Minister of Justice † Hansard 17/4/90

(1) How many new prisons are on his Department's building programme for the 1990-91 financial year,

(2) whether a new training college for warders is planned or under construction at Westlake, if so, what progress has been made in this regard?

Hansard 17/4/90 C42E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) The following new prisons are being constructed

Boksburg Prison
Brandvlei Prison
Cradock Prison
Glencoe Prison
Kandaspunt Prison
Knysna Prison
Pollsmoor Prison
Pretoria Central Prison
Zonderwater Prison

A new prison to be erected at Oudtshoorn is on the building programme for the 1990-91 financial year

(2) Yes The planning of a new training college for warders at Westlake is nearly completed

Against the background of economic restrictions the Prisons Service is, however, compelled to introduce various measures with the view to increased cost efficiency in the management of the Prisons Service This requires, inter alia, that an extensive investigation is presently being undertaken into the possible improved and multi-purpose utilization of existing infrastructure and facilities as well as those presently being planned

Own Affairs

Hansard 17/4/90

Newlands East, Durban: clinic/health centre

3 Mr L T LANDERS asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare

(1) Whether his Department received an application from a certain local authority to erect a clinic and/or health centre in Newlands East, Durban, if so, (a) from which local authority and (b) when,

(2) whether this application was approved, if not, why not, if so, (a) what will this project cost, (b) when is it anticipated that building operations will be (i) commenced

the gloomiest.

Aware of these senti- He suspended a clause in the Education and

A sewage problem hits flats

127

Sowetan 17/4/90

By SONTI MASEKO

BLACK domestic workers living in a block of flats in Yeoville, Johannesburg have spent the Easter weekend carrying out buckets of sewage that threatened to flood their rooms after the caretaker told them they had to wait until today for a plumber.

About 14 women employed by tenants living in Trinity Hall, a whites-only block of flats owned by Standard Bank, live in the servants' quarters of the block.

They said since Saturday night sewage from other parts of the building had come up from the drains in the bath tubs and toilets and poured onto the floor in which their rooms are situated. They had to contain the sewage in buckets to prevent it from flooding their rooms.

They said the caretaker of the building, Mr Ron Cooper, told them on Sunday that the plumbers would not come until the end of the long weekend.

The tenants in the flats were, however, not warned about the blockage and as they continued flushing the toilets and using the baths more sewage flooded the servants' quarters.

Asked to comment, Cooper said when he saw the flood he did not think the blockage was serious.

"This morning I realised that it was serious and I called the plumbers," he said.

The domestic workers each pay R100 for a room.

RSA, crime tendencies are continuously monitored I wish to assure the honourable member that everything possible is being done to prevent crime When it is apparent that there is an increase in crime, active steps are taken to counteract this tendency

Hansard 18/4/90

Own Affairs

Riverlea: housing projects

1 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing Hansard 18/4/90

(1) Whether the South Western Management Committee has applied to his Department for funds to develop housing projects in certain areas of Riverlea in 1990, if so, (a) what (i) amounts and (ii) areas of Riverlea are involved and (b) for what projects in each area are these amounts intended,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? (127) C49E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes

(a) (i) R2 000 000,00

(ii) Riverlea Extension 1

(b) Housing for the aged consisting of 17 double and 50 single units

(2) No

South Western Management Committee: Riverlea Extension

2 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing Hansard 18/4/90

(1) Whether the South Western Management Committee has made any recommendations to his Department in connection with approximately 21 houses envisaged for Riverlea Extension 1, if so, what recommendations,

(2) whether his Department has taken a decision on these recommendations, if not, why not, if so, (a) what decision and (b) what were the reasons for this decision? (127) C58E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes The Johannesburg City Council submitted recommendations to the Housing Board for the financing of 21 assisted housing units

(2) Yes

(a) The Housing Board recommended that an assisted selfhelp project be considered or the project be considered for privatisation,

(b) the estimated building costs for the erection of the dwellings by conventional building methods would be above the limit determined to be affordable by the lower income group

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

**Precedence given to interpellations on general affairs on this day pursuant to the resolution adopted by the House on Tuesday, 27 March 1990*

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language

General Affairs

Persons of colour. employment

Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises

(1) What is the policy of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in regard to the employment of persons of colour in the Republic in general and its Durban regional office known as Commercial City in particular,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D105E INT

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES Mr Chairman, the policy of the department regarding the employment of persons of colour was dealt with during the various discussions of the Post Office Budget At this stage I have nothing to add to the statement on the matter that I made at the time For the benefit of hon members I shall briefly repeat the essence of what I said

I acknowledged during that debate that regardless of meaningful progress in respect of the employment of persons of colour in the department, undisputed disparities still existed I also accepted the fact that the quota system applicable to the employment of technicians, telcom electricians and technical assistants restricted the employment of persons of colour I furthermore said that I was aware that the resistance to change among White personnel had retarded the efforts of the department to employ more persons of colour

Against this background I announced a new policy approach based on the principle of the best man for the job The announcement contained the following statements

The department now fully applies the principle of equality in the field of employment and all measures that might still have had a discriminatory connotation have been eliminated

Post Office personnel of all population groups will in future participate in the establishment and maintenance of adequate postal and telecommunications facilities and the provision of effective services to all communities

Educational qualifications, the results of aptitude tests, experience, age, language proficiency and personal qualities will henceforth be the only criteria for the employment of people The principle of the best person for the post without considering the population group to which a candidate belongs, has therefore been fully accepted and will be implemented

Concerning promotions, joint merit lists will be drawn up with the result that candidates of all population groups will compete on an equal footing for promotion When effecting promotions, local circumstances, such as cultural and language considerations, will be considered in particular cases to ensure that decisions are taken in the best interest of clients, the officer and the community in question As far as supervision is concerned, all restrictions have been eliminated and the policy of the best person for the post is also being applied

Mr K CHETTY Mr Chairman, I fully agree with the hon the Minister when he talks about merit and criteria We believe that the policy of the best man for the job is the best policy

I have been furnished with statistics by the Ministry of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises From these statistics it is obvious that the policy of discrimination has been followed and people of colour have been disadvantaged deliberately

Of the 679 people employed in the various posts at Commercial City, 592 are White How does the hon the Minister account for that? Only 11 Blacks and 76 Indians are employed Moreover, all senior positions are held by Whites Are our people so underqualified that they cannot hold any of these positions? I think this is certainly not the case A survey among our graduates will indicate that more than enough of our people are qualified, but they are not given the opportunity to fill these posts because of their colour This is gross discrimination and if the Government's policy of reform is to have any meaning, the Department of Posts and Telecommunications

Jo'burg ratepayers could face 15% increase

B/Day 18/4/90 (127)

EDYTH BULBRING

RATEPAYERS in Johannesburg could be paying a 15% across-the-board increase in rates when the city's budget is presented in June.

City treasurer Willie Siebert said yesterday he would recommend to the new management committee, chaired by DP leader Ian Davidson, that an across-the-board increase in rates should be in line with the inflation rate or, if possible, lower

Ratepayers were hit with a 20% across-the-board increase in rates last June, after a 6% increase the previous year This 6% was attributed by then DP leader in the council Tony Leon to NP electioneering

Siebert said council expenditure on some commodities had risen more than 30%, and to levy a 15% increase in rates would not be unreasonable

The 15% increase would cover the council's projected operating budget which was expected to be R1,7bn, Siebert said The closing financial year's operating budget was R1,4bn

The council's capital expenditure, which totalled R382m this year, could exceed the 13% increase recommended by government if the new management committee finds that the increase does not cover certain priorities

No money was allocated for capital expenditure in the last two budgets for Hillbrow, Joubert Park, Bertrams, Braamfontein and the surrounding areas and the DP has committed itself to tackling the decay in these areas

Infrastructure for 20 000 houses

Star 18/4/90 (127)

Bulk services infrastructure for about 20 000 housing sites in a new area immediately west of Soweto has been approved by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council during its 30th ordinary meeting.

Chairman Mr John Griffiths said his council had approved more than R19,5 million for the project, to be provided during the next financial year.

Mr Griffiths said to enable this much-needed housing development to proceed, the RSC would spend an estimated R10,5 million on sewerage disposal, R2,45 million on water mains and R6,2 million on electricity infrastructure. — Sapa.

Ginger cookies and nerves — but no midnight knocks

From A SPECIAL WRITER

JOHANNESBURG. — "Have they got diplomatic status?"

This was the nervous question posed by an estate agent to a (white) friend who accompanied my wife and me on a tour of a show house in a suburb near here.

The house was not to our liking and we never saw the agent again — he was the only person, during our entire search for a house in this city, who made us feel like "illegals".

The truth is, our experience is one of over-eager agents ready to do business, be of service and make a "buck".

Moving from a township house in Cape Town, it was of course a new experience to be able to scan thick property supplements in newspapers for houses on the market.

The easy part was finding a suitable house.

Our own nervousness started after we purchased a house and had to move to a new (white) neighbourhood. It was compounded by the fact that we refused to do so on the much-hated permit system.

Insecurity

Our worry about a permit has, however, proved unfounded up to today. The only insecurity and hesitancy were in our own hearts and minds.

Some time after the removal firm unloaded our belongings, I worried about a possible police knock at the door or a "meneer" from a government department who had the responsibility of keeping what is white, pure white.

The fact that our neighbours on both sides arrived at our front door on the day we moved in with a chocolate cake and ginger cookies helped, but did not put us entirely at ease.

So often I have heard that it is not usually the immediate neighbours who feel threatened but some troubled soul somewhere in the neighbourhood who has heard of an "inkspot" in the area.

Three years after we had moved in, we had made good friends beyond our immediate neighbours, got elected on the school committee and joined the neighbourhood watch.

We were quite sad when we moved to another (white) neighbourhood three months ago.

Ginger cookies

In our new neighbourhood, we were not that concerned when we were not greeted with ginger cookies because, by then, we were much more relaxed and confident.

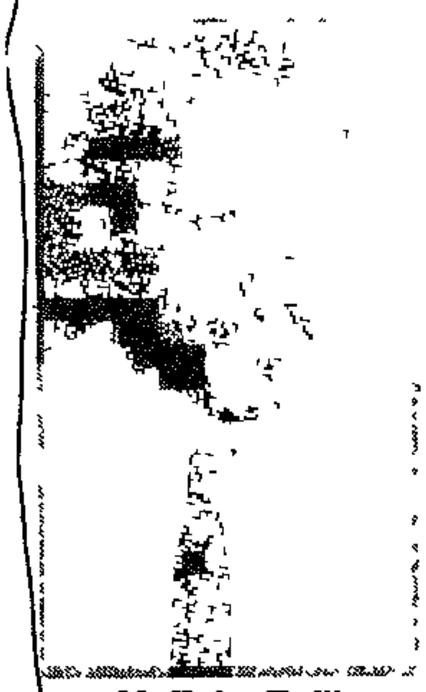
It also seemed to us that the group areas situation here was much more relaxed than expected and that the spirit of the new South Africa has arrived in this city.

There is something about this city's "free spirit" that one can only find in a "world city". I am aware, also, that this is not something one must take for granted in my hometown, Cape Town.

Looking back, I somehow feel my hometown is a warm and friendly little dorp where most people have a liberal image but an environment where you must "know your place".

(SOUTH's special writer is a former Cape Town journalist who moved to Johannesburg in 1987 He holds a top public relations job with one of the leading companies in South Africa)

More options open for home buyers likely this year



Mr Zuko Tofile

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE recent positive steps in the South African political arena have been welcomed by business leaders and should result in a significant long term improvement in the economy's performance

This was said by the chairman of Time Holdings Limited, Mr Colin Hibbet, in his annual report.

However, he says, the current slow-down in the economy is expected to continue through most of 1990 and interest rates are not expected to fall significantly before the third quarter of the year.

He says the group, which comprises three major operating divisions focusing on the areas of financial services, and insurance, housing and commercial property management and investment, is nevertheless strongly positioned in its three keys areas of activity, and is targeting a turnover budget approaching R350 million.

The report says in October Urban Foundation announced details of a scheme to provide bond finance for homes costing less than R35 000

Until recently, developers were faced with a financing gap as few building societies would grant bonds of below R35 000 while the South African Housing Trust had a R20 000 lending ceiling.

Time can now enter the market for homes costing between R20 000 and R35 000 - a market which is estimated to exceed 250 000 units - thanks to the Urban Foundation, the report adds.

"Several statutory and practical issues remain to be resolved before the initiative comes into effect but we expect to benefit increasingly from the scheme from mid-1990."

Unique chance for exhibitors

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THOUSANDS of people are likely to attend this year's Matchmakers Exhibition at Nasrec from May 16 to 18.

White industrialists will once more come in their numbers hoping to identify black undertakings they can do business with.

Matchmaker director, Mr Zuko Tofile, said ordinary people will be exposed to a number of products and services which are available right on their doorstep- the townships

Exhibitors will thus be provided with a unique, efficient and powerful platform from which to market their products and services.

Attracting the public to this event (and attracting their buying power) will be a programme of events the likes of which has never before been experienced, he said.

RETIREMENT VILLAGES (127)

Trouble in paradise

F/M 20/4/90

Comfortable and attractive surroundings and well-run facilities. What more could people entering their twilight years ask for?

Certainly for most of its residents, Leisureview in Edenvale fits the bill when it comes to retirement bliss. However, there is a fly in the ointment. A vociferous, but understandably aggrieved minority, believes it isn't getting what it originally bought.

They claim the developer, SA Property Sales, managed by Andre Bouwer, now wants to change the original contractual commitment. The proposal seems to be working as there are now just six objectors against 16 when the changes were first mooted.

Furthermore, it seems that the planned conversion of the scheme from a share block to sectional title has been delayed because of the running dispute. One angry resident, who bought her retirement unit less than a year ago, explains that she nearly bought a home in a Bryanston village but selected Leisureview specifically because it offered frail-care facilities. The original concept at Leisureview was that there would be a resident qualified nursing sister, additional nursing staff, emergency panic buttons, doctors' consulting and examination rooms, a sick bay with six beds and 14 private wards with 28 beds Now that seems to be going by the board.

"The scheme was still being developed when I bought and moved in I was, and am, very happy with my unit and the way the complex is run. But, I was shocked when asked to sign a new contract which excluded the provision for these facilities I have been told I will not be given my share certificates, which were due more than three months ago, until I sign the new agreement," says the woman

As an alternative to the frail-care unit, she says, the developer points out that frail-care facilities can be reserved at the local hospital for a fee of R25 a month. On top of that occupancy costs would be between R1 800 and R2 000 a month at today's prices

Another resident says he will sell his unit and move rather than agree to the changes. "But most people are stuck They have committed themselves and must stay

"Residents don't realise that by agreeing to the proposed changes they are selling their long-term rights cheaply for a small short-term gain," he says

Last year the developer told a residents' meeting of plans to sell the sites for the private wards for R39 500 each but said this would require unit owners to sign new contracts

The carrot to financially strapped owners was a massive reduction in stamp duties payable to legalise the contracts. "In my case," says the man, "my stamp duty would be only about R170 on signing the new agreement compared with about R1 700 which I have paid (though the cheque hasn't yet been cashed by the developer)."

The aggrieved resident adds that under the new contract the developer is entitled to borrow from the community to develop the village further In addition, it faces few restrictions from the village management committee.

It seems to be clear that even if the developer believes it has the best interests of the villagers at heart it should have disclosed planned changes before selling units rather than after the pensioners had committed themselves. Bouwer did not respond to phone calls or faxed queries from the *FM*. ■

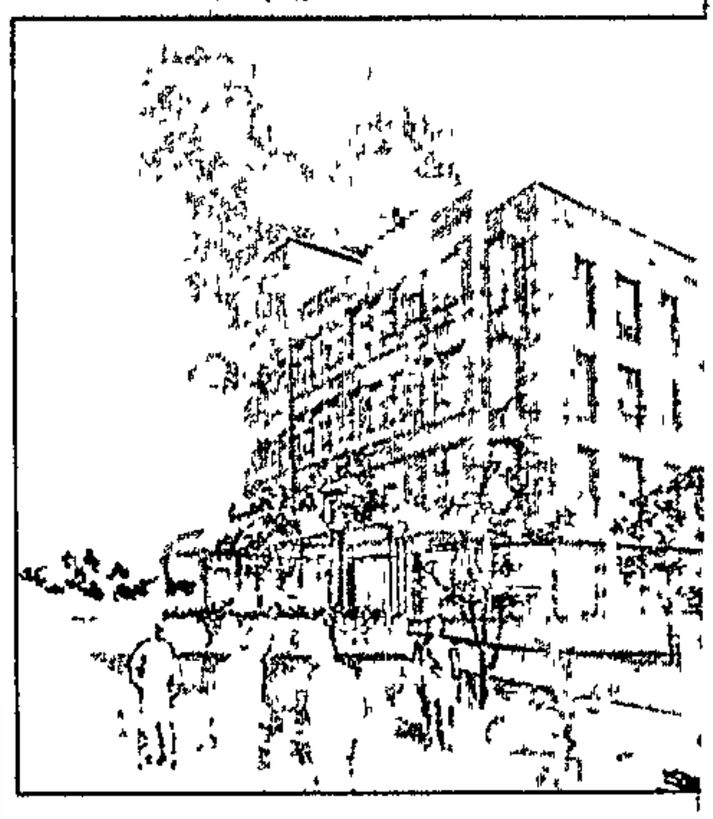
TOWN PLANNING F/M 20/4/90

Begging to differ

Few planning policy changes are likely as a result of the the civic coup which, last week, toppled the NP-controlled Johannesburg City Council's management committee in favour of an alliance dominated by the DP.

ON YOUR

Work is about to start on Standard General Insurance's new R7m 4 024 m² speculative Randburg office block to be built on a 1 800 m² site bounded by Jan Smuts Avenue, Hendrik Verwoerd Drive, St Andrews Avenue and Maxwell Drive.



paradise

F/M 20/4/90

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(127)

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F/M 20/4/90 (127)

This, at any rate, is the view of re-elected planning and development committee chairman Eddy Magid who has emerged from the power struggle as non-aligned deputy chairman of the new management committee

Nevertheless, Magid could find himself in a minority over the vexed issue of free settlement status for Johannesburg

There is widespread speculation that the new management committee will treat, as a priority, an application to have the whole of Johannesburg declared open to free settlement However, Magid adamantly opposes such moves unless the surrounding urban areas of Sandton, Randburg, Roodepoort, Germiston, Soweto, Bedfordview and Diepkloof are also included in the application

"My opposition is based purely on planning criteria. The political issues don't interest me now," he says

Magid explains that declaring Johannesburg open to free settlement in isolation would result in greater, rather than less, urban fragmentation. It would also create chaos in terms of issues like traffic planning and control because flow patterns would be substantially altered (largely as a result of those entitled to live in Johannesburg working in surrounding towns)

"The only real option is to designate a much larger area open to free settlement. An even more logical solution would be to scrap the Group Areas Act."

In the context of broader planning issues and the new management committee, Magid says: "If anything, my elevation to deputy chairman has strengthened my ability to implement the enterprises which I had already started. A priority will be to pursue private sector partnerships — an issue on which the new committee chairman, Ian Davidson, and I agree."

He adds that the council will take the initiative by proposing specific ways of entering partnerships with large organisations. Typically this could involve the city as the landowner while the company functions as developer. "There are various scenarios which I personally will pursue in the very near future."

