

# INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

6/1/81 — 31/12/81

6/11/81

# Painters hurt as scaffolding collapses

(131)

W.M. Mercury Reporter

TWO painters working on a four-storey block of flats were seriously injured when their scaffolding collapsed yesterday afternoon.

Mr Thomas Mabhida and his colleague who has not been identified, fell from the fourth storey at Redwood Flats in Cromwell Road, Umbilo

Both were admitted to King Edward VIII Hospital in Durban

577 (13) 195  
Crushed by  
15/1/81  
lime mill

Crime Staff

A young father of three daughters has died in an accident at a cement factory in Slurry, near Mafikeng.

Mr Stephanus Petrus Schutte (37) was checking a machine fault at the Portland Cement factory, when he signalled for the machine to be switched on.

This threw him into a lime mill, which crushed him.

Rustenburg police are investigating.

Mr Schutte leaves his wife Susan (35) and daughters Susan (13), Lettie (9) and Stephanie (3).

Man <sup>NM</sup>  
hurt in 16/1/81  
gas pipe  
explosion

(131)

Mercury Reporter

A GAS pipe exploded injuring an employee of a Durban gas firm at the Natal Technikon yesterday

Mr Robert Docking was transferring gas from one cylinder to another when the pipe exploded throwing him back about 18 m

The explosion could be heard in an office on the other side of the building said Mr Barry Clemens public relations officer at the Technikon

Two fire engines were sent to the Technikon as it was felt there was the possibility that gas cylinders in the chemistry laboratory might explode

Mr Docking was admitted to Addington Hospital where his condition was said to be fair

9792 20/1/18  
Two women  
electrocuted

Northern Transvaal  
Bureau

TZANEEN — Two workers on a fruit farm Margaret Shingange and Mavis Baloyi, were electrocuted recently while picking mangoes near overhead power lines.

Apparently they were standing on ladders among tall trees in an orchard when the fruit catching device at the end of a long stick touched the wires.

# Elder set fire to worker

By BENNIE VAN DELFT

A CHURCH elder convicted for setting fire to a farm labourer said this week there were no hard feelings between him and his victim

"We're still on good terms," Dawie Smuts, 51, of the Uniondale farm Wagendrift, said

He was convicted in the Oudtshoorn Regional Court of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, but acquitted of attempted murder

He was fined R200 (or 100 days), with a further six months suspended

Smuts was ordered to pay R130 to farm labourer Mr Gert Lendert, 20, for loss of earnings, pain and suffering

## Argument

Mr Lendert was badly burnt when Smuts poured methylated spirits over his bare buttocks and struck a match. He was in hospital 12 days

The court heard that Mr Lendert visited the farm last August. After an argument he allegedly threatened to stab a worker.

When Smuts arrived, Mr Lendert ran, but was later caught. Smuts, carrying a sjambok, ordered him to take his trousers off. He wanted to beat Mr Lendert, but changed his mind when told he had injured himself earlier.

Smuts then wanted to nurse Mr Lendert's injuries and poured a liquid on his wounds.

He "thought" the liquid was a healing oil, but it turned out to be methylated spirits.

"This I established when I struck a match and the liquid caught fire," Smuts said.

(Continued)  
ARCHITECTURE

Mrs. Thornton White Prize  
For the best work in  
first year.

Miss M F J Sandilands

S A Brick Association Prize  
For the student who has made  
best use of bricks in his  
design work.

J G Kirkman

R Stubbs Award  
For the best project in  
structure and design.

M R I Ness

National Development Fund  
for the Building Industry  
Book Prizes  
For the best student in each  
year of study of the degree  
course.

J A L Chapman  
First Year

C S Jones  
Second Year

B de Jong  
Third Year

R W Kohne  
Fourth Year

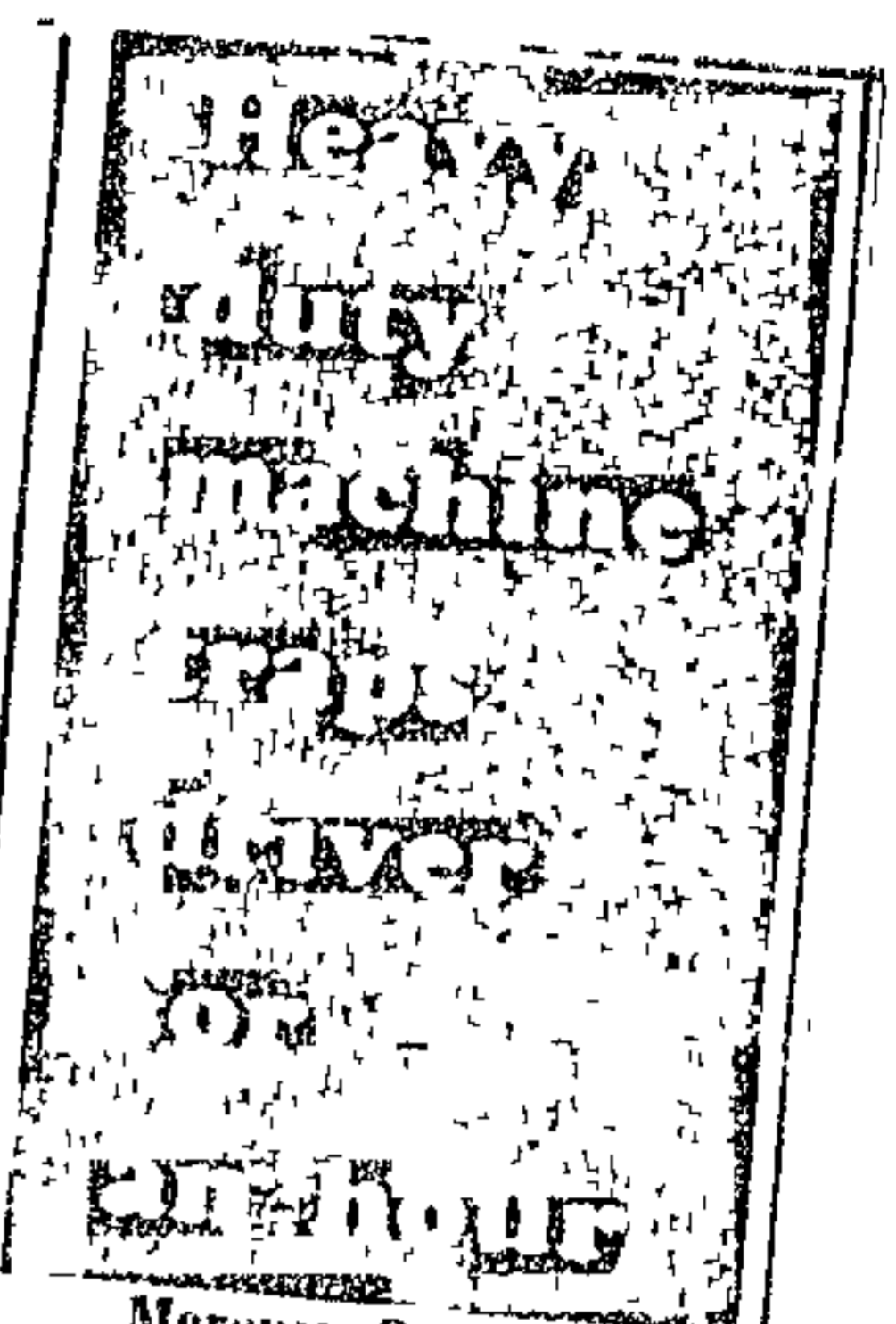
George Strachan Prize  
For the best final year  
student of the degree course.

R W Kohne

George Strachan Prize  
For the best final year  
student of the degree course.

LTA Prize  
For the best student obtaining  
a first class pass for a  
dissertation in Building  
Management.

S F Richardson



**Mercury Reporter**  
**THE** driver of a heavy duty excavator was trapped for more than an hour while firemen battled to free him after the machine had somersaulted into the hole he was digging at Waterfall yesterday.  
 The man, whose name was not available yesterday, was taken to King Edward VIII Hospital with serious injuries after firemen, using the 'jaws of life' and acetylene to chisel him free from the cab of the overturned machine.  
 The accident happened on Eldorado the farm of racehorse breeder Mr George Rowles.  
 The excavating machine was being used to dig a hole for a pool for training racehorses.  
 The machine apparently overbalanced, plunged into the pit and landed upside down with the driver trapped underneath. A Pinetown Fire Department spokesman said when they arrived at the scene only the man's arm was protruding. The wet and slippery conditions made their work more difficult.  
 We had to use wet bags - inflatable bags - to lift the machine because normal hydraulic jacks would have sunk into the soft ground, he explained.  
 The man was freed after an hour and taken to hospital by the Pinetown Red Cross. He is believed to have broken an arm and leg but information of his condition was not available.  
 Attempts will be made today to remove the excavator from the pit with a heavy duty crane.

ARCHITECTURE  
 (Continued)

131

29/1/81

LTA Prize  
 For the best student obtaining a first class pass for a dissertation in Building Management.  
 S F Richardson

George Strachan Prize  
 For the best final year student of the degree course.  
 R W Kohne

Fourth Year  
 R W Kohne

Third Year  
 B de Jong

Second Year  
 C S Jones

First Year  
 J A L Chapman

National Development Fund  
For the Building Industry  
Book Prizes  
 For the best student in each year of study of the degree course.

R Stubbs Award  
 For the best project in structure and design.  
 M R I Ness

S A Brick Association Prize  
 For the student who has made best use of bricks in his design work.  
 J G Kirkman

Mrs. Thornton White Prize  
 For the best work in first year.  
 Miss M F J Sandilands

131 132/81

**By Melody McDougall**

**Vereeniging Bureau**

Four men received serious burns on their faces and bodies yesterday when a 200-litre drum of steel primer paint exploded at an engineering company in Meyerton.

Mr W J Diedericksen (71) of Kiepersol Street, Chrissiesfontein who was visiting friends at N and O Engineering, was ad-

mitted to Vereeniging Hospital while the other three men were admitted to the Sebokeng black hospital

According to Mr Hendriks Fouche, owner of N and O Engineering, the accident occurred when men were welding near the large drum of paint, which was nearly empty, when it exploded

Mr Fouche and two other men, Mr Piet Pretorius and Mr Japie Smuts from the neighbouring building, heard the blast and ran to their aid.

Mr Fouche burned his hands while trying to tear clothes off Mr Diedericksen.

A hospital spokesman described Mr Diedericksen's condition this morning as satisfactory

A E & C I Prize

CHEMICAL

L Menegaldo

Drawing.

Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering  
Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

J H Rens

Civil Engineering.

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or  
Professor George Menzies Prize

B F McClelland

J H Rens

D P Weeks

T J Cumming

P M Salmon

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.  
Corporation Medals

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING



FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final  
examinations to the best male  
student in Land Surveying or  
Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the  
best classwork in Engineering  
Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize  
For the first year student  
obtaining the highest average  
mark.

G L Cragg

14/11/66  
**Man dies  
in Sasol  
blast**

SASOLBURG — An explosion ripped through Sasol I yesterday, killing one man and injuring another

The deafening blast — which was heard throughout Sasolburg — took place during lunch hour, sparing many Sasol workers from injury

Sources in Sasolburg said pieces of steel were flung through the air and the area was flooded with water. Buildings shook and windows rattled

The blast took place in "an experimental gasification unit", according to a statement released by Sasol

A newly married man, Mr P. R. Wiese, 24, was killed. It is understood he was close to the scene of the explosion and died instantly.

An investigation has been launched into the cause of the explosion. The Sasol statement attributed it to "an operations incident".

Gas production was affected, but indications were that it would be resumed overnight —  
DDC-SAPA

**THREE** workers at the Tugela-Vaal scheme in the Drakensberg drowned when their van was swept off a low-level bridge by a raging mountain stream as they drove to work.

Four others clawed their way on to the bank and out of the swirling water on Sunday night. The bodies of the driver, Mr Abe Greyling, 57, and Mr Frans Marx were found about a kilometre down the stream yesterday.

The search for Mr Nic Oosthuizen, 48, will continue today. All the workers were on their way to work at the Tugela-Vaal scheme site where they were employed as grouters at the tunnelling operations.

Mr Johan Oosthuizen, 25, and his father, Dolf, were two of the survivors.

Mr 'Ooxy' Oosthuizen who is no relation of the drowned man said they had approached the bridge and only at the last minute did they see that the water was flowing about two metres over the top. 'When Oom Abe saw the water he braked sharply and the Kombi skidded and plunged into the water. When it started to take us he shouted "Jump for it boys".'

'That was the last I saw of them in the water.'

'The Kombi started to roll and the windows shattered. I saw a gap where the door had been forced open and dived for it and felt the river take me.'

### Exhausted

'One moment I could feel stones on the bottom of the river and the next I could see the Kombi being battered about in the water. All I could think about was my daughter.'

He said he was so exhausted that he felt like giving up and letting the water engulf him, 'but then I felt some tufts of grass in my hands and then the bank'. Johan crawled to a nearby house and a search party was rounded up.

He said yesterday that he was still coughing up muddy water.

The search party found his father soon afterwards, shocked and exhausted. Some members of the party mistook him for Mr Nic Oosthuizen and the word was spread in the town that he had survived. It was a cruel mistake for the family of the drowned man.

Two more men, Mr Louis Nel and Mr Gert Olivier, emerged from the darkness and the flood, but the families of the other three men waited anxiously through the night in the desperate hope that they had been washed downstream to safety.

By early yesterday the search party, who had walked the banks all night, had found the body of Mr Nic Oosthuizen jammed against a tree and that of Mr Marx a few metres away.

Members of the party said he was lying in a face down in a pool of water which led them to believe



**Cape floods claim two more**

Mercury Correspondent  
CAPE TOWN—The Gouritz River in the southern Cape yesterday claimed two more victims when an Albertina farmer, Mr J H Oosthuizen, and an unidentified farm labourer were swept away by raging floodwaters.

In a day of torrential rain and renewed flooding, Mr Oosthuizen was apparently caught by a wall of water as he drove his tractor through a dry gully.

A Soekor helicopter was sent from Mossel Bay to recover his body late yesterday.

No details on the drowning of the farm labourer were available.

Meanwhile, another of the Southern Cape's main highways — the N2 near Bot River — was severed.

Bridges, roads and crops throughout the area were washed away.

### Disastrous

Following hard on the heels of last week's disastrous floods, yesterday's flooding hit the towns of Montagu, Ashton, Robertson, Hermanus, Caledon, and Bot River, as well as outlying farming areas.

Floodwaters temporarily submerged a number of roads and heavy rains were experienced as far afield as the devastated town of Laingsburg.

By late yesterday, the rain had eased and the towns were reported to be out of danger. Work on the extensive damage was already underway.

Agricultural spokesmen said the cloudbursts had dealt a severe blow to the area's fruit crops and millions of rands damage was estimated.

Soon after thunderstorms broke in the early morning, the rivers rose rapidly and by midday, many of them had burst their banks.

Authorities were placed on standby and they are still watching the situation. Also on standby was Hamnet, the radio emergency network coordinated from Cape Town.

The worst-hit were the Bot River and Caledon areas.

Seventy millimetres of rain fell there between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m.

**M R JOHAN OOSTHUIZEN** on the bridge yesterday. With him is his daughter, Melanie.

he might have reached the bank but collapsed from exhaustion and drowned in the pool.

His wife Mrs Trudy Marx had gone to bed with a book after seeing him off to work with his jersey and a flask of coffee. The flask was found in the mud and returned to her yesterday.

She said her husband was a strong, well-built man but the jersey could have restricted his movement in the water.

The stream, which is fed by waterfalls on the mountainside, had often come down strongly, but the workers probably did not expect that it had risen over the bridge.

Mr Louis Nel said he could not talk about the night in the rushing river but said 'Speak to my wife, I told her about it'.

She said her husband had told her that Mr Dolf Oosthuizen had held on to his leg and he thought he would drown. 'Louis grabbed some branches hanging into the river which saved them both'.

Yesterday the river was still flowing strongly, making the search for the final victim difficult.

MR FRANS MARX, one of the victims

# Three drowned in BERS torrential nightmare

131  
nm 3/12/81

# Mine sets safety record

By Bob Davis

A platinum mine which had 14 deaths in 1974 yesterday became the first of its kind in the world to receive a five-star international award for safety

The Bafokeng South platinum mine near Rustenburg was given the international award yesterday after it had scored consistently high on 21 factors

It is the only platinum mine in the world to have achieved the five-star status which is the highest international rating for mine safety

Making the award, Mr R S Lawrence president of the Chamber of Mines said only four others — all South African — had achieved the same status

He said Bafokeng had also achieved more than

two million fatality free shifts. It would probably pass the three million mark later this year

## RECORD

The world record was 3 030 029 fatality free shifts achieved in 1964 by West Rand Consolidated

Mr Lawrence warned mines with high safety standards that the qualification for rating would be difficult to maintain

Mines are tested once a year for star ratings

The originator of the international rating scheme for mine safety, an American Mr Frank Bird, said yesterday the highest rating achieved outside of South Africa was a three star by a Canadian mine which had a South African manager

Mr Bird is in South Africa to lecture on mine safety

With  
another  
of min  
the wo  
by let  
obstru  
identi  
case  
sated  
suffic  
system  
diseas  
patche  
althou  
be com  
operat  
tion

# Labourer freed after 7½ days in porcupine lair

THE Kuils River farm labourer who lay for more than a day and a half trapped in a porcupine's lair, received a hero's welcome home after his discharge from Tygerberg Hospital today.

An unconscious Mr Gert Arendse was freed from the stinking hole at 4.30 am today by members of the Metro Rescue team

Oxygen from the hose of a portable generator prevented him from suffocating while the workers battled to extricate him from the narrow tunnel

## SUBDUED

A subdued Mr Arendse, still clothed in his green hospital jacket, led the Argus team to the hollow below a ridge of hard-packed clay on the farm Langverwacht, where he had tried to catch his dinner.

When he said it was the first time he had found himself unable to turn or crawl backwards in a tunnel

Hours passed while Mr Arendse lay helpless, trapped 1.5 metres underground.

Only the soles of his shoes could be seen by the rescue workers.

Mr Arendse was very frightened but didn't panic much. I kept talking all the time, he said.

Mr Arendse had lain entombed since 3 pm on Saturday.

It was only on Sunday afternoon that friends began to worry about his whereabouts.



FARM LABOURER Mr Gert Arendse, 45, points to the porcupine lair where he was ensnared for more than a day and a half on Langverwacht farm, Kuils River.

... did not ...  
ent more than that provided for  
schedule, quoted above, and this was

Lump sum awards, which have replaced  
between Whites and Africans are very  
osis in the first degree receive  
R1 200.

silicosis or  
from between 20  
second degree,  
t of the cardio-  
anted R18 000;  
000 compensation  
of the sources  
ds are made,  
ferent racial  
e necessary to  
ship to compensa-  
ds. Since 1971  
th awards for  
nts exceeding

ing to degrees  
He and 455  
of second degree.  
compensated as  
osis is the only constant  
bles in con-  
1970 Act,  
losis in 1973  
asurement for  
ing the awards  
in simplified

for earnings  
earnings of  
earnings exceeding  
white  
underground  
Section (b) obviously  
Section (c) obviously applied to White officials. (239)

In the primary stage of silicosis and simple tuberculosis the same table was applied to Blacks and Whites, but 50 per cent more was added to each category. Finally category (k) was applied to Africans who had secondary silicosis, but increased by 100 per cent.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)  
Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)  
Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon  
T J Cumming  
D P Weeks  
J H Rens  
B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final  
examinations to the best male  
student in Land Surveying or  
Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the  
best classwork in Engineering  
Drawing.  
L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize  
For the first year student  
obtaining the highest average  
mark.

G L Cragg

# Tyre kills man

JOHANNESBURG — An  
exploding bulldozer tyre  
yesterday flung a tyre  
company worker here  
more than 20m through  
the air, killing him in-  
stantly

Police said Mr Simon  
Moronedu, 40, was in-  
flating the tyre at the  
time

They are investigating  
reports that the pump Mr  
Moronedu was using did  
not have a gauge on it

The explosion, which oc-  
curred yesterday mor-  
ning, was allegedly so  
severe that it ripped off  
Mr Moronedu's clothes

The managing director  
of the company refused to  
comment — DDC

100  
131  
11/2/81  
131

131

Explosion  
up (x) 131  
tyre Nn  
kills worker

JOHANNESBURG—An exploding bulldozer tyre yesterday flung a Johannesburg tyre company worker more than 20 m, killing him instantly.

Police said that Mr Simon Morundedu, 40, was inflating the tyre at the time of the accident.

The explosion was so severe that it ripped Mr Morendu's clothes from his body — (Sapa)

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is to cross swords with one of the city's biggest furniture factories over excessive noise

According to a petition signed by 55 residents of Pinelands, the Flystark factory in Ndabeni is excessively noisy to the extent that it is a public nuisance

The council has been inundated with complaints about the noise from residents living close to the factory which abuts Old Mill Road in Ndabeni

Row over factory noise

ARAVS 11/2/81

131263  
188

Houses in Gousblom Road, Pinelands, are separated from the factory by a belt of gum trees which also forms the boundary between Cape Town and Pinelands

According to a report by the Town Clerk, Mr H G Heugh, the council's own noise readings confirmed that the noise from the factory's sawdust extracting fan was excessive

The factory, said Mr Heugh, had made token efforts to improve matters but the management's attitude was that the complaints were exaggerated and the factory was being victimised

But, the council's findings were that the volume of noise was far in excess of the permissible level prescribed in the SA Bureau of Standards code of practice

The council has been told that unless it takes steps it is liable to be faced with legal action to compel it to implement nuisance by-laws

The council in turn has taken legal opinion and the executive is satisfied that this case does constitute a public nuisance

The council's attorneys have been advised to take the necessary steps against the factory

UJET

66 64 62 60 58 56 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4

# Man killed, another injured in Sasol blast

By Melody McDougall  
Vereniging Bureau

One man was killed and another was slightly injured in an explosion at the Sasol plant in Sasolburg yesterday afternoon.

Mr. B. R. Weise (24), a prodigious operator from Tainus, died in the explosion. Mr. W. L. D. Foster was slightly injured. Mr. Foster is also a process operator at the plant.

The explosion which tore the gas unit apart occurred at about 1 pm shortly after about 50 factory workers left for lunch.

Although the cause of the blast is not yet known, sabotage has been ruled out.

According to a spokesman at the Sasol factory, Mr. Weise was married three weeks ago, was 15 m away from the point of explosion when the incident occurred. He was killed after a piece of steel hit him on the head.

Mr. Foster, who was on the fifth floor at the time was flying through the air as he was part of the debris which he was hit by a shower of asbestos fibres.

He said he tried to run down to the ground floor but was overcome by the waves of hot gas.

"I lost consciousness and only came round while I was being carried to the plant's first aid station," he said.

Mr. Foster sustained a few scratches on his body and a knock on the head. Apparently the lift in the gas unit which was stuck on the lift floor, also plunged to the ground during the explosion.

A cotton was placed around the area shortly after the incident and all exits to the plant were blocked for a while.

A factory spokesman said the cause of the explosion and the cost of the repair to the gas unit had not been determined.

He said the damage would have to be repaired during the night and that production would be in full swing again today.

## Corporation Medals

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

### Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

### Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

### Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

## Professor George Menzies Prize

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

## Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering Drawing.

L Menegaldo

## A E & C I Prize

For the first year student obtaining the highest average mark.

G L Cragg



# Worker killed in Sasol blast

By ROB MEINTJES

AN EXPLOSION ripped through Sasol I yesterday, killing one man and injuring another

The deafening blast — which was heard throughout Sasolburg — took place during lunch hour, sparing many other workers from injury.

Sources in Sasolburg said pieces of steel were flung through the air and the area was flooded with water.

The blast took place in an experimental gasification unit, according to a statement released by Sasol.

An ambulance spokesman said roads were sealed off in the vicinity following the explosion.

Mr P R Wiese, 24, died instantly in the blast. He was married, but had no children. Mr W L D Forster, a bachelor, was "slightly injured." Both men worked as process operators.

Sasolburg was abuzz following the blast. Initially workers and locals suspected sabotage, but a statement by Sasol attributed the blast to "an operations incident." An investigation has been launched into the cause.

Sapa reports that gas production was affected by the blast, but indications were that it would be resumed shortly.

NW  
12/18/81

**Sasol One** 131

**blast kills man**

Mercury Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG—An explosion ripped through Sasol One yesterday, killing one man and injuring another

The deafening blast — which was heard throughout Sasolburg — took place during lunch hour, sparing many Sasol workers from injury

Sources in Sasolburg said pieces of steel were flung through the air and the area was flooded with water

The blast, described as

an operations incident, took place in an experimental gasification unit, according to a statement released by Sasol

A married man, Mr P R Wiese, 24, was killed. It is understood he was close to the scene of the explosion and died instantly.

Mr W L D Forster, a bachelor, was slightly injured. Both men worked at the plant as process operators.

An investigation has been launched into the cause of the explosion.

96

CHEMICAL

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final  
examinations to the best male  
student in Land Surveying or  
Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the  
best classwork in Engineering  
Drawing.

L Menegaldo

# Sasol blast kills just-wed youth

SASOLBURG — A young worker married only two months ago was killed and another slightly injured when an explosion ripped through the Sasol plant in Sasolburg yesterday.

Killed was Mr P R Wiese, believed to be about 19, who joined Sasol about a year ago. His family has not been traced, but inquiries revealed that he had been married for two months.

The injured worker, Mr W L D Vorster, is a bachelor. Sasol described him as 'slightly injured.'

The deafening blast, during the lunch-hour, occurred in an experimental gasification unit and was described as an 'operations incident' by a Sasol spokesman.

Immediately after the explosion stunned Sasol workers were told to leave in case there were more explosions. Roads were sealed off. — Sapa

(7) Eksamengelde word verbeur indien 'n inskrywing geskanselleer word of indien 'n kandidaat van 'n eksamen afwesig is, tensy die raad anders bepaal. Hierdie paragraaf is ook op die addisionele gelde in paragraaf (4) voorgeskryf, van toepassing.

*Eksamensentrums*

11. Sentrums word op plekke waarop die raad mag besluit, ingestel.

*Registrasie van addisionele kwalifikasie*

12. Aan 'n kandidaat wat in die eksamen geslaag het, word 'n sertifikaat van registrasie van die addisionele kwalifikasie sonder betaling van enige gelde uitgereik. Met dien verstande dat die kennisgewing in regulasie 3 (c) voorgeskryf, ingedien is.

No R 238

13 Februarie 1981

**DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE RAAD OP VERPLEGING—REGULASIES VIR DIF SERTIFIKAAT IN BEROEPSGESONDHEIDSVERPLEGING**

Die Minister van Gesondheid, Welsyn en Pensioene, vaardig, kragtens artikel 45 (1) van die Wet op Verpleging, 1978 (Wet 50 van 1978), en op aanbeveling van die Suid-Afrikaanse Raad op Verpleging, die volgende regulasies uit.

*Voorwaardes vir die goedkeuring van skole*

1 (1) 'n Skool kan goedgekeur word indien—

(a) die organisatoriese struktuur en die fasiliteite om die onderrigprogram aan te bied volgens mening van die raad bevredigend is,

(b) die onderrigprogram volgens mening van die raad onbevredigend is,

(c) 'n persoon wat as 'n algemene verpleegkundige geregistreer is en teenoor wie se naam 'n addisionele kwalifikasie in verpleegonderrig en 'n addisionele kwalifikasie in verpleegadministrasie geregistreer is, by die raad as die persoon in beheer van die skool aangedui word,

(d) lede van die verpleegpersoneel wat aan die kliniese onderrig van studente deelneem, geregistreerde algemene verpleegkundiges is teenoor wie se name die addisionele kwalifikasie geregistreer is.

(2) Nieteenstaande die voorwaardes in hierdie regulasie voorgeskryf, kan die raad 'n skool goedkeur selfs al kan daar nie aan al die voorwaardes voldoen word nie. Goedkeuring kan op voorwaardes wat die raad mag bepaal, verleen word.

*Toelating tot die kursus*

2. 'n Kandidaat moet aan die persoon in beheer van die skool bewys van lopende registrasie as 'n algemene verpleegkundige voorlê. Hierdie registrasie moet dwarsdeur die kursus en totdat die uitslae van die eksamen gepubliseer word, in stand gehou word, by versum waarvan die tydperk van die kursus wat deurloop is vanaf die datum van skrapping uit die register tot die datum van terugplasing, verbeur word.

*Registrasie, terugplasing, staking en voltooiing van die kursus*

3. Ingevolge die regulasies betreffende die registers vir studente—

(a) moet 'n student om registrasie of terugplasing op die register aansoek doen. Met dien verstande dat 'n student vir hierdie kursus binne twee (2) weke na aanvang van opleiding as 'n student moet registreer,

see GJG Jev Jell

(7) Examination fees shall be forfeited if an entry is cancelled or if a candidate is absent, unless the council determines otherwise. This paragraph shall also apply to the additional fee prescribed in paragraph (4).

*Examination centres*

11. Centres shall be established at such places as the council may determine.

*Registration of additional qualification*

12. A candidate who has passed in the examination shall be issued with a certificate of registration of the additional qualification without the payment of a fee. Provided the notice prescribed in regulation 3 (c) has been lodged.

No R 238

13 February 1981

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL—  
REGULATIONS FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN  
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING**

The Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, in terms of section 45 (1) of the Nursing Act, 1978 (Act 50 of 1978), and on the recommendation of the South African Nursing Council, makes the following regulations.

*Conditions for the approval of schools*

1 (1) A school may be approved if—

(a) the organisational structure and the facilities for the conduct of the teaching programme are satisfactory in the opinion of the council,

(b) the educational programme is satisfactory in the opinion of the council,

(c) a person who is registered as a general nurse and against whose name an additional qualification in nursing education and an additional qualification in nursing administration are registered, is designated to the council as the person in charge of the school,

(d) members of the nursing staff who take part in the clinical instruction of students are registered general nurses against whose names the additional qualification is registered.

(2) Notwithstanding the conditions prescribed in this regulation, the council may approve a school even if all the conditions cannot be complied with. Approval may be granted upon such conditions as the council may determine.

*Admission to the course*

2. A candidate shall submit to the person in charge of the school proof of current registration as a general nurse. This registration shall be maintained throughout the prescribed period for the course and until the results of the examination are published, failing which the period of the course undergone from the date of removal from the register to the date of restoration, shall be forfeited.

*Registration, restoration, termination and completion of the course*

3. In terms of the regulations regarding the registers for students—

(a) a student shall apply for registration or for restoration to the register. Provided that a student for this course shall within two (2) weeks of commencement of training register as a student;

JCAF

131

# Poisonous gas fumes hospitalise 21 at Escom

By Mike Cohen

Twenty-one people were today admitted to hospital after inhaling poisonous gas fumes used in the water purification plant for the fountains at Megawatt Park, headquarters of Escom.

A gas bottle was found to be leaking but it could not be repaired before 21 people were affected.

A spokesman for Escom said no one was in a serious condition and 10 were treated and discharged.

## PARKING

The gas bottles were situated in the covered parking enclosure of the building and the employees were affected when they arrived for work.

Chlorine gas has a property which sits at the bottom of the lungs causing discomfort. It is not fatal if inhaled.

The names of those admitted to hospital are: Miss Jaeckel, Mr B Whayman, Mr C Pennman, Mr G Wienand, Mrs C Stoltz, Mr Barlin, Mr F Potter, Mr P Venter, Mr Largo, Mrs A Vernandes, Miss Thomlin, Mr Townsend, Mr S Alexander, Mr Springfellow, Mr S Cocpo, Miss Glaeser, Miss Lock, Mr Behl, Mr Rheede, Mr P A Oosthuizen, and Mr Dovenpoort.

The leak has been repaired. Those people still in hospital should be discharged later today.

131

E *Hans T Ouis Col 166*  
183 Mr N B WOOD asked the Minister  
of Statistics *(42) (31) 18/2/81*  
How many deaths attributable to asbes-  
tosis were reported in the Republic in  
each of the last five years for which figures  
are available?

THURSDAY, 19

167

The MINISTER OF STATISTICS

1978  
1979

ml  
1

Prior to 1978 data not available



FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)  
Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)  
Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)  
P M Salmon  
T J Cumming  
D P Weeks  
J H Rens  
B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.  
J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering Drawing.  
L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize  
For the first year student obtaining the highest average mark.  
G L Cragg

# Rockfall kills four miners

Argus  
19/2/81  
131

Argus Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG. — Four mineworkers were killed and 17 were trapped for several hours after a rockfall at the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Orkney yesterday.

Today Proto team workers were still trying to free three of the dead miners.

The rockfall occurred yesterday morning after a tremor measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale

### POWER CUT

At 10.32 am yesterday the shock shook buildings, temporarily cut power at the minehead and brought down hundreds of tons of rock 2.500 m below ground.

By yesterday afternoon 17 miners had been brought to the surface.

Ten were admitted to hospital and the others were discharged after treatment.

CHE

# 16 die as traggedly RDM 20/2/81 131 strikes TWO MINES

By JAYNE LA MONT

SIXTEEN miners have been killed in accidents which occurred within 20 hours of each other at two Transvaal gold mines.

Twelve were killed and another seriously injured yesterday morning when a runaway trailer jumped the tracks more than 1 700m underground and crushed them at the Winkelsbaak mine in Evander, Eastern Transvaal.

Four died earlier in a rockfall at the Buffelsfontein mine, near Orange, Western Transvaal.

The names of the dead are being withheld until next-of-kin have been informed.

In the Winkelsbaak tragedy, the only victim named so far is Mr Willem Gross of Alberta Road, Evander who was treated for shock at the Evander Hospital and discharged.

The name of the man seriously hurt was not disclosed.

The accident happened at 6 50am — 20 hours after a rockfall at the Buffelsfontein mine claimed the lives of four miners and injured 22 others — all blacks.

The tremor which caused the rockfall registered 4.8 on the Richter scale and caused a rockfall at the Haartesfontein Gold Mine a few kilometres away which injured two

lent  
verage

## FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

### Corporation Medals

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

#### Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

#### Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

#### Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

### Professor George Menzies Prize

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or



Mr C N Netscher, chief consulting engineer for Union Corporation, which owns the Winkelbraek mine, said the trailer broke away from a skip at the No 2 sub-incline shaft.

The skip and trailer used to transport timber and other materials underground, were being wound up the 25-degree slope by a winding engine at working level, 1 240m underground. The vehicles were empty at the time.

"The trailer must have broken away near the winding station. These vehicles run on tracks down the various shafts, but instead of turning on to the tracks leading to the lowest operating level — at a depth of 1 740m — the trailer jumped the tracks," Mr Netscher said.

The miners were working "some way" below the last operating level.

The trailer careered down the 1 184m shaft, jumped the tracks and crashed through a protective barrier. The miners were crushed by the impact.

Mr Netscher explained that the skip and trailer were normally wound up and down on special ropes to the level at which operations were being carried out.

An investigation at the mine is expected to be completed tonight.

Production was expected to return to normal late last night.

Mr Gross, the miner treated for shock, was not available for comment. His wife said they had been told by "mine bosses" not to speak about the accident.

Meanwhile production at the Buffelsfontein and Haartebeesfontein mines has returned to normal after the rockfalls shortly after 10 30am on Wednesday.

At Buffelsfontein, eight miners were trapped for more than 13 hours while proto teams battled to free them.

A "Mail" team was refused permission to speak to the injured men, who were admitted to the mine hospital in Stilfontein.

A spokesman for the Buffelsfontein parent company General Mining, said the rockfall occurred at the 19 level of the Pioneer Shaft, about 2 500m underground.

The tremor shattered windows at the mine and power was knocked out.

A spokesman for Anglo Transvaal, owners of the Haartebeesfontein mine, said both miners injured in the rockfall there were in a satisfactory condition in hospital.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final  
examinations to the best male  
student in Land Surveying or  
Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the  
best classwork in Engineering  
Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize

For the first year student

with the best average

APR 21/2/81  
**Workers**  
**RECOVER** (13)  
Staff Reporter  
TWO Escom employees ad-  
mitted to hospital this week  
after inhaling poisonous gas are  
also reported to have recovered  
fully.  
Mr Jan Roux, Escom's pub-  
lic relations officer, said the  
two people who had remained  
in hospital on Wednesday night  
were discharged yesterday.  
He said "It was nothing  
serious."  
Apparently one of the gas  
cylinders used in the water pu-  
rification plant at Escom's  
headquarters at Megawatt  
Plant developed a leak.

CHEMICAL

†Indicates translated version

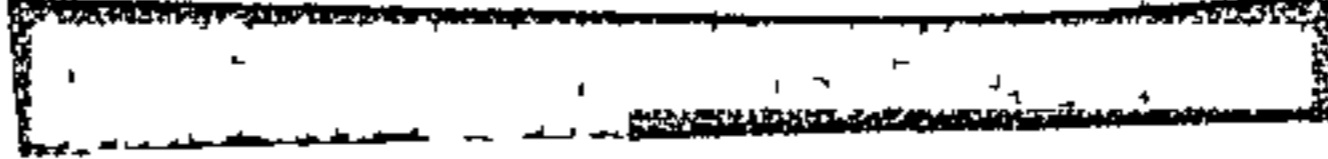
For oral reply

Ans 4 Ques 1/76  
Asbestos safe level of contact

131  
27

\*1 Mr N B WOOD asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs

- (1) Whether a safe level of contact with asbestos has been established for asbestos miners, if so, what is the nature of such level,
- (2) whether any precautions to protect asbestos miners are in operation in South Africa, if so, what precautions;
- (3) whether consideration is being given to improving safety regulations in asbestos mines, if not, why not, if so, what progress has been made in this regard?



FRIDAY 20 F1

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS

- (1) Yes, international safety standards for asbestos mining are being pursued
- (2) Yes all practical preventive measures for dust suppression and control
- (3) Yes, the safety regulations are being improved continuously and average airborne dust counts in asbestos mines compare favourably with current international standards

# Five-star safety boosts mine output

By JOHN MULCAHY

THE Chamber of Mines-controlled International Mine Safety Rating system has by all indications increased productivity, but there is no way of quantifying the effects on an industry basis.

Mr Lynne van den Bosch, a director of General Mining Union Corporation, says an indication of how the so-called five-star rating scheme improves efficiency on the mines is that from 1978 to 1980 fatality rates fell by 13,5% in the case of mines with a three-star to five-star rating, and by 11% for other producers.

Injury rates for the three-star, four-star and five-star mines fell by 25% over the period, and by 18% for all other mines in the industry.

He says that any lost-time incident is costly to producers, with injuries and reportable accidents all having some effect on output.

Mr Van Den Bosch says the IMSR, which was brought into operation in 1978, is a measure

of management's effectiveness in implementing the philosophy of loss control.

"We previously looked at accident statistics after the event, but this was closing the stable door after the horse had bolted."

The rating system takes into account all "incidents" which cost the producer money.

In the past only injuries were considered. Mr Guy Stokes, head of the mine safety division at the Chamber of Mines, says that for every 10 injuries there are about 30 reportable accidents, and almost 600 "near misses".

There is no way of evaluating the cost of implementing the IMSR system, although one major gold producer has been reported as stating that safety measures cost the mine around 7,2c a ton milled.

Offsetting the cost of implementing the system is the element of savings brought about by the lower incidence of injuries and lost-time accidents,

which by definition are costly to producers.

Impala Platinum's Bafokeng South mine was awarded five stars on January 26 this year, making it the only platinum producer, and the fifth overall, to achieve this level.

Four gold mines have five-star status — President Brand, Western Areas, President Steyn and Randfontein Estates.

Last November Bafokeng South became one of five mines operating to reach 2-million fatality free shifts, while at the same time heading for five-star status.

It took about five months for Bafokeng to reach its million-are status, and a further five months to achieve the double-millionaire level.

Mr Stokes says 62% of all mines in the industry, employing 75% of all labour working at the moment, are involved in the IMSR scheme, and that by the end of the year only six gold mines will not be involved in the rating scheme.

CHE

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final  
examinations to the best male  
student in Land Surveying or  
Civil Engineering.

P M Salmon  
T J Cumming  
D P Weeks  
J H Rens  
B F McClelland

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

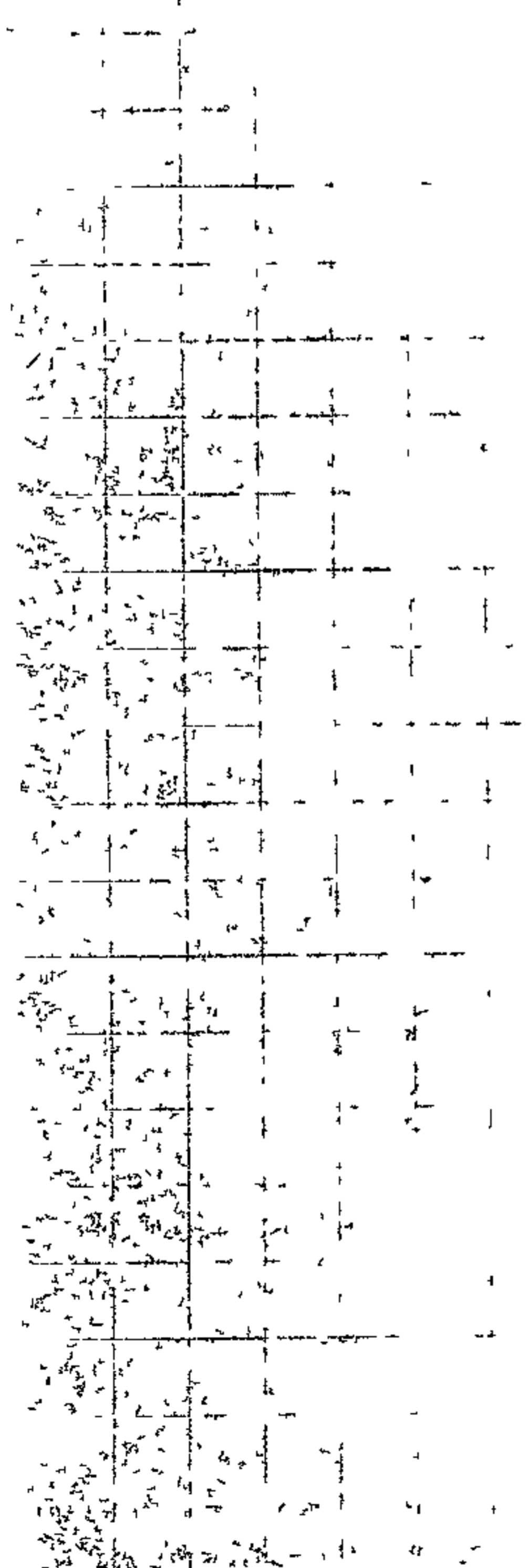
Second Year (Bronze Medal)

For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.  
Corporation Medals

7-14-218  
131  
**Man killed  
in mine fall**

CARLETONVILLE A black employee of Boart Drilling was fatally injured yesterday when he fell from a drilling rig at the Western Deep Level's No 1 shaft site near Carletonville

His name will be released when next of kin have been notified —Sapa.



Deafness caused by noise in factories  
11/20/80 131  
302 Mr H E J VAN RENSBURG  
asked the Minister of Manpower Utilization

Whether compensation for workers suffering from deafness caused by noise in factories is provided for, if so, (a) how many (i) Whites (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks received compensation for occupational deafness and (b) what amount was paid out as such compensation in respect of each race group in 1980?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER UTILIZATION

315

THURSDAY, 26 F

The loss of hearing caused by occupational noise is not a scheduled industrial disease under the Workmen's Compensation Act. However, it has been the policy for many years to accept the condition as an 'accident' in terms of the Act and to pay compensation for the loss of hearing in cases where it has been medically confirmed that there is a loss of hearing of 26 per cent or more and that such loss of hearing was due to excessive noise in the workman's occupational environment, i.e. noise levels exceeding the maximum laid down by the S.A. Bureau of Standards and which is known as the N85 noise rating curve level. Separate statistics are unfortunately not kept for either—

- (a) the number of workmen who received compensation for deafness induced by occupational deafness or
- (b) the amount of compensation paid for such deafness

DISEASE

It has been shown that the well trained general practitioner can handle 90% of illness presenting to him. It has also been shown that the under-graduate sees little of this pathology in the wards of the teaching hospital - something less than 1%. The four groups of disease which are of special importance to the general practitioner have been identified

(a) Common disorders which usually have a benign outcome but which may occasionally have serious complications, e.g. rubella in the early months of pregnancy.

(b) Early diagnosis Those conditions in which early diagnosis and treatment are necessary to forestall serious outcome, e.g. depression and malignant disease

(c) Chronic disorders like hypertension, diabetes and chronic bronchitis which require continuing care.

(d) Emergencies where prompt and urgent treatment is essential and may be life-saving, e.g. myocardial infarction.

Myocardial infarction is of special importance because the danger period is in the first four hours, usually before the patient has reached hospital. In a project carried out in Cape Town it was demonstrated that prompt treatment by the educated general practitioner diminished the deathrate from myocardial infarction to a level lower than any previously

reported. (J H. Levenstein, 1976) <sup>12</sup>

Human Development.

This area of knowledge is concerned with physical, intellectual and emotional development from infancy to old age This knowledge is

# Poison suspected in two deaths

*RDm 7/3/81*  
*131*  
**Own Correspondent**  
CAPE TOWN — Two farm labourers died and four others are in hospital in serious condition after drinking from a bottle which they thought contained wine, but apparently also held poison

The deaths came less than two weeks after the disclosure that poison was being sold in liquor bottles by a local hardware store

Experts say the main cause of poisonings in the home is the storing of poisons in unmarked bottles

Police are investigating the latest poisonings which occurred on Thursday in Eendekuil, near Citrusdal. The bodies of the two dead men have been sent to the Salt River mortuary for autopsies

Poisonings are common in rural communities where insecticides are stored in soft drink bottles. The Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L A P A Munnik, told Parliament last month that 111 people had died as a result of poisoning by

substances used for agricultural purposes

A five-year-old farm boy died last month after he had apparently eaten a tomato that had been sprayed with insecticide

Colonel Izak van der Vyver, Divisional CI chief for the Boland, said yesterday that six labourers on the farm Concordia, owned by Mr E de Waal, drank some light wine on Thursday

Shortly afterwards they started vomiting and were taken to the Citrusdal hospital, where two of them died during the night

Colonel Van der Vyver said the four others were in "serious condition"

He said police believed poison had become mixed with the wine. The wine apparently came to the farm in vats and was then decanted into smaller containers

POLITICAL comment in this issue by Benjamin Pogrand. John Ryan newsbills by Mike Stant, headlines and sub editing by Rob Woodburn. cartoons by Bob Connolly all of 171 Main Street Johannesburg

geous position. For this reason the science of human behaviour is stressed

in all phases of general practice education. There are many situations

and stages of human experience where this knowledge is required but it

has a special importance in the care of the dying patient and the bereaved

family, the special responsibility of the general practitioner

RDM 11/3/87 (131)

# Gas threat averted

DURBAN — The Pinetown civil defence organisation had to intervene swiftly yesterday morning when poisonous chlorine gas threatened the town

The toxic gas leaked from a storage tank at a plastics factory, but staff were evacuated before any were affected

Within minutes, road blocks

were set up by civil defence teams and traffic policemen

An appeal was broadcast for the public to avoid the area

Variable winds helped blow the gas away, and the road to the industrial area was reopened an hour after the leakage



45 injured  
as bus  
overturns  
16/3/51

Forty five people were injured, many seriously, when a transport bus carrying power station employees from a shopping trip left a gravel road in the eastern Transvaal.

The employees, all from the Matla Power Station, were returning from a shopping trip to Evander on Saturday afternoon when the accident occurred.

A police spokesman said the bus had apparently gone into a corner too fast on the Trichardt-Kriel road. The bus, from Highveld United Transport, left the road and overturned and many people were trapped in the wreckage.

The spokesman said many were seriously injured and taken to various hospitals in the area according to the nature of their injuries.

At the Matla Power Station, Mr J B C du Preez (28), an employee, was killed instantly when a heavy steel plate which was being hoisted by crane gave way and fell on him.

Distribution of people in houses according to area available per person (square metres)

TABLE 24

Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Number of people	Cumulative %
0 - 2,50	49	11,09
2,51 - 5,00	199	56,11
5,01 - 7,50	96	77,83
7,51 - 10,00	44	87,78
10,01 - 12,50	35	95,70
12,51 - 15,00	8	97,51
15,01 - 17,50	0	97,51
17,51 - 20,00	0	97,51
> 20	11	100,00

total  
unknown  
Mean:  
Range:

Retirement.

Most old pe

families of wor

included in wor

There were r

about the retire

on the farms oft

they could live

most farmers said

of retired worker

paid in kind).

Old people who had worked  
will working, with whom  
they could share. Otherwise,  
arrangements for the housing  
for a small pension (mostly

# 7 buried as workshop collapses

131  
~~131~~

57M  
17/3/61

**Own Correspondent**  
**CAPE TOWN** — Seven workmen were buried under slabs of masonry and concrete when a section of a panelbeating workshop in Voortrekker Road collapsed on them this afternoon.

The Cape's emergency rescue service (Metro) and the fire brigade struggled to free them with jackhammers and "jaws of life" equipment.

Crowds of lunch-time workers from nearby factories tried to help rescuers.

A minibus near the shed was flattened by the weight of the rubble.

It is understood the building was completed only three months ago.

The cause of the collapse is unknown.

18/3/81 (131)  
**Roof collapse victims 'satisfactory'**

Mr Stanford Morosi is in a fair condition after being trapped under the slab for almost two hours.

Mr Morosi sustained arm injuries in the collapse of the huge slab which formed the roof of a car-spray painting booth at a

Salt River panelbeating firm. The upper wall of the adjoining building also collapsed.

Mr Morosi was rescued by members of the Metro Rescue Squad using the 'jaws of life' apparatus.

The men discharged yesterday are Mr K Siquola, Mr S Plaatjes and Mr Andie van Wyk.

Mr P Hendricks, Mr Michael van Eer and Mr Michael Vadi are all in satisfactory conditions.

# Miner risked life to save workmate

By Bob Davis

A miner who disregarded the dangers of falling rock, explosive gas and heat to save the life of one of his colleagues, received an award for bravery at the Rustenburg Platinum Mines last week.

Mr Hannes du Toit, a charge hand at the mine, was on duty on August 4 last year when he learned that Mr Shadiack Mokebe, had fallen some 35 metres down an ore-pass.

Disregarding the danger of rockfalls and the possibility of gas,

Mr du Toit then slithered down the ore-pass to comfort Mr Mokebe and to prevent him from sliding further down to almost certain death.

Asked why he had volunteered for the mission, Mr du Toit said "I was the smallest. It was easier for me to get into and out of the orepass."

Mr G H Grange, technical adviser to the Chamber of Mines, who made the award, said that the brave deed was an example to all miners.

day, March 23, 1981

# Children and the insect killers

By MARIKA SBOROS

BETWEEN 1977 and 1980, in the Western Cape, 25% of deaths from insecticide poisoning involved children under 15 years, a forensic medicine symposium has been told.

Statistics on insecticide deaths in that region emerged in a paper presented to the Sixth International Forensic Medicine Symposium in Parktown.

Dr G J Knobel, Cape Town's senior State pathologist and a senior lecturer in Forensic Medicine at the University of Cape Town, told the meeting that 104 insecticide deaths had occurred in the Western Cape between 1977 and 1980.

Most of the deaths involved Coloured farm labourers and housewives and occurred in dense agricultural regions.

Dr Knobel said there was extensive legislation controlling the distribution, registration and administration of pesticides.

"I recommend that in high risk agricultural areas hospitals, general practitioners and health authorities should be familiar with symptoms and active treatment."

Dr Knobel presented the paper jointly with Dr G J Coetzee, of UCT's Department of Community Medicine and Health and the Government Pathology Laboratory.

8 injured

as lorry

Argus 24/3/87

plunges

(131)

off road

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Horrified motorists on a freeway here watched as a brick-laden lorry plunged over a railing and rolled down a 20-metre embankment yesterday.

Eight labourers in the vehicle were injured, three seriously.

Two of the badly injured men were discovered under a pile of bricks in a stormwater culvert by bystanders.

Bystanders carried the unconscious driver, soaked in battery acid and diesel, from the mangled cab after freeing one of the passengers pinned between the seats.

Another concussed man had to be restrained from climbing up the embankment on to the busy freeway.

The injured were taken to the Livingstone Hospital where a spokesman said five were released today after treatment. The other three men are in a 'satisfactory' condition.

# Inquest hears of 'no instructions'

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

A MAN who died after being entangled by a conveyor belt had received no instructions on how to stop the machine in an emergency, a Spring inquest Magistrate has been told

Mr Headman Lombo was giving evidence last week before Mr P D Nel and an assessor at an inquest into the death of Mr Simon Msiza (21) of Zincor Hostel, Springs

Mr Msiza died at a factory of the Zinc Corporation of South Africa when he became entangled by a conveyor belt and hit his head against a roller with his hand between the belt and the roller on August 10.

"On the day of the incident, we were not given any instructions by our foreman on what to do in an emergency if the machine, which transports soil, got jammed," said Mr Lombo.

"We only learnt to operate the machine on our own by watching the foreman — we are not given lessons on how to operate it," he added

Another co-worker, Mr Elphus Ngwenya, said "The last time I saw the deceased was when he was working on the platform which is on top of the machine which killed him I saw him coming down the platform and minutes later, I heard a big funny noise from the machine"

He added "I rushed to the machine and switched it off I found the deceased unconscious and

I sent somebody to call my boss Meanwhile I reversed the belt to free the deceased. I cannot say if Simon was already dead or not,

The hearing continues on April 10.

Mr A Chaskalson SC appeared for the Msiza family

Production <sup>131</sup>  
halted at mine

Production was interrupted at West Rand Consolidated Mines' Deep Shaft on Sunday night when a derailed skip damaged the shaft timbers

No one was injured in the accident and a spokesman said today repair work would probably be completed by tomorrow, enabling the shaft to get back into production.

WEST RAND CONSOLIDATED MINES



# Miners get increased benefits

Improved compensation and allowance benefits for miners suffering from occupational diseases come into effect tomorrow

The increase, recently announced by Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of Mines, total 12 percent of monthly allowances. In addition, miners who are certified as having an occupational disease after April 1 will receive a larger lump sum payment

In terms of the improved benefits, persons suffering from an occupational disease — mostly pneumoconiosis — will receive a lump sum of R17 888

Those with more than 40 percent disability will receive R26 832 and a person who has already been certified at 40 percent but who is found to have above 40 percent disability after April 1 will receive an additional R8 844

Monthly disability allowances will range from R98 to R250

In the event of death, dependents will receive a single payment of R13 415 and monthly payments will stop

The Mineworkers' Union has expressed satisfaction with the improved benefits but general secretary, Mr Arrie Paulus, notes it may have something to do with the election campaign

$$n = 124$$

$$\bar{x} = 38,5$$

$$\bar{y} = R8,6$$

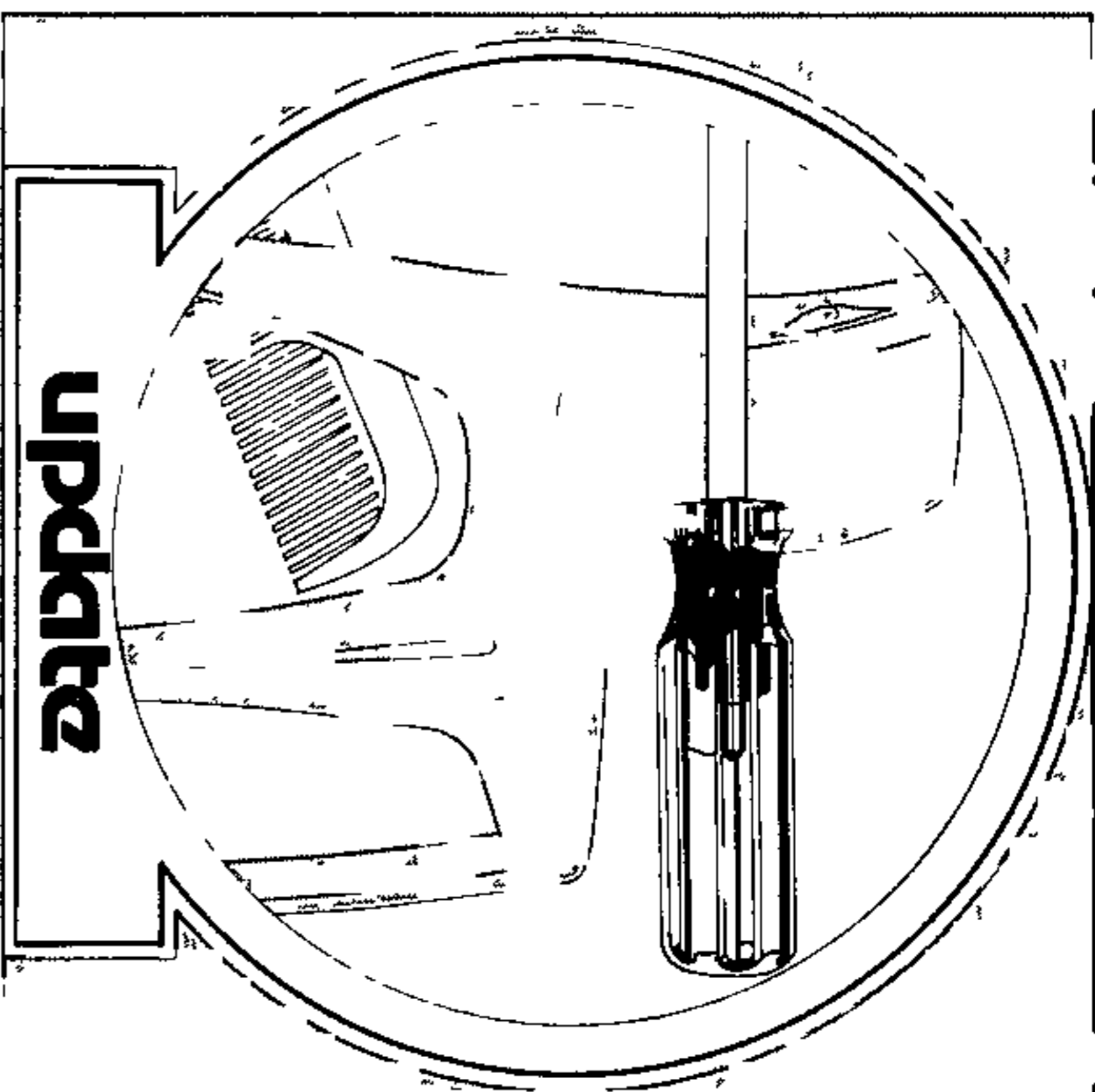
$$\sum xy = 0,06$$

(unknown : 6)

AGE (YEARS)	WAGE (R)	Total No. of workers					Total No. of workers
		0 - 20	2,01 - 25	25,1 - 30	30,1 - 35	35,1 - 40	
0 - 20	2,51 - 5,01	3	2	9	3	3	12
2,01 - 25	5,01 - 7,50	6	1	1	5	1	13
25,1 - 30	7,50 - 10,00	2	3	9	3	1	21
30,1 - 35	10,01 - 12,50	1	4	2	4	2	18
35,1 - 40	12,51 - 15,00	1	3	2	2	2	9
40,1 - 45	15,01 - 17,50	0	3	1	0	0	15
45,1 - 50	17,51 - 20,00	0	1	1	0	0	3
50,1 - 55	20,01 - 22,50	2	0	0	1	0	13
55,1 - 60	22,51 - 25,00	2	0	0	0	0	10
60,1 - 65	25,01 - 27,50	1	0	0	0	0	6
> 65	27,51 - 30,00	1	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL NO. OF WORKERS	> 15	124	10	6	2	4	124

Distribution of workers by Age (x) and cash wage (y)

TABLE 35



Update

# plastics in engineering

**PROTECTIVE** clothing used in the plastic and chemical industries have been found to be totally ineffective and useless against toxic chemicals and should not be relied on.

This was said last week by Mr Charles Levinsohn, head of the International Union Federation following an intensive study by the United States National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health on the effectiveness of protective clothing.

The study looked at the common protective clothing — the kind that is coated with rubber or latex or polyurethane

### Ineffective

It was found that when exposed to any of four solvents used widely in the plastic and chemical industries the protective clothing became ineffective after a few minutes. It let the chemical that was

# Protective clothing useless — claim

131

SA Industrial Week 31/3/81

supposed to protect the worker soak through into the clothing below

Mr Levinsohn said protective clothing was useless against more and more toxic chemicals and simply should not be relied on

### Health Hazards

"Instead of being regarded as something to be utilised whilst we change the work environment they tend to become accepted as a practical situation and continued indefinitely. We are really attacking this tendency because we consider that it exposes a great many people to unjustified health hazards.

Mr Levinsohn said that instead of relying on protective

clothing, industries should be re-engineered so that workers did not come into close contact with dangerous substances

Ineffective protective clothing could even make matters worse because it instilled a false sense of security

BY JOHN VAN DER MEER

"We believe that protective clothing and protective devices, even when they are necessary as a stopgap, can help us overcome a period between the present situation and a complete restructuring and reforming of the workplace. But we do not want them to become ac-

cepted as elements in a safety programme," Mr Levinsohn added

The International Union Federation says much better occupational health and safety standards are needed and

have urged local governments to become active in the battle

### Safety

Commenting on the ineffectiveness of protective clothing, Mr H J Mathysen, general manager of the National Occupational Safety Association of SA, said the right material should be chosen for the job in hand

"Protective clothing is the last line of defence. There

should be no need for a worker to come into contact with toxic chemicals as mechanical methods can be used," Mr Mathysen said

He suggested that toxic chemicals should either be piped or changed but at all costs kept away from human contact

In the event of this being impossible there was new protective gloves and clothing on the market

"Annually there are 40 000 eyes injured, 110 000 hands and fingers injured, 40 000 feet and toes injured and 10 000 head injuries in industry. One can assume that the correct use of protective cloth... could prevent many

of these injuries," Mr Mathysen said

### Utmost

Mr Mathysen said however that he was not aware of any injuries to workers as a result of poor quality protective wear, but added that chemicals used in industry were of a high toxic nature and the utmost care had to be taken when handling them

### Dangers

Meanwhile a hard look would have to be taken at the dangers involved and should incorrect protective clothing be proved to be useless as the United States study alleges, measures to improve wear would be imminent

# Factories Act to be amended

Amendments to legislation which would increase safety in industry were being drafted and would be promulgated as soon as possible, the Minister of Manpower Utilisation Mr Fanie Botha, said in Pretoria.

Opening a symposium on the safety of textiles, Mr Botha said the Factories Act was primarily concerned with the protection of the safety, health and welfare of industrial workers.

It had been amended and updated several times to keep abreast of industrial developments.

In its White Paper on the Wichahn Commission report on the Factories' Act, the Government had once again declared intention to amend the Act to extend the protection it afforded to workers.

Workclothes should not endanger safe work, Mr Botha added. Precautions against fire and the use of protective clothing and equipment under certain conditions were mandatory in terms of the Factories Act. In this field, the textile industry could play a major role.

It was imperative that the search for more efficient materials with which to equip and clothe workers in different conditions of employment should never stop.