He adds that he endorses the policy of greater openness but stresses the need for privacy when discussing sensitive issues. ■

ARGUS 24/4/90

66 percent of blacks' houses will be owned

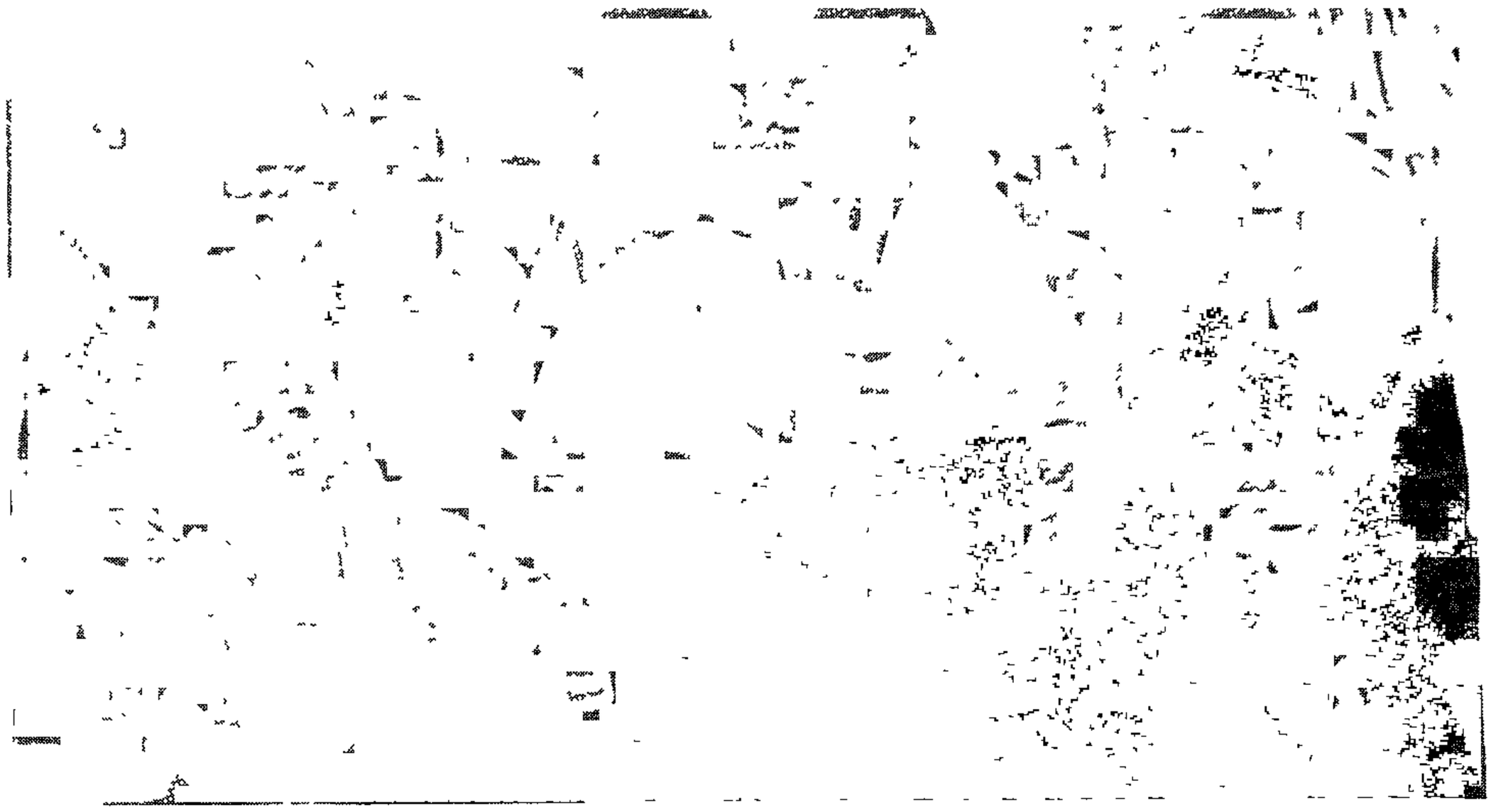
(127)

PRETORIA. — An estimated 66 percent of the available houses for blacks in the Transvaal will be privately owned by the end of this year.

This was disclosed by Mr John Mavuso, member of the executive council for housing and community development in the Transvaal Provincial Administration

Nearly 35 percent of available housing for blacks has been sold to private owners since the government started the private ownership scheme for blacks on July 1 1983

According to a statement released by the TPA, 117 490 houses have already been sold nationally out of the total of 333 604 — Sapa



The Soweto Student Ladies Society held a fundraising dance party in Senaoane where they collected money to help their organisation with community projects. Pic MBUZENI ZULU

Yeoville domestics live in appalling conditions

Sowetan 24/4/90 (127)

By SONTI MASEKO

WOMEN domestic workers, who faced a sewerage problem at a block of flats in Yeoville, Johannesburg, during the Easter weekend, also live in appalling conditions, an investigation by *Sowetan* revealed.

On Saturday night, women living in the servants quarters at Trinity Hall, a block of whites-only flats owned by the Standard Bank, had to carry sewage in buckets to prevent it from flooding their rooms which are situated at the bottom of the flats.

The caretaker of the building, Mr Ron Cooper, after examining the blockage told the women that the plumber would arrive at the end of the long weekend.

'Not serious'

He said the blockage did not seem serious enough for him at that time and the women could not wait until Tuesday for the plumber.

The 14 women in the women's section of the servants quarters also shared between them two bathrooms, one which had not been working for the past five years.

While the women were busy carrying out the sewage to prevent it from flooding their rooms, their children ran and played in the dirty water along the passage and small space used for hanging laundry

Apparently the children of the domestic workers were not allowed in the front of the building or on the lawns and were compelled to play in the little space at the quarters, one of the womem said

The women, who are employed as domestic servants by the tenants in the flats, pay R100 each for a room which is fitted with only an electrical bulb.

There are no wall plugs fitted for the women who want to use heaters or do cooking

Ms Pat Sidley, one of the tenants at Trinity Hall, said the Standard Bank was aware of the living conditions of the domestic servants at that block as she had on several occasions told bank officials about them

"The only change they made was putting a coat of paint along the corridors of the rooms," she said

A spokesman from the bank's public affairs division told the *Sowetan* that the bank was going to renovate the whole block within a year to 18 months

'ECTATION
) UP 17,5%

0 (Unaudited)	
0	Pro forma 12 months to 31 August 1989
7	1 654 898
8	145 570
0	34 435
8	111 135
6	36 776
2	74 359
0	2 826
5	29
7	71 504
5	22 430
,6	318,8
7	106
,2	3,0
,8	4,2
%	33,1%
90	Pro forma 31 August 1989
88	318 447
50	450
89	7 068
17	191
44	326 156
36	150 924
80	477 080
44	200 651
81	50 223
35	512 596

Teargas used to break up Kroonstad crowd

B/Day 24/4/90

KROONSTAD — At least one person was reportedly injured when police fired teargas to disperse about 1 500 people who staged a sit-down outside the civic centre in Maokeng township near Kroonstad yesterday.

The crowd was given two minutes to disperse, thereafter police fired a barrage of teargas, police said.

The group was part of a crowd of about 6 000 which converged on the civic centre demanding the resignation of mayor Caswell Koekoe and the town council

Shortly after the crowd had been dispersed, police fired more teargas at people congregated on pavements or in private yards.

(127)

A boy was treated at Boitumelo Hospital near Maokeng for a head wound allegedly sustained when he was hit by a teargas cannister.

□ WILSON ZWANE reports that at least one taxi was set alight and several others were damaged when hundreds of Katlehong youths stopped, stoned and petrol-bombed taxis on Saturday.

Katlehong Civic Organisation spokesman Ken Moetsi said the violence was sparked when the Germiston and District Taxi Association resumed operations in the township.

Moetsi said the association was intimidating Katlehong residents by resuming operations It was not supposed to operate while investigations were in progress into the causes of its feud with the Katlehong Taxi Association.

The feud between the two associations has reportedly claimed about 50 lives

Since the taxi war the Germiston and District Taxi Association and the Katlehong Taxi Association have not been operating in the township.

Sabta spokesman Fanyana Shiburi said yesterday a meeting of interested parties was to be held last night to decide what action should be taken against Germiston and District Taxi Association for resuming its services

Sabta suspended the association because of its war with the Katlehong association over routes in Katlehong

NATAL UNREST DEATHS

September 1987 — January 1989:	668
February 1989 — April 22 1990:	934
Past 24 hours' official toll:	2
TOTAL:	1 604

Hansard 24/4/90

No 1 — Josub Aboo
29 — Hamed aboo Gani
43 — Nurgen Latib
38 — Khatija Jeeva
13 — Rabia Latib
42 — Hanisa Tayob

Erf 589 Marlboro Gardens: repossession

*5 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether the property described as Erf 589 Marlboro Gardens was repossessed by his Department or the Housing Development Board, if so, (a) when and (b) why, Hansard 24/4/90

(2) whether the deed of sale for this property was countersigned, if so,

(3) whether he will disclose the identity of the person by whom it was countersigned, if not, why not, if so, what is the name of this person? (127) D118E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes, the Housing Development Board

(a) 2 August 1989

(b) The deed of sale entered into with the purchaser was invalid

(2) Yes.

(3) As the property has been repossessed and the agreement cancelled the matter has now been resolved The invalid deed of sale was countersigned by a certain Makda

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, arising out of the answers given by hon the Minister, could he explain why the deed of sale was invalid?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I could reply to the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition in writing, because I do not want to make a statement without having the correct answers from our officials (127)

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the answers given, is it not correct that a very serious criminal act was committed? [Interjections.]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I have responded to the questions, and the answers are on record Hansard 24/4/90

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Do you stand for clean administration? [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, will he also please let me have a full answer to that reply?

The MINISTER Yes, Mr Chairman

Mr D K PADIACHEY Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, was the person who was allocated this house on the waiting list?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, these are questions for which I have no records here [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The time for questions has now expired

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE You have been given a lot of liberty to make noise

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE. Order! Did the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture say that hon members have been given a lot of liberty to make noise?

The MINISTER. I did say that, Mr Chairman

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE. Order! I want to ask the hon the Minister whether he was reflecting on the Chair

The MINISTER No, not on the Chair

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Iscor: publicity campaign

257 Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises:

(a) What was the total cost of the publicity campaign for Iscor preceding its flotation and (b) what was the total amount spent on (i) television advertisements, (ii) printed media advertisements and (iii) other specified items related to this campaign?

Hansard 25/4/90 B668E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES.

(a) R16 112 573,00

(b) (i) R8 598 108,00

(ii) R4 535 421,00

(iii) R654 582,83 (Consultants — Co-ordination and control)
R719 818,33 (Share information office)
R122 596,92 (Plant visits by media and prospective investors)
R165 781,23 (Investor presentations — Road shows)
R1 016 264,69 (Publications and design)
R300 000,00 (Research)
R2 979 044,00

Own Affairs

School medical inspectors Hansard 25/4/90

93 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Education and Culture.

Hansard 25/4/90

(1) Whether any schools under his control are visited by medical inspectors for the routine examinations of pupils, if not, why not, if so, in respect of each province in 1989, (a) how many schools were so visited, (b) what total number of pupils was examined and (c) what was the percentage of pupils examined in comparison with the total pupil population,

(2) whether any pupils requiring medical treatment were referred for such treatment, if not, why not, if so, in respect of each province in 1989, (a) what was the total number of pupils so referred and (b) what number of pupils was referred for nutritional and related reasons? B650E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE·

(1) Yes,

		(a)	(b)	(c)
	Cape	11	3 906	1,8
	Natal	262	38 127	39
*	OFS	214	52 803	66
**	Transvaal	1 770	418 288	80,2

(2) yes,

		(a)	(b)
	Cape	53	4
	Natal	5 109	1 585
*	OFS	3 111	16
**	Transvaal	39 395	561

* Pre-primary schools included

** Northern Transvaal region exluded Revisits included

Male teachers: resignations

100 Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of Education and Culture·

(1) (a) How many male teachers attached to (i) primary and (ii) high schools resigned from teaching in 1989, (b) what percentage do these resignations represent of the total number of male teachers attached to (i) primary and (ii) high schools, (c) what was the total net gain or loss of male teachers at such schools in that year and (d) what were the main reasons given for resignation, Hansard 25/4/90

ENTERPRISE HANDS OVER FIRST HOME

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

127

A DELIGHTED Enterprise employee received the keys to her house in the FHA Homes development at Vosloorus Ext 25 on Monday.

This was one of the first of a total of 80 houses which employees of the food company are buying with Enterprise's financial backing

Enterprise recently launched a housing assistance scheme in which the company offered 10% collateral to enable employees to obtain 100% bonds on their own houses.

Enterprise MD Danie Venter said: "The major problem with acquiring a home is not only being able to afford the repayments but also entering into the market."

"The requirement of a 10% or 20% deposit restricts most people from obtaining houses. The collateral scheme is geared to eliminate this problem."

The complete financing for the Enterprise houses is being provided by the SA Perm.

B/Day

Sales 25/4/90

The Vosloorus Ext 25 development of 500 houses was announced last November by FHA Homes, an Urban Foundation housing development firm.

At the handover ceremony, FHA GM John Weaver said: "Sales to date are in excess of 300. We soon expect to top 500."

FHA is offering two sizes of house, Type B and Type C. The Type B house covers 44m² and the Type C covers 52m². The houses are fully serviced and the exterior is painted.

The interior walls and ceiling are unpainted and there are no carpets or built-in cupboards. These can be added at extra cost.

Type B houses cost about R33 500 and Type C about R35 000.

"We tried to leave off everything that the owner can do himself and just provide a basic unit," Weaver said.

Other FHA projects include Tsakane, KwaThema and Moleleki.

R13-m is missing - claim

(127)

By ZINGISA MKHUMA

RESIDENTS at Witbank's Kwaguqa township are up in arms over the alleged disappearance of R13 million from the town council's coffers.

The council has denied the claims, saying there was "a misunderstanding".

Town clerk Mr JA Engelbrecht said the R13 million was "in fact" a deficit in the council's budget.

A spokesman for Kwaguqa's Boycott Co-ordinating Committee said: "The rent boycott in Witbank is in its second month, and in the light of these allegations it is difficult to negotiate a solution to end the boycott."

He said they had evidence that linked certain white officials to the alleged theft and would report the matter to the police.

Four white officials of the councils are said to have been suspended with full pay.

Engelbrecht confirmed this and said the question of paying the suspended officials had been negotiated with the council's trade union.

He said the council would meet on April 26 to discuss the allegations

Sowetan 25/4/90

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127

A DELIGHTED Enterprise employee received the keys to her house in the FHA Homes development at Vosloorus Ext 25 on Monday.

This was one of the first of a total of 80 houses which employees of the food company are buying with Enterprise's financial backing.

Enterprise recently launched a housing assistance scheme in which the company offered 10% collateral to enable employees to obtain 100% bonds on their own houses.

Enterprise MD Danie Venter said: "The major problem with acquiring a home is not only being able to afford the repayments but also entering into the market."

"The requirement of a 10% or 20% deposit restricts most people from obtaining houses. The collateral scheme is geared to eliminate this problem."

The complete financing for the Enterprise houses is being provided by the SA Perm.

B/Day

Sales 25/4/90

The Vosloorus Ext 25 development of 500 houses was announced last November by FHA Homes, an Urban Foundation housing development firm.

At the handover ceremony, FHA GM John Weaver said: "Sales to date are in excess of 300. We soon expect to top 500."

FHA is offering two sizes of house, Type B and Type C. The Type B house covers 44m² and the Type C covers 52m². The houses are fully serviced and the exterior is painted.

The interior walls and ceiling are unpainted and there are no carpets or built-in cupboards. These can be added at extra cost.

Type B houses cost about R33 500 and Type C about R35 000.

"We tried to leave off everything that the owner can do himself and just provide a basic unit," Weaver said.

Other FHA projects include Tsakane, KwaThema and Moleleki.

MIDRAND

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

Own Affairs

Marlboro Gardens: dwelling repossessed

13 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing (127)

(1) Whether his Department or the Housing Development Board repossessed any dwelling in Marlboro Gardens, Transvaal, in the past two years, if so, (a) from whom, (b) on what date and (c) what is the name of the (i) purchaser of the property and (ii) spouse of the purchaser,

(2) whether false information was supplied in respect of the income of the owner of the property so repossessed, if so, by whom,

(3) whether the Marlboro Gardens Management Committee was involved in the allocation of the dwelling concerned, if so, to what extent,

(4) whether he intends referring this matter to the Attorney-General for prosecution, if not, why not; if so, when?

D48E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes. (127)

(a) Fatima Bhigjee

(b) 2 August 1989

(c) (i) Fatima Bhigjee

(ii) Unknown

(2) Not on record

(3) No.

(4) Falls away

Departments of the House of Delegates: budget

30. Mr H M NEERAHOO asked the Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services

(1) What amount was (a) budgeted for and (b) used in each Department of the House of Delegates for each specified financial year since the inception of the tricameral system,

(2) (a) what amount remained unused in each Department at the end of each such financial year and (b) why,

(3) whether the under-utilisation of the amounts budgeted for results in the Administration House of Delegates being allocated less than the amount requested from Treasury in the subsequent year?

D122E

Hansard 25/4/90

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND AUXILIARY SERVICES.

(1) (a) and (b)

Financial Year	*Department*	*(a) Amount Budgeted*	*(b) Amount Used*
1984/85	Budgetary and Auxiliary Serv	5 371 000,00	4 857 421 96
	Local Govt , Housing and Agr	48 801 000,00	27 081 475,54
	Education and Culture	162 654 281,55	162 654 281,55
	Health Services and Welfare	61 029 000,00	59 421 226,62
1985/86	Budgetary and Auxiliary Serv	8 631 000,00	7 929 454,10
	Local Govt , Housing and Agr.	126 155 000,00	111 583 483,61
	Education and Culture	328 729 121,32	328 729 121,32
	Health Services and Welfare	105 512 000,00	103 022 891,07
1986/87	Budgetary and Auxiliary Serv.	9 781 548,92	9 781 548,92
	Local Govt , Housing and Agr.	222 850 000,00	221 348 876,21
	Education and Culture	390 329 226,14	390 196 226,14
	Health Services and Welfare	128 015 204,86	128 015 204,86

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND AUXILIARY SERVICES (Continued)

(1) (a) and (b)

Financial Year	*Department*	*(a) Amount Budgeted*	*(b) Amount Used*
1987/88	Budgetary and Auxiliary Serv	12 479 656,09	12 479 656,09
	Local Govt , Housing and Agr	173 119 459,07	173 119 459,07
	Education and Culture	436 544 798,69	436 544 798,69
	Health Services and Welfare	158 158 425,13	158 158 425,13
1988/89	Budgetary and Auxiliary Serv	14 443 000,00	14 402 424,15
	Local Govt , Housing and Agr	187 843 000,00	166 380 618,11
	Education and Culture	481 214 325,06	481 214 325,06
	Health Services and Welfare	186 906 000,00	182 981 933,44

(2) (a)

Fincial Year	*Budgetary and Aux Services*	*Local Govt , Housing and Agriculture*	*Education and Culture*	*Health Services and Welfare*
1984/85	513 578,04	21 719 524,46	NIL	1 607 773,38
1985/86	701 545,90	14 571 516,39	NIL	2 489 108,93
1986/87	NIL	1 501 123,79	133 000,00	NIL
1987/88	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1988/89	40 575,85	21 462 381,89	NIL	3 924 066,56

(b) Various reasons as published in the Auditor-General's Report which is tabled in the House of Delegates annually

(3) No

A R55 291 shocker for Baloyi

127

Sowetan 26/4/90

By KENOSI MODISANE

A VOSLOORUS resident has been ordered by the council to pay R55 291 in electricity arrears.

Mr D Baloyi, of Extension 9, was ordered to report to the council offices last week to account for the arrears.

He has taken the matter to the local civic association, who have invited the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, to a meeting where the rent crisis will be discussed.

Mr Gwede Mantashe, a spokesman for the civic association, yesterday accused the council of inefficiency and called for its dismantling.

"We view such discrepancies in a serious light and will fight the rotten system to the end. This is shocking," he said.

Town clerk of the council Mr GDP Prinsloo was yesterday not available for comment.

Another resident, Mrs Florence Mzamo, appeared in the Vosloorus Magistrate's Court on Tuesday for failing to pay her arrears.

The civic association said Vosloorus had to pay 21 cents a unit for electricity while its neighbours, Boksburg and Reiger Park, paid 10 cents a unit.

ANC defectors still d

Blacks 'buying flats' in Hillbrow

Cape Times 26/4/90

127

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Black people wanting to buy residential property in Hillbrow, a white group area, are being granted permits to purchase immediately upon application by the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works.

Mr Jaap de Villiers, who owns Beaconsfield Court and Lorina Court in Hillbrow, said yesterday he had sold 15 flats to black families since last Friday. He has advertised a total of 57 flats for sale at prices ranging from R30 000 to R75 000.

Mr De Villiers is in possession of a letter from the department's offices in Johannesburg, confirming that the two apartment blocks are inside the proposed Hillbrow/Joubert Park Free Settlement Area.

The letter confirms that the department is issuing permits to blacks, enabling them to obtain bonds and transfer property in their names.

A spokesman from the department in Pretoria said yesterday he did not believe permits were being granted immediately for Hillbrow or any other area.

He said the fact that the area where these flats were being sold was under investigaton by the Free Settlement Areas Board would make no difference to the time constraints or number of permits being granted, as the Group Areas Act was still in force.

SERVICE STATIONS

Immobilised

FM 27/4/90

The mighty Mobil machine ground to an inauspicious halt in the Johannesburg suburb of Forest Town this week after determined resistance from local residents put a spanner in its plans for a service station in the suburb. (127)

Anger turned to jubilation on Monday when ratepayers arrived at the proposed garage site only to be told that the petrol giant had backed down and withdrawn its application.

A Townships Board hearing had been set down to consider an application from the fuel company under the controversial Removal of Restrictions Act. If the board had given Mobil the green light to develop, this would have overturned an earlier veto of the scheme by Johannesburg City Council.

However, the site for which the residents can claim victory is only one of two the fuel company (now part of Gencor) has chosen in Jan Smuts Avenue to have residential restrictions waived on so that it can put up service stations.

The Forest Town site is on the southbound side of the road close to the Bernberg Museum. The other, which Mobil is apparently still pursuing, is on the northbound side of the road in Parktown West.

It is understood the withdrawal of Mobil's application came in the face of nearly 250 letters objecting to the development.

Among the reasons given for the objection were:

- There are already 11 garage facilities on or close to a 10 km stretch of Jan Smuts Avenue north from Braamfontein;
- The adverse impact it would have on the character of residential Forest Town; and
- The detrimental impact on traffic flow.

One battle already won, the neighbouring Parktown Association is also likely to take heart from Mobil's retreat. ■

RETIREMENT VILLAGES F/M 27/4/90

A matter of principle

Both the developer and village management committee of Edenvale's Leisure View shareblock retirement village have reacted angrily to what they claim is unwarranted criticism of their village by a vociferous minority (*Property* April 20).