"To this end I urge the textile industry to consider the production of more specialised safety products through the use of nonflammable and other specially designed textiles." — Sapa

FM 3/4/81  
LABOUR LEGISLATION

132

### Botha's backhander

Fanie Botha's new Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill is neither as bad as suggested by the original draft leaked last year, nor as good as expected by those tuned into the Wiehahn Commission's ver-ligte rhetoric

Says Phiroshaw Camay, general secretary of the Council of Unions of SA (Cusa) "While we welcome some of the steps government has taken to remove sex and race discrimination and to repeal the Black Labour Relations Act, we remain concerned at the controls vested in the Industrial Registrar "

The Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI) says the Bill contains many "positive elements" and it particularly welcomes the "change in definition of employee which will permit workers freedom

to join any trade union of their choice " But, it adds, the Bill does not make an effective distinction between the issues of registration "for the purpose of notifying the authorities of the establishment of the union and to determine the scope of bargaining of that organisation " Because these two issues are not clearly separated, the registration is not seen as a neutral process argues the FCI

It adds "A clear distinction between these two issues is an important prerequisite in granting or withholding check-off facilities to unregistered unions or in the use of measures to prevent the abuse of funds or curb the political activities of trade unions "

Says Camay "The Bill does not change the registration procedure to a certification process "

He also points out that although the Bill does away with the controversial works and liaison committee systems, it does not provide an alternative system for plant level bargaining

Trade unionists belonging to the Trade Union Council of SA (Tucsa), the SA Confederation of Trade Unions (Sacla) and the Federation of SA Trade Unions (Fosatu) said they could not comment as they had not yet studied the Bill

Barlow Rand — which, like the FCI, has emphasised representativeness over registration — also could not comment

The Bill allows for all workers to join a trade union and permits mixed unions. Unions cannot be registered along racial lines Also, members of a registered union which has had its membership qualifications changed can apply to the Minister to be registered as a new union The new union would not have to go through the registration process but could simply be

granted registration status by the Minister

Unregistered unions are subject to the same controls as registered unions, while employers may not deduct stop-orders for unregistered unions unless the Minister gives his consent Federations of both employer groups and unions are also subject to the same controls as those imposed on individual unions and the Registrar has the power to recommend the de-registration of any union, employer organisation or union federation if he feels the organisation has failed to 'observe any provision of the constitution of the council concerned, or has acted unlawfully

The Bill also provides for control of both registered and unregistered trade unions as far as their "political activities" are concerned No union can 'endeavour to influence its members in favour of any political organisation " Further controls on strike ballots and 'illegal strikes are also imposed

# Likers slaves claim workers

C. Herald  
4/4/81  
131  
121

**WORKERS** at an Ottery poultry farm claim they are contracting illnesses because they are working under unhygienic conditions, and say they are treated like 'slaves.'

Mrs Jamiela Fick who was employed for three weeks at the Golden Grove Poultry Farm in Ottery said: 'When we started there we had to undergo a medical examination, but if I should undergo an examination now I am sure I will find many things wrong'

She worked at the farm for three weeks, earning an average wage of R24 a week before she walked out after allegedly being sworn at.

Mrs Fick went on: 'We were treated as casual workers. We were fined 20c if we were late for work. And we worked irregular hours.'

Mrs Sarah Solomons, who has worked at the farm for about two years, is

in hospital expecting a baby.

Both Mrs Solomons and Mrs Fick complained that conditions in the factory were unhealthy.

They blamed their regular headaches and colds on the dampness and cold there.

Replying to the allegations, a Mr Carter of Golden Grove said he was unable to throw much light on the problems because the person in charge was away on leave.

He said that the business wasn't covered by the Factories Act.

An employee of the firm, dealing with the slaughtering section of the business told Cape Herald that they were in fact a factory and not

a farm and their workers were treated as factory workers.

'We operate under a farm system and we are in fact a farm,' he explained.

He admitted that the workers were allowed only a half-hour lunch and two 10-minute tea breaks

Referring to complaints of irregular hours, he said: 'Sometimes the line does work late but this does not happen often'

He added that he was prepared to arrange for a meeting with the Department of Manpower Utilisation to thrash out the grievances, and said he would allow Cape Herald to be present.

care area — viz. self-help in the maintenance of health and the treatment of minor ailments at home. To draw another analogy — motor cars need regular checks and servicing, but due to the high cost of these many motorists have resorted to do-it-yourself servicing and undertake minor repairs themselves.

Talking of motor cars reminds one of a rhyme learned in high school —

What fools indeed we mortals are  
to lavish care upon a car;  
With never a bit of time to see  
about our own machinery.

Whom will this service reach and by whom will it be given?

# Mine hazards grow

Industrial Reporter

DEEPER mining and higher production targets at mines were making the safety aims of the Chamber of Mines increasingly difficult to achieve, Mr Bill Lawrence president of the chamber said yesterday

Presenting a safety award at Union Corporation's Grootvlei gold mine near Springs, Mr Lawrence said there had been a rise in the industry's fatality rate over the past year

"While the overall fatality rate for the mining industry increased marginally last year from 1.25 (deaths a 1 000 shifts) to 1.32, the overall casualty figure continued its steady decline dropping for the first time below 40 with a figure of 38.9 per thousand," Mr Lawrence said

"It is still the chamber's aim to reduce the industry fatality rate to below one per thousand but with our gold mines going even deeper and production targets being pushed ever higher it becomes increasingly difficult to achieve"

Grootvlei won this year's Chamber of Mines C S McLean shield for its safety record over the past three years

The shield was presented to the mine's general manager, Mr Graham Fitcher, by Mr Lawrence

Mr Lawrence said Grootvlei's win was even more creditable because it was "an old, labour-intensive mine, with all the hazards of endless rope haulages, of having to open old areas and to mine remnants"

rendered by Voluntary workers living in the community. The auxiliaries will be available to give advice and distribute health education literature at hours of their own choosing. They are not expected to give any treatment and would not be expected to wear a uniform.

An auxiliary is defined as a technical worker in a certain field with less than full professional qualifications. Single purpose auxiliaries have minimal education and are taught single or limited range of skills. General purpose auxiliaries are trained in a variety of skills. It is hoped that having covered some sort of curriculum that these auxiliaries may progress from single to general purpose auxiliaries.

The/...

The actual 10 auxiliaries recruited came from people associated with two community projects in the area. Five were connected with the Early Learning Centre and five with BABS (Build a Better Society). The background to these 2 organisations is as follows :

The Early Learning Centre was established as a research project to formulate a nursery school curriculum for the socially disadvantaged or deprived child. As part of its parent education programme it gave birth to the HELP (Home Early Learning Programme) scheme. As part of its social programme it gave rise to BABS, which matured rapidly and soon left the roost to fend for itself, due mainly to physical accommodation problems as well as to move itself into the heart of the community.

Participants form the staff of the HELP scheme. whereby the home visitor goes into the home to enrol in the programme and teach the mother the view of stimulating physical and cognitive child is visited for 1 hour per week and each children. Even before they became auxiliaries ing booklets on child care, arranging health demonstrations as well as giving mothers advice located. These lady home visitors were given a lot of background lectures on child development, family planning and community health as part of their training for the HELP scheme. They have become auxiliaries in their private capacities and are well qualified educationally for these posts, as well as being well placed geographically.

Build a Better Society (BABS) and the Dr Abdurahman Day Hospital were both born in the latter half of 1972. BABS is described as an organisation which employs social workers to organise the community into self-help groups which are eventually left to function on their own. BABS undertook a full sociological diagnostic survey of the Kew Town housing scheme in 1972. Regional committees were established and each of these were represented on a central committee.

Each/...

THE HEALTH TEAM

To provide such a service economically, required that no one should perform a task which some one less qualified can carry out as competently. Consequently the workload is undertaken by members of a health team.

Our health team consist of:-

Medical Practitioners (full and part time)	58
Nursing Staff (including district sisters)	213
Midwives (staff nurses and assistant nurses)	40
Social Workers	17
Physiotherapists	16
Occupational Therapist	(1)
Radiographers	15
Pharmacists	31
Patients	+600,000

I wish to high light a few points in regard to the role of certain member of the health team.

The main role of medical staff should be to teach, to lead and co-ordinate and to see the problem cases which other members of the health team cannot resolve.

At two day hospitals, one in the northern and the other in the southern suburbs, 'same day' surgery is undertaken, including tubal ligations.

It is evident that the major share of the workload can be and is undertaken by nursing staff whether they be registered nurses, staff nurses or assistant nurses.

It is essential to realise the implications of the role of the nurse which is to care for patients - and her extended role, which involves special tasks which have been delegated to her by a doctor. Consequently for such a nurse to function effectively she should be able to consult with a doctor, even if it is only by telephone or two-way radio, if standards of care are to be maintained.

I attribute our good results and low referral rate to the fact that nursing and paramedical staff have easy access to that leader and co-ordinator of the health team. It was only because of the involvement of practitioners in our service and because of our results, that we had credibility with staff at specialists hospitals and patients were referred back to us.

I think the 'drip-room' figures of the Red Cross Hospital need no comment except to say that some of the success has been due to early treatment by the D.H.O. staff in general and the paediatric nurse associates in particular.

The patient's bed at home is the least expensive, the hospital bed the most expensive. Last year our district sisters and midwives carried out over

many patients who could be discharged from

ROM 9/4/81  
**Three die in horror silo blast**

HOUSTON — Six huge concrete silos exploded in flames in Corpus Christi on Tuesday during a shift change at a grain elevator, killing at least three workers and injuring about 26 others — including seven Federal inspectors

Fire officials said two workers had not been accounted for in the mangled elevator, which was still burning three hours after the explosion

The surrounding industrial area outside the city limits was evacuated

The main silo at the huge complex was levelled by the explosion — apparently set off by highly volatile grain dust — as were at least three others

Big chunks of concrete littered nearby streets

Army and Coast Guard helicopters assisted in rescue efforts, a spokesman said, and ambulances were dispatched from Corpus Christi and neighbouring towns to care for the injured

The Memorial Medical Centre admitted 26 other victims, many with burns and one in critical condition

Hospital spokeswoman Sandy Frazier said 10 of those admitted were treated and released — UPI

POLITICAL comment in this issue by Allister Sparks Benjamin Pogrud John Ryan Martin Schneider newsbills by Peter Bunkell headlines and sub editing by Paul Holroyd cartoons by Bob Connolly all of 171 Main Street Johannesburg

followed up at home.

Last year over three thousand cases were booked at the Lotus River M.O.U.; our pilot project unit and 2500 confinements carried out. The perinatal mortality rate (P M R.) was 6 per 1000 If one excluded abortions and births below 1000 gms and included only cases presenting with detectable foetal heart sounds the incidence was only 2 per 1000.

Here again, by having clear cut protocols, the specialists accepted our high risk problem cases and they referred back to us their patients who had been delivered for follow up at home.

Over 90% of our patients go home with some form of family planning

# Families to sue after deaths

By BARNEY MTHOMBOTHI

**TWO Soweto families want to sue the West Rand Administration Board and Soweto electrification contractors**

Two children died and another was hurt when a pile of drainpipes on which they were playing crumbled and crushed them a few weeks ago.

Dizana Notha, nine, and Bheki Skosana, seven, of Pimville, Soweto, died. A friend, Alexius Ngwenya, broke a leg.

Dizana's mother, Mrs Veronica Notha, a schoolteacher, blamed Wrab for her child's death

"They piled up these pipes in the open without regard for the safety of our children. Not even a red ribbon was tied around the pipes to warn people."

Mrs Notha, whose other son died suddenly last September, found her eldest child trying to revive his brother. The child was taken to Baragwanath Hospital but was dead on arrival.

Mrs Notha said: "Bheki, who was in my class, died on the scene. The pipe crushed him.

"The matter is being handled by lawyers with the intention of suing the board and any other party responsible for this."

A lawyer confirmed this. "We haven't taken any action yet," he said

A Soweto Community Council spokesman, Mr J Oosthuizen, referred all inquiries to Wrab, where a spokesman said: "We're involved in the Soweto project only as far as planning is concerned."

Mr E Pfeisser, a spokesman for the consortium involved in the Soweto electrification, said his organisation was not laying drainpipes in Klipspruit



● Pipes in Soweto — and schoolchildren playing on them

TABLE 10-B RACIAL MEDIAN INCOME

SMSA's in North West	Average change	SMSA's in South
Chicago		Atlanta
Cleveland		Baltimore
Detroit		Birmingham
Los Angeles		Dallas
New York		Houston
Philadelphia		Memphis
Pittsburgh		New Orleans
San Francisco		Washington, D.C.
St Louis		Average change

\*14 years and older 1949 data is for (SMA), from the Characteristics of the 1969 data is for the Area (SMSA), from 1970, state volumes

eradication of racial much U S govern lines since the n

Why then has eradicate in the this chapter the in the preceding Racism is not ar in the United S oppression is co divisions under interests of the contributing to among the poi hostility to the viding to white social and eco

the experience of having been incorporated into the lowest-paid segments of the American working class. The numbers of people of Asian and Spanish origin in the labor force has especially increased in the 1960s and 1970s, filling an ever-larger percentage of the lowest-paying jobs at the bottom of the occupational hierarchy, and in highly competitive and labor-intensive firms. Racial factors thus continue to be prominent in American life.<sup>10</sup>

Despite the above evidence, it is often argued that racism is an aberration in the United States, a legacy from the past that will gradually disappear in a democratic, capitalist society. Proponents of this view argue as follows: the capitalist drive to rationalize production, lower costs, and expand profits is itself a strong force for the elimination of racial discrimination. Employers are trying to maximize their profits, and in organizing their workforce they will be interested in a worker's productivity and potential contribution to profits and not in his or her skin color. The pressures from other firms competing for workers will overcome the resistance of racist employers who persist in discriminating. Similarly, purchasers of goods and services will be interested only in the product's price and its quality and not in the race of the workers who produce it. Thus, market forces, by allocating labor to its most efficient use, are themselves a strong stimulus for ending discrimination. And if market forces do not operate with sufficient speed or effectiveness, the government can be expected to pass and implement anti-discrimination legislation, create job-training and compensatory education programs, provide aid for ghetto economic development, and so on, for the purpose of hastening the

<sup>10</sup>At the same time, to fill their need for cheap labor the European capitalist countries have been increasingly drawing upon foreign labor, much of it people of darker complexion and races from North Africa, Italy, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, and Yugoslavia. The racial and ethnic heterogeneity and hierarchy of the American working class has thus become reproduced in Europe as well.



(9.3) Centralised Marketing of Drugs

Given the needs for incentives to encourage innovation in the industry and the lack of information and price-sensitivity, a combination of the price system and centralised marketing of drugs may be a way of overcoming the difficulties in the drug market.

The way in which such a system could operate would be as follows. a centralised body would be responsible for the buying and distribution of drugs. The firms would not promote drugs to doctors at all.

RDM 13/4/91  
**Workload  
the cause  
of injuries**

Municipal Reporter  
STAFF shortages last year led to an increase in the frequency of injuries to personnel in the Johannesburg City Engineer's Department, says a report just released

Owing to longer hours of work — and a consequent lack of concentration — 34% more accidents occurred last year than in 1979, it says.

Forty-three injuries occurred last year against the 32 of 1979

Causes of the injuries were various, but included fighting on the job, slips and falls, cuts by glass and injuries caused by vehicles or machinery

The facts have been revealed in the City Engineer's report to the Johannesburg Council's Health and Environmental Committee

In its report the department also gave reasons for increases in injuries to employees in its cleansing branch

... and that will in turn prevent the optimal combination

of price-promotion from emerging.

The same reasoning was used to explain product proliferation, brand use and research into products with apparently little new benefit.

The overall conclusion is that the private costs and benefits facing the firm differ from those facing the patient or the community.

To an extent this board will enable the externalities in the drug market to be removed and the combination of private production and centralised marketing would ensure a more efficient market.

• / ...

Briefly stated, the use of the centralised marketing board would enable some of the problems in the market to be overcome. The existence of price-sensitivity and information on the part of the customers of the firms would mean that more of the externalities would be internalised in the decisions of the firm. The firm would then have to consider the marginal costs and benefits of promotion and, because these costs and benefits more accurately reflect the full social ones, it would pay the firm to cut back on promotion expenditure. If it did not do so a competitor would be able to enter the market, offering a price-promotion combination that is more highly valued by an informed target market.

Similarly the amount of brand differentiation adopted would be less wasteful. Upon registration the MCC would indicate whether the degree of bioavailability difference was significant, in which case the product would be accepted as different or similar according not merely to promotional efforts, but according to therapeutic actions.

The proliferation of drugs would be curbed because the only drug that would succeed in the market would be one that was genuinely new and needed or else one that was priced below an existing drug.

Doctors would be given concise information on drugs. Price comparison and quality comparisons would be facilitated.

The advantages of the system proposed stem from the fact that greater price sensitivity and information will be re-introduced into the market.

At the same time, the incentives for the firm that introduces a better product will not be removed and may, in fact, be increased as the centralised buyers would be more sensitive to new and improved products.

It must be noted, however, that this system will still not be able to compare with the theoretical ideal of market efficiency. There are imperfections in the drug market that

• / ...

# Mine Deaths: Record for the

13/4/61  
 S.M.  
 By Bob Davis

Fourteen years without a fatality — that's the world record being celebrated at the South Witbank coal mine this weekend.

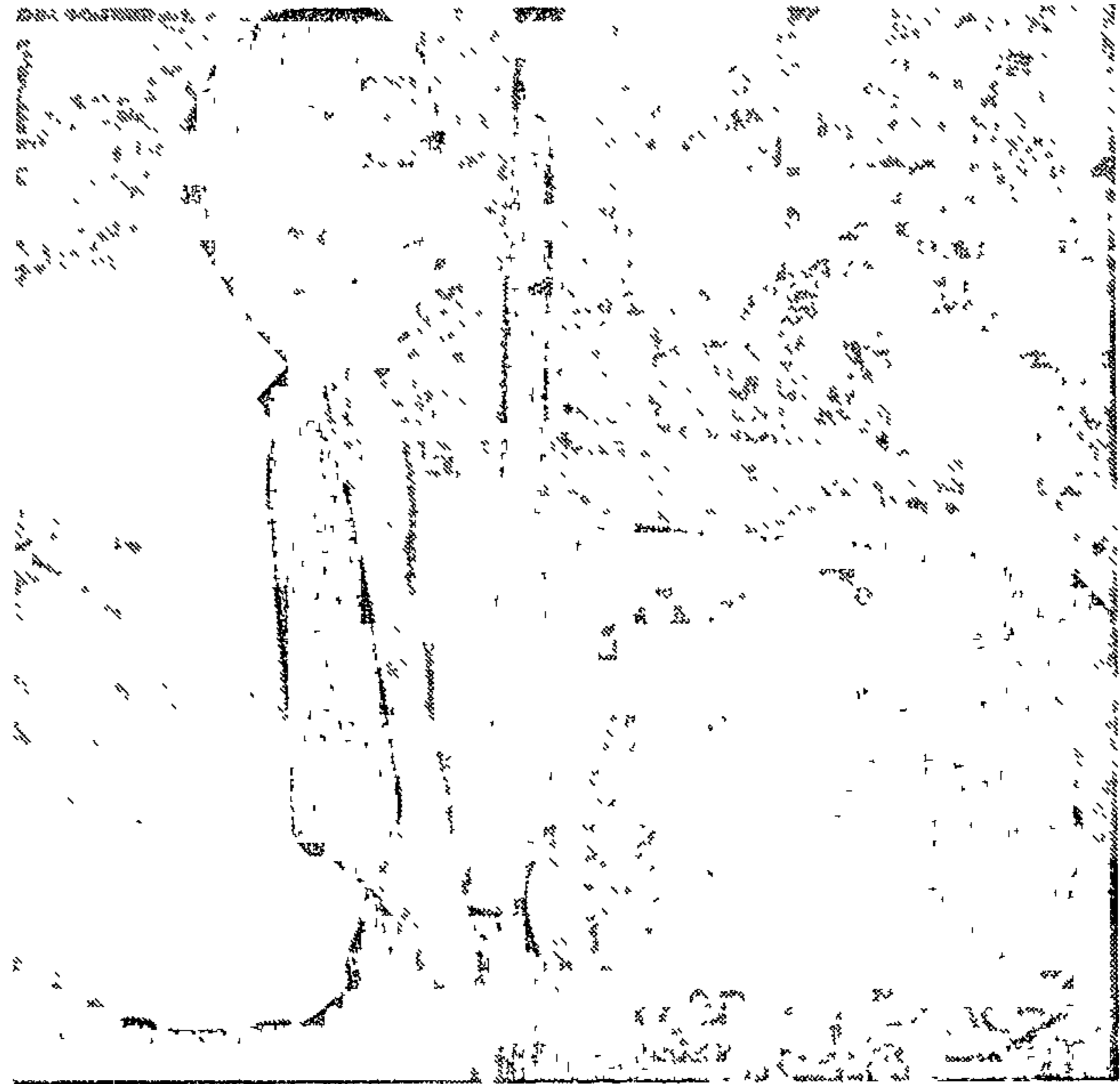
Equally remarkable is the personal record of miner Piet Roux who hasn't had a reportable accident among his crew for 30 years.

Mr Roux and mine manager Mr A J Raubenheimer ascribe their records to "good housekeeping and a very stable workforce".

Mr Roux, a miner for 36 years (20 at South Witbank), said he had formed the habit of checking every centimetre of the workplace before allowing his crew to enter.

Although he is probably the safest miner in the world, his production figures are above average. He says he hoped to maintain the record until he retires later this year.

Mr Raubenheimer said in the 14 years without a fatality, the mine had produced more than 18-million tons of coal.



Mr A J Raubenheimer, manager of the world's safest mine

## BRIEF BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. BRYANT, A.T. (1970): *Zulu Medicine and Medicine-Man*, Struik, Cape Town.
2. FERNANDEZ, J.W. (1967) *Divinations, Confessions, Testamonies. Zulu Confrontation with the Social Superstructure*. Occasional Paper No.9, Institute for Social Research, University of Natal, Durban.
3. GOODY, J (1962) *Death, Property and the Ancestors*, Tavistock, London
4. HAMMOND-TOOKE, W D (1970). 'Urbanization and Interpretation of Misfortune: A Quantitative Analysis', *Africa*, 40, 25-39.
5. LONDON, J.B. (1959): 'Psychogenic Disorder and Social Conflict among the Zulu' in M.K. OPLER (ed.). *Culture and Mental Health*, Macmillan, New York.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (1965). 'Social Aspects of Ideas about Treatment' in A.V.S. van REUCH and R. PORTER (eds.). *CIBA Foundation Symposium on Transcultural Psychiatry*, Churchill, London.
7. MEER, F. (1969): *Portrait of Indian South Africans*, Avon House, Durban.
8. NGUBANE, H. (1977) *Body and Mind in Zulu Medicine An Ethnography of Health and Disease in Nyanwa-Zulu Thought and Practices*, Academic Press, London.
9. VERM, O.P. and D. RAMA RAO (1974): 'Medical Practitioners in Rural India — Their Profile and Role' in *NIHAE BULLETIN*, 7,(2) 123-137.

"The allocation of resources to food production and housing may have a far more reaching indirect effect than any specific action against the disease."

"The problem of allocation is basically an economic problem but, even when the solution is known theoretically, prestige and vested interests may prevent an optimum solution (9)."

# Nobody to blame for Springs death

By Mzikayise Fdom

THE death of a Springs man was not a direct cause or omission on the part of any living person

This was the finding of a Springs magistrate at an inquest into the death of Mr Simon Msiza (21) of Zincor Hostel, Springs

Mr Msiza, who worked for Zinc Coporation of S A was said to have died at his place of employment when he became entangled by a conveyor belt and hit his head between the belt and the roller on August 10 last year

Evidence given earlier before Mr P D Nel and an assessor was that Mr Msiza was working for the first time on the machine which killed him

Passing judgement, Mr Nel said that the evidence given by the witnesses was insufficient

He further said "the court accept the fact that the deceased was working for the first time on the machine but he was always assisted by a foreman when operating the machine. The machine used by the deceased was simple and not dangerous"

Mr Nel also said that Mr Msiza had been working for about six months at the plant before his death

Mr A Chaskalson SC represented the Msiza family

11 only

13,5%  
theat  
USA)  
th.

"Cost-accounting is only considered worthwhile if the operation is at a reasonably high level, say, above 80%."

"An 80% treatment success rate can be achieved very cheaply. When this is achieved, the more expensive drugs have to be used." (10).

Possibly, most interestingly of all are the really only comprehensive detailed statistics given by Czechoslovakia (11).

The annual, direct cost of Tb. services in thousands of Cz, Kr, (Drugs amounted to only 10% of total cost.)

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Total
Clinics.	6 050	5 356	5 695	6 942	7 580	31 623
Hospital wards.	10 245	10 664	11 029	12 231	9 998	54 167
Tb. sanatoria.	16 387	16 340	17 107	15 966	15 544	81 344
Total.	32 682	32 360	33 831	35 139	33 122	167 134

This shows the clinic services receiving a mere 18,9% of the allocation. Further, the sanatoria cost 2,6 times that of the clinic service and the combined sanatoria/Tb. beds in general hospitals cost 4,3 times that of the clinic services.

	Clinics	Hosp. Tb. bed	Tb. san.
Salaries.	15 368 412 Kr.	12 754 346 Kr.	22 714 199 Kr.
Physicians.	14,3%	6,3%	4,3%
Home visitors.	17,9%	-	-
BCG nurses.	6,8%	-	-
Nurses	-	8,1%	5,8%
Lab. technicians.	5,1%	1,2%	1,2%
Aux. health workers.	-	1,0%	0,3%
Clerks.	4,4%	6,9%	16,3%
Total percentages.	48,5%	22,5%	27,9%
Expenditure.	16 254 952	41 413 119	58 630 505
Vac/tuberculin.	1,5%	-	-
X-ray materials.	1,9%	-	-
Medicaments.	-	5,6%	3,3%
Tb. drugs.	39,6%	10,2%	10,1%
Sanitary material.	5,1%	9,4%	6,3%
Food.	-	28,5%	31,3%
Operational costs.	3,4%	22,8%	21,1%
Total percentages.	51,5%	76,5%	72,1%
Total cost.	31,6 ml. Kr.	54,1 ml.	81,3 ml.
Percentages.	18,9%	32,4%	48,7%

# Gas secret leaks out

(131)

By: Greg Finch

SA Industrial Wk 14/4/81  
giant AECI group

NATAL'S week-old industrial secret — A chlorine gas leakage at AECI's Umbogintwini plant, which resulted in 76 people receiving hospital treatment — has been revealed to SA Industrial Week

This half-ton chlorine gas spillage occurred nearly a fortnight ago when an artisan opened a valve on a tank, allowing 500 kg of chlorine to escape

The gas was picked up by the wind and blown across the plant and a neighbouring industrial concern, Autoplastics, which is part of the

Executive director of AECI, Chris von Solms, said 76 people were taken to the plant's hospital, Kynoch Hospital

"Of the 76, 46 were retained at the hospital and treated for chlorine gassing. Six people were kept in the hospital overnight and discharged the next day," said Von Solms

"As soon as the spillage occurred the emergency operation procedure went into action and the situation was rectified within 45 minutes. Those poisoned were mostly own employees while there

were some people affected at Autoplastics

"I think the situation was handled pretty well and I am very thankful that no-one was seriously injured. We spend a lot of time training our staff how to react in situations like this," he said

A police spokesman at Amanzimtoti said there had been a "very small" leakage and the situation had been under control throughout the entire incident

"They never even sounded the hooters which are sounded in any emergency," he said

# Shock injury stats

SA Industrial Week 131 14/4/81

By John van der Meer

Shock figures of casualties in industry released recently has prompted companies to take a more serious look at safety standards and regulations.

In one year alone 40 000 eyes are injured, 110 000 hands and fingers, 40 000 feet and toes and 10 000 head injuries. The majority of these injuries could have been prevented had safety regulations been more rigidly enforced.

The figures were released by Mr H J Matthysen, general manager of the National Occupational Safety Association (NOSA), who said more steps would have to be taken to keep the casualty figures down.

## Eye Injuries

For instance the number of head injuries could have been cut down immensely had workers worn hard hats, hand and finger injuries could have been prevented with the proper wearing of heavy duty

gloves and eye injuries could be prevented with the proper use of goggles.

Feet injuries were abnormally high and these could be prevented by the proper wear of heavy duty boots.

However, workers are not conforming to these safety methods and are partially to blame for the injuries. But company management is even more to blame as safety regulations should be enforced by them.

Mr Matthysen said recently that the correct use of protective clothing could prevent many of the injuries sustained in industry and has appealed to company managements to play a more active role for the safety of their employees.

Should the welder be working in a confined space, proper ventilation facilities are vital and if he is operating in the vicinity of other people, screens should be erected to protect others.

Compressed gas cylinders which supply acetylene, oxygen or liquid petroleum



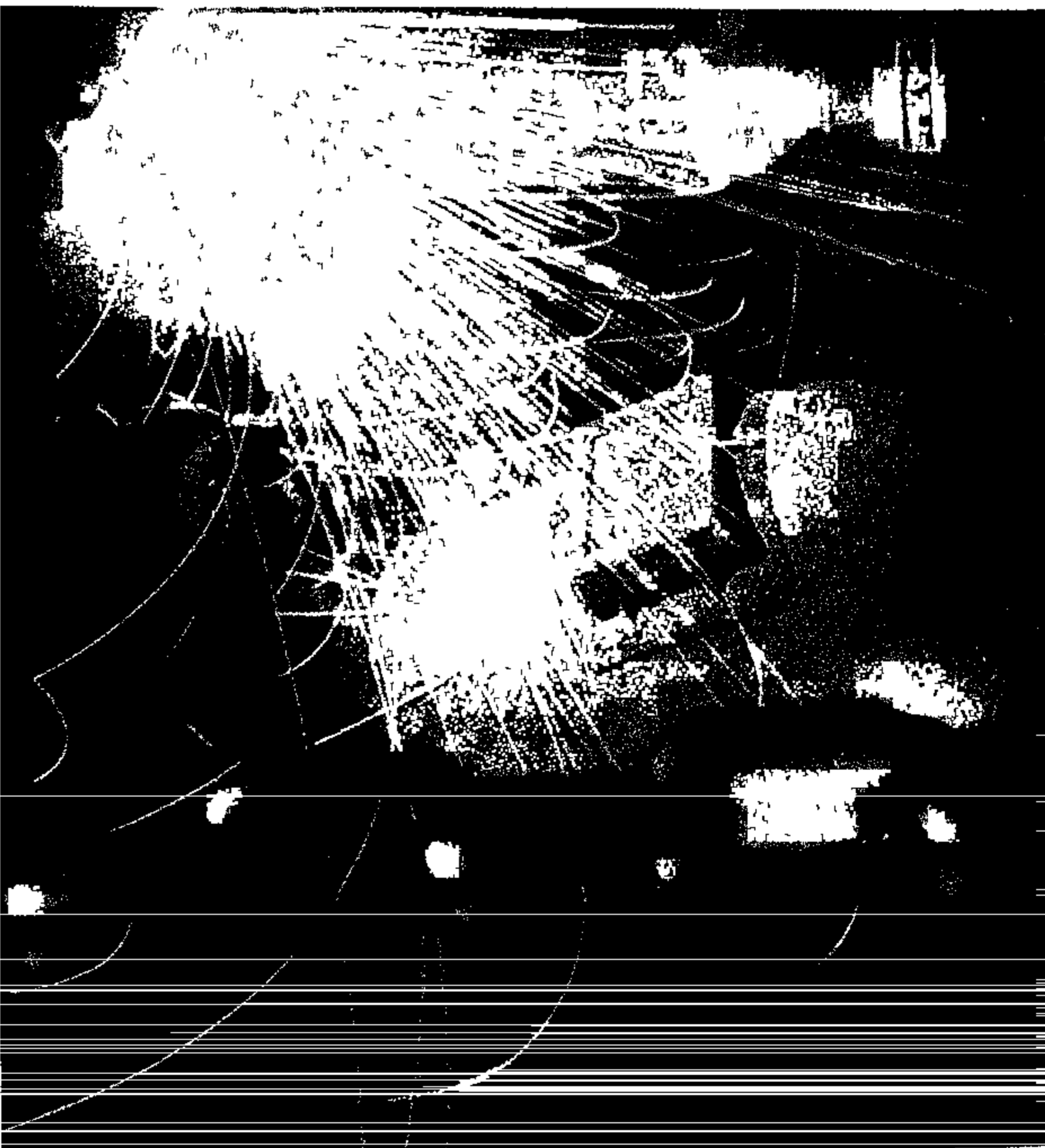
**This welder is working under extremely dangerous conditions. He is not wearing gloves, no cover for his head and his clothing is unprotective. An eye, head or hand injury could easily result from this form of negligence.**

gases can become lethal weapons by abuse.

For example, an oxygen cylinder was knocked over in Durban not long ago. The neck broke off and the cylinder became a projectile, hurtling through 17 plate glass windows.

In another incident a cylinder was also knocked over. It travelled 20m, went through a 12cm brick wall, flew another 10m through an office and then went halfway through a 14cm brick wall.

Both these accidents could have been avoided had the cylinders been properly supported.



**Note the protective headgear, gloves and leather coat. This welder is properly dressed against possible injury.**

KwaZulu figure up to 40 000. The industry's efforts to attract more South Africans to the mines forced it to raise wages more rapidly than it had ever done before (although the original rates were so low that, even after increases which seemed large when viewed as percentages, most black miners are still paid very little). The development on any significant scale of alternative sources of employment in the Bantustans would pose very severe problems for the mines, not the least of which is that they would have to increase wages even more. This, in turn, would have adverse ripple effects on other sectors of the economy, among them agriculture. Indeed, the higher mine wages after 1974 compelled sugar plantations in Natal, which, like the mines, draw a large part of their labour from the Transkei, to raise wages.<sup>36</sup>

In short, the logic of the migratory labour system — of apartheid it-

13/1/51

# Four killed in mine accident

S. P. M.

RUSTENBURG — Four people died and one was seriously injured in an accident at the Ivan plant, Rustenburg Platinum mine yesterday.

~~13/1/51~~

One of the dead men, Mr Ivan Steenbergen was employed by a specialist engineering firm. The names of the other three, all black, are being withheld until the next of kin have been informed, a mine spokesman said.

13/1

Mr T Paddy, an operator at the plant, was seriously injured and flown to Johannesburg.

The accident reportedly took place when an ore-crusher was accidentally turned on during an inspection — Sapa

# The disabled: Constant struggle for employment

CT 15/4/81

BY ZUBEIDA JAFFER

131

THE plus crunched through the wooden hangers in a steady rhythm. His nimble fingers worked with ease from hanger to hanger.

He sat perched on a stool in front of a workbench with his only arm resting on a stand on

which the hangers were stacked

Work conditions were adapted to suit his needs

Abraham Douries, 19, whose arm was ripped off in a fruit factory machine, is one of nearly 70 disabled people em-

## Job offer from City company

A LOCAL company manager this week offered to employ a young Ravensmead man confined to a wheelchair after reading in the Cape Times of his struggle for survival

But James Adams, 19, who was paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a shooting incident during the riots of last year, will not be able to wheel himself up a stairway to the toilet on the first floor or use public transport to travel to work.

He is confronted with two of the many obstacles which deny disabled people access to "gainful employment"

Occupational therapist Mrs Pam Stegmann of the Cripple Care Association yesterday spelled out some of the problems she encountered when trying to find jobs for disabled people.

While some employers were helpful, others were shocked by her request that they consider employing a disabled person

"Their response is 'We use machines here, you know',"

she said "They seem to think that people who are physically disabled are also mentally disabled"

She once tried to get a textile firm manager to give a young man the job of taking thread from one point to another. He

played at the Cripple Care Association factory in Bridgetown

This factory and two government factories provide the only definite employment opportunities for the hundreds of disabled in Cape Town

It is not known exactly how many handicapped people are jobless in the Cape

But the waiting list for the government's "sheltered employment" factories is "long" and organizations for disabled people have jointly planned workshops for at least 300 unemployed in the Athlone area alone to assist them in earning an income

Handicapped people who work at the two factories in Epping and Mabels fall under the sheltered employment scheme funded by the government and controlled by the Department of Manpower Utilization

The scheme provides for "any person who is physically or mentally retarded to such an extent that he or she is unable to obtain or retain work under competitive conditions in the open labour market but who is nevertheless able to do remunerative work under sheltered employment conditions"

More than 300 people are presently employed by the two "sheltered employment" factories in Cape Town

Those employed are selected by a placement committee consisting of the Divisional Inspector of Manpower Utilization, the district surgeon and a social welfare officer

The Divisional Inspector in Cape Town, Mr N Hechtor, said this week that while males and females were placed in Ndabeni, while coloured males were placed in Epping. This was in accordance with the department's policy, he said

Provisions have not yet been made for coloured females or other population groups

"The problem is money. We hope to expand soon," he said

The present wages (to be reviewed this month) of white males under 19 years of age vary from R20 a week to R24, those of white females from R18 to R21.50, those of coloured employees and Indians from R20 to R28 and those of Africans from R17 to R25

In Epping, where only coloured males work, furniture and textile products are produced

When the Cape Times visited the factory, some of the nearly 200 workers were making tables, chairs and workbenches, while others were sewing linen bags

According to the manager, Mr C Besber, they provided all the schools in the Cape with woodwork benches

At the factory run by the Cripple Care Association in Bridgetown, about 70 men and women are employed. Only those who are able to use public transport and have more than a 50 percent chance of being employed eventually in industry are selected for training at the factory

"Our aim is to place people in suitable jobs after we have trained them," said occupational therapist Mrs Pam Stegmann

Activity groups have been set up for people who have little chance of being placed

Twice a week, groups of about 15 people meet in Hanover Park, Retreat, Gugulethu, Elsie's River and Ocean View to produce in order to supplement their disability grants

Their products are sold at the Cripple Care Shop in Claremont

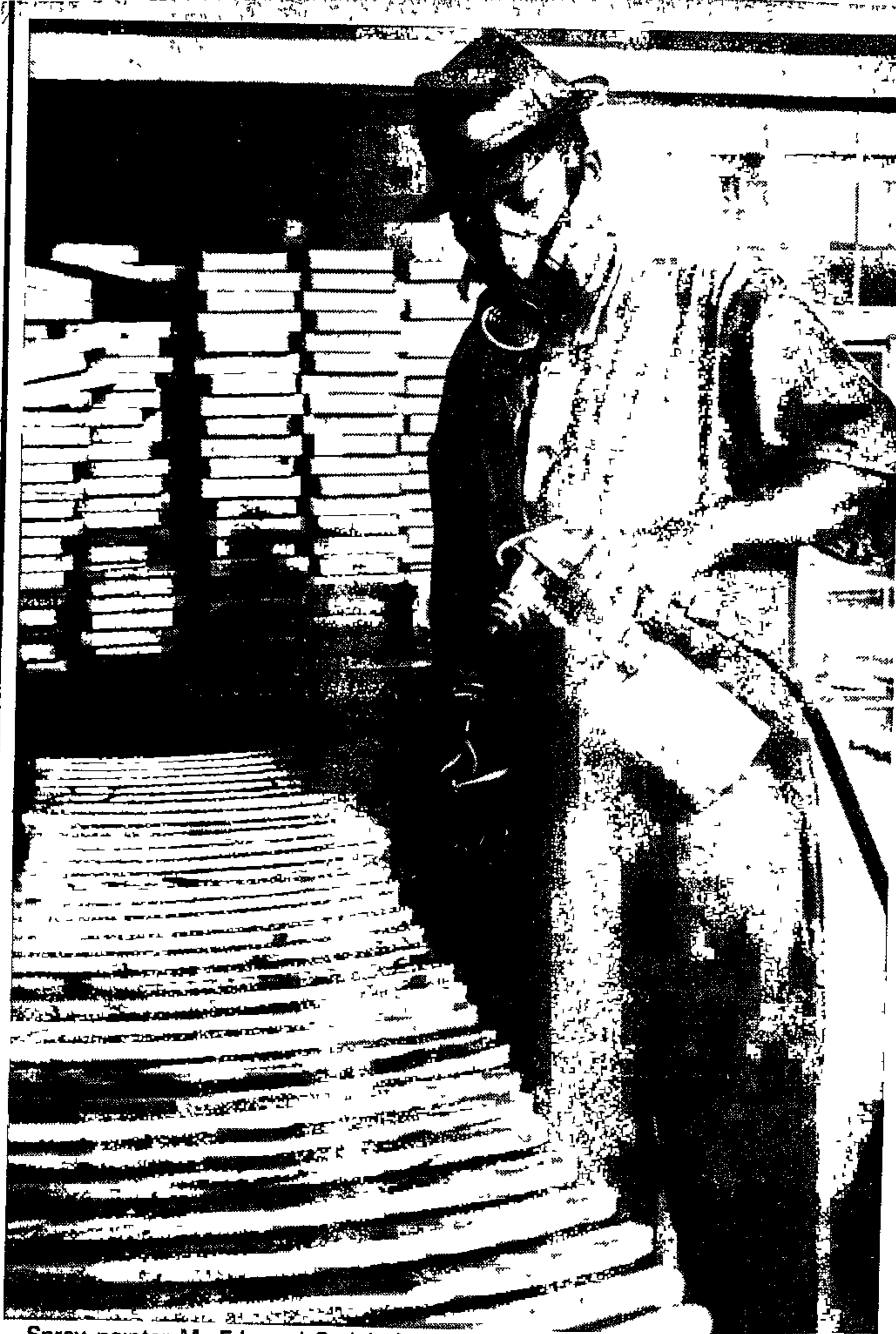
Young Abraham Douries, whose arm was ripped off in a fruit factory machine, assembling hangers at a Bridgetown factory.



Young Abraham Douries, whose arm was ripped off in a fruit factory machine, assembling hangers at a Bridgetown factory.

Cont.

Cont.



Spray painter Mr Edmund Stekile is not hampered by his artificial arm as he sprays coat-hangers at a Bridgetown factory

## The major causes of disability changing

THE MAJOR causes of disability have changed over the years as social conditions have changed

This emerged from discussions with social workers closely associated with the disabled for years

"About 30 years ago, polio and tuberculosis were major causes of disability," said Mr C Wilson, who runs the Cripple Care Rehabilitation Centre

"The world war also left many casualties-But in the past decade more and more people have been disabled through assaults, industrial and road accidents as well as riot situations

"Today diseases such as polio and tuberculosis have largely been eradicated but man-made hazards have increased," he said

And social workers expect this to be the trend in this country

They believe that as long as unemployment continues to increase — there are two million unemployed today — crime with its accompanying violence will continue

"Removals under the Group Areas Act and influx control laws have left people with a distinct sense of insecurity," said a Cripple Care social worker, Mr Nabil Dean

"Townships are overcrowded and wages low. People need jobs, houses, decent wages and the freedom to live in good conditions. This would result in a decrease in crime and thus disabilities

"Why cure when you can prevent," he said





Activity groups are run for the unemployed. Here a group of people from Hanover Park gather together at one of their twice-weekly sessions.

# UN promotes aid effort

131

THE UNITED NATIONS General Assembly has declared 1981 to be the Year of Disabled Persons.

One of the objectives for the year will be helping disabled persons in their physical and psychological adjustment to society

Another will be promoting efforts to provide disabled persons proper assistance, training, and work opportunities for full integration into society.

The Director of the Cripple Care Association, Mrs Jean Reynolds, believes that work is of utmost importance to the disabled

"Through work, people feel that they are fully part of society," she said

The Cape Times interviewed a few handicapped people who battled for years to find employment

"For three years I searched for a job. Everywhere I went

people said that if I had two arms they would have employed me," said Mr Edmund Stekile, who lost his arm in a car accident

Mr Stekile who has since been fitted with an artificial arm spray varnishes coat-hangers at the Cripple Care factory in Bridgetown without any problem

## 'Living'

"I feel like I'm living now that I'm working. It was terrible walking the streets looking for a job," he said

For six years, Mr Jacobus Daniels looked for work. His arm had been ripped off in a train accident

Today he assembles coat-hangers and never wants to be unproductive again.

"I prefer doing something," he said. It's not nice sitting at home every day," he said.

of how projects will work and what would be a good way of using local resources. They can seldom know of those cases where small groups of people are trying to establish economic activities which they know will work, but which they cannot establish or develop for lack of some capital or technical skills input

## The myth of community.

A mistake that many people involved in development projects make, is that they assume there is a "community". During my involvement in Cape Town SAVS, for example, we presumed that people would want to contribute towards the establishment of a marketing centre for Umhlabo, a creche for one area (Ipoti) and a clinic for another (Umlambo). We assumed that the people of these localities would see themselves as a group, and thus would decide to work as a group on a project which would benefit themselves as a group. However, most, if not all, villages are not communities: the most one can say is that they are a gathering of people living near each other. In Umhlabo a large number of people are strangers who have moved in from white farms, and due to rehabilitation most of the "localities" are composed of a number of villages moved down from the mountains.

There are some villages or locations which are more integrated than others, where there have been fairly successful "community scale" projects. However I found that I could not associate this with anything other than the presence of a good headman or other co-ordinating figure in the area (vide the fact that so often when this person goes, the "progressive" quality of the area dies and the projects go to rack and ruin) 54 .

In all the projects I mention there is at least one person, and usually a small group, who really believes in, and supports the project. One generally finds that this small group are involved in all the projects in the area and are on all the committees. Most of these people obviously believe that with concerted effort their areas can progress along a Western path of development.

In all areas there is a large number of people (still not the majority however) who consider the ideals cited, when a new project is discussed, as good. They say they would like such a

# Five trucks derailed and bridge damaged

# Rail line bomb blast

NM  
16/4/81  
(131)

**Simon Hammerton**  
**EMPANGENI**—An explosion derailed five coal trucks on the main railway line between Richard's Bay and Vryheid on Tuesday night, destroying about 20 m of line and damaging a railway bridge.

The explosion occurred as a fully laden train, travelling from Vryheid, was crossing a bridge.

One truck was thrown over the side of the bridge, taking the bridge wall with it, and four others were thrown off the rails just past the bridge.

The bomb, which appeared to have been packed in a tin box, was detonated as the locomotive crossed the bridge and the brunt of the explosion was borne by the first five coal trucks.



**FROM** first light yesterday workers began their struggle to clear and repair the railway line.

# Modder (13) gas blast kills three

Three men have been killed and two admitted to hospital after a gas explosion at Modderfontein's number two ammonia plant.

The dead men are Mr J C Janse van Vuuren (23) of Triomf, Mr P H van Vuuren (36) of Edleen, Kempton Park, and a Mr Upton, a construction worker from Durban.

Mr J Shimbala (21) and Mr M Botha (43) are in the Modderfontein Hospital with 40 percent and 20 percent burns respectively. A spokesman said today the men were doing "as well as can be expected" and were not on the critical list.

The cause of the explosion on Thursday is being investigated by the Government Inspector of Factories who was on the site that day.

Production at the plant — which produces mainly fertilisers — has not been affected.

Last year three men were killed in an explosion at Modderfontein.

# LEAD POLLUTION

By KEVIN JACOBS

CAPE TOWN'S health chief is likely to call soon for selective blood testing to help determine whether airborne lead poisoning in the city could become a long-term health hazard.

Lead in car exhaust fumes has been identified as a dangerous environmental poisoner in large cities in the United States, the Soviet Union, Western Europe and Britain.

The extent of blame on vehicle exhausts is a con-

## Report to health committee soon

ning argument among scientists, environmentalists and petrol companies internationally.

But federal regulations have been enforced to limit lead content in US petrol, and the British Parliament has been asked to consider ordering a lower lead content

### BRAIN DAMAGE

The British move was initiated recently in the wake of growing evidence from researchers that fuel-based lead emissions were responsible for permanent brain damage in children.

In South Africa, a senior official of the Automobile Association has endorsed efforts elsewhere in the world to ban or reduce the content of liquid lead in petrol.

Technical services executive Mr F Bothma said that 'from a health point of view, lead in petrol is undesirable.'

UCT scientist Professor Dick Dutkiewicz — co-director of a comprehensive, five-year study of air pollution in Cape Town — notes a world-wide argument over the extent of airborne pollutants to lead content in human bodies.

'We have looked at the question of lead (as an airborne pollutant),' he said, 'and we are not particularly perturbed by it.'

'What we have suggested in our report is an analysis of blood-lead levels in children, just to satisfy ourselves.'

The city's MGH, Dr Reg Coogan, says 'the general conclusion is that in Cape Town we have the precursors for high lead levels. With the increase in the number of cars, there are spots in the city where we have high lead levels.'

### 'HOT SPOTS'

Basing a report on the findings by Professor Dutkiewicz and Professor Richard Fuggle, Dr Coogan will probably recommend more detailed investigation of the problem of lead pollution in the city, most likely in the form of blood testing in the vicinity of identified 'hot spots.'

Dr Coogan reports to the City Council's health committee on the issue on May 4.

The Dutkiewicz-Fuggle report stressed that airborne lead pollution in Cape Town was within 'safe' levels accepted internationally.

Research some years ago by Professor Roy Siegfried, director of UCT's Fitzpatrick Institute of Ornithology, showed that pigeons caught in central Cape Town had eight to 10 times more lead in their bones than birds captured in a rural area near Stellenbosch.

### ESTABLISHED

His study ascribed the effects to the higher rate of lead pollution from car exhausts in the city.

Mr Bothma said: 'It has been firmly established that lead is harmful to health. We should not wait for contamination to increase before we do something about it.'

But oil companies and car manufacturers point out that producing and using lead-free petrol would require far more crude oil for the refining process and perhaps prohibitively costly modifications in engines.

theoretical perspective differs from that of others in this broad category of views in that its fundamental economic determinism is reminiscent of some Marxist thought. Using the general theory of the stages of growth, he has attempted to date the probable stages of political change. His argument is more complicated than the model sketched above, because he also grants a role to Black actors and so to revolutionary unrest. However, most of those who adopt this position stress mainly the role of the Whites.

### 2.2. The 'Revisionist' Thesis

The term 'revisionist' is one that has come to be used to indicate a school of thinking which is basically at variance with the older conventional view. The term itself is not intended to have ideological or political connotations (i.e. it is not to be confused with 'revisionism'). However, the broad theoretical perspective most commonly associated with the revisionist school is that of 'conflict theory' in sociology and the 'political economy' in economics. Contributors to the debate review of the 'revisionist' of this introduction. Here the economic exploitation of the Black population in Africa it is seen to be a system which legitimises the rule of the Whites. The economy is not a free market but is controlled by the forces of the Whites (see Tlapido, 1971) and the high standard of living of the Whites is maintained by the political machinery of repression which assures the continued subservience of the Black workers. The tendency in such a labour repressive society is for an increasing concentration of power. The fruits of economic growth will be concentrated in the hands of those who control the economy, thus both increasing the relative domination of the economy and at the same time providing the wherewithal for strengthening the machinery of political and military repression. Sophisticated weaponry and surveillance systems can be acquired to compensate for deficiencies in manpower. White prosperity and White supremacy mutually reinforce one another (Johnstone, 1970). If capitalism has any rationalising tendency, it is towards the rationalisation of domination, rather than towards the removal of race prejudice. Blumer (1965) argues that in any event it is rational for the capitalists to take account of the prejudices of their influential White employees at the expense of their relatively powerless Black workers. Johnstone argues that the principles of apartheid are in fact bent whenever

3 injured in factory blast  
East Rand Bureau

Three men were injured in a Springs platinum factory explosion yesterday. Mr G. Lategan, a senior operator at Impala Platinum in East Geduld, had leg burns and was taken to the Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg. The other two, Mr P. Pretorius, an operator, and Mr L. J. van Vuuren, a fitter, were treated at the factory and sent home. According to the managing director of Impala Platinum, Mr Bob Bovell, the explosion occurred at about 11 am during a routine operation in the smelting section of the refinery. He said damage was minor and there had been no loss to production.

the high standard of living of the Whites is maintained by the political machinery of repression which assures the continued subservience of the Black workers. The tendency in such a labour repressive society is for an increasing concentration of power. The fruits of economic growth will be concentrated in the hands of those who control the economy, thus both increasing the relative domination of the economy and at the same time providing the wherewithal for strengthening the machinery of political and military repression. Sophisticated weaponry and surveillance systems can be acquired to compensate for deficiencies in manpower. White prosperity and White supremacy mutually reinforce one another (Johnstone, 1970). If capitalism has any rationalising tendency, it is towards the rationalisation of domination, rather than towards the removal of race prejudice. Blumer (1965) argues that in any event it is rational for the capitalists to take account of the prejudices of their influential White employees at the expense of their relatively powerless Black workers. Johnstone argues that the principles of apartheid are in fact bent whenever

they threaten economic growth. Adam (1971: 181-2) argues that rationalisation produces an increasingly competent technocratic oligarchy which is even capable of deracialising the society if that would be in the interests of maintaining supremacy. Like the 'conventional' viewpoint, the 'revisionist' thesis also stresses the role of Whites, but whereas in the first case they are seen as more or less inevitable agents of change, in the second argument, they are seen as more or less removable obstacles to change.

### 3. Basic issues

The two major positions have inevitably had to be stated in rather oversimplified terms and in a somewhat overpolarised form. Perhaps the most crucial difference in the two viewpoints outlined above turns on the distinction between a market economy and a labour repressive economy. According to Barrington Moore (1966: 434) the distinction is between 'the use of political mechanisms (using the term political broadly) on the one hand and reliance on the labour market on the other hand'. That is, it is the distinction between an economy in which workers come voluntarily on to the labour market and enter into an equitable contract with employers, and an economy in which workers are constrained by some other political mechanism to work for their employers, and so are not in a relation of contractual equality with them.

Now this distinction is in some ways highly suggestive, but it also obscures an important fact by implying that it is possible to have a market system which operates quite independently of political factors. A market is always embedded in a political matrix which defines the rules governing the use of property within that market. Property is a politico-legal category. Who may control property and how it may be used is a function of the power of various individuals and groups, and of the way in which that power is institutionalised in convention and law. The very existence of a labour market assumes the presence of people who have no direct access to the means of production, and who, therefore, have to sell their labour in order to survive. This condition does not arise of its own accord, and nor is it a fundamental inevitability.

It has usually required the use of power by some group or stratum to acquire sole rights in the means of production, and this use of power becomes institutionalised in a politico-legal framework which defines the rights of the various groups, and so provides the parameters in which the market forces of supply and demand operate. These parameters may be altered by, for example, the extension or limitation of the workers' rights to organise, but also by less obvious factors, such as the way in which a dominant group might use its power over key resources to further strengthen its position within the market.

ROM 1/5/81  
131

# Probe into chimney collapse

Staff Reporter

AN OPEN inquiry into last year's Matla power station chimney collapse, which killed two people, will be held next week.

Mr Thomas Leff, chief inspector for the Witwatersrand and Vaal Triangle for the Department of Manpower Utilisation, said a confidential report would be made to the Minister and the Attorney-General.

The inquiry will be held on Tuesday at 9am at the small function hall, Escom recreation club, Kriel Township, and will be conducted by Mr David Pim, Chief Inspector of machinery for the Benoni area.

He will hear sworn evidence from relevant witnesses, and will table documents.

Mr Leff said the investigation was "purely to determine whether there had been a contravention of the Factories Act".

On-site inspections have already been conducted.

The Attorney-General would decide on the basis of the submitted evidence whether a culpable homicide charge should be laid, Mr Leff said.

In August last year a flue inside a 275m chimney collapsed, killing two men and injuring 28.

One man's body was recovered from under tons of rubble, nearly two months after the accident.

The chimney was designed by Ove Arup and Partners, and is being built by Futurus Construction. Its design is independently checked by Brunette Kruger and Stoffberg, a firm of consulting engineers.

# Cable injures five employees

(31) By SETHO (1991) RABOTIATLA

FIVE people were seriously injured at the weekend when a cable carrying wires snapped, hitting a railway slipper which hit the five at their place of employment in Brakpan.

The five, all employees of Grinaker Pty Ltd are Miss Faith Guqu of 2814 Duba Street, Tsakane, Miss Rosa Kunene of 1862 Ndabezitha Street, Tsakane, Miss Eunice

Madisa of 1314 Mandela Street, Brakpan old location, Mr Andries Monexo of 49 Tsakane Hostel and the fifth was identified only as Gordon.

Miss Guqu said that the cable that pulled the wires is electrically operated and as they were standing on their tables in a line when she heard the cable snapping and the slipper flying through the air towards them. None of them had a chance to avoid it and all she could remember

was people trying to revive her.

The two men said they could not remember anything that happened. Mr Monexo said that he was only told of what happened by "my colleagues when they came to visit me here at the hospital."

A hospital spokesman at the Far East Rand Hospital said that their condition is fair. And one Miss Guqu was discharged yesterday.

Attempts to get a comment from Grinaker were futile.



# 'Bars omitted from Matla chimney'

By CHRIS MARAIS

VARIOUS metal bars and spot welding work had been omitted from concrete supports holding the brickwork lining of Matla Power Station's "death flue", a spokesman for the designers, Messrs Ove Arup and Partners, said yesterday

"But," said Mr Clifford MacMillan, Ove Arup director, "subsequent tests carried out showed that there was still more than adequate strength and ductility in the corbels (concrete supports) even with this bar missing"

Mr MacMillan was giving evidence at the Department of Manpower Utilisation's court of inquiry at Kriel in the Eastern Transvaal yesterday. The inquiry is trying to establish whether last August's disaster at Matla — in which two people were killed and seven injured — was caused by some factor which infringed any part of the Factories Act

A civil engineer's preliminary report had stated earlier that the missing metal work in the corbels could have contributed to the collapse of Flue No 6 of the 275m high Chimney 2

The engineer, Dr Konstandt Brunette, also stated that Flue No 6 had been "pinched" at three strategically placed positions at mid-slab due to a construction error

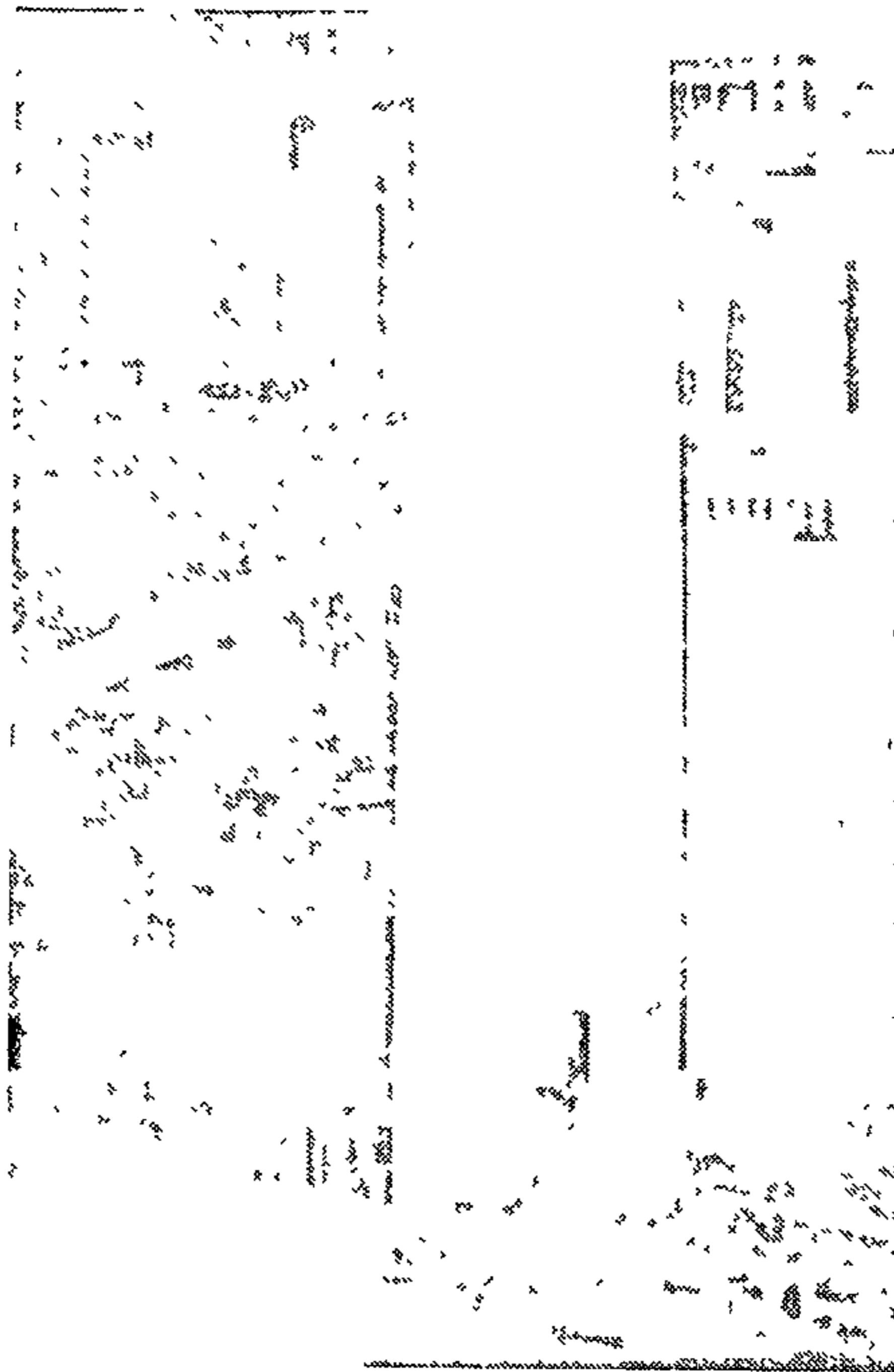
"This defect was known to the site personnel but they attached minor importance to this — the designers also considered it to be of minor significance," Dr Brunette had said

"The pinching has been raised as a contributor to increasing stresses in Flue No 6," said Mr MacMillan. "We disagree, and believe that later evidence contradicts the opinion that significant pinching existed"

"At the time of Dr Brunette's report, verbal evidence was that the bearings of No 4 and 5 flues were creaking at mid-slab, and those of No 6 not. This was interpreted to mean that the Flue No 6 bearings were not free to move because of the pinching"

"Subsequently, during high winds, I was on mid-slab when creaking near Flue No 5 was heard. The creaking was positively traced to a concrete defect rubbing against Flue No 5"

"The creaking is therefore



Matla Power Station's Chimney No. 2, showing the collapsed flue. This picture was taken by the "Mail" hours after the collapse last year

not associated with pinching and not with bearings moving free. There would thus seem to be no evidence to suggest that any pinching of Flue No 6 occurred"

Mr "Gerry" O'Leary, site agent for the builders — Futurus Construction — said he had taken visitors to the top of the chimney hours before the flue collapsed at 12.45pm on August 27 last year

"My goodness!" exclaimed Mr David Pym, chairman of the enquiry

"I never detected anything suspicious at that stage," said Mr O'Leary

The Matla site is run by Escom. Ove Arup did the design of Chimney No 2. Futurus, on contract from Escom, built the chimney

Earlier evidence from Dr Brunette's preliminary report suggested that there may have been faulty mixes of cement to slag in some parts of the flue that collapsed

"My understanding of the contract document is that it is quite clearly the contractor's duty to keep records on all tests of concrete carried out on site," said Mr MacMillan

"The responsibility for providing concrete without defects and in accordance with the specifications was clearly the contractor's in terms of the contract," Mr MacMillan said

"It is not possible to say that any one, however experienced, would necessarily have identified the defects of a hidden nature"

ARGUS 7/5/81  
10 die  
in Natal  
coal  
mine blast

Argus Correspondent

MARITZBURG — Ten black mineworkers were killed in a methane gas explosion yesterday in the Newcastle-Platberg colliery at Elandslaagte, about 20 km north of Ladysmith.

Seven bodies were brought to the surface yesterday and three early today. It will be several days before their next-of-kin are informed and the names of the dead men released.

The Inspector of Mines has gone to the scene to conduct an inquiry.

A statement issued by the owners of the mine, Kangra Holdings, said there had been a flash ignition of methane gas. Ten black miners in the immediate vicinity of the ignition had lost their lives.

Work at the mine was back to normal and had returned to full production. No fire had followed the explosion.

CT 8/5/81 (13)  
10 killed (M)  
in mine  
explosion

MARITZBURG — Ten miners were killed when a pocket of methane gas exploded in an Elandsplaagte mine shaft near Ladysmith

The men were apparently working in a new shaft on the Platberg Colliery when the methane gas which is exuded by coal ignited and exploded. The bodies were strewn inside the shaft and only seven could be removed by rescue teams on Wednesday.

The remaining three bodies were retrieved by a party yesterday morning.

Conflicting reports from the scene yesterday said that other miners may have been injured in the blast. No official comment could be obtained from local management, however, as they refused to comment.

A spokesman for the company's head office in Johannesburg said last night that a flash ignition of methane gas had occurred at around lunchtime on Wednesday, killing the 10 men.

An investigation was underway to try and determine the cause of the blast, he said.

**Miner killed** (13)  
JOHANNESBURG — A mine worker was killed in a fall of ground at Vaal Reets No 9 ventilation shaft on Thursday about 6 20 pm His name will be released when next-of-kin have been notified — Sapa

For publications obtainable from the Centre for Intergroup Studies, c/o University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Republic of South Africa, 7700

For publications obtainable from the Centre for Intergroup Studies, c/o University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Republic of South Africa, 7700

Name and Address:
Date:
Signature:
Cheque/Postal Order/Cash for R

Name and Address:
Date:
Signature:
Cheque/Postal Order/Cash for R

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

- No. 1 Afrikaner Nationalism by Professor J Degenaar (R1,00 post free)
2 District Six: A Factual Report. Available in English and Afrikaans (gratis)

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

- Afrikaner Nationalism by Professor J Degenaar (R1,00 post free)
District Six: A Factual Report. Available in English and Afrikaans (gratis)

A REVIEW OF THE FIRST TEN YEARS of the Centre for Intergroup Studies (gratis)
'n OORSIG VAN DIE EERSTE TIEN JAAR van die Sentrum vir Intergroepstudies (gratis)
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT 1980 (gratis)
REPRINTS/HERDRUKKE (gratis)

IEW OF THE FIRST TEN YEARS of the Centre for Intergroup Studies (gratis)
SIG VAN DIE EERSTE TIEN JAAR van die Sentrum vir Intergroepstudies (gratis)
TEENTH ANNUAL REPORT 1980 (gratis)
INTS/HERDRUKKE (gratis)

- No. 14 Brand, Politics and African Trade Unionism in Rhodesia since Federation.
17 Groenewald, Sosiale Afstand by Afrikaans-sprekendes: Verdere Toeligtig met 'n Steekproef van Studente.
18 Van der Horst, Women as an Economic Force in Southern Africa.

- No. 14 Brand, Politics and African Trade Unionism in Rhodesia since Federation.
17 Groenewald, Sosiale Afstand by Afrikaans-sprekendes: Verdere Toeligtig met 'n Steekproef van Studente.
18 Van der Horst, Women as an Economic Force in Southern Africa.

Flue Inquiry is adjourned
Staff Reporter
THE court of inquiry into the collapse of a chimney the first year at Matla power station in the Eastern Transvaal has been adjourned.
The builders' future construction have called for legal representation following evidence presented before a court of the Department of Manpower.
Once the builders have obtained legal counsel and the inquiry is complete the report will be sent to the Attorney-General to decide whether any criminal actions were involved in the dropping of the flue which claimed the lives of two men in August last year.

PLEASE CIRCLE ITEMS REQUIRED

PLEASE CIRCLE ITEMS REQUIRED


131

RDM 2/5/81  
**Fire disrupts  
production (131)  
at gold mine**

PRODUCTION at the North Shaft of the Western Areas Gold Mine in Westonaria has been affected by a fire which broke out in an Escom substation on Wednesday night

A spokesman for the mine said production had "certainly been affected" and added an investigation would be carried out

"However, production has only been affected in the North Shaft. The South Shaft of the mine will continue to operate normally," he said — Sapa

RDM 8/5/86 (131)  

## Ten miners killed in Natal gas explosion

### Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG — Ten miners were killed instantly when methane gas exploded in an Flandslaagte mine shaft near Ladysmith.

The men, working in a new shaft on the Platberg Colliery, died when a pocket of methane gas ignited and exploded as they were working with other miners near the face. All 10 bodies have been recovered by rescue teams.

Conflicting reports from the scene said other miners may have been injured in the blast. No official comment could be obtained from local management, however, as they refused to talk to reporters.

A spokesman for the com-

pany's head office in Johannesburg said a 'flash ignition' of methane gas had occurred at 'around lunchtime' on Wednesday, killing the 10 men.

He denied that some other miners had been taken to hospital after being injured in the accident.

An investigation was under way to try to determine the cause of the blast, he said.

An inspector from the Department of Mines in Dundee visited the scene on Wednesday, but has not been available for comment.

None of the dead men have been officially identified. Police expect it to be some time before the next-of-kin have been notified about the accident.

Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — An explosion in an industrial area of Jacobs near Durban early today caused confusion for a short while until it was established that an electrical cable had short-circuited and blown a hole in the ground.

The explosion was heard at about 7.10 am in Chamberlain Road, Jacobs, and caused lights to fail in the

# Industrial area blast

Argus 17/5/81

(131)

nearby Consolidated Textile Mills.

A hole about a metre across and 30 centimetres deep was blown in the ground next to the pavement.

Police were soon at the scene and cordoned off the area until it was

established that a cable had short-circuited.

Mr Ismail Ahmed, a general dealer, was in his shop across the road when he heard the explosion. With the recent bomb blasts at Lamontville sub-station still fresh in his memory, he did not know

what to think when he heard the 'explosion just like a bomb'.

He saw a flash and grass burning next to the hole but was too busy at that stage to phone the police. He asked someone else to telephone from his store.



12/5/81

# Triomf plant asked to cut pollution rate



RDM 12/5/81 A huge mound of sulphur at one side of the Triomf factory.

Picture, NOEL WATSON

By TONY STIRLING  
Chief Reporter

THE Triomf fertiliser factory at Potchefstroom has been asked to cut down on pollution levels because of possible dangers to public health.

This has been confirmed to the Rand Daily Mail by a spokesman for the Department of Health, which is acting on recent tests conducted by the CSIR

The two most seriously affected areas are the Ikageng township, with about 8 000 people, and the Department of Community Development's Indian shopping complex. Both adjoin the Triomf factory in Potchefstroom's industrial sites.

Doctors practising in the vicinity of the plant want an investigation into the effects of pollution from the factory on people living and working in the area

Tests by the CSIR in the area have found sporadic high pollution levels, particularly of sulphur dioxide, fluorine and fine dust

"We have asked the factory concerned to conduct investigations to see how these levels can be reduced," a spokesman for the Department of Health said

He added that CSIR tests conducted over a month last August and September showed that:

● There were 14 micrograms of fluorine present per cubic metre of air in one of the tests

The norm for cities was about 4-5 microgrs, and though the sample was within the limits set down for public health in the United States, "we consider this figure to be already high".

● On two different days during the tests, the levels of sulphur dioxide exceeded the so-called safe 200 micrograms level of the gas in the atmosphere by 20 micrograms. Though coal burning by homes in the adjacent township was also a probable contributor, the factory's sulphuric acid plant was adding to the problem.

● And dust levels in the area were unacceptably high. About 8% of the dust was in the form of phosphates, again showing the factory was a contributor.

"We are not happy with the position," the spokesman said. "The factory will have to improve on its existing control measures, and we have asked them to do so."

"There is enough pollution periodically to be injurious to health," he said

A doctor with rooms at the Indian shopping complex said: "About 60% of my patients from Ikageng are suffering from bronchitis and other respiratory diseases"

"Patients from the township have complained to me about nausea, particularly among children, at times when the pollution settles over the township"

"I have also noticed there is a much higher incidence of respiratory problems among persons working at the Indian

complex here than there was when their businesses were situated elsewhere," he said.

According to the doctor and businessmen at the Department of Community Development-run site, situated just south of Triomf's factory, zinc roofs and paint — even car duco — has been adversely affected by pollution.

Another doctor said he had no direct evidence of what effects the fallout was having on his patients, but suggested that a survey should be conducted to determine the effects.

Shopkeepers in the complex said that about once a week fallout caused an "unbearable" smell, which forced shops fronting the factory to close their doors.

"Otherwise it would be simply unbearable to be in the shops," said one.

Residents of Ikageng township, particularly those in houses closest to the factory, confirmed a high incidence of chest problems, and blamed it on pollution from Triomf. Some of the houses are no more than 250 metres from the factory fence

The Potchefstroom Town Council confirmed having received complaints from businessmen in the Indian shopping complex about the effects of pollution from the factory

A spokesman for Triomf said its expert on pollution matters would be available only this week

# ISCOR

## mine breaks

## work record

### Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — A southern hemisphere record has been broken by the Iscor-Sishen iron-ore mine in the Northern Cape

The mine in the past two years, had over 9 million accident-free working hours. This, said Mr H J Matthysen of the National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa), was a 'staggering performance'.

He attributed the success the mine had attained to their adoption of Nosa's five-star grading system. This system aimed at eliminating the problems linked to the accident proneness of new workers.

### HURDLES

The first two years of employment in any new occupation were hurdles which had to be overcome. This period saw 55 percent of all accidents taking place in a worker's life.

Firms therefore at risk, said Mr Matthysen, were those expanding or those just starting because of the large number of new workers.

Since the Iscor-Sishen mine was undergoing a large-scale expansion programme it was much at risk and so its achievement was all the more impressive.

Nosa's scheme to overcome the problem involved the adoption of a five-star grading system which placed an emphasis on the selection, training and motivation of the workers.

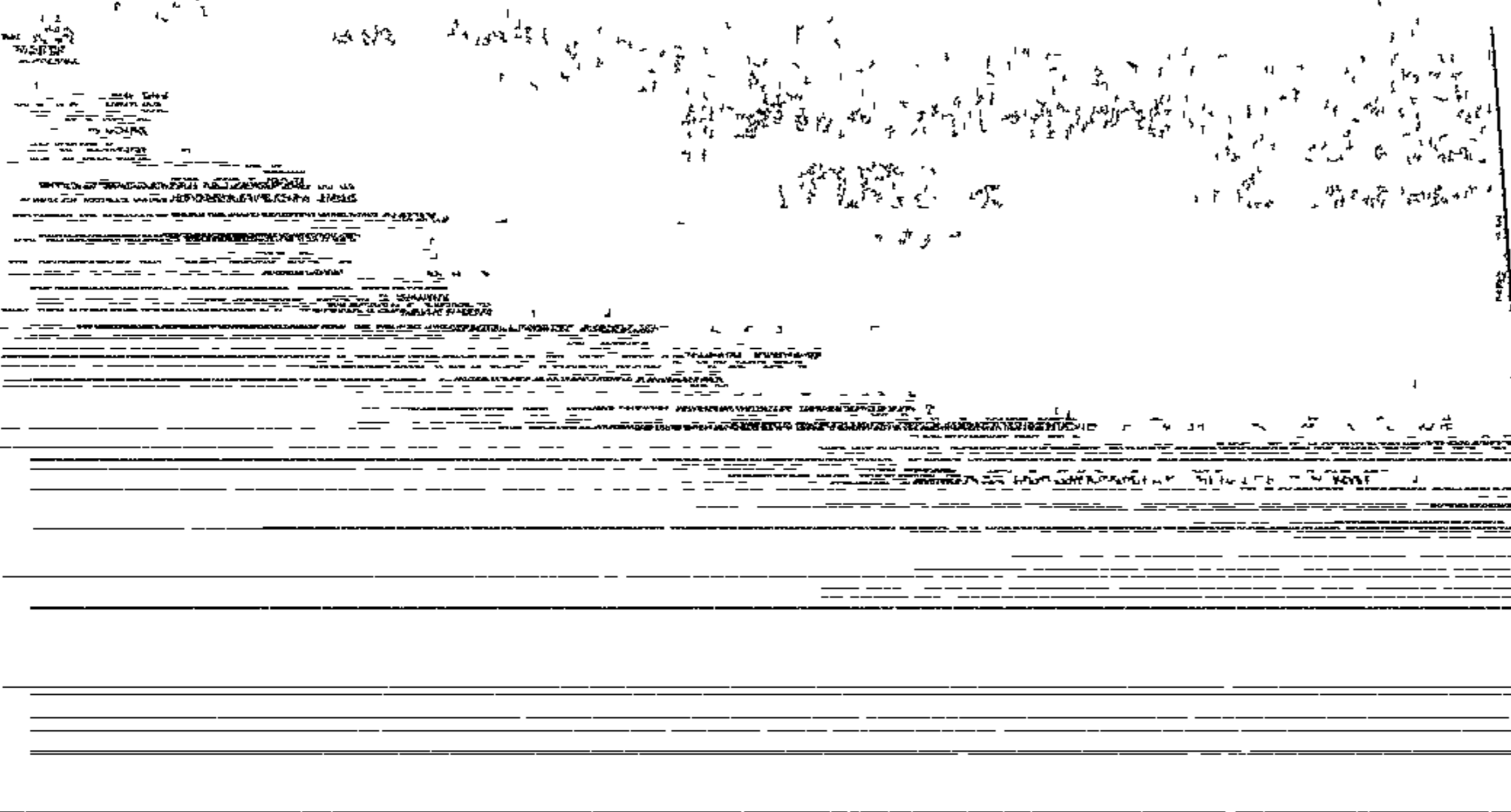
### REAGAN

The grading system has proved so successful that, said Mr Matthysen, the Reagan Administration in the United States was now considering its adoption.

This could be viewed as part of South Africa's export drive.

The five-star grading system had as its basis the laying-down of a standard, so making evaluation and control easier.

As a control mechanism it rested on the idea of encouragement, and not the 'big whip'.



over  
level  
tar  
Asso-  
condi-  
tion  
not  
required

Asbestos ranks as SA's third largest non-metallic mineral export after coal and diamonds. It brought in R93m in foreign exchange last year.

In SA, Everite is the largest processor of blue asbestos and owns four asbestos cement factories. The company is 41.5% owned by the Swiss-Belgian Eternit group and has a 46% shareholding in Asbestos Investments, which runs six mines and five mills.

Questions are being asked about conditions on the factory floors of the Everite plants in East London and Cape Town. "All workers at Everite's asbestos cement factories are exposed to enough asbestos to cause mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the lungs or of the abdomen)," charges Dr Neil White, industrial health researcher with Cape Town's Health Care Trust.

"There is no known safe level of exposure to blue asbestos. Only slight exposure is necessary to cause mesothelioma," he adds.

Everite's technical manager Hans Guettinger disagrees. "We believe 2 fibres/cc to be a safe level," he says.

However, a report in *Pulse* journal of UCT's Medical Student Council alleges that conditions at Everite's Brackenfell plant in the Cape are endangering workers' health. The report states: "Everite is entirely self-policing on dust concentrations in the factory. Their own industrial chemist does fibre counts on the factory air. They apparently have a voluntary agreement with the state health and pollution officer on what the fibre count should be. (But) 2 fibres/cc (is) 10 times the UK limit of 0.2/cc for crocidolite asbestos."

Workers at Everite (East London) allege that conditions on the factory floor are endangering the health of both workers and their families, says Fisa Njikilane of the South African Allied Workers

Everite's general manager Martin Mealin adds: "Masks are issued only to people who work in areas where the fibre count is between 1-2/cc. Masks are unnecessary where the concentration is lower."

Professor Albert Coetzee, consultant to the SA fibre-reinforcing cement manufacturing association, sees Everite's self-policing policy as evidence of the company's social responsibility. He comments: "Everite should be commended for introducing exposure limits independently of statutory pressure. Everite has the most modern dust measuring equipment in the country and is constantly monitoring levels."

Some cases of asbestosis and mesothelioma go undetected in SA because a high percentage of workers are migrants who never come to the notice of the SA Department of Health. For example, one survey indicated that 51% of the total number of cases on the mesothelioma register were white (whites constitute 8% of the workforce in the industry) while 28% of cases on the register were black (92% of the workforce).

#### Families endangered

Everite (Cape) employs mostly Transkeian migrant workers. As the latent period for both mesothelioma and lung cancer is 15-30 years, the effects of exposure may only become apparent many years after employment has been terminated.

But it is not only workers' health that is at risk. Management clerical workers and their families could also suffer. Clive White: "There are 2,000 names on the mesothelioma register in the north-Cape and most have contracted the disease through environmental, not occupational, exposure."

Everite is located close to the residential area of Brackenfell and there is the possibility that residents might run the risk of exposure. Everite says not: "We conduct regular perimeter counts around the factory and maintain the fibre level at 0.1f/cc," says Guettinger.

Asbestos fibres readily adhere to overalls and might contaminate families. So some basic precautionary measures like washing overalls at work, air-

15th May 1981  
INDUSTRIAL HEALTH

### Asbestos under fire

(31)  
About 40,000 SA workers are daily exposed to asbestos. Although the fibrous mineral, internationally acknowledged as being hazardous to health and is a known carcinogen, SA has no statutory limits determining exposure.

Controls elsewhere are far more stringent. Sweden, for example, has instituted a total ban on all asbestos products and Norway is expected to follow suit soon. Britain has created statutory exposure limits, resulting in an effective ban on the use of blue asbestos since 1971 and a ban on its importation.

At Everite, says Njikilane, "overalls are taken home to wash, workers eat while working, washing facilities in the canteen are inadequate." However,

Mealin assures the I'M that steps are now being taken to provide laundry facilities at the factory.

Asbestos health hazards are contro-

versial and emotive issues, often shrouded in uncertainty. It is essential that workers be fully informed of the potential dangers and that these be kept in the public eye.

# Welder burned

## Crime Staff

A Piet Retief welder, Mr Fritz Ficker (53), was seriously burned and his workshop gutted this morning when paint caught fire while he was welding

Police said today that he was working at FAF Engineering in Piet Retief

(131) ~~159~~  
STRM 15/1/81

# Chemical plant blast

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — An explosion destroyed the workshop at Valchem (SA) (Pty) Ltd Manchester Road, Benoni early today

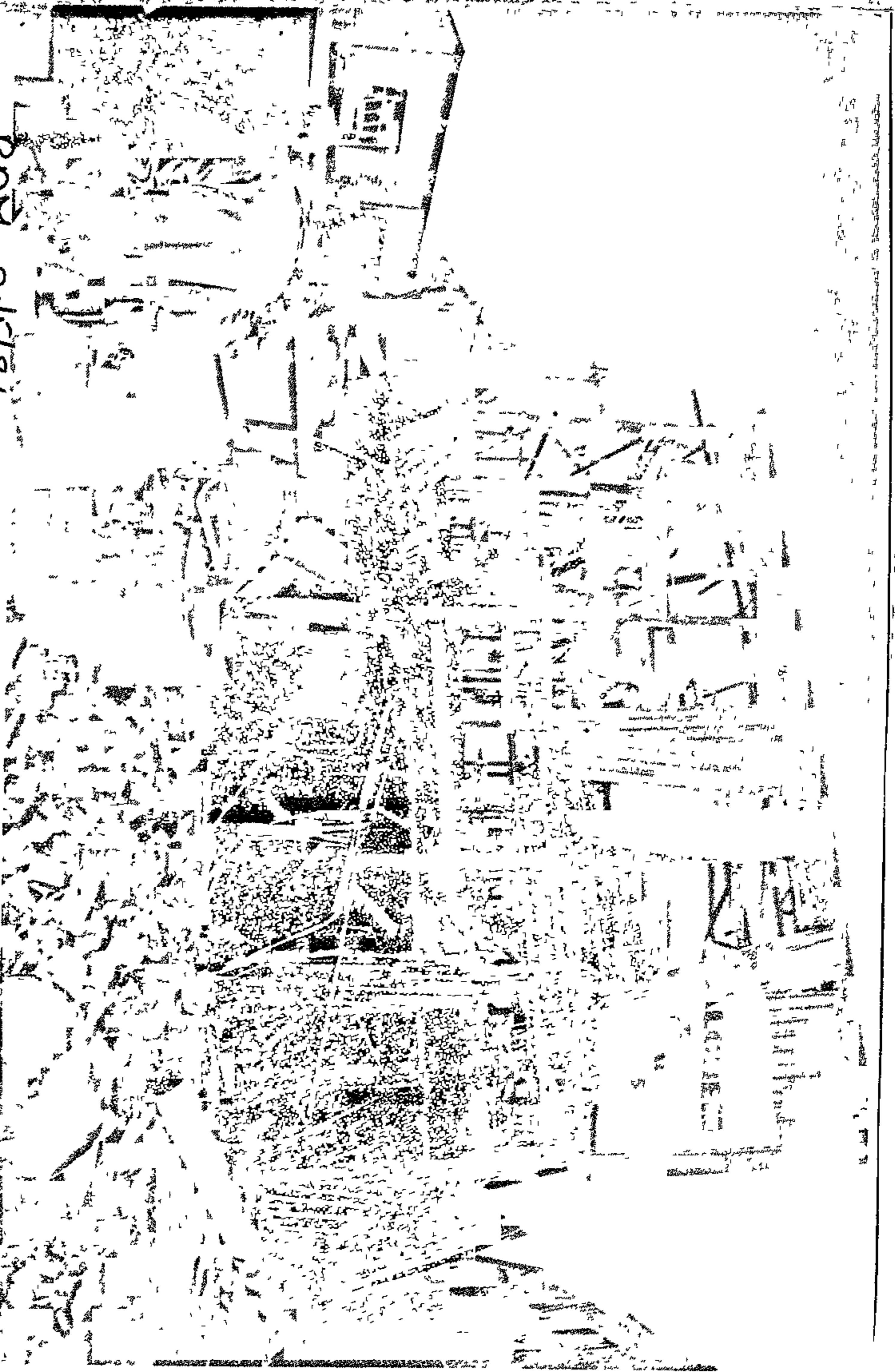
Damage has been estimated at several hundred thousand rands.

The overseer, Mr D Ramlall, received chemical burns as he tried to shut down the boilers

A chimney stack which weighed over 200 kg was blown nearly 100 m into the street. The corrugated iron and steel structure was blown apart.

When the Benoni fire brigade arrived there was no fire but there was water gushing out of burst pipes

The cause of the explosion is believed to have been a chemical reaction



# Supervisor injured in factory blast

Staff Reporter

**CHEMICALS** at a Benoni factory caused an explosion which flung resin and drums into the street and propelled a five ton reactor into a lake 200m away early yesterday morning.

Mr D Ramlall, a supervisor, was caught in the explosion and admitted to the St John's Eye Hospital where his condition is satisfactory.

The explosion, which occurred at 3am, blew gaping holes in the factory structure and smashed the water mains, a gas pipe

and an effluent canal.

The side wall and roof of the factory next door were ripped open by flying debris.

Mr C A Morgan, a laboratory technician at the factory, said it was amazing that the explosion did not reach the factory yard where there were drums of hydrochloric acid.

He said that if these drums had exploded the "place would have been flattened".

Sabotage is not suspected.

The chemical factory in Manchester Road, Benoni, which was ripped to pieces in an explosion at 3am yesterday. The factory manufacturer A supervisor at the factory, Mr D Ramlall, was caught in the blast and admitted to the St John's Eye Hospital where his condition is satisfactory.

Picture NOEL WATSON

ppm 21/5/81

(131)

RDM 21/5/81

# One solution: to stop breathing (13)

Staff Reporter

RESIDENTS of Mindalore, a suburb of Krugersdorp, claim a stench from a nearby oil refinery is hazardous to their health.

They say they are suffering from headaches, and asthma sufferers claim their condition is aggravated by the smell

"The only thing to do would be to stop breathing, but we can't do that," said one resident, who did not want to be named

They say the smell of burning oil from the refinery, Condor Oil, wakes them up at night

"There is no escape from the stench," another resident said

Mr Colin Pote, managing director of Condor Oil, which is in the Chamdor industrial township, said the refinery had been

cleared by the Government

"Government representatives have visited the plant and found nothing that might be a health hazard," he said

The plant had been open for three years and during that time none of the employees had complained about their health, he said

"If the fumes were toxic, surely we who are at the centre of the fumes would have suffered. But there have been no health problems whatsoever," Mr Pote said

Mr Pote said the smell which was upsetting residents could come from a number of other sources

He said there was an abattoir and an egg-washing plant in Chamdor, and evening pollution could be caused by coal fires from the nearby black township of Kagiso.

# Benoni factory blast

CT 2/5/81 (131)  
Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — An explosion at a Benoni chemical factory at 3am yesterday flung resin and drums into the street.

Mr D Ramall, a supervisor, was caught in the explosion and admitted to the St John's Eye Hospital where his condition is satisfactory. Three other workers fled and did not sustain any injuries.

The explosion, which blew gaping holes in the factory structure, smashed the water mains, a gas pipe and an ef-

fluent canal. The side wall and roof of the factory next door were ripped open by flying debris.

Except for smashed windows and light fittings the laboratory and offices nearby were left intact.

Mr C A Morgan, a laboratory technician at the factory, said it was amazing that the explosion had not reached the factory yard, where there were drums of hydrochloric acid.

He said that if these drums had exploded the "place would have been flattened".



STAR 22/5/81 131

# 5 die in gas cylinder blast

Staff Reporters

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — Five men — three blacks and two whites — were killed today when a gas cylinder exploded in the partly built Checkers shopping centre in the new Sanlam Centre complex

About eight whites and 18 blacks were injured, a police spokesman said

The cylinder exploded just before the lunchtime rush of shoppers

Police in camouflage uniforms rushed to the scene

Traffic officers battled to control the crowds and to cordon off the area around the centre

During the lunch hour hundreds of shocked shoppers stood around in

groups staring at the damage which was extensive, according to a police spokesman

"Rumours spread like wildfire and the area was chaotic," a witness said

Workers in the area joined shoppers to stare as police began mopping up operations

Apparently most of the injured were badly burnt by the exploding gas

The dead were employees of a welding firm, Riasco, and of a building company

A Checkers employee narrowly escaped death in the explosion

Miss Beryl Solomon (39), who works at the record counter near where

the bottle exploded moved along the counter to find a record for a customer.

As she handed it to the customer, there was a loud bang and a wall came crashing down, covering washing machines and other goods where she had been standing

She said one woman was so shocked after the explosion that she would not leave the till

She stood rooted to the spot saying that she had to pay

A man with money in his hand at a till ran from the shop after the explosion

He returned later to demand his money back

According to Miss Solomon all that was left of

one of the men who had been near the cylinder when it exploded was a "little ball that was put into a wheelbarrow"

A large section of the interior of the new shop, was extensively damaged and the blast was felt for several kilometres

Houses across the street more than 40 m away had their windows blown out by the force of the blast

Some of the injured were treated by emergency officials and ambulancemen on the grass outside the complex

Many shoppers and shopowners are believed to have been injured by flying glass.

# 3 die in blast at shopping centre (3)

Argus Correspondent

BLOEMFONTEIN.— Three people were killed in an explosion — probably caused by a gas cylinder — in the Sanlam shopping centre in Bloemfontein today.

Five were injured.

Police asked people to vacate the shops.

Some injured were taken to hospital, and a woman was soon receiving treatment of the grass outside the centre.

## ALTERATIONS

First reports said that a gas cylinder exploded at a supermarket in Voortrekker Road where building alterations are in progress.

Panes of glass were shattered in houses across the road.

An office worker, Mrs Beverley Hansen, said a deafening roar had hundreds bolting from their offices.

'Within seconds, police and ambulances converged on Voortrekker Road and the entire area was cordoned off,' she said.

CT 22/5/81  
**Worker killed in fall from lorry**

Staff Reporter

131

A FARM worker died this week near George when he fell off the lorry on which he was travelling and was crushed under the rear wheels

Mr A J du Preez, 20, of the farm Klein Plaas, was one of

a team loading potatoes on a lorry about 6.45 pm on Tuesday.

When the lorry, driven by the owner, Mr Barry Robertson, with the labourers on the back drove off, it hit a dip and Mr Du Preez fell off

He died immediately

# City man killed in Supermarket blast

CT  
23/5/81  
(131)

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Three people died and 31 were injured when a gas cylinder exploded at Checkers' main store in Bloemfontein yesterday.

Two of the three men killed were employees of Riasco, a refrigeration equipment company, who were busy installing cool-rooms and refrigerators.

Mr Roy Coleman, a young man, was inside a cooling chamber, while Mr Boet Engelbrecht was outside when the explosion occurred. Mr Coleman only arrived in the city from Cape Town on Wednesday.

Mr Engelbrecht, a divorced man, lived in Bloemfontein. His parents are believed to be in the Transvaal.

The third victim was an unidentified black man.

Between 200 and 300 customers were in the store shortly after 11am when the cylinder exploded in a refrigeration plant being built as part of a bakery extension to the Checkers supermarket in the Sanlam Centre.

The force of the blast ripped off and mangled a 20-by-20-metre section of roofing, and knocked over and cracked newly-constructed walls in the store.

Plate glass windows in three adjoining premises were knocked in by the force of the explosion, as were some windows in a nearby block of flats. Curtaining at a dentist's consulting rooms and a chemist shop, whose plate glass windows caved in

during the blast, probably saved the people who were there from serious injury from shattered glass.

The gas cylinder literally took off, and according to the Free State director of Checkers, Mr J H B van Dyk, was found about 100 metres from the site.

"It is difficult to say precisely what happened, but according to information we have received there was either a leak in the cylinder or someone left it open during the night. It is believed that the explosion was then set off either through someone lighting a cigarette or by a spark," he said.

According to the store manager, Mr Hennie van Rensburg, pandemonium broke out in the store when

the explosion occurred. "They did not seem to know what had happened. All were running in different directions. Some were screaming in their panic to get out," he said.

Mr Van Rensburg, who was in his office at the time of the blast, said he immediately got on to the store's intercom and gave instructions to his staff—who undergo training in emergency routines three times a year—and appealed for calm.

"Because of the training which the staff have had, everything was quickly under control," Mr Van Dyk said.

A dentist, Dr M Bouckaert whose nearby consulting room was affected by the blast, and a passing nurse were called upon to help the dying and the injured.



The aftermath of the explosion in a Bloemfontein supermarket yesterday in which three people were killed and 31 injured.

# Fire at Rand Mines

RDM

23/5/81

(131)

RAND Mines announced yesterday that a fire had broken out about 3km underground at the eastern section of East Rand Proprietary Mines, Boksburg

The fire was discovered on Thursday in 78 West Stope, "K1" incline shaft

Since it is not possible to control or extinguish the fire by fire-fighting methods, workers are sealing off the affected area and men who normally work there will be redeployed elsewhere to minimise losses

A spokesman for the mine said that the extent of production losses would depend on how effectively the re-deployment could be carried out. He said the cause of the fire was unknown

No one was hurt — Sapa

# HORROR GAS BLAST KILLS 3



Calm returns to the site of the explosion **pandemonium broke out when the more than 200 people in the store began to panic after the blast**

By **TONY STILLING**  
and **MARJA TUIT**

**THREE** people died and 31 were injured in a horror gas cylinder explosion at Checkers main store in Bloemfontein yesterday

Two of the dead — Mr H J Engelbrecht, 34, and Mr Roy Coleman, 46 — were refrigeration technicians with a Johannesburg company, Riasco, which is installing refrigeration in the new section

The name of the third dead person, believed to be black, has not yet been released

Between 200 and 300 customers were in the store shortly after 11am when the cylinder exploded in the refrigeration plant being built as part of a bakery extension to the Checkers supermarket in the the Sanlam Centre

The brunt of the explosion was confined to the as yet unopened bakery section where workmen were busy. The three people killed were in the screened off bakery section when the explosion occurred

The force of the blast ripped off and mangled a 20 x 20m section of roofing, and knocked over and cracked newly constructed walls in the store

Plate glass windows in three

**Mrs Anita Gouws, who injured her hand "I thought it was a bomb," she said**

adjoining premises were knocked in by the force of the explosion, as were some windows in a nearby block of flats

Curtaining at a dentist's consulting rooms and a chemist shop, whose plate glass windows caved in during the blast, probably saved many who were there from serious injury from shattered glass

The offending gas cylinder

took off, and according to the Free State director of Checkers, Mr J H B van Dyk, was found about 100m away

"It is difficult to say precisely what happened, but according to information we have received there was either a leak in the cylinder or someone left it open during the night. It is believed that the explosion was then set off either through

someone lighting a cigarette or by a spark," he said

Mrs Anita Gouws, the owner of a hairdressing salon opposite Checkers said she thought a bomb had exploded

The complete glass front of her hairdressing salon collapsed, and she suffered cuts to her left hand and received a blow on her head from debris

According to the store manager, Mr Henrie Van Rensburg, pandemonium broke out in the store when the explosion occurred "The store was busy. There were about 200 to 300 people in the store when the blast occurred

"They did not seem to know what had happened. All were running in different directions. Some were screaming in their panic to get out"

A dentist, Dr M Bouckaert, whose nearby consulting room was affected by the blast, and a passing nurse were called upon to help the dying and the injured

"Two of the men appeared beyond help. A third was choking on his own blood," he said

"The sister and I performed an on the spot tracheotomy. I do not know if the man lived or died"

ROM 23/5/81

131

# Are We

STAR 20/5/81 (131)

# Living in danger?

As winter's icy grip takes hold of us, all manner of insulators and heating devices are hauled out, many of which have a high asbestos content. Medical researchers and scientists are currently debating the dangers of asbestos, reports BARRY RONGE

The death of Steve McQueen from cancer, which could have been caused by his exposure to raw asbestos fibre was an event which did much to alert the general public to the dangers of asbestos as a carcinogen

The extensive publicity given to McQueen served to move a bitter debate, which had previously been argued on the pages of medical journals and industrial reports, into the general news.

As a result, consumers are worried about the potential danger to themselves and their families from asbestos in their homes.

Recently South Africans have been even more concerned by the conclusion reached by Dr Jonathan Myers, a Cape Town doctor, who published a report entitled "Asbestos and Asbestos Related Diseases in South Africa".

In the report Dr Myers states categorically that "there is no safe level for asbestos".

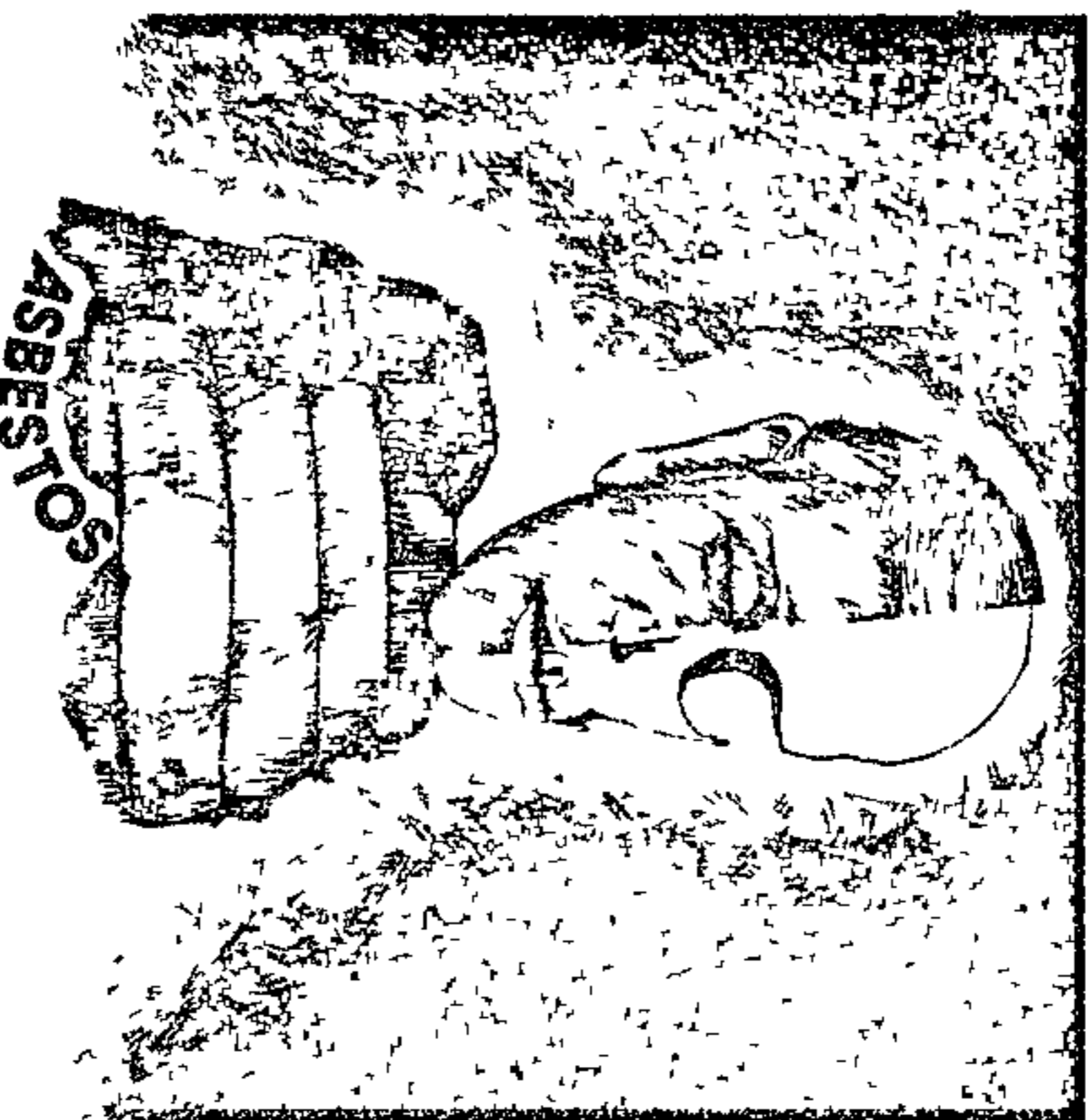
Considering that statement it is easy to see why people are concerned for their daily routine inevitably brings them into contact with the substance which some scientists are starting to call "the killer dust"

The adaptability of asbestos has made it a very popular and widely used substance in many homes. Your electric heater may well be made of asbestos and the ceiling boards in your house probably have a very high asbestos content

The heating elements in hairdryers, toasters and grills all have high asbestos components and some particles are released into the atmosphere during use

The overcrowding in schools has resulted in many school authorities accommodating children in prefabricated classes rooms many of which are made of asbestos. Asbestos sheeting is also widely used in the construction of low cost housing

Brake linings are made of asbestos and this means that in a high density traffic area there is likely to be a high concentration



of asbestos in the air. When one takes all this into account, consumer concern is understandable

This concern has been evident in industrial and mining circles for some years now. By the end of 1978 American courts were dealing with lawsuits claiming a total of R1 800-million which had been brought against mines and industries which produce asbestos

The claimants were all suffering from cancer, asbestosis or mesothelioma a fatal disease of the lining of the lungs and abdomen thought to have been caused only by prolonged exposure to asbestos fibre

These cases have all

arisen from industrial situations where there is concentrated exposure to raw asbestos fibre in high quantities, but media exposure given to these cases has provoked alarm on a much wider front

How justifiable is this alarm and how does it affect the average household?

Mr Sam Hackney managing director of Cape Industries which produces asbestos heaters says that these fears are not groundless but they are exaggerated

"Asbestos is a very dangerous substance," says Mr Hackney, and it creates considerable problems, but this is only at the mining and manufacturing

stages. "In our factories we have kept the dust levels down to the accepted international standards of two fibres per cubic centimetre of air"

"The cost of getting it down even further is so high that the international division of our company has abandoned asbestos in favour of other substitutes. In the United Kingdom only the roofing division uses asbestos and we are planning a similar strategy in South Africa," he adds

"The heaters and other products we produce are entirely safe," he says "because the compressed fibres are combined with cement. No fibres can escape unless you actually saw or break the heater and inhale the fibres"

"You have more chance of getting cancer from sitting in a room next to a heavy smoker than from our heaters" he concludes

Similar comments have been made by other manufacturers but against these statements one must set the fact that Sweden which has extremely stringent health regulations, has banned all asbestos products and Norway is expected to follow suit

should institute temporary low level controls and that substitutes for asbestos should be sought with a view to an eventual ban on its use within the Common Market

Mr Fritz Baumann, of the South African Asbestos Producers' Advisory Committee (SAAPAC), refers to this legislation as 'hysterical nonsense which has been turned into a political issue"

He claims that the results of surveys have been distorted and misinterpreted to create platforms for political candidates and trade unionists, from which they can conduct their private campaigns

He refers to a statement made by Dr H B Demopoulos of New York University Medical Centre in March 1980. Dr Demopoulos, attacked the environmentalists and journalists who were agitating for a ban on asbestos

He spoke of "the so-called public interest groups who do not really represent the public but themselves, and who have public relations firms working for them"

He also says that the public has "a misconception about the causes of cancer". He adds that if you took the commonly suspected carcinogens as the public sees them and matched them with those listed by scientists, only smoking would appear on both lists

He concludes by saying that the amount of asbestos found in hairdryers, schoolrooms and the average home is "absolutely inconsequential". "In my opinion asbestos presents no danger to the general public and no danger to the workers if we simply maintain the controls that are now in place."

Should the anxiety about asbestos result in an international ban, similar closures and retrenchments could be of calamitous proportions

Equally calamitous is the prospect of simply letting thousands of workers and their families live in danger of infection from the asbestos carcinogens

The result is a heated debate between those who insist that there is no danger from asbestos if controlled, and those who say that there is no safe level for the substance. We the consumers, are the silent watchers and possible victims of this debate

# Asbestos: cancer hazard

In industrialised countries throughout the world there is a strong tendency towards the substitution of asbestos products with others less harmful to health

Even in homes where a large range of household goods such as hairdryers and toasters emit small quantities of asbestos fibres, there are dangers to ordinary people

But in South Africa there are no statutory limits to levels of exposure whether on the mines, factories or in the local environment.

In these circumstances, Dr Jonathan Myers, a Cape Town-based medical doctor, who has published a study on asbestos, says, "There is considerable scope for tightening up some of these circumstances in which people are exposed to a hazard and pay the consequences of this exposure."

Dr Myers comes to the grim conclusion "The overall message both from academic research and from official state attitudes to asbestos in the industrialised countries, is that there is no safe level for asbestos."

In some countries like Sweden, which now has a total ban on asbestos products, and Norway, which is expected to follow Sweden's example, the moves against the product have been decisive. Britain has

created statutory threshold limits and raw blue asbestos has not been imported since 1977—and the Trade Union Council is pushing for a total ban.

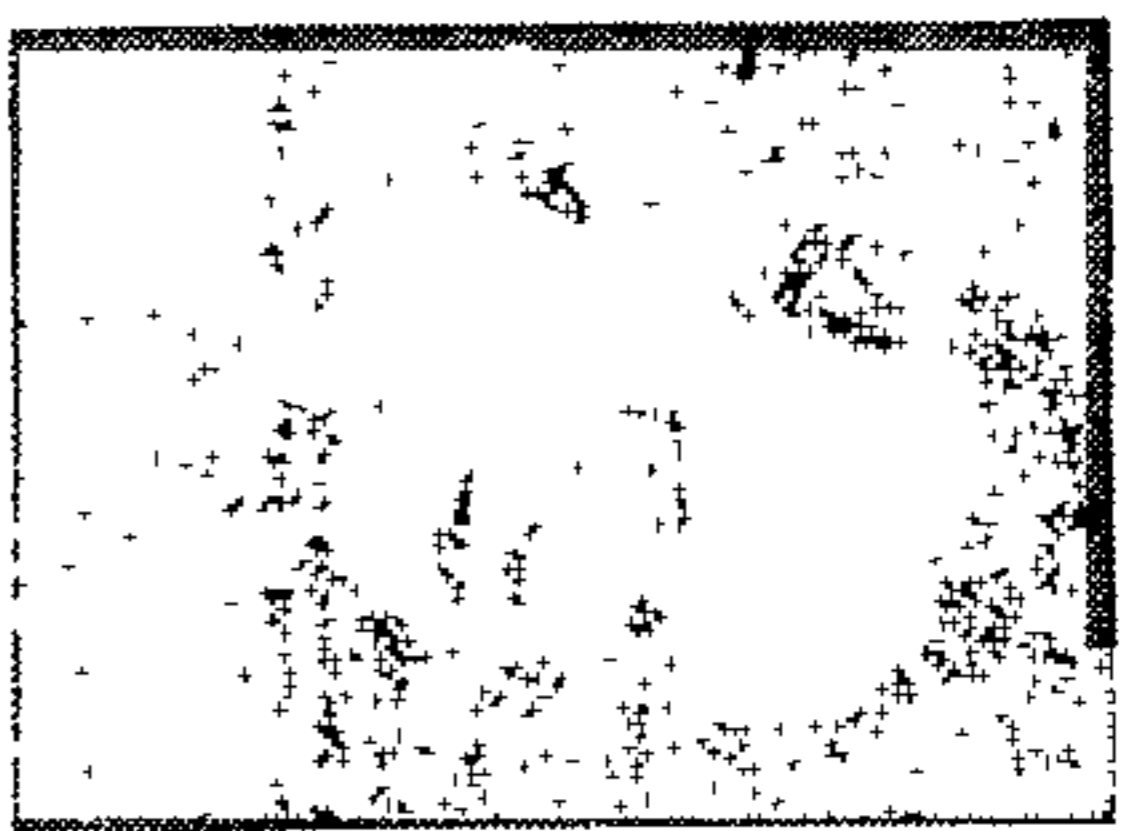
The extent of medical concern about asbestos products has been undiminished in the United States where studies by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Services have claimed that 20 to 25 per cent of people heavily exposed to asbestos die of lung cancer.

A report by these two bodies forecasts two million deaths from asbestos cancer up to the year 2000

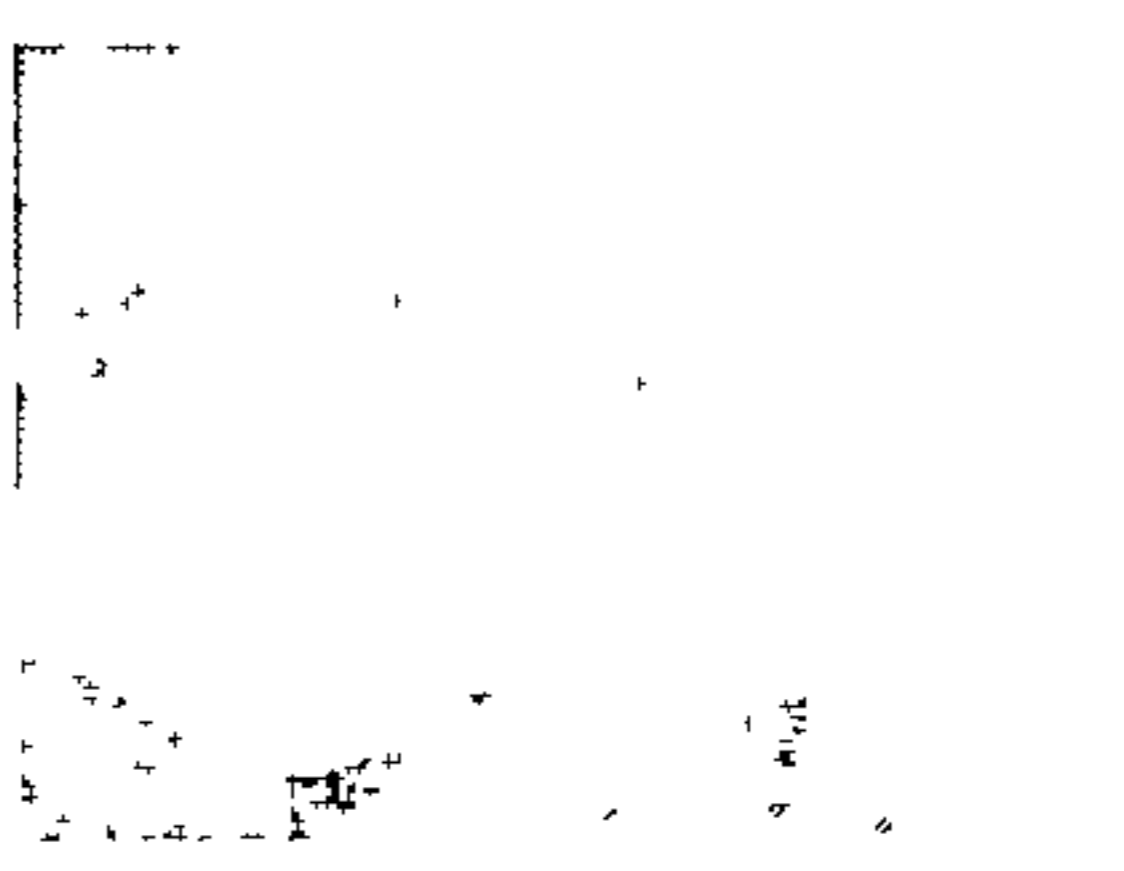
"An average of 60 000 to 70 000 people a year are expected to die of asbestos cancer, which is estimated at 17 per cent of all cancer cases in the USA. The bulk of these two million deaths result from the heavy exposure of shipyard workers during the Second World War," Dr Myers says.

An European Economic Community committee on the environment, public health and consumer protection, recommended four years ago that temporary low levels be instituted "with

Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha — disclosed continuing shortages of factory inspectors.



Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr F. W. de Klerk — a little vague about the precautions enforced.



Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr F. W. de Klerk — a little vague about the precautions enforced.

a view to substitution and an ultimate ban

International opinion, judging from these examples, is that asbestos can be dangerous to health — particularly workers in asbestos mines and factories

What certainly seems clear is that Dr Myers' plea for a tightening up of controls in South Africa is long overdue.

Yet, in South Africa there are no statutory limits to exposure and, legally, the setting of safe levels is discretionary in

volving asbestos are specified activities and theoretically medical examinations are meant to take place before workers can be employed, but Dr Myers says these examinations "do not often take place"

What is more, factory inspectors from the Department of Manpower are meant to check up, but the situation in 1975 when the Erasmus Commission reported that there were 29, as opposed to a scheduled 66, inspectors responsible for 30 097 factories, has not improved

Replying to questions by Mr Horace van Rensburg, the PFP MP for Bryanston, in Parliament over the last two years, the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, has disclosed that there have been continuing shortages Although there should be 69 inspectors, there were only 21 in 1977, 25 in 1978, 33 in 1979 and 35 in 1980

Even if all the posts were filled, it is doubtful that the factory inspectors could do their job adequately. With such continuing shortages, the only possible conclusion is that they cannot cope with the burden of work

And the monitoring of the levels set by the air pollution officer in agreement with the factory owner, after costs have been considered, is left to the factory owners

In terms of the Factories Act, processes in-

Those factory inspectors who have been employed are all white and Mr Botha said quite emphatically this year that "no posts for the other population groups have been created as yet"

All factory workers must be adversely affected by these shortages, not only asbestos workers, but it certainly has relevance in factories and mines in the asbestos industry

In reply to other questions this year, tabled this time by Mr Nigel Wood, the NRP MP for Berea, the Minister of Mineral and Energy Af-

fares, Mr F W de Klerk, was a little vague about what precautions were enforced in South Africa Mr De Klerk said a safe level for South Africa's 12 399 asbestos miners had been established and that "international safety standards for asbestos mining are being pursued."

Asked what precautions to protect asbestos miners were in operation, the Minister said "All practical preventive measures for dust suppression and control" had been introduced and that airborne dust counts in asbestos mines compared favourably with current international standards

Dr Myers' study, on the other hand, conveys a very different picture He points out that the effects of exposure "may only become manifest many years after the last exposure" and argues that the legal protection, the inspection of conditions of work and discrepancies in the compensation process, all need to be improved

He estimates that a minimum of 40 000 workers in South Africa are industrially exposed to asbestos. Studies have shown that the families of these workers have in-

creased health dangers, as do people living in the vicinity of asbestos factories and mines

In the US increased levels of asbestos fibre in the air above motorways has been demonstrated

Water flowing through asbestos cement pipes may contain low levels of fibres Asbestos filling compounds may be a source of contamination in the home

Dr Myers rubs in the message that studies have shown "someone exposed to asbestos may have a nine times greater chance of getting lung cancer than a similar person who is not exposed"

The point is clear for good reason, industrialised countries have taken steps to limit the manufacture and use of asbestos products, while South Africa seems to have lagged behind

And as one who lives in a house with an awful lot of asbestos in it, I found Dr Myers' study pretty alarming The need for action, particularly for those who work with asbestos products, is urgent

Asbestos and Asbestos-Related Disease in South Africa, by Jonathan Myers, is published by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru) at the University of Cape Town.



STRUCTURE OF THE TERMINAL AIR SPACES

PLATE III



BRONCHUS

PLATE III



INTRAPULMONARY CIRCULATION

PLATE II

See Page 11(c) / ....



# Asbestos kills: 'time for SA to get tough'

RDM  
16/3/81  
131

As evidence that asbestos is a major health hazard piles up, industrialised countries are limiting its manufacture and use — Sweden has a total ban on asbestos products — but South Africa appears to be lagging behind. BARRY STREEK reports

IN INDUSTRIALISED countries throughout the world there is a strong tendency towards the substitution of asbestos products with others less harmful to health.

Even in homes where a large range of household goods, such as hairdryers and toasters, emit small quantities of asbestos fibres, there are dangers to ordinary people.

But in South Africa there are no statutory limits to levels of exposure, whether on the mines, the factories or in the environment.

In these circumstances, Dr Jonathan Myers, a Cape Town-based medical doctor who has published a study on asbestos, says there is considerable scope for tightening up some of the circumstances in which people are exposed to the hazard.

Dr Myers comes to the grim conclusion. "The overall message both from academic research and from official state attitudes to asbestos in the industrialised countries is that there is no safe level for asbestos."

In some countries like Sweden, which now has a total ban on asbestos products, and Norway, which is expected to follow Sweden's example, the moves against the product has been decisive. Britain has created statutory threshold limits and raw blue asbestos has not been imported since 1977 — and the Trade Union Council is pushing for a total ban.

The extent of medical concern about asbestos products has been underlined in the United States where studies by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Services have claimed that 20% to 25% of people heavily exposed to asbestos die of lung cancer.

A report by these two bodies anticipates two-million deaths from asbestos cancer up to the year 2 000. Asbestos cancer is estimated at 17% of all cancer cases in the US.

A European Economic Community committee on the environment, public health and consumer protection recommended four years ago that temporary low levels be instituted "with a view to substitution and an ultimate ban".

International opinion, judging from these examples, is that asbestos can be dangerous to health, particularly to workers in asbestos mines and factories.

What certainly seems clear is that Dr Myer's plea for a tightening up of controls in South Africa is long overdue.

There are no statutory limits to exposure in South Africa and, legally, the setting of safe levels is discretionary in terms of the powers granted to Department of Health officials. An air pollution control officer attached to the department is responsible for setting guidelines for asbestos fibre levels and for enforcing this limit.

But the monitoring of the levels is left to the factory owners.

In terms of the Factories Act, processes involving asbestos are specified activities and medical examinations are meant to take place before workers can be employed. But Dr Myers says these examinations do not often take place.

Factory inspectors from the Department of Manpower Utilisation are meant to carry out checks. But the situation in 1975, when the Erasmus Commission into industrial health reported that there were 29 inspectors, as opposed to the scheduled 69 responsible for 30 097 factories, has not improved.

The Minister of Manpower Utilisation, Mr Fanie Botha, revealed in Parliament that there have been continuing shortages. Even if all the posts were filled, it is doubtful that the factory inspectors could do their job adequately.

With such continuing shortages, the only possible conclusion is that they cannot cope with the burden of work. Only whites are employed as factory inspectors and Mr Botha said quite emphatically this year that "no posts for the other population groups have been created as yet".

In reply to questions in Parliament recently, the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr F W de Klerk, was a little vague about what precautions were enforce in South Africa.

Mr De Klerk said a safe level for South Africa's 12 399 asbestos miners had been established and that "international safety standards for asbestos mining are being pursued". Asked what precautions to protect asbestos miners were in operation, the Minister said "All practical preventive measures for dust suppression and control" had been introduced and that airborne dust counts in asbestos mines compared favourably with current international standards.

Dr Myers' study, on the other hand, conveys a very different picture. He points out that the effects of exposure "may only become manifest many years after the last exposure" and argues that the legal protection, the inspection of conditions of work and discrepancies in the compensation process all need to be improved.

He estimates that a minimum of 40 000 workers in South Africa are industrially exposed to asbestos. Studies have shown that the families of these workers have increased health dangers, as do people living in the vicinity of asbestos factories and mines.

And, as one who lives in a house with an awful lot of asbestos in it, I found Dr Myers' study pretty alarming. The need for action, particularly for those who work with asbestos products, is urgent.

"Asbestos and asbestos-related disease in South Africa" by Jonathan Myers is published by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru) at the University of Cape Town.

# Security guard is attacked by armed men at PE factory

12/6/81

EP  
Chief Reporter

(287) (131)

A PORT Elizabeth security guard was tied with rope and handcuffed to a pole, after being hit over the head with a brick, by four gun-toting men who robbed a Swartkops factory early today

The men broke into a workshop where they removed an acetylene gas torch which they used to burn through a strong-room door before using it to open a safe

Mr Nquhilele Mbulekwa (27) told police he was on duty at about 3am today at the Swartkops Sea Salts factory when he was approached by four men

They held him at gunpoint before knocking him unconscious with a brick

When he came to, he found he had been handcuffed to a pole with his own handcuffs. He had also been tied with rope.

Another employee at the company found him and raised the alarm

It was later discovered that the thieves had escaped with R200 in cash and a pistol. Mr Mbulekwa was not seriously hurt. Police are investigating

Head of Department  
Webb

I am sorry to have to ask, at this late stage, for a revision of the figures given by my Department in respect of admission policy in 1979. May I point out, however, that at the time when the figures were submitted the prospects for 1979 appeared in a somewhat different light from that which they appear in now. At that stage, (June, 1978) it seemed that the unresolved question of the Lectureship in African History might be settled in time for the Department either (a) to make an appointment for 1979 or (b) to make arrangements for the phasing out of the African History II course. For that reason, I indicated in my original submission that the maximum student intake in African History II in 1979 might be either 50 or 0. But as matters have turned out, neither of these alternatives may in fact be operative in 1979. Though we have been granted the Lectureship in African History, the confirmation of that grant has been so delayed that the post is only now being advertised, and may not be filled by the beginning of the 1979 academic year. If that should be the situation, we shall have to work with the assistance of temporary staff, and if a suitably qualified temporary incumbent cannot be found, the strains on the existing staff may be considerable. For this reason, I wish to propose that the 1979 student maxima for African History be reduced to the following more cautious levels:

DEAN'S CIRCULAR No. 95  
LIMITATION OF STUDENT NUMBERS  
1979

FACULTY OF ARTS

DEAN,

PROFESSOR C. de B. WEBB  
HISTORY

13/6/81

# 17 hurt as lorry, railway trucks collide

Mercury Reporter <sup>270</sup> (131)

SEVENTEEN people were injured when the lorry in which they were travelling and five railway trucks collided at Isipingo on the South Coast yesterday

The lorry was taking Railways workers home and was turning across tracks when five trucks be-

ing fly-shunted hit the lorry and pushed it about 50 m down the track where it overturned

Mr G D van der Veer, systems manager, said last night 'We don't like to do this fly-shunting but with the pressures of work we have no option. Vehicles take second priority near a railway line and people

must be very careful'

Mr Len Miller was in a 'fairly satisfactory' condition in Addington Hospital last night and Mr S M Langman was taken to Entabeni Hospital. Fifteen coloured and black men were treated and discharged at King Edward VIII Hospital

# Man's legs crushed in docks

A RAILWAY labourer is in a serious condition in Somerset Hospital after a forklift truck crushed his legs against a wall in Cape Town docks today.

Mr A. Platjies was taken to the hospital after the accident, in a goods shed in C Berth.

In Observatory, Mr Anderson Meseko received superficial burns in a garage fire in Trill Road last night. He slept in the garage.

He is in a satisfactory condition in Woodstock Hospital.

The blaze was extinguished by the Salt River fire brigade. The cause is unknown.

\* \* \* \* \*

- (1) Plot this demand curve as accurately as possible, preferably using graph paper.
- (2) Now suppose that over a period of ten successive years the annual "crop" amounted to outputs of 80, 60, 70, 40, 50, 80, 60, 50, 40, and 70 million bushels respectively. Calculate and tabulate the gross value of the crop in each of these years, if the demand curve scheduled above was the demand curve of each of the ten years.
- (3) Calculate the average annual gross value of the crop over the ten years, and the output and price which would yield this value.
- (4) Construct a schedule showing what price would have to be received for each of the outputs in the demand schedule in order to make the gross value of the crop in each year equal to the average annual gross value. Plot this schedule on the same paper as the demand curve. (It will be a curve of unit elasticity).
- (5) From the demand curve find the total amount which must be offered on the market in order to fetch the prices discovered in part (4). From these amounts make a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell for each total output.
- (6) Draw up a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell in each of the ten successive years of part (2). Would the government have to sell a total greater than the amount it would have to buy over the ten years? Does the answer mean that stabilization of the gross value of a crop is impossible?

2. cont.....

Star 17/6/81 (131)

## 7 miners die at Kloof

2. cont... Seven black mineworkers died in a rockfall at the Kloof gold mine near Westonaria last night, a spokesman for the gold mine said today. All the victims are Basotho. Names and addresses of the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The accident occurred at about 8 pm near the mine's No 3 sub-vertical shaft at a depth of 2 446 m.

- (1) possible, preferably using
- (2) Now suppose that over a period of ten successive years the annual "crop" amounted to outputs of 80, 60, 70, 40, 50, 80, 60, 50, 40, and 70 million bushels respectively. Calculate and tabulate the gross value of the crop in each of these years, if the demand curve scheduled above was the demand curve of each of the ten years.
- (3) Calculate the average annual gross value of the crop over the ten years, and the output and price which would yield this value.
- (4) Construct a schedule showing what price would have to be received for each of the outputs in the demand schedule in order to make the gross value of the crop in each year equal to the average annual gross value. Plot this schedule on the same paper as the demand curve. (It will be a curve of unit elasticity).
- (5) From the demand curve find the total amount which must be offered on the market in order to fetch the prices discovered in part (4). From these amounts make a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell for each total output.
- (6) Draw up a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell in each of the ten successive years of part (2). Would the government have to sell a total greater than the amount it would have to buy over the ten years? Does the answer mean that stabilization of the gross value of a crop is impossible?