Nevertheless, the village's management committee says it respects the right of buyers to have the terms of the original contracts they signed honoured The row between villagers erupted because a few understandably aggrieved unit owners don't believe they are ultimately getting what they paid for in respect of their accommodation.

They claim co-developer Andre Bouwer of SA Property Sales (developing jointly with Johannesburg Credit Corp) wants to change the original contractual commitment in the sale agreements to provide frail care facilities at the village. In order to achieve this, they say he is trying to persuade unit owners to sign new contracts. (127)

Furthermore, those opposing his proposals claim they have not been issued with their share certificates, though those who subsequently signed new contracts have.

However, Bouwer's proposals seem to have won the confidence of most residents. There are now only six objectors compared with 16 when the changes were first mooted — and the village management committee believes some of them are on the verge of signing.

Bouwer is quick to point out that the "dissidents" represent only 5% of the residents. "Our policy will always be to develop the village for all and not a small minority During the development and marketing of the village it has been our policy to refund purchasers their money if they change their minds about the development."

However, Bouwer does not seem to concede that asking residents to sign new contracts involves him, rather than the residents, shifting position. He does not say whether he is willing to stand by the original agreements signed. Nor does he answer allegations that those who have refused to switch contracts have not yet received share certificates.

He simply spells out details of his refund offer to disgruntled residents, which takes no account of the appreciation in the value of the property or the inconvenience suffered as a result of what are ostensibly his arbitrary changes The compensation offer includes a full refund of all capital amounts paid to date, money spent on extras in a particular cottage, a refund of all levies, interest at prevailing bank/building society rates on all money paid during the purchase and occupation, and the cost of transportation to move their furniture to any part of SA.

Leisure View's management committee chairman Warren Gadd stresses there was never a commitment from the developer to provide frail care He concedes there was a commitment to provide a live-in, qualified nursing sister, additional nursing staff, doctors' consulting and examination rooms, a sick bay with six beds, and 14 private wards/bachelor units with 28 beds This was excluded from the new contract

He adds that no final decision has yet been made to drop these proposals, but an alternative has been placed on the table which deserves consideration All residents will be invited to vote on the issue in about a fortnight's time. The developer's contractual commitment, he claims, could be overridden if more than 75% of villagers select the second option

However, other developers consulted by the *FM* disagree. One points out that if just one resident decides to stick to the original agreement then the owners of the village (the developer or the share block company) must meet that commitment within a reasonable length of time.

But Gadd believes the contractual changes and the medical facilities dispute are two separate issues. "The alternative contract is simply a much better document than the original."

The original document, he says, does not:

- ☐ Comply with the Shareblock Control Act; or
- ☐ Offer residents the same degree of protection as the new contract.

"The contract is simply a legal issue between the dissident owners and the developer We can proceed with whichever medical option the villagers accept, irrespective of which contract individuals have signed."

Explaining the new frail care alternative, he says: "A management subcommittee, which included two nurses and the retired MD of one of the country's largest medical aid firms, carried out an in-depth study of the frail care and the costs involved

"The bottom line is that it would cost the villagers between R1,5m and R2m to establish genuine frail care facilities. But fewer than 4%-6% of residents will actually make use of them Further, the high running cost would push monthly levies up unacceptably."

The proposed development costs, plus high frail care running costs, tally with the findings of other developers.

Gadd adds that in the event of a patient using frail care facilities continuously for more than three months, the village management committee would be entitled to transfer the patient to a special home and his or her retirement home would be sold to cover costs. He said it seemed, therefore, to be in the interests of the residents to consider alternatives (127)

Just what is the alternative? Gadd says Rand Aid is developing, at a cost of more than R50m, an Edenvale-based frail care centre known as Elfin Lodge. It is due for completion in November Leisure View would have the right to reserve 10 beds at the hospital for an up-front payment of R300 000, which Bouwer will pay. Individual residents could then reserve beds for a R25/month/cottage charge. It would be up to each individual to decide whether to participate in the scheme

Gadd says Bouwer would build and sell "two or three" retirement units on the proposed medical site at Leisure View This would provide the bulk of the R300 000, but he would have to find the balance of between R60 000 and R70 000 from other sources. ■

canvas, sold for R32 000.

Star 28/4/90

Varsity opens residences to all races

OWN CORRESPONDENT

POTCHEFSTROOM — The University of Potchefstroom has decided that its residential facilities will be available to students of all races.

(127)

Professor Carools Reinecke, rector of the university said the decision to admit students of all races would be subject to the Christian and Afrikaans characters of the university

The decision would also have to be within the boundaries of rules, regulations and limitations applicable to all residents

Professor Reinecke explained at a press conference yesterday that the decision was taken after the tabling of a memorandum from a commission of the university council

He said that the council had received several requests from students, staff members and parties interested in the university to reconsider the present arrangements regarding the provision of accommodation for other races

The council had also been informed of a motion discussed by the senate of the university and submitted for the consideration of the council

"The council decided to proceed with the construction of additional multi-purpose housing units for students, because it has become evident that the present housing facilities do not provide for other urgent housing needs," Prof Reinecke added

The need for single quarters, privacy, married students, overseas students and the continuous provision of accommodation for a full year, for which no provision existed within the present student hostels, would be met by the new housing facilities, Prof Reinecke said

PPC is enjoying investor confidence

Star 30/4/90

Bottom Line

MICHAEL MENOF

Pretoria Portland Cement's 1989 annual report is impressive — characterised by low debt, increased income contribution from the four divisions, a healthy and increased working capital position and more than R100 million record profits.

But I was surprised that only R3,12 million was spent on education, training and development.

This presumably included R500 000 spent on PPC bursary and other tertiary education schemes during 1989.

Management boasts that more than 70 percent of PPC's employees have more than five years service and 47 percent more than 10 years service.

But a workforce of 4 577 in 1981 has declined to only 3 786 in 1989. Where are those vital new jobs and what is the point of producing record profits without creating more jobs?

On page 20 of the annual report is a full page picture cautioned "Soweto at dawn — housing represents a substantial baseload in the demand for cement — PPC is looking at ways and means of developing products capable of playing a role in addressing the country's housing shortage"

With significant cement plant under-utilisation, averaging only 63 percent in 1989, PPC must find ways to increase cement consumption.

A new development division started in 1989 promoting new products and businesses — it includes acquisitions and investments.

Botswana is high on the list for constructing and operating a cement-producing facility. In addition a 50 percent interest stake will be made in a company that designs residential structures which can be erected on problematic soils, says management.

But why not lower prices, produce more to utilise plant surplus capacity, employ more, expand and encourage more people to build and own their homes.

Surely this is a more effective way to increase cement consumption?

Capex for 1990 is R87 million (1989: R39,6 million) — what for? Not to create jobs but "in the main, a contribution of the programme of upgrading and modernisation of production facilities to enhance plant efficiencies," says management.

Turnover increased to R689,2 million (1988: R588,8 million) with operating income R161 million (1988: R136,7 million) Interest paid declined significantly to only R3,4 million (1988. R6,3 million) while investment income from associates and interest received almost doubled to R26,5 million (1988. R14,8 million).

Pre-tax profits were R187,5 million (1988: R151,4 million). After deducting tax of R85,1 million (1988: R71,2 million) and minority shareholders' profit share, the bottom line reached a milestone at R100,4 million (1988: R78,7 million). Earnings per share were 252,6 cents (1988: 202 cents) and the annual dividends upped to 130 cents (1988 100 cents).

The cement division increased sales to R400,6 million (1988: R337,9 million) and improved their income contribution before interest and tax to R109,9 million (1988. R93,1 million).

High sales at the beginning of the year followed reduced demand in the second quarter. This soon resulted in the shutdown of certain clinker producing units leaving only the newer and most efficient kilns operating But a second palletiser is being installed and cement storage and despatch facilities at all factories will be improved in 1990.

The remaining three divisions — lime, packaging and investments all increased their sales and income — sales R288,6 million (1988: R250,9 million) and income R81,1 million (1988: R64,6 million).

Priorities

Expansion of the lime and limestone markets are a priority. New projects promise to increase lime sales.

A textbook balance sheet was produced at end September 1989 — shareholders' equity totalled R494,4 million (1988: R435,4 million), total debt R9,88 million (1988: R24,1 million) and working capital R102,7 million (1988: R75,9 million) which included liquid funds of R74,9 million (1988: R57,6 million).

Held 61 percent by Barlow Rand the group enjoys investor confidence judging by a current JSE price of around R27,00 per share compared to the net asset value of R12,00 at end September 1989.

What are the prospects? High interest rates will stymie growth in the building and construction industries and a slowdown in the world economy will lower commodity prices, discouraging further major investments in mining and mineral beneficiation says chairman Mr J C Hall

At best a flat year for both cement and lime is forecast. But with 1990s interim due shortly I would be surprised if sales and bottom line suffer any reversals in trend

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Positive reaction to 'open' RAU

Star 11/5/90 (127)

By Janet Heard
and Thabo Leshilo

The Rand Afrikaans University Council decided yesterday to open its residences to all races and Potchefstroom University, the only other remaining campus enforcing segregation, has voted in principle to opening its residences

The decision at RAU was taken at a council meeting yesterday following discussion with the university's Senate and students

In a statement, the council said it was in the students' and RAU's best interests to open its residences to all races.

It urged the university's management to look at academic merit when implementing the new ruling

A snap survey conducted by The Star at the university showed the decision was popular with most students

"A good decision at the right time, considering all the changes that are going on in the country," said Ms Karen Fleming (21), a third year Industrial Psychology student

She said the segregation of the hostels had been unfair to students who stayed far from the university

Cultural differences

Her friend and classmate, Ms Marietjie (20) Kraukanp, said the move was "not so strange" because she grew up among black people, adding that students at campuses with desegregated hostels were "getting along just fine".

"No effect, no problem, no sweat," said LLB student Mr Freddie McGinn (21), adding that he did not know why anybody would want to oppose the move.

Mr Hugo de Jager (23), a second year law student, thought cultural differences "may become a hassle, especially among Far Right and Far Left groups".

Electronics student Mr Dirk Swanepoel (18) said "most residents won't take it". He thought it would take some time and some conditioning for students to accept it.

The director of Public Relations at Potchefstroom University, Mr Chris Windell, said yesterday that on Friday council voted in principle to open its doors to all races, but it was up to the management committee to decide how to implement the change

Since the Government granted the provision of and control over campus housing to the university councils, the University of Port Elizabeth, the University of Pretoria and the University of the Orange Free State late last year decided to open residences to all races

A good decision at the right time . . . Ms Karen Fleming and Ms Marietjie Kraukanp welcomed the desegregation of residences at the Rand Afrikaans University. ● Picture by Karen Fletcher.

Law students Ms Alex Kristjarisson and Mr Wiam Louw think the desegregation of hostels is long overdue but that "natural apartheid" will remain.

Reserve Bank to build in Newtown

Star 1/5/90

Staff Reporter

The first major project announced in the redevelopment of Johannesburg's Newtown area is the erection of a Reserve Bank building on the corner of West and President streets.

Excavation for the building which planning chief Mr Eddy Magid has dubbed the "financial anchor of the CBD", is expected to start in about eight months said Reserve Bank administration manager, Mr Eric Pike.

But the bank's new branch office is unlikely to be the first building to be occupied in the first phase of the redeveloped area west of the city.

Oakwood Realty/Office Accommodation Investment which was last week awarded the R22,1 million tender to develop the remainder of phase 1; including Turbine Hall and Boiler House, has undertaken to commence immediately, he said.

Mr Pike said no details were available at this stage as a brief was still being prepared for the architects. Completion date is expected to be in four or five years' time.

No decision has been taken on the future of the Rseerve Bank's existing three Johannesburg premises.

Rent boycott hits council for R7,8-m

Star 1/5/90

By Abel Mabelane, East Rand Bureau

The administrator of Tokoza (near Katlehong), Mr Gert Muller, said there was a 100 percent rent boycott in the township with arrears owed to the council by residents now standing at R7,8 million.

Mr Muller was appointed administrator of the Tokoza Council after several councillors resigned because of pressure from the community left the council without a quorum.

"Since I took over as administrator on April 11, the council has not collected a cent from the residents which means the rent boycott is 100 percent effective," he said.

He added that the council had no reserve funds and the salaries of its employees were this month paid by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA).

Different organisations

Mr Muller said the TPA could, however, not be expected to foot the council's bills indefinitely.

He said he was going to hold talks with the Tokoza Civic Association tomorrow, because they were alleged to be behind the rent boycott in the township.

Mr Muller said members of the TCA had already indicated they would like to meet him alone without councillors and he said he was prepared to meet their demands.

By meeting the different organisations in the township, he would be able to determine whether the problems in Tokoza were political or internal.

Mr Muller said if the problems were within the council, he would address them, but if they were political they would be beyond his scope.

Star 3/5/90 127

RAU still to decide on issue of open residences

By Janet Heard,
Education Reporter

The Rand Afrikaans University has not decided whether all residences on campus would be open to all races, Professor C F Crause, the rector said yesterday.

He said the university council had decided to provide accommodation for all races on campus, but it had not yet been determined how this policy would be implemented and whether all residences would be open to all races.

Professor Crause was elaborating on press reports this week that the university had decided to open its residences to all races. He said accommodation for black students would probably only be provided next year as the 1990 academic year was well into the second term.

The local branches of the Black Students' Society (BSS), the Students' Forum for Democracy and the Union of DemocraticUniversity Staff Association (Udusa) yesterday cautiously welcomed the Council's announcement.

At a meeting, the three organisations called on the university to distance itself from any form of racial segregation.

Mr Chris Landsberg, the BSS chairman, said black students travelled up to 60 km a day to attend university. Others spent up to R450 per month to stay in nearby Mayfair.

"Student residences should be opened immediately. We still have a long way to go before we are a non-racial, democratic university", he said.

Students discussed the implications of opening residences and a number of white students expressed concern that white students could be forced out of residences to make way for black students.

The National Union of South African Students and the South African National Students Congress delivered messages of the support at the meeting.

In a press statement, Mr Danie Kriel of the National Students' Federation said past experience had shown that the opening of residences on Afrikaans campuses generally meant only an easing of racial segregation.

"The NSF urgently calls on RAU and Potchefstroom University administrations to abolish completely residence apartheid on their campuses," he said.

SERVICE STATIONS (127)

F/M 4/5/90

Round two . . .

Residents one, Mobil nil That's the score after the first round of the battle between the oil giant and ratepayers over plans to develop two filling stations on residential sites astride Johannesburg's Jan Smuts Avenue.

However, the game's far from over The first round ended in an own-goal when Mobil withdrew its application for permission to develop a service station on Jan Smuts Avenue's southbound carriageway in Forest Town (*Property* April 27)

That, however, may simply have been a tactical move It allows Mobil to concentrate on securing permission for a garage development on the other proposed site on the northbound side of Jan Smuts in Parktown West

It could also conceivably be used as a PR exercise by the oil giant to show that it has gone some way towards meeting the objections of residents in the area. If that's so, it's unlikely to impress opponents of the scheme, such as the Parktown Association's formidable Flo Bird

She has sent a fax to Mobil asking whether it intends withdrawing its second application "If not, we have invited the company to meet us in a face-to-face discussion." she says ■

(127)

F/M 4/5/90

Legal aid centre to give advice on homes

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

THE SA Housing Trust (SAHT) handed over R50 000 to the Legal Aid Bureau (LAB) in Johannesburg yesterday to launch a project aimed at helping newcomers with legal problems to enter the housing market.

The Housing Advice Centre will be run from the bureau's offices in Kerk Street, but will operate independently. It will be directed by LAB assistant director Brian Leveson.

Officials said there were plans to establish a chain of these advice offices.

The most likely locations for other centres were Soweto, Sebokeng, Katlehong, Thokoza, Evaton and Mamelodi, where most inquiries were coming from.

LAB legal adviser Gavin Rome said since 1986 a growing proportion of interviews had involved housing matters.

"Currently we estimate that 5% of cases relate to housing," Rome said.

"Although this figure is small it shows massive growth within a year."

The SAHT emphasised that it had not embarked on the project because of any sudden wave of irregularities and abuses.

"Our initiative is prompted by eagerness to preserve the public credibility and good standing of the vast majority of reputable concerns that are increasingly directing their efforts to the low-cost housing field," SAHT MD Wallie Conradie said.

B/Day 4/5/90

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Persons: expropriation of property

7 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

Whether he will furnish particulars of persons who have lost property by expropriation since 1948, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks are involved and (b) (i) what areas were affected and (ii) on what dates? C25E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

The Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs has not been responsible for any expropriation of properties This was done by the erstwhile Department of Community Development. Since the inception of Own Affairs the various Own Affairs Administrations passed their own expropriation legislation The information required is therefore not available and (a) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) as well as (b) (i) and (ii) consequently fall away

Action against coloured persons in certain areas

8 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(1) Whether it is his intention to take steps against people of colour residing in the areas of (a) Mayfair, (b) Homestead Park, (c) Hillbrow and (d) Berea, if so, (i) what steps and (ii) why, if not, why not,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? C26E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) As Mayfair, Homestead Park, Hillbrow and Berea are situated within a White group area which falls within the ambit of Own Affairs the question should be addressed to the Ministers' Council House of Assembly

(2) Falls away

TPA· camping resorts

19 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(1) (a) How many camping resorts falling under the control of the Transvaal Provincial Administration are there in that province for (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks and (b) what are the names of these resorts in each case,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? C52E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) (i) Whites — none

(ii) Coloureds —

(a) One resort
(b) Roodeplaat Dam

(iii) Indians —

(a) One resort
(b) Roodeplaat Dam

(iv) Blacks — none

(2) No

Vaal River resorts: amenities

20 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(1) What amenities are available to each population group at each of the Vaal River resorts falling under the control of the Transvaal Provincial Administration,

(2) whether it is his intention to declare these resorts open to all population groups, if not, why not, if so, when,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? C53E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) There are no Vaal River resorts under the control of the Transvaal Provincial Administration Camping, barbecue and ablution facilities are presently being developed for all race groups at the Vaal Dam These facilities will upon completion, not be managed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration but will be privatised

(2) Not applicable

(3) No.

INTERPELLATIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

Curbing rip-offs in home market

New bureau will protect buyers

Sowetan 8/5/90

127

By SY MAKARINGE

THE South African Housing Trust has sponsored the Legal Aid Bureau, a private welfare organisation, to the tune of R50 000 for the establishment of a project to protect potential home-buyers from unscrupulous companies

The establishment of the Housing Advice Project, under the directorship of Mr Brian Levenson, was necessitated by the dramatic increase in cases where unsophisticated potential home buyers are being ripped off by bogus and incompetent property developers and estate agents.

In one year alone, the bureau handled more than 300 cases of unfair housing deals.

Mr Wallie Conrad, managing director of the trust, said it was a great tragedy that housing, which was a national effort, was being besmirched by the activities of unscrupulous operators

"Incompetent newcomers to the sector who promise more than they can deliver will also tend to undermine public confidence," Conrad said.

Mrs Pauline Lipson, director of the bureau, said at the presentation of the cheque at the Auckland Park Country Club that housing problems were not new to the bureau.

She said by the time people brought them to the attention of the bureau, it was too late to do anything

The future of the bureau itself was bleak and uncertain because of lack of funds She said bureau could be forced to close if donors did not come to its rescue

The Housing Advice Project will operate from the bureau's offices on the fifth floor of York House in Kerk Street, Johannesburg

It is hoped that eventually a chain of offices will be established throughout the PWV area.

Residents angry over costly sites

Sowetan 8/5/90

(127)

By MATHATHA TSEDU

RESIDENTS of Seshego, near Pietersburg, who do not have houses are to occupy unused houses in Zone 8 and erect shacks from May 31, it was resolved at the weekend

About 400 people who attended a meeting of the Seshego Civic Association condemned the allocation of sites to major consortiums who then sell stands at inflated prices

This meant that underpaid workers, who formed the majority of the workforce in the area, could not afford to get sites and build their own houses the meeting was told

The meeting also resolved that councillors should resign with immediate effect The councillors were accused of corruption, self enrichment and of hoarding stands

Three councillors who attended the meeting said the council was useless as it had no budget of its own They said they would resign immediately

Owners of backrooms who presently charge between R80 and R100 a month for a room were ordered by the meeting to reduce rents to R20 a month from June 1

The Lebowa government is to be approached to provide water and sewarage in the area

The allocation of sites to developers has become a thorny issue in many areas of Lebowa

In Sebayeng near Solomondale, residents are to march to the superintendent s office on Thursday morning to protest about the same issue

The chairman of the Sebayeng Civic Association Mr Philly Mathabatha said the march was also to protest against the lack of recreational facilities in the township

A delegation from Mankweng township recently met the Lebowa minister of home affairs Mr Lawrence Ledwaba to discuss the allocation of more than 400 sites to a white developer who was selling stands at allegedly exorbitant prices

New company to build 'priceless' houses

CORDAC Construction has launched a property development company to specialise in luxury housing for buyers not deterred by price tags of more than R1m

Priceless Properties directors Sol Pienaar and Tony Pappalardo plan to put the first batch of six houses on the market over the next year.

The first, which will be go on sale this month, is a four-bedroomed house in Morningside, Sandton.

The main bedroom has a private courtyard and jacuzzi, and the en suite bathroom has an all-glass shower projecting out over another private courtyard

The second house, in Atholl and due to be sold in June, has an entrance reached by a bridge over a water feature, and a kitchen in beech, with black marble counter tops.

Pappalardo said he insisted on quality finishes

"It is no good cutting corners if you want quality We use only the best"

B/Day 9/5/97

(127)

Alexandra education project receives R100 000 boost

Star 9/5/90 Staff Reporter

The Alexandra Community Education Centre (ACE), a R15 million project undertaken jointly by The Star, Bramley Rotary Club and the Department of Education and Training, has received a R100 000 boost from the Otis Elevator Company

Last August, Otis donated R50 000 towards the centre

Building of a technical high school, which will accommodate 450 students, is already underway at the centre

The multi-purpose ACE Centre was made possible by major donations from Barlow Rand and Toyota. Barlow Rand donated R3 million over three years and Toyota will provide workshops for the second phase of the school.

Other donors are JCI Chairman's Fund R250 000, AECI R120 000, The Star Teach Fund R100 000, Sasol R90 000, Millionex R65 000, Premier Food R63 482, Estate late Carleo-Putco R50 000, Allied Building Society Educational Trust R50 000, Argus Newspapers Ltd R50 000, National Orchestra concert proceeds R16 500, Hyde Park Centre R11 000, sundry donations R3 563

● Barlow Rand Educational Trust has donated R1 million towards building the first students' residence in a residential village at Mangosuthu Technikon, KwaZulu, bringing to R5 million the amount the company has donated to technical education in South Africa in six months A total of R3 million went to the ACE Centre in Alexandra and R1 million to Durban's M L Sultan Technikon

● The residence at Mangosuthu Technikon will accommodate about 50 students It is part of a R4 million development which will house 400 students

New law will put the lid on noisy gigs

Sowetan 10/5/90

127

BLARING amplifiers and gigs are likely to be a thing of the past once black local authorities adopt the new law intended to protect the public against man-made noise.

By ALINAH DUBE

The noise regulations, published in the Government Gazette on April 27, were announced on Tuesday at a Press conference held at the Department of Environmental Affairs in Pretoria

Professor Roelf Botha, chairman of the Council for the Environment, said yesterday· "The regulations will only be made applicable to a local authority area if such an authority applies to adopt them and is capable of enforcing them "

The regulations described the different types of noise, the measurement, the acceptable levels as well as the powers of local authorities to control these

Should a local authority have a noise control officer in its employ, he will be able to enforce all the conditions as set out in the regulations

An inspector will, however, only be able to enforce a reduced number of regulations.

The authority may also lay down certain conditions pertaining to noise emanating from activities such as demolitions or ground drilling

Such activities may be banned for certain hours and specified days In addition, circumstances may be determined whereby vehicles and animals may be impounded if it has been acertained that they cause a nuisance.

The gazette points out that. "no person shall make, produce or cause a disturbing noise, or allow it to be made, produced or caused by any person, machine, device of apparatus or any combination thereof "

Katlehong residents owe R18m

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

KATLEHONG residents owe the council R18-million for rent and service charges.

Local mayor, Mr Tau Molotsi, yesterday said unless residents started paying their rents, the council would soon run out of funds to provide services.

The rent boycott started two months ago after the council failed to meet residents' demands which included the building of affordable houses, reduction of high rents and the tarring of streets

Meanwhile, Molotsi has denied that the council was responsible for the disconnection of electricity in the township at the weekend

"Hooligans damaged the main electricity power station and about 80 substations at the weekend," he said

A spokesman for Katlehong Civic Association, Mr Paul Maseko, said his organisation suspects that electricity was switched off to force residents to pay their bills.

16/5/90

Sowetan

(127)

No light on Soweto's horizon as Eskom's bid fails

W/Mail 11/5 - 17/5/90 (127)

Weekly Mail Reporter

ESKOM'S bid to take over electricity distribution rights in Soweto appears to have failed.

The mediator, Development Bank chairman Simon Brand, is still struggling to find a solution that will satisfy the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the Soweto city council, Eskom and the Soweto People's Delegation.

"It is a matter of discussing, testing and reformulating ideas until all parties agree on something. It is a very slow process," Brand said.

Last year Eskom proposed to launch a private, non-political company, Econolec, to take over distribution. A similar scheme is underway in kwaNobuhle, outside Uitenhage, where Kwanolec has been formed Eskom holds half the shares and private investors the rest.

The council refuses to cede its distribution rights. Its chief PRO, Johan van der Westhuizen, said the council was reluctant to lose the revenue gained from electricity tariffs and the parties do not agree on the value of existing assets

However, he confirmed Eskom's view that the council lacks the skills and finances needed to maintain and expand the present system

The Soweto Civic Association is also opposed to Eskom's idea Publicity secretary Pat Lephunya said. "We will never accept the privatisation of essential services The rent boycott stays until Soweto and Johannesburg become one city"

The city council is estimated to owe the TPA more than R464-million Much of the debt is for electricity bills residents have refused to pay since 1984 There is widespread dissatisfaction with the council's handling of electricity distribution.

Eskom chief executive Ian McCrae said in a recent report. "The provision of electricity in Soweto is so badly managed that people have difficulty in paying — non-payment is not a political issue People receive astronomical bills for electricity not used and supply quality is poor Something has to be done"

When electricity was introduced to Soweto in 1983 little effort was made to give residents control over their power consumption. Circuit breakers and meters were put in mini-substations to serve several houses This method of calculating charges is suspect since each home's consumption is not measured individually Many substations have been vandalised by householders to bypass the meters, knowing cheaters can not be traced

The supply is unreliable· besides many technical interruptions, power has been cut in the past by the council in mid-winter to punish residents for the rent boycott.

Electrical engineering consultant Gordon Sibiya challenges Eskom's altruism in wanting to take distribution rights "McCrae has this business plan to create one huge monopoly all over Southern Africa — if he says he is doing that to help black empowerment, he is lying How many black chairmen does Eskom have? The same number as Econolec — none

"Anybody could implement Eskom's cash-in-advance metering system The city council can solve its technical problems by subcontracting competent companies — the same way every other city council does"

Eskom recently closed its Econolec office in Soweto Chief PRO Laetitia van Staden said "No progress was being made We felt further involvement would be a waste of money."

Housing priorities should be set - adviser

Sowetan Correspondent

SOUTH Africa was poised for a new phase which could succeed in meeting the housing needs of the average township family if a realistic approach was adopted, according to Johannesburg housing consultant Jo Dunstan

Addressing a home-building conference in Pretoria on Wednesday, Dunstan pointed out several steps needed to be taken by employers and the homebuilding industry before low-income families could benefit from recent positive financial moves

"The Urban Foundation has succeeded in freeing finance at unexpectedly low levels. The Housing Trust is talking about houses that break the R10 000 barrier - so is the Perm. The CSIR has researched a double storey unit for about R7 500.

"At last it's beginning to sound more realistic," she said.

"We need to provide a range of homes that truly qualify under the label of low-cost housing. We need packages from R10000 to R30 000 - that covers the average black worker earning between R500 and R1500 a month, taking the first time homeowner subsidy into account.

"The survivors in the business now have to assess their market very carefully," she said. Dunstan pointed out that the reflex action had been to go for tiny houses, and stressed the need for the proper placing of houses on the property, and for taking the clients' special needs into consideration.

In general, servicing standards had to be lowered, and areas opened up that offered only "gravel roads, overhead electricity ... and even outside chemical toilets"

Anger over dumping

(127) By SONTI MASEKO

ANGRY residents of a township in Vosloorus have taken to staging blockades to stop trucks from dumping industrial waste and causing a serious health hazard in their area. Sowetan 11/5/90

Several trucks were turned back on Tuesday and one was briefly detained on Wednesday after the owner of the company sent another truck despite warnings the previous day.

Since November last year, at least five companies have been dumping waste material, paper, rubber, sawdust and rotten food on a site adjoining Paradise Park. The site was declared by the Vosloorus town council to be suitable only for rubble and not toxic industrial waste.

Left: The dump next to Paradise Park.

man.

Rudman's target investors were black people with a few thousand rands

C/Press 13/5/90

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But Mofo

READERS' HOTLINE

Helping you with your problems
PO Box 548 Kengray 2100

Watch for bogus agents

127

C/Press 13/5/90

HOUSING fraud seems to be on the increase in the Johannesburg area again.

In the past few weeks, more than a dozen readers have complained to *City Press* that bogus estate agents have disappeared with deposits they have paid for houses in Soweto and other townships.

Taxi driver Elias Mbethe paid his life savings to bogus agent Emmanuel Lidimo. Lidimo told Mbethe he had a house for sale – and that he needed R20 000 in cash to give to the sellers.

Mbethe paid the R20 000 and then found out the house had been sold to someone else. The new owners had already taken occupation.

Johanna Mchunu also paid money to Lidimo's bogus estate agency, Lidimo Estates. Lidimo promised her a new house in Soweto and asked for a deposit in advance. She paid R5 700 . . . then Lidimo disappeared from the offices he rented in Johannesburg.

City Press has established that Lidimo is being held in custody on unrelated charges of cheque fraud.

Sale of flats angers city families

Sowetan 14/5/90

(127)

By SY MAKARINGE

HUNDREDS of black families living in four blocks of flats in central Johannesburg may soon find themselves on the street following a decision by the owners to sell the flats under freehold sectional title.

The owners, Dorfil Brothers Investments, recently authorised Kubheka Investments to market Lorna Court, Arma Court, Fattis Mansions and Wellington Court for sale as the Group Areas Act "was as good as dead".

Letter

Last week tenants at Fattis Mansions received letters from Kubheka Investments informing them that the flats were being sold under sectional title. The company said it was giving them the first option to buy, failing which the flats would be offered on the open market.

The letter said the tenants would be given a "very lenient notice period of two months" in order to find alternative accommodation.

A bachelor flat costs about R19 000, while a three-roomed flat sells for R35 000.

An angry flat-dweller, who asked not to be named, said most people would find themselves homeless as they would not afford the 20 percent deposit required by financial institutions.

Mr Stanley Kubheka, of Kubheka Investments, said his company was "not pushing out the present tenants by force", but was merely encouraging them to buy their flats.

Star 14/5/90 (127)

Rent boycott group teargassed on East Rand

Teargas was fired — allegedly by policemen — into a crowd gathered yesterday at the Tokoza stadium on the East Rand where civic association leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a rent boycott in the township

A police spokesman, Colonel Jac de Vries, said last night police knew nothing about this incident

The teargas was fired from outside the stadium

No reports of injury following the attack were received. The meeting continued

Several thousand Tokoza residents gathered illegally for a report-back meeting on the rent boycott, and to hear about the latest developments on a commission of inquiry into alleged maladministration and corruption in the Tokoza Town Council

Boycott continues

Tokoza Civic Association executive member Cassel Khanyile said

"Tokoza residents want to know what has happened to the money — about R1,6 million — that has been misappropriated The boycott continues until we get answers."

The approximately 4 000 people who gathered at the stadium were told that negotiations were under way for Tokoza to be able to buy electricity directly from Eskom, as opposed to the Alberton municipality.

The ANC's internal leader for the Vaal Triangle, Greg Malebo, said the ANC had become involved in talks about talks in response to President de Klerk's meeting of some of the organisation's demands

"He (De Klerk) is struggling somewhere in the Rubicon. The ANC in turn has to do something and move the situation on to a moral high ground and we will continue to do so with or without the PAC," he said

The Democratic Party's Dr Etienne le Roux from nearby Alberton received overwhelming applause when he told the gathering.

"I am here to tell you that even in Alberton there are non-racial democrats who are on your side Let us build a new country we can all be proud of"

Tokoza Civic Association leaders warned at the meeting that the "talks about talks" between Government and the ANC could be jeopardised unless the Government ordered the Transvaal Provincial Administration to disband "illegitimate" town councils.

Speaking at the meeting, TCA executive member Sam Ntuli said community leaders wanted Government and local government officials to know talks would not continue unless the TPA-appointed administrators of the township resigned.

Government officials

"We are not prepared to talk to you (government officials) unless you tell the TPA and those people it supports to resign," Mr Ntuli said

He called on residents to join and support the ANC, which he described as the political party of the TCA.

The crowd was told that a TCA delegation had been involved in talks with the newly appointed administrator of Tokoza, Gert Muller, who runs the township with a number of former Tokoza councillors after the recent collapse of the town council. — Sapa.

Soweto homes to be demolished for road

By ALI MPHAKI

ABOUT 20 houses are to be demolished in Mofolo North, Soweto, to make way for a three kilometre-long dual roadway.

Construction work has already begun and it will only be "a matter of weeks" before the houses are bulldozed and the people are moved, a site agent of the construction company, Mr Gary Richman said.

Richman said the R10,1-million project, will span over 18 months and in the process residents in the Mofolo North and Dobsonville area will be subjected to irregular water stoppages and electricity cuts.

Part of the Maponya filling station situated on a hill near Zondi, will be relocated.

The rocky foothill behind the garage will be blasted away to make way for the dual roadway which will have a central reserve.

The new road will begin from near the Vukuzenzele school in Mofolo North, zig-zag through Dobsonville and end just after the Putco depot in Dobsonville.

The bridge near the Ikwezi station will be widened, which is the first phase of the construction.

Star 15/5/90

medical treatment which may be administered or prescribed by the medical officer, a departmental inquiry into the alleged assault is instituted Where such a complaint is substantiated suitable action is taken in terms of Prisons Regulation 99 in the case of minor assaults, while complaints of serious assault are reported to the South African Police without delay for investigation in order that the legal process may take its normal course

In total 713 prisoners were injured in such a manner as a result of assaults by fellow-prisoners in the following prisons, that they had to be referred to prison hospitals or hospitals outside prisons

Allandale
Bloemfontein
Barberton Medium B
Barberton Medium A
Barberton
Bethal Male and Female
Caledon
Colesberg
Nelspruit
Baviaanspoort Maximum
Nylstroom
Pietersburg
Ermelo
Eshowe
Geluk
Grahamstad
Grootvlei Maximum
Brandvlei Maximum
Brandvlei Medium
Helderstroom Maximum
Helderstroom Medium
Hoopstad
Durban Female
Durban Medium C
Durban Medium B
Durban Medium A
Estcourt
Goedemoed Medium B
Groenpunt Medium
Vereeniging Male
Johannesburg Medium C
Johannesburg Medium A
Kandaspunt
Klerksdorp
Kuruman
Kranskop
Kroonstad Medium A
Kroonstad Medium B
King William's Town
Leeuwkop Maximum
Leeuwkop Medium C
Leeuwkop Medium B
East London Medium A
Oudtshoorn
Obiqua
Pietermaritzburg Medium A
Pietermaritzburg Medium B
Port Elizabeth Male
Sevontein
Senekal
Port Shepstone
Pollsmoor Maximum
Pollsmoor Medium A
Pollsmoor Medium B
Potchefstroom
Patensie
Paarl
Robben Island Medium
Robben Island Maximum
St Albans Medium
St Albans Maximum
Stanger
Tzaneen
Lydenburg
Pretoria Central
Pretoria
Ventersburg
Voortrekkerhoogte
Victoria West
Victor Verster Maximum
Victor Verster Medium B
Victor Verster Medium A
Waterval
Mtunzini
New Hanover
Witbank
Warmbokveld
Worcester Female
Worcester Male
Zonderwater Medium
Zonderwater Open

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

Own Affairs

Pelican Park: sale of residential plots

17 Mr A G MOHAMED asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether his Department is to sell residential plots in Pelican Park, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) how many plots are to be sold, (c) what will be the sale price per square metre and (d) what method of sale is to be used,

(2) whether the Cape Town City Council has liaised with his Department in regard to the sale by the City Council of residential plots in Pelican Park, if so, (a) (i) how many plots were sold by the City Council in this area and (ii) at what price per square metre, (b) what method of sale was used, (c) to what categories of persons were these plots sold and (d) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

D74E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes

(a) Still to be determined

(b) Still to be determined

(c) Still to be determined

(d) Still to be determined

(2) Yes The Housing Development Board approved the Cape Town City Council's request for the sale of 284 prestige erven, 64 of these erven to people on the official waiting list (private treaty) and the remainder of the erven by public tender

(a) (i) 35

(ii) An average of R53 per m^2

(b) See (2) above

(c) For the sale of erven to people on the official waiting list applicant's were restricted to those who earn less than R1 200 per month As the sites are categorised as prestige sites no limitations were set for the properties sold by public tender except for the normal conditions laid down by the Cape Town City Council

(d) 12 April 1990

Sites for religious/other purposes

19 Mrs R EBRAHIM asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether the allocation by his Department of sites for religious and other purposes has been frozen, if so, (a) why and (b) since when,

(2) whether this restriction has been lifted in respect of sites for religious purposes, if not, why not, if so, (a) which sites have been allocated in Lenasia since then and (b) (i) to which organisations have they been allocated, (ii) what are the stand numbers, and (iii) what were the selling prices, in each case,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D80E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) No

(2) Falls away

(a) Falls away

(b) (i) Falls away

(ii) Falls away

(iii) Falls away

(3) No

Community halls

23 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

Whether community halls are to be built in (a) Lenasia Extensions 9 and 10 (b) Lenasia South and (c) Marlboro Gardens, if not, why not, if so, (i) at what street addresses, and (ii) when is it anticipated that building operations will (aa) commence and (bb) be completed, in each case?

D102E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING (127)

(a) Not at this stage but it will obviously depend upon the necessary application for a loan for such a project received from the relevant local authority and the Housing Development Board's approval thereof Hansard 16/5/90

(b) See (a) above

(c) See (a) above

(i) Falls away

(ii) (aa) Falls away

(bb) Falls away

Lenasia South-East: leasing out of service station/ business sites

24 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

Whether the Administration House of Delegates is leasing out any (a) service station and (b) other specified business sites to private individuals or companies in the Lenasia South-East area, if so, (i) to whom, (ii) at what rentals, and (iii) where are these sites situated, in each case? D103E

Hansard 16/5/90

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(a) No

(b) Yes

(i) S Essop, A Rahaman and Z O Abdullah

(ii) R100 per month, R110 per month and R55 per month respectively

(iii) Erf 9972 Lenasia Extension 11, Erf 118 Finetown and Portion 1 of Erf 60 Finetown respectively

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Gatherings· emergency regulations

126 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order

Whether any persons attending gatherings were ordered to disperse in terms of the emergency regulations (a) in 1989 and (b) since 1 January 1989 up to the latest specified date for which information is available, if so, (i) (aa) where and (bb) when was each such gathering held and (ii) (aa) why and (bb) in terms of what provision of the emergency regulations were the persons attending each such gathering ordered to disperse? B288E

Hansard 17/5/90

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(a) and (b)

Yes, on several occasions and at various places country wide, in terms of Regulation 2 of the Security Emergency Regulations promulgated in terms of Section 3 of the Public Safety Act, 1953, (Act 3 of 1953) by proclamation R 86 of 1989 as published in Government Gazette 11946 dated 9 June 1989

Internal Security Act· section 31

241 Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Law and Order

Whether any persons were held under section 31 of the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, in 1989, if so, (a) how many, (b) for what purposes, (c) in connection with which trials and (d) what were the results of the testimony of these persons at each such trial? B611E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

Yes Hansard 17/5/90

(a) 26 persons

(b) For the purpose defined in the section to which the honourable members refers

(c) In connection with 10 cases of terrorism and 1 case of murder

(d) In 6 cases the accused were convicted and sentenced
In 4 cases the trials have not yet been concluded
In 1 case the accused were acquitted

Durban West police district: offences

321 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Law and Order Hansard 17/5/90

How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) robbery, (g) theft of vehicles and cycles, (h) damage to property, (i) housebreaking with intent to steal and theft and (j) possession of drugs were reported at each specified police station in the Durban West police district of the Port Natal Division in 1989? B811E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Durban West	87	16	255	373	57	320	200	287	429	—
Bellair	3	10	20	107	6	13	90	86	245	—
Hillcrest	87	19	33	78	39	126	139	207	735	—
Malvern	14	15	64	219	28	50	107	149	446	2
Mayville	8	14	19	161	12	56	192	88	467	—
Pinetown	34	22	59	285	29	199	707	386	114	—
Westville	5	14	22	158	14	47	147	129	561	—
Kwadabeka	124	14	210	129	81	260	101	248	181	—

Note Because the South African Police is not satisfied with the crime situation in the RSA, crime tendencies are continuously monitored I wish to assure the honourable member that everything possible is being done to prevent crime. When it is apparent that there is an increase in crime, active steps are taken to counteract this tendency

Rent crisis: Council plea to to boycotters

127

By MONK NKOMO

THE Atteridgeville town council, which has an estimated deficit of R1,4 million, this week appealed to residents to stop the rent boycott and pay their bills at a bank in town.

The council attached letters to this month's accounts, promising the maintenance of strict confidentiality to people who paid rent

Acting town clerk Mr Dan Mouton, said the council had lost millions of rands since the boycott started on April 2 this year

The council's campaign to urge people to pay was rejected by the local residents' organisation which re-stated the people's demands that councillors should resign before an affordable rent can be decided upon

The council, in their newsletter released yesterday, promised to give attention to the findings and recommendations of the Kriel Commission which investigated allegations of corruption and irregularities in the council last year.