\* \* \* \* \*

# Farmer killed

Post Reporter

EAST LONDON — An elderly Kidd's Beach farmer, Mr Leslie Brook, was killed by a large bush-cutting machine yesterday

Mr Brook, of the farm High Close, died soon after his shirt became entangled in the machine

A labourer who was working with him ran to fetch their neighbour, Mrs Susan Mountfort, who switched off the bush-cutter

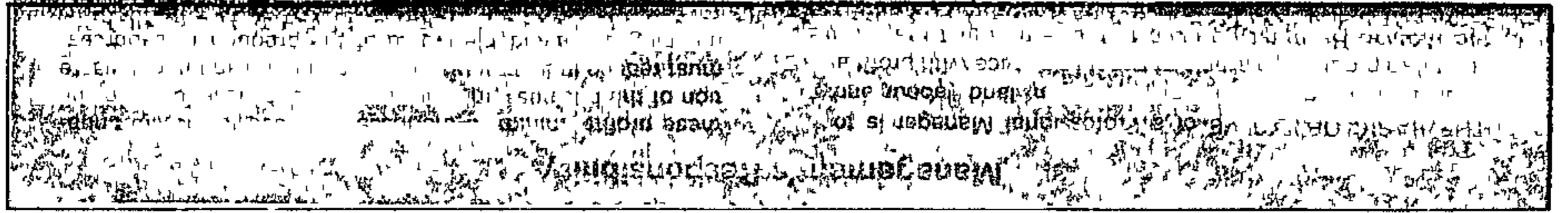
Mr Brook leaves his wife and three children

ent to Safety Management,  
muscles involved require training again  
bility that when the injured employee returns to  
output  
time  
obsolescence of the machine before the accepted  
ce  
The burst happened yesterday morning in a stope on the 76th level about 3 300m below the surface  
Three of the miners were admitted to hospital with slight injuries  
The names of the dead miners would be released after their next-of-kin had been notified the spokesman said  
Loss of production was likely to be minimal — Sapa

**Four miners killed in Boksburg fall**  
19/6/8  
131

measured in terms of a fall in production and t  
the above graph the real costs before and after  
2 000 people are killed and 30 000 are permane  
a year, through loss of production time In addi  
Industrial accidents are costing South Africa abo  
profits at all?  
manager call himself a professional, as he has  
any manager happy, let alone the shareholder  
A drop in profit from R300,00 to R75,00 a wee  
even graph no 2  
and a further reduction of profit to a mere R75  
for the week This will result in a higher variabl  
2 Overtime has to be worked to maintain the 31  
the profit falls  
break-even graph no 1 The cost price goes u  
1 The output falls to 300 units for the week - a  
happen  
has taken place, injury and damage have resulted  
machine stops equipment and product are damage  
But then it happens Joe catches his finger in th  
the firm produces and sells 400 units a week the pr  
ton (300) the profit drops to only 50c a piece. So in our example, if  
75c a unit if we produce 400 articles but with the lower produc-  
cost us R2,00 each Selling them at R2,50 each then the profit is  
they cost us R1 75 each but if we produce only 300 articles they  
number of articles produced increases. If we produce 400 articles  
see that in this simple example the cost per unit reduces as the  
If we look at the break-even graph no 1 set out below we will  
In the example we have set the fixed costs at R300 00 a week  
depreciation - and are a function of time - not a function of output  
consist basically of Management salaries rates and taxes and  
are incurred whether in units or 500 units are made These costs  
In contrast the fixed costs do not vary in terms of out turn but  
cost R100 00 to produce  
are R1 00 a unit in consequence if 100 units are made they will  
produced and in our example let us assume that the variable costs  
These costs vary in direct proportion to the number of units  
ing material and power and water  
The variable costs consist basically of raw material labour pack-  
ed costs  
When determining the cost of the commodity that is to be  
produced then cognisance must be taken of variable costs and fix-  
may be spoiled material and damaged equipment  
force may be depleted by fatal or permanent disabilities and there  
time is lost by the worker who suffers the accident The labour  
An accident is avoidable waste in that it means that productive

- The INSURED COSTS which are covered by the Accident Fund are
- 1 Transport to hospital
  - 2 Medical attention
  - 3 Hospitalisation
  - 4 Rehabilitation, and
  - 5 Compensation
- Other INSURED COSTS are sometimes covered by commercial insurers and could cover for example
- 1 Damage to property
  - 2 Fire losses
  - 3 Loss of profits due to 1 and/or 2 and
  - 4 Extra compensation (stated benefits)
- The UNINSURED COSTS could take the following forms
- The costs already referred to constitute only half the story. There are many hidden costs which are unfortunately not reflected in accounting systems. The two main types of costs which arise after an accident takes place can broadly be classed as Insured Costs and Uninsured or Hidden Costs
- The INSURED COSTS which are covered by the Accident Fund are
- FIRST ICEBERG EFFECT
- adequate safety precautions
- is dramatic, with a drop from R300,00 to R75,00 as a result of in-
- penses required to maintain production levels. The effect on profits



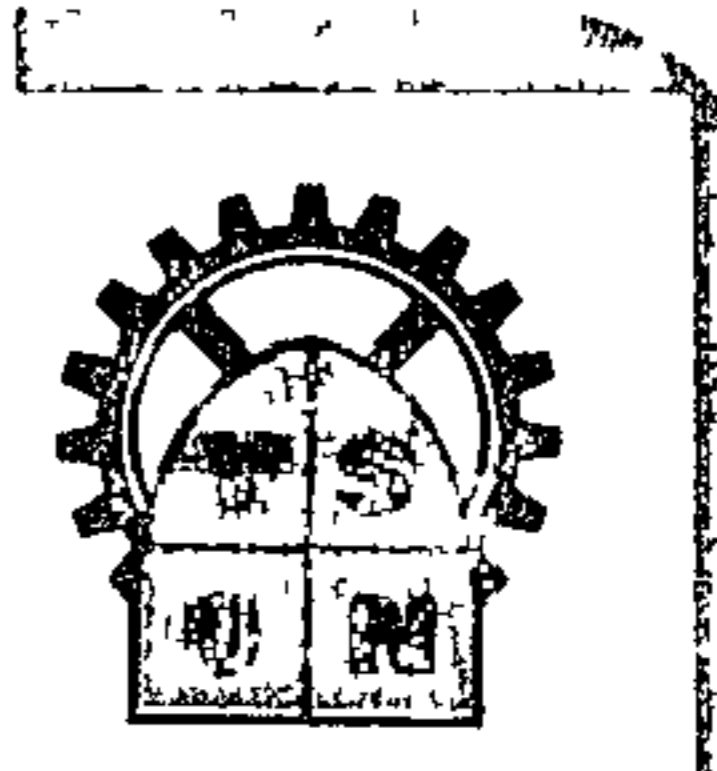
NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 26434, ARCADIA 0007

# The Cost of an Accident

## - How it Affects Profits

NOSADATA

4 13 02



# Workers open to health hazards

ADP  
R10M  
(B) 28/6/87

their needs. NOSA's broad objective is to guide and train the various echelons of management in the techniques of accident prevention. We believe that if we are successful, management will axiomatically let this newly gained knowledge on all levels of workers. This in turn must be good to the economy, management, the customers, the sellers and all their families.

## YCSSSSOYT

NOSA has found from experience that the way in which management can be motivated to introduce an Accident Prevention Programme is in the fact situation in the factory, plant, or premises manager.

The axiom which NOSA uses is YCSSSSOYT means that "You cannot Sell Safety Successful On Your Tail". Therefore it is necessary to lead the door of the man whom you wish to influence.

There are some 30 000 factories, municipal mines which fall under NOSA's jurisdiction obliged to give a service to the management firms. However, the total technical staff available out this task consists of some thirty persons. That one man has to give a service to 1 000 which is physically impossible. NOSA then developed a method whereby the best use could be made of resources. An analysis was made of all the registered with the Department of Labour. It covered that only 11 per cent of the total employed more than 100 workers and these total covered some 68 per cent of the total workforce. It was then decided that this should be the "market". NOSA Technical Staff would then periodically make contact with the firms falling within this and all other firms falling outside the category receive a NOSA service on request.



**Staff Reporter**  
MILLIONS of South African workers are not covered by legislation relating to occupational disease, and protective legislation for workers is "grossly inadequate".

Work and Health, a fact sheet on hazards facing workers in South Africa, published by the National Union of South African Students, makes this claim and adds that, in countries with strong union organisation, industrial health standards are usually high. The fact sheet said that:

- Industrial accidents were not a major cost to management because unskilled workers were easily and cheaply replaced.
- Injured or "unproductive" workers could be endorsed out of cities to homelands with little chance of substantial, or any, compensation.
- Of 8-million workers in South Africa 71.9% were not covered by legislation relating to occupational disease.
- There was no statutory ruling on safety thresholds for exposure to dust with iron oxide and silica — over-exposure causes pulmonary fibrosis.
- Farmworkers — the largest, lowest-paid worker group — had least protection against occupational disease.
- Existing legislation was grossly inadequate.

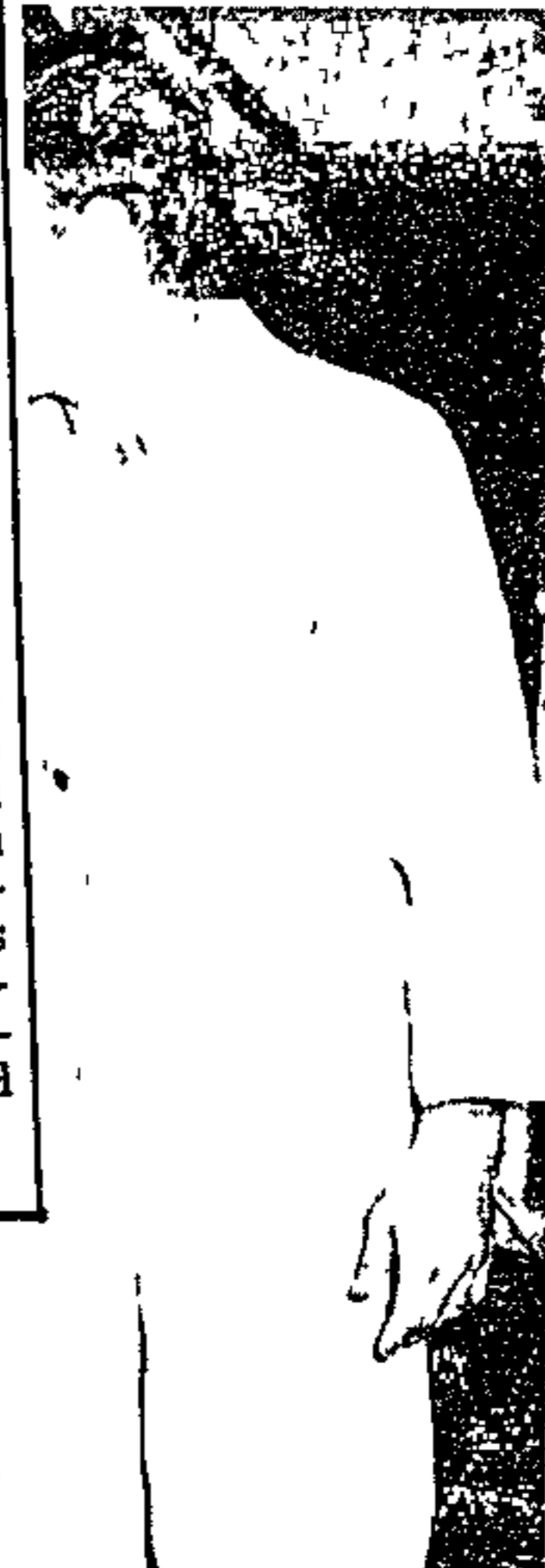
The fact sheet said that a large asbestos plant had recently been moved from Germany to Cape Town.

This, it claimed, was an example of overseas companies from countries in which health regulations had been tightened "exporting" dangerous industrial processes to countries in which workers were not strongly organised and had little control over working conditions.

change

ent prevention is basically a management task. A NOSA technical man is required to assist in introducing management control. Therefore, only natural for management to be suspicious of anyone wishing to change methods of conducting his business. To overcome "resistance to change", and to get the message sold, one has to follow a specific strategy. Intangible sales are possibly the most difficult to clinch, especially as, in the case of occupational disease, they are gratis. So, in order to motivate management to evaluate the hazards in his plant in terms of a specific check list. This is not enough but it goes even further, in that the hazards are quantified in terms of set standards. NOSA has developed a detailed Safety Objectives system. In fact we seem to be the only country in the world carrying out this task in a systematic manner, on a national basis with full documentation. (9)

and quantification then indicates to management where their weaknesses lie. As Peter Drucker here is only one fruitful way to make management terminating what shall be measured in what the yardstick of measurement measurement used determines what one measures. It makes things visible and tangible. In the measurement become relevant, and are out of sight and out of mind" (10). The fact sheet has developed into a system. Like choosing hotels, management Star Grading systems well. A One Star hotel indicate that rather a weak accident prevention programme is in operation whereas a Five Star hotel indicate that it is one of the safest in the country.



When more than one person is working on the same machine it is important for each man to prevent accidental start-up by locking the start button open with his own padlock.

Photograph NOSA



131 C. Lins  
22/6/51  
**Pig attacks  
farm worker**

Staff Reporter

**A WORKER** on an Eerste River smallholding was seriously injured last night when he was attacked by a pig

Mr John Middleway, 35, of Chota smallholding, was taken to Tygerberg Hospital with severe abdominal lacerations and had emergency surgery

A visitor, Mr Andre, de Villiers, said Mr Middleway had gone into the pen to feed a boar and a sow last night when he was attacked.

"He was filling up a bucket when the pig charged him. The pig stood up on its hind legs and bit him on the stomach. His stomach was torn open," he said

Mr Middleway hit the pig on its snout with the bucket and left the pen before collapsing

The pedigree Great White, weighing more than 300 kg, last week tried to attack the owner of the smallholding, Mr J L Kriel, and a farm worker

Mr Kriel was in church at the time and will decide on the pig's future later

# It's 'Timber!' for a deadly giant

By ANTHONY HARDING

ONE windless day in the third week of July, the massive chimney at Matla power station, near Witbank, will crash to the earth like a giant tree

The 278m high chimney, one of the tallest of its kind in the world, is to be telled with a high-explosive sledgehammer on July 18

Building operations on the chimney cost a Johannesburg engineering firm R3.3-million, but it was never completed

On August 26 last year one of its three central flues collapsed, killing two workers and injuring seven others

A court of inquiry to probe the incident heard that the flue collapsed as a result of a combination of a poor concrete mix, splitting supports and battering winds

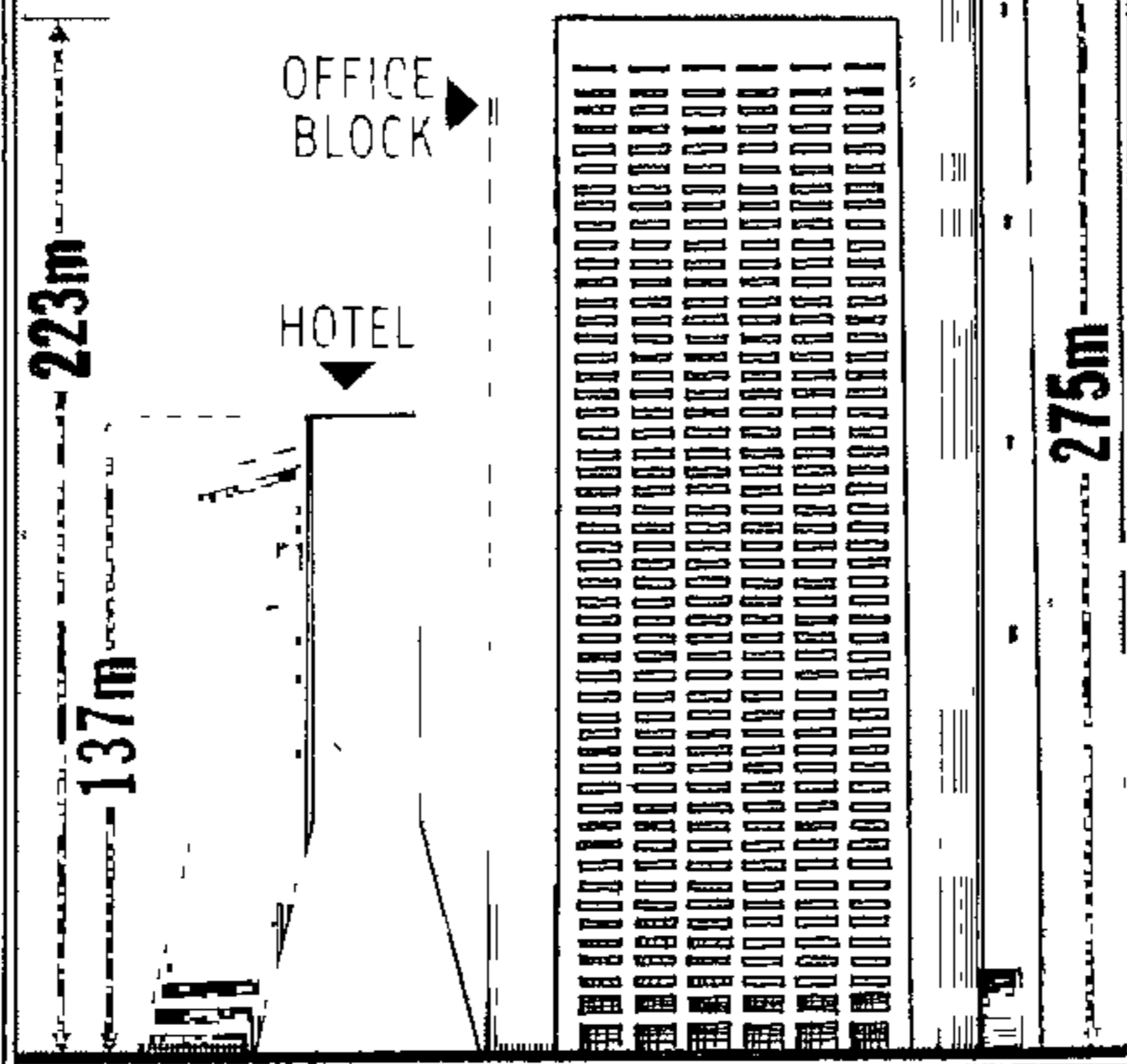
Now the date has been set for the demolition of the tallest structure of this kind ever to be dynamited

Steeplejacks from a British engineering firm, which has been contracted for the blast, are busy preparing the site

An American demolition expert, Mr Jim Redyke, has been hired to bring the structure down

See Page 13

## The giant chimney at Matla Power Station compared to the Carlton Centre



The 60-storey Matla chimney, where two workers died when a flue collapsed, will be dynamited next month. The smoke-stack is 138 metres higher than the Carlton Hotel, and about 10 storeys higher than the Carlton Centre block

Graphic GAIL IRWIN

Not one of the households boiled water prior to consumption.

The reasons for not boiling water (Table Thirty Nine)

Did not need to	30%
Filtered water through muslim	2%
Why should we?	68%

(17)

(18)

The statistics reflect a very unsatisfactory situation in the homelands as far as water supplies are concerned. Very often the unavailability of a sound water supply is given as the reason for not starting a vegetable garden.

### 7) GENERAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION OF CHILDREN AND PRACTICE.

The mother or mother figures were asked to itemise the constituents of an adequate diet for their children.

of children  
38% of the mothers suffering from malnutrition described what the research team evaluated as an inadequate diet.

62% of the mothers of the children suffering from malnutrition described what the research team evaluated as an adequate diet.

13% of the mothers of the children not suffering from malnutrition described what the research team evaluated as an inadequate diet.

87% of the mothers of the children not suffering from malnutrition described what the research team evaluated as an adequate diet.

These figures indicate that while ignorance about nutrition is a factor in malnutrition; it should be noted that 61% of the mothers of children suffering from malnutrition had adequate knowledge about what constituted a healthy diet. The fact that they quote diet could be related to one or more of the following facts:

- 1) insufficient income to purchase the necessary diet
- ii) the mother may not be the person doing the buying and the cooking
- iii) a fatalistic attitude on the part of the mother whereby she is in possession of the relevant knowledge but is not convinced of the relationship between diet and disease.

senses, stagnation existing in the reserves, it is difficult to condemn projects outright because they are inequitable. In this type of atmosphere they have some value just as occurrences which set reactions in motion, even if an action might just be the decision to reject them. They obviously have a certain conscientization effect and furthermore some specially motivated poor people have managed to make a go of them. The crucial question here, for both those people who would see projects as the beginning of a process of "Western Development" for members and those who would see their value as a conscientization force, is: how far can the projects develop in economic terms?

If one accepts that due to lack of resources and markets, economic growth based on production cannot take place in these areas, then one must accept that producer co-operatives will not be able to generate structures able to include any significant number of people or to foster any on-going change in consciousness. Furthermore the aspect of class differentiation becomes very significant because this thesis implies that there is only room for a few people to be rich and these not from expanding production, but basically from acting as middleman between external capital and the mass of poor people in the reserves.

REFERENCES AND NOTES.

1. Christopher Board "The Rehabilitation Programme in the Bantu Areas and its effect on the Agricultural Practices and Rural Life of the Bantu in the Eastern Cape." South African Journal of Economics, 1964 p.37.
2. In many areas one third to half the people had no land even then.
3. This mathematical process is set out clearly in all the plans. cf. also J.B. Mc I Daniel "Rural Resettlement in African Areas". Journal for Geography Vol.3 no.6 p.646 and C. Board op.cit.
4. Norman Reynolds "First Observations on the management of rural development in the Ciskei" (Available from S.A.L.D.R.U.) p.9.
5. Edward Brett: "Rural Development and Strategies for change: aspects of the East African Case" Johannesburg University of the Witwatersrand African Studies Institute 1974. p.18 & 19. (Reprint)
6. **Driver safe as mobile crane somersaults**  
 DURBAN - The driver of a 15-ton mobile crane miraculously escaped serious injury when it went out of control in Wentworth Durban  
 According to witnesses, the crane somersaulted off the road landing upside down on one house while the boom crashed through the roof of an adjoining house, narrowly missing the occupants  
 The owner of the house on which the bulk of the crane landed, Mr Henry Cantitoo and his family were not at home at the time of the accident. He arrived home late from work to find the crane upside down on top of his house  
 The driver of the crane, Mr John Duda was taken to hospital with facial and back injuries. No one else was injured  
 The Mail's Durban correspondent reports that repair costs for one of the damaged houses will probably double the value of the damage was caused during a rescue operation  
 (While Mc I. Daniel does not specifically mention the projects were started with the rehabilitation scheme in 1964.)  
 From J.B. McI. Daniel p.639.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. That the sample of dairy members is better off than the general population at least in terms of agricultural resources is proven by the following figures:  
 a) In Amathole Location the population was 8 000 in 1970 and yet only 24 people have full economic units and 120 have half economic units. In the dairy sample of 11 people, 2 have full economic units and 4 have half economic units.  
 b) Ecard's survey of rehabilitation in the King William's Town District of the Ciskei in 1962 found that there was a high correlation between families selling cream and those with large arable holdings, good accessibility and more people in the family. Board. pg. 45.

GRUOSOMO 12/181  
 10/12/181  
 10/12/181

Arms Correspondent  
 JOHANNESBURG — A black man died a gruesome death in a farming accident at Umhilo, the farm belonging to the Minister of Transport, Hendrik Schoeman just outside Springs. The man was dragged head first into a mowing machine. Farmer's friend spent about two hours with his hands and feet in an attempt to recover his body.

OOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS

NO.	AGE	A		C		B	
		F	M	F	M	F	M
5-24	0,00	0,00	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01
25-44	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01	0,01
45-64	0,02	0,02	0,03	0,04	0,01	0,03	0,03
65+	0,11	0,11	0,13	0,15	0,03	0,03	0,03
ALL	0,01	0,02	0,02	0,03	0,01	0,01	0,01
NO.	30	34	7	7	21	31	23

VI DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS

NO.	AGE	W		A		C		B	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5-24	0,03	0,01	0,05	0,04	0,04	0,09	0,06	0,09	0,07
25-44	0,03	0,01	0,04	0,05	0,23	0,09	0,13	0,13	0,06
45-64	0,07	0,07	0,21	0,11	0,36	0,13	0,26	0,07	0,07
65+	0,18	0,13	0,00	0,15	0,47	0,18	0,44	0,15	0,15
ALL	0,06	0,04	0,07	0,06	0,25	0,14	0,17	0,12	0,12
NO.	128	85	26	23	289	164	366	187	187

ALL CAUSES

NO.	W		A		C		B
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0-1	21,76	16,18	40,44	27,11	133,70	119,02	
1-4	1,17	0,94	2,42	2,39	17,22	16,21	
5-24	1,05	0,46	1,31	0,74	2,26	1,25	
25-44	3,02	1,47	4,33	2,48	8,80	4,96	
45-64	17,46	9,49	26,27	18,72	24,27	17,87	
65	73,62	54,55	92,20	82,93	96,90	71,79	
ALL	9,44	7,40	8,03	5,51	14,62	11,00	8,77 8,13
NO.	19600	15374	2828	1967	16632	12847	18348 13062

The following information was furnished by the central office of the Bureau of Census, Washington, D.C. on July 1, 1964.

TABLE II

Rheumatic Heart Diseases (390-398)	Hypertensive Diseases (400-404)		Ischaemic Heart Diseases (410-414)		Cerebrovascular Diseases (430-438)		Total Circulatory Diseases (390-458)		Motor Vehicle Accidents (E810-E819)		Suicide (E950-E959, E979) *		Homicide (E960-E969)		Total Accidents, Poisoning and Violence (E800-E999)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
15	120	139	120	139	120	139	120	139	28	26.9%	13	12.5%	2	1.9%	104	100%
1.9%	3.9%	4.4%	1.9%	3.9%	4.4%	1.9%	3.9%	4.4%	26.9%	12.5%	1.9%	12.3%	6.1%	3.0%	333	100%
127	190	276	127	190	276	127	190	276	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
15.8%	6.1%	8.8%	15.8%	6.1%	8.8%	15.8%	6.1%	8.8%	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
246	845	566	246	845	566	246	845	566	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
30.6%	27.1%	18.0%	30.6%	27.1%	18.0%	30.6%	27.1%	18.0%	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
239	939	1278	239	939	1278	239	939	1278	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
29.7%	30.2%	40.7%	29.7%	30.2%	40.7%	29.7%	30.2%	40.7%	239	30.6%	246	30.6%	845	27.1%	845	31.3%
804	3114	3140	804	3114	3140	804	3114	3140	28	26.9%	13	12.5%	2	1.9%	104	100%
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	26.9%	12.5%	1.9%	12.3%	6.1%	3.0%	333	100%
1921	2390	2390	1921	2390	2390	1921	2390	2390	59	18.2%	11	3.4%	89	27.5%	324	100%
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	18.2%	3.4%	27.5%	3.4%	27.5%	3.4%	324	100%

Approx 25/5/81  
R 5000 0000

blatant

factory

Mine lift  
RDM 2/7/87  
cage hooks  
in cable (13)

Staff Reporter

THE No 1 shaft of the General Mining Group's Leshe gold mine is expected to be out of operation for more than a week after a material car jammed the shaft's lift cage 600m below the surface on Tuesday

An ascending skip car loaded with rock became snared in the slack rope hanging below the cage, further damaging the shaft

According to a spokesman, nobody was injured in the accident which would cause "some production loss" However, the continued operation of the neighbouring No 1A shaft would reduce the financial loss, he said yesterday

is Award  
t who has shown  
se at the end  
ear.

URBAN &  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING

K Strong

For the second best student in the  
subject of Building Construction.

C W von During

For the best student in the  
subject of Building Construction.  
S A Brick Association Prizes

III: No award

II: A R Low Ken

I: N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of  
the courses of Building Economics I,  
II and III in the third, fourth &  
fifth years respectively.

LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining  
the highest marks in  
Professional Practice.

Surveyors' Prize

Cape Chapter of Quantity

The Committee of the Western

P C Key

For the best all-round student  
in any year of study.  
Bell-John Prize

QUANTITY  
SURVEYING  
(Continued)

Star 3/7/81  
**Man dies in  
 plant fire**

Crime Staff (13)

A factory worker was burned to death and another narrowly escaped death when a Fordsburg factory caught fire early today.

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Fire Department said the brigade was called to a fire at Latib Agencies, Central Road, Fordsburg, at about 4 am today.

The body of Mr Nelson Seema (38) was found in the sleeping quarters of the factory. He was apparently asleep when the fire broke out.

who has shown  
 e at the end  
 .dr

Award

URBAN &  
 REGIONAL  
 PLANNING

K Strong

For the second best student in the subject of Building Construction.

C W von Düring

For the best student in the subject of Building Construction.  
S A Brick Association Prizes

III: No award

II: A R Low Keen

I: N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of the courses of Building Economics I, II and III in the third, fourth & fifth years respectively.  
LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining the highest marks in Professional Practice.  
Surveyors' Prize  
Cape Chapter of Quantity  
The Committee of the Western

P C Key

For the best all-round student in any year of study.  
Bell-John Prize

QUANTITY  
 SURVEYING  
 (Continued)

Star 6/7/81  
**Train driver  
 killed in (13)  
 derailment**

The driver of a goods train was killed when his locomotive and 28 goods trucks were derailed at Kroomie near Adelaide in the Eastern Cape yesterday

The railways system manager in the Eastern Cape, Mr Jonker, said the driver, whose name is being withheld until his next of kin have been notified, was killed when the locomotive overturned and damaged about 75 m of railway line.

The driver's assistant, Mr Koch, and the guard, Mr P J Jordaan, both of East London, are being treated for shock

Mr Jonker said sabotage seemed unlikely but an official enquiry will probably begin tomorrow —

(for 1979)

Speech & Hearing  
 best graduate in  
 nd audiology or  
 Universities of  
 ttersand and

al year of study  
 a voluntary  
 examination.

Ebrahim Memorial Prize in Haematology

LOGOPAEDICS

HAEMATOLOGY

John Fleming Brock Prize  
 To the best student in Community Health  
 at the end of the fifth year.  
 G D Bratvedt

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Dr Kurt Gillis Prize for Anatomy  
 Awarded on the class mark taken  
 together with the final examination  
 mark.  
 C G Archibald  
 H J Ball  
 T A Hockey

M R Drennan Memorial Prizes  
 For the highest class mark obtained  
 in the anatomy course leading to  
 the MB ChB degree.  
 C G Archibald  
 H J Ball  
 T A Hockey

ANATOMY

S A Society of Anaesthetists' Medal  
 For the best student in Anaesthetics.  
 For award in 1980.  
 J M Cornell

ANAESTHETICS  
 (Continued)



RDM 8/7/81  
**Miner killed**

A BLACK miner was killed by a rockfall at Hartebeesfontein Gold Mine on Monday, a mine spokesman said yesterday

The man was killed by a fall of hanging in a stope in the number five shaft area

His name will be released after his next of kin have been informed — Sapa

URBAN &  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING

Student Planners Award  
For the student who has shown greatest promise at the end of the first year.  
M P Morkele

K Strong  
For the second best student in the subject of Building Construction.

S A Brick Association Prizes  
For the best student in the subject of Building Construction.  
C W von Doring

LTA Prizes  
For the best student in each of the courses of Building Economics I, II and III in the third, fourth & fifth years respectively.  
I : N D G Sessions  
II : A R Low Keen  
III: No award

The Committee of the Western Cape Chapter of Quantity Surveyors' Prize  
For the student obtaining the highest marks in Professional Practice.  
P R Swift

Bell-John Prize  
For the best all-round student in any year of study.  
P C Key

QUANTITY  
SURVEYING  
(Continued)

# 25 canisters of <sup>9/7/81</sup> poison still missing <sup>(13)</sup>

The 25 canisters of highly poisonous insecticide still missing after 50 had fallen from the d. cry truck last Friday, could have been lost anywhere between Brits and Johannesburg.

It was initially thought all 50 containers of Demeton E C had fallen from the lorry on the Ben Schoeman highway between the Kyalami-Chloorkop off-ramp and the Johannesburg drive-in.

But a spokesman for Panorama Chemicals said

today the part of motorway concerned had been scoured yesterday and so far only 25 of the one litre aluminium bottles had been retrieved. "They could have come off anywhere between Brits and Johannesburg," she said.

The chemical emits a strong repulsive odour and the canisters have white labels with green borders and are clearly labelled "Demeton E C".

Anyone finding the containers should telephone Panorama Chemicals at (011) 39-3151.

s shown e end

URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING

K Strong

For the second best student in the subject of Building Construction.

C W von During

For the best student in the subject of Building Construction.  
S A Brick Association Prizes

III: No award

II: A R Low Ken

I: N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of the courses of Building Economics I, II and III in the third, fourth & fifth years respectively.  
LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining the highest marks in Professional Practice.

For the student obtaining the highest marks in

Surveyors' Prize

Cape Chapter of Quantity

The Committee of the Western

P C Key

For the best all-round student in any year of study.  
Bell-John Prize

(Continued)

QUANTITY SURVEYING

# Boiler explosion at Mondi mill kills two

Star 9/7/81 (131) 104

**Own Correspondent**  
DURBAN — Two men were killed and nine injured, two seriously, late yesterday when a boiler which had been put out of operation by an Escom power failure exploded when an attempt was made to relight it.

The chief engineer of the Mondi Paper Company Mr B E Schindler said the accident happened at the Merebank mill. Damage is extensive but production has not been affected.

Mr Schindler said the two men killed were an Indian operator and an instrument handyman. A white man, a black and seven Africans were injured. At the time of going to press, their names were not available.

The accident happened after the power failure at about 1 pm yesterday after the mill had been

brought to a standstill as ancillary equipment for operating the mill is powered by electricity.

When power was restored an attempt was made to reignite the boilers and the explosion resulted.

Mr Schindler said the exact cause was being investigated but it was possible that during the stoppage excess fuel had pumped into the boiler.

"It is obvious that that is what happened," he said.

The whole of Natal was hit yesterday by power cuts which came on without warning.

Due to technical problems Escom was short of 420 mW country-wide. Load sharing had been requested.

end  
shown

PLANNING  
REGIONAL  
URBAN &

S A Brick Association Prizes  
For the best student in the  
subject of Building Construction.  
C W von Düring

LTA Prizes  
For the best student in each of  
the courses of Building Economics I,  
II and III in the third, fourth &  
fifth years respectively.  
I : N D G Sessions  
II : A R Low Keen  
III : No award

The Committee of the Western  
Cape Chapter of Quantity  
Surveyors' Prize  
For the student obtaining  
the highest marks in  
Professional Practice.  
P R Swift

Bell-John Prize  
For the best all-round student  
in any year of study.  
P C Key

QUANTITY  
SURVEYING  
(Continued)

9/7/81  
Miners killed  
CARLETONVILLE—A rock burst at No 3 shaft, Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville on Tuesday killed three mine-workers. The names of the dead will be released when their next-of-kin have been notified — (Sapa)

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals  
For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)  
Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)  
Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

- P M Salmon
- T J Cumming
- D P Weeks
- J H Rens
- B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize  
Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize  
Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize

For the first year student obtaining the highest average mark.

G L Cragg

CHEMICAL

84  
11

# 2 men die in boiler explosion

DURBAN — Two men were killed and nine injured when a boiler exploded at a paper company yesterday

The boiler had been put out of action by an Escom power failure and had exploded during attempts to re-light it.

The chief engineer of the Mondi paper company, Mr B E Schindler, said the accident happened at the Merebank mill. Damage was extensive but production had not been affected.

Mr Schindler said the two men killed were an Indian operator and an instrument handyman.

A white man, a black and seven Indians were injured — two of them seriously. Their names were not available.

Mr Schindler said the cause of the explosion was being investigated. He said it was possible that during the stoppage excess fuel had built up in the boiler.

Meanwhile, all Natal was hit yesterday by sudden power cuts and Escom's public relations officer, Mr C J "Boet" Uys, said it was impossible to guarantee a power supply.

131

at who has shown  
ise at the end  
/ear.

best student in the  
ilding Construction.

student in the  
ilding Construction.  
Association Prizes

- Bell-John Prize  
For the best all-round student  
in any year of study.
- P C Key
- The Committee of the Western  
Cape Chapter of Quantity  
Surveyors' Prize  
For the student obtaining  
the highest marks in  
Professional Practice.  
P R Swift
- LTA Prizes  
For the best student in each of  
the courses of Building Economics I,  
II and III in the third, fourth &  
fifth years respectively.
- I : N D G Sessions
- II : A R Low Keen
- III : No award

URBAN &  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING

QUANTITY  
SURVEYING  
(Continued)

**Firemen in three-hour battle to prevent 7-ton gas blast**



FIREMEN battled for more than three hours yesterday to prevent this burning tanker from exploding.

# Explosion threat as tanker burns

(131) NM 14/7/81

**Mercury Reporter**  
 TWO men were burned, offices evacuated and roads closed to traffic at Jacobs yesterday while up to 45 firemen and helpers battled to prevent a burning tanker, carrying 7 tons of liquid petroleum gas, from exploding.  
 The danger of an explosion, which a senior spokesman for Durban's Central Fire Department said could have affected an area of up to 1 km<sup>2</sup>, lasted for more than three hours while firemen doused the charred vehicle in a yard at the Paisley Road entrance to Tanker Services (Pty) Ltd.  
 The tanker burst into flames shortly before 11 a.m. Three fire tenders and two water cannons from Jacobs, Mobeni and Central fire brigades arrived at the scene minutes later.  
 The vehicle was parked next to a wall in the yard and was only a

few metres from the Feltex foam factory on the other side of the wall.  
 A Tanker Services employee, who asked not to be named, told the Mercury he heard 'a loud whoosh' and heard people shouting. He went to the yard and saw flames licking skywards for up to 5 m.  
**Hospital**  
 'I heard a man screaming and suddenly an African I'd earlier seen working near the tanker ran in front of me with his arms in the air. He was white all over from the burns.'  
 He said another man who was working near the tanker had also been badly burned. Both men, whose identities were not known, were taken to hospital in private vehicles.  
 Senior spokesmen for Tanker Services refused to comment.  
 A police spokesman



FIREMEN move in to help a colleague — in an asbestos suit — who managed to close the leaking valves of the tanker  
 Pictures by ANTHONY McMILLAN

said a number of offices in the yard had to be evacuated and a 300 m section of Quality Street, from which Paisley Road extends, had been cordoned off.  
 Scores of factory work-

ers spent their lunch hour watching from the street amid fire hoses, which would like spaghetti for more than 150 m as firemen and helpers fought the flames from the roof of

an office block outside the foam factory overlooking the yard.  
 Faced with the danger of the tanker exploding, a fireman wearing an asbestos suit was sprayed with water and continually braved the flames to close valves leaking the gas. He managed to close all of them by 2 p.m.

The heat from the blaze was so intense that headlights, side-view mirrors and indicators on two cars parked outside the offices in the yard were melted and hung like soft toffee.

actual accom-  
 apital  
 to the creation  
 n in 1966 in  
 plement of  
 lture have  
 xated  
 accounts (see  
 iditions to  
 ignificance  
 is maintained.  
 r constituted  
 1 year only  
 s responsible  
 and the  
 7-8 44% of  
 of services  
 the water from  
 as a percentage  
 eral expenditure:  
 52%  
 25%  
 35%  
 41%  
 41%  
 as in 1974-5,

# No warning of killer blast, claim residents

8 Nov 15/7/89  
 30-131

By Stuart Flitton

Residents of Armadale, south of Johannesburg, claim that there was no warning of the construction blast in which an 18-year-old woman was killed.

The blast was connected with the construction of the M120, which is to cross the Golden Highway. A brick factory worker,

Miss Princess Radebe of Eikenhof, was killed when she was hit on the head by a piece of rock

The owner of the brick factory — which is 400 m from the construction site — Mr E P du Plessis, said there was no warning siren before the blast

He said that his workers in the open-air factory usually ran for

cover when the siren sounded

Mr du Plessis said his house, which is next to the factory, was damaged by flying rocks

Houses had been damaged he said, but the company building the road, Clifford Harris (Pty) Ltd, had denied that debris could fall several hundred metres away

Mr du Plessis's wife, Timi, said that her garden, in which debris landed should have been filled with children at her six-year-old grandson's birthday party at the time of the explosion but the guests arrived late

A spokesman for Cape Town-based Clifford Harris, said that the blast was being investigated by police explosives inspectors and he could not comment until they finished their work.

"As far as I know now the normal rules and regulations were followed," he said.

The spokesman said the company was "sorry and perturbed" about Miss Radebe's death and would take the "necessary steps" to deal with her family.

## Student Planners Award

K Strong

For the second best student in the subject of Building Construction.

C W von Düring

For the best student in the subject of Building Construction.

## S A Brick Association Prizes

III: No award

II: A R Low Keen

I: N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of the courses of Building Economics I, II and III in the third, fourth & fifth years respectively.

## LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining the highest marks in Professional Practice.

## Surveyors' Prize

## Cape Chapter of Quantity

The Committee of the Western

P C Key

For the best all-round student in any year of study.

## Bell-John Prize

(Continued)

QUANTITY SURVEYING

that the protection is needed, the charge that patents are responsible for "antisocial" practices is weakened. The problems that arise are the actual nature of the in a broader context

**DURBAN** — A major disaster was averted in the industrial area here yesterday when a fire broke out in the processing plant of an oil company.

The managing director Mr S de Moor, said that a gasket around one of the supply pipes began leaking and vegetable oil, heated to 2800 C, had sprayed out

"Because the oil is heated to that temperature it ignites spontaneously," he said.

He said that when the leakage occurred the flames shot through the processing plant because the main pumps were still operating

"We turned off the main switches and as the oil supply to the leakage area decreased so, too, did the flames," he added

Mr De Moor said the fire was extinguished quickly by his staff which prevented any further damage to the plant.

Two fire tenders from Mobein Fire Station were

sent to the scene.

Mr De Moor added that the plant would be back in full production today

#### SECTION 8 RESEARCH

The drug industry costs of research and valuable drugs to be expenditures on research

#### (8.1) The extent of

Research costs amount in the U.S.A. This cost of about 18% on sales dependent on work done in the therefore high and are research. Together representing about 5% of sales revenue

Research is thus costing testing of five to ten and cost R7 - 10m. (3)

Critics allege, however, that vast sums are spent wastefully "molecule manipulation" aimed merely to "too" drugs and that most research is geared toward vast sums of money on meaningless additions of us The view of the critics is that research should be to prevent such practices.

But it has been pointed out that of the 66 most introduced since 1899 when aspirin first came onto the market, all but 9 were developed by private industry. (5) This, of course, does not indicate the cost-effectiveness of private research, but the fact that the funds for research were forthcoming, is in itself significant.

#### (7.2) The Influence of Patents on Innovations.

By promising the firm the possibility of a return on its research expenditure, patents speed up the rate of innovation. More resources are devoted to research and fewer resources are devoted to maintaining the secrecy of an invention. Patents also help to spread knowledge for the invention of one firm serves as a basis for further research by others.

The drug firms do not rely on one person's flash of inspiration. The drug industry has been termed an "Industry of Discovery". (2) Therefore a conscious decision is taken when considering how much to devote to research just what the expected payoff of that research is. The existence of patents, by increasing the expected payoff, stimulates research.

The patent is especially necessary in the drug industry where products can easily be copied. The absence of patents would preclude the inventor from earning a return on research expenditure.

#### (7.3) The Registration of Patents.

There is a trade-off between the amount of protection given by a patent and the ease of taking out a patent. If it is easy for a firm to obtain a patent, the amount of protection offered is limited because a competitor can take out a similar patent and also enter the market.

It is relatively easy to obtain a patent in South Africa and the conclusion must thus be that the extent of protection that it provides is limited.

#### (7.4) The Nature of Patent Protection:

Patents do give protection to firms, but such protection is both necessary and not excessive. Given the high rate of product obsolescence (estimated at about 7 - 10% p.a.) it is not clear that patents are a major issue in the drug market.

In short, therefore, the issue of patent protection has become something of a red herring and once it is realised



# Industrial nurses need trade unions, says Hunt

NM 25/7/81 (9/3) (31)

## Mercury Reporter

INDUSTRIAL nurses 'don't shout enough' for better salaries and improved factory health departments, according to Miss Noel Hunt, head of the Department of Nursing at the University of Natal

Speaking on the need for occupational nurses at the Natal Occupational Health

Nurse Symposium in Durban yesterday, Miss Hunt said nurses working in factories earned about R465 a month and had an average of 1 400 workers to attend to

'This is an impossible load for one nurse. The nurse is the linkpin of health care for the industrial worker and carries an

enormous responsibility,' Miss Hunt said

She said more than half the nurses were not represented on any factory committee

'What they need are trade unions to put pressure on management for improved facilities and more staff,' she said

She said many occupa-

tional nurses 'had a hard time' with factory managements

'Basically, managements are just not prepared to spend the time and money on improving or expanding their health facilities. Although the nurses do a lot of good work they cannot achieve wonders on their own and co-operation of management is essential,' Miss Hunt said

She said only 40 percent of factories in the Natal coastal region were affiliated to the National Occupational Safety Association — the lowest in the country

Argus 29/7/81 (131) ~~2/8/81~~

# PE trawlermen escape after explosion

Argus Bureau  
PORT ELIZABETH —  
Two trawlermen narrowly  
escaped death yesterday  
when fleeing from their  
boat seconds before a gas  
explosion turned the en-  
ginneroom into a blaze

The owner of the boat,  
Mr Gerrit Botha, was said  
to be in a satisfactory  
condition in the Provincial  
Hospital here today with

serious burns to his neck,  
face, chest and right hand

The other man, who was  
working on the boat with  
him at the time of the  
blast, Mr Daniel Plaatjes,  
was not injured

He said they were weld-  
ing in the engine room of  
the trawler, Eros, in the  
harbour when an acety-  
lene gas bottle fell  
through a trapdoor into

the engine room from the  
wheelhouse above

Mr Botha shouted a  
warning and the two ran

'We were just off the  
boat when there was an  
explosion. Had we been  
seconds slower, we would  
have died,' he added

Mr Botha tried to turn  
off the welding machine  
on the quayside danger-  
ously near the flames, and  
Mr Plaatjes pulled him

away . . . but too late to  
prevent the burns

The fire was put out by  
five municipal tenders,  
assisting a harbour fire  
tender and a tug spraying  
water. Damage is said to  
amount to about R20 000

A port control spokes-  
man said the trawler was  
previously from Hout Bay  
and had not been out of  
Port Elizabeth harbour yet  
as she was under repair

# Two workers die in plunge from tower scaffold (131)

Mall Correspondent

TWO building labourers plummeted 20m to their deaths and a third was seriously injured yesterday when they fell from scaffolding on a 40m water tower being built for a new psychiatric hospital in Cape Town's Mitchells Plain

The dead men were Mr D Komalo, 40, and Mr D Claassen, 25

The injured man, Mr D Spokoza, was rushed to the Conradie Hospital with severe back and pelvic injuries

Mr Pat Hart, a director of the construction company, said it had not yet been established how yesterday's accident happened

"Everyone at the site was so upset that we just sent them home at about lunchtime," he said

"All I know is that the men fell from about halfway up the scaffolding, and I couldn't say whether they slipped, lost their balance, or fell because of the

wind.

"We've contacted all the relevant authorities and there will be an official inquiry into the accident"

An inspector of the Department of Manpower Utilisation, who visited the scene of the accident, said afterwards a preliminary investigation had already been carried out but that details were "sub judice", and could not be released yet

Two hours after the accident, the scaffolding framework — which appeared intact — was unmanned

The construction site was virtually deserted, with a few workers packing away equipment before they left for home

● A spokesman for the Department of Manpower Utilisation confirmed that scaffolding at the construction site had collapsed in January, injuring a number of labourers

The outcome of an inquiry into this accident is still awaited

on.  
the

J W van Durning

S A Brick Association Prizes  
For the best student in the  
subject of Building Construction.

III: No award

II : A R Low Keen

I : N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of  
the courses of Building Economics I,  
II and III in the third, fourth &  
fifth years respectively.

LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining  
the highest marks in  
Professional Practice.

Surveyors' Prize

Cape Chapter of Quantity

The Committee of the Western

P C Key

Bell-John Prize  
For the best all-round student  
in any year of study.

PLANNING  
REGIONAL  
URBAN &

QUANTITY  
SURVEYING  
(Continued)

Appendix D

VISUAL STANDARDS SURVEY CARRIED OUT BY THE INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL MEDICAL BENEFIT SCHEME FOR THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY (1963)

- Under 16 a) with defective sight: 17.8%  
b) of a): 10.7% needed spectacles.  
c) " " 7.1% had spectacles: 5.3% - satisfactory  
1.8 not satisfactory.
- 16-20 yrs a) 17.2%  
b) 10.6%  
c) 6.6% - 45% satisfactory; 2.1% not satisfactory.
- 21-25 yrs a) 20%  
b) 10.7%  
c) 9.3%; 7.3% - satisfactory; 2% not satisfactory.
- 26-30yrs a) 19.5%  
b) 10%  
c) 9.5%; 7.4% satisfactory; 2.1% not satisfactory
- 26 - 30 yrs a) 19.5%  
b) 10%  
c) 9.5% - 7.4% satisfactory; 2.1% not satisfactory.
- 31-35yrs a) 23.2%  
b) 9.4%  
c) 13.8% - 11.4% satisfactory; 2.4% not satisfactory.
- 36-40yrs a) 26.8%  
b) 14.4%  
c) 14.4% - 10.4% satisfactory; 4% not satisfactory.
- 41-45yrs a) 45.2%  
b) 22.6%  
c) 22.6% - 17.8% satisfactory; 4.8% not satisfactory.
- 46-50yrs a) 66.2%  
b) 31%  
c) 35.2%; 17.6% satisfactory; 17.6% not satisfactory
- 51-55yrs a) 82%  
b) 27.5%  
c) 55%; 25% satisfactory; 30% not satisfactory.
- 56-60yrs a) 92.6%  
b) 14.8%  
c) 77.8%; 29.6% satisfactory; 48.2% not satisfactory.

Appendix D Continued/.....

- 61-65yrs a) 100%  
b) 33.4%  
c) 66.4%; 33.3% satisfactory; 33.3% not satisfactory
- 66-70yrs a) 100%  
b) Nil  
c) 100% required change.

72% of the labour force was under 31.

Star 29/7/81 (131)  
Fall kills two

CAPE TOWN — Two men were killed and another seriously injured when the 20.m high scaffolding on which they were working collapsed at the construction site of a hospital at Mitchells Plain near Cape Town.  
Mr D Komalo (40) and Mr D Claasen (25) died and Mr P Pokoza was admitted to hospital —Sapa

2/10 30/7/87  
13  
**Watchman  
saved from  
suffocation**

East Rand Bureau

A nightwatchman was saved from suffocation yesterday when he was pulled from beneath a heap of potato sacks which had been dumped on top of him by robbers.

Mr John Zulu (35) was beaten about the head and tied up with wire before being covered with the potatoes.

Another nightwatchman who saw men breaking an office window of Putfontein Estates on a farm outside Benoni, wakened his employer, Mr Chris Schutte.

They went to the office, and the robbers — who had loaded a safe on to a bakkie — drove away. There was about R160 in the safe.

Police are looking for their vehicle, a light-brown Mazda with the registration number TA 39915.

Mr Zulu is being treated at the Boksburg-Benoni Hospital.

## Post Focus

# Dust of death may be floating in the air over Port Elizabeth

By BILL GARDINER

THE thought of millions of tiny cancer-causing fibres wafting on the wind over Port Elizabeth harbour — and possibly settling in some quantity over the city — caused concern in various quarters this week.

The concern followed the report in Weekend Post last week about the increased shipments of asbestos from Port Elizabeth, and the high risk which stevedores working in the holds faced. The report has prompted an investigation by the regional director of the Department of Health, Dr J D Krynauw.

No one has yet been able to establish in what quantities the tiny fibres could be drifting into the open air above the ships — or to what extent the wind might be carrying them into the city.

Weekend Post carried its investigation further this week. Although the hazards of asbestos exposure have long been denied, overwhelming evidence has shown that asbestos causes cancer, according to a specialist in the field of occupational health at the University of Cape Town, Dr Jonathan Myers.

Although most asbestos shipments are now containerised, at least 30% of asbestos exports are still shipped in pressure-packed bags which are known to puncture and tear, shedding fine — yet highly dangerous — asbestos fibres over dock workers.

Approached for comment this week the General Workers' Union (GWU) — which represents the stevedores affected by the health hazard — said it was aware of the 'acute health hazard' from

asbestos and the matter had been raised with the stevedore management.

"The work processes are being investigated and they will be improved," a GWU spokesman said.

"Workers are to be medically examined by doctors and, once the tests have been completed, the question of workers' compensation for asbestos-related diseases will be raised."

In a recent study on asbestos-related diseases for the South African Labour and Development Research Unit (Salduv) at UCT, Dr Myers says asbestos is accepted today as an "indisputable"

cause of cancer by most scientific workers and officially by the Minister of Manpower Utilisation, the British Trades Union Council (TUC) and the American National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

There are three main diseases connected with exposure to asbestos — asbestosis, mesothelioma and lung cancer.

Asbestosis is a process whereby the lungs, or the linings of the lungs, are scarred by asbestos fibres inhaled from the air. The fibres irritate the lung tissue, resulting in damage from scarring. When the lung itself is scarred (parenchymal asbestosis) it does not function as well as it should.

Depending on the degree of damage done, the person will have various degrees of difficulty in breathing, especially on exertion. If exposure has been heavy or prolonged (even if the person is removed from exposure) the damage may become progressively worse and result in heart failure and ultimately

**QUOTE: "Asbestos is accepted today as an indisputable cause of cancer by most scientific workers, and officially by the Minister of Manpower Utilisation, the British Trades Union Council (TUC) and the American Institute of Occupational Safety and Health . . . There is no treatment to cure lung cancer and sufferers die within months, sometimes one or two years, of developing it . . ."** — Dr Jonathan Myers, Industrial Health Unit, Sociology Department, University of Cape Town.

mately failure of the lungs.

If only the lining of the lungs is damaged by scarring (pleural asbestosis) the person will not show signs of disease such as breathlessness.

"Only special tests like X-rays will show up the damage. However, with time, this damage also becomes more marked and the risks of developing other asbestos-related diseases are statistically increased," says Dr Myers.

Often both parenchymal and pleural asbestosis are found in the same person, he points out.

"The incidence of cancer of the lung and mesothelioma is significantly increased for these people, irrespective of the type of asbestos, and most studies show that between 20% and 50% of people with asbestosis die of lung cancer or mesothelioma."

Reports in the 1930s in the United Kingdom showed many people suffering from asbestosis, died of lung cancer.

"Some estimates put death

dence of this illness is infinitely higher in "asbestos exposed populations" than in the general population.

In the 1950s mesothelioma was found to be associated with exposure to asbestos, particularly the variety found in the north-western Cape, known as blue asbestos or crocidolite.

"Although in many cases the exposure was quite heavy, the disturbing feature was that in some, exposure was only transient and slight. There is no treatment for this disease and it, too, is rapidly fatal.

"It can be seen that all three conditions associated with exposure to asbestos are serious and chronic conditions and once advanced is not reversible or subject to cure," he warns.

After initial exposure to asbestos, lung cancer and mesothelioma take between 16 and 30 years to develop. With heavy exposure, asbestosis may develop within one or two years. But mesothelioma may be caused by slight and incidental exposure. Once the in-dustrial exposure to asbestos fibres are present in the lungs there is no possibility of prevention, particularly for lung cancer and mesothelioma.

In South Africa, where about 40 000 workers are estimated to be exposed to asbestos in various forms daily, numerous cases of asbestosis and mesothelioma go undetected because a high percentage of workers are migrants who never come to the notice of the Department of Health.

One survey, for example, indicated that 51% of the total number of cases on the mesothelioma register were white (who constitute 8% of the workforce in the industry),

while 28% of cases on the register were black (92% of the workforce).

And it is not only workers whose health is at risk — management, clerical workers and their families could suffer through environmental, not occupational, exposure, he says.

Dr Myers points out there have been various arguments put forward on "safe levels" of exposure, but scientific arguments were "moving inexorably in the direction of one where no safe level exists, through a succession of attempts to create 'safe conditions' which have all subsequently proved unsafe."

In South Africa, the Department of Mines and the Department of Manpower Utilisation has a recommended limit of five fibres a cubic centimetre in the air.

But South Africa has no statutory limits determining exposure. At one of the largest asbestos cement firms, Everite, where questions are being asked about conditions on the factory floors in Cape Town and East London, the management has a safety count of 2 fibres a cubic centimetre — 10 times the British limit of 0,2 fibres a cubic centimetre for blue asbestos.

But Sweden has instituted a ban on all asbestos products and Norway is expected to follow suit because they believe there is no safe level.

So much so that in Hamburg, West Germany, an asbestos factory was closed in 1979 and bought by a South African firm, Kapasit Asbestos (Pty) Ltd, which had the factory dismantled and shipped to South Africa.

# Fire destroys EL mattress factory

D.P. 1/8/81

(131) (188)

EAST LONDON — Fire destroyed a foam rubber goods factory here last night.

It took five units of the East London Municipal Fire Department about an hour to douse the blaze at Transkei Mattress Manufacturers in Jagger Street

Three firemen stood watch over the gutted building late last night. The cause of the fire had not been established

One of the owners of the firm which has a branch in Umtata, Mr L R Moodie, said he was bewildered by the fire — their second in two years

"I had just arrived in Kei Road at about 6 30 when I got a telephone call that our factory was burning. By the time I got back it was completely destroyed," he said.

Mr Moodie said it was difficult to assess the damage now but in the last fire, damage to the Department of Community Development-owned building was about

R50 000. Stock loss was about R15 000

"I would put it at about R25 000 loss to us with machinery," Mr Moodie said.

The firm produced foam mattresses and pillows and had a staff of 15 —  
DDR

# No real wage for duty

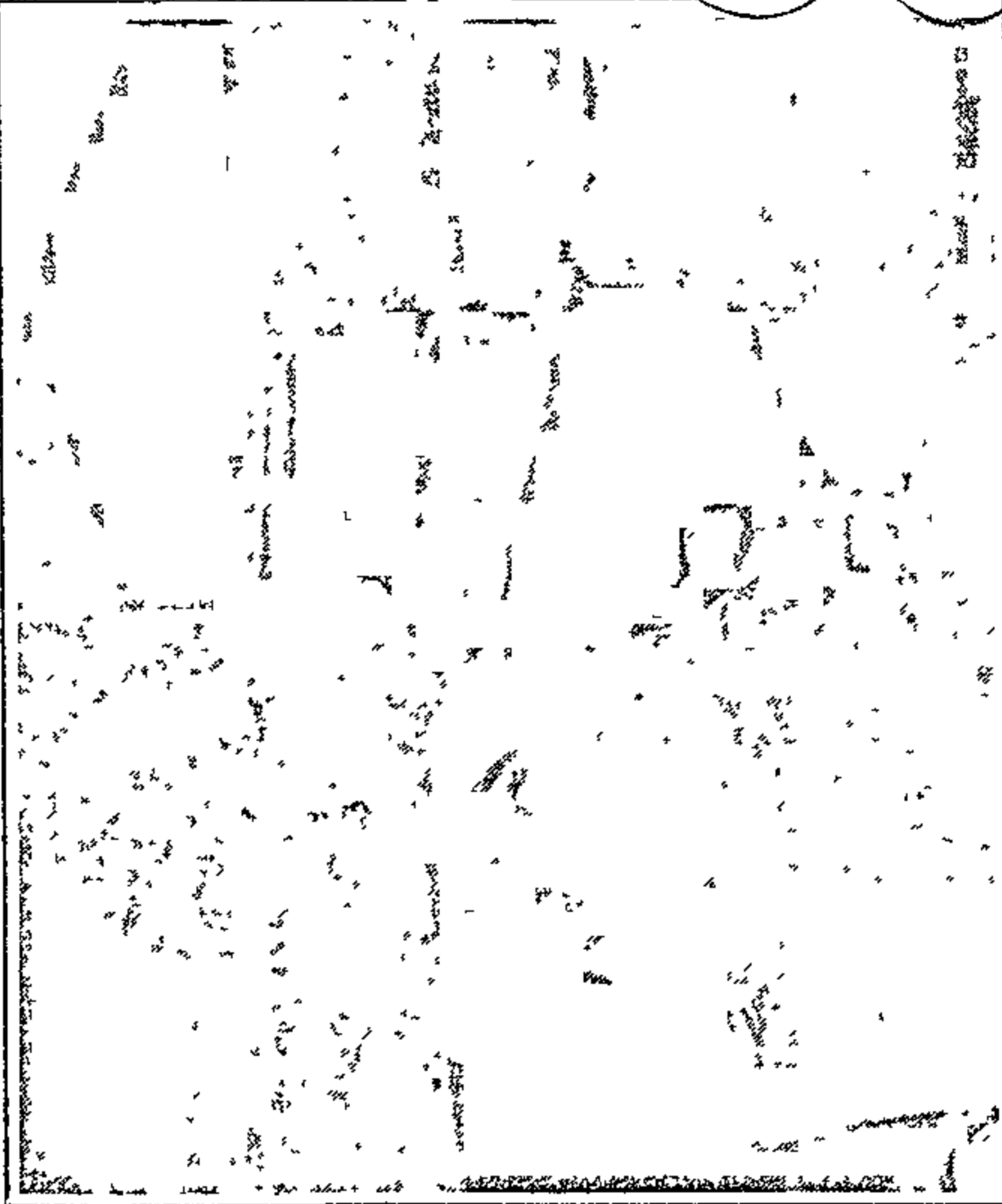
A YOUNG Bophuthatswana citizen who has been in a wheelchair since a mine accident is bitter because he has not received any compensation since he was injured two years ago

Mr George Dince (31) of Ga-Mamutla, a village near Kimberley was injured last year in a mine shaft accident. He worked for Dancarl Diamonds in Barkley West

Mr Dince's story was told to SOWETAN by his younger brother, Reginald, who has been looking after him since the accident

"My brother met with the accident after he had worked three months with the mine. He spent a month in hospital. He was also treated in Cape Town's Grootte Schuur

"He was discharged from hospital sometime in May last year. He was brought home in an ambulance because he could not walk, in fact the left side of his body is useless. He can speak only with great difficulty. After some days I informed his employer



Mr George Dince . . . a bitter man.

about the accident and I was told to go home because a cheque was already

on its way to my brother. "We expected an amount which would clothe and

feed him permanently as he cannot do anything for himself, but I was shocked when we received a R68 cheque and later a cheque with an even more embarrassing amount of R8. We had expected more money to follow, but that was the last time we heard from the employer."

Mr Dince (senior) is a married man and since he was injured, his younger brother has been looking after his and his wife's needs. Now the younger brother is married and says the cost of running two families is overwhelming him. "I cannot cope for longer than this," he said.

SOWETAN spoke to a Mrs Cala Engelbrecht of the Workman's Compensation Office in Pretoria and was told that Mr Dince's case will only be considered in November this year.

"He should go to Dr J J Geldenhuys for the final assessment in November this year," she said. She said for now he may apply for temporary disablement benefit every month.



Setback for Leslie mine

An accident at the Leslie Gold Mines' No 1 shaft could result in some production loss, a spokesman for the General Mining Union Corporation group said in Johannesburg

A material car moved out of the lower deck of the cage in which it was being lowered and jammed the cage about 600 m below the surface, causing a slack rope. An ascending skip loaded with rock then hooked the slack rope and caused further damage in the shaft. No one was injured. — Sapa

or student  
ghost average

CHEMICAL

L Menegaldo

Drawing.  
best classwork in Engineering  
Awarded to the student with the  
Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

J H Rens

Civil Engineering.  
student in Land Surveying or  
examinations to the best male  
Awarded on results of final  
Professor George Menzies Prize

B F McClelland

J H Rens  
D P Weeks  
T J Cumming  
P M Salmon

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

For the best student in each  
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.  
Corporation Medals

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

# Death lurks on the back of those transport trucks

S. Express 19/7/81

131

no seat  
equipment  
in the  
made  
pamote  
factor,  
that the  
society

By SAVVAS GEORGIADIS

**DANGEROUS** chemicals which could wipe out whole cities are being transported on South African roads without any regulations to control their movement.

Fifty containers of an extremely deadly insect poison Dematon, disappeared last week from the back of a truck, near the Ben Schoeman Highway. More than 10 containers are still missing.

One millilitre of this substance could prove fatal. The poison can be absorbed orally, through the skin, or by inhalation.

But in spite of the highly dangerous implications of such a situation, the Sunday Express found, effective safety controls for the transport of poisons are totally lacking — although experts have been campaigning for them for years.

Mr J C Hillman, senior research officer at the Institute for Transport and Road Research, said the institute had been fighting for years for legislation to control the transportation of hazardous substances. He said there were insufficient controls and legal requirements to restrict such transportation to competent, properly equipped and responsible operators.

Independent ombudsman Mr Eugene Roelofse said the loss of the 50 poison containers highlighted the need for stringent controls.

"Tons of poisonous chemicals are transported on South African roads and nothing is done to regulate how they should be transported," he said.

Mr Roelofse said one truck carrying hazardous substances could destroy a city if the truck was involved in an accident.

"Poisons in terms of the Hazardous Substances Act should be transported only in a locked truck," he said.

100

"The Minister of Health, or his office, has had the chance to draft regulations since 1973.

"This hasn't been done and I think the minister should be asked to give thought to why huge amounts of poison can be shipped in whatever fashion the movers or transporters wish without protection being given to the public."

Mr Roelofse said manufacturers should apply voluntary controls.

A spokesman for Panorama Chemicals said 13 of the 1-litre containers which fell off the truck were still missing.

As far as the company was concerned everything had been done to ensure the safety of the containers. A White supervisor had seen that they were securely packed and that a tarpaulin had been properly fastened over the load.