The commission recommended the dissolution and the stoppage of funds to the council "until the entire administration is placed on a proper and efficient bookkeeping system and proper budget control is applied"

The commission found that financial statements of the council had not been submitted since 1986 The operating losses of the council could not be determined but the accumulated loss for 1987/88 was estimated at R1,4 million by the commission

In their newsletter, the council said it was presently investigating,

* Irregularities in respect of travelling expenses,

* Over-staffing and overtime, and,

* Bribery in the allocation of houses

The council also promised to observe relevant regulations to ensure proper financial administration and to keep the public informed about its income and expenditure

logic."

He challenged the CP to bring forward a single person of any significance in the NP who had said this.

New housing project opens in Mamelodi

Sowetan 22/5/90

(127)

A multi-million housing project comprising 900 units was officially launched in Mamelodi, Pretoria, at the weekend.

This brings to six the number of new townships in Mamelodi since the council became autonomous in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act about six years ago.

The first township, the elite Mamelodi Gardens, was established about five years ago followed by Khutsong, Ikageng and the self-help project, Buffer Zone (Phumlamqashi).

Others still in the pipeline are Sun Valley, Sundown Village and Mahube Valley.

The new Moretele View is situated between the Eerstefabriek and Denneboom railway stations

According to developers the first houses - both low income and upmarket units - will be completed within the next six weeks.

The mayor of Mamelodi, Mr Simon Sydney Mokone, said the housing shortage was a major problem facing local authorities in black townships. Although Long Homes project would not eliminate the estimated 6 000 housing shortage in the area, it would go a long way towards solving Mamelodi's acute housing problem.

"The success or failure of the authorities hinges on their ability to reduce the housing backlog to reasonable proportions".

Council 'no' to R48-m

(127) Sowetan 23/5/90

Soweto gives back cash despite lack of housing

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Soweto Council has returned R48 million allocated to it by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for the upgrading of the area - although the township has a critical housing shortage and poor infrastructure.

The money was part of R113 million granted to the council during the 1989/90 financial year. The council used only R65 million.

Soweto council spokeswoman Miss Felicia Buthelezi yesterday said many projects had to be suspended after a dispute between councillors and white council officials.

A total of R95 million, which was granted to some of the 14 councils falling under the CWRSC, has been returned by councils which did not use the money.

Plans

Buthelezi said. "This delayed our plans and we were forced to return the money because its allocation is about to expire"

Addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths said the council has allocated R334 million to local authorities for the 1990/91 financial year which starts on July 1.

He said: "R327 million of this will be utilised for projects to improve infrastructure and services in the region, with the balance of only R7 million being required for operating costs

Griffiths also said that levies, which generate the council's funds, would be increased by 10 percent from July 1. This will net an additional R19,5 million.

In an interview with the *Sowetan* after the conference, Griffiths said the Soweto council had problems like getting plans ready on time and finding "reasonable" tenders to implement certain projects in the township.

* The new (1990/91) allocations are: Soweto (R116 million), Diepmeadow (R34 million), Alexandra (R22 million), Dobsonville (R17 million), Ennerdale (R7 million), South Western Management Committee (R6 million), Lenasia (R4 million), Lenasia South East (R4 million), Davidsonville/Fleurhof (R2 million), Marlboro Gardens (R1 million), Johannesburg (R14 million), Roodepoort (R7 million), Randburg (R5 million) and Sandton (R5 million).

Blacks trickle into white Johannesburg areas

B/Day 23/5/90 (127)

WHITE-zoned areas of Johannesburg have been attracting a trickle of black people anticipating the removal of the Group Areas Act, estate agents confirmed last week.

The trend pre-dated government's announcement earlier this year that the Act would be lifted in 1991

"The move was noticeable after the release of Nelson Mandela although it began a little before that," Camdons Nationwide MD Scott McRae said.

"President F W de Klerk's announcement on the Group Areas Act recognised the realities of the situation There is enormous pressure from people of other race groups to be allowed to purchase homes in areas reserved for whites

"Estate agents have been teetering on the brink of breaking the law in trying to accommodate their needs."

McRae said people of other race groups were already being granted rights to buy property in white-zoned areas on an individual basis by applying for permits.

Aida Real Estate chairman Aida Geffen said companies had been buying houses on behalf of their employees in ordinary white suburbs for some time

As far as private buyers were concerned, she said most people were waiting for the Act to go but a few people were buying into white areas now.

Housing a top priority for open city councillor

(127)

B/Day 25/5/90

THEO RAWANA

A CONCERTED effort to provide adequate housing and finance to buy properties for people of all races in Johannesburg is a prime requisite for the opening up of the city, according to a councillor.

Johannesburg councillor Sias Reyneke, chairman of the Section 59 committee appointed to investigate and manage strategies for opening Johannesburg and the removal of residential segregation, said this on Wednesday

Earlier, management committee chairman Ian Davidson had committed the city council to an open city "in which all people irrespective of race, colour or creed can own property and live in the residential areas of their choice"

Davidson told a media conference the opening of Johannesburg and the removal of segregation should be proceeded with without delay "despite government's stated intention to abolish the Group Areas Act"

Reyneke said the establishment of his committee should be seen as the first step towards the desegregation of Johannesburg and the management of the process

The first step in the process of desegregation would be the removal of legal restrictions on living in and owning property

He said in planning and managing the process, his six-man committee should be guided by the following considerations.

- The process must be aimed at establishing a harmonious and stable non-racial society, free from discrimination and under no circumstances aimed at entrenching a sophisticated apartheid,
- Manipulation of the process in any form must be prevented,
- The desegragation should take place within the ambit of sound planning and effective local government,
- Auxiliary matters which could affect the process would have to be addressed

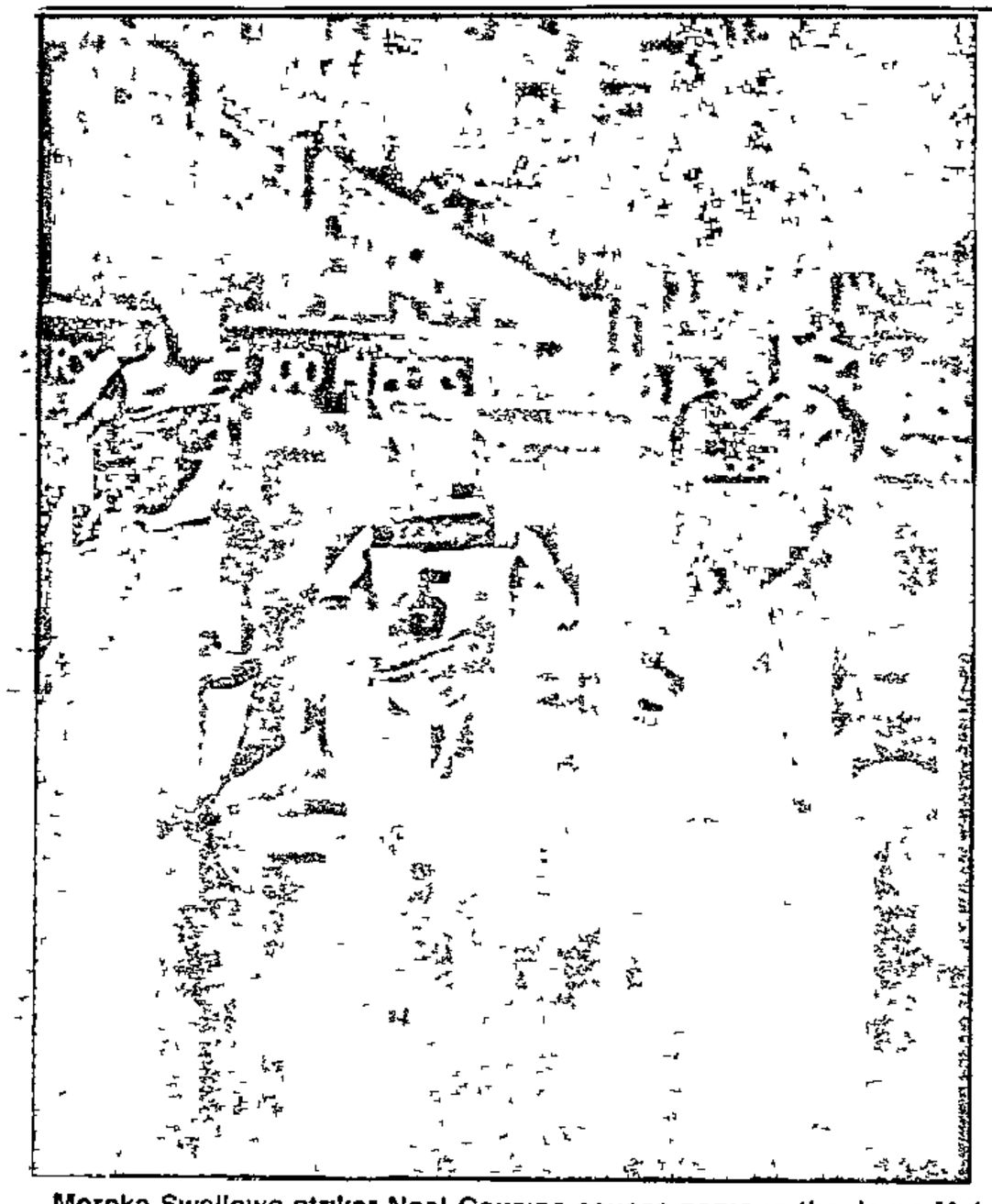
Davidson said members of the private sector would also serve on the committee

TPA call on rents

Sowetan 25/5/90

127

Mr Olaus van Zyl



Moroka Swallows striker Noel Cousins causes panic in the Jomo Midas Cosmos defence as he forces John Salter to fall on his knees The two teams drew 0-0 in a Castle League fixture at Ellis Park Stadium yesterday Pic LEN KUMALO

Black councils are told to get tougher

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has ordered 35 black councils to take action against rent defaulters.

The councils, whose townships are affected by rent boycotts, were this week told by the TPA to "take definite and drastic steps" against people owing rent.

Mr Olaus van Zyl, the TPA's MEC in charge of local government and regional services councils, said in a statement the province had limited funds for helping local authorities with bridging finance

Boycott

He said the boycott was closely linked to consumers being intimidated into not paying rents and service charges. Councillors were also being pressurised to resign.

"We have approximately R30 million a month to bridge financing

To Page

Sowetan 25/5/90

TPA to act on rents

● From Page 1

but at present we have to pay between R50 million and R60 million a month to make good any deficits of local authorities," he said.

It was the councils' duty to take steps to charge current levies and not to shirk their duties in this regard.

Councillors of the affected areas were called to a meeting in Pretoria on Wednesday by the TPA to discuss the boycott.

"It is therefore essential that communication takes place with residents regarding the necessity of paying for services and the reasons for such payments. These aspects must be made quite clear to all residents and well understood.

"Some shortcomings do indeed exist at local government level and these may already, at this point, be eliminated through local level negotiations.

Appeal

127

"It is therefore necessary that such negotiations take place without delay where this is not yet the case. I wish to appeal to consumers again, in the interests of all communities, to pay for the services they use," Van Zyl said.

* Last week, the TPA's executive committee dismissed the entire Lekoa Town Council for failing to rectify the "unhealthy state of its financial affairs".

Residents in the townships under the Lekoa council owe about R147 million in rent arrears since the boycott started in 1984.

Atteridgeville mayor threatens evictions

Sowetan 25/5/90

127

By MONK NKOMO

THE Atteridgeville City Council, which has lost R2-million since the rent boycott started on April 2 this year, warned residents this week that they may lose their houses if they do not pay their bills

Atteridgeville mayor Mr Velaphi Mathebula issued letters on Tuesday and Wednesday, appealing to residents to pay rent immediately

Mathebula said "You are behind in payments You may lose your house and we may give it to those who are prepared to pay There is a long list of people seeking houses. Do not listen to wrong advice Those people will not help you to pay when your debt is too big. Please pay today."

The Atteridgeville\Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) resolved at a public meeting on April 1 to stop paying rent, following allegations that some officials were misusing public funds.

Residents also demanded the resignation of councillors "because they are useless and not serving the public interest"

Asro's general secretary, Mr Reeves Mabitsi, said the councillors should heed the call that they resign "Only after the resignation of councillors will the masses convene to discuss what they see as affordable tariffs for essential services," he said

The council this week issued a statement saying councillors had received a mandate from their constituencies not to resign In response, an Asro spokesman said not a single councillor had addressed a public meeting since the elections about two years ago

UDF-affiliated body praises Lekoa council firings

By CHARLES MOGALE C/Press 27/5/90 (127)

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration received praise from unusual quarters this week following the dismantling of the Lekoa Town Council.

A hard-hitting statement released by the UDF-affiliated Vaal Civic Association (VCA) heaped praise on Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl while castigating councillors trying to hold on to their jobs.

Van Zyl had previously come under heavy attack for failing to resolve the rent issue, which has resulted in residents boycotting payment, and the various councils retaliating by withholding services.

Last week, Van Zyl dismissed the entire Lekoa council for failing to put its house in order and to stop their squabbles among themselves.

"We support the TPA, in particular Van Zyl, even though this (the disbanding of the council) was long overdue. We blame Van Zyl for failing to address himself to the deadlock earlier, and his delaying tactics," the VCA said.

Clarifying support for Van Zyl, the VCA said this was based on an undertaking by the MEC to launch a commission of inquiry into maladministration and corruption within the council.

The VCA lashed out at councillors' umbrella body, United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa) president Tom Boya, who bitterly attacked the TPA for dismantling the council. Boya has called for Van Zyl's resignation.

"The reason why Boya and his Umsa fight the TPA is clearly seen and known. They know they won't have access to the people's money," the VCA said.

It called for the intensification of the rent boycott and for the resignation of the neighbouring Evaton Council headed by Sam Rabotapi.

Van Zyl this week said the Soweto Council had not suffered a similar fate because it was working hard towards solving its crisis.

It had acted promptly on directives from the TPA, and it would be some time until progress could be evaluated.

Prospective home owners will have to wait longer

By COLETE CAINE

City Press 27/5/90

FIFTY-TWO families who signed building contracts for homes in Koster's Reagile township last December expected to be in their new homes by April 1.

But the 52 houses have not even been started yet.

Five of the 52 – all civil servants whose bonds are subsidised by the government – asked *City Press* to investigate the reason for the delay.

They said they had spoken to the contractors, Own-A-Home of Potchefstroom, who blamed the Reagile council for not allocating them building sites

They had also appealed to the council, but were told the delay was not the council's fault.

The five had loans approved in mid-December. In January, the contractors took them to Old Mutual to sign insurance policies for the houses

A spokesman for the Reagile Council explained that the contracts had been signed before sites had been allocated, but this was about to be done and building was expected to start soon

Although delays are common in the building industry, it is safer not to sign a contract until you are sure the builder has been allocated the sites he says he will build on for you.

Before signing any contracts, check with the council.

Taxi drivers were all smiles on Friday after talks ended a two-month halt in operations.

Katlehong taxis back on the road

By LULAMA LUTI

ABOUT 100 taxis started operating in Katlehong on Friday, ending a two-month suspension of taxi operations in the area.

Conflict over certain routes in Katlehong and surrounding areas had led to fierce fighting in the township which left more than 50 dead

Taxis bearing the Katlehong People's Taxi Association (Kapta) stickers did celebratory rounds in the township before loading passengers

Drivers were all smiles as they got behind their wheels after marathon talks were held in a bid to end feuds between the now-defunct Germiston and District Taxi Association (GDTA) and the Katlehong Taxi Organisation (Kato)

A happy Thembelani Nozibele, who claimed he had lost about R8 000 in income, said: "We are happy about the decision to start operations and we are looking forward to the settlement of this thing, once and for all."

The taxis have re-registered at a common office in Germiston and will use the same routes and charge the same fares on all trips.

Chairman of the southern Transvaal region of the UDF and head of the peace co-ordinating committee Jackson Mthembu told drivers to ensure agreements on peace initiatives were respected.

"If you are not committed to peace, there will be no peace.

"We are looking foward to you burying your differences and working together."

Mthembu added that Kato members had requested a meeting on Tuesday with the co-ordinating committee.

A committee of members elected from both GDTA and Kato has been set up to monitor the situation with the help of squad cars. They will man routes between Germiston and Katlehong.

22 houses to go to make way for road

(127)

By SOPHIE TEMA

C/Press 27/5/90

About 22 houses will be demolished to make way for a 3km dual road in Soweto costing about R10-million

The project will take about 18 months to complete and will result in irregular supplies of water and electricity in the Mofolo North and Dobsonville areas

Families living in the affected houses will be provided with new homes in different parts of Soweto They have been given various options and are negotiating with the council

The scheme will also result in about half the Mountain View filling station being demolished The garage owner, Richard Maponya, is due to meet representatives of the council and an oil company to discuss the costs involved

Mark Cookson, of the oil company, said it was premature to comment on the matter as negotiations were in progress.

"Only after all agreements have been reached will the company be able to comment"

Soweto Council public relations officer Johan van der Westhuizen said this was a Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) project.

He said most residents had opted to move into new houses

Christina Zulu, a child-minder, who lives in Mofolo North with her two sons said she agreed to be moved because she was promised a new house with the same number of rooms.

"When I was told that my present house is to be demolished to make way for the new road I could not believe my ears because I thought no provision would be made to relocate me and my children in another house

" All I am now waiting for is to be told when we are to be moved"

Christina Zulu . . . will be provided with another house with the same number of rooms.

Close corporations used to sidestep Areas Act

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS (127)

LEADING Johannesburg law firm Webber Wentzel has been prominent in assisting blacks wishing to buy homes in white areas through close corporations, property sources say.

This was done by using a legal loophole in the Close Corporations Act of 1985. Blacks were able to buy land in white areas because close corporations were not precluded under the Group Areas Act

House of Assembly director. area management Nico van Rensburg said the status of the owner and the occupier of property had to be separated.

"It is legal for a close corporation to buy property and have it registered in its name even if that corporation consists entirely of black people," he said. However, a black person needed a permit to occupy it

"As it stands, the Group Areas Act is on the book but we are trying to steer away from prosecutions."

Chairman of Lawyers for Human Rights Peter Leon said "That is a very important admission"

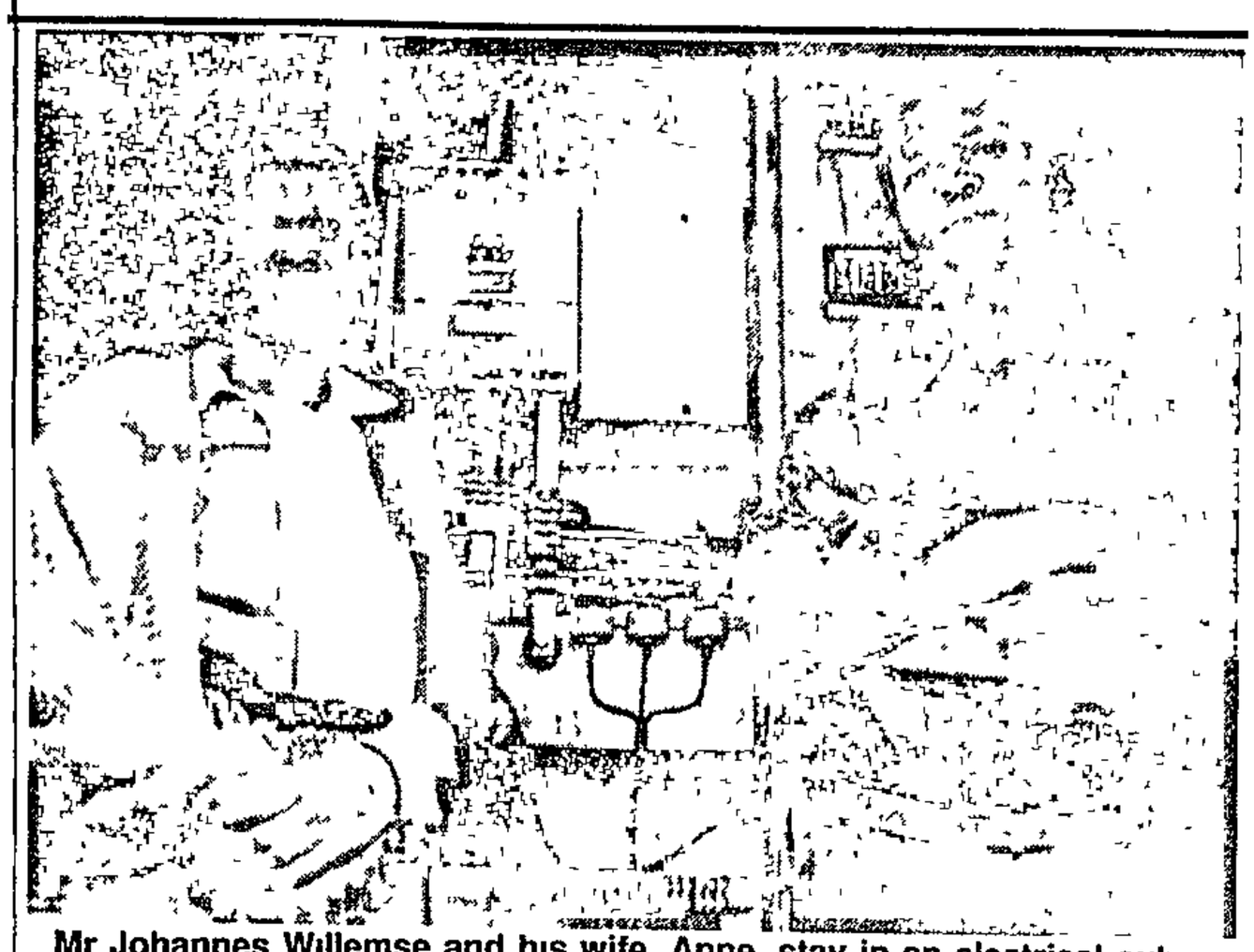
Leon said when the Close Corporation Act came into force in 1985 the Group Areas Act of 1966 was not amended to prevent a close corporation from owning property in, for example, a white group area.

The Group Areas Act originally prohibited disqualified persons from owning or occupying property in an area reserved for people of a particular group The same applied to companies owned by disqualified persons.

The restrictions on disqualified companies contained in the Group Areas Act were not extended to close corporations when the Close Corporation Act became law in 1985.

"It then became apparent to the legal community that the easy way around the Group Areas Act was to use close corporations," Leon said.

Webber Wentzel said they had no comment



Mr Johannes Willemse and his wife, Anne, stay in an electrical substation. Pic: LEN KUMALO

Sowetan 29/5/90

Couple risk lives for a roof over their heads

(127)

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

A semi-paralysed woman and her husband who have been searching for a house for eight years have now found a "home" at last - an electricity substation

Mr Johannes Willemse and his wife, Anne, have been staying in their new shelter in Newclare, near Johannesburg, since last Tuesday. Both are unemployed.

Although the substation supplies power to about 100 flats in the area, the new occupants have no lights or something to warm the shelter. They use a mat as a bed and have no blankets

"We are aware of the danger of staying in such a place but we are prepared to risk our lives as we have no other place The door is broken and it is not safe sleeping here at night," Willemse said yesterday

Spokesman for South Western management committee, Mr A I Applegreen, said the council was not aware of the couple's plight. "It is not safe for them to stay in such a place We will investigate the matter and see what we can do for them," he said

Chris McGregor dies

RENOWNED South African-born jazz pianist Chris McGregor died in France last week.

McGregor, better-known for his association with the jazz outfit *The Blue Notes*, was admitted to hospital two weeks ago after doctors had discovered lung cancer symptoms

He left South Africa in 1964 with his band, which included top jazzmen such as Mongezi Feza, Nick Moyake, Dudu Pkukwana, Johnny Dyani and Louis Moholo. They were highly acclaimed abroad

For most of his career in South Africa McGregor played with black artists and helped fuse township and European jazz.

SOWETAN Tuesda

Actstop attack claims refuted

Sowetan 29/5/90

127

POLICE and Inkatha have respectively denied allegations of bias and "brutal attacks" on Actstop members in Johannesburg's "grey areas".

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

Actstop publicity secretary, Mr Cas Coovadia, last week told a media conference that Inkatha was involved in "brutal attacks' on its members in the city."

Captain Eugene Opperman, police PRO in the Witwatesrand region, yesterday dismissed Actstop's allegations that they administered the law unequally

He, however, confirmed that in certain cases, police had visited and searched flats. He said these did not only belong to Actstop members Police had gone there in reaction to complaints by landlords, estate agents and even residents

Dr Oscar Dhlomo, Inkatha secretary general, said Actstop was a UDF affiliate and it was clear the allegations were part of the UDF/Cosatu/ANC campaign to besmirch Inkatha.

B/Day 30/5/90 (127)

Low-cost homes on offer

HOUSE buyers at the bottom end of the market are being offered units in Jouberton near Klerksdorp for a financial package of about R21 000 including land and all legal fees

Time Housing central and western Transvaal regional director Karl Groenewald said the development had been made possible by the provision of low cost serviced stands by the SA Housing Trust (SAHT) and the use of the Spaceframe system to construct the houses

Spaceframe, a subsidiary of Time Housing, is a US-designed system consisting of panels with a three-dimensional reinforcing wire with a polyurethane foam core

"Its insulation properties are said to match those of any conventional building material," Groenewald said

The system substantially reduced foundation costs for homes built on poor soils, he said

He added the Agrement Board of SA had recently waived its previous stipulation that expensive gunniting equipment be used to plaster Spaceframe panels

"Savings on foundation costs and gunniting equipment allow us to offer a colourful Spaceframe house with water, sewerage, shower and taps for the price of a basic house in dull grey cement block finished off roughly"

The houses cover 45m² and contain two bedrooms, a bathroom and a combined lounge and kitchen on stands of between 230m² and 280m²

Financing gap

Time Housing will be taking part in the Urban Foundation's Loan Guarantee Initiative scheme which enables home buyers to borrow as little as R12 500 from building societies

"Until recently developers were faced with a financing gap as few building societies would grant bonds below R35 000," Time Housing MD Mike Graham said

"We can now enter the market for homes costing between R20 000 and R35 000 — a market estimated to exceed 250 000 units"

SOWETAN Friday June 1 1990

Boya lowers service costs in Daveyton

127

DAVEYTON mayor Tom Boya yesterday announced that his council was prepared to lower municipal service fees in an attempt to resolve an on-going rent boycott as well as to address residents' other grievances.

He said in a statement that the decision to lower the fees was taken after a meeting on Wednesday night, attended by various ward and residents' committees. The Daveyton People's Organisation refused to meet the council and would take up the rent issue with Daveyton town clerk Mr DJ Erasmus instead, Boya said.

The present monthly fee of R55 a house would be dropped to R40 a month and those living in shacks behind the homes of registered tenants, who currently pay a R25 monthly fee, would pay half - R12.50.

"This consensus (reached at the meeting) could resolve the rent boycott," the mayor said, adding that faulty water meters would be replaced once inspections had taken place. - Sapa.

Cape Times 16/10/90 (177)

Daveyton to lower its rents and service fees

JOHANNESBURG — Daveyton mayor Mr Tom Boya announced yesterday that his council was prepared to lower municipal service fees in an attempt to resolve an on-going rent boycott as well as to address residents' other grievances

He said the Dayveyton People's Organisation refused to meet the council and would take up the rent issue with Daveyton town clerk Mr D J Erasmus instead

The present monthly fee of R55 per house would be dropped to R40 a month and those living in shacks behind the homes of registered tenants, who currently pay a R25 a month fee, would pay half — R12,50. — Sapa

Bid to end Mamelodi rent boycott

THE Mamelodi People's Delegation (MPD) will meet the TPA in Pretoria on Wednesday in an attempt to solve the continuing rent boycott in the township

Reports by CP staffers, Sapa

(127)

Star C/Press 6/5/90

New turn in boycott

Sowetan 8/6/90

By MONK NKOMO

THE two-month-old rent boycott in Atteridgeville took another turn yesterday when the local residents organisation called on Standard Bank to stop accepting payment of bills on behalf of the city council from residents who ignored the rent boycott. (127)

The council, which has lost R3 million in revenue since the boycott started on April 1, informed residents through letters two weeks ago that they could pay their bills into an account at the Pretoria West branch of the Standard Bank.

A spokesman for the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (ASRO) said they were scheduled to meet senior officials of the bank yesterday to urge them to close the account.

"The rent boycott is a result of corruption and mismanagement of funds in the council. It now seems to us that the bank condones that corruption," he said.

Hansard 12/6/90

partment of National Health and Population Development

It is also pointed out to the hon member that dietary punishment as a general sentence option no longer appears in section 92 of the Magistrates' Court Act, 1944 (Act No 32 of 1944)

Own Affairs

Volks Hospital, Cape Town

128 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Health Services, Welfare and Housing

(1) What is the nature of the services provided by the Volks Hospital, Cape Town,

(2) whether all the services so provided are available to (a) all age groups, (b) both sexes and (c) all races, if not, (i) why not and (ii) to which categories of persons is each such service available ,

Hansard 12/6/90

(3) (a) how many beds are there at this hospital and (b) what was the average bed occupancy rate in respect of the latest specified calendar year for which figures are available?

Hansard 12/6/90 B1110E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES, WELFARE AND HOUSING

(1) The following services are provided

(a) General medical services

(b) High care unit

(c) Rehabilitation unit

(2) (a) Yes

(b) Yes

(c) Yes

(3) (a) 128

(b) 42,1%

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language

Own Affairs

127

Reiger Park: building of houses

Mr J A RABIE asked the Minister of Housing

Whether his Department intends building houses or having them built on the available land at Reiger Park, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

C105E INT

The MINISTER OF HOUSING Mr Chairman, the answer is no It is a well-known fact that Reiger Park suffers from a scarcity of land for future development of housing I want to emphasise that the hon member asked about Reiger Park specifically

The department does not own any land for housing purposes During May 1989 a loan of R8,6 million from the Housing Fund was granted to the local authority for the provision of services and the erection of 320 dwellings The local authority recently applied for a further advance to service an additional 63 erven as well as for the construction of dwellings on these erven Due to the shortage of funds and the general need for housing in the Transvaal this application could unfortunately not be favourably considered by the Housing Board The local authority was thus advised to have the 63 erven serviced by private developers after which the erven could be sold to individuals

All other serviced land in Reiger Park or land available for development is privately owned

Rand Mines have offered a portion of their land between Reiger Park and Germiston south of Esburgdam As most of this land is of use for development and adjoins Reiger Park the Development Board has granted permission for negotiations to proceed with Rand Mines

I want to repeat that we are negotiating for land for Reiger Park In his question the hon member confined me to Reiger Park itself That is why I stated that the department does not own land That, however, does not mean that we are not negotiating for more land for Reiger Park We are dealing with the housing shortage as a matter of urgency

*Mr J A RABIE Mr Chairman, I was not trying to indicate in my question that the department did own land The hon the Minister will know that over the years I have negotiated for decent housing for the residents of Reiger Park

Land was proclaimed for incorporation into Reiger Park in 1981 The then Department of Community Development was to have been the developer of the land at that stage with regard to expropriation, the provision of services and so on I am aware of the fact that the land belongs to private owners The hon the Minister mentioned Rand Mines, for example I put the question to emphasise the matter of Reiger Park once again

Reiger Park was established there in 1964 for the resettlement of people from Germiston, Benoni, Edenvale and Heidelberg As far as the authorities were concerned, very little was done as regards the development and provision of housing in Reiger Park When I arrived in Reiger Park, only 20 houses had been built and there were 60 in Little Germiston Subsequently one had to have the land that was available serviced and utilised as best one could In this way other housing came into existence within the boundaries of the then limited boundaries of Reiger Park

The areas were proclaimed in 1981 The mine gobbled up all the land that had been proclaimed with their development, and now we are struggling The hon the Minister is aware of that Klippoortjie, to which he has just referred, is one of the areas that we are trying to get incorporated into Reiger Park This also applies to the area to the north of Reiger Park, which borders on Commissioner Street, and also Angelo and the area opposite Cinderella Dam

Mention has been made, however, of the available land which was proclaimed as part of Reiger Park where development ought to take place At one stage there was a city committee which operated under the then Department of Community Development Subsequently it petered out, but when the new dispensation, the tricameral Parliament, came into existence, I insisted that it start to function again It now functions under the Department of the hon the Minister That is

why I put the question Reiger Park attracts people from every province of the RSA [Time expired]

*Mr I J KRUGER Mr Chairman, I should like to associate myself with the hon member for Reiger Park as regards the housing problem in Reiger Park At present there are approximately 3 500 formal and 1 500 informal houses which accommodate approximately 44 000 souls This amounts to an average of approximately eight souls if a family lives together in one house In many cases 12 to 20 people live in a dwelling, and that is an unhealthy situation

Land for expansion must urgently be found to accommodate the people of Reiger Park and the approximately 6 000 people who live in the so-called White areas in Boksburg, Kempton Park and Germiston I think the hon member for Reiger Park said that negotiations about land were in progress That is true I want to request, however, that this sensitive matter be handled cautiously, because land is an extremely emotional matter

I should also like to ask the hon the Minister to attempt to find the amount of approximately R1,8 million to build an additional 63 houses in Reiger Park The fact that the ERPM Mine may close will mean that the economy of Boksburg will deteriorate even further People are not going to be prepared to invest there Consequently we want to appeal to the hon the Minister and the Housing Board to find the necessary funds to build an additional 63 houses

I should also like to thank the hon the Minister for what he and his department have done so far [Time expired]

*Mr J A RABIE Mr Chairman, I want to thank the hon member who spoke before me for his support I know he is aware that land in Reiger Park is a sensitive issue There is always controversy about land, because the mine is involved The town council is involved too, and at present it is the CP town council I may as well mention that On 26 July 1986 I made a submission to the hon the Minister's department and to the department concerned which deals with the proclamations in respect of Windmill Park, Finaalspan, Helderwyk and Dawn Park Nothing happened in connection with Windmill Park, because eventually it was declared a free settlement area Finaalspan and Dawn Park and the area adjacent to the cemetery are still at issue, however I am pleased that the hon the Minister announced that the Housing Board was already granting approval for negotiations with regard to the land adjacent to Reiger Park We need this land very badly The hon member Mr Kruger referred to the squatters, or the people who live in informal housing, in other people's backyards At one stage I invited the hon the Minister to fly over there in a helicopter to see what Reiger Park's Crossroads looks like Crossroads in Cape Town is visible only because it stands alone, like a sore Reiger Park's, however, is hidden away That is the Government's fault, and not the fault of this department, because they resettled the people there without ensuring that there was sufficient accommodation That is why I am appealing to the hon the Minister please to do something to develop the available land [Time expired]

*Mr S K LOUW Mr Chairman, I sympathise with the hon member for Reiger Park and the hon nominated member Mr Kruger We get the impression, however—especially when one comes from the Transvaal—that Reiger Park is receiving beneficial treatment I want to address a sincere request to the hon the Minister and the Housing Board also to consider the rest of the Transvaal and, in particular, the rural areas in the Transvaal I have in mind Louis Trichardt, Standerton, Warmbaths, Piet Retief, Bloemhof, Christiana, Schweizer-Reneke, Potchefstroom and many other rural towns where there is a considerable need for housing Every cent is welcome

There is a considerable need for housing also in these towns, not only in Reiger Park and Johannesburg I understand the hon member's standpoint, but I also want to put in an oar, because our contribution must be acknowledged too Our need is very great too The irony, however, is that we know that the cake is much smaller That is why we appreciate the concept introduced by the hon the Minister of Housing, namely self-build If more use is made of that self-help building scheme, we shall find an answer to the housing crisis which is causing social problems in our areas

*Mr J A RABIE Mr Chairman, I am pleased that the hon member for Rust Ter Vaal is making use of my interpellation to talk about other areas [Interjections] No, every hon member is free to put a question about his constituency to the hon the Minister He must not make use of

my question if he wants to put a question to the hon the Minister [Interjections] I put a question about Reiger Park, because that is my constituency I do not want to argue with the hon member, but I cannot emphasise enough that the hon the Minister should regard this matter as urgent I shall not elaborate any further, because I have an urgent meeting with him soon We shall take this matter further then There are four hon members of the Ministers' Council here, and even the hon the Minister of the Budget can assist the hon the Minister in solving the problem, which he knows just as well as I do, once and for all We cannot have that squatter situation in Reiger Park

They are always telling me that Reiger Park is the dirtiest place in the Republic of South Africa, but how can one expect it to be clean if eight families are living on one erf with one rubbish bin?

*The MINISTER OF HOUSING I hope the hon member for Reiger Park is not going to become angry with me, because I am not saying these things to offend him I am pleased he spoke about squatter camps He must remember what he accused me of in Stellenbosch in the days of the CRC I resolved my problem, but he still has his squatter camp in Reiger Park [Interjections] No, that hon member is an excellent negotiator He set Rabie Ridge straight Why not Reiger Park? What is wrong with the negotiation skill

*Mr J A RABIE There is no land there!

*The MINISTER But negotiate with Rand Mines [Interjections] The hon member and I shall meet and take this matter further He must remember, however, that these are matters on which we must negotiate cautiously, because people are going to object about this He knows that He has been struggling with problems concerning that land for years, but we must find a way of servicing the land so that the people can build their own homes We are struggling with the rest of the Transvaal, however

We must remember other things too I do not want to make use of the hon member's interpellation as well

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon the Minister is entitled to that He may do so

*The MINISTER No, Mr Chairman, we shall have to find other methods A local authority must not simply come to us and tell us they want money for contractor housing We must ensure that the problems of the people in all the areas in the Eastern Transvaal, whom the hon member has represented for 10 years, are resolved The hon member must remember that He owes them something too, because he represented them for all these years

We support him, however We are not fighting with him He must merely understand when we say that negotiation on land is a sensitive matter at the moment

I am pleased the hon the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs is here with us, because he is now the hon the Minister of Group Areas! [Interjections] [Time expired]

Debate concluded

R27m facelift for Meadowlands hostel

Sowetan 13/6/90

(127)

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

THE Diepmeadow Council has started a multi-million rand project to upgrade the infrastructure at the Meadowlands hostel and to solve the housing shortage in the area.

The project involves converting the Meadowlands hostel into four-roomed family units and upgrading the infrastructure at the cost of R27 million as well as building 172 houses worth about R42 000 each in the adjacent soccer field.

Part of the R27 million will be provided by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

Presently 17 000 people staying in the hostel are exposed to problems such as lack of privacy as they use communal toilets and washing facilities, main sewer blockages and electricity failure.

"To make this area habitable for families the infrastructure, which will cost about R14 million, will be started immediately and must be finished before construction begins," Diepmeadow mayor Mr Moses Khumalo said.

* More than 200 Diepkloof squatters who are threatened with evictions will be moved to Orange Farm.

This decision was taken at a meeting between Khumalo and the TPA regional director, Mr Jacobus Joubert.

Council plea for end to boycott

By MONK NKOMO

RESIDENTS in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, have a right to challenge town councillors and call for their resignation if they did not do their duty, the acting town clerk, Mr Daan Mouton, said yesterday.

Mouton appealed to residents to call off the 10-week-old rent boycott and said the issue and that of calling on councillors to resign should be divorced from each other. (127)

"Residents have a democratic right to call for councillors to resign if they do not serve the interests of their constituencies. Sowetan 13/6/90

"But residents must, at the same time, realise they must pay for services rendered by the council," Mouton told *Sowetan*.

He said: "Councillors do not render electricity and water supply services. They are just politcal figures

"The council has to maintain and render essential services. If residents do not pay it will be difficult to maintain and repair these services."

Mouton said the council had already lost R3 million in revenue since the boycott started.

Residents have resolved that they would pay "affordable rents" as soon as councillors resigned

However, councillors have vowed they will not resign.

Boycott may hit six shops

Sowetan 14/6/90

127

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents, who stopped paying rent in April and boycotted certain businesses - two of which have since closed - were yesterday urged to boycott six more shops, including those owned by an Indian woman.

The Anti-Corruption Committee distributed pamphlets yesterday requesting residents to immediately stop supporting three bottlestores - two of which are owned by Mrs Suriya Mohammed, two general dealers and two restaurants, including the Jabulani cafe at the Saulsville arena which is run by Reverend Enoch Sibanyoni, chairman of the management committee of the town council

The Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) called on the public to boycott businesses owned by councillors from April 1 this year in an effort to pressurise them to resign.

Parktown residents vote to boycott Mobil

(127)

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

FUMING residents of Parktown West, Johannesburg — announcing a meeting to protest against plans to build a petrol station in the area — this week hoisted a banner on Jan Smuts Avenue proclaiming Mobil plunders Parktown

And in an echo of the mood expressed by the banner, tempers flared at the subsequent public meeting where it was resolved to boycott Mobil stations

About 200 people turned up at the Parktown Residents' Association (PRA) gathering and met spokesmen of Mobil — now called Southern African Energy Company

Residents marched into the hall carrying placards reading "Keep your Mobil-greasy hands off Parktown" and "Parktown heritage before Mobil profits"

Facing the flak, Mobil resale marketing director Barry Jordan said the company had a reputation for being environmentally concerned

Studies showed about 55 000 cars a day passed the house on the site of the planned petrol station, and levels of noise and air pollution were already unusually high

Similar houses in the area were valued at considerably less than houses in another urban residential suburb, he said

Architect Terry Barnes said Mobil intended to preserve the original house

PRA committee member Mike Lamb said Mobil was building the garage to make money and not to serve the local community B/Day 14/6/90

Committee member Flo Bird insisted "It is our suburb and we don't want to be told it is unfit for human habitation We do not want pretty petrol pumps "

When Jordan said Mobil would not withdraw its application, the meeting voted to boycott the group's outlets

Jo'burg officials in clandestine flatland survey

B/Day 14/6/90

127

PETER DELMAR

JOHANNESBURG civic officials watched 40 000 inner-city residents individually in a week-long pre-dawn operation to establish the extent of overcrowding in the central city areas of Hillbrow and Joubert Park, council senior deputy Medical Officer of Health Dr Nicky Padayachee said yesterday.

Pairs of officials were stationed outside 302 buildings from 4am on weekday mornings About 18 000 dwelling units were surveyed.

Padayachee said his officials did the head count surreptitiously because of the reluctance of "illegal" residents to be identified and to avoid invading residents' privacy

After 9am, one of the officials went inside and counted those left behind The total gave the department the most accurate indication of a building's occupancy possible, he said

He said the survey found there was an average of 3,4 people to a flat

However, given the fact that most whites living in the area were either young and single or senior citizens, the average for blacks, coloureds and Indians could be as high as seven

A study on immunisation in the greater Hillbrow area two months ago showed that 52% of the parents of children surveyed had come to the area within the previous 12 months.