Mr Ray Hose, head of the Automobile Association's road traffic affairs section, said "We are not very happy about the transportation of chemicals and have made representation about badly stacked goods in the past."

He said a Hazchem code placard displayed on the side of a truck helped minimise the danger as the series of symbols

and numbers could be translated by Police, fire or traffic officers enabling them to take the necessary action in the case of accidents.

A spokesman for the Department of Health admitted there were no regulations controlling the transportation of poisons. The department, in conjunction with the transport companies, was however, considering regulations and their enforcement, he said.

In a document published in April this year, Mr Hillman warned. "The increasing use of dangerous chemicals and petroleum products by South African industry makes it necessary for some form of control to be introduced to regulate transport before a major disaster occurs, such as has happened overseas."

"Many of these substances are hazardous to man or his environment and the quantities currently being transported by road through our cities have exposed our society to the very real risk of a major disaster."

Proposals were put to the Department of Health in September 1978 by the institute's projects advisory committee concerning new regulations to cover labelling and routing of

hazardous loads as well as requirements for incident reporting and driver health examinations.

"The proposals were accepted in principle but to date nothing has been published," Mr Hillman stated.

The transport of two classes of hazardous substances is controlled by South African law. These are explosives and radioactive materials, which are subject to the Explosive Act No 26 of 1956 and the Atomic Energy Act No 90 of 1967 respectively.

The Acts strictly control manufacture, storage, handling and transportation of the substances and are actively enforced.

Flammable liquids are subject to control by municipal bye-laws.

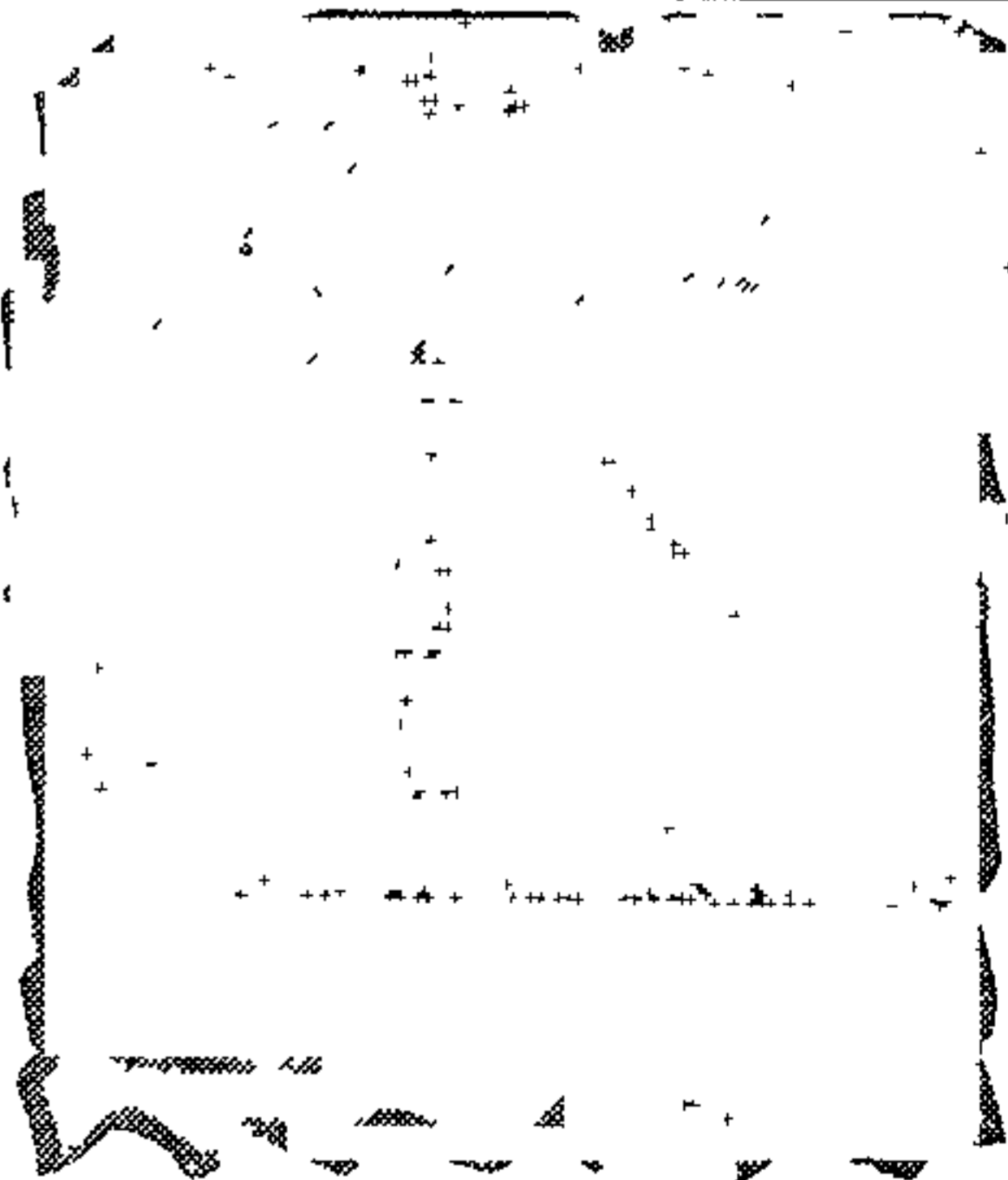
Mr Hillman said the Road Transportation Act of 1977 and the growth in industrial demand for transport services had increased the likelihood of amateurs becoming involved in this field of transportation.

"Any member of the public can buy a vehicle and operate a restricted haulage business, including the carriage of hazardous materials except flammable liquids," he said.

"Legislation intended to minimise the possibility of a disaster is necessary to demonstrate to the general public that the authorities are aware of their fears and are taking action, and to minimise the possible loss of life and property damage. "Specially trained and equipped personnel would be needed if spot checks on sus-

pect loads were to be made and laboratory facilities would be needed for analysis. "Staffing problems, complexity of the task and difficulties in demarcating areas of responsibility are likely objections to these requirements, but they should not be allowed to delay the introduction of any measures."

Mr T E Olivier, deputy chief, operations, of the Johannesburg Traffic Department, said the department was well geared for any emergencies. Each traffic officer has a copy of the Hazchem code and if there was any mishap he was able to decipher the code and call in the necessary people to deal with the situation.



This is the label on the missing containers

# 65 down with typhoid at mine

JB  
20/7/81  
131

Sixty-five people were taken to hospital after an outbreak of typhoid fever at the Kloof gold mine near Westonaria

Doctors say the disease was prevented from spreading

Goldfields's public relations officer, Mr Joe Moller, told The Star "The outbreak started at the beginning of this month but has been brought under control and the source of infection has been removed."

Mr Moller declined to name the source of infection but said 18 of the 65 people had since been discharged from hospital

Mining sources said the most likely source of ty-

phoid fever would be unpurified water from the Vaal, which is used underground as service water

While clean drinking water was provided at all levels on gold mines it was not unusual for workmen to drink the service water because it was more easily available, they said

Although chlorinated the service water was not sterilised and germs could find their way into underground working places.

Doctors at the mine said the disease was prevented from spreading because it was contained within the mining compounds and the hospital.

131  
Typhoid at mine in check

CT. 21/7/81  
Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Typhoid fever, which broke out at the Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria, has been contained and the source of infection eliminated, according to a Gold Fields spokesman

Of the 65 people taken to hospital with the fever at the end of June, 18 have already been discharged as cured, a spokesman for the mine said yesterday

A spokesman for Westonaria municipality said no typhoid cases were notified outside the mine compound and the medical director of the mine was screening all inhabitants

EAST LONDON — A security guard at a department store here had a narrow escape when a man he was trying to arrest allegedly pulled the trigger of a 9 mm pistol after pointing the gun at him

The commander of the Crime Control Centre of the police here, Captain A G Huggett, said the gun did not go off because the man had loaded it with 32 bullets instead of 9 mm bullets

Captain Huggett said that three Port Elizabeth men went into the Oxford Street branch of OK Bazaars on Monday and that one of them went behind a cosmetics counter and told the assistant to be quiet

When he went to the till, the woman shouted for help and he ran away

The security officer at OK Bazaars, Mr D Krull, chased the man and after catching him, took him to the shop's security office

The man then allegedly attacked Mr Krull with a knife but was overpowered with the help of other security staff. Mr Krull sustained knife slashes to his hand and was taken to Frere

# Gun drawn on shop guard

DD  
22/7/81  
131

Hospital where he underwent an emergency operation

Captain Huggett said shop security staff, helped by traffic officers, cornered the second man outside the shop. He drew a gun and pulled the trigger but the shot did not go off. He was arrested. The third man got away.

Captain Huggett said police took possession of a stolen car and a stolen 9 mm pistol

Police are looking for the third man — DDR

# Girl lost job after accident

Sowetan 24/7/81  
(13)

A YOUNG Soweto woman whose hands were burnt by hydrochloric acid at her place of employment has claimed she was fired for being away while she received treatment.

Miss Emelda Msela Msimango of 11674 Orlando West Extension told **SOWETAN** that on the day of her dismissal she was given only R62 after 15 months with the company.

Her former employer, a Mr Armat of Rishaan Pharmaceutical in the city, has refuted the allegations and said Miss Msimango was sacked for not being a good employee.

Miss Msimango said she joined the company in February last year and at the time her job was to fill in bottles of various medicines. Later she was made a messenger but in April this year she was asked to help other employees to fill bottles with hydrochloric acid.

They had to wear gloves but she mistakenly took a pair with small holes. It



was only when she went to wash her hands that she felt her hands itching.

She reported the burns and was given castor oil to rub on then and told to continue with the job since the stuff was needed urgently. This she did but when she knocked off the pain was unbearable, she said.

The following day she was told to go to the company's doctor but after two weeks treatment she decided to go to Baragwanath Hospital where she was treated until June 13 and told to go to work the following day.

"To my dismay when I arrived at work, I was given R62 and told there was no longer a place for me.

# Loading asbestos

## — investigation

# is ordered in PE

SV Post 25/7/61  
131

By BILL GARDNER

PORT Elizabeth stevedores are seriously risking their health by handling asbestos shipments, a Weekend Post investigation revealed this week.

Although the bulk of asbestos shipments is now contained, at least 30% of asbestos exports are still shipped in pressure-packed bags which are known to puncture and tear, shedding fine — yet highly dangerous — asbestos fibres over dock workers.

The regional director of the Department of Health in Port Elizabeth, Dr J D Krynanuw, has ordered an investigation into the loading of asbestos after inquiries by Weekend Post.

"Since this has been brought to our notice, we will certainly look into the matter because this is a health hazard — there is no doubt about that," he said.

A month-long investigation by the Weekend Post has revealed that asbestos fibres from torn and punctured bags have choked the air in ship holds.

Stevedores who were interviewed said bags holding asbestos had split while being handled in the holds, particularly when workers, unaware of the health hazard, used hooks to move the bags.

On certain occasions, loose bags and strapped bags with asbestos dust and fibres into the air.

They said the stevedore "bosses" did not provide protective clothing or masks and not even a change of overalls.

According to medical research into occupational diseases, asbestos fibres — some not even visible to the naked eye — could be carried on the workers' overalls or their skin and, as a result, their families would also be exposed to the risk of getting asbestos-related diseases.

Some of the most dangerous fibres are, in fact, too small to see and can cause a scarring of the lungs — asbestosis — and various forms of lung cancer.

The Port Elizabeth Stevedoring Labour Supply Company, which recruits dock workers, has refused to discuss the controversial issue of asbestos shipments through the harbour and the serious health hazard facing the stevedores working with inadequately packaged asbestos.

"It is of no concern of mine," the manager, Mr C J Wilson, said "I supply the labour and the (stevedoring) companies work the ships

"I wouldn't know if the bags can tear or can't. I don't handle cargo, I handle people."

Asked if the company supplied protective clothing and masks to its workers when handling asbestos, he said the company only supplied overalls, boots and helmets. The provision of gloves, masks and goggles was the responsibility of the stevedoring companies, which requisitioned labour from the Port Elizabeth Stevedoring Labour Supply Company.

He referred further enquiries to Mr H de Witte, manager of the South African Stevedores Service Company (Ltd) (SASCO). However Mr De Witte refused to discuss the matter with the Weekend Post.

He said Mr Wilson had contacted him about the subject and he had no further comment.

"Mr Wilson told you about it. He mentioned it to me. I have no further comment to make and I am going to put the telephone down now."

Port Elizabeth is a major export outlet for white and blue asbestos, but about 70% of asbestos was now contained, according to a shipping source.

The remainder was packed in pressure-packed bags as requested by customers.

"Obviously the remoter ports haven't contained yet. Therefore it must be shipped in the form they can handle on the other side," he said.

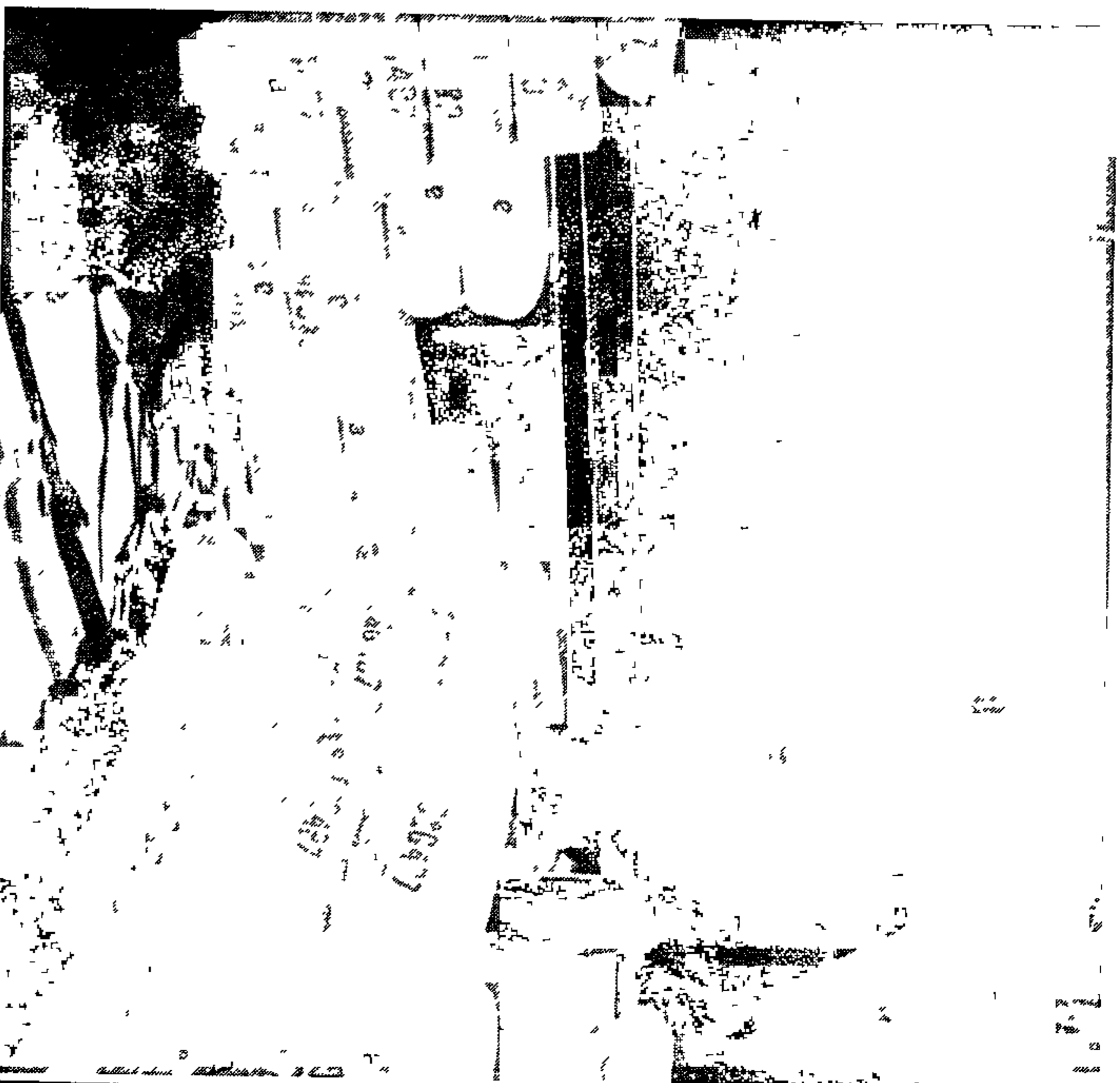
In such cases, the asbestos would be pressure-packed, then baled into a unit with a black "cosy" over the top. However, there were shipments which had loose pressure-packed bags, he said.

"All of it used to be supplied in bags at one time, but because of containment and the health hazard this is not the case now."

The regional director of the Department of Health in Port Elizabeth, Dr J D Krynanuw, said although he had not received any formal complaints about the loading of asbestos at the harbour, he would instruct his staff to look into the matter.

Accidents and isolated incidents of the loading of material which was a danger to health could occur at times, but if it was a regular mishandling of such material "then we will certainly look into it."

"It is most certainly a health hazard if asbestos material is blowing about," he said "If it is a common occurrence, the health of the community in that area would be in danger."



About 800 tons of asbestos were loaded this week on board the Greek freighter, Hellenic Patriot. 300 tons of white asbestos were packed in loose 50 kg pressure-packed bags, which a Weekend Post investigation has shown can puncture and tear during handling.

# Hazardous cargo loaded in PE

Weekend Post Reporter

HUNDREDS of tons of asbestos were this week loaded on a Greek-owned freighter, the Hellenic Patriot, in Port Elizabeth harbour. The shipment included white and blue asbestos and was packed in 50kg pressure-packed bags, which are known to puncture and tear during handling.

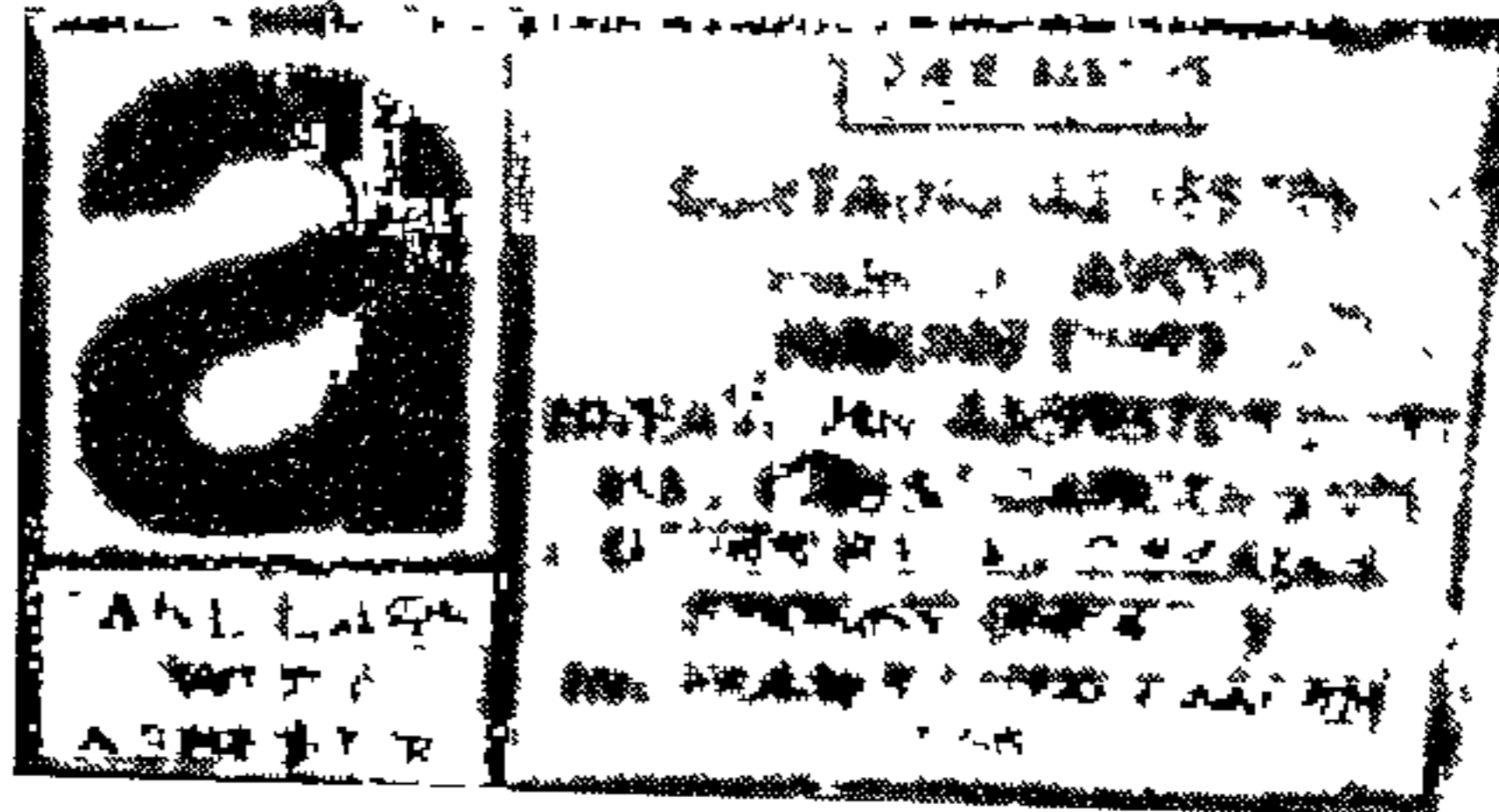
More than 800 metric tons of asbestos of blue and white asbestos were loaded, with at least 300 tons of white asbestos shipped in 6 000 loose pressure-packed bags. The balance of the pressure-packed bags containing 200 tons of blue and 300 tons of white asbestos were baled and strapped into units with a "cosy" over the tops.

Warning signs stamped on the side of the 50kg packages, bound for Istanbul read "TAKE CARE WITH ASBESTOS. Contains Asbestos fibres. Avoid making dust. Breathing asbestos dust may cause cancer and other fatal diseases. Smoking greatly increases lung cancer risk."

In an interview, the ship's captain, Captain Costas Vlanties, said he knew that asbestos could cause cancer but he knew of no complaints from stevedores and crew.

The fibrous mineral is internationally acknowledged as being hazardous to health and is a known carcinogen. But South Africa has no statutory limits determining exposure. The Department of Manpower Utilisation, like the Department of Mines, has a recommended limit of five fibres per cubic centimetres for the amount of dust that is allowed to be in the air.

But the conditions that Port Elizabeth stevedores are exposed to when the loose-pressure packed bags of asbestos are punctured and torn in the ships holds could be as high as 15 fibres/cm (cubic) — three times the limit — according to



**A 50kg pressure-packed bag of white asbestos bears the warning: Take care with asbestos: Contains asbestos fibres. Avoid making dust. Breathing asbestos dust may cause cancer and other fatal diseases. Smoking greatly increases lung cancer risk.**

occupational health experts.

Controls elsewhere are far more stringent. Sweden, for example, has instituted a total ban on all asbestos products and Norway is expected to follow suit because they believe there is "no safe level".

Britain has created statutory exposure limits, resulting in an effective ban on the use of blue asbestos since 1971 and a ban on its importation. There is a limit of one fibre/cc for white asbestos and 0,2 fibres/cc for the more dangerous blue (crocidolite) asbestos.

In a recent study on asbestos-related diseases, Dr Jonathon Myers of the University of Cape Town, said although the hazards of asbestos were denied for a long time, overwhelming evidence has shown that asbestos causes cancer.

"Asbestos is accepted today as an indisputable cause of cancer by most scientific workers, and officially by the Minister of Manpower in South Africa, the British Trades Union Council (TUC) and the American National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health."

There are three main diseases associated with exposure to asbestos. Most common is asbestosis where asbestos fi-

bres, when breathed, scar the lungs.

"Anyone who works with asbestos in a dusty place for a long time will get asbestosis," says Dr Myers. "The fibres can also irritate the lung and after a long time this can cause cancer, either on the outside of the lung (called mesothelioma) or in the lung itself (lung cancer)."

"You can get mesothelioma after working with asbestos for a very short time. Even some people who have worked with asbestos for only one day have got mesothelioma a long time later, sometimes as long as 30 years after the person worked with asbestos."

In his study, Dr Myers warns that "the further in the production process one gets from underground mining, the worse the (risk of) exposure of workers to asbestos — because of the dry nature of the milling processes or the more concentrated or refined nature of the product."

He says, though it is unlikely that South Africa will ban asbestos mining and exports, there was still "considerable scope for tightening up some of the circumstances in which people are exposed to a hazard and pay the consequences of this exposure."



# SA 'lagging behind' in worker safety

NM 25/7/81  
131

Mercury Reporter

THE lead content in the blood of many South African workers who are exposed to the metal is higher than the level considered safe by the World Health Organisation, according to Prof I Webster of the National Institute of Occupational Research.

Speaking at the Natal Occupational Health Nurse Symposium at the University of Natal yesterday, Prof Webster said: 'South Africa is lagging behind in stipulating the dangerous upper limits of lead in the

blood

'If we were to adopt the standards laid down by the WHO a very large percentage of the work force would be laid off,' he said

He said in South Africa the maximum allowance of lead in the air of a factory was 200 micrograms a cubic metre. The general accepted level in the rest of the world was 150.

Effects of lead poisoning included anxiety, hypertension, psychological changes, anorexia, irritation, tremor and sleep disturbances.

means to contribute to the work of estimating the novelist's general character, development and significance. Classes will be a mixture of lecture and discussion. It is essential that the books be read before the course begins.

Prescribed Books:

- Dickens : Martin Chuzzlewit, ed. P.N.Furbank (Penguin)
- : David Copperfield, ed. T.Blount (Penguin)
- : Little Dorrit, ed. J.Holloway (Penguin)

17. THE NOVELS OF THOMAS HARDY Wed. 2.15 p.m.

Lecturer : Ms. L. Marx

By means of a detailed study of the set texts we shall examine Hardy as artist and thinker against the background of his age. His treatment of character and fate, the role of nature and his concept of tragedy will all be explored, as will such terms as "evolutionary meliorism," "realism," "expressionism" and "fantasy" as they have been applied to his works.

Prescribed Books:

- Hardy, Thomas : Far From the Madding Crowd (Macmillan)
- : The Return of the Native (Macmillan)
- : Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Macmillan)

18. THE PROBLEM SELF: DILEMMAS FOR ROMANTICS

Lecturer : Mr. J. S. Coulton

Mon. 3 15 p.m.

What is the fate of the 'Romantic' idea of the 20th century? To what extent is the Romantic able to affirm the self and the value of life against senses of self-dissolution and alienation? These questions are examined in three novels: the relationship between individual and individual in Thomas Mann, decadence and Huysmans, and the problems of self-affirmation and disintegration in Lawrence. Students urged to gain perspectives from the philosophical writings of Nietzsche.

Prescribed books:

(see page 12)

Prescribed Books:

- Huysmans, J.-K : Against Nature (Penguin)
- Lawrence, D.H.: St. Mawr/The Virgin and the Gypsy (Penguin)
- Mann, Thomas : Death in Venice/Ionio Kroger/Iristan (Penguin)

Recommended Reading:

- Nietzsche, F : A
- Nietzsche, F : B

19. CONRAD AND JAMES

Lecturer : Mr. G. ...

Basing itself on a this course will cc Conrad and Henry Je novel, and their re other and to their

Prescribed Books:

- James : Th
- Conrad : Th
- James : Th
- Conrad : Th

# Endorsing out cheaper than worker protection

IT was cheaper for South African managements to replace workers than to protect them from industrial accidents, according to the National Union of

South African Students (Nusas)

This is contained in a monthly report on work and health compiled by Nusas. \*The government and managements were extremely reluctant to improve on the safety

situation the report says. Injured workers can be endorsed out of the cities back to the homelands with little chance of obtaining substantial, or any compensation. In 1976, 340 000 accidents occurred in work places in South Africa and 100 000 hands, 50 000 feet and 40 000 eyes were estimated to be seriously injured, the report says.

### SURPRISING

Farm workers — the lowest-paid group of workers in this country — were less protected from accidents and occupational diseases, the report adds. More than 40 000 miners at present producing asbestos also ran the risk of serious or even fatal illnesses.

The report adds "This country has few factory inspectors — about 29 in the whole Republic.

These inspectors cater for 30 097 factories, with more than one-and-a-half million employees.

This results in many employers escaping prosecution. It is therefore not surprising that in 1976 there were 340 063 accidents of which 33 752 resulted in permanent maiming and 2 546 fatalities," states the report.

(see page 12)

# Man fined R180 after lift kills employee

A 15-year-old boy was tragically killed on February 9 when his head was crushed by a "faulty" goods lift.

The owner of the building in Goch Street, Newtown appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday on a charge of killing Leonard Gumede, an employee.

Mr Isadore Gabriel Katz of Arthur Road, Norwood pleaded not guilty to culpable homicide. He and Omega Property Trust (Pty) Ltd of which he is a director also pleaded not guilty to contravening the Factories, Machinery and Building Work Regulations.

Mr David Paghat (20) testified that on February 9 he had been in the basement cleaning the lift pit. He looked up and saw through a gap in the lift shaft, Mr Gumede standing on the first floor.

The lift controls were on the ground floor so Mr Gumede asked Mr Paghat to go to the ground floor and send the lift to the first floor.

He did so and then heard a "banging" sound.

It could not be ascertained how Mr Gumede had been killed. The magistrate, Mr F. J. Schalkwyk acquitted Mr Katz of culpable homicide but convicted him of not maintaining the lift properly.

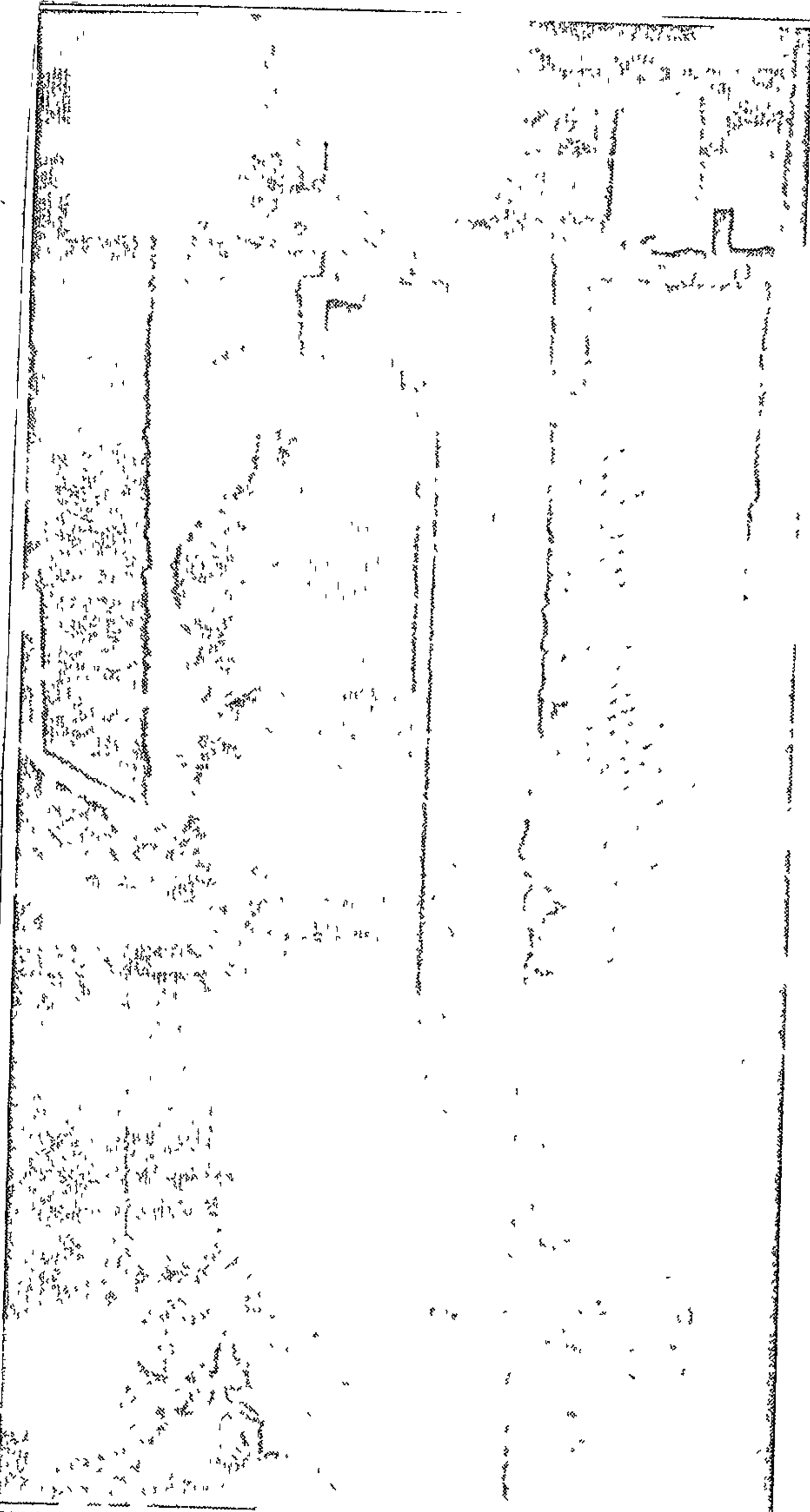
He was fined R180.

and her recollections of these rivals are amusing. Her parents were also rivals, vying with each other. To counter Mr Bailen's variety acts at the Empire, Mrs Bailen showed serials at the Union and here she had to contend with Mr Goldberg, who showed the same serials and teased her with "little pinpricks", like holding parts back until she went down "in a royal angry mood" and wrested them from him. On 7th October 1918, all the District Six bios were closed because of the 'flu epidemic. Mrs Zurne had vivid memories of this period.

Contracts with African Theatres lasted four or five years, after which they were renegotiated. At these times, an increase in

the cost of film foot-  
difficulty. With new  
problem of sharing;  
cinemas. Mrs Bailen  
that a certain Joe S  
with some films, she  
stock of forty. The  
an event which took  
entered into new ar  
Some owners sold th  
took over the runni  
terms which they ne  
they then put to ot  
Bailens. Followin  
Bailens into shops a  
landlords rather t  
"It was a very goo  
Zurne, for "they h  
men had also acqui  
for example, Garor  
widely with his pr  
The Bailens had m  
and taken a house  
Mrs Zurne believe  
children. There

frican Theatres, which  
used their cinemas, on  
their properties which  
a turning point for the  
they turned their pre-  
is time functioned as  
le.  
d that", observed Mrs  
ig" from it. Other business-  
ties in the district -  
restore owner, who invested  
creative' business.  
ix, sometime before 1920,  
the corner of Schoonder. As  
r the education of the  
tory transport from the



# Gate now fixed to cannery's death lift

HELEN ZAMPETAKIS

A GATE was fixed to a goods lift yesterday evening after a 19-year-old youth was crushed to death when the lift failed to stop on the top floor of a small Johannesburg cannery firm.

On February 9 this year Leonard Gumede, 19, a Natal caught the hoist to the second floor of the Coek Street pet food cannery — but the lift had no cut-out buttons inside and Leonard died when his head was crushed.

Mr Isador Katz, director of Omega Property Trust, was acquitted on a charge of culpable homicide.

He was convicted of failing to have gates and locks fixed to the lift on balconies, to have notices on each landing prohibiting people from using the lift, to have the lift examined regularly, and to report the accident to the police. He was fined R100 or 10 days' jail.

## No lock

The hoist, an open wooden platform in a narrow shaft, could be operated only from the ground floor by pressing the control button until it reached the top floor.

At the Coek Street cannery yesterday workers fixed a gate on to the hoist, but no lock was visible.

An employee at the cannery said she and others had been told on Wednesday that if the gate failed to open they would need a key to unlock the gate.

## Suicide

Mr Katz said yesterday he was not responsible for Mr Gumede's death, which had been caused by technical faults that even the magistrate couldn't understand and had nothing to do with the lack of locks.

When asked whether he had taken steps to ensure his employees' safety, Mr Katz replied: "I don't ensure anything whatsoever. If a boy wants to take a joy ride and commit suicide on a lift which is clearly marked, I do not find myself at all."

Mr Katz later admitted that the only sign prohibiting people from using the lift was in English, "which the boy couldn't understand."

He blamed the accident on the lift firm which he said had failed to maintain the lift in good order.

SEVEN months after a 19-year-old boy was crushed to death in this lift, a gate was fixed to the landing preventing workers from using

Photo by DAVID SANDISON

# Heart and back top hazards

LONDON — Heart disease and back injuries have replaced pneumoconiosis as the main health hazards of the mining industry, according to the National Coal Board's South Wales Area Health Service

The board's annual report shows that pneumoconiosis has been virtually wiped out among miners below 35, and is rapidly falling in other age groups, as steps to cut dust hazards take effect

Coronary heart disease and back injuries are now having a greater part to play in miners' health — Financial Times

File for me

131

DD 12/8/81 (131)  
**Two crushed to death by cement**

**DURBAN —** Two men were crushed to death by falling bags of cement at a factory here yesterday

Six men were loading a truck with 50 kg cement

bags when four left to change their clothes. On their return, they found Mr R Dlamini and Mr D Mdabaljithwa under the bags — SAPA

Hand Occupational health (B) (S)  
1418/81 2157  
\*21 Mr A G THOMPSON asked the  
Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions

CASES IN S... Whether it is his intention to introduce legislation in respect of occupational health, if not, why not, if so, when? IENT 259

The two major ex... Government to consu... African

1. Export-market dev... Yes, if possible during the following session... advertising, etc.) is tax deductible at a minimum basic additional rate of 75 per cent. This deduction may be claimed if exports are increased by 9 per cent or less, or even if no export sales are made during the tax year. If exports are increased by 10 per cent or more the maximum rate of deduction of an additional 100 per cent may be claimed.

At best, therefore, an exporter pays only 20 per cent (given a tax rate of 40 per cent) of approved export market development costs.

The basis for evaluating the percentage increase in exports is worked on the average of exports achieved during the 3 worst export sales years in the preceding 5.

2. Sales tax and excise duties levied on goods exported are refundable and can be claimed by the manufacturer or the exporter. This includes any sales tax paid on raw materials used in the manufacturing process.

EXHIBIT 4

EXTRACT FROM LETTER FROM THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO MR A. MENDELSON

... Should you wish to move your factory to Darling, where the Industrial Development Corporation are planning to erect a set of factory flats, you may qualify for the decentralization concessions of the Board for the Decentralization of Industry, Pretoria.

Whereas Darling is at present not officially classed as a decentralized growth point by the Department of Planning, the Decentralization Board may consider granting you concessions on an ad hoc basis, with your case being considered on its individual merits. You should in the first instance, therefore, apply to the Decentralization Board for decentralization concessions, which to our knowledge of the policy of the Board, are likely to comprise the following:

1. INCOME TAX CONCESSIONS

Your income tax payable will be reduced by amounts equal to the following percentages:

- (i) 40 per cent of total wages paid to all or additional Blacks employed by you over the first two years after establishment at Darling.

# Policemen Bravely Fight Blast

A policeman was badly hurt and four firemen narrowly escaped death last night in an explosion at a Johannesburg store.

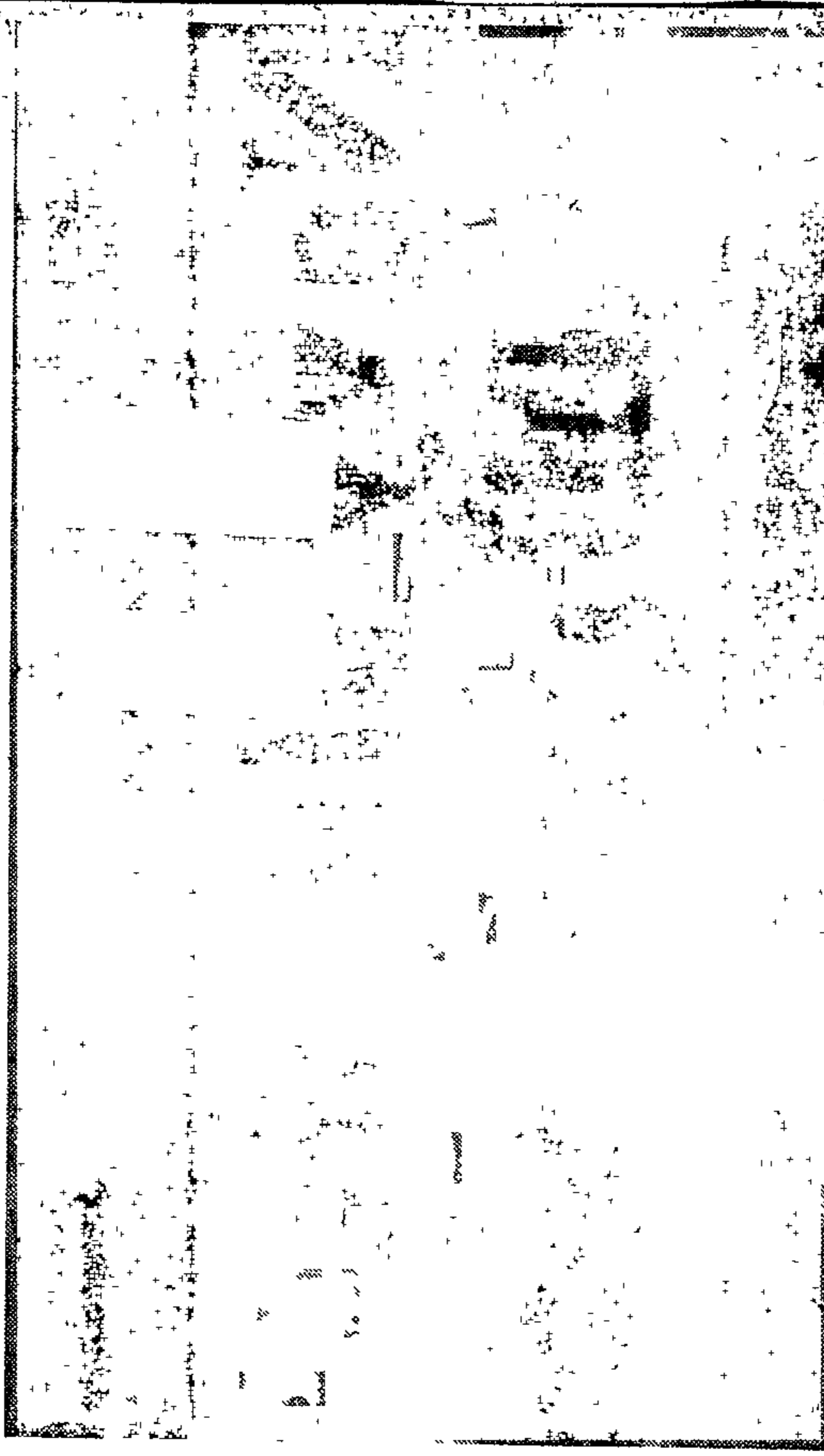
With blood pouring from a face wound, the policeman was rushed to hospital after the blast at Tesla Hardware in Kerk Street.

The explosion came while firemen were fighting a fire in the basement of the building, in which paint was stored. The cause of the explosion is not known, but it appears inflammables in the store blew up.

As smoke poured from the basement at about 7.15 pm four firemen with breathing equipment moved into the basement to fight the fire. A large smoke extractor fan and generator were mounted at the door to the basement to remove smoke.

Then came the blast, throwing three bystanders, including a reporter for The Star, flying back from the store door where they had been standing.

The police officer



Four firemen were scorched while fighting the fire in the basement of this hardware store in Kerk Street, Johannesburg.

Star 19/8/81 (131)

standing at the doorway directly in the line of the blast was apparently hit by the heavy smoke extractor which was flung about 20 m.

All four firemen in the basement were scorched on the neck, where their skin was not protected by fireproof clothing. "We were hell of a

lucky. One of our guys was blown clean over my head. But I think we are still alive because most of the blast was channelled through the basement doorway," said one of the firemen. Several bystanders were slightly hurt by flying glass. The fire was brought under control.



# Workers

## with TB

*18/10/81*  
**'often**

## lose jobs'

EMPLOYERS were largely insensitive to the problems of tuberculosis patients and people often lost their jobs because they contracted the disease, Dr E D Cooper, a Santa executive said yesterday

Dr Cooper was addressing the Cape Province Tuberculosis Council, — the local body of the South African National Tuberculosis Association (Santa), at its annual meeting yesterday.

### NO DANGER

'We should try to educate industrialists and make them realise that people under treatment for TB are hardly likely to break down. They are also not a danger to their fellow workers,' Dr Cooper said

The Regional Director of State Health Services, Dr Nico le Roux, said the authorities needed to spend more money on health.

Noting the Government's increased spending on defence, he said 'We must spend more money on nutrition and general education'

### PALTRY SUM

The chairman of the executive committee, Dr F K Mitchell, said in his annual report that the Department of Internal Affairs contributed a 'paltry sum' to Santa's two creches at Athlone and Elsie's River

The department pays a miniscule subsidy only for the days on which the children actually attend. If the child does not arrive, we get no subsidy

The department contributed R4 400 of the R37 000 that Santa spent on running the two creches last year

- 65. Minutes of meeting in CHB 262.
- 64. Robb to Secretary Law CHB 268.
- 63. Memorandum of CHB 262.
- 62. Heenan to Cumming Apr
- 61. H.R. Stockman (Admiral) Oct 21/01 CHB 268.
- 60. Report by Lowe to Engl CHB 262 /01
- 59. See previous note 57.
- 58. Minutes of meeting in NAD Office June 30/02 CHB 262.
- 57. Lowe to Heenan Dec 7/01 CHB 262.

1 CHB 268.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

CHB 262.

5/20/81  
131

# Inferno as Sasol 2 pipe bursts

## Crime Reporter

A massive fire at a burst pipeline at the Sasol 2 plant near Secunda today burned fiercely for more than three hours as teams of firefighters battled to extinguish it.

A spokesman for Sasol said the fire started in a gas distillation tower in a sub-section of the refinery unit.

He discounted any hint that saboteurs were responsible for the blaze.

Eye-witnesses said the flames could be seen from several hundred metres away.

Teams of firefighters managed to localise the blaze which is believed to have been started as the result of an operational accident, according to the spokesman.

# Death in a packet

BY BILL GARDINER

SOUTH African stevedores, especially those in Port Elizabeth, are seriously

risking their health by handling shipments of asbestos.

Despite contamination, at least 30% of asbestos exports are still shipped in pressure-packed bags which are known to puncture and tear, shedding fine — yet highly dangerous — asbestos fibres over dockworkers.

The regional director of the Department of Health in Port Elizabeth, Dr J D Krynanw, — where most asbestos is handled — has ordered an investigation

because this has been brought to our notice, we will certainly look into the matter

A month-long investigation by a newspaper, the Weekend Post, has revealed that asbestos fibres from torn and punctured bags have choked the air in ships' holds. Stevedores who were interviewed said bags holding asbestos had split while handled in the holds, particularly when workers, unaware of the health hazard, used hooks to move the bags.

On certain occasions, loose bags and strapped bags containing asbestos, would fall into the holds during loading, throwing up asbestos dust and fibres into the air.

They said the stevedore "bosses" did not provide protective clothing or masks nor a change of overalls.

According to medical research into occupational diseases, asbestos fibres — some not even visible to the naked eye — could be carried on the workers' overalls or their skin and, as a result, their families would also be exposed to the risk of getting asbestos-related diseases.

Some of the most dangerous fibres are too small to see and can cause a scarring of the lungs — asbestosis — and various forms of lung cancer.

The Port Elizabeth Stevedoring Labour Supply Company, which recruits dock workers, has refused to discuss the controversial issue of asbestos shipments through the harbour and the serious health hazard facing the stevedores working with inadequately packaged asbestos.

"It is no concern of mine," the manager, Mr C J Wilson,

said. "I supply the labour and the (stevedoring) companies work the ships.

"I wouldn't know if the bags can or cannot tear. I don't handle cargo, I handle people."

Asked if the company supplied protective clothing and masks to its workers when they were handling asbestos, he said the company only supplied overalls, hoots and helmets. The provision of gloves, masks and goggles was the responsibility of the stevedoring companies, which requested labour from the Port Elizabeth Stevedoring Labour Supply Company.

He referred further enquiries to Mr H de Witte, manager of the South African Stevedores Service Company (Ltd).

S Tribune 23/8/81  
131 222

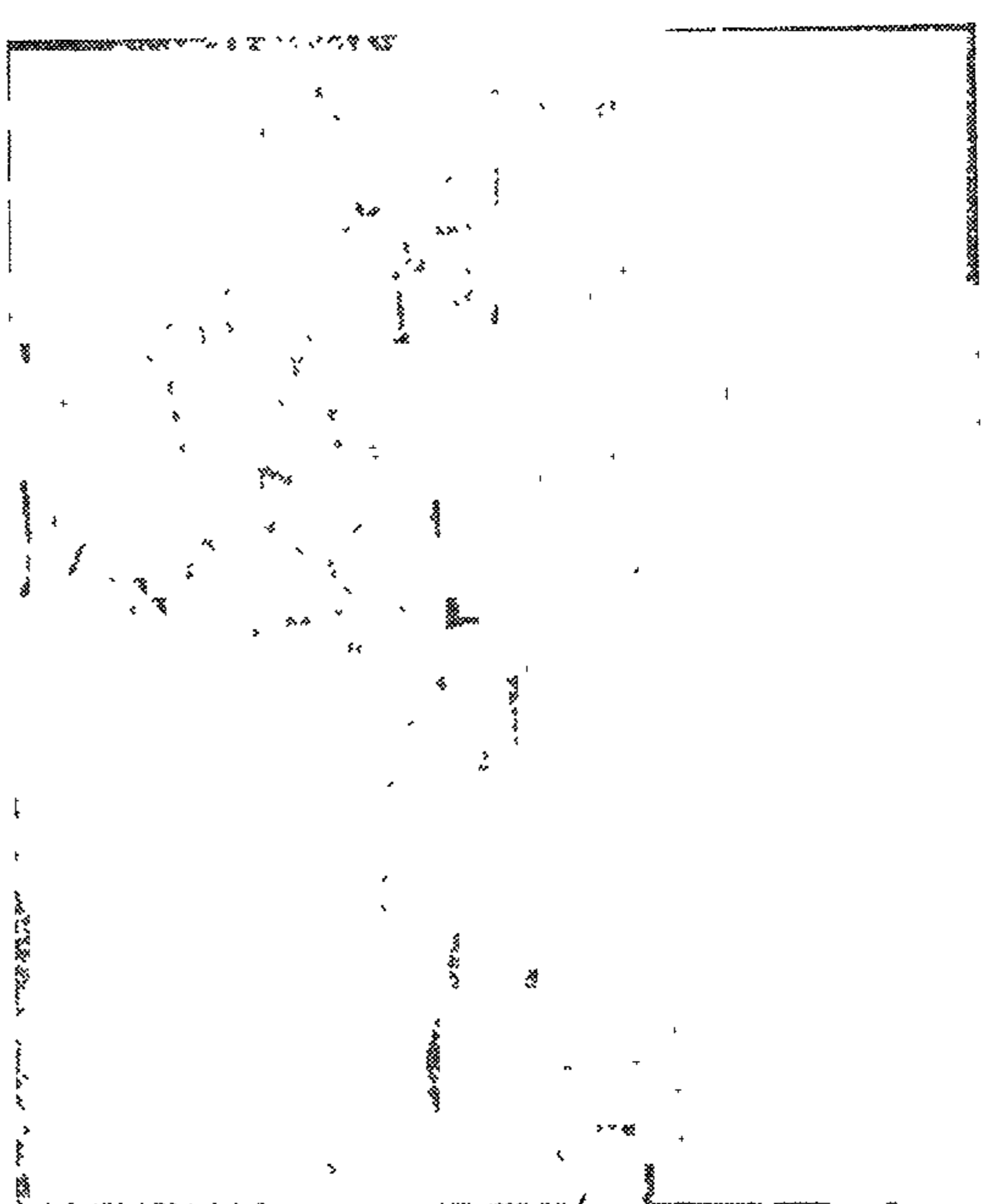
**THE AIR  
IN SHIPS**

**HOLDS**

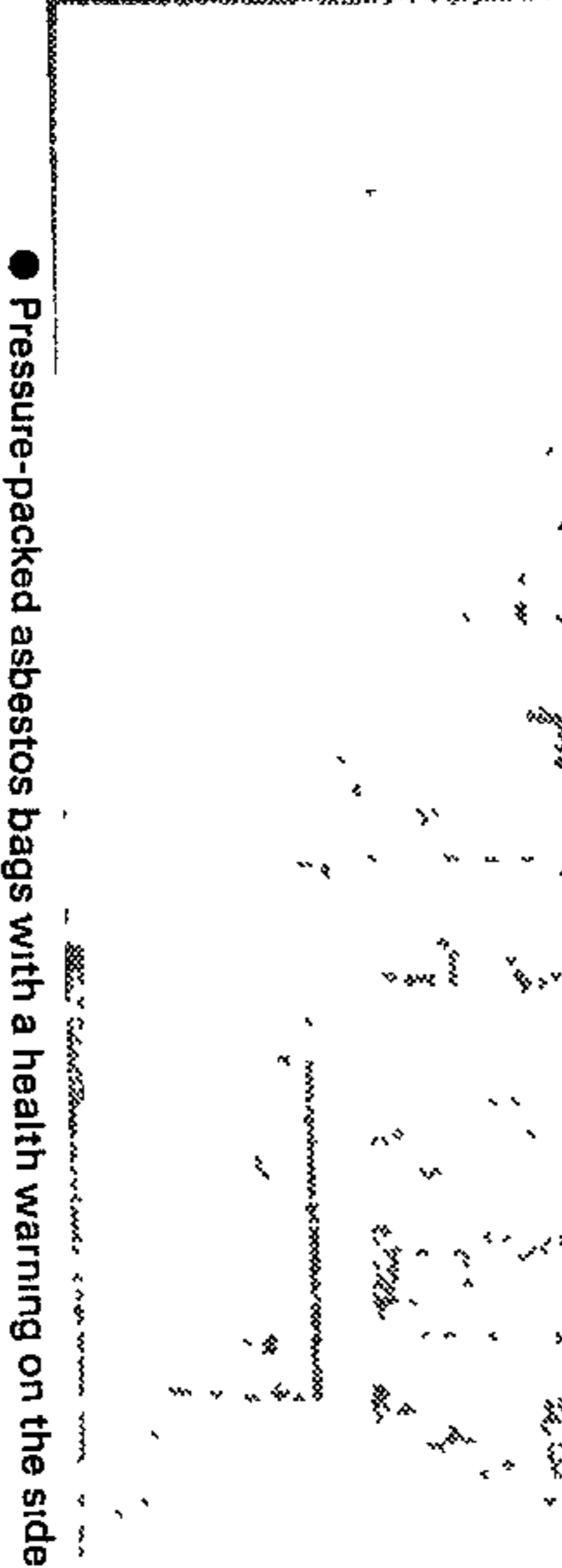
**IS**

**CHOKED**

**WITH AN UNSEEN BUT DEADLY MENACE**



● Stevedores without protective clothing move asbestos on a Port Elizabeth quay



● Pressure-packed asbestos bags with a health warning on the side

(SASCO)

Mr De Witte refused to discuss the matter.

He said Mr Wilson had contacted him about the subject and he had no further comment.

"Mr Wilson told you about it. He mentioned it to me. I have no further comment to

make and I am going to put the telephone down now."

Approached for comment, the General Workers' Union (GWU) — which represents the stevedores — said it was aware of the "acute health hazard" from asbestos and the matter had already been raised with stevedore

management.

"The work processes are being investigated and they will be improved," a GWU spokesman said.

"Workers are to be medical-

ly examined by doctors and, once the tests have been completed, the question of workers' compensation for asbestos-related diseases will be raised."

Some of the more remote ports had not yet contaminated so the asbestos was shipped in pressure-packed bags.

"All of it used to be supplied in bags at one time, but because of contamination and the health hazard this is not the case now."

The regional director of the Department of Health in Port Elizabeth, Dr J D Krynanw, said although he had not received any formal complaints

about the loading of asbestos at the harbour, he would instruct his staff to look into the matter.

Accidents and isolated incidents of the loading of material which was a danger to health could occur at times, but if it was a regular mishandling of such material "then we will certainly look into it."

"If it is a common occurrence, the health of the community in that area would be in danger."

Political comment in this issue by R A Gibson, headline, and sub-editing by Barry Baxter, design by Les Stephenson, all of 171 Main Street, Johannesburg

# Man, 22, dies in smash at factory gates

29/8/81 Angus

(131)

A DRIVER, Mr M America, 22, of Lotus River, was killed today when his Combi crashed into the gates of a factory in Swartklip Road, Swartklip.

Four passengers were injured and were taken by ambulance to Grootte Schuur Hospital.

In Kraaifontein, Mr R Clark, 32, of Sixth Avenue, Kraaifontein, died in an accident at the corner of Récréation and Voortrekker roads last night.

Jan Arendse, 17, of Stellenbosch, was killed last night when he was knocked down on the Old Polkadraai Road, Vlottenberg, Stellenbosch.

### CHILDREN

A boy, M Blankenberg, 5, and a girl, L Petersen, 6, died when they were knocked down near their

home in Sixth Street, Elsies River, yesterday.

An unidentified woman, aged about 55, was killed today when she was struck by a train at Scottsdene station, Kraaifontein.

of the Xhosa-Cape  
Eyes: The Diary  
African Library 34  
ata see S.E.R.

25. 'Kafir College at the Cape', The Net 2: pp.78-79, 1st May 1867.
26. Compare the account of a train ride written by Eliza M., an African girl from St Matthew's Mission, Keiskamma Hoek, during her visit to the Cape in 1863: C. Saunders, 'Eliza's Cape Town, 1863', Quarterly Bulletin of the South African Library 35 (2): p.54, December 1980.
27. Cricket was then in its infancy, Governor Wodehouse's enthusiasm for the game giving rise to its recent popularity at the Cape. The bat was unwieldy, being fashioned out of a single piece of wood and being of nearly uniform thickness throughout the length of the blade. Over arm bowling was only legalised in 1864.
28. W. Monde, 'Description of Stellenbosch', The Mission Field 11: pp.94-5, 1st May 1866.
29. N. Cohon, 'Kafir College at Stellenbosch', ibid., pp.95-6.
30. 'Africa', The Net 2: pp.77-8, 1st May 1867.
31. ibid., p.78.
32. 'The World', The Net: pp.85-6, 1st June 1868.
33. ibid., pp.86-7.
34. E. Sandilii (Sandile) to Grey, 2nd November 1860, GCA.
35. G. Moroka to Grey, 11th July 1861, 21st and 26th August 1862, 22nd November 1862, (GCA).
36. Hodgson, op.cit., p.411.
37. For an example of Mhala's writing, war of 1877-78, see C. Saunders, 'of Nathaniel Umhala', Quarterly Bulletin of So-gqumahashe (Lovedale) (1): pp.24-38, September 1979.

# FOR A SAFER UNDERGROUND

Of all the hazards in the mining industry, the most feared is the phenomenon known as rockburst. In the early part of the century, rockbursts were regarded as being almost uncontrollable and

unpredictable, but dedicated scientists have gradually won the day and this major killer is about to be conquered by a team of Chamber of Mines researchers. Report by **BOB DAVIS**.

Controlling the numbers and intensity of rockbursts has been a major research objective in the mining industry for several decades — and there have been three worthwhile achievements. While **131** has been the ably-

to predict where and when a rockburst will occur, but almost as important has been the breakthrough in regard to support systems — and where to put them.

It became clear in the '70s that South African technology had achieved the situation of being able to mine at deeper levels without significantly increasing the incidence of fatalities.

The achievement was hailed as a net gain by Chamber of Mines President, Mr L W van den Bosch, but it has been improved on.

While the dream of an early warning system appeared to be beyond reach, greater stability of the hanging (ceiling) by means of injecting concrete into the wall known as wooden packs presen-

ted the first real hope several years ago.

The problem was that the concrete-which packs — were were known as sand-which packs — were unpredictable and failed to yield in such a manner that support remained firm.

What was needed was a support system that would yield rapidly without collapsing.

The research team, led by authority on rockbursts, Dr Niklos Salomon, discussed the problem with a number of South African manufacturers one of whom finally produced a prototype of a rapid-yielding hydraulic prop.

It worked. The local by produced prop proved to be able to take a shock load without buckling and it could yield at the rate

of 1 in 1 second. Recent estimates put the number of props in use at 150 000 at a unit cost of R350.

But it has also been improved on by means of a rapid-yielding barrier check, which is now being introduced.

Unit cost is R1 500 to R2 000.

While the support systems were being developed, a further problem connected with rockbursts was being studied — where to put the supports.

Surprisingly, computer programmes provided the answer. The trick was to compare the potential stresses and displacements of various mining approaches in a given area by means of a computer analysis and then to select the one offering optimum safety and efficiency.

... ..

... ..



A barrier choc, said to be the best support system for deep level mining in the world. They cost up to R2 000 each and are now being introduced into the industry as part of an effort to make mining safer.

# Science may soon tame this killer

*Star 2/9/81*

(13) *2/9/81*

The major killer of miners may soon be tamed. Scientists are close to being able to predict where and when rockbursts are likely to occur.

Some of the finest minds in the mining industry have been battling for years to solve the hazard which grows worse as the mines grow deeper.

Since 1910, when the mining industry began keeping meaningful records of deaths due to underground accidents, more than 7 000 miners have died from rockbursts and rock falls.

While the industry successfully reduced the death rate for other types of accidents, the decline in

regard to this major killer remained almost unchanged into the 1970s at the rate of about 100 a year.

The effect on the morale of both white and black miners has made the skills shortage in this industry, which depends to an overwhelming extent on its manpower, even worse.

In its 1980 report, the Chamber of Mines' Research Organisation noted that "It is expected that one of the benefits of investigations into rock behaviour will be an improvement in safety standards brought about by a better understanding of unstable rock fracture and hence the control

of the numbers and intensities of rockbursts."

The prospect of an improvement in safety standards was welcomed by miners, but the question of predicting the where and when of rockbursts remained a major research target.

The breakthrough came as a result of meticulous research into rock movement hundreds, sometimes thousands, of metres below surface.

Sensors placed down boreholes are monitoring the rock movements which are sometimes only about 100 m apart in the mining areas.

The sensors are lin-

ked to a computer and, by gathering data from hundreds of points over an area, scientists are able to make the life-saving predictions that the mining industry has waited so long for.

But the man mainly responsible for the breakthrough, Professor Miklos Salamon, said "At this stage I cannot say more than that I am hopeful."

"Prediction is not an exact science and I am having my hope on the results obtained to date in our tests."

"We have been right often enough in our tests for me to be able to say that our predictions appear to be meaningful."

101

SV Post 14/9/87  
**PE painter  
hurt in fall**

Post Reporter

A MAN was seriously injured after falling from scaffolding on a building at the corner of Hancock and Dobson Streets, North End, today

The unidentified man, a painter, was taken by ambulance to Port Elizabeth's Livingstone Hospital

A hospital spokesman said the man had multiple injuries, including a broken femur and a broken leg

Men die after  
factory blaze  
Ev Post 18/9/81  
131

**KIMBERLEY** — Two Kimberley men, Mr Lukas Bosch, 50, and Mr Gavin Markham, 18, have died of burns after a fire on Wednesday at a local window-frame factory.

Mr L J Marais, a manager at the firm, said yesterday the men had been working near a paint trough in which window frames were dipped in a mixture of paint and thinners, when it caught alight.

They had tried to put out the blaze but were burnt in the process.

Mr Marais said they were taken to hospital, but died later the same day. — Sapa



**Call for**  
*News 18/9/81*  
**building law**  
**to cover**  
**wind risk**

**THE** Building Workers' Union has called for legislation providing for work stoppages in inclement weather

The call was made yesterday after the death on Monday of Mr B. Dangala, 36, of Guguletu, who was blown from scaffolding while working on the Wynberg Magistrate's Court

Mr R. G. Simmons, general secretary of the union, said that existing safety laws did not cover weather conditions.

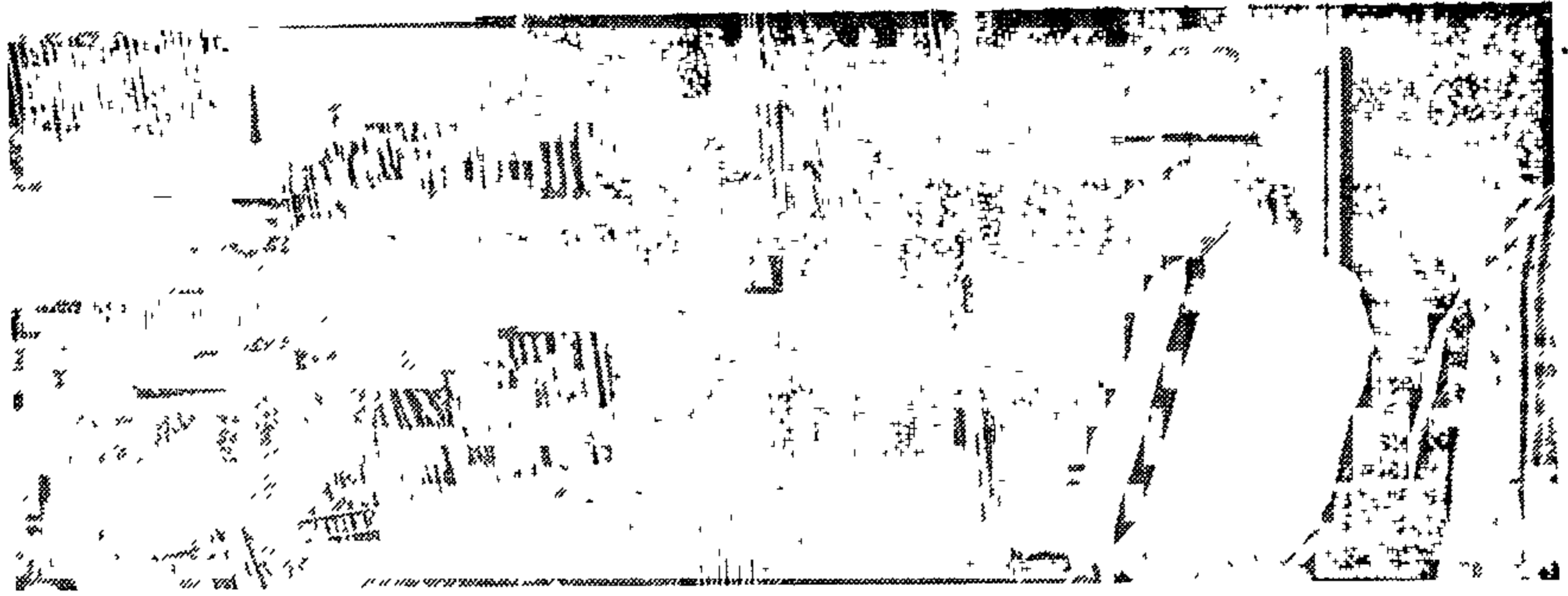
'I would like the Government to legislate accordingly, or at least see a set of standards and a meter on site which would indicate to the foreman when work should stop due to weather conditions,' he said.

Mr Simmons added that he knew of other incidents in which workers had had scrapes with death because of adverse weather conditions — particularly in Cape Town

**VOLUMES**

A Department of Manpower spokesman said that while there was legislation covering various safety aspects, it would take several volumes to cover every eventuality.

The managing director of Murray and Roberts Mr D. N. Fraser said that highly qualified men in charge of sites were allowed to use their own discretion as to when it was safe for work to continue



"Good housekeeping" is one of the keys to occupational safety. Nosa regional manager Mr Ronnie McKinnon (white helmet) conducts an on-the-job inspection.

# Industrial accidents cost as much

By John Bentley

More than a quarter of a million national workers will this year be victims of on-the-job accidents serious enough to keep them away from work for at least one day

"About 31 000 men and women will be permanently maimed. Several hundred will be hurt so badly that they will never return to their jobs. More than 2 000 will be killed," says Mr H J (Bunny) Matthyssen, general manager of the National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa).

Industrial accidents cost the nation about R400-million a year. "That's roughly the same as the Police budget," Mr Matthyssen points out.

It is likely that the cost in men and money would be far greater were it not for Nosa.

Since the formation of Nosa in 1951 the percentage of the workforce receiving "disabling injuries" — injuries that keep them away from work or in which a bone is broken — has dropped from 4 to 2.2 percent a

## star 21/9/81 (131) as Police budget

year This figure compares favourably with countries like the United States (2.6 percent) and Canada (6 percent)

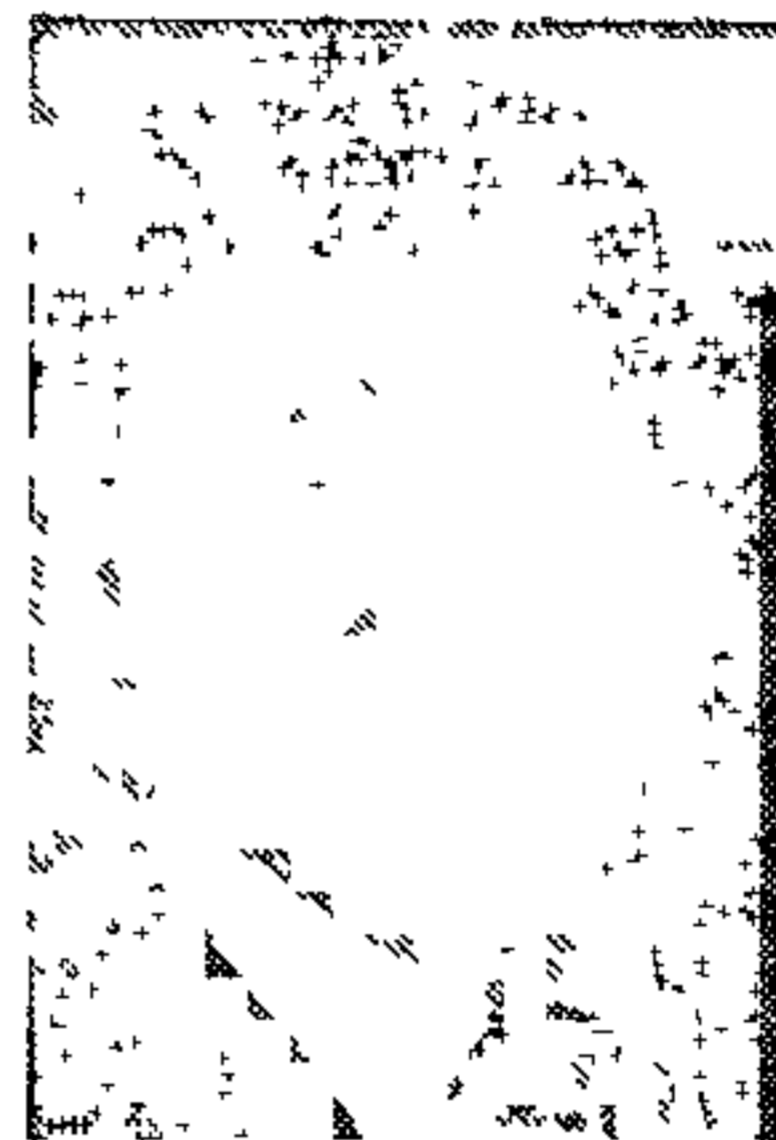
The Workmen's Compensation Commissioner has been able to reduce the average premium from R1.15 a R100 wages earned in 1972 to 80c a R100 wages earned for the year 1981/82 This is in spite of improved compensation rates and higher medical fees.

Mr Matthyssen attributes Nosa's success in selling safety to what he calls "YCSSSOYT" or "You cannot sell safety successfully sitting on your tail"

Nosa's staff go into the field, visiting the people they need to influence.

"Accident prevention is basically a management technique," says Mr Matthyssen, "so the Nosa technical man has to assist management in introducing management control methods"

A detailed "Safety Ma-



The Nosa general manager, Mr H J (Bunny) Matthyssen—bringing down the rate of on-the-job injuries.

agement by Objectives" system has been developed, making South Africa the only country in the world carrying out the task in such a methodical manner.

Evaluation and quantification then indicates to management where the weaknesses lie

Nosa's evaluation

scheme has evolved into a five-star grading system similar to that in use for hotels.

The checklist for star grading covers more than 100 items including the premises, machine guarding, electrical protection, personal protective equipment, safety organisation and propaganda methods.

In addition, the injury frequency rate is taken into account.

Mr Matthyssen is a firm believer in motivation by recognition. As a result, the five-star grading system has had an offshoot in a national competition for five-star safety firms.

The best performers in each region go forward to national finals in their respective classes. Competition is intense — and the safety payoff is incalculable.

The future? "With the right team and the able support of industry, and especially the continued financial support of the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner, I'm sure we can set a target to bring the national injury rate down to 1 percent," Mr Matthyssen says.

25/9/81

~~131~~ ~~131~~ 131

Occupational Diseases in Mines &  
Works Amendment Bill - 2nd reading

Hours 8 21 - 25 Sept 1981

col 4913

## BLUE DUST could mean death for the people of the small Northern Cape mining town of Prieska — but many of them laugh off the peril.

Despite extensive evidence and warnings from doctors that deadly blue asbestos dust is slowly killing them, they prefer to ignore the danger.

Controversy over the asbestos dust, which affects many small towns in the Cape mining belt, erupted again this week after a programme dealing with asbestos mining in South Africa was shown on British television.

Asbestos mining as undertaken in South Africa has been outlawed in Britain since 1969 because of the health risk, and on television programme was screened in a bid to block moves to re-introduce it.

Coinciding with the programme, a Cape Town doctor released the findings of a study which shows that Prieska and other mining towns in the North-western Cape are heavily polluted with "lethal" blue asbestos dust.

This week the Sunday Times went to Prieska to investigate the extent of the threat.

Strangely, the townsfolk are divided over the peril they face.

Only a few acknowledged that a problem existed and were planning to move out.

But most laughed off the danger. They accused the Press and medical experts of stirring up trouble and refused to talk about the dust threat, although many admitted that they knew at least one person who had died from an asbestos-related disease.

Some privately admitted to being scared, but they won't speak out because they feared ridicule.

### Gardens

Although the asbestos mill in the town was closed in 1971, the dust lingers in every corner of Prieska, including buildings, vegetable gardens, and residential streets.

Two uncovered asbestos dumps still stand on the edge of town, and the unoccupied mill site is heavily polluted.

Asbestos dust has been proved to cause at least two deadly diseases — as well as contributing to several others, including lung cancer.

It causes asbestosis, a crippling lung disease, which, while although not immediately fatal, seriously disables the sufferer.

The biggest killer of all is mesothelioma, caused by the presence of asbestos fibres in the lungs.

It results in an "agonising and ugly" death, usually within a year of the disease being diagnosed.

A doctor described the symptoms of the disease.

"The first indication is when a patient develops chest pains.

"Then the affected lung fills up with fluid, and the disease spreads to the other lung, also causing that to collapse.

### Suffering

"Often, abscesses form on the patient's chest, bursting out of the skin when the pressure is too great.

"The patient eventually dies of respiratory failure," he said.

There is no known treatment for the disease, and little doctors can do to alleviate the suffering of the patient.

Dr Neil White, an industrial health researcher in Cape Town, recently studied the dust peril at Prieska and wrote a report condemning the conditions.

He was one of the main participants in a Granada television programme which focused on the case of Prieska to highlight the risk involved in new moves to re-open asbestos mining in Britain.

Dr White told me this week that over 30 people had died of mesothelioma in Prieska in the

### Children

The Prieska Divisional Council health inspector, Mr J E Swart, angrily refused to comment when the Sunday Times visited him.

One long-time resident who is worried is Mr Timus van Schalkwyk, 63, a foreman with the Prieska Municipality.

He said "It is all a disgrace and should never have been allowed to happen.

"It is no good pretending it doesn't exist. Something must be done.

"Look at this dust — and it all washes into the Orange River



MR VAN SCHALKWYK  
A disaster

and then people use it in their gardens as top-soil.

"Also children play on the dumps and nobody does anything about it.

"I don't know what to do. I have never lived or worked anywhere else and cannot just leave.

"Where could I go, I am too old to start again, but what about the children?"

Mr van Schalkwyk said many of his friends were also foolish

enough to laugh off the danger.

"They're all dead now. I'm the only one left."

Another local doctor, a young married man with three children, accused the Press of "trying to stir up trouble for Prieska."

He said that he was "sick of sensationalised reporting."

However, he admitted that he had seen "a few" cases of mesothelioma and asbestosis in the 18 months he had spent in the town.

He refused to tell us how many cases he had actually seen, but later admitted "I know some patients have died from it."

He said that the incidence of mesothelioma was "higher here than in any other part of South Africa where asbestos is not mined."

He added "I certainly am aware of the risks and I have bought my children to live here. I am not afraid."

"I have more chance of being run over than of dying of mesothelioma."

The doctor's view is not shared by Professor Douglas Anderson, of the National Hospital in Bloemfontein, who said that the hospital saw "about one case of mesothelioma a week."

"These people suffering from mesothelioma come from all towns where asbestos is mined, not just Prieska."

"A lot of cases also go to Johannesburg, Kimberley, and Cape Town for treatment."

"People are definitely still dying from exposure to asbestos. The cancer takes many years to develop and these people could have been exposed many years ago."

"We are getting fewer cases from Prieska now that the mining has stopped and most cases now come from places like Kuruman, where asbestos is still mined."

"Unfortunately there is no known cure and no symptoms until it is too late to do anything for the patient."

Dr A Abou, who worked at the Kimberley Hospital and saw many cases of mesothelioma every year, said he thought the problem was "still extensive."

### Serious

"In Kimberley I saw about 50 cases of mesothelioma a year, all from the Northern Cape region."

"People can be affected as far as 80km away."

"I would describe the situation as a serious health hazard."

A spokesman for the General Mines Union Corporation, said that Gencor had only taken over the asbestos property in Prieska two months ago.



DR NEIL WHITE — "There is a very low standard of awareness about the disease in Prieska"

This man plans to move his

# children out. Others just laugh off the peril

Mr Johan Lotter with his daughters Annalie, 7, and Aina, 13, at the site of the old asbestos mill at Prieska which, he claims, caused the death of his wife



# In the town

# of KILLER DUST

going to university next year and I doubt whether she will ever come back to Prieska. I hope she doesn't"

Mr Lotter drives past the old mill every day, on his way about the town, and says he hates the sight of it

"The girls don't really know why their mother died, but it is hard work for me to bring up three girls, particularly as the youngest is only seven," he said.

"It all started when Annetta got pains in her chest.



"She went to a local doctor who immediately sent her to Bloemfontein for further tests. It was correctly diagnosed, but there was nothing they could do — they told me there is no known cure for mesothelioma.

"We brought her back home and she died here in Prieska — but she suf-

fered terribly before she died. It was a dreadful death.

"Before my wife got mesothelioma, we were like everyone else in the town — we never cared or believed the stories which are like legends in the town — we thought it wouldn't happen to us"

He says he thinks the municipality should take the prime responsibility for the health problem and the uncovered asbestos mines and dumps

"The mines should help, but it was the municipality which gave them permission to start here in the first place

"The municipality must have sold the mines the premises and known what they were going to do, so they should clean up and make this place livable — for their people's sake

"The danger is still definitely here — in fact, even if they covered up the

mines I don't know if it would make any difference

"There is probably so much asbestos dust in the ceilings and floors of every house that you would probably have to tear down half the buildings."

When the local school was undergoing renovations recently, Mr Lotter said he spoke to building contractors who told him they had found more than five centimetres of asbestos dust on the beams of the roof.



"I realise that I am not giving the town much good publicity, but something must be done to give future generations a chance in this town," Mr Lotter said.

"In the meantime we have to live and work here and just hope the municipality does something to cover up the mill and the asbestos dumps."

A FATHER is determined to sell up and leave Prieska to save himself and his three young daughters from the same "ghastly" death as their mother

Mrs Annetta Lotter, 41, died less than two months ago of a disease that medical men describe as "rare and deadly"

She died of mesothelioma — a cancer of the lining of the lung — almost certainly caused from asbestos dust gathered in the lungs

"My wife died a horrible, painful death, and there was nothing that could be done for her," Mr Lotter, a prosperous businessman said this week.

"Now I wish I had the courage to sell up and get out of this town," he said.

"When we heard, nearly a year ago, that Annetta had mesothelioma, she just had to accept it. But I feel bitter

because it was an unnecessary death.

"The people in Prieska try to pretend nothing is happening because they are scared, and also because they believe that it would never happen to them.

"But it does, and I know many people in the town who have lost at least one relative or a few friends to the asbestos dust.

"Annetta never worked in the mill, or went near the dumps, but she lived about three kilometres away and when the wind blows, the asbestos dust is everywhere



"Look, it is a pity that the mill was ever in Prieska, but it is too late to cry about that now.

"What is disgusting is the mess that has been left behind — the mess that is still poisoning people

"The town is still dangerous, the dust is still everywhere and the house still fills up with dust every time the wind blows even a little.

"I would estimate that two out of three people in this town suffer from either asbestosis or mesothelioma or lung cancer — and I don't want my daughters to be one of them"

Mrs Lotter grew up in the town and Mr Lotter has now bought her father's farm. The couple lived in the town together for over 17 years

"My wife, although she never had anything to do with the mill or the mines, grew up here and then when we married we came back here," he said

"I own over 12 000 morgen here — it is a lot to give up. But our lives are worth more than just money," Mr Lotter said

"My eldest daughter, who is 17, is

MR DICK VILJOEN — "Rubbish, a few people have died, but there is no health hazard"

past 18 months, and "many more cases may have gone by unnoticed because people have moved out of the area"

He said "Because the disease lies dormant in the body for between 20 and 30 years, young children and babies who are exposed to this disease now could die as young adults

"There is a very low standard of awareness in Prieska and most people know nothing about the disease

"The danger has not gone away because the mill is closed"

And it is not only mine-workers who are at risk

"A child can get it just by playing and breathing in dust, and a family may also get mesothelioma from a father coming home with dust in his hair or clothes," said Dr White

One of the leading doctors in Prieska, the superintendent of the local hospital, who has worked in the town for over 40 years, said he had seen about 900 cases of mesothelioma in the past 42 years

"Most of the cases are white

people, many who actually worked in the mines or the mill.

"I saw on average about 20 deaths a year from mesothelioma, although this figure has dropped to only a few

"I no longer see it as a serious problem," he said.

The Town Clerk of Prieska, Mr Dick Viljoen, admitted that "a few people have died but not many. Certainly no-one seems worried

"I would say that the information you have has been grossly exaggerated and in fact, a lot of rubbish

"We have new residents and people who are returning to Prieska after being away. They all know about the so-called health hazards

"No-one else is panicking — only the Press"

Mr Viljoen defended the mining companies, saying "They were always concerned and did their best to minimise the risk. Only two years ago the old mill site was covered with fresh soil"

When I visited the site, after speaking to Mr Viljoen, there was no sign of any top-soil — only a vast expanse of rubble and thick layers of asbestos dust

Mr Viljoen, who admitted that he had never personally visited the dumps, said

"I accept that while the mines

and mill were operating there could have been a health hazard 20 or 30 years ago, but I refuse to accept that there is a danger now

"It is a lie to say that the mines have neglected their people"

Mr Viljoen said that while the Health Department, the Prieska Municipality and the mining companies were in close contact, no action for covering up the mill or the two dumps had yet been decided upon

He said that at the last population count, in 1970 the white population numbered about 1 668, and the coloured population about 6 000

Cont

# 2 men killed by sewer gas

Cape Times 9/12/81

131

By ENRICO KEMP

TWO City men were killed by deadly methane gas while working in a sewer in Lonsdale Way, Pinelands, last night

Rescue crews from the Peninsula Metro Rescue Unit, ambulance and fire station battled for over an hour to extract the bodies of Mr Bryce Ellis and Mr Andries Molala from the narrow, four-metre-deep sewerage pipe in the grounds of the Pinelands Club

The two men, who worked for Tate Associated Pipe, had climbed down into the sewer yesterday afternoon to open an outlet valve, according to the company's manager, Mr N R van Druten, who witnessed the rescue bid

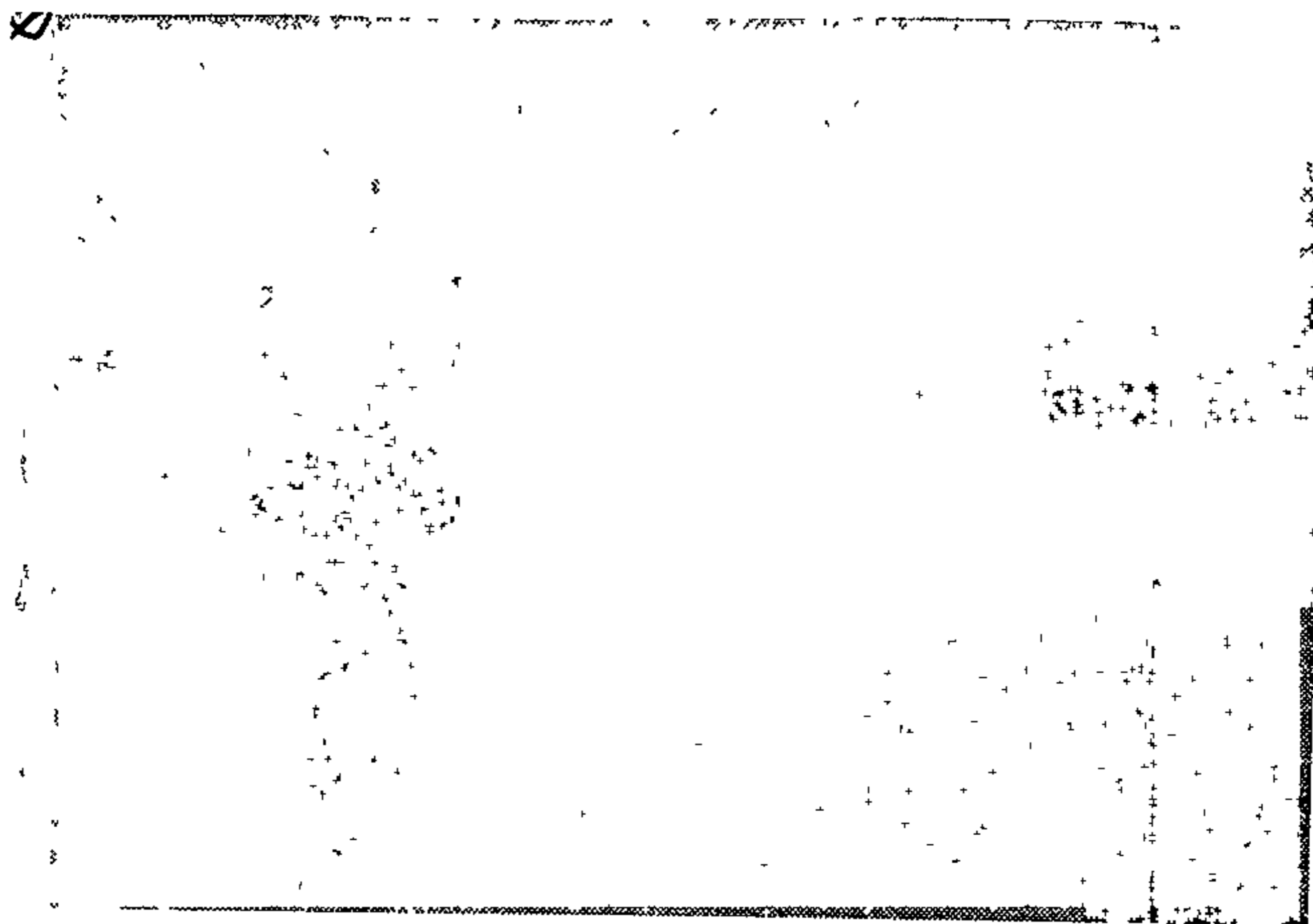
Mr Van Druten said his company had been doing cleaning and maintenance work on sewerage pipes in the area since September

The alarm was raised by a nearby resident, Mr O Q Bell, at about 7 30pm Mr Bell said he was at the Pinelands Club when a worker rushed in and said two men had been overcome by gas in the sewer. He contacted the ambulance station and went to the scene

Two youths, David Lindsay and Stephen Gardiner, both of Pinelands, were passing through the club grounds when they heard that two men had collapsed while working in the sewer

"I heard that two guys were trying to open a valve when they were knocked out by the gas We rushed over to the other end of the pipe in Oude Molen, but we couldn't do anything from there," Stephen said. They then contacted Metro, the fire station and the police

● Picture, page 2



*PILES of asbestos tailings, used as a building material, can be seen in some of the yards of Batlharos. Dorcas Mosiapo, 12, holds her young brother Segopoco while standing on a pile in their backyard.*

# Fears of am asbestos town

11/28/81

**THE asbestos-related disease of the man district of the north-western Cape.**  
**In this, the second of two articles on mesothelioma, The Argus visits Kuruman.**

It is also the focal point for many of the country's reported cases of mesothelioma — a fatal cancer caused by exposure to blue asbestos fibres.

The town does not take kindly to journalists after last month's Granada TV documentary in Britain threw an international spotlight on asbestos mining in South Africa.

Mine officials, doctors and others said they were

## Millions spent to cut asbestos dust levels

THE mining industry is aware of the problems of working with asbestos and has spent millions of rands on improving conditions, according to a spokesman for the Griqualand Exploration and Finance Company Ltd (Gefco) in Kuruman.

Gefco is owned by General Mining Union Corporation Ltd, which has recently acquired a virtual monopoly of asbestos mining in South Africa.

Mr Gert van der Walt, manager of Gefco's mining department, said the Government Mining Engineer laid down limits on the amount of asbestos fibre and dust allowed in the air of mines and mills.

The present limit was five asbestos fibres a cubic centimetre of air and 200 dust counts a cc of air.

**WET METHODS**

Mr van der Walt said the mining of blue asbestos was not a problem as the mining methods were wet.

In the dust-creating milling operation, a lot of money had been spent in the past two or three years to reduce dust and fibre levels.

It is not like 30 years ago. People who worked 30 years ago in milling plants and mines are more liable to get ill as a result of the working conditions

worked in Kuruman for 22 years said 'Mesothelioma makes me jittery I could start getting chest pains any day now.'

It is more prevalent around here than anywhere else. As many people get it who have never worked on a mine as people who work on the mines.

**IMPOSSIBLE**

'After diagnosis, you don't have long to live. Nothing helps. If you have got it, you die. That's all.'

The doctor said it would be almost impossible to establish the true incidence of mesothelioma in the area. He saw 'five or perhaps six, cases a year.'

The Rev A J Butler, director of the Moffat Mission, said Kuruman was isolated from the mainstream of inquiry, and people had not read the evidence on the dangers of asbestos.

'You see great loads of asbestos in bags still going through the town. If that happened in Coventry for instance, the whole population would be out in protest.'

'Asbestos is important to the prosperity of the towns. But the regulations and their policing have to be tightened up so that the poor are not taken advantage of,' he said.

The Town Clerk, Mr Dean Swart, said he had once been a suspected mesothelioma case. Born and bred in Kuruman, he could remember playing on 'asbestos' sacks as a child.

'We don't have an education programme. But if we see loose asbestos lying around, on a road being covered, we warn the people.'

People are conscious of the danger of asbestos, but accept it.

'Conditions on the mines have improved tremendously compared to the '40s and '50s when there were virtually no precautions. I am very happy with the precautions they take now. Whether improved conditions will result in a drop in the number of mesothelioma cases, however, remains to be seen.'

'The effect on mesothelioma of cleaning up the mines and mills will only be seen about 15 years afterwards,' said the local doctor.

So far, in spite of improvements over the years, the number of cases he saw seemed to be increasing rather than decreasing.

When I came here, Kuruman was a little village with two mills. Since then the asbestos industry has expanded.

'There are more mines, more mills and more people staying here. That is why I see mesothelioma more often.'

## WIDOWLY FEARS A TERRIBLE DEATH

**IN the small Bophuthatswana village of Batharos, near Kuruman, lives a simple woman afraid of dying a terrible death.**

Mrs Sarah Kabelo, 45, the mother of six children, has seen two of her three brothers and her sister cut down in their prime by asbestos-related mesothelioma.

In the sparsely furnished sitting room of her home, a subdued Mrs Kabelo told how her brothers, Columbus and Michael Sebesho, had started work as miners at about the age of 20.

Both worked for a short time on the nearby Reres asbestos mine. They lived on the mine during the week and returned to the family home at Batharos at weekends.

In November 1976, Columbus Sebesho, 38, the father of four children, died of mesothelioma.

In April last year, Michael Sebesho, 37, father of two children, died of mesothelioma.

Five years earlier, in February, 1975, Mrs Kabelo's sister, Winnie, died of mesothelioma. Aged 43, she was the mother of eight children.

**'Stones'**

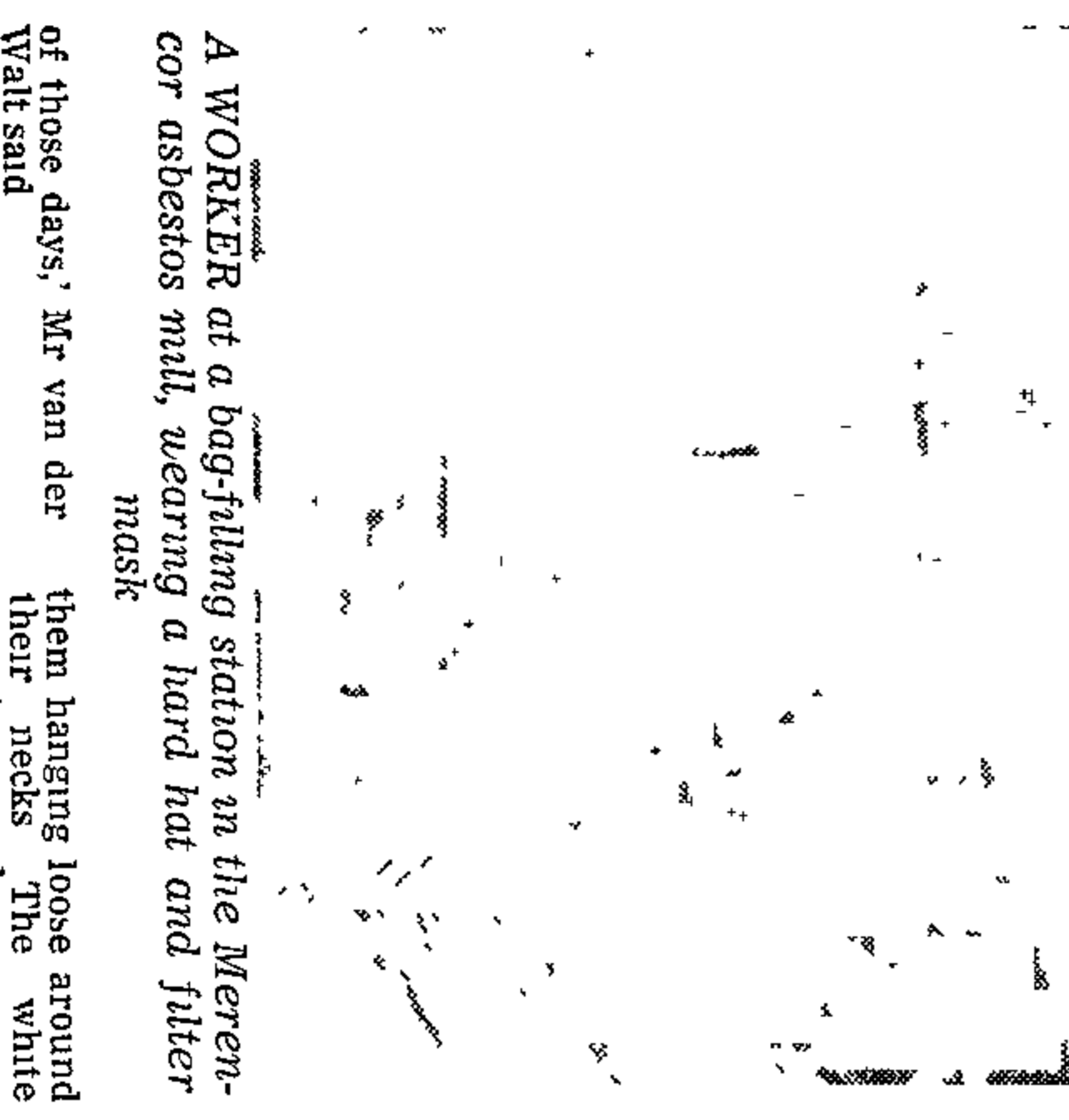
Mrs Kabelo said Winnie had never worked with asbestos. She had, however, seen 'asbestos stones' and as a child had carried stones home from Reres.

There was no compensation for Winnie, as she had never worked on a mine.

**Compensation**

Mr Dhang said he started working on an asbestos mine in 1952 and worked both underground and in a mill. He stopped work in November 1977 and has been receiving compensation of R41 every three months.

'The mines were very clear. A number of men who worked five or 10 years could be referred to us with a suspected pleural effusion and he found to have pleural mesothelioma.'



A WORKER at a bag-filling station in the Merenkor asbestos mill, wearing a hard hat and filter mask.

of those days,' Mr van der Walt said.

When The Argus visited Gefco's Werenor mill about 50 km from Kuruman, the air appeared clear in the section where the 50 kg bags of fibre were being machine filled.

Where the ore was crushed and then screened to release the fibres, however, there was an obvious haze of dust although the machinery was housed.

Most of the black workers were wearing filter masks, but some had

them hanging loose around their necks. The white operators and overseers did not carry masks.

Outside the mill, water was being sprayed about by workers to keep down the dust. Sprinklers were operating at the top of the 'tailings' or waste dump.

The dump had been treated with a solution to release the fibres, however, there was an obvious haze of dust although the machinery was housed.

Most of the black workers were wearing filter masks, but some had

Although dust and fibre levels have improved in recent years, it is not clear that a safe level of exposure for the workers has been reached.

'There is no uniform, statutory fibre limit in South Africa. The limit of five fibres a cc of air (equivalent to five million fibres a cubic metre of air) is higher than the two fibres of cc laid down for the Kapasit asbestos textile factory in Philippin.

The machinery for that factory was imported in 1979 from a plant in West Germany which closed down as safety regulations there became increasingly stringent.

**BRITISH LIMIT**

The British control limit on blue asbestos fibres — the same as those being mined near Kuruman — is 0.2 fibres a cc of air.

A recent British Government report found there was no safe level of exposure to asbestos fibres and recommended the use of substitute materials wherever possible.

Some experts question the value of filter masks issued to workers as the finest sub-microscopic fibres, which have been associated with mesothelioma, can pass through the filters.

Whether she too will succumb to mesothelioma.

As a child she had cobbed asbestos — breaking up the mined rock with a hammer to separate the fibres — and had also worked as a sorter.

'I used to cob during the school holidays. It was the only work that could be done.'

As the interview ended, Mrs Kabelo stood up hurriedly and burst into sobs in an adjoining room.

'Who will suffer with me?' she asked.

At another village nearby The Argus found a former mineworker who has been diagnosed as suffering from mesothelioma and asbestososis.

Mr James Dhang, 52, had previously been interviewed by the Granada TV team. He has nine children, the oldest 23 and the youngest four years old.

**Lungs clear**

Although results have not yet been analysed, a nurse who did fieldwork for the survey said a lot of mesothelioma cases had been found.

'Surprisingly,' said Mrs Sarah Mercetille, 'you can find a man who worked for 20 or 30 years on an asbestos mine and the X-ray of his lungs will be clear.'

'Another man who worked five or 10 years could be referred to us with a suspected pleural effusion and he found to have pleural mesothelioma.'



# Cancer inquiry at Cape asbestos town

Staff Reporter

THE CHIEF inspector of mines in Kimberley is investigating conditions in the town of Prieska where 33 people have died of mesothelioma — a lung cancer — in the past 18 months

Noting several press reports drawing attention to the hazardous situation in this North-Western Cape town, the mines inspectorate sent its chief inspector to investigate conditions there, Mr P Jameson, a senior inspector told the Cape Times yesterday

The press reports said young children played on exposed blue asbestos dumps containing deadly fibres that caused several diseases of the lung, including the fatal mesothelioma

Mr Jameson would not com-

ment on the investigation except to say that a report would be made soon

Meanwhile, Dr J Gilliland, deputy director-general of the Department of Health said yesterday that it had become imperative to educate the public on the dangers of asbestos. It was not the task of the Department of Health to enforce safety regulations at blue asbestos mines, as this function was carried out jointly by the departments of Mineral Affairs and Manpower Utilization

He said present legislation affecting blue asbestos mining in South Africa, considered by several medical experts to be far too lenient for safety purposes, was being investigated with a view to creating new measures

CAPE TIMES 16/12/81 131

# The dust of death town is under <sup>131</sup>scrutiny

By VAL CARTER-JOHNSON

AN investigation into the conditions in the mining town of Prieska is being undertaken by the Chief Inspector of Mines in Kimberley.

Other blue asbestos mining towns in the Northwestern Cape will also be investigated

This follows reports in the Sunday Times on the dangers of the blue asbestos dust lying uncovered in two huge dumps on the edge of the town

A recent study by a Cape Town doctor, Dr Neil White, showed that about 30 people from Prieska and the surrounding area had died in the past 18 months

While several town officials scoffed at the suggestion that the blue dust was lethal, many residents admitted they knew "several" people who had died from a terminal disease caused from the asbestos dust

## Lung cancer

Diseases related to the deadly blue asbestos dust include lung cancer, but the two most common diseases caused from the dust are mesothelioma — cancer of the lining of the lung — and asbestosis

Patients suffering from mesothelioma usually die within a year of the disease being diagnosed

Patients suffering from asbestosis do not necessarily die, but are handicapped for life

Mr P A Jamison, a senior inspector of mines, based in Kimberley, said a representative of his department had already gone to Prieska

"A preliminary study has already been done and the investigation is still being undertaken," he said

Dr J Gilliland, the deputy director-general of the Department of Health, said it had become imperative to educate the public on the dangers of asbestos

# Burst pipe <sup>(131)</sup> gas burns 4 workers

CAPE TOWN 24/12/81

FOUR labourers received chemical burns when an ammonia-gas pipe fractured in the fish hold of a trawler in Cape Town docks yesterday afternoon

The four men and four others were offloading a cargo of fish from the trawler Southern Raider when the fracture occurred and gas filled the hold

Although all eight men managed to scramble out of the hold only four were unscathed.

The injured men, Mr Clifford Mpikwa, Mr Ansson Gqarangini, Mr Sizilzo Killeli and Mr Bernard Ligelu, were taken to the Somerset Hospital where they were treated for chemical burns

Firemen wearing breathing apparatus checked the gas-filled hold for possible missing workers but found none.

A spokesman for the hospital last night said Mr Mpikwa had been more seriously affected by the gas than the three other men but all four patients were in a "satisfactory condition"

# Asbestos-related disease: Stricter controls called for

S-TAR  
4/12/81  
131

## Staff Reporter

Experts are worried about the conditions exposed in a recent British TV programme on South African asbestos mines, despite the progress made in recent years in cleaning them up.

The programme reported that people working in asbestos mines, or living near them, have been suffering in large numbers from asbestos-caused diseases for decades. The programme followed exposés published in The Star and The Argus last year.

Several experts said the findings represented a cause for concern and questioned the effectiveness of present regulatory measures.

"I've been to the mines myself, and things are not as I

would like to see them," said one Government official. "When I went around there, one of the Government Mining Engineers was there, and he admitted things were not so good."

He cited mines where crushed asbestos was put out to dry in the open air near mines, where fibres could easily flake off.

He added: "They like to show you how nice things are inside the mill. Meanwhile they're carting the stuff in open trucks on dirt roads.

"You can stop on the roadside and pick up fibre.

"I wouldn't like to work on a mine, that's for sure," the official concluded. "They could be much more strictly controlled."

Another expert said that the TV film's pictures of workers hand-

ling dusty machines were worrying. They suggested that asbestos in the air exceeded allowable levels, he said.

Research results published by the National Centre for Occupational Health last year also underscored the programme's claim that many people had suffered from untidiness-related asbestos-related diseases in the past few decades.

At St Mary's Hospital near Kuruman, deep in asbestos mine country, the researchers examined a large number of cases diagnosed as tuberculosis which had failed to respond to treatment.

They found 38 cases of mesothelioma, a fatal, asbestos-induced cancer, 14 of them among ex-asbestos workers.

They found one worker who contracted mesothelioma after

working just nine months in an asbestos mine.

The same study found that more than one-third of the African mineworkers who came to Kuruman mines before 1962 had asbestos-induced lung changes visible on X-ray.

Roughly similar findings were made by a research team, led by Dr Les Irwig, which studied white and coloured miners at work between 1970 and 1975.

Despite these serious problems, a labour lawyer noted that the legal protection afforded asbestos workers is minimal. "It adds up to nothing," he said.

Workers who become ill can't sue their employers because of a provision in the compensation insurance legislation. While compensation gives them some money, the law precludes multimillion-

rand damage claims of the sort which have jarred American asbestos mines into large-scale clean-ups.

Compensation insurance premiums are already at the maximum legal level, according to a study by Dr John Myers, so Government inspectors can't raise them further as a punishment for unsafe conditions.

Nor can the powers granted to inspectors to control factories in terms of the Mines and Works Act, be used because no regulation for asbestos has ever been gazetted, according to Dr Myers.

There is also concern about whether the official recommended 2 f/cc level really is safe, as additional research evidence comes in.

France, America, Canada, Britain, and West Germany have all adopted more restrictive standards.

asbestos mines and mills. They claim most of their facilities now have fewer than two long fibres of asbestos per cubic centimetre (f/cc) of air, and that the rest soon will.

However, the sampling devices they use to measure the asbestos in the air have been criticised.

The more sensitive personal recorder system, which measures the air in the immediate vicinity of the worker, records readings consistently higher than those now used in the mines, according to Dr Myers.

There is also concern about whether the official recommended 2 f/cc level really is safe, as additional research evidence comes in.

France, America, Canada, Britain, and West Germany have all adopted more restrictive standards.

The doctors say anyone who breathes in the long fibre would probably contract asbestosis.

The short fibres and dust penetrate the stomach and lung linings, however, and cause mesothelioma.

A theory held by medical men is that the prevailing north-west wind carries dust from iron ore and manganese mines and that when this is breathed in or swallowed, together with asbestos dust, the asbestos acts as a catalyst, enabling a combination of the three to attack the body.

"Our problem is that the incidence of mesothelioma is as high among people who don't work directly

Cases have also been reported where wives came, down with mesothelioma after regularly cleaning their husbands' work clothes.

Matters are made worse, according to an official of the Department of Health, by the casual way that workers' homes are located near asbestos mines.

He mentioned one mine where the black township was just east of a mill, the white township just west, and an asbestos dump just south.

"If the wind blows in the direction of these houses, they will get asbestos dust, because they are too close," he said.

More asbestos flakes into the environment of a mill from crushed ore put out to dry or falling out of open jorries, he added.

Asbestos mines in the northern Cape claim they are now following health regulations, but doctors say the conditions there still threaten the health of many people.

According to the televised BBC documentary, hundreds of black workers have died of asbestos-related diseases and thousands more will die because stringent precautions are not observed on South African asbestos mines.

Two doctors in the area who are closely associated with asbestos miners and asbestos-related diseases told me, however, that because of the contract worker system there are no accurate statistics on which to base the incidence of death from asbestosis or mesothelioma among black workers.

From my observations the internationally formulated regulations for clean air in asbestos mines are strictly adhered to, although miners and medical men admit that in the past, the standards were questionable and that clouds of blue dust in the vicinity of mines and loading bays were a common sight.

Strict adherence to standards date back about three years, and mine managements now work under the threat of being closed down if standards fall below the acceptable standard of more than two fibres in a cubic centimetre of air or if men on the mines are not regularly examined for asbestos-related diseases.

### At risk

The doctors say a prime cause for concern is that the soil in the asbestos-mining areas has become impregnated with asbestos over the past 50 years and entire populations of towns like Kuruman, Prieska and Postmasburg are at risk to varying extents.

When it rains, the run-off simply helps to spread the dust.

The doctors say the asbestos in the soil is in the form of either short fibres or dust so fine, they would not be counted in the cubic centimetre measurements of clean air which involves mainly long fibres from newly mined as-

with asbestos as among those who do," one doctor said.

A recent case involved a woman who fainted on her wedding day.

Her father suspected "nerves" but the doctor diagnosed mesothelioma from which she subsequently died.

The two doctors say mine workers who contract asbestosis or asbestos-related diseases receive compensation from the mining companies but other people who suffer from the same illnesses receive nothing.

A mining company has refused to consider a claim from an elderly woman who woke as an asbestos packer. She had helped her father when she was a child.

Her father had died of asbestosis and the daughter died of mesothelioma — a cancer caused by asbestos fibres or dust.

Medical men are not certain about the period of exposure which results in the diseases but one of the doctors diagnosed mesothelioma in a Broomfontein lawyer who worked in an asbestos mine during a vacation.

The doctor said: "We detect the disease only when a person has symptoms of tiring easily, sleeps longer than usual or has difficulty in breathing.

"The lungs have lost elasticity by then and vital capacity is reduced."

### Undetected

In the event of asbestos cancer of the stomach, the intestines harden.

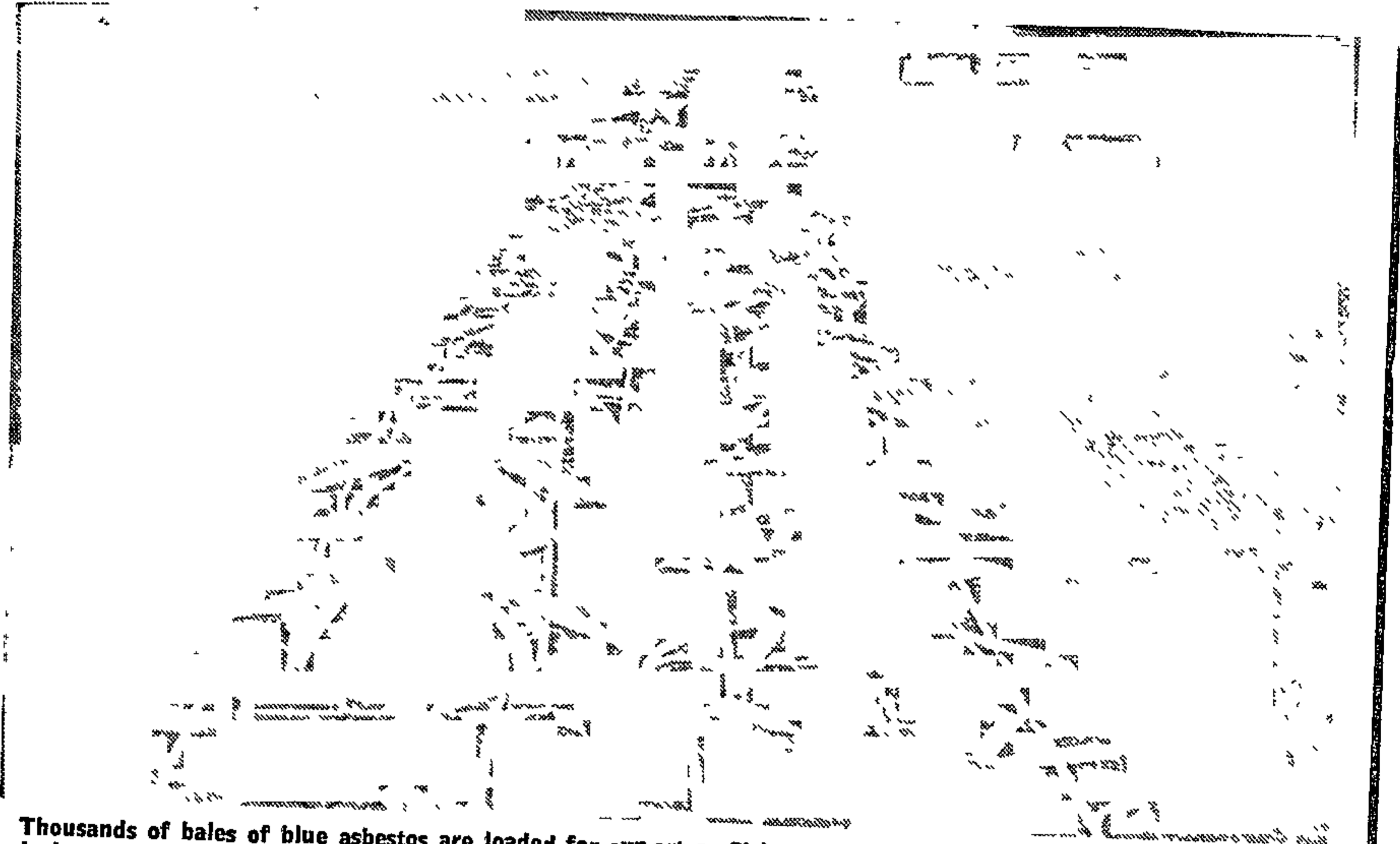
Doctors say it is impossible to tell how many people in Kuruman, Prieska, Postmasburg and even Sishen, where loading on railway trucks takes place, have asbestos-related diseases.

The doctors were unwilling to disclose the numbers of cases being treated but one doctor said: "Two people who live in my street have mesothelioma."

Neither have worked on a mine.

The doctors say once asbestos fibres or dust particles are breathed in or swallowed, they remain in the body and, depending on quantities, disease is likely to result.

cont.



Thousands of bales of blue asbestos are loaded for export at Sishen station. The bales are securely packed and leakages are rare, but Railways personnel at the station say that until a few years ago a blue haze marked the asbestos loading bays. It is also claimed the soil has now been impregnated with asbestos fibres and dust.

## Health threat still exists, say doctors

Aug 25/9/87  
**Fisherman drowns**

131

A FISHERMAN drowned in Kalk Bay harbour yesterday when he fell into the water while boarding a fishing boat.

The dead man was in his forties and was known only as George to fishermen and harbour officials.

Divers recovered his body and he was taken to the Salt River police mortuary.

Six people were injured when two cars collided at

the corner of Kasselsvlei and Peter Barlow roads, Bellville South, yesterday afternoon.

Jaws of life were used by the Bellville fire brigade and the Metro emergency service unit to free one of the occupants, Mr D Lyners of Bellville South. His legs were fractured and he was admitted to Tygerberg Hospital, where his condition is satisfactory today. The others were not seriously hurt.

SOCIAL

SECTION

In a s

5. S  
c  
D

6. M.  
f:

7. It  
th  
do  
wo

8. (a  
ma:  
ar:  
ter  
How  
ref

OR

(b)  
wor  
agr



DANIEL OGGIES . . . cheerful after his arm was reattached.

# Man cheerful after severed arm replaced

### Medical Reporter

A PAARL factory worker, Mr Daniel Oggies, was today sleepy but cheerful in Tygerberg Hospital after a marathon operation which attached his severed arm.

Mr Oggies, 18, said he had been in pain but was feeling 'a bit better'.

His shirt sleeve caught in a machine on Monday

afternoon, three months after he began working at the factory.

He was conscious when his arm was tipped off at the shoulder and was able to walk to the ambulance 'because it wasn't hurting at the time'.

A hospital spokesman said it was too soon to tell

if he would regain the full use of his arm

A similar operation was carried out at Coniadic Hospital in 1979, when Nasionale Pers printing worker Mr Bennie Bosman lost part of his arm while working on a printing press

The reattached limb was later amputated when a blood clot developed

okweni

so-

low

stand  
How  
lack

le  
t  
x-

SECTION C . . . . . the Economy

Erica Boddington  
Ginny Volbrecht

In a separate book, answer ONE question, allowing 1½ hours.

9. From your understanding of the process of industrialisation in Europe, explain what insights this offers for a theoretical understanding of the position of women in wage labour.
10. Use one of the case studies below to illustrate the position of women in wage labour in South Africa. Show how this helps you to conceptualise the relationship between class, colour and sex:
  - (a) women in the reserves,
  - (b) women in domestic service, or
  - (c) women factory workers.
11. Discuss in the South African context, what you consider to be the meaning of "women's emancipation".

*Star*  
28/9/57

## Safety factor in new Dunlop hose

(131)

Dunlop Industrial Products has developed a new hose for shaft-sinking operations.

Because of the high danger involved in shaft sinking, emphasis was on the improvement of the safety factor.

Shaft-sinking hoses have to resist tremendous pressure and as ruptured hoses fall from the "stage," the bursting of hoses has been a dangerous problem

After discussions with master sinkers the new "Sinksafe" shaft sinking hose was developed and has been tested for many months.

Reinforcement through bell-wire in spiral form gives additional strength and enables the shaft sinker to attach the hose to the stage

Should the hose burst, the wire, running the entire length of the hose, holds everything together preventing the hose from falling and injuring workers



Star 28/9/81  
**Roof collapses**

(31)  
Five construction workers were injured today when a roof collapsed on them at a site in Linden, Johannesburg. They were taken to hospital after being freed by fire department officials.

# Train hits trolley, porter dies

Aug 30/9/8  
270 (31)

A RAILWAYS porter was killed and another was injured last night when a train struck their baggage trolley as they were loading parcels into a stationary train at Bellville station.

Mr Andries Johannes de Jager, 50, of Jopie Foune Street, Parow Valley, died instantly.

His injured colleague, Mr H P C Wagenaar of Vasco, is in a satisfactory condition in Tygerberg Hospital.

Railways officials today said an inquiry was being held.

In Macassar, divers from the Metro emergency service unit yesterday recovered the body of four-year-old Henry Vermeulen of Macassar, who drowned 12 days ago when he fell into the Eerste River near his home.

The divers were searching the river's mouth for another drowning victim, Mrs Jennifer Pearce, 27 of Sandvlei, who disappeared into the water on Monday from a river bank where she had been washing clothes.

The body of Mrs Pearce was not recovered.

# Stevedore injured

Aug 30/9/81 (131)  
A STEVEDORE was  
rushed from the Cape  
Town harbour to Wood-  
stock Hospital today after  
being pinned against the  
hatch wall of a ship by a  
one-ton load of hardboard  
that was being offloaded.  
The man, Mr John  
Rwadi, was one of the Ren-  
nies' stevedoring employ-  
ees who were working  
cargo that was being dis-  
charged from the 3 067-ton  
Liberian freighter Alexan-  
droupolis at South Arm No  
4 in the Victoria Basin.

Ambulances from the  
Metro emergency unit  
were on the scene within  
five minutes. A spokesman  
for the unit said it  
appeared Mr Rwadi had  
back injuries.

(a) ... (b) with what result,

(3) (a) on which of the Commission's recommendations was consensus reached and (b) which Departments will be responsible for the implementation of such recommendations

(4) whether a White Paper will be issued on the recommendations on which consensus was reached, if not why not, also when.

(5) whether it is the intention to take steps in regard to the recommendations in which consensus could not be reached, if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH, WELFARE AND PENSIONS

(1) (a) Departments of Manpower, Mineral and Energy Affairs, Agriculture and Fisheries, Health, Welfare and Pensions, Education, Commerce and Tourism, Finance, Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation and the Administration of the S.A.R. and H.

b) Departments of Manpower, Mineral and Energy Affairs, and Health, Welfare and Pensions

(c) Consensus could not be reached on the functions to be performed by the various departments

(2) Yes

(a) Discussions at high level have been taking place and are at present continuing

(b) Falls away

(3) (a) The transfer to the Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions of the National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases which is now known as the National Centre for Occupational Health

(4) No, the recommendation on which consensus was reached, has already been implemented and a White Paper at this stage will serve no purpose

(5) See the reply to (2)(a), falls away

Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health  
1253A-7 Health 311

5 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions

(1) (a) Which Departments were involved in the investigations conducted by the Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health, (b) with which such Departments could consensus not be reached on the recommendations formulated by the Commission and (c) on which aspects of the Commission's investigations did such Departments not reach consensus,

(2) whether any attempts have been made to resolve areas of disagreement among such Departments, if so,

C.T. 2/10/81

## Train hits two men, one dies

Staff Reporter

A BELLVILLE Railway employee died and another's leg was fractured when the goods trolley on which they were travelling was struck by a passenger train on Tuesday (13/2/70).

Mr A J de Jager, of 30 Jopie Fourie Street, Parow Valley, was killed and Mr H P G Wagner, of 75 Paarl Street, Vasco, was taken to Tygerberg Hospital.

**MINE DEATHS** (131)  
The government mining engineer begins  
an investigation into the causes of the  
mining accident at Western Deep which  
claimed 16 lives FM 6/11/81

# Couple in court after dog attack

CT 8/10/81  
131

Staff Reporter

A GRABOUW couple appeared briefly in the Grabouw Magistrate's Court yesterday in a sequel to an attack by two bull terriers on a farm labourer, Mr Paulus Jacobus King, on July 25 this year

Mr King, 41, a labourer of Molteno Farm, was seriously injured in the attack, which took place on a public road in the town. He was taken to hospital with bite wounds on the body, arms and neck, according to the charge sheet

Mr Willem Johannes Geldenhuys, 47, a farm controller, and his wife, Magdalena Johanna, 39, also of Molteno, were not asked to plead to a charge of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm

They face an alternative charge in which they are alleged to have allowed unmuzzled and unleashed dogs to be in a public place

## Away from home

The State alleges in the first charge that Mr and Mrs Geldenhuys wrongfully and unlawfully possessed two potentially dangerous dogs and neglected to tie them up, muzzle them, or ensure that they were properly controlled while they were away from their Grabouw home on July 25 this year

In the alternative charge, the State alleges that the couple wrongfully and unlawfully al-



Mr Paulus King, the victim of a dog attack in Grabouw in July this year, learns to use a pencil in his left hand in the Groote Schuur occupational therapy department. Mr King's right arm was amputated after the attack

lowed two vicious dogs to cause a nuisance or a danger to life and property by letting them run free on or near Station Road in Grabouw on the same day

No evidence was led and the case was postponed till November 12 at the request of the couple's attorney, Mr M van Niekerk

The magistrate was Mr P C W Rossouw. Mr C P Otto appeared for the State

# Crew members escape gas leak

ARGUS  
24/12/81  
131

FOUR MEN were partly overcome by ammonia gas last night in the hold of a fishing trawler, Southern Raider, in Table Bay docks.

The Metro head, Dr Alan MacMahon, told The Argus at the scene that four crew members had been taken to hospital by ambulance.

Emergency services were alerted shortly before 6 pm and units of the Cape Town fire brigade and Metropolitan Emergency Rescue Unit went to the Victoria Basin.

However, the four men affected by the gas — leaking from a burst pipe in one of the vessel's holds — had managed to make their way to the deck where they were treated by Metro members before being taken to hospital.

A fire department spokesman said his men had inspected the hold while wearing breathing apparatus — and closed off the leaking pipe.

The four men taken to hospital had suffered slight eye irritation and shock during the initial stages of the gas leak.

The fire department spokesman said ammonia gas had a suffocating effect and could be fatal after a few minutes.



# Demo: Man turned down jobs

Staff Reporter

THE feud between a major petroleum company and a former employee who claims he was discriminated against, went a step further yesterday with BP Southern Africa making correspondence between the man and the company available to the Cape Times

Mr Jacobus Vos, 32, a former bulk lorry driver, has accused the company of "practical discrimination" and has been demonstrating outside their Foreshore offices for the past two days

He says he caught a respiratory infection after the BP truck he was driving leaked poisonous gases and dense black powder into the cabin

Correspondence showed that following a doctor's report — which confirmed that Mr Vos was suffering from a lung disease — the company had offered him alternative posts at his current salary

They also agreed to pay all medical costs incurred by Mr Vos because of the illness

Mr Vos was later offered a job as a packed lorry driver under more favourable conditions. He accepted the post but did not report for the job

He took on a post of services assistant at BP's head office, but left because he said he had to help make tea

The general manager (group services) of BP Southern Africa, Mr M J Schonegevel, yesterday denied that Mr Vos was given this task "Because of his health condition he would not have been in contact with food" he said

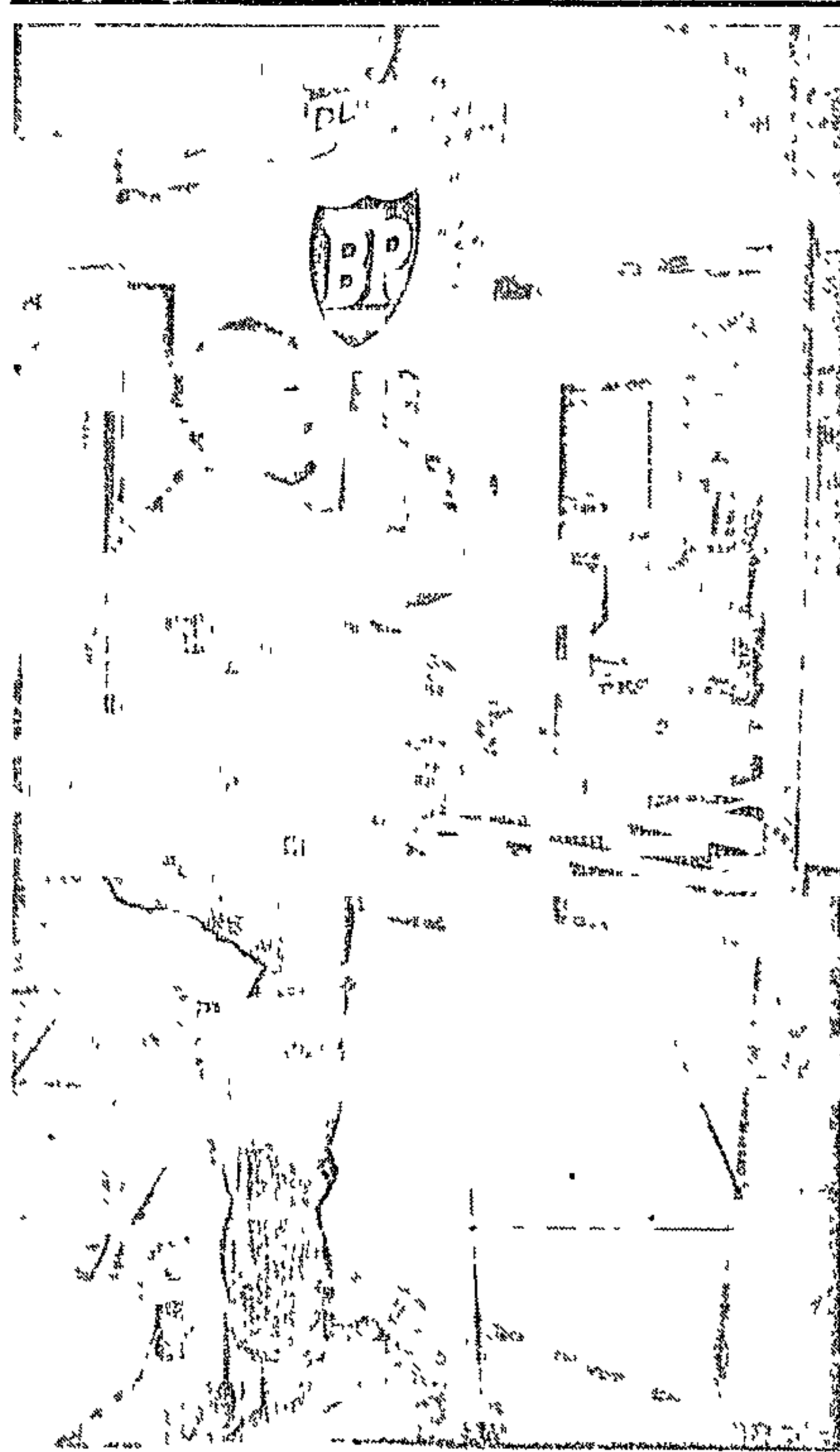
The company then offered him a post as a mail delivery driver and gave him the option of retiring on an ill-health pension. Mr Vos accepted the R389 monthly pension, plus payments for leave pay, overtime, and a disturbance allowance

Mr Vos, whose pension is now R425, resumed his demonstration outside the BP centre yesterday

Mr Schonegevel said Tuesday's work stoppage by 50 workers at the BP Southern Africa Cape Town terminal and docks had not been connected to the demonstration by Mr Vos

"The stoppage was related to pay levels. Following discussion with management the employees returned to work on Tuesday afternoon," he said

A worker spokesman said no pay agreement had been reached, and they would be holding further meetings to discuss the issue



Hugged by his five-year old daughter Leandre, Mr Jacobus Vos yesterday staged a one-man placard demonstration outside the BP Centre to protest against 'practical discrimination' by the company

## Father, daughter in lone City demo

*CAP & TIME 2/12/81 (131)*

Staff Reporter

A MITCHELLS PLAIN father of four who contracted a respiratory ailment while driving a faulty petrol tanker yesterday staged a placard demonstration outside the BP Centre to highlight his plight and draw attention to the company's 'practical discrimination'.