Although this did not mean the black population had grown by a corresponding percentage, Padayachee said it clearly indicated that pressure on the inner city was still increasing.

Significantly, only 19% of the new arrivals came from the Transvaal Large proportions came from the other provinces and TBVC states.

Other information collected by the department pointed to the dramatic change in the area's character.

Despite the growth in occupancy, water supply to predominantly black blocks had declined 2% in 12 months, and where previously the main local demand for health services was in geriatric care, municipal child-care centres were now treating 12 times more patients than a few years ago.

Jo'burg council to discuss Soweto rent boycott report

TANIA LEVY

THE Johannesburg City Council management committee is to discuss a report on the Soweto rent boycott following a meeting with the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) this week

The delegation presented its Plan Act report on the boycott to management commitee chairman Ian Davidson during a meeting which was also attended by Marietta Marx

The SPD asked Johannesburg to commit itself to five policy principles concerning the boycott and to publicly commit itself to unification of Soweto and Johannesburg

Council was also asked to state its intentions on local government guidelines announced by Planning Minister Hernus Kriel and to intervene in evictions and demolition of Soweto homes It was asked to join the Soweto Joint Financial Adjustment Committee — established by the Transvaal Provincial Administration and chaired by the Development Bank of Southern Africa

Yesterday Marx said the report would be discussed with the rest of the management committee, which would decide whether to meet the SPD to discuss further points raised

FM 15/6/90

TESTING TOWNSHIP LEASES

(127)

In a test case that could affect millions of black township dwellers, the Legal Resources Centre has begun a review application in the Supreme Court asking it to set aside a decision by the Soweto Council which terminates a tenant's housing lease. The council is opposing the application and has until mid-July to file affidavits

The case involves Wilson Makeng of Mapetla Extension, who last October was given a month's notice to leave the house he has been occupying since 1965. Reasons for the eviction apparently centre on Makeng's ex-wife (whom he divorced 15 years ago), who now seems to be claiming the house.

Until January 1 1989, most houses in the black townships were occupied under residential permits. On that date, the Conversion of Certain Rights to Leasehold Act came into force, providing for the repeal of the permit regulations. Occupants thus became lessees of the council.

"If what the Soweto Council has done is valid," observes the centre's Geoff Budlender, "millions could be thrown out of their houses."

The Makeng case is apparently not isolated: "We're starting to see the first trickle of cases raising this issue, which is going to become much bigger."

Marching Soweto homeless ask TPA for a better deal

(127) Star 19/6/90

By Julienne du Toit

Hundreds of Soweto's homeless marched yesterday from the Library Gardens in Johannesburg to the Civic Centre to demand better living conditions from the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA)

About 1 500 men, women and children arrived in buses with banners demanding decent homes and the scrapping of the Squatters Act

The singing, ululating crowd was led by Anglican and Methodist clergymen

The march was organised by Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle)

Traffic officers halted vehicles for the march up Rissik Street as police stood by

Omhle, an ANC affiliate, handed over a memorandum describing the plight of the homeless to a TPA representative and called on the Administrator of the Transvaal and the mayor of Johannesburg to provide sanitation facilities and hold an inquiry into the destruction of shacks

Katlehong residents vow to continue boycott

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

KATLEHONG residents have decided to continue boycotting rent until their demands are met.

They have also resolved to boycott all businesses owned by councillors in protest against the councillors' refusal to resign from the local authority.

The rent boycott in the East Rand township started three months ago.

These decisions were taken at a meeting attended by about 50 000 at Huntersfield stadium on Monday.

Sowetan 20/6/90

March

The meeting was called by the Katlehong Civic Association.

The residents also marched on the local police station where they presented a memorandum to the local station commander complaining about activities of local police.

The petition was addressed to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

Residents are demanding lower rents, the scrapping of the hostels, suspension of evictions and demolishing of shacks. (127)

Demands

They are also demanding that all council-owned houses should be transferred to their present occupants.

Executive member of the KCA Mr Ike Motloung told the meeting that NedPerm had agreed to stop selling homes of local residents who could not afford the soaring monthly payments on their mortgages.

"People with financial problems are asked to contact NedPerm and discuss their difficulties," Motloung said.

The local community also demanded an end to the harassment and detention of the township's leaders

WEDNESDAY JUNE 20 1990

TPA warns over rents

MONK NKOMO

ABOUT 40 black townships throughout the country whose residents are boycotting rent could have essential services cut from next month, the Transvaal Provincial Administration warned yesterday.

The TPA's deputy director of community services, Mr Len Dekker, said in a statement released in Pretoria they would stop paying bridging finances to the affected town councils from July 31.

He said the councils would have to provide for themselves from the end of this month because of "the severely restricted funds available to the administration".

Soweto - where rent arrears total millions of rand - is not affected by the latest warning because it already received notices in October last year urging it to put its house in order.

A spokesman for the TPA said yesterday the Soweto Council was

To Page 2

Sowetan 20/6/90

Councils warned

From Page 1

doing its utmost to address the rent boycott.

Dekker warned affected councils that if they failed to provide funds for themselves to pay suppliers of essential services such as electricity and water, the services would be discontinued.

He said the TPA allocated R2,6 million a month to black local authorities in the Transvaal as bridging finance.

"As a result of the boycott of payments they need financial assistance increased to R35,5 million for April and R60,5 million for May 1990," he said.

The needs for this month were expected to be higher

The TPA sent letters to about 40 black local authorities on June 18 urging them to take tough action against rent defaulters

Dekker yesterday appealed to consumers to pay for essential services, saying nowhere in the world were these services free.

Housing for 600 000 people

Go-ahead for new town near Jo'burg

B/Day 20/6/90

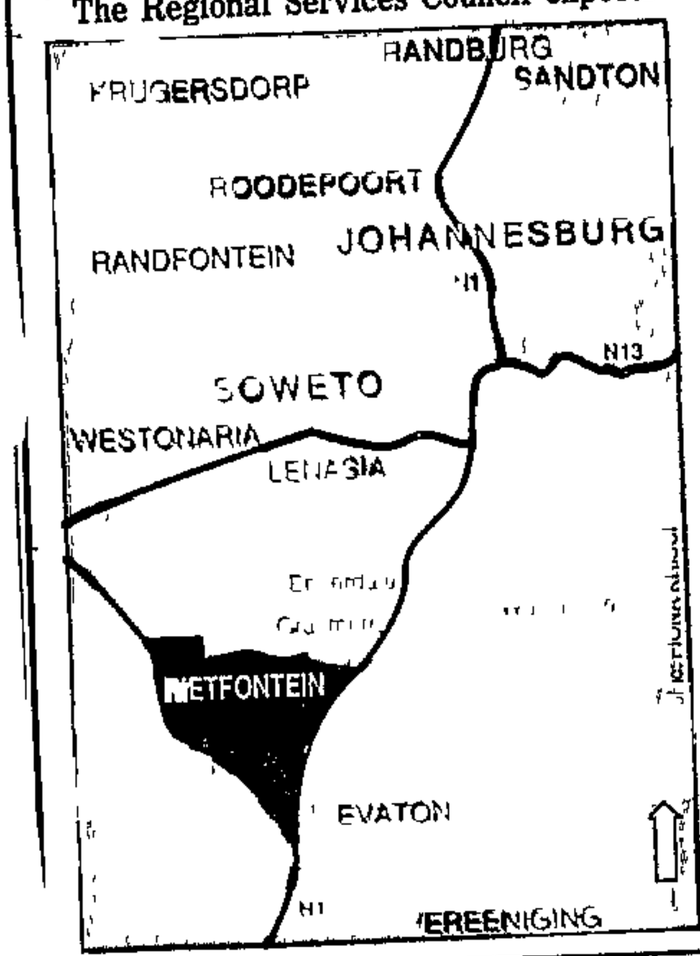
(127)

EDYTH BULBRING

PLANS for a multi-billion-rand town to be located south of Johannesburg have been approved, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council said yesterday.

While most residents are likely to be black, there is no racial zoning and the emphasis is on "people" and income groups, not race groups.

The Regional Services Council expects the plans to be passed by the Transvaal Administrator without major alterations



Low cost housing totalling 90 000 units, to accommodate 600 000 people, is planned for the new town, to be called Rietfontein It will take up 8 900ha of land south of Ennerdale, north-west of Evaton and west of the N1 Land and services alone will cost the council R1,2bn.

A string of industrial and commercial areas is planned along the N1, which separates the Rietfontein area from Stretford, a planned black area which will house an additional 600 000 people.

Regional Services Council CEO Len de Wet said yesterday the province administration needed early planning to provide 24 000ha for housing for more than 3-million people in the PWV area by 2000

"The great majority of these people would be blacks in the lower income group," De Wet said.

He did not rule out the possibility that Rietfontein and Stretford could merge into one city, separated by the N1

De Wet emphasised that while in practice the need for low cost housing was greatest among blacks, Rietfontein would not be developed as a black township.

And unlike Soweto, the planning of Rietfontein made provision for an industrial and commercial base. This would be situated along the motorway and a proposed

☐ To Page 2

New town

☐ From Page 1

(127)

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railway line would run through Rietfontein and link with the existing network

Of the Rietfontein area, 4 800ha will be used for urban development and the rest for "green" and industrial use, De Wet said

The area will be developed by the council, private enterprise and the provincial authorities The SA Housing Trust and JCI are likely to be involved, De Wet said

The installation of bulk services would dictate the development of the area, which De Wet expected to begin within two years

The planning of Rietfontein is based on a study of the south-western sector of the Witwatersrand, which makes proposals for accommodating 3-million people by 2000

The Transvaal Provincial Administration would take serious note of the proposals for this south-western area when approving plans for land development in the PWV area, a TPA source said

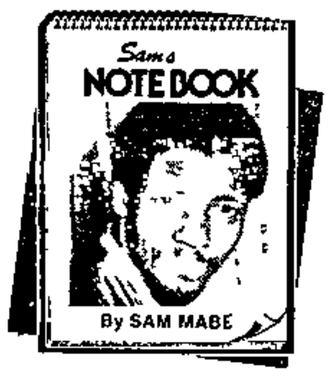
The study has been approved in principle by the Regional Services Council and it identifies large tracts of land suitable for development that will cater for this housing need The land lies between Soweto, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging and Alberton and could accommodate over 3-million people

The study proposes that housing should be planned around the existing employment and transport facilities, but infrastructure for industry in the new areas should be created at an early stage

SOWETAN Wednesday June 20 1990

All rent arrears should be written off

Sowetan 20/6/90



IT IS four years this month since the rent boycott in Soweto started. Various strategies, ranging from appeals to outright threats of drastic action have been used in trying to persuade people to pay.

Local authorities have also been given ultimatums by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to work out a system of collecting all due rentals and service fees.

For failing to produce results, some have been dissolved.

But what seems very clear to this day is that the boycott is not about to be called off. It may continue for a few more years to come.

The trouble is that even if it were to be called off, most residents could not afford to pay what they owe the authorities.

But even if they could, I get the feeling that for political and other reasons, they would still not be prepared to pay

The suggestion made earlier that the authorities should write off the arrears makes a lot of sense to me, though the Government does not seem prepared to consider it.

In its handling of this issue, the Government seems to be demonstrating a total lack of understanding or rejection of legitimate views held by the people on the matter

In pursuance of its apartheid policy, the Government has for many years served as the sole landlord for blacks living in urban areas. Blacks were denied the right to buy property and were made to feel they were in urban areas for only a short while

This obviously built up a lot of anger among the people The upshot was that housing was politicised. So was water and electricity.

That is why the rent boycott was chosen as a weapon to demonstrate mass opposition to local authorities that were created to implement unpopular Government policy.

Today there has been some shift in Government policy. The permanency of blacks in the so-called white South Africa has been guaranteed. Pass laws have been scrapped Blacks can buy houses they could only rent in the past. They can also build their own homes and raise loans for bonds

For all this, the Government believes that it deserves credit. And it sees the rent boycott as unreasonable In short, the Government is saying, while admitting that it had done the people wrong, the people must still pay for those wrongs.

Electricity bills that average Soweto residents have paid over the years are unrealistically high. We even suspect that councils were overcharging people as a way of raising revenue since black local authorities have no sources of revenue except for rental money which is not enough to meet running costs.

The flat rate of R50 per household that the Soweto council suggested should be paid is still too high for a average four-roomed house

The use of strong-arm tactics will not help The solution lies in all arrears being written off

	Bronkhorstspruit	8
	Carolina	13
	Coligny	7
	Ermelo	29
	Kimberley (Tvl Road)	16
	Kimberley (Tvl Road) Offices	12
	Kimberley (Pniel Road)	21
	Kimberley (Pniel Road) Stalls	27
	Lichtenburg	23
	Louis Trichardt	44
	Lydenburg	7
	Nylstroom	10
	Middelburg	47
	Piet Retief	27
	Pietersburg	80
	Potchefstroom	63
	Rustenburg	61
	Schweizer-Reneke	18
	Standerton	46
Pretoria	Swartruggens	12
	Ventersdorp	3
	Vryburg	31
	Wolmaransstad	13
	Zeerust	15
	Pretoria Asian Bazaar (Professional Block)	30
	Pretoria Asian Bazaar (Retail)	143
	Pretoria Asian Bazaar (Mini Complex)	41
	Pretoria Asian Bazaar (Wholesale Complex)	18

Marlboro Gardens: council houses

34 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

Whether his Department has received any complaints about the condition of the approximately 100 so-called council houses in Marlboro Gardens over the past two years, if so, (a) how many and (b) (i) what is the purport of these complaints and (ii) what steps have been taken in connection with them?

D139E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

No

(a) Falls away

(b) (i) Falls away

(ii) Falls away

Hansard 21/6/90

Lenasia South Extension 4 allocation of houses/stands (127)

36 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether a committee has been appointed to allocated houses and/or stands in Lenasia South Extension 4, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) who are the members of this committee and (c) what criteria will be applied in allocating these houses and stands, (127)

(2) whether houses are to be built in this area for persons in the middle income-group, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) by whom and (c) in what price range;

(3) whether stands are to be allocated in this area to persons in the higher income-group, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) at what price per stand and (c) what will be the average size of these stands?

D143E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes

(a) 20 April 1990

(b) Mr C J Grundlingh
Mrs A van der Merwe

Mr V Moodley
Mr J J Naude (127)

(c) (i) The applicant's gross income must not exceed R1 000 pm, this ceiling has been increased at the Minister's discretion,

(ii) the applicant must not be the owner of any fixed residential property,

(iii) the applicant must be married or have dependants, and

(iv) the applicant must not have previously been assisted by the State or any local authority for the acquisition of subsidised fixed property financed by the Housing Development Board

Hansard 21/6/90

(2) No decision has as yet been taken

(a) Falls away

(b) Falls away

(c) Falls away

(3) No decision has as yet been taken Falls away

(a) Falls away

(b) Falls away

(c) Falls away

Rent-controlled premises

39 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing Hansard 21/6/90

(1) (a) How many rent-controlled premises were there under the jurisdiction of his Department as at 31 December 1989 and (b) how many such premises were decontrolled in 1989,

(2) whether he will furnish the (a) address and (b) description of each of the properties so decontrolled, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

D152E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) (a) Unknown

(b) Falls away

(2) (a) Falls away

(b) Falls away

Lenasia South, Extension 2: land allocation

51 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing (127)

(1) Whether any building construction or utility company is suing the Administration House of Delegates with regard to land allocation in and the proclamation of Lenasia South, Extension 2, if so, what are the relevant details,

(2) whether he has called for all areas falling under the Administration House of Delegates to be free-settlement and free-trading areas, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

Hansard 21/6/90 D227E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) No

(2) No Where circumstances justify it the Administration House of Delegates does support free-settlement areas, for example Cato Crest in Cato Manor

Regarding free-trade areas the Ministers' Council has accepted the principle of free-trade areas at all the larger centres and towns

Lenasia South-East area: incorporation

55 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture (127)

(1) Whether he has made representations for the Lenasia South-East area to be (a) incorporated with Lenasia proper and (b) placed under the administration of the Johannesburg City Council, if not, why not, if so, (i) when, (ii) why, (iii) to whom, and (iv) what was the (aa) purport of and (bb) response to these representations, in each case, Hansard 21/6/90

(2) whether Lenasia Extensions 10 and 11 are to be proclaimed free-settlement areas during the course of 1990, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that it will be so proclaimed, if so, what are the relevant details?

D239E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE

(1) (a) and (b) Yes

(i) Over a period of three years commencing in 1987

(ii) To ensure the proper administration of the area and also the fact that with the abolition on 1 July 1986 of the Peri-Urban Areas Board of Transvaal, the incorporation of the area into the municipal area of Johannesburg became essential

(iii) The Johannesburg Municipality, the Transvaal Provincial Government and the Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(iv) (aa) See (ii) above

(bb) These are sensitive issues, especially from a financial point of view and every effort is being made to finalise it as soon as possible

(2) This issue will be addressed once the incorporation of the area into the municipal area of Johannesburg has been finalised

Teachers' study leave

58 Mr H M NEERAHOO asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) (a) How many teachers were on study leave during the last school term of 1988 and 1989, respectively, and (b) what measures were taken by his Department to ensure that proper education was provided to pupils during the absence of these teachers,

(2) what measures are taken by his Department to ensure that proper education is provided to pupils during the absence of teachers who are on (a) sick and (b) other specified forms of leave?

D245E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) (a) 1988 33
1989 45

The above figures include educators who were on study leave for either the full or part of the last school term

(b) Suitable replacements were provided

(2) (a) and (b) Suitable replacements are provided for all absences of six or more school days Internal arrangements are made by the principal of the school in respect of educators who are absent for less than six school days

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Ministers'/Deputy Ministers' houses improvements

349 Mr D S PIENAAR asked the Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs †

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 15 on 27 March 1990, standing over, any improvements were made to houses for Ministers or Deputy Ministers during the seven financial years from 1982-1983 up to and including 1988-1989, if so, (a) (i) to which houses, (ii) for which Ministers or Deputy Ministers and (iii) on what dates and (b) what was the cost thereof, in each case?

B851E

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS

Yes The improvement of official residences, where necessary and justified, are not undertaken for particular office-bearers, but with a view to keeping the residences in appropriate and good order

Cape Town

Bergsig	Provision of air-conditioning Main bedroom and study	November 1988	R 10 000
Dennegeur	Alteration of bath room cupboards	September 1985	R 125
	Provision of braai/entertainment facility	March 1986	R 535
	Number of minor changes to dwelling	March 1986	R 350
	Additional kitchen cupboard	September 1987	R 450
Die Meule	Improvement of braai/entertainment area	May 1983	R 1 300
	Minor alterations	August 1985	R 850
	Provision of shelves	November 1988	R 815
Die Uitsig	Provision of braai facilities	January 1983	R 350
Duiwelspiek	Erection of servants' quarters	October 1982	R 25 440
	Modernisation of kitchen	June 1986	R 46 778
Green Briar	Awning over door	May 1982	R 671
	Minor alterations	May 1986	R 500
	Built-in cupboards	March 1987	R 2 100
4 Groote Schuur Avenue	Provision of outside entertainment area	July 1985	R 3 750
	Renovation and modernisation	August 1988	R134 960
5 Groote Schuur Avenue	Minor renovation and modernisation	September 1983	R 7 400
	Alterations to servants' quarters	August 1986	R 4 120
Halfway	Built-in cupboards	May 1982	R 3 200
	Shelves in store-room	September 1984	R 3 100
	Minor alterations	March 1986	R 1 340
	Additional store-room	June 1987	R 3 122
	Built-in cupboards	June 1988	R 3 000
Helderberg	Renovation	July 1982	R 17 680
	Modernisation of bathroom	July 1983	R 3 283
	Electric lights for carport	May 1987	R 1 500
	Additional carports	July 1987	R 27 986
	Provision of walk-in cupboard	December 1987	R 3 000

Jo'burg raises rates by 13%

(127)

TANIA LEVY

THE Johannesburg City Council yesterday announced a record R2,1bn budget, with an average 13% increase in ratepayers' monthly bills.

The council is to exceed government's 13% ceiling on expenditure increases with a 17,2% increase in estimated operating expenditure and a 16,2% rise in the capital budget. The operating budget is R1 686m and capital expenditure is estimated at R389m.

In his first budget address, management commitee chairman Ian Davidson said he believed the budget had succeeded in giving ratepayers much needed relief by keeping the aggregate rate increases below the annual inflation rate and lower than last year's 22% increase

Water tariffs have been increased 11,5% compared with 45% last year; assessment rates 9,8% (14,2%), gas 14% (15%), and a 45% (50%) hike in sewerage tariffs is proposed Electricity charges will rise 9% (10%) for domestic users and 13% (15%) for business and other users, who will pay 25% (24%) more for cleansing, while residents will pay 12% (15%) more

Davidson said the decision not to remain within government's constraints on spending had not been taken lightly. But putting a 13% cap on a thriving metropolitan core

☐ To Page 2

B/Day 21/6/90

Jo'burg budget

(127)

☑ From Page 1

city was patently unfair and could not be accepted, he said.