Accompanied by his five-year-old daughter, Leandre, Mr Jacobus Vos, 32, stood outside BP's headquarters yesterday with a placard which read 'I am a victim of discrimination. Due to practical discrimination, I have lost my health'.

He became ill in 1974 when his truck blew an exhaust manifold gasket while driving from Grabouw to Cape Town. The truck's extractor fan malfunctioned and Mr Vos breathed in gases which were emitted into the cab. He started suffering from a respiratory infection and became ill regularly after that.

Mr Vos said BP took no notice when he became ill and insisted that he visit a company doctor. He claimed that he was threatened with dismissal several times although he had tried to draw the company's attention to his illness.

The company later offered him a job at BP Centre but when he discovered that he had to help make tea, he refused the job and was later placed on medical retirement with a pension of about R425 a month.

Mr Vos said yesterday BP claimed to be an 'equal opportunity company' with enlightened employment practices, but this had not been his experience.

Mr M J Schonegevel, BP's general manager (group services) for Southern Africa yesterday denied that the company discriminated in its personnel policies and said Mr Vos's case had been treated sympathetically.

He said in a statement that Mr Vos had been given the opportunity of visiting specialists at the company's expense.

'Eventually he was given various options regarding alternative employment in the company which did not confine him to working as a tea/kitchen attendant. He elected to take retirement on medical grounds,' Mr Schonegevel said.

He said BP affirmed its 'business practice and philosophy of non discrimination and equal opportunity among our employees'.

ARGUS 2/12/81 (SP) (EE) (131)

# Protester 'treated fairly', says BP

MR JACOBUS VOS, who yesterday claimed he was a victim of discrimination by his employers BP Southern Africa, had in fact been treated sympathetically and fairly.

After Mr Vos made the matter public yesterday the company broke normal policy regarding confidentiality of personnel matters and made voluminous correspondence between the company and Mr Vos available to The Argus.

Mr Vos staged a one-man picket demonstration yesterday alleging that the company had discriminated against him after he became ill.

In 1974, while driving a bulk delivery lorry to

Cape Town from Grabouw the manifold gasket blew and poisonous gas was emitted into the cabin.

He breathed in a dense black powder for more than an hour, he said and thereafter suffered from respiratory infection.

Correspondence between Mr Vos and BP available to The Argus yesterday showed that:

• The company paid all medical expenses Mr Vos incurred because of his condition, instead of the usual percentage of the costs.

• Mr Vos was offered a job as a packed lorry driver which would have been less suited to him.

Vos accepted the offer but did not report at the depot.

• The company offered him the chance to take on positions as storeman, librarian, services assistant, mail delivery driver or an administrative position.

• Mr Vos suffered no loss of pay as a result of the incident. He received the same salary as bulk lorry drivers plus overtime pay in lieu of lost hours.

• The company later again offered him a position as mail delivery driver and gave him an option to retire on an ill-health gratuity pension of R189 a month plus a life insurance policy of

R12 870 and also offered to continue paying his medical expenses.

Mr Vos accepted the pension offer in October last year.

After the demonstration yesterday B P Southern Africa denied it had discriminated against Mr Vos.

A statement issued by the general manager group services, Mr M F Seonegevel said the company did not discriminate in its personnel policies.

Mr Vos's case was handled sympathetically and in the same manner as any other similar case would have been, the statement said.

# Doctor warns on a 'creeping disease'

ST 29/11/87

By VAL CARTER-JOHNSON

131

By RAJENDRA CHETTY

THE Medical Officer of Health fighting a cholera epidemic of "dangerous proportions" in a shack settlement just outside his town blames the Government for the outbreak

Dr E C Borat, MoH for Stanger, on Natal's north coast, confirmed that eight of the 26 people admitted to the local hospital had already died

The remaining 18 are in a serious condition. The victims ranged in age from 18 to 70

The epidemic broke out at Choweno, a settlement 3km outside Stanger, where 30 000 peo-

SEVERAL thousand people could be harbouring a fatal disease, but because they are "very unaware" they do nothing about it, says a Cape Town doctor

Dr Neil White, a Cape Town doctor and researcher, has made an extensive study and investigation into blue asbestos-related diseases, and has found several towns in the Northwestern Cape heavily polluted with lethal blue asbestos dust

In the past 18 months, more than 30 people in Prieska have died of mesothelioma — a form of lung cancer — and, according to Dr White, many more, including those who are children now, will die within years

And, a recent research project by the National Centre for Occupational Health involved tracing 4 000 contact workers who had worked in asbestos mines in the north-western Cape, back to their homes in Bophutswana

The study on these workers will be completed next month, according to Dr White, who is backed up in his research by various other medical men who say they have treated about 500 cases of mesothelioma from the north-western Cape in the past six years

## Indestructible

"Because the disease lies dormant in the body for between 20 to 30 years, young children and babies who are exposed to this dust are in danger of dying as young adults

"There is very low standard of awareness in Prieska, and most of the population seem very unconcerned by it"

Dr White was recently interviewed in a controversial British programme on conditions in South African asbestos mines. He has made the study independently, "because I am concerned"

Until a few years ago, the Prieska asbestos mill was in the centre of the town and indestructible and dangerous blue asbestos fibres are still polluting the air, according to Dr White

"I found children playing on asbestos dumps

"When a school was recently renovated in Prieska, exposed roof beams showed a layer of blue asbestos dust at least five centimetres thick"

## Horrific

"Prieska is only one of the towns that is so heavily polluted. Other towns in a stretch of about 150km are all in the danger line

"The horrific danger is that the illness has an incubation period of about 20 years, so it is a creeping danger of which people are unaware

"There are solutions to the problem, but it would mean a lot of money would have to be spent by the health services and mining companies in the area"

The Town Clerk of Prieska, Mr Dick Viljoen, said he thought the reports about the danger of

The following examinations.

TWAMLEY UNDER

Tenure: 1 y

M A O'MALLEY,  
BA / LIB I

Department of

LESTRADE SCHOOL

Tenure: 1 y

MISS W A KING  
BA II

MISS S C PENR  
Ph D

Department of

GENERAL J B M

Tenure: 1 y

J L STUBBS,  
BA / LIB III

N J VAN DER  
BA III

MISS A BLOM,  
BA III

Undergraduate.

Awarded on the basis of the most outstanding academic performance at the end of the first year of study.

Postgraduate/Undergraduate.

Awarded for the study of indigenous languages, especially African languages.

Postgraduate.

Awarded for approved courses in Afrikaans en Nederlands.

Staff Reporter

PRIESKA, in the north-western Cape, is heavily polluted with lethal blue asbestos dust and children there play on asbestos dumps, according to Dr Neil White, a Cape Town doctor who went there recently to investigate conditions.

In the past 18 months, more than 30 people in Prieska have died of mesothelioma — a form of lung cancer — according to Dr White, who was recently interviewed in a controversial British TV programme on conditions in South African asbestos mines.

The Prieska asbestos mill, now dormant, is in the centre of the town and according to Dr White, dangerous and indestructible blue as-

# 'Lethal asbestos' polluting Prieska

CAPE TIMES 27/11/81 131

bestos fibres are polluting the air.

He says children are playing on dumps which contain asbestos tailings and when a school was renovated recently, its exposed roof beams disclosed a layer of blue asbestos dust about five centimetres thick.

Recent research undertaken by the National Centre for Occupational Health involved tracing 4 000 contract

labourers from Bophuthatwana who had worked in blue asbestos mines in the north-western Cape. The study will be complete next month.

Because these workers leave the mines to return home, there is no adequate follow-up of their health, says Dr White.

Another doctor, Dr Aboo, who worked at the Kimberley Hospital for six

years, says he saw 300 cases of mesothelioma — about 50 cases a year — from the north-western Cape region. Although no accurate figures are available, he says he saw many more cases of other asbestos-related illnesses, some of which had been contracted by people who were not even working with asbestos directly, but related to a worker who might have come home with blue asbes-

tos dust on his jacket or even his hair.

He believes there is no safe way to mine blue asbestos and that operations should be halted.

Dr Jonathan Myers, in a lengthy study compiled for the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru), concluded that controls for asbestos mining in South Africa were inadequate to safeguard workers' health.

Another top doctor, Professor Ian Webster, who is the director of the National Centre for Occupational Health is reported to have said "I think asbestos is a dangerous substance and we should perhaps alter our industrial and health legislation."

# Wind played

# no part in

August 20/11/81

~~22~~ 131

# fall - worker

MR BOY PETERSEN, the 18 year-old worker who survived a five-storey fall on a Table View construction site yesterday, says the wind played no part in the accident

Speaking from his hospital bed in Woodstock today, Mr Petersen of Ladismith, Cape, said confusion between himself and the hoist operator below probably caused the accident

'My work was to pull the two wheelbarrows from the hoist, and I had already removed the first,' he said

'I had my one foot on the hoist platform and the other on the scaffold plank, getting ready to remove the second wheelbarrow when I fell — exactly why I don't know, but often there are misunderstandings between the hoist operator and whoever is on the hoist.'

#### TWISTER IN AIR

He added: 'When I realised what was happening I twisted in the air and immediately below me were the wheelbarrows waiting for the hoist'

'When I came to I was here in this hospital'

His wrists were broken and he received a laceration on his chin and bruises on his legs

Mr Petersen came to the Peninsula eight months ago and lives with friends in The Strand. A group of men travel daily to the Table View construction site

'The floor where I was working yesterday has already been glazed so there is no more wind there and the wind played no part in the accident,' Mr Petersen said

'Only from the seventh floor upwards is there still wind'

● Mr Petersen's condition was described as 'satisfactory' today.



MR Boy Petersen  
in hospital today

ASBESTOS KILLS FM 20/11/80  
A Grenada television film screened in  
Britain claims hundreds of black work-  
ers are being killed by asbestos poisoning  
in SA because of inadequate health and  
safety regulations (13)

# Job health chief spells out asbestos cancer link

RJM 19/11/81 (131)

THE director of the National Centre for Occupational Health, Professor Ian Webster, said yesterday that only a small percentage of people exposed to asbestos died of the malignant tumours associated with it.

But he added that in his view asbestos was "a dangerous substance" and that health and industrial legislation on its handling should perhaps be amended.

He was responding to British television claims that former British-owned companies mining blue asbestos in the Northern Cape had ignored warnings given as far back as 20 years ago that their workers risked cancer and lung diseases.

By ADA STUIJT

Prof Webster confirmed that afflicted people who appeared on the Granada TV programme "World in Action" may therefore have contracted their lung diseases a long time ago.

"We know that 30 years ago, when the mines were not controlled, conditions left something to be desired."

Prof Webster said "These malignant lung tumours from which people die form in the lining of the lungs and pleura.

"Ordinary lung cancers are related not only to asbestos exposure, but to a combination of exposure to asbestos and smoking, giving a higher incidence of cancers than there would be with smoking alone or asbestos exposure alone.

"Moreover, such lung cancers may take an average of 30 years after exposure before they manifest themselves."

"Since that time, however, the Government Mining Engineer has prohibited many of the practices which allowed the non-mining population to be affected. For instance, they stopped stacking the atmosphere, they stopped allowing the asbestos to go on the roads, etc.

"They have also gone as far as to give blue asbestos a different maximum allowable concentration. Fibre counts ranged from 0.2f/cc to 2f/cc for the different types of asbestos.

## Reply

"But I think asbestos is a dangerous substance, and we should perhaps alter our industrial and health legislation," Prof Webster said.

Meanwhile in reaction to this week's British TV film and subsequent reports, the Rand Mines Group yesterday issued the following statement.

"The Transvaal Consolidated Land and Exploration Company was in the asbestos business for a period of approximately two years, during which it owned Cape Blue Mines

During this period TCL was responsible for operation of the asbestos mine at Pomfret in the Northern Cape.

"Throughout this period the standards maintained in the mine and the mill at Pomfret were consistently better than the conditions laid down by the Government Mining Engineer, who is responsible for the health of workers in the mining industry in South Africa.

"TCL maintains that the conditions in the Pomfret Mill were at all times exemplary.

"In addition, positive measures were adopted to ensure that the residents of the village of Pomfret were not exposed to harmful concentrates of asbestos dust.

"TCL sold its asbestos interests to Gencor with effect from October 1, 1981."



The sta the C-c PFA The PFB The of t in r

The into plac prec file has TPF\$

With is n prog plac sour list the

# Asbestos Warnings

19/11/81 (131)

NATAL McKENZIE

## There's a risk even in bonded form, say experts

Mercury Reporter ASBESTOS was a high-risk material even when it was used in manufacturing, said experts commenting on a controversy in which mining companies are accused of avoiding responsibility for 'sick and dying' employees. The companies were accused in the Granada TV programme *World in Action* of blatantly ignoring warnings given as long as 20 years ago that asbestos was a cause of cancer and other diseases. Mr I M Mulder, chief factories' inspector of the Department of Manpower,

said that asbestos was considered by his inspectors as a high-risk substance and as such it was always necessary to treat it with care. 'In terms of the Factories Act it is mandatory that safety precautions are taken for all people working in areas where the fibre content is above a prescribed limit. 'Clearly this would apply to manufacturers using the raw material more than it would to workers using asbestos which has already been bonded, but there is still an element of risk, especially in high concentrations. He said that contrary to

popular assumption, the Factories Act covered all forms of building, as well as machinery and excavation. 'This means that builders using asbestos, or even mechanics replacing bonded brake shoes, should have the prescribed safety equipment if it were shown that they were working with levels of fibre which are too high. Exposure to the level, which was 2 fibres/cm<sup>3</sup> for blue asbestos and 5 fibres/cm<sup>3</sup> for white asbestos, was a time-weighted average value taken over a 40-hour week. 'Basically we are concerned about long-term ef-

fects,' he said. 'This means that if a worker were installing an asbestos roof, for instance, he might be exposed to greater than the required levels, but if this were for a short period only, there would be no action taken against the company. 'He said it was safe to assume that it took about 30 years of contact with asbestos to develop a malignant disease, but it was not known what quantity was required to affect people. 'Even in the case of a mechanic replacing brake shoes there is a danger of contamination, in spite of the effect of heat on the brake shoe which changes

the asbestos into a harmless substance called fosterite. 'Nevertheless, we recommend that to avoid the possibility of contamination, mechanics do not blow out the fibrous dust from the brake drums,' he said. **Extractors** When asked if garages followed this suggested procedure, Mr W Fourie, national secretary of the Motor Industries Federation, said any workshop working with asbestos was advised to have suitable safety standards. Mr W J Cale, manager of Brake Rite, said his com-

pany made extensive use of dust extractors and that masks were compulsory. 'But making sure workers keep them on is a real battle of wits,' he said. In the building industry in Durban there was a mixed reaction to the hazards of asbestos. Some builders said they insisted on their workers wearing masks whenever they were using corrugated asbestos roofing or slates, but admitted it was difficult to get them to comply. Others said that the risk of exposure in an open-air environment was too little to be of much concern

Mr J A Venter, managing director of Mintex, a company which uses raw asbestos to manufacture brake linings, said safety controls at his company were controlled from Britain and were extremely stringent. 'We have extensive dust extractors both inside and outside and all workers are advised to wear masks,' he said. 'We use the white, long-fibred asbestos, which is less dangerous than the short fibres. 'Nevertheless, we insist that all our workers are examined medically at least twice a year,' he said.

Following The ved in in PFA. ent by (-1). ed copy placed

nserted s also a the neter le

le number ement in is then d and the olic ild for



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**GOVERNMENT GAZETTE**  
**STAATSKOERANT**  
 VAN DIE REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

XD

REGULATION GAZETTE No 3318

REGULASIFKOERANT No 3318

PRICE (GST included) 30c PRYS (AVB ingesluit)

Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper ABROAD 40c BUITLANDS As n Nuusblad by die Poskantoor geregistreer  
 POST FREE POSVRY

Vol 196]

PRETORIA, 30 OCTOBER 1981  
 OKTOBER

131

[No 7870

**GOVERNMENT NOTICE**

**GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWING**

**DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER**

**DEPARTEMENT VAN MANNEKRAG**

No R. 2316 30 October 1981  
 WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT 1941  
 (ACT 30 OF 1941), AS AMENDED

No R 2316 30 Oktober 1981  
 ONGEVALLEWET, 1941 (WET 30 VAN 1941),  
 SOOS GEWYSIG

I, Hendrik Cornelus du Toit, Workmen's Compensation Commissioner, hereby give notice that, after consultation with the Medical Association of South Africa, and acting under the powers vested in me by section 79 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1941 (Act 30 of 1941), as amended, I withdraw the "Scale of Fees for Medical Aid" published in Government Notice R 371 of 29 February 1980, and any amendments to such Scale of Fees, and prescribe the "Scale of Fees for Medical Aid" inclusive of the General Rules and General Modifiers applicable thereto, appearing in the Schedule to this notice, with effect from 1 November 1981

Ek, Hendrik Cornelus du Toit, Ongevallekommissaris, maak hierby bekend dat ek, na beraadslaging met die Mediese Vereniging van Suid-Afrika en handelende kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 79 van die Ongevallewet, 1941 (Wet 30 van 1941), soos gewysig die "Tarief vir Geneeskundige Behandeling" soos gepubliseer by Goewermentskennisgewing R 371 van 29 Februarie 1980, en enige wysigings van sodanige Tarief, intrek en die "Tarief vir Geneeskundige Behandeling", met inbegrip van die Algemene Reëls en Algemene Wysigers wat daarop van toepassing is, en wat in die Bylae van hierdie kennisgewing verskyn, met ingang vanaf 1 November 1981 voorskryf

The fees appearing in the Schedule are applicable in respect of payments authorised with effect from 1 November 1981 irrespective of the date of the accident in respect of which payments are made

Die tariewe wat in die Bylae voorkom, is op betalings wat met ingang vanaf 1 November 1981 goedgekeur word van toepassing ongeag die datum van die ongeval ten opsigte waarvan betalings gemaak word

H C DU TOIT, Workmen's Compensation Commissioner

H C DU TOIT, Ongevallekommissaris

SCHEDULE/BYLAE  
 INDEX/INHOUDSOPGAWE

	Page Bladsv
GENERAL RULES/ALGEMENE REËLS	3
GENERAL MODIFIERS/ALGEMENL WYSIGERS	4
I CONSULTATIONS/KONSULTASIES	6
II COST OF MATERIAL/KOSTE VAN MATERIAAL	7
III PROCEDURES/PROSEDURES	7
1 Injections and infusions/Insputtings en infusies	7
1 1 Modifiers/Wysigers	7
1 2 General/Algemeen	7
1 4 Modifiers governing the administration of anaesthetic/Wysigers met betrekking tot die toediening van narkose	8
2 Integumentary system/Huidstelsel	9
2 1 Allergy/Allergie	9
2 2 Skin (general)/Vel (algemeen)	9
2 3 Major plastic repairs/Groot plastiese herstel	9
2 4 Lacerations, scars tumours cysts and other skin lesions/Laserasies, littekens, tumore, siste en ander velletels	9
2 6 Burns/Brandwonde	10
2 7 Hands/Hande	10

*for full text see 88*

NOT only detectives track down killers — it is often the task of doctors and scientists.

The killers they seek may be germs or viruses, not gunmen; but there is a similarity of method.

Unexplained deaths prompt an investigation. Clues are sought. Hypotheses are made and tested.

Here is part of a medical detection story — a familiar and helpful fibre was proved a killer.

# Deadly dust

AREAS 10/12/81 (131)

By David Bleazard

DEATH was no stranger to the West End hospital, the Kimberley chest hospital which was converted from a military hospital in 1948.

Doctors learn to accept death when the cause is apparent and everything possible has been done to prevent it.

But there was much to disturb the new hospital superintendent and regional TB officer Dr Christopher 'Kit' Sleggs, in the early 1950s.

A UCT graduate who describes himself as 'a bad 'un' who became a 'doctor' he took the post at the age of 42 after the death of the first superintendent. He decided she did not want to live in Kimberley.



DR KIT SLEGGs 'we had to find out what was wrong with these people'

## VERY ODD

He soon found there was something very odd about the deaths of some people admitted as TB patients.

They had symptoms consistent with tuberculosis, including large quantities of fluid in the lung cavity. But they were not typical of TB patients, and cultures of their sputum were TB-negative.

Worst of all, they did not respond to TB treatment.

'They appeared to be steadily going downhill,' says Dr Sleggs, now 75 and living in retirement at Clovelly.

## LABOURER

Among them was a 40-year-old man, Hensop Liebman, employed by Kimberley City Council as an engineering workshop labourer.

Shortly before Christmas 1952, Liebman felt a sharp pain below his right armpit. It was not severe enough to put him to bed, and subsided after a month.

Then he became breathless on exertion, according to the meticulous medical history which Dr Sleggs has preserved, with many others.

He was referred for chest X-ray in March 1953. A straw-coloured effusion in the right pleural sac was found. There was no cough.

## ADMITTED

He was admitted to hospital on October 15, 1953, as the pleural effusion had returned after treatment for tuberculosis.

Liebman remained in hospital until he died in April 1955. During those 18 months more than 100 oz — nearly 3 litres — of fluid were aspirated from his right lung.

Investigations included a thoracoscopy, or visual examination of the inside of the lung, and three biopsies in which sections of the lung tissue were removed for microscopic examination by the SA Institute for Medical Research (SAIMR) in Johannesburg.

After the visual examination Dr Sleggs reported that the visceral pleura (or lining of the lung) was 'greyish, thick, and several tubercle-like nodules were seen. The lung appeared to be hard'.

controversial diagnosis. The pathologists at the time were saying 'I don't believe it'.

The autopsy report on Liebman, dated April 1955, contradicted the diagnosis. The SAIMR found 'islands of pseudo-carcinomatous mesothelial cell proliferation,' but no evidence of malignancy.

'It was very difficult to prove that the first cases of mesothelioma were cancer at all,' reflects Dr Sleggs.

'The pathology was not what you expected. The cells were unusual.'

X-rays were of no assistance. Fluid showed up, but this could be TB or could indicate an underlying cancer other than mesothelioma.

## PROOF NEEDED

For a definite diagnosis of mesothelioma, it had to be proved that the cancerous tumour originated in the membrane lining the lung and not elsewhere.

Even if the diagnosis could be substantiated, the likely cause of the cancer remained a mystery.

The breakthrough came in Johannesburg in February 1956, following a report by a British doctor, Sir Richard Doll, of a mesothelioma associated with asbestosis the previous year.

## POST-MORTEM

Dr Christopher Wagner of the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit at the SAIMR conducted a full post-mortem examination of a 36-year-old black mine worker with a clinical diagnosis of tuberculous pleurisy and empyema.

A 'large gelatinous tumour' in the right chest was identified as a diffuse pleural mesothelioma.

No other primary source of the tumour was found. Dr Wagner wrote in a 1959 paper.

There was a slight degree of asbestosis in the lungs, and asbestos fibres were found.

It was later discovered that the miner was born in the Kuruman district.

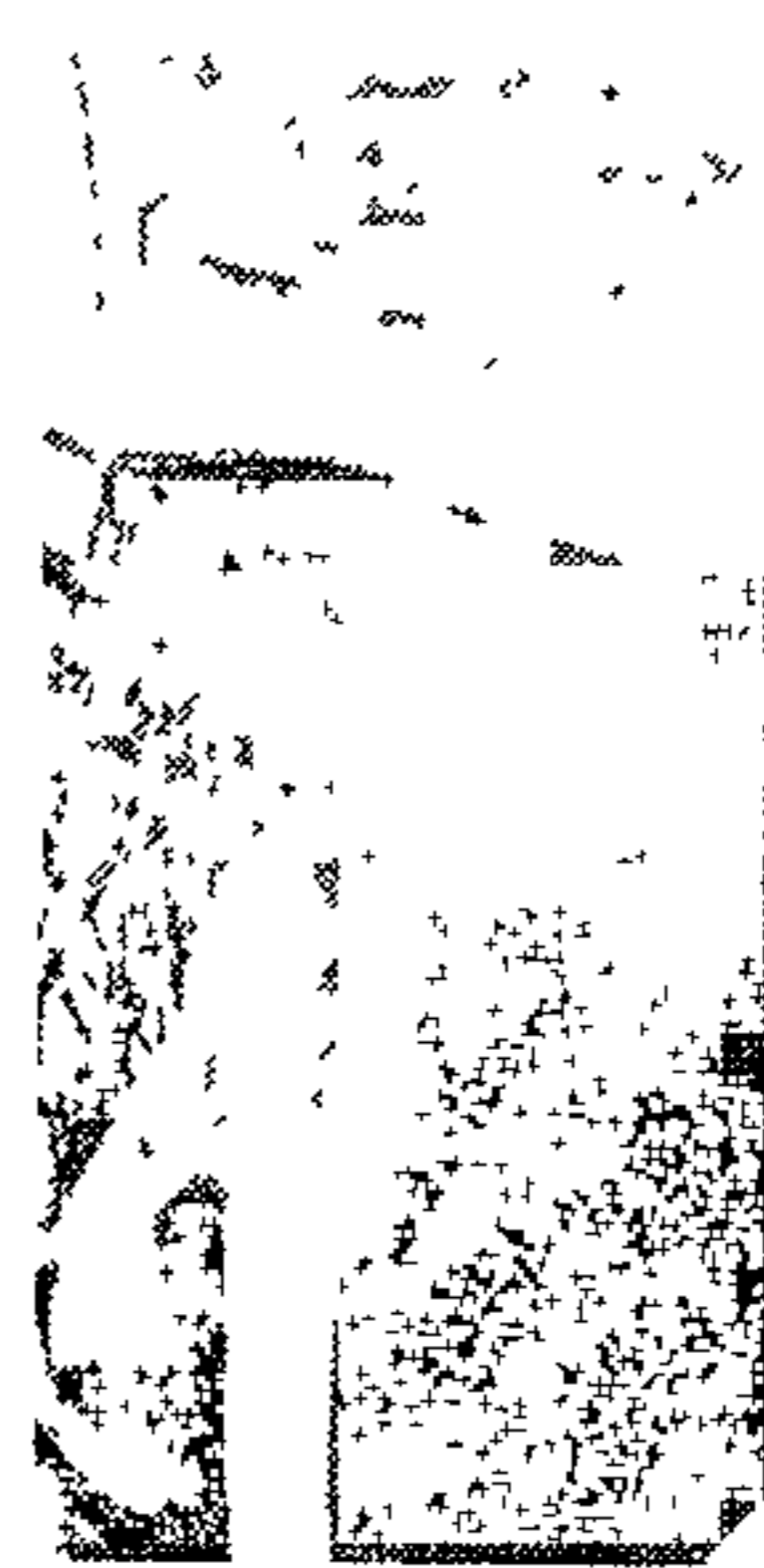
## 'INTERESTING'

In a letter to Dr Sleggs dated April 23, 1957, Dr Wagner says 'We have had several cases of abnormal serosal cell proliferation in pleural biopsies from patients who have worked with asbestos, and it would be interesting to know if any of your cases from the Kuruman district have been employed on the asbestos mines.'

'At present the possibility of an association between asbestos and abnormal proliferation of the serosal cell of the pleura is purely a suggestion, but we feel that it is well worth considering.'

Says Dr Sleggs 'After I received this, I wrote to the SAIMR and asked them to review the case of Hensop Liebman.'

'Through relatives of his I found he had worked on an asbestos mine in the



MR JAMES IBANG, a former mineworker diagnosed as a mesothelioma sufferer, at his home near Batharos.

Kuruman area between the ages of 17 and 20.'

It was only on the 'third or fourth attempt' to have the case reviewed, following this discovery, that the diagnosis of mesothelioma was confirmed from the biopsy and autopsy slides.

The evidence of a connection between exposure to blue asbestos and mesothelioma then built up rapidly.

Dr Wagner, Dr Sleggs and Dr Paul Marchand of the Department of Thoracic Surgery at Wits wrote in 1966 that in the previous four years they had seen 33 cases of mesothelioma.

## 28 CASES

Of these, 28 had some association with the Cape asbestos fields, which run from Prieska in the south through Kuruman to the Botswana border.

In a 1959 paper at the Johannesburg Pneumoconiosis Conference, Dr Sleggs argued that mesothelioma was extremely rare in the rest of South Africa, but a large number of cases came from the sparsely populated blue asbestos area.

Since the connection with asbestos had first been suspected, some contact had been found in every proven case of mesothelioma.

## EVIDENCE

Four cases of industrial exposure — from lagging boilers or steam pipes and making fireproof clothing — were introduced as evidence in the joint paper with Wagner and Marchand.

They wrote 'As far as can be ascertained, these people were never in the Griqualand district.'

'These findings tend to add support to asbestos being the common factor in the development of these tumours, and to counter the suggestion that there may be some other environmental cause in the region of Griqualand West.'

Before he retired in 1974, Dr Sleggs had seen 236 cases of mesothelioma at West End Hospital.

They included women who had clobbered asbestos many years previously — knocking asbestos out of the mine rock with hammers before putting the fibres into bags. They often worked with a baby on their backs.

Many others were involved with asbestos mining, milling, storing or transportation.

'Exposure was very slight in lots of cases,' says Dr Sleggs. 'And very few of these people smoked.'

## DOSAGE

'There is no dose relationship between exposure to crocidolite — blue asbestos — and mesothelioma.'

'If you take a large dose of Prussic acid you die. If you take a small dose, you don't die. But with a small dose of asbestos, you can still die.'

In the dry north-western Cape, exposure could depend on which side of a mine you lived. Living down-wind would mean a lot of dust.

'At Kuruman there was a mine at the top of town, in the way of the prevailing winds. We had cases of people staying in Kuruman and having no other connection with the mine.'

## DIFFICULTY

One of the difficulties in linking mesothelioma to asbestos was the long incubation period of the cancer after exposure to dust — anything from 20 years to more than 40 years.

'People were very cagey in those days about saying they had worked on a mine,' says Dr Sleggs.

'A patient would deny it all along and then, when being discharged, he would say "I did work on a mine".'

'None, of course, could remember what happened to them before the age of five, although it could have been very significant.'

## MODEST

Dr Sleggs is modest about his role in identifying mesotheliomas and pinning them on asbestos fibres.

'I knew about asbestos in the area, but the connection never struck me until it was found in the lungs of the autopsy case.'

'I only started the investigation by saying I had several cases of this lumpy pleura and fluids — please investigate.'

'We had to find out what was wrong with those people.'

More reflectively 'It was doubt if there hadn't been doubt about the cause of the deaths, I would have taken no part in the investigation.'

'But there was always the doubt.'

● Continued tomorrow.

# Two die after fall from building

CAPE TIMES  
13/11/81  
131

## Staff Reporters

TWO workers died when a construction gondola crashed two stories to the pavement from a city building early yesterday.

The two construction workers, Mr Sinoms Willem Ngqala, in his forties and Mr Dantile Nogvovo, 35, were finishing the new Readers Digest building on the corner of Strand and Chiappini streets when the steel gondola crashed on to the pavement two stories below.

Severed electricity cables flailed across Strand Street and a witness said he saw flashes from wires inside the Market Toyota building opposite Readers Digest.

Pedestrians applied artificial respiration to the men but Mr Ngqala died.

After waiting for an ambulance for 25 minutes Mr Nogvovo was taken to the Somerset Hospital where he died later.

Angry occupants of the

Readers Digest building complained to the Cape Times that although a call was put through to the central ambulance station at Pinelands within seconds of the accident, about 8.30am, it took 25 minutes for an ambulance to reach Chiappini Street.

They pointed out that workers from the City Council's Electricity Department were on the spot within five minutes to deal with the severed powerlines.

One of the complainants said "It reflects very badly on our emergency services if it takes as long as it did for an ambulance to reach a central city spot where seriously injured people are in need of immediate attention."

Mr Basil Warner, manager of the ambulance service, said "normally the vehicle nearest the area in which an accident has occurred is dispatched to the scene. But in

this case the nearest vehicles, which would have been those at Sea Point and in the city area were already engaged and this was why an ambulance had to be sent from Pinelands.

## 'Short-staffed'

"Our problem is that we are running short-staffed, and that we are inundated with work. Last month alone we carried 11 000 patients in our vehicles. It should be remembered that we are expected to serve any part of the Western Cape."

Mr Warner said that with the "thin" staff available, which meant a lot of overtime work, the ambulance service tried to have a minimum of 18 vehicles on duty at a time — 14 of them at satellite stations all over the Peninsula.

"We'd like to give better service," he added, "but it should be appreciated that we have serious problems."

# 'Asbestos kills hundreds of workers, but SA takes too few precautions'

STAR 17/11/81 (131)

## The Star Bureau

LONDON — Hundreds of black workers are known to have died from diseases caused by working with blue asbestos.

Many thousands more will die — because South Africa, the source of most of the world's blue asbestos, remains one of the few countries in the world where stringent precautions are not observed.

This is the theme of a horrifying "World in Action" television documentary made by Granada and shown countrywide in Britain last night.

And not only asbestos workers are at risk. People who live in asbestos mining areas can — and do — die from lung diseases and cancers after

only a brief exposure to asbestos dust. One country doctor approached while the documentary was being made confirmed that he alone had diagnosed about 900 cases of mesothelioma, a cancer caused by asbestos. All the victims had died.

Many of the companies reviewed were British subsidiaries operating in conditions that would be

banned in their own country or America, where the asbestos industry now faces a flood of legal claims running into millions of dollars.

"World in Action" spoke to workers dying of mesothelioma. All said the companies had ignored their plight. The documentary pointed out that the workers received compensation — about R40

every three months — as part of a Government scheme, participation in which effectively prevented them from suing their former employers.

Throughout the investigation, the television team came across open cast asbestos mines, dumps of asbestos waste, asbestos fibres and dust polluting local water supplies and food. These were even

being used as cheap building material and for road repairs. All these abuses have been banned in Britain.

None of the companies concerned would agree to being interviewed for the documentary, British viewers were told.

But "Word in Action" went on to make an even more serious allegation,

which could have serious repercussions. The documentary claimed that research dating back 20 years showing the companies that their plants were causing cancer in local communities had been consistently suppressed.

Mr Jim Walker, an American lawyer who won about R500 000 in punitive damages from an asbestos firm's subsidiary for a client who developed asbestosis, summed up the growing concern about the asbestos mining and processing industry.

"They produce two things in asbestos plants. Asbestos products and diseased and dead asbestos workers," he said.

absolute element from the RB elements found elements referenced. If the collection is rned to the Operating System which will ment into core for execution. Once the mes eligible for time slices for program

SION is given the Operating System will ment in the specified file and if found, absolute element is not found, the run is

SAMPLE,12345,TRAINING

Fortran Statements

es a source element and an RB element, each @XQT statement causes the Operating System tute element. Since there is none, the collect all the RB elements in TPF\$ into an ent called NAME\$. Since there is only one primary input to the collector. If this eferences, the collector searches TPF\$ and that will satisfy those references and will the primary element to create the absolute ts executable form is loaded into core and

TEST,12346,PROJA  
FA,FA

Fortran Statements

FB,FB

Assembler Statements

and FB) in TPF\$ plus and Fortran library tted by the implied collection @XQT into ). This element will then be loaded into

# Firms accused over SA asbestos mine hazards

RDM 18/11/81 (6/1) (131)

By BRUCE STEPHENSON,  
MARTIN FEINSTEIN  
and ADA STUIJT

FORMER British-owned companies mining blue asbestos in the Northern Cape have been accused of "walking away from their responsibilities" to employees now sick and dying from crippling lung diseases.

Claims that the companies ignored warnings given as far back as 20 years ago — that their workers risked cancer and lung diseases — were made on Monday on British television.

The Granada TV programme "World in Action" named the companies Kuruman Cape Blue Asbestos, the Griqualand Exploration and Finance company (Gefco) and the Lonrho Corporation as the companies that had knowingly exposed black workers to the lethal dust.

## Denied

Duiker Exploration, controlled by Lonrho, and Rand Mines, which controls Cape Blue Asbestos, yesterday vehemently denied abdicating responsibility to their workers.

Department of Health officials said yesterday some allegations made in the programme may be true, although they said most were exaggerated.

Spokesmen for the National Air Pollution Advisory Committee — run by the Department of Health — told the Mail on-the-spot health inspections carried out about a year ago had uncovered heavy asbestos pollution.

"We noticed at the time that some of the mines had clouds of asbestos hanging over the mining and surrounding areas. Asbestos was lying all over the place."

Another spokesman for the department, Dr G Oberholzer, said most asbestos mines had reduced air pollution counts considerably.

"The State Mine Engineer and that department's own health officials are checking the air pollution count constantly. Of course, our department has no jurisdiction over health regulations as far as mines are concerned, but we advise on ways to keep the pollution levels to the absolute minimum, and inform the State Mine Engineer, who enforces the health regulations at all mines, about any possible health hazards," he said.

## 'Exaggeration'

Dr R D W Reid, medical consultant of Rand Mines Limited, which owns several asbestos mines in the Northern Cape, said very few miners now contracted mesothelioma and that the documentary was a complete exaggeration.

"We recently installed a new mill, primarily to fight asbestos pollution. Very few miners still get mesothelioma, certainly nothing near those figures mentioned in that programme."

He said the main function of the new mill installed at one mine was to bag asbestos dust, primarily to avoid asbestos-related diseases.

The Northern Cape Mines around Kuruman and Prieska provide most of the world's blue asbestos — mined in a way outlawed in Britain since 1969.

International concern at the health hazards involved has been sparked by a recent case in the United States courts.

A former employee of an American subsidiary of Cape Asbestos was awarded substantial damages.

The 25-minute BBC documentary showed black employees working in plants and mills thickly encrusted with blue asbestos dust, without respiratory protection. Film showed the surrounding countryside and watercourses stained blue by dust.

## Disease

Dr Neil White, a South African doctor with the Health Care Trust, told "World in Action" 33 cases of a lung disease caused by asbestos dust had been diagnosed in Prieska in the past 18 months.

He said a local doctor had told him he had diagnosed 900 cases of the disease in the Prieska area.

"There is a dump right outside the town and the blue asbestos dust blows over the town every time the wind blows," Dr White said.

Of 1 000 former employees of a Cape asbestos mine in the Northern Cape area traced by Dr White, 270 were found to have asbestosis.

The superintendent of the Prieska Hospital, Dr J Pickard, said all those who had developed mining-related lung diseases had received a R12 000 payout.

He said about 400 people scattered throughout South Africa still suffered from such diseases, and that "the incidence is dropping rapidly."

Mr R Lee, a director and consulting engineer for Duiker Exploration, said yesterday "We know precautions have to be taken, and these are laid down strictly by South African mining law."

# Asbestos 131 mine risks claimed

CAPE TIMES 18/11/81

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Former British-owned companies mining dangerous blue asbestos in the Northern Cape have been accused of "walking away from their responsibilities" to employees now sick and dying from crippling lung diseases.

Claims that the companies blatantly ignored warnings given as long as 20 years ago that their workers risked cancer and lung diseases — "as lethal as firing a gun into a crowd" — were made on Monday in Britain.

The Granada TV programme "World in Action" named Kuruman Cape Blue Asbestos, a Rand Mines subsidiary, the Griqualand Exploration and Finance Company (Gefco), now owned by General Mining, and the multi-national Lonrho Corporation — through its subsidiary Duiker Exploration — as the companies that had knowingly exposed workers to the lethal dust.

## Exaggerated

Duiker Exploration and Rand Mines yesterday denied abdicating their responsibilities.

Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions officials confirmed that some allegations might be true, although most were exaggerated.

Spokesmen for the National Air Pollution Advisory Committee, run by the Department of Health, told of inspections carried out a year ago which uncovered heavy asbestos pollution.

"We noticed at the time that some of the mines had clouds of asbestos hanging over the mining and surrounding areas, asbestos was lying all over the place. In fact, asbestos-related diseases are not only restricted to black miners, but to all people surrounding those mines," Health Department officials said yesterday.

A spokesman, Dr G Oberholzer, said most mines had reduced their air pollution counts considerably.

Dr R D W Reid, medical consultant of Rand Mines, which owns several asbestos mines at Pinge, Pomfret and Kuruman, said very few miners still got mesothelioma and the documentary was a

complete exaggeration.

"We recently installed a new mill primarily to fight asbestos pollution. Very few miners still get mesothelioma, certainly nothing near those figures mentioned."

According to Rand Mines' 1980 health report, 5 362 miners were infected with respiratory-related diseases, but no mention was made of asbestos-related diseases or deaths.

The mines around Kuruman and Prieska provide most of the world's blue asbestos — in a way banned in the UK since 1969.

The documentary showed black employees working in plants and mills thickly encrusted with blue asbestos dust without respiratory protection, and of countryside and watercourses stained blue with dust.

Dr Neil White, a South African doctor with the Health Care Trust, told "World in Action" that 33 cases of a lung disease caused by asbestos dust had been diagnosed in Prieska in the past 18 months.

Of 1 000 former employees of the Cape Asbestos Mine in the Northern Cape area traced by Dr White, 270 were found to have asbestosis.

## Payout

The Northern Cape mines belonging to Cape Asbestos were sold two years ago to Barlow Rand for R27 000 000 which sold them to General Mining. The programme claimed that the British company should be held responsible for its methods.

The superintendent of the Prieska Hospital, Dr J Pickard, said all those who had developed mining-related lung diseases had received a R12 000 payout. There were about 400 people scattered throughout South Africa still suffering from such disease, and that "the incidence is dropping rapidly."

Mr R Lee, a director and consulting engineer for Duiker Exploration, said yesterday "We know precautions have to be taken, and these are laid down strictly by law. Their observation is under constant supervision by the Department of Mines."

No comment was available from other companies.

# 'Lethal' dust' charges Employees now sick and dying' claim

*Wafaf Marwan*

18/11/81

131

## Mercury Correspondent

**JOHANNESBURG**—Former British-owned companies mining dangerous blue asbestos in the Northern Cape have been accused of 'walking away from their responsibilities' to employees now sick and dying from crippling lung diseases

Claims that the companies blatantly ignored warnings given as long as 20 years ago that their workers risked cancer and lung diseases 'as lethal as firing a gun into a crowd' were made on Monday on British television

The Granada TV programme *World in Action* named the companies Kuruman Cape Blue Asbestos — a Rand Mines subsidiary in the process of a change-over — the Grigaland Exploration and Finance company (Gefco), now owned by General Min-

ing of the Anglo American Corporation, and the multi-national giant Lonrho Corporation — through its subsidiary Duker Exploration — as the companies that had knowingly exposed black workers to the lethal dust

Duker Exploration and Rand Mines yesterday vehemently denied that it had abdicated its responsibilities to its workers

However, Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions officials yesterday confirmed that some of the allegations made in the programme might be true, although most of it was exaggerated

### Inspections

Spokesmen for the National Air Pollution Advisory Committee — run by the Department of Health — yesterday told a Mercury correspondent of on-the-spot health inspections carried out by its committee about a year ago, which uncovered heavy asbestos pollution

'We noticed at the time that some of the mines had clouds of asbestos hanging over

the mining and surrounding areas, asbestos was lying all over the place.

In fact, asbestos-related diseases are not only restricted to black miners, but to all people surrounding those mines. In one case the butchery was on the mine property, and people probably bought asbestos with the meat, the Health Department officials said yesterday

Another spokesman of the department, Dr G Oberholzer, said yesterday that most asbestos mines had reduced their air pollution counts considerably

'The State Mines' Engineers and their own health officials are checking the air's pollution count constantly

'Of course, our department has no jurisdiction over health regulations as far as mines are concerned, but we advise on ways to keep the pollution levels to the absolute minimum, and inform the State Mines' Engineers, who enforce the health regulations at all mines, about any possible health hazards,' he said

Dr R D W Reid, medical consultant of

Rand Mines, Limited, which owns several asbestos mines at Punge, Pomfret and Kuruman, said very few miners got mesothelioma now and the documentary was a complete exaggeration

### Installed

'We recently installed a new mill primarily to fight asbestos pollution. Very few miners still get mesothelioma, certainly nothing near those figures mentioned in that programme. In fact, in Pumptas, the new mill we installed has a main function of bagging the asbestos dust, primarily to avoid asbestos-related diseases,' he said

According to Rand Mines 1980 annual health report, 5 362 miners were infected with respiratory-related diseases, but no mention was made of asbestos-related diseases or deaths in the report

The Northern Cape Mines around Kuruman and Prieska provide most of the world's blue asbestos — in a way totally outlawed in Britain since 1989

The 25-minute Monday-night documentary showed black employees working in

plants and mills thickly encrusted with blue asbestos dust, completely without respiratory protection and of the surrounding countryside and watercourses stained blue with dust.

Dr Neil White, a South African doctor with the Health Care Trust, told *World in Action* that 33 cases of a lung disease caused by asbestos dust had been diagnosed in Prieska in the past 18 months

He said a local doctor had told him that he had diagnosed 900 cases of the disease in the Prieska area

Of 1 000 former employees of the Cape Asbestos Mine in the Northern Cape area of Kuruse traced by Dr White, 270 were found to have asbestosis

One sick former employee said all his colleagues had died of lung diseases. His former employees had not helped him in any way, he said, and he depended on Government compensation of R41 every three months to support his family

The programme said the chairman of Gefco, Mr C F Walters, had said in his 1980

annual report that there was mounting evidence against blue asbestos being a cause of cancer and other diseases

But he refused to supply the *World in Action* team with medical evidence for his claim and also refused an interview

The investigating team was also refused interviews and statements from Mr Tiny Rowlands of Lonrho and Mr Harry Oppenheimer of Anglo American, who is a director of General Mining

It was also reported that a survey carried out in 1960 by the South African pneumoconiosis research unit under the auspices of the CSIR had found that one in every four inhabitants of Prieska had asbestos dust in their sputum

But the report was never published

The Northern Cape Mines belonging to Cape Asbestos were sold two years ago to Barlow Rand for R27 000 000 which in turn sold them to General Mining

But the programme asserted that the British company should be held responsible for the consequences of its mining methods

The superintendent of the Prieska Hospital, Dr J Pickard, said all those who had developed mining-related lung diseases had received a R12 000 payout

He said there were about 400 people scattered throughout South Africa still suffering from such diseases, and that the incidence is dropping rapidly

Mr R Lee, a director and consulting engineer for Duker Exploration, said yesterday 'We know precautions have to be taken, and these are laid down strictly by South African mining law

'Their observation is under constant supervision by the Department of Mines factors such as the testing of atmospheres is constantly watched and monitored by Government inspectors

'Precautions are necessary and are taken

'As far as these allegations of "walking away from our responsibilities" are concerned, the mining inspectors simply do not allow this to happen'



# Thirteen miners die as cage falls

S Times 1/11/81

27  
27  
131

By KEN SLADE

THIRTEEN miners were killed and 35 injured at Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville yesterday

Winding machinery failed at the end of a work shift and plunged the miners to the bottom of a shaft

The accident happened at 11.30am when the men were coming off duty at the No 3 incline shaft

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation, Mr Brendon Ryan, confirmed the miners were killed when the cage plummeted after the winding machinery failed

He said although the shaft was 3666m deep, the cage had only

been hoisted about 166m when it plunged to the bottom

'First-aid teams and workers from other shafts were rushed to the disaster area and within minutes the wreckage was cleared,' Mr Ryan said

The 13 dead miners, all blacks, were brought to the surface by 6pm yesterday

Mr Ryan said some of the injured were in a serious condition, but others had been only slightly hurt

The injured were admitted to Cottesloe Hospital near Johannesburg, and the Sybrand van Niekerk Hospital near Carletonville

The names of the dead will not be released until their next of kin have been informed

**Man injured in  
two-storey fall**

Post Reporter (131)

A MAN was admitted to Livingstone Hospital after falling two storeys at the VSN Centre in Port Elizabeth's Main Street today.

A foreman with the LTA construction firm, Mr Frans Gerber, refused to identify the man and ordered a reporter from the site of the accident

# Falling bucket crushes City site worker

CT 28/10/81

~~22~~

131

By CRAIG TYSON

beams

A CONSTRUCTION worker was killed at a building site in Loop Street late yesterday when a concrete-filled bucket fell from a crane and crushed him to death

The bucket, weighing about a ton, was attached to the end of a cable on the crane. Workers at the site said they believed the crane's brake had failed causing the bucket to come crashing down

A labourer standing below the suspended load was unable to escape the plummeting bucket, which crushed him, pinning him to one of the building's support

Construction officials at the site did not comment on the accident

Three Metro rescue vehicles, ambulances and fire engines arrived at the scene. Firemen immediately began digging concrete out of the bucket which was then lifted off the body by a crane from one of Metro's heavy-duty vehicles

Workers at the site said there had been a similar incident before, but no-one had been killed

By late last night the man's name had not been released as his next-of-kin had not been informed

# Safety measures for all workers in draft Bill

Political Staff

PROVISIONS for the protection of the safety and health of all workers are contained in the new draft Machinery and Occupational Safety Bill published in the Government Gazette for the first time yesterday

This significantly broadens the scope of the old Factories, Machinery and Building Work Act of 1941, which offered only statutory protection for the safety and health of people employed in factories or in the building trade

In a statement yesterday, the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, said the new draft bill would widen the scope of the old Act by

- Granting greater powers to the minister and inspectors to prohibit or to stop processes considered harmful to safety and health of employees

- Enabling local authorities to enforce the provisions of the regulations

- Granting the courts the power to enforce the legal requirements regarding safety and health of employees by issuing court orders on offending employers, ordering them to rectify a "wrong state of affairs"

- Enabling the "active participation" of employers in consultation with employees to provide a safe and healthy working environment

Mr Botha said the existing regulations under the Factories, Machinery and Building Work Act would be taken up in the new legislation. In addition, new regulations to improve the working environment and occupational hygiene of workers had already been drafted and would be promulgated soon

Further regulations for electrical installations were also in the process of being drawn up

A second bill published in the Government Gazette yesterday was the draft Conditions of Employment Bill, which was an attempt to draw together clauses relating to conditions of employment in existing Acts. This was in accordance with the government's rationalization policy, Mr Botha said

"An important change is that the new Act will not be confined in its application to factory workers and employees in shops and offices as is presently the position with the existing Acts," Mr Botha said

# Industrial health system 'inadequate'

10 Aug  
7/8

(13)

THE SYSTEM of legal regulation of industrial health in South Africa is seriously inadequate, according to speakers in a panel discussion at the conference on Law in South Africa at the University of Cape Town yesterday.

Dr Jonny Myers of the Industrial Health Research Group at UCT said the content and application of the Factory's Act excluded workers and shrouded working conditions in secrecy

'Neither factory inspectors nor the employers are obliged to inform workers of the result of a factory inspection'

Penalties laid down for employers contravening the Act were 'totally inadequate' as a deterrent measure, he said

## DEMAND RIGHTS

Mr Halton Cheadle of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand said workers should demand industrial health rights at the shop floor.

These included the right to information, representation, negotiations on new technology, monitoring, medical examination, full compensation and the withdrawal of labour.

Dr Liz Thompson, an adviser to the Industrial Aid Society, said accidents were the most serious industrial problem.

In 1976 there were 350 000 accidents, of which 2 231 were fatal and 32 000 involved permanent disability.

She said the biggest problem concerning accidents was the sacking of injured workers.

# Harbour pilot seriously

Argus 8/10/61  
131

## injured by cable

IN CAPE TOWN harbour pilot, Captain Derek Cook, was seriously injured today when he was caught by the whiplash of a steel cable which snapped while tugs were bringing in the giant barge ETPM.

The cable snapped while harbour tugs were guiding the barge across the Duncan Dock to a mooring alongside the repair quay.

Captain Cook was aboard the barge and it is under-

stood that he was struck by the whiplash of the taut cable when it snapped.

The barge was immediately anchored in the middle of Duncan Dock and a doctor was sent to it on one of the harbour craft.

Cape Town's Metro unit and an ambulance rushed to the scene, ready to take the injured man to hospital.



HARBOUR PILOT Captain Derek Cook is lifted into an ambulance.

CT 12/10/81

# The safest sawmill in S Africa

Own Correspondent

PAARL — The State sawmill at Wemmershoek, between Paarl and Franschoek, which has been in existence for the past half-a-century, has been declared the safest sawmill in South Africa in 1980

A nationwide competition organized by the National Occupational Safety Organisation in conjunction with the SA Sawmills Association, is held every year to determine the safest sawmill in operation in the Republic

The trophy for the Wemmershoek achievement was handed over to the superintendent of the Wemmershoek Sawmills by the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw

The mill has won the trophy for the second year in succession

The sawmill has had 835 000 work-hours and suffered no loss of time as a result of injuries at work. Their next aim, according to a spokesman, is to get one million work-hours without loss of time.

The superintendent of the mill is appropriately named Mr I Wood

# No trace of fisherman

DD  
13/10/77  
137

EAST LONDON — The body of fisherman, Mr Frankie van Rooyen, 24, of Lorenzo Avenue, Rosemount, who is presumed drowned in the Buffalo River on Saturday morning, has not been found

The incident happened while Mr Van Rooyen and a friend, Mr D Mason, were fishing in the Buffalo River. Mr Van Rooyen was casting his line when the boat from which they were fishing capsized.

A spokesman for the Railway Police said last night the search was still continuing.

Mr Van Rooyen apparently drowned while Mr Mason swam to the bank to seek help — DDD



2 1/2 hour  
Ev. Post 14/10/81  
battle to  
(137)  
free man

Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Firemen struggled for 2 1/2 hours to rescue a young municipal gasworks operator whose forearm was trapped in a conveyer belt at the Johannesburg gasworks yesterday.

Mr Gert Wilhelm, 26, of Roodepoort, lay helplessly as the firemen dismantled the plant and watched them make unsuccessful rescue attempts with the jaws of life.

He was eventually freed and rushed to hospital.

Mr Wilhelm was restoring a breakdown at the plant when the sleeve of his overall was caught in the conveyer belt.

The shift manager, Mr Willem Potgieter, immediately switched off the machine, which saved Mr Wilhelm's life.

# FCI conference significant

DD 15/10/81  
to Border (13)

EAST LONDON — The annual conference of the Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI) would be of great significance to the Border area — despite the region being in a state of limbo, Dr Johan van Zyl, the FCI's executive director, said yesterday

The topic of the conference, which is to be held here next Wednesday, is "Regional Co-operation and Industrial Development — including Training and Low Cost Housing". Mr J F Roux, the administrative secretary of the FCI, said this topic had been chosen because of its relevance to East London whose turn it was to host the conference

Dr Van Zyl said the conference had been planned some months previously when it had still been hoped a package of concessions would be granted to the region before October

However there had been no announcements, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had withdrawn from the conference and it seemed likely that any important announcements

would be made at the "Carlton Two" conference to be held in Cape Town next month

"It is nevertheless a very important topic for the region," he said "The very fact that we are talking about it shows the FCI regards the whole problem of regional decentralisation as significant"

Dr Van Zyl said that without a government commitment providing a framework for development the region had been pushed into a state of limbo. He said people could not take decisions on the future of the region until the long-awaited package of incentives had been spelt out

"Hopefully this package will be revealed at Carlton Two and thereafter the people of this region can get cracking on development"

Mr John Rich, the president of the Border Chamber of Industries, said the lack of an announcement on the area's future in no

way detracted from the conference, which was still relevant and topical

"The focus on low-cost housing, for instance, is very relevant because of the forthcoming independence of the Ciskei where the bulk of East London's employees live

"If the announcement had come about it would have given a fillip to the conference but as things stand it is equally acceptable and relevant"

Mr Max Phillips, chairman of the Border Regional Development Association, said "It would have been nice had we known at this stage the nature, extent and points of application of the incentive package

"In the event the fact that the conference is taking place without that knowledge should not detract from the interest of the conference. In fact it should add relish to a debate which will try to anticipate those announcements"

Mr Donald Card, chairman of the city council's industrial portfolio, said it was a good topic to discuss but it would have been "a great thing for the Prime Minister to be present to hear what we — the people from this area — have to say"

Meanwhile, it has been announced that Mr A M Mayaba, the immediate past president of the Transkei Chamber of Commerce, has withdrawn from the conference due to ill health

Dr Van Zyl said he regretted Mr Mayaba's withdrawal as he was the only major speaker from this region

● The Association of Chambers of Commerce is to take a serious look at the question of a merger with the FCI, reports a Durban correspondent

Mr Issy Pinshaw, president of Assocom, said yesterday "Assocom agreed that the matter be investigated further jointly with the FCI with a view to formulating recommendations for submission to both organisations as soon as possible" — DDR

Stevedore  
Ev. Post 19/10/81  
killed by  
(131) (348)  
ice block

Post Correspondent

MOSSEL BAY — A harbour stevedore, Mr Charles Sinkfontein, 56, of Extension 8, Mossel Bay, was crushed to death while offloading frozen fish from a Japanese trawler moored in the bay at the weekend.

The accident occurred on Sunday afternoon in the hold of the trawler as Mr Sinkfontein was offloading the fish into the refrigerated carrier Asekaze Maru.

The weather was extremely rough — with a strong southeaster wipping up the sea — and Mr Sinkfontein was crushed by a large block of ice in the hold of the trawler.

He was certified dead on arrival at the Mossel Bay hospital.

# Brick truck falls over

20/10/81

(131)

Staff Reporter

TWO construction workers had a narrow escape yesterday from serious injury yesterday when the load of bricks they were unloading shifted the wrong way and toppled their truck on to its side.

The two men were delivering the load to a building site in Fiskaal Road, Camps Bay, and reversed the truck on to a steep hill before raising the tipper of the truck.

As the tipper reached its peak, the load of bricks began sliding to the left instead of out the back, and the truck rolled over on to its side.

"It all just happened in slow motion — there was this terrible noise, and then we ran down and helped the two out through the windscreen," a welder on the site, Mr Egsaan Meyer, said.

"Luckily the driver, Mr William Mzawa, had told the three men on the back to keep clear when he began offloading."

An ambulance was summoned and arrived at the site within 10 minutes. A spokesman for Somerset Hospital said yesterday that Mr Mzawa was discharged immediately, while the passenger, Mr C Bissana, was being treated for minor injuries.

The men were lucky to have come out of their experience as lightly as they did — the cab of the truck was loaded with spades, sledgehammers, pitch forks and rakes, any one of which could have seriously injured them.



The truck which toppled over in Fiskaal Road, Camps Bay, yesterday





X2

131

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

STAATSKOERANT

VAN DIE REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper

As 'n Nuusblad by die Poskantoor Geregistreer

PRICE (GST included) 30c PRYS (AVB ingesluit)
ABROAD 40c BUITELANDS
POST FREE · POSVRY

136

Vol. 196]

CAPE TOWN, 21 OCTOBER 1981

KAAPSTAD, 21 OKTOBER 1981

[No 7845

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

KANTOOR VAN DIE EERSTE MINISTER

No 2194 21 October 1981.

No. 2194 21 Oktober 1981

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information —

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring gegee het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word —

No. 85 of 1981 Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Amendment Act, 1981

No 85 van 1981 Wysigingswet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1981

# Fatigue claims by long haul drivers

Aug 27/10/81

~~223~~ 131

SEVENTY-TWO percent of long distance, heavy duty drivers questioned in a recent National Institute for Personnel Research study acknowledged that they experience fatigue while driving, and 24 percent said this was sometimes so severe they experienced hallucinations.

The study was part of the NIPR's investigation into the problem of fatigue as a major cause of traffic accidents among long distance truck drivers, and involved 352 professional drivers of all race groups from throughout South Africa.

The study established that more than 50 percent of the drivers had at times driven for more than eight

hours consecutively without a rest, and six percent had driven for periods of 25 hours without resting.

Off-duty breaks lasting 12 hours, during which no driving was done, were reported to occur less than once a week.

A factor related to lack of rests taken was that more than 50 percent of the drivers complained that resting places along open roads in South Africa were inadequate, sometimes not large enough for their vehicles to park, they were too far apart and often unsafe or

duty. The quarterly journal of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) reports that fur-

ther research, involving black professional heavy duty drivers of the SA Railways, will begin within months.

Drivers using a dynamic visual field generator (DFVG) will be subjected to a minimum eight hours 'driving' on a simulated journey from Johannesburg to Durban complete with road and direction signs, high density city driving an open country, low density roads.

It is hoped the information will help in the selection of long and short distance professional heavy-duty drivers and also serve as a scientific basis to support legislation on the working hours of drivers.

# Bucket drops —

August 28/10/81

137

## City worker dies

A WORKER at the new Provincial Administration building in Loop Street, Cape Town was killed at 6 pm yesterday when a bucket loaded with concrete fell on him.

The bucket, loaded with 1½ tons of concrete, was suspended from a crane.

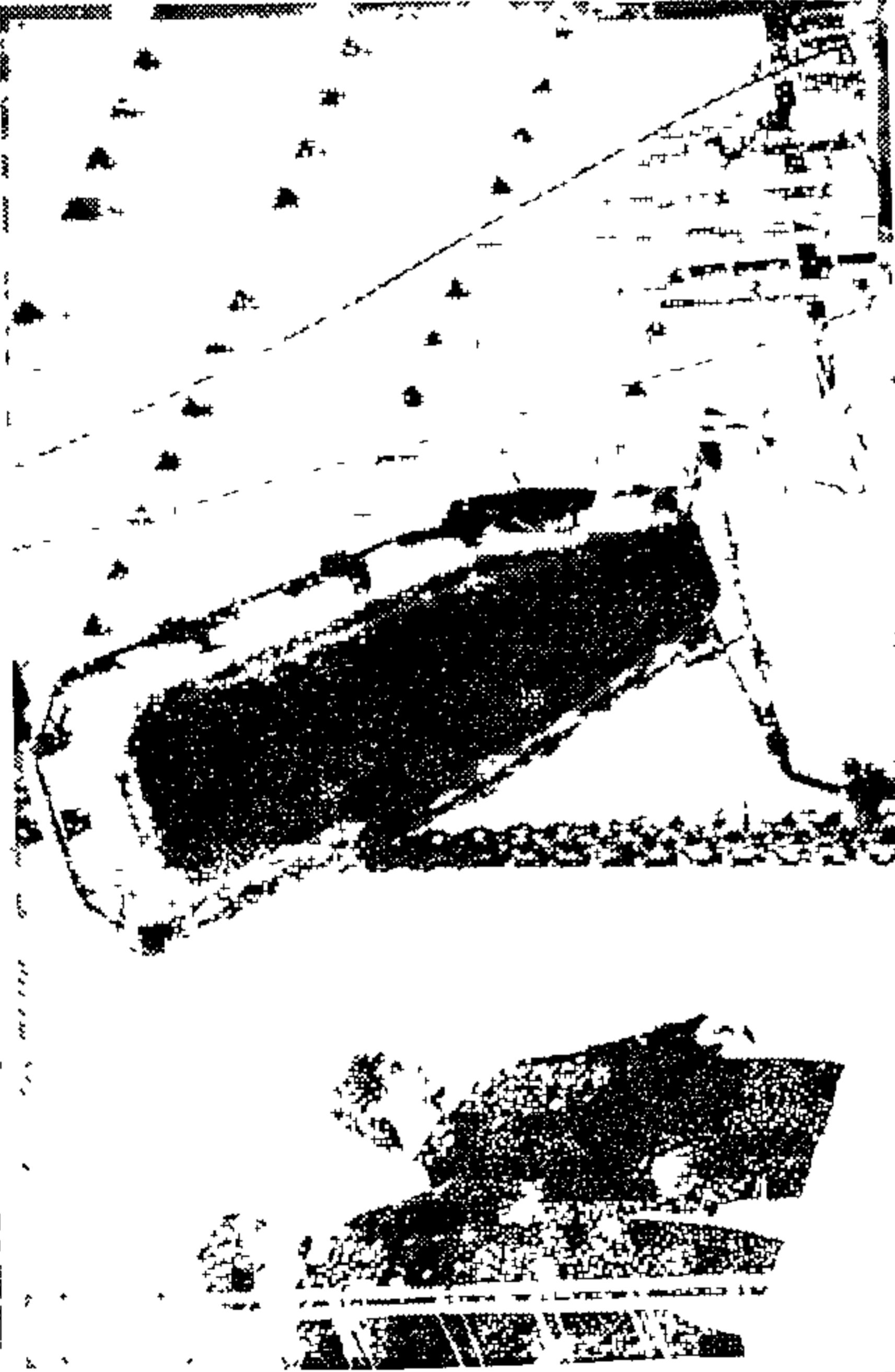
Four men working where the bucket fell escaped unhurt.