Total rate and service increases would raise R159m to help close the gap between estimated operating expenditure of R1,7bn and operating income of R1,5bn

With a R28,8m surplus brought forward from the financial year just ending, service and tariff increases would leave a nominal surplus of R2,2m in the next

A new formal financial strategy based on improved cash management and strengthening of internal funds was being drafted, he said

At a Press conference prior to the budget address, Davidson said the restructuring of the entire transport department was being investigated

Increased running costs necessitated a 17% increase in upper bus tariffs and a 20% increase in lower tariffs

He said a specific budget had not been allocated to the proposed municipal police force Council knew it was about to see the demise of the security department in its present form and therefore did not yet want to tamper with its budget The security department has been allocated R39m, compared with R25m last year

He said 29% of the capital budget would be allocated to the electricity department and R65m (23%) was to go to the Newton and CBD projects and developments of the civic theatre and Afrikaans Museum

Pay demands had moved the management committee to uplift pay packets at the lower end of the scale by 34%

☑ Picture Page 3

B/Day 21/6/90

FM 22/6/90 (127)

PLANNING (127)

Go for Mobil

FM 22/6/90

If there's been anything positive in the bitter dispute between Mobil and the residents of Parktown, Johannesburg, over the oil giant's plans to erect yet another service station on Jan Smuts Avenue, it's the fact that at least the adversaries have met face to face

On the eve of a Townships Board hearing, which gives the Transvaal Administrator the unenviable task of deciding between the merits of the case against, presented by Park-

FM 22/6/90

town residents, and Mobil's arguments in favour, the two factions faced one another in an historic debate (127)

Meetings like this are common abroad but both Flo Bird, of Parktown Association, which initiated the meeting, and Mobil corporate image consultant Kevin Kevany admitted it was a first for them

The fact that the meeting took place at all is recognition of the growing power and influence of community action groups In the past their views could often be ignored but developers now, rightly, have to go to great lengths to explain proposals if they are to have any hope of seeing their schemes approved They can no longer simply rely on their financial muscle to bulldoze through proposals which could have a devastating impact on the environment

The meeting showed that both developers and pressure groups alike have much to learn about public participation in the planning process

Certainly, the 200 people who packed the basement auditorium of Reeva Forman's new Parktown HQ, to confront the Mobil moguls, admirably got across their antagonism to the proposal

Equally certainly, if any of the residents seriously listened (which is doubtful) to Mobil's resale marketing director Barry Jordon outline his organisation's worthy environmental record, they too might have been similarly impressed

But when it came down to it everyone, perhaps with one exception, failed to focus their energies to persuading the opposition that it was wrong Ward councillor Rae Graham, for example, cheered on by a partisan audience, eloquently and forcefully told Mobil of her excellent track record in fighting unwanted developments However, she omitted to address the crucial issue of why she was against this particular scheme If she did it was lost

Mobil was just as guilty of omission It never tried to tell residents just how (if at all) its new service station would benefit them The best it could do was a less-than-convincing claim that the area would be no worse off if the service station were built

Perhaps the only exception was veteran campaigner Bird who did her homework to show that Mobil had not conducted a thorough investigation before submitting its planning application She also pointed out that the area around the proposed site, which the oil company believes is already compromised by traffic noise, is happily occupied by genuine human beings

Indicative of their belief, or lack of it, in the art of logical persuasion the residents have decided to promote a boycott of Mobil filling stations to bring further pressure on the company It is claimed that about half the garages there are Mobil ■

W/Mail 22/6/90

JHB council neglects the homeless, says Neppe

By KATHY STRACHAN

THE Johannesburg City Council had done nothing to alleviate the problem of the homeless, David Neppe (Ward 18) said during the budget debate yesterday.

He said the council was "guilty of a dereliction of duty to the whole homeless people situation" as at previous meetings they had decided the issue of vagrants and the homeless was not their responsibility.

"It was the problem of the department of social welfare or of health — anyone but ours," said Neppe.

He said the problem of the homeless was an ever increasing one and to the extent that it had a great impact on the city as a whole, it did affect the council.

"We have to work out how to get involved so that we can make a constructive and meaningful contribution."

As the problem of vagrants was often brought about through the problem of drug and alcohol abuse he suggested the council should to get more involved in preventative medicine.

Harold Rudolph (Ward 4) reiterated that there was no provision in the budget to deal with the large influx of people who were flooding in from the rural areas.

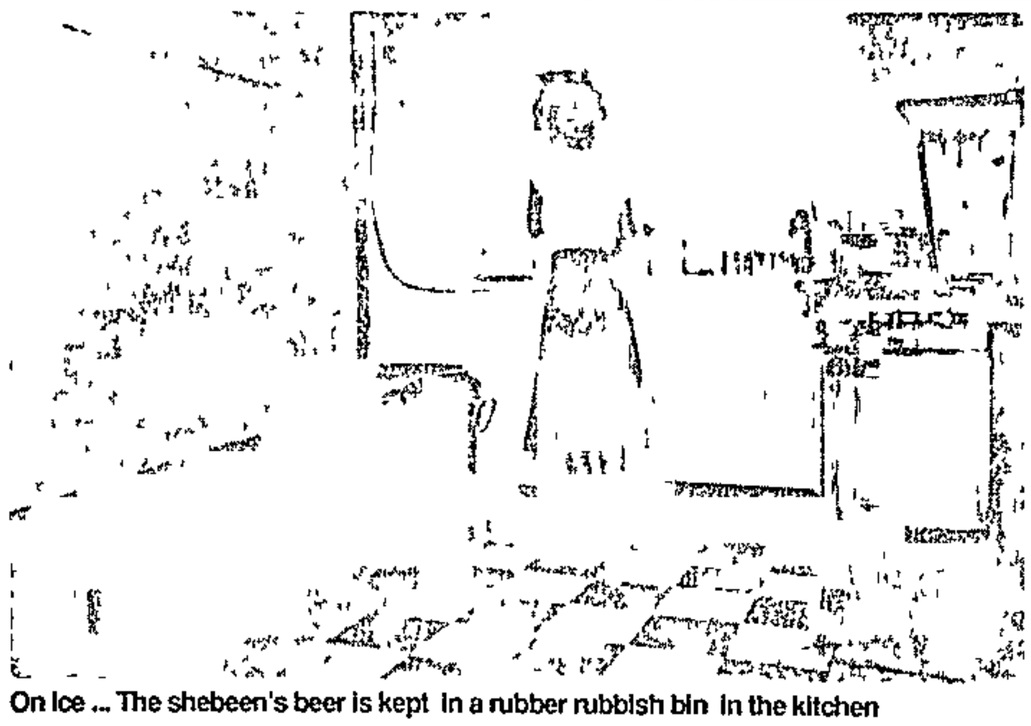
"What happens in the next year will change the entire face of the face of the city, and if Group Areas goes, we somehow have to provide housing for the vast influx to come."

He criticised the housing department as "an excercise in irrelevancy" as it concerned itself only with white housing whereas the problems lay with black housing. He said there was a need to reconsider the role of council itself.

Cliff Garrun (Ward 31) called for the influx of people into Johannesburg to be treated in a planned and organised way. He said capital spending should be increased for the upgrading of inner city areas, as the increase in "bad buildings" was posing a health problem.

Managament Committee member Marietta Marx confirmed that they could no longer say that vagrants were not their responsibility and they would have to "find creative new ways of dealing with these problems".

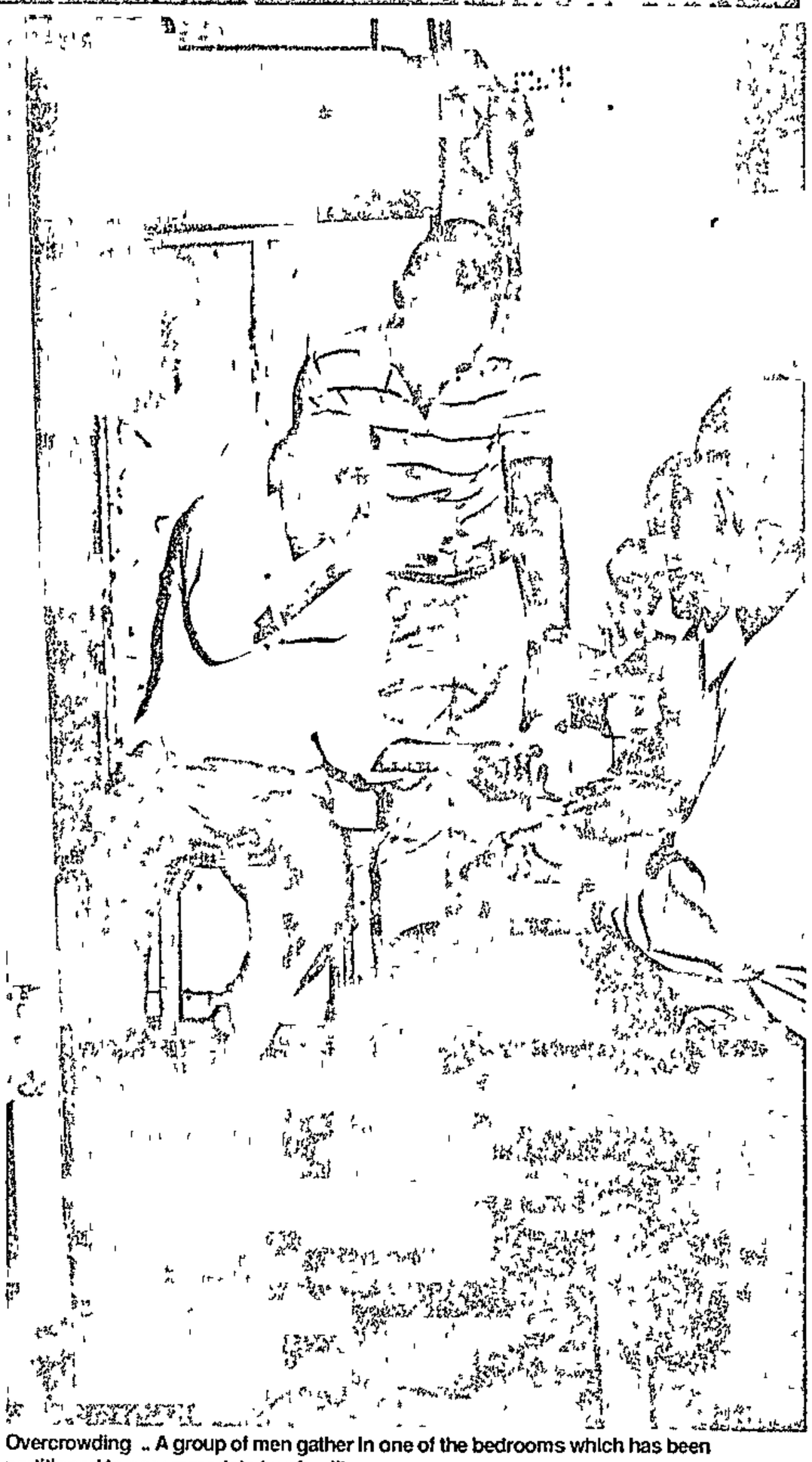
(127)



On ice ... The shebeen's beer is kept in a rubber rubbish bin in the kitchen

Looking out .. The entrance to the block of flats in Lorentzville

Picture SEELAN NAIDOO



Overcrowding .. A group of men gather in one of the bedrooms which has been partitioned to accommodate two families

Black blues in a white suburb

W/C Mail 22/6-28/6/90

(127) (224)

High rents and overcrowded conditions have not deterred a group of migrant workers from making a home for themselves in a city flat **THAMI MKHWANAZI** reports on the migrants' struggle to survive

SUNDAY afternoon in a block of flats in the Johannesburg suburb of Lorentzville was spent with beer and loud music in typical township style A transistor radio in Norjeff Court blasted Yvonne Chaka Chaka's *I'm in love with a disc jockey*

Downstairs, the back garden resembled a typical township yard with Selina Malapane removing napkins from one of the numerous washlines

The dilapidated block has become home to black migrant workers Even astronomical rents have not deterred the men and their families from being part of white Johannesburg

It was not by choice that a hostel exists in Norjeff Court. A number of factors, be they political or cultural, have gradually been transforming city flatlands into townships

The high rentals and the acute shortage of housing among black communities has forced some into city flats where they live in overcrowded conditions

While the men drink beer on Sunday, the womenfolk chat and cook in the communal kitchens

Terrence Mosibetla spoke about the plight of having to fork out rent of R688,56 a month between himself and three other men "The rents are killing us," he said

The R688,56 includes R188,56 a month for electricity, although the tenants used the building's gas stoves for cooking As a result of the high rent, the residents were continually falling in arrears

For survival, the tenants — all migrant workers — have had to share the rent, living on top of one another

Mosibetla and his three home boys from Kgapane village in Tzaneen — David Malapane, Evans Ramafalo and Patrick Ramatsoma — live with their wives in Flat 2 The Malapanes have been joined by their two-year-old daughter The flat consists of two 5x3m bedrooms, a kitchen and a bathroom

The Malapanes share the bedroom with Evans Ramafalo and his wife The room is partitioned by a small curtain and two old wardrobes on top of which a lounge suite has been packed away The Ramafalos' part of the room is taken up by a tiny makeshift cupboard a chair and a three-quarter bed which stands on empty paint tins A poster of Yvonne Chaka Chaka and another of Moroka Swallows adorn the walls

The Malapanes have crammed a three-quarter bedroom suite and a cupboard in their side A colourful calendar, wall mirror and pot plants grace the neat bedroom

The Mosibetlas sleep on a three-quarter bed while the Ramatsomas use a single bed The room is partitioned by a floral curtain

The tenants of Flat 2 have received a statement for this month's rent totalling R916, 24 from J&M Properties of Saxonwold, Johannesburg Arrears of R107, 68 and a electricity reconnection fee of R120 have been added

Upon payment of R880, the principal tenant, Mosibetla, was issued a receipt by Temba Trust, also of Saxonwold The tenants are R36,24 in arrears

The situation in Flat 1 is the same as in Flat 2 The tenants of Flats 3 and 4 upstairs pay a slightly higher rental of R600 and R188, 56 for electricity, although one of the bedrooms is slightly smaller The tenants of Flat 4 — Levy Motloutsi, Sydwell Ramushu, Mathews Molewa and Sonnyboy Mbatha — have received a June statement for R1 193 They could only raise R715,56 among themselves, leaving them in arrears of R405, 24

The Flat 4 tenants operate a communal shebeen to augment their rent The beer is kept in ice in a rubber rubbish bin

Temba Trust trustee J Doteman said the rent is in line with rates in other white areas such as Yeoville and Rosettenville " If they feel the rent is too high they should go "

Asked why the electricity bill is uniform he said the idea is to punish the tenants for keeping unauthorised people on the premises

I used to arrive late at night and find 20 people sleeping in a two-bedroomed flat I'd kick them out, but they'd return What would you do in that situation Besides, the authorised tenants are illegal in terms of the law"

Govt reviews stance on sale of housing stock

B/Day 26/6/90.

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Government housing stock still unsold at the end of last month totalled no less than 213 572 units, a spokesman for the Planning and Provincial Affairs Department said yesterday

This means in the seven years since government decided to sell houses in black townships throughout SA — in a project known as the "Big Housing Sale" — only about a third of the 333 443 houses originally available have been sold.

And Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday a new housing strategy was being planned.

He was waiting for a report and recommendations from the Housing Advisory Council on a possible new structure and approach to the housing problem.

Among the issues being looked at was whether remaining government housing stock should be given to occupants who had lived in the houses for lengthy periods.

A Transvaal provincial spokesman said houses were being sold for an average of around R3 000 each — based on the initial costs of construction.

In the Transvaal alone, 83 330 houses had been sold, leaving an unsold balance of 149 572.

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Meanwhile, DP finance spokesman Harry Schwarz said he disagreed with "giveaways", but it seemed fair that occupants of houses who had paid government rents over a period of 20 years or more should qualify to be given their properties. However, service charges should be paid.

'Necklaced' body found

The body of a man who had been necklaced was found near a hostel in Katlehong yesterday. Star 26/4

A police spokesman said last night that the body had been found near the Magodi hostel. It had been there since Saturday.

● East Rand police are investigating the death of a man who was stabbed in Bakerton, Springs, at the weekend. — East Rand Bureau.

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SOWETAN Friday

47 black councils owing R1 000-m

Sowetan 29/6/90

127

THE 47 black town councils hit by rent boycotts could owe a total of R1 000 million, a Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman has said

By MONK NKOMO

And, besides the problem of convincing the communities to pay for essential services, these councils also face another major crisis - they owe the TPA R388 million in loans provided during 1989 and 1990

The TPA's deputy director of community development Mr Len Dekker, warned the 47 councils last week that bridging finance would be cut with effect from July 1 because there were no longer funds to continue this service

Rents

The TPA urged councils to make drastic improvements in the collection of rents and service charges in the townships, failing which they may be faced with electricity and water cuts from their suppliers

In a statement released yesterday the TPA stressed that the collection of rents referred to were for current accounts 'starting from June 1

"It does not relate to the recovery of arrears It means that the performance of the particular communities will be assessed in respect of all debits levied as from June 1 1990"

A TPA spokesman said by implication the Soweto Council which received a warning to put its house in order in October last year was affected by last week's notices

Boycott

The Soweto Council is being monitored daily They too must improve their collection of tariffs failing which they will also have to fend for themselves', said the spokesman

The TPA allocated R188 304 859 in bridging finance to the Soweto Council during the 1989/90 financial year

Dekker said as a result of the boycott of rent payments the need for financial assistance had increased to R35 5 million in April and to R60 5 million for May this year with a higher need expected for June

Arrears

The TPA spokesman said the rent arrears in the 47 councils could total nearly R1 000 million

We are not sure of the exact amount but it runs into hundreds of millions of rands'

The 47 councils, with bridging finance allocated in [illegible] Alexandra (R10 795 530), Diepmeadow (R49 864 427), Dobsonville (R11 057 859), Evaton (R1 694 404), Kagiso (R584 398), Lekoa (R12 594 856), Mohlakeng (R542 083), Soweto (R188 304 859), Khutsong (R875 216), Munsieville, Kokosi, Daveyton (R4 732 668), Katlehong (R9 271 428), KwaThema (R3 254 445), Tembisa, Tokoza (R4 444 662), Vosloorus, Wattville (R882 032), Impumelelo, Bontleng, Duduza, Ratanda, Tsakane, Siyathemba (R291 518), Nthorwane (R56 293) Atteridgeville (R9 248 096), Zithobeni (R10 559), KwaGuqa (R3 360 498), Wesselton (R3 221 734), Sakhile (R1 425 966), Siyathuthuka (R552 652), Emzinoni (R1 112 459) KwaZenele (R394 253), Silobela (R449 992), KwaZamokuhle (R171 247) Embalenhle (R32 158), Lebohang (R357 441), Sevukile (R216 387), Emgwenya (R170 940), Emthonjeni Jouberton (R4 181 944), Utlwanang, Kgakala Boikhutsong, Agisanang Belabela and Phagameng (R360 079)

The TPA said they could not give details of arrear rents of each of the affected councils

Council acts over rent boycott

Sowetan 29/6/90

By SY MAKARINGE

THE Diepmeadow Town Council, in a bid to end the on-going rent boycott in the townships, has hired a firm of attorneys to recover more than R37 million owed by residents

The Transvaal Provincial Administration last week warned 47 black local authorities that from next week it would no longer give them bridging finance

The TPA also warned that if the councils failed to generate their own funds to pay suppliers, essential services such as water and electricity would be discontinued

Mr Johan de Jager, Diepmeadow's Town Clerk, yesterday confirmed that all rent defaulters in the area had been handed over to Florida lawyers Scholtz and Botha

Apart from the arrears, residents will also have to pay the firm R12,50 for legal fees

Hundreds of Diepkloof and Meadowlands residents this week received letters from the attorneys warning them to pay their arrears and legal costs within 14 days

They were also warned that summonses would be issued against them if the money was not paid

The money is to be paid at the lawyers' offices

To Page 2

Councils owe R1-bn - Page 3

Rent boycott sequel

Sowetan 29/6/90

From Page 1

An angry Diekloof resident, Miss Mathilda Fassie, who is said to owe the council more than R500, said she was not indebted to Scholtz and Botha and was therefore not prepared to pay any legal costs

"I did not ask them to write me a letter I've got no dealings with them

"I'm not even sure that the amount reflected in the letter is the money that I owe the council I am however, prepared to settle my debt with the council," Fassie said

De Jager said the council was not demanding full payment He said residents could arrange with the lawyers on how they wanted to settle their debts

Councils hit by boycotts could owe R1-bn — TPA

Star 30/6/90

THE 47 black town councils hit by rent boycotts could owe a total of R1 billion, according to a Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman

And the councils face another crisis — they owe the TPA R388 million in loans provided during 1989 and 1990

The TPA's deputy director of community development, Len Dekker, warned the 47 councils last week that bridging finance would be cut from July 1 because there were no longer funds to continue providing this service.

The TPA urged councils to make drastic improvements in the collection of rents and service charges in the townships, failing which they may be faced with electricity and water cuts from the suppliers.

In a statement, the TPA emphasised that the collection of rents referred to were for current accounts starting from June 1

"It does not relate to the recovery of arrears It means that the performance of the particular communities will be assessed in respect of all debits levied as from June 1990"

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