One of the workers said they had just finished loading the bucket and were watching it rise when it fell.

They tried to push the falling bucket away, but it was too heavy.

The Metro rescue unit, using a hydraulic hoist, battled for 30 minutes to free the body.

The name of the worker is being withheld until his family have been told.



FIREMEN stand by as the body of a worker, killed yesterday when a cement-laden bucket fell on him, is hoisted from the construction site.



Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health

21 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions

- (1) (a) When was the report of the Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health under the chairmanship of Mr Justice R P B Erasmus submitted to his Department and (b) when was it published
- (2) whether a White Paper has been published on such report, if not why not if so when,
- (3) whether any of the recommendations made by such Commission have been implemented if not (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that such recommendations will be implemented if so which recommendations have been implemented
- (4) whether his Department will be responsible for monitoring the health of industrial workers, if not, which Government department will bear the responsibility"

†The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS (for the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions)

(1) (a) 21 January 1976

343

WEDNESDAY 9

(b) March 1976

(2) No, because consensus could not be reached by the department concerned on the recommendations specifically formulated by the Commission

(3) Yes

(a) Falls away

(b) Such recommendations on which consensus has been reached will be implemented during 1982 or as soon as possible thereafter

The National Research Institute for Occupational Disease was transferred to the Department from the South African Medical Research Council on 1 April 1979 and is now known as the National Centre for Occupational Health

(4) Yes

## No White Paper after 5 years

CT 10/9/83 (13)  
Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
The government has not been able to issue a White Paper on the findings of a commission of inquiry which reported more than five years ago because of division between different departments

This was disclosed yesterday by the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik, when he replied to a question which had been tabled by Dr Marius Barnard (PFP, Parktown).

Dr Munnik said the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry into Industrial Health had

reported to the government in January 1976 and its report had been published in March 1976

But no White Paper had been published "because consensus could not be reached by the departments concerned on the recommendations as specifically formulated by the commission", Dr Munnik said

Asked whether any of the commission's recommendations had been implemented, Dr Munnik replied "yes"

He said those recommendations "on which consensus has been reached will be implemented during 1982 or as soon as possible thereafter"

# Little action on country's worker health

Political Staff

THE government's approach to the health of South Africa's 5,5 million industrial workers has, to date, been unenthusiastic and ineffective. Even the most loyal government supporter would have to concede that point.

Other observers, on the other hand, might well accuse the government of simply not caring about the health of workers.

This much has emerged in Parliament during the current session as the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik, has replied to a series of questions by the Opposition spokesman on Health, Dr Marius Barnard, about the outcome of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry into occupational health.

Nearly six years ago the commission, chaired by Mr Justice Rudolf Erasmus, found that there was an alarmingly high rate of occupational disease in industry and on the mines. Its report disclosed extremely dangerous working conditions and an increasing rate of occupational disease.

## Not covered

It found that 5,78 million (71,9 percent) of the eight million economically active people in South Africa were not covered by legislation relating to occupational disease. It also found that management was not industrially health-orientated.

The commission said South Africa was one of the few industrially developed countries without a comprehensive health system for the protection of all industrial workers and the prevention of occupational disease.

It also found, for example, that only 29 of the 66 posts of factory inspectors were filled — and they were the only people who had a legally sanctioned mandate to enforce protection in factories. In Johannesburg, for example, four of the 14 factory-inspector posts were filled, and these four people were meant to inspect 5 713 factories with 268 299 employees. In East London, two people were meant to inspect 51 440 workers in 1 195 factories.

## Little change

Since then, the Progressive Federal Party MP for Bryanston, Mr Horace van Rensburg, has tabled questions in Parliament which show that there has been little change in this position and that a substantial number of the factory-inspector posts remain unfilled.

The commission's report was unambiguous in its general call for official action.

But Dr Munnik told Dr Barnard this month that the government had not issued a White Paper on the commission's report, which would have contained the government's views on the matter because "consensus could not be reached by the depart-

ments concerned on the recommendations as specifically formulated by the commission"

Because of this division, the government has not in nearly six years been able to make up its mind what to do.

In answer to a subsequent question, Dr Munnik told Dr Barnard that the departments of Manpower, Mineral and Energy Affairs, Agriculture and Fisheries, Health, Industries, Finance, Water Affairs and the SA Railways administration had been involved in the investigations into the commission's report.

## No consensus

Three departments — Manpower, Energy and Health — were divided because "consensus could not be reached on the functions to be performed by the various departments"

The minister said attempts had been made to resolve the areas of disagreement "at high level" and were continuing.

It appeared from the minister's replies that precisely one recommendation by the commission had been agreed upon. The transfer of the National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases to the Department of Health. This body is now known as the National Centre for Occupational Health.

That this was the only recommendation the departments could agree upon was reflected in Dr Munnik's reply to the question whether a White Paper would be issued on the recommendations on which consensus was reached. He said no White Paper would be issued because "the recommendation on which consensus was reached has already been implemented and a White Paper at this stage will serve no purpose".

Earlier Dr Munnik said that "such recommendations on which consensus has been reached will be implemented during 1982 or as soon as possible thereafter".

## Impossible

In fact, there has been no indication that any agreement has been reached, making an implementation date impossible.

In all the gloom of government inaction over industrial health, particularly since the report of the Erasmus Commission, there may be some light. The government has published for comment a draft "Machinery and Occupational Safety Bill" which will promote higher standards, encourage prohibition of dangerous substances and define duties of employers and employees with regard to health and safety.

If this proposed law is debated in Parliament next year, it would not be a moment too late — and it may even show that the work of the Erasmus Commission has not been entirely lost in interminable bureaucratic warfare.

Hous 10 Occupational safety division (131)  
 9/10/81 Q 742  
 471 Dr M S BARNARD asked the  
 Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions:

- (1) (a) How many posts are there in the occupational safety division of his Department, (b) how many of these posts are filled at present and (c) where are the incumbents of these posts stationed,
- (2) how many inspections did the occupational safety division make in (a) 1979 and (b) 1980,
- (3) whether any prosecutions took place during such years, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH, WELFARE AND PENSIONS

- (1) (a) 184 4 at the Head Office of the Department, and 180 at the National Centre for Occupational Health This figure includes all the posts on the establishment of the centre,
  - (b) 140,
  - (c) 2 at the Head Office; and 138 at the National Centre for Occupational Health,
- |  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| (2)  | (a) | (b) |
| inspections for the purpose of advising the manufacture                  | 4   | 11  |
| surveys for research purposes  | 7   | 4   |
| number of manufacturers for whom regular controlling service is rendered | 31  | 13  |
- (3) no, the enforcement of legislation pertaining to occupational health is not a function of the Department The Department's functions in regard to occupational health are limited to research and advice.

health Previously, occupational health was not specifically dealt with but fell under occupational safety regulations, the Department of Manpower and the Factory Act inspectorate

The FM also learns that the revised draft Bill — as yet unpublished — proposes the establishment of an advisory committee for occupational health consisting of 14 members appointed by the Minister of Health

There is no mention of race and observers hope that when the committee is appointed, it will be fully representative

Where the Factories Act provided for factory inspectors to be appointed by the Department of Manpower, the new Bill provides for health inspectors, with all the powers of factory inspectors, to be appointed by the Minister of Health.

Health inspectors have powers of entry, the right to demand information from employers and employees and the right to inspect books or materials Employers will be obliged by law to assist inspectors and resistance will be regarded as an offence However, employers will be able to appeal, either to the occupational health inspector or to the Industrial Court

Says one observer "The provisions affecting occupational health and safety highlight the ongoing conflict between the Department of Health and the Department of Manpower Utilisation The new draft legislation does not resolve these differences but rather serves to highlight them by fragmenting responsibility for occupational health and safety between the Departments of Manpower and Health This can only serve to encourage bureaucracy and inefficiency

#### Similar powers

"In addition, there is no clear demarcation between the functions of the factory inspectors and the health inspectors, whose powers are very similar There is likely to be conflict between what is acceptable to factory inspectors and health inspectors and there could be contradictory opinions Clearly the inspectorate should be under one head Although the Bill makes a demarcation, it doesn't do so clearly"

According to the findings of the Erasmus Commission, only 29 of the 66 available posts of factory inspectors were filled nationally in 1976 Four factory inspectors covered 51 440 workers in 1 195 factories in the Johannesburg area alone And "not much has changed since," according to occupational health and safety expert

At present, these inspectors are the only people with a legally sanctioned mandate to enforce protection in factories These duties are now extended to health inspectors and hopefully these posts can be filled

The proposed Bill gives the Minister of Manpower the right to prohibit certain processes, materials or products and the power to frame regulations affecting health He can also publish a list of notifiable diseases in the Government Gazette or be compelled to do so at the request of the Minister of

## INDUSTRIAL HEALTH <sup>(131)</sup> An end to neglect?

Fm 30/10/81

The occupational health of millions of SA workers has long been neglected by both employers and government For example, the Erasmus Commission report on Occupational Health and Safety was first published in 1976, yet five years later a White Paper has still not been published The reason, according to Minister of Health Lapa Munk, is that there has been a lack of consensus between the Departments of Manpower, Energy, and health on the commission's recommendations

Now, the FM understands, the draft Bill on machinery and occupational safety tabled in July this year has been amended to include a special section on occupational

Health The commission noted in 1976 that regrettably except in the mining industry, industrial health not only occupies a secondary position in industry in this country but that industrialists have put very little time, money and organisation into the prevention of occupational diseases  
The proposed legislation now imposes specific duties on employers whereas previously duties were general and common-law rather than specific The Bill could thus have far-reaching implications for the occupational health of millions of workers in SA

Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health

Haar 10 8/10/87 QC 697 (131)  
470 Dr M S BARNARD asked the  
Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions

- (1) How many recommendations were made by the Commission of Inquiry into Occupational Health under the chairmanship of Mr Justice R P B Erasmus;
- (2) what was the (a) total cost of the Commission and (b) cost of the publication of the Commission's report?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH, WELFARE AND PENSIONS.

- (1) Seventeen composite recommendations as stated in chapter twenty-seven of the report;
- (2) the information is not readily available but the total cost according to paragraph 29 of Part 1 of the report of the Auditor-General for 1977-78 amounted to R16 301

# INDUSTRIAL - ACCIDENTS

1982

# BLAST ROCKS CITY

## PLANT—TWO HURT

'I'm OK,'

### says blast victim

OK, Mr. Claude Fester smiled from his hospital bed — only hours after the Fedmis blast had blown him off his feet and left him badly burnt.

Mr. Fester, of 12 Colberg Street, Ruitersweg, was obviously still in a state of shock in an isolated ward at the Woodstock Hospital today.

I cannot discuss the blast, he said, but I'm all right.

Mr. Fester's eyes were stung, and there were burns on his arms and neck.

He was clearly in pain as he said, 'You'll have to speak up, I can't hear you very well.'

Mr. Fester, married with three children, was on duty as an operator at the time of the blast.

A hospital spokesman said his condition was satisfactory.

By Robin Parker

**AN EXPLOSION** rocked the Milnerton fertiliser factory of Fedmis early today, injuring two people and causing extensive damage to the plant.

Production came to a standstill after the blast ripped through the ammonia plant at 2.30 am.

Fire which swept through the factory — which is less than 100 m from a busy connecting road separating the fertiliser plant from the Caltelex oil refinery — was extinguished within 90 minutes by the factory's fire brigade helped by Milnerton fire department units.

The blast happened as an operator, Mr. Claude Fester, was making a routine check of the ammonia production plant — a process indispensable to the manufacture of agricultural fertiliser.

ARGUS 5/1/82

131

**MR DESMOND BURT:** 'It was bright inside my room.'

**MR BARRY FUTERAN:** 'Cats were rushing into the dense fog. I thought this was smoke to look at.'

## 'Suffocating smell'

### — you couldn't breathe'

MINUTES after the Fedmis blast cars from the Table View residential areas began rushing to the scene.

Mr Barry Futeran, owner of the Killarney Hotel, said he ran outside when he heard the thundering explosion at 2.30 am, and saw dense smoke.

The ammonia smell was suffocating outside and you couldn't breathe, but these damned pangs were rushing into the dense smoke with curious people going in there to make a nuisance of themselves, Mr Futeran said.

All the burglar alarms in the hotel were set off by the explosion, and Mr Futeran said he immediately thought the installations near his hotel had been sabotaged.

#### SHOOK

The whole hotel shook, and I thought I was back at El Alamein.'

At 9 am today, with all troops and police apparently withdrawn from the area there was still an unpleasant ammonia smell near the Fedmis factory in the direction of Killarney race track and at the hotel.

#### FLAMES

Mr Aubrey Smith said the very violent explosion 'nearly rocked me out of bed'. He looked outside and saw the leaping flames in the distance.

In the opposite direction, in Van der Stel Road, Bothasig, Mr Desmond Burt saw his bedroom light up brightly a split second after the explosion — 'You could see anything in your room. Outside the dog just went crazy.'

Then the light just dulled slowly. I thought I must have been dreaming.'

A few houses away Gloria Heydenrych heard her windows rattling. 'I thought this is war and was too scared to get up, she said. The Bothasig houses were protected from the effect of the explosion by a row of bluegums.

A short distance away off the N7 highway is a quarry where explosions often occur and several residents first thought the blast was at the quarry.

### No comment

He would not be drawn on the possible cause of the explosion, although it is believed an ammonia leak may have been responsible. The Fedmis spokesman said in a telephone interview that one piece of steel had been hurled half a kilometre by the force of the explosion. Several of the company's senior men were on their way to Cape Town to aid local engineers in determining the cause of the explosion, he said.

The Press were not allowed to take pictures at the scene of the blast.

2 hurt in city blast

### Facial burns

Mr Fester was taken to Woodstock Hospital with burns on his hands and face. The other man, not yet identified, was taken to Tygerberg Hospital. The extent of his injuries is not known.

The blast ripped hundreds of aluminium sheets from the steel framework. Most were flying scores of metres from the plant by the force of the blast.

A witness said flames shot 20 m high into the night sky.

### Shattered

Most of the windows in the factory complex were shattered and panes of laminated glass in a building housing security personnel were forced out whole.

Although a strong south-easter helped to dissipate escaping ammonia gas the acrid smell and unpleasant effects were felt for several hours round the scene of the blast.

The explosion was heard and felt over a wide area of the Peninsula from Sea Point to Claremont and Durbanville.

### Undamaged

No reports of damage to nearby homes were received, however.

Within minutes of the alert being put out, armed commandos, police, firemen, Metro's emergency rescue units and traffic police were on the scene.

Police and traffic officers manned roadblocks on all approach roads as riot police and troops poured into the area.

Vanloads of riot police continued to arrive at the scene up to two hours after the blast.

Security and riot police accompanied by senior officers, including the Divisional Commissioner of Police in the Western Cape, Brigadier Dirk Genis, were on the scene soon after the explosion and combed the surrounding area.

### Not suspected

Brigadier Genis said that sabotage was not suspected, but that all avenues were being investigated. The factory manager, Mr J. J. Taljaard, told reporters the explosion was not sabotage.

MR CLAUDE FESTER in hospital this morning... badly shocked

(Continued from Page 1)

ARGUS 5/1/82



Post 14/1182 (131)

# Harbour worker in PE killed by ship's crane

Post Reporter

A RAILWAYS employee died instantly today when the metal grab at the end of a ship's crane struck him in the chest, pinning him to a lorry parked at berth two in the Port Elizabeth Harbour.

According to the Port Manager, Mr R H W Ter Morshuizen, the accident occurred when the dead man, Mr W Z Willem, and a colleague were working in the back of the truck.

They were assembling zinc and copper concentrate for loading and had apparently indicated to the crane driver that he could swing over and collect the load.

Mr Willem was knocked down by the metal grab and pinned to the side of the truck.

Mr Ter Morshuizen said workers were given instructions to stand clear of the trucks before signalling to the crane driver.

A full investigation is taking place.



Cape Times reporter Matthew Murray joins two dustmen on the Gardens beat, Mr Lodewyk Passens and Mr Tony Hudsonberg, to find out what being a dustman is like

CAPE TIMES 16/1/82 (203) (131)

**Staff Reporter**

A RECENT appeal to the public by the Cape Town Municipality pointed out the dangers facing dustmen. The Cape Times yesterday investigated their working conditions to discover what their day entailed and how they felt about it.

On average, 3 100 tons of refuse are produced in the Cape Town municipal area every week, and it requires a workforce of 80 compacting vehicles and 400 men to handle its collection. These men face a hard day's work which includes the very real danger of injury caused by carelessly disposed rubbish.

## Cape Town's dustmen are happy on the job

A statement by the municipality said 'about 25 percent of the injuries received by Cape Town municipal cleansing employees who deal with trash are caused by broken glass and other sharp objects placed in black refuse bags'. This means the public is largely to blame for dustmen's injuries and for the resulting medical costs and lost working hours.

Despite municipality

safety measures and the efficiency of the dustmen team, the job is often made a lot harder and dangerous than it should be.

"Few members of the public realize what we have to go through," said Mr Tony Hudsonberg, a dustman in the Gardens area. "We often get cut by glass," he said, showing the scars on his hands and arms, "and some people even throw bricks and sand in their dustbins".

Many people decline to dispose of their rubbish correctly and a great deal of time and effort can be wasted in retrieving scattered rubbish. However more considerate rate-payers are particularly careful in disposing of potentially harmful rubbish. Some even arrange to leave empty bottles which are gratefully exchanged for cigarette money.

A dustman's qualifications are that he be agile,

quick and strong within nine hours he has to load about 150 heavy dustbins on to a truck. He also has to keep up with the truck, whether he runs behind it or jumps onto it in that familiar clinging stance.

Dustmen I spoke to were happy in their jobs. Mr Hudsonberg's partner, Mr Lodewyk Passens, said "It's nice to work for the council," adding that he enjoyed being able to keep fit for rugby.

The smell and filth behind a refuse truck is unforgettable to a rookie but apparently one manages to get used to it and Mr Hudsonberg said "At least we've got a nice breeze as well."

# MILLIONS OF RAND Poured BACK INTO THE ECONOMY

**SAFETY** in South African industry has reached a higher standard than in the United States, according to Bunny Matthyssen, general manager of the National Occupational Safety Organisation (NOSA) — and he has figures to prove it.

The safety record has enabled the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner to decrease his contributions for 93 of the 111 industrial sectors in the last decade and to also plough millions of rands back into the economy.

In one year he found the accident fund had been oversubscribed by R17-million and was able to plough that back into the economy by way of rebates.

Matthyssen said "In 1951 we had 4% of the workforce suffering disabling injuries. This has dropped to 2,2%.

"Despite inflation and many more possibilities of injury because of a growing

industrial sector he has been able to reduce the assessment rates of 93 out of the 111 industrial sectors from R1,15 to 80c per R100 of wages paid.

"This was because of the co-operation of South African industrialists and then realising that safety is profitable.

"On an all-industry basis, South Africa's number of disabling accidents per 500 workers dropped from 14 in 1954 to 12,4 in 1970 and down to 11,1 in 1976, the last year for which statistics are available.

"The rate in the United States was 13,35 per 500 in 1979.

"There are obviously areas where the United

# SA is leading the United States in industrial safety

(131) Sunday Express 17/11/82

By DAVID PICCUS

States is ahead of South Africa. One is mining, where the United States' figure for 1979 was as little as 13,15.

"Our figure dropped from 34,3 to 20, then rose again to 21,6 in 1954, 1970 and 1976."

Matthyssen pointed out that the United States textile industry also had a better record than the South African textile industry.

The average number of disabling accidents per 500 workers for that industry was 5,1 in 1979.

The South African textile industry managed to reduce its rate to 6,3 per 500 in 1976, from a high of 10,9 in 1954 and 7,3 in 1970.

Comparable figures for the American fishing industry were not available, but

the South African fishing industry has reduced its disabling accident rate for 1979 per 500 in 1954 to 46,9 in 1970 and 30,8 in 1976.

During the years under review the South African wood industry managed to reduce its rate of disabling accidents from 10 to 30,6 to 21,9 which compares more than favourably with the United States' rate of 28,5 in 1979.

The American transport industry's disabling accident rate of 32,8 per 500 in 1979 was only marginally lower than the South African rate of 33 in 1954.

The South African rate dropped to 26,4 in 1970 and to 17,9 in 1976.

The rate for the South African building and construction industry dropped from 27,7 to 20,1 to 18,3 during the three years Matthyssen reviewed.

The American rate for 1979 was marginally higher at 19,45.

Matthyssen attributes the improvement in safety in South African industry to the fact that management got the message.

"It has upgraded its skills and is now managing better. It is also aware of the benefits of better training and of better tools.

The factory and mines inspectorates have also played a role and I do believe that NOSA has to some extent been a catalyst.

"Our five star grading system for safety in industry has also created a new competitive spirit among industrialists.

Top class workers now refuse to work in plants unless they have impressive grades of safety.

# Mine death toll rises **(13)** to five *ε. Post* *18/1/82*

JOHANNESBURG — The death toll in the pressure burst at the Deelkraal mine near Carletonville had risen to five yesterday with the recovery of another body, SABC TV reported. The victim, a black man, was not identified.

The pressure burst occurred in the mine's seventh level early on Saturday morning.

About 70 men were injured in the burst — Sapa

ROM 18/1182 (131)

# Work goes on at rockfall death mine

Mail Reporter

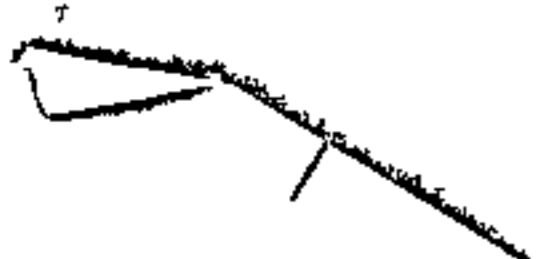
PRODUCTION will return to normal today at Deelkraal Gold Mine, Carletonville where four miners died and 70 were injured on Saturday morning, said Mr Colin Fenton, executive director of Goldfield's gold mining.

The four died after a pressure burst trapped them under fallen rock from a seventh-level pillar where they were blasting at about 9am.

Rescue operations started immediately after the blast, and bodies of the victims were being brought to the surface throughout the afternoon.

One of the men killed was 34-year-old Mr A P Grobler. The names of the three black miners who died will be released when next-of-kin have been notified.

Only two of the about 70 injured are still being treated in hospital.



(131)  
**Mishap  
spate  
hits SAR** RDM  
19/1/82

By DAVID CAPEL

THE South African Railways has been hit by three accidents in two weeks. One person has died, and there has been extensive damage.

On Saturday, the driver of a diesel locomotive, Mr J A Britz, was crushed to death when two goods trains collided at Gaika, near Cathcart in the Eastern Cape.

Fifty-six vehicles were damaged — nine of them badly — in an accident near Balgowan Station in Natal on Friday, and on January 12, 11 goods trucks filled with phosphate plunged down a 50m embankment in the Nelspruit area and were badly damaged after rain washed away 50m of line.

### Investigations

An SAR spokesman said yesterday the accidents were still being investigated.

On Friday afternoon 56 cars — mostly belonging to Datsun and Sigma — were damaged when the goods train carrying them was derailed near Balgowan Station in Natal.

The SAR spokesman said 500m of rail and three overhead electricity supply masts had been badly damaged. The vehicles were being transported by a charter company from Kaalfontein, near Kempton Park, to Isipingo, Durban.

A charter company spokesman said 18 trucks had been "seriously damaged", and eight partially damaged. The trucks carried eight cars each.

A Johannesburg Datsun spokesman could not say exactly how many of their vehicles had been involved, but said they were on their way to franchise dealers in Natal.

He said the several light delivery vehicles damaged had caused a serious shortage.

A Sigma spokesman was not available for comment.

# Firm claims R37m after blast at factory

Cape Times 22/1/82

Staff Reporter

(131) (193)

FEDMIS has filed an insurance claim of R37 million following the explosion at its Milnerton fertilizer factory on January 5.

The managing director of Fedmis controlling company, Mr Dave Marlow, said it was insured against loss of profits and physical damage caused by the blast. The first instalment of the claim had already been paid.

It was intended to restart the plant as soon as possible, but no indication was given as to when this would be. Imports had been arranged to supply the firm's clients and steps were being taken to keep production losses to a minimum.

Fedmis manufactured about 250 tons of ammonia daily at the plant which employs some 300 workers.

*C. J. nne*  
**3 hurt** (131)  
*23/1/62*  
**as trains collide**

BETHULIE — Two goods trains collided head-on at Providence station near the Free State-Cape Province border yesterday. Three men were injured, one seriously.

The driver of one locomotive, Mr F Theron, and his assistant Mr J.P. Schoeman, jumped clear moments before the collision and were slightly injured.

The driver of the other loco, Mr E. Jordaan, was trapped in his cab by the impact and suffered serious leg injuries.

The three injured men were taken by ambulance to the Universitas Hospital in Bloemfontein.

Mr Jordaan's assistant, Mr H J Coertzen, escaped injury.

The regional manager of Transport Services in Bloemfontein, Mr R. H. Belcher, said the collision occurred at 5.30am in front of the Providence station building.

The train manned by Mr Theron and Mr Schoeman was heading from Burgersdorp to Bloemfontein while the other train was travelling from Springfontein to East London.

The regional manager for the Eastern Cape Mr A. J. Jonker, said rail traffic had not been halted by the collision.

He said two of the three loco's pulling the trains were badly damaged. Five trucks of the Bloemfontein-bound train were derailed but did not overturn.

Repair work is under way on the line — Sapa

*The class used  
"supply creates its  
by J. B. Say.*

*held the view that  
"sound" - this was said*



# Storms of protest at manganese plan

FEARS of manganese dust fallout in Caledon — and possible damage to buildings, machinery, roads and health — have provoked a storm of protest against a town council plan to lease land to National Manganese Mines for siding facilities.

If this goes ahead, the transport of the manganese from the mine will be routed through the town centre and the storage and loading will be on part of the commonage, close to the residential and business areas.

While the council wants to reap the multimillion-rand royalties from the new manganese mine the residents of Caledon want to know what is being done to prevent pollution.

A Cape Times inquiry yesterday showed that

• The town council did not commission an environmental impact study report

• Two councillors who were sent to a mine in the Northern Cape, reported no pollution. It was later discovered they had inspected an ore mine instead of one like Caledon's — a manganese dioxide (powder form) mine

• 600 metres from the proposed loading site is the R17 million Southern Associated Maltsters factory which has to ensure that its malt for the production of beer is uncontaminated

• The council has "the word" of National Manganese Mines that if there is pollution, the company will take steps to eliminate it

• The council expects the Provincial Administration to foot the bill for any road damage caused by the transport trucks along the proposed route through the town

So far, the only work on the small surface mine has been the taking of samples. It is expected to

come into full production in March and will have a lifespan of about 15 years.

Concentrated exposure to manganese leads to poisoning and aggravates other infectious processes. It is similar to Parkinson's disease. The levels of dust inhalation on such a mine fall under the control of the Factories Act.

The Caledon mine is next to the town's main at-

One of the protesting companies is the giant Caledon Riversonderend Korporasie which pointed out to the council the pollution problems involving the open manganese stockpiling in Port Elizabeth's harbour area.

Similar concern over the possible effects of having the siding facilities nearby was expressed by SA Maltsters.

In an interview yester-

co-op, our maltings or the residents."

Declining to comment on the row the Town Clerk Mr J C Kaltwasser, said the matter was sub judice. And preferring to wait until a council decision, the Johannesburg-based director of National Manganese Mines, Mr Selwyn Struck, also refused to comment.

## Fears

However, Mr Nico Botha, one of the councillors who inspected the manganese ore mine at Hotazel near Sishen, was prepared to "allay the fears of residents."

Questioned on why the council had appeared to have gone into the matter blind, Mr Botha replied: "The council cannot insist that the company take expensive precautions on the basis of possible pollution in the future."

The council had faith in the mining company ensuring that there was no pollution, he said.

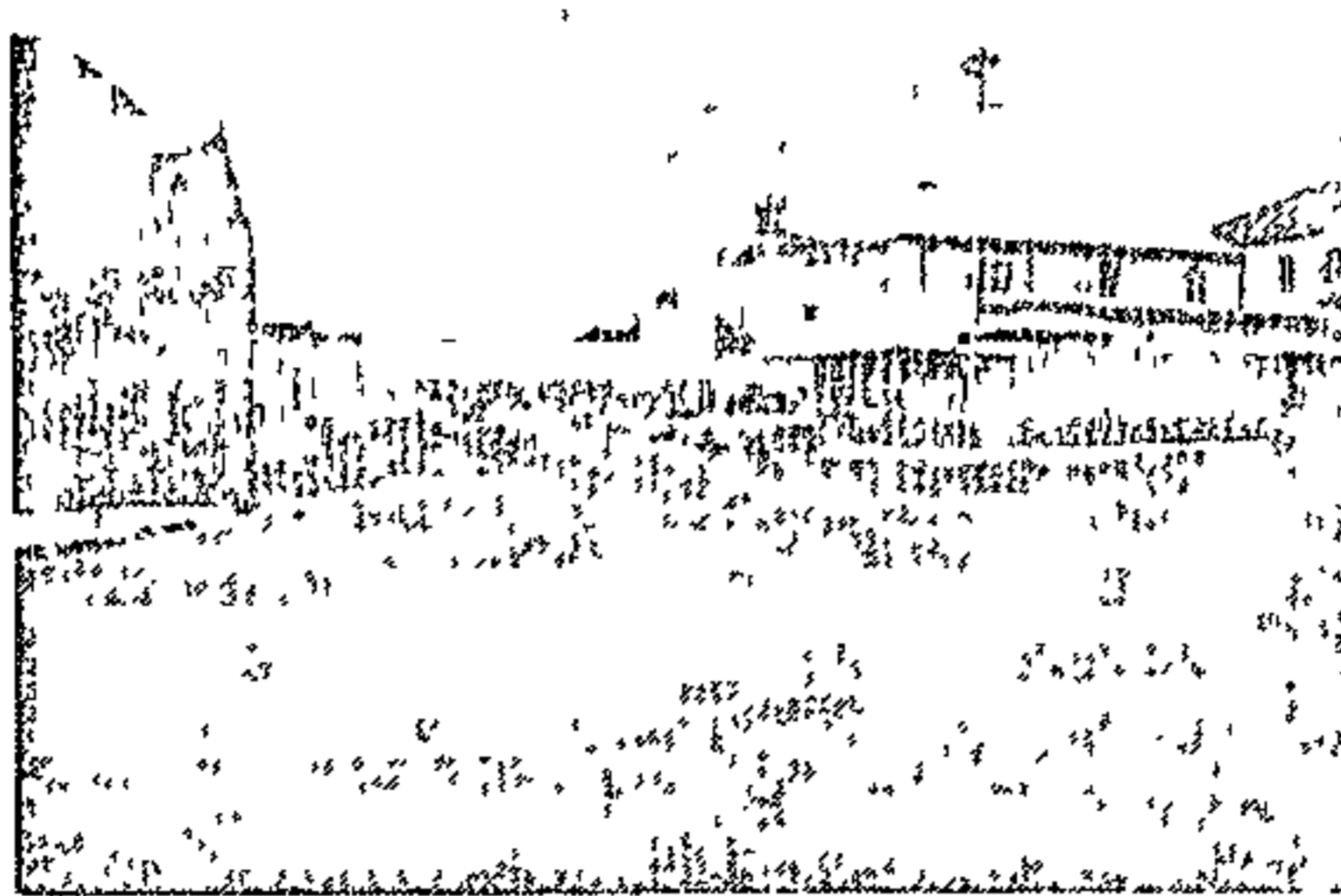
And if there were damage to roads, the council would not have to pay.

Work on the warm baths had been postponed for two years in case it was affected by the adjacent mine. But all in all Mr Botha said the concern expressed by a few was not warranted.

## Options

If the site is to be granted the council still has several options. It can insist that the company use an alternative lengthier transport route. Or it can ensure that the company transports the dust under wraps, keeping it that way on the siding.

If there is pollution after the council goes ahead and leases the land without written guarantees on transport and storing, the council may well bring the wrath of the town down on its head — in spite of fuller coffers.



The proposed route for the transport of the manganese dust is through the town centre along this road

traction, the warm baths, and nearby is a wildflower reserve.

To the north-west lies Caledon Hospital which, some residents claim, will receive the full brunt of the dust pollution blown off the mine during the summer south easter.

## Concern

But it was the council's transport plan — announced in an advertisement on December 11 last year — which compounded the residents' concern. By the January 6 deadline for objections, at least 11 detailed protests from residents and businessmen had been sent in.

The council has since extended the deadline to the end of this month after which it will send the objections and council comment to the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, for a final decision.

day, the maltings manager in charge of the plant, Mr Charl van Rooyen, said that by 1983 the company would have invested R33 million in their site.

## Like tale

"Although the mine itself has not bothered us (of course, it is not in production yet), we are concerned about our buildings and especially contamination of the maltings."

The manganese dioxide could be likened to talc, he said. "If you throw it up in the air, a high percentage is carried by the wind." He hoped there would be no pollution. But because of the doubts, his company had no choice but to formally list its objections.

"It is important that Caledon gets revenue but not at the cost of the local

ational Mangan-  
ing of nearby  
background are  
ainst possible

# Jobs threatened at wrecked plant

CAPE TIMES

28/1/82

131

By GORDON KLING

HUNDREDS of jobs are in jeopardy both at the Fedmis fertilizer plant in Milnerton, which was extensively damaged by a massive explosion recently, and at companies providing associated services

The threat of unemployment comes not from the blast itself but from possible changes in production plans following government limitations on fertilizer price increases

Confirming this yesterday in an interview from Johannesburg, the managing director of the factory's parent company, Mr David Marlow, said the price restrictions could lead to a change of heart in plans to reconstruct the ammonia plant at the Fedmis factory which was at

the centre of the blast damage

The Fedmis parent company, Sentrachem, this week scrapped plans to build a new R630 million ammonia plant following the government's decision to allow only a 10 percent increase in the price of fertilizer this month. The producers are understood to have demanded a rise of 18 percent

Mr Marlow yesterday said the company had to look at all the possibilities following the explosion at Milnerton. The company had previously announced that it was working as quickly as possible towards restoration of the damaged plant, but it was still in the process of de-

♦♦♦♦  
To page 2



♦♦♦♦  
From page 1

131

iding what had to be done and how long it would take

It was now conceivable that the group might not go ahead with rebuilding the ammonia section. This would mean the loss of about 500 jobs when workers employed out of the factory in distribution and other ancillary services were taken into account

The group believed it was highly unlikely that the government would reconsider its decision on fertilizer prices, but it was

still too early to say when a decision would be taken on the future of the Fedmis plant

In the meantime all employees were being retained at the plant although a large part of it was inoperable

"Under these circumstances one looks after one's people," Mr Marlow said. Many of the employees were highly skilled and some would be needed in whatever restoration was undertaken

204.29/1/82

# Man is burnt in factory blaze (31)

Mall Reporter

A YOUNG man was engulfed in flames yesterday when a Johannesburg furniture factory caught alight, causing damage estimated at R250 000

The employee, known only as Alpheus, tried to put the fire out before the fire brigade arrived. His clothing caught alight and for a few seconds he was turned into a human torch.

He was taken to the Hillbrow Hospital suffering from serious burns and shock.

The fire broke out shortly after 3pm in the toilets of the Malvern factory, Furniture and Upholstery Sales, also known as Mr Leisure.

The owner, Mr Dennis Case, said he had no idea how the fire started.

Smoke was first seen coming from the toilets and within minutes the dispatch area of the factory was a sea of flames.

When Alpheus caught fire another employee, Mr C van der Watt, tore Alpheus' clothing off and managed to douse the flames.

Firemen from Johannesburg and Germiston fire brigades extinguished the blaze in minutes.

Mr Case said the dispatch section would have to be rebuilt.

<sup>(131)</sup>  
CAPE TOWN 29/1/82  
**Man became  
human torch**

JOHANNESBURG — A young employee was engulfed in flames yesterday when a Johannesburg furniture factory caught alight causing R250 000 damage

The employee, known only as Alpheus, tried to put the fire out before the fire brigades arrived. Unfortunately, his clothing caught alight and for a few seconds he was turned into a human torch

*Vague.  
to save  
misleading*

# MR 643 2/2/82 (131) FOUR KILLED AS EXPLOSION DESTROYS CITY TRAWLER

By Bill Goddard:  
Four insulation fitters were killed and two seriously injured when the 240-ton Hout Bay-registered trawler, Rijnmond, exploded night until the smoulder, polyurethane to the walls Mr Adam Bester, 19, Mr Mr Bester was not married and lived in Manenberg. Mr David, 56, and Manenberg. Mr David, 31, Mr Nomdoe and Mr Clive Petersen, 31, Mr Nomdoe and Mr Abdul Petersen were married. The injured, Mr Abdul Petersen, and Mr Stanley Williams, are in hospital. The men who had attached strips of inflammable identified the dead as hospital.

(Contd on Page 3, col 9)

## Trawler explosion (131)

(Continued from Page 1)

Berg and Mr Petersen in now a complete write-off, Retreat said a spokesman

Mr de Roos, who has minor burns, is married and comes from Manenberg while Mr Williams, whose condition is described as 'serious' is a bachelor from Woodstock.

A spokesman for the firm that employed the men said as far as could be made out the four dead men were all in the fish hold when the vessel was rocked by the explosion.

We believe Mr Williams was on the tween deck and Mr de Roos was just about to get off the ship, he said.

The owners of the 18-year-old wetfish side-trawler said it was being refurbished for a fishing programme to start next month.

All I can say at this stage is that the vessel is

All that is left is a blackened hull with a mangled mess on its deck — all that is left of the superstructure.

Walvis Bay port authorities and harbour police are waiting for the hulk to cool down sufficiently to allow them to board it.

Double <sup>5/2/82 (131)</sup>  
accident at <sup>Mercury</sup>  
site on same day  
at Richards Bay

Mercury Reporter

TRAGEDY and near-tragedy has struck at Richards Bay — on the same mining platform and on the same day

Mr Delareay van Niekerk was working on the Pont A construction site on Wednesday morning when a labourer fell 5 m to the platform floor

He rolled over and fell another 3 m into the water, landing in a narrow gap between two floating pontoons

Mr van Niekerk dived into the muddy water and eventually found his work-mate wedged beneath one of them.

Both men were hauled from the water and the labourer, whose name was not available yesterday, was taken to hospital with a broken arm, but in a satisfactory condition

Later that day, a similar accident on the same platform killed worker Mr K Naidoo.

He fell the same distance, but landed more towards the platform centre and received fatal head injuries

Mr Barend Smit, chief Safety and Security officer for Richards Bay Minerals, described Mr van Niekerk's act as one of the bravest he had seen during his 25-year career.

An inquiry will be held into both accidents

I  
t  
I  
S  
V  
T  
C  
I  
I

(131) Star 18/2/82

# One dead, six hurt in Modderfontein blast

By Bob Davis

A man was killed and six others were injured in two explosions at the Modderfontein dynamite factory last night

The explosions took place at 6.20 in the refuse acid station and in a refuse acid pipeline. The cause had not been established last night but sabotage was not suspected.

The dead man, Mr Leo Netto Vigo (58), an Italian immigrant,

was a process operator at the factory.

A spokesman said today that all but one of the six injured had been released from hospital. Mr Alpheus Tambo was still in the Modderfontein Hospital, but his condition was not serious.

The spokesman said the damage to the factory was estimated at under R50 000 and production would not be affected.

He said the acids involved, sulphuric and nitric, were not normally subject to explosion but, being refuse acids,

it was possible that particles of nitro-glycerine were present in small quantities.

The function of the refuse acid station was to receive and recycle the acids via a chemical process.

The spokesman said fire broke out at the refuse acid station immediately after the explosion but it was brought under control by Modderfontein's own fire brigade.

An inquiry into the cause of the accident would start today and the findings would be known in two to three weeks.

Today's Big Special!

Boys' Shorts  
and Joggers

Assorted colours  
and sizes.

GST excluded

Eloff Street Only

GREY, MILLS, KAYE-EDDIE OKL 3265/R

Rand

DALEYMAID

JOHANNESBURG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1982

PRICE 25c  
PRICES ELSEWHERE

**Mail Reporters**  
ONE man was killed and six injured last night when two explosions ripped through the giant Modderfontein dynamite factory near Edenvale.

A spokesman for AECL, owners of the factory, said last night that "a nasty accident" had occurred at the factory at 6 20pm.

The name of the dead man has not been released. The identities of the six injured

were also not released. All six were injured by flying debris and were admitted to Modderfontein Hospital, part of the factory. The first explosion destroyed a refuse acid station. Seconds later an explosion occurred in one of the factory's supply lines.

Residents in surrounding suburbs heard the two explosions and many saw a "mushroom" cloud above the vast complex, the largest of its kind in the world.

Houses in the nearby residential areas of Edenvale and Kempton Park were shaken and the blast was felt

up to 7kms away from the factory.

The spokesman said a timber building, housing the station, caught alight but the fire was extinguished by the plant's fire-fighting team.

Although the cause of the explosion had not yet been established sabotage was

ruled out. A full investigation would be started today.

In the past few years explosions at the factory have cost millions of rands and several lives have been lost.

In April last year three men died when a gas explosion ripped through the am-

# Man killed in Modderfontein blast

131  
ROM 18/2/82

mona plant at the factory. Five others were injured. Two men were killed in May 1980 and 22 were injured when a fire spread through the safety-fuse section of the factory.

In October 1977 three people were killed when several tons of explosives blew up in

the blasting section of a processing house. The blast also injured 24 workers in the section. Two months earlier two died.

In 1976 a raging veld fire went out of control and detonated 20 tons of explosives in a magazine at Modderfontein.

Damage worth thousands of rands was done to the nearby town of Edenvale, which took the brunt of the blast.



# 1 killed, 6 hurt in factory blast

Cape Times  
18/2/82  
(131)

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A man was killed and six were injured last night when two explosions ripped through the giant dynamite factory at Modderfontein, near Edenvale

A spokesman for AE&CI, owners of the factory, said "a nasty accident" occurred at the factory at 6 20pm

The name of the dead man, a white employee of the company, has not been released. The identities of the six injured, of whom one is a white who received ear damage, were also not released

All six were injured by flying debris and were admitted to Modderfontein Hospital

The first explosion destroyed a refuse acid station. Seconds later an explosion occurred in one of its supply lines

Sulphuric and nitric acid is pumped to the refuse station from the nitroglycerine complex before it is recycled back to the complex

Residents in surrounding suburbs heard two explosions and many saw a "mushroom" cloud above the vast complex, the largest of its kind in the world

Houses in the nearby residential areas of Edenvale and Kempton Park were shaken and the blast was felt up to 7km away

The spokesman said the timber building housing the station caught alight but the fire was extinguished by the plant's fire-fighting team

Sabotage was ruled out



Total

f t

f t

Needs for status, recognition and meaningful activity are examples of "task accomplishment needs".  
) The functional understanding of leadership places the emphasis on what a leader does so as to lead effectively, rather than on what he is.

# Strict safety rules for lifts

131  
ROOM  
19/2/82

By DAVID CAPEL

ANYONE stepping into a lift can rely on at least three safety measures — emergency brakes, safety gears and a buffer break. And the chances of a lift "falling" are almost nil.

This assurance comes in the wake of Monday's accident, when a lift carrying 18 security guards in a Trust Bank building in Johannesburg plunged to the basement.

In a statement yesterday, the technical manager for a local lift company, Mr Heinz Althaus, said lifts were subject to the Factories, Machinery and Building Works Act and regulations, which are strictly enforced by machinery inspectors from the Department of Manpower Utilisation.

A spokesman for another lift company said all lifts were inspected monthly by qualified people and periodic inspections were carried out by the Department of Manpower

## Safety

The three most important safety features are

- Emergency brakes, which are capable of holding a lift carrying at least a 50% overload. The emergency brake is situated underneath the car and comes into operation in cases of overspeeding within certain limits.

If the lift exceeds its rated speed by a margin of between 15% and 40%, the emergency brakes are applied.

The brake is usually a spring-like device which grips the lift to the guide rails.

- Safety gears, which are independent of the driving machinery and are applied to the guide rails to bring the lift to a halt.

- Braking buffers at the bottom of the lift shaft which cushion the final stop if necessary. The buffers are spring-like objects which come into operation if the lift goes below its final stoppage point. The buffer absorbs the shock if the landing is too fast.

The spokesmen said there was no "reasonable limit" to what emergency brakes could hold.

UJET

88 86 84 82 80 78 76 74 72 70 68 66 64 62 60 58 56 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2

a) Mr and Mrs Beely of 9 Paddock Close, Plumstead 7300 purchased from Rassemblement Ltd of Parow Industria, a three-piece suit of the type that is despatched as packages of component parts that are to be assembled by the purchaser. On unpacking, Mr Beely was pleased to find that all the instructions were clear and easy to carry out. In less than an hour he had completed assembly; the suite looked in every way as good as the one they had seen in the showroom.

Three days later, when Mr and Mrs Beely had been sitting on the settee for about two hours watching television, the sponge-rubber seat suddenly gave way and they fell through. As soon as he had freed himself from the restraining uncomfortable and ludicrous position, Mr Beely examined the settee to see if he had made some error of assembly. It was, however, only too clear what had occurred. The seat was supported on 18 ashwood slats about 15 cm wide, joined at their ends by strips of webbing so that they formed a ladder shape. On assembly, these were stretched along the settee, the ends of each slat resting on two angle bars which ran the length of the settee, one at the front and one at the back. These slats were now slightly bent and it was apparent that the combined weight of Mr and Mrs Beely (who were well built but not enormous) had curved the slats so much that their ends could slip off the angle bars. It looked as if the seat would always collapse when they both sat on it for any length of time.

Mr Beely reasoned that either there was a serious design fault (the settee would take only a limited load) or there was something wrong with the slats supplied. Although he was not unaware of the comic side of his predicament, he decided he must face writing to the firm and explaining what had happened.

**WRITE MR BEELY'S LETTER**

Rassemblement Ltd had in fact begun to suspect that one component of the settee was defective, because one or two letters had already been received from that party. It was: it set of slats. Original slats supplied of the use of his expense.

**By JOHAN BUYS**

Mr Hattingh took exception, and laid a charge against Mr Van den Berg, who had to answer for his foul language in a Springs traffic court. Mr Van den Bergh admitted to the magistrate, Mr P D Nel, he had "unlawfully and intentionally insulted Mr Hattingh, and had injured him in his honour". Mr Nel fined Mr Van den Berg R180 or 90 days.

**R180 fine for swearing at cop**

A SPRINGS man had to fork out R180 for the "privilege" of using those well-known four-letter words

When Mr Leon van der Berg, a 27-year-old fitter, was given a ticket for not having third party and licence discs on his van, it was the last straw

He sailed into the inspector, Mr Sakkie Hattingh, with four-letter invectives well-known to seasoned swearers, calling Mr Hattingh and all the traffic officers what amounted to the equivalent of a bunch of absolute fools

IS OWN. NMO SI  
IN ACCORDANCE  
FLRM'S REPLY TO

THE PI  
DECIDE  
WITH L  
MR BEE

1) MR  
TO  
MR (11)  
MR (111)

Although all members of staff will endeavour to assist students, you are encouraged to take your problems to the person/committee most

PROBLEMS

Consultant:  
Your tutor or lecturer  
Relevant Course Co-ordinator  
or Class Representative  
Flexibility Committee (Medi-  
cal reasons must be certi-  
fied by a doctor)  
Examinations Office,  
Bremner Building  
Class Representative  
Academic Support Programmes  
Room 516.05 Leslie

CONTACTABILITY

Department needs to contact students to convey to them the outcome of an ap-  
p-tee. You are therefore required to in-  
you change your address (Room 431).  
S AND EXAMINATIONS

impulsory, students are strongly advised  
uation of students' work as based on a  
assignments, essays, and University exami-  
versity examinations are organised by the  
d any problems which you may encounter  
be taken to the Examinations Officer.

READING

While the Department will try wherever possible to facilitate reading  
by placing texts in the short loan section of Leslie Library and dis-  
tributing selected prescribed articles, you are strongly advised to  
make the fullest possible use of the library. It would stand you in  
good stead to attend an orientation course conducted during the first

# 8 die in third blast at factory

CAPL Times 11/2/82 (131)

**Own Correspondent**  
**JOHANNESBURG** — Eight people were killed and 21 injured in a third blast at the Modderfontein dynamite factory yesterday as a team was investigating two explosions which killed a man on Wednesday.

Those killed were part of a team of technical staff and operators checking for nitrotyperine content in the plant's acid tanks. A spokesman for Angloplat said

might all three blasts may have been caused by nitrotyperine. The injured were all taken to the Modderfontein Hospital on the factory premises in six ambulances. Three were said to be in a serious condition.

Accident inquest which left a massive cloud of red smoke prevented any detailed inspection of the area late yesterday but men went in worn masks to perform routine operations.

The spokesman said that yesterday's explosion — which occurred at 9.15pm in the No 1 explosives factory — had occurred in the nitration units where nitrotyperine is made and had left a gaping hole where the waste acid tank had stood.

A second mixed acid tank is also believed to have been lost. Mr. Louette, 40, of the single quarters at Modderfontein was killed and six people were in-

jured in the first two blasts. The spokesman said that the names of those killed and injured in the third explosion would be released as soon as they next of kin had been informed.

The damage has been estimated at R100 000 and production is not expected to return to normal for two weeks.

The spokesman said sabotage was not suspected but that investigations were continuing.

Govt (131)

# inquiry into 30

# AECI blasts

By Andrew Walker and Rob Davis

A Government-appointed commission of inquiry will be held into the blasts at the Modderfontein dynamite factory.

Three blasts ripped through the massive factory in the space of 24 hours. The latest — at 2.45 pm yesterday — left eight workers dead and 21 injured, three of them seriously.

The explosion severely damaged the number one factory, which has been closed.

On Wednesday a man was killed and six were injured in two explosions in the refuse acid station and pipeline at Modderfontein, the world's largest manufacturing plant for commercial dynamite.

### INSPECTOR

A spokesman for AECI, owners of the factory, told The Star today (Fri) the cause of the blasts was still not known.

An investigation would be mounted by the Government's chief inspector of explosives, he said. Following this, probably in two or three weeks, a commission of inquiry would be appointed to determine whether one factory will probably be closed in three weeks.

The spokesman added that mining in district should not be affected by the blasts. Adequate stores were maintained and production at Somerset West and the undamaged section of the Modderfontein plant would continue.

### INSTANT

Six of the eight men killed in yesterday's blast died instantly. Two died later in the Modderfontein Hospital.

The explosion left a gaping hole in the ground. Two acid tanks had been damaged.

It occurred while the eight workers were investigating one of the earlier explosions which took place at 1.30 pm on Wednesday.

All 21 men who were injured yesterday were admitted to the Modderfontein Hospital. None was critically injured, and most were said to be receiving treatment for cuts and

To Page 3, Col 11

1982

3

# State to investigate explosions

Shock The... unde... hemo... said AECI

The whites killed in yesterday's blast were: Mr Trevor van der Merwe (41), production manager; Mr Jan Hofmeyer (32), section manager; Mr Gert de Lange (53), senior supervisor; Mr John Riddick (47), senior technical officer; Mr Brian Ockers (33), shift process foreman; Mr Petrus Muller (35), process operator.

The names of the two blacks killed have not yet been released as next-of-kin have still to be contacted.

Relatives of the killed spoke today of the blasts brought to East Rand Manv. Modderfontein workers in the area and their families heard the blast with trepidation.

... Martha Beach, this morning. She was comforting her daughter-in-law, Mrs Tatsv Ockers, and her grandchildren, Craig (16), Dianne (13) and Vaneesa (4).

# for the 1

# me! d ETS

collision between Kruger and friends at

hours of nerve-wrecked men and

CAPE frigate... than a... Pres three... of the laid up

DURBAN — Six fishermen who went missing after their skiboat capsized in heavy seas off the Zululand coast early yesterday told of their night of horror and desperate bid for survival aboard the upturned hull of the boat

The skipper Mr Robert Mtetu, 24, said he and his five crewmen were flung from the anchored craft at about 2 am when it was struck by a freak wave in a sea whipped into a frenzy by a gale

All the men managed to swim back to the up-

# Fishermen tell 131 of night on capsized boat

turned boat and clambered aboard, only to be washed off repeatedly by mountainous waves. They saw sharks circling the boat during the night

A fisherman on a ski-

boat noticed the capsized craft and he and his fellow crewmen searched frantically for the missing men, but the choppy sea and driving spray made it impossible for them to see clear-

ly and they lost sight of the boat

They scoured the area for more than two hours before returning to shore. The National Sea Rescue Institute was alerted and sent rescue craft out from Durban and Richard's Bay. Two all force helicopters joined the search soon after

The six men, all experienced fishermen, had been missing for nearly 10 hours before they were rescued by helicopter at midday yesterday — DDC

8

- Write a brief memo for one of the following purposes:
- a) To advise employees not to use the company stationery for private purposes.
  - b) To inform a colleague that specific action must be taken before a deadline.
  - c) To announce a business meeting for employees.
  - c) To remind employees that the lunch hour is from one to two p.m.

MEMORANDUM

UNIVERSITY OF PORT ELIZABETH

9.10.1979

To: Mrs Honikman  
Professional  
Communication  
Unit

From: Miss J. Roux  
Office Services

I refer to your Order No. 6735. We are unable to consider your request as this should have been submitted on a Purchase Requisition, as stated in the Purchasing and Stores Procedures which was forwarded to you earlier this year.

Kindly ensure that the correct procedure is adhered to for future orders.

Many thanks,

June Roux  
FOR MR SMITH

8.2.2 Comment on the effectiveness of the following memo:

131 D. Dispatch  
 4 labourers 20/2/82  
 plunge to death

Dear Mr Jones,  
 We find it difficult to believe your complaint of October 22nd regarding the failure of our portable radio, Model 66, to receive stations only 40 miles away.  
 All of our other customers report excellent reception of stations much farther away than that. We want you to know that our engineering staff has put the most modern design and best materials into this portable, and such a failure as you report seems incredible.  
 We suggest that you take the radio back to your dealer to let him see what is wrong.  
 Yours faithfully,

(f)

System Manager,  
 Cape Western System,  
 S.A. Railways,  
 P.O. Box 36,  
 CAPE TOWN  
 8000  
 Dear Sir,  
 re: MAITLAND DEPOT STORMWATER DRAINAGE

On a recent inspection of the above facility it was found to be ineffective. The reason appears to be as a result of the main stormwater ditch, running beyond our boundary, being blocked with grass and rubble.  
 The blockage is causing a back buildup of water, thus rendering the drainage trench we constructed on your insistence, totally ineffective.  
 We urge you to be cleared before  
 Yours faithfully,

19th April, 1976.

(e)

(131) Dispatch  
**Blasts: 20/2/82**  
**5 still in hospital**

**JOHANNESBURG —**  
 Only five of the workers injured in the explosions at AECI explosives factory on Wednesday and Thursday, are still in hospital

One of the employees was still in a serious condition while the rest were progressing, a spokesman for AECI said yesterday

"As the black employees are migrant it has not been possible to contact their next-of-kin as yet

"Their names will not be released until contact with their relatives has been established," he said

Similarly, the names of the black workers killed in the explosion would be announced as soon as their next of kin had been advised. — SAPA

Class of Worker	June 1921	June 1929	June 1939	June 1942	June 1952
Number of regular workers	178.6	146.7	114.1	10.0	93.0
Males under 21	31.1	14.6	7.8	13.8	11.5
Males 21 and over	111.7	85.8	64.1	89.8	104.9
Females	64.2	42.8	38.5	94.9	69.4
Number of casual workers	95.0	86.0	54.7	127.7	57.9
Males under 21	178.6	146.7	114.1	10.0	93.0
Males 21 and over	515.6	512.3	432.0	407.7	467.7
Females	95.0	86.0	54.7	127.7	57.9
Total	996.1	888.3	711.3	843.1	804.4

6.3 Study the following table carefully. Would you say that it is effectively set out? Give reasons for your answer.

standards in this period - that is if one measures living standards by the amount of goods bought.



# THEY FACED DEATH TO SAVE A LIFE

w/le ARGUS 20/2/82 (131) ~~131~~ 131



AT THE Chamber of Mines bravery awards ceremony at Nababeep this week were Mr L W P van den Bosch, chamber president, left, who presented citations for outstanding bravery to Sister Johanna van der Merwe and Dr Piet le Clus

**MINEWORKER** Willem Bakker will never forget the day when tons of broken rock buried him underground in a Namaqualand copper mine

It was the day the courage of a young doctor and a nursing sister saved his life.

They risked their lives to perform emergency surgery to amputate his leg in a cramped and dangerous cavern, with the constant threat of loose rock crushing the rescuers

It was the first trip underground for 31-year-old Dr Piet le Clus, who

took two hours — lying on his side — to perform the operation in the early morning of October 16 last year at the Carolusberg copper mine in the Namaqualand town of Nababeep

Presenting the awards at a ceremony in the small mining town, Chamber of Mines president, Mr L W P van den Bosch, said 'The story of this rescue is one of the most stirring in the history of mining. Words can never really do justice to an incident of this kind or fully describe the horror and danger involved.'

The rockfall at the mine during the night of October 15 killed one mine worker, Mr T Qoboka, seriously injured another, Mr D M Cloete, and buried Mr Bakker, who was partly unearthed after his faint cries were heard

### THREATENING

Dr le Clus, a general practitioner in the town, had to anaesthetise Mr Bakker before amputating his trapped leg with a surgical knife — there was little space to use a surgical saw

The two-hour operation followed a sleepless night for Dr le Clus, who had been attending to the other injured miners at the surface.

Dust and small rocks fell from the roof conti-

nally, threatening another rockfall.

'I was so busy with what I had to do, that I didn't have time to feel any fear,' Dr le Clus told Weekend Argus after the awards ceremony

### 'BRAVE'

Sister van der Merwe, a theatre sister; at the O'Okiep Copper Company hospital in Nababeep and the first woman to receive the award, was reluctant to discuss her part in the dramatic rescue

But, says Mi van den Bosch, she volunteered to assist Dr le Clus 'The whole team was very brave. Our work was more important than our feelings,' she said this week.

After the underground operation, Mr Bakker was carried to the surface. Dr le Clus finished the surgery at the mine hospital

Although Mr Bill Dutton, personnel manager of the mine company, hoped Mr Bakker would be able to return to his underground job, Dr le Clus thought it was more likely that he would get a surface job. Mr Bakker has been kept on full pay by the company

Neither Dr le Clus nor Sister van der Merwe expected the awards which, they said, came as 'a super surprise'

9.2.4

# AECI throw cloak of secrecy around blasts

By DAVID CAPEL

A CLOAK of secrecy has been thrown around Thursday's blast at the giant Modderfontein dynamite factory

No photographs could be taken. African Explosives Chemical Industries spokesmen said yesterday the area was a national key point.

Meanwhile, a Government-appointed commission of inquiry has already been set up, and is headed by the Government's chief inspector of explosives.

Two blasts occurred on Wednesday and another on Thursday.

The wife of one of the six whites killed in the third blast said she had been told "by high authority" not to speak to the Press or allow any pictures of her husband to be published.

An AECI statement said the five white men — among 21 people injured in Thurs-

day's blast — were released from hospital yesterday.

The names of the five blacks admitted have still not been released. They are migrant workers, and an AECI spokesman said it was extremely difficult to contact their next-of-kin.

One is in a serious condition. The others are "progressing".

The names of the two black men killed in the accident would be released when their families had been informed.

The spokesman released the addresses of the six white men killed. But most families would not talk to the Press.

Everyone was under a great deal of stress, and there may have been misunderstandings, said the spokesman. AECI had warned relatives they would face numerous Press inquiries, but they had not been entirely forbidden to talk.

"I was informed this morning I was not allowed to give any information to the Press. I suggest you contact AECI," the wife of one of the dead men said.

ANNE SACKS reports that Fredi de Lange, the son of Mr Gert de Lange, who was killed in the accident, said his father was a superintendent at the factory and had "lived for his work".

The names and addresses of the six whites killed are: Mr Trevor Morshuizen, 41, of 22 College Avenue Bryanston; Mr Jan Hofmeyer, 32, of 5 Herbert Matthew Drive, Ilfordale, Edenvale; Mr Gert de Lange, 53, of 132 2nd Avenue, Edenvale; Mr John Rud-dick, 47, of 79 Struben Street, Rynfield, Benoni; Mr Brian Olckers, 33, of 11 Glenrollo Road, Ashton Manor, Kempton Park; and Mr Petrus Muller, 35, of 9 Post Office Road, North Rand.

to try and restore in them a just appreciation of their obligations as ... and soldiers

In World War I, I had a dear friend and former schoolmate who lost his nerve in an exactly analogous manner, and who, after years of mental anguish, committed suicide.

Both my friend and the medical men with whom I discussed his case assured me that had he been roundly checked at the time of his first misbehavior, he would have been restored to a normal state.

Naturally, this memory actuated me when I inaptly tried to apply the remedies suggested. After each incident I stated to officers with me that I felt I had probably saved an immortal soul.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) G S PATTON, JR

Lieut General, U S Army

General D D Eisenhower  
Headquarters AFHQ  
APO #512—U S Army

When General Patton gave me a copy of this letter he lay back on the bed in his field-trailer and said, "What does that sound like to you?"

"It sounds to me like only half of the story," I said.

So, first, let's see what actually happened.

Private Charles H Kuhl (in civilian life a carpet layer from South Bend, Indiana), ASN 35536908, L Company, 26th Infantry, 1st Division, was admitted to the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry aid station in Sicily on August 2, 1943, at 2 10 P M.

He had been in the Army eight months and with the 1st Division about thirty days.

A diagnosis of "Exhaustion" was made at the station by Lieutenant H L Sanger, Medical Corps, and Kuhl was evacuated to C Company, 1st Medical Battalion, well to the rear of the fighting.

There a note was made on his medical tag stating that he had been admitted to this place three times during the Sicilian campaign.

He was evacuated to the clearing company by Captain J D Broom, M.C., put in "quarters" and given sodium amytal, one capsule night and morning, on the prescription of Captain N S Nedell, M.C.

# FIREMEN INJURED IN RECORD SALT RIVER BLAZE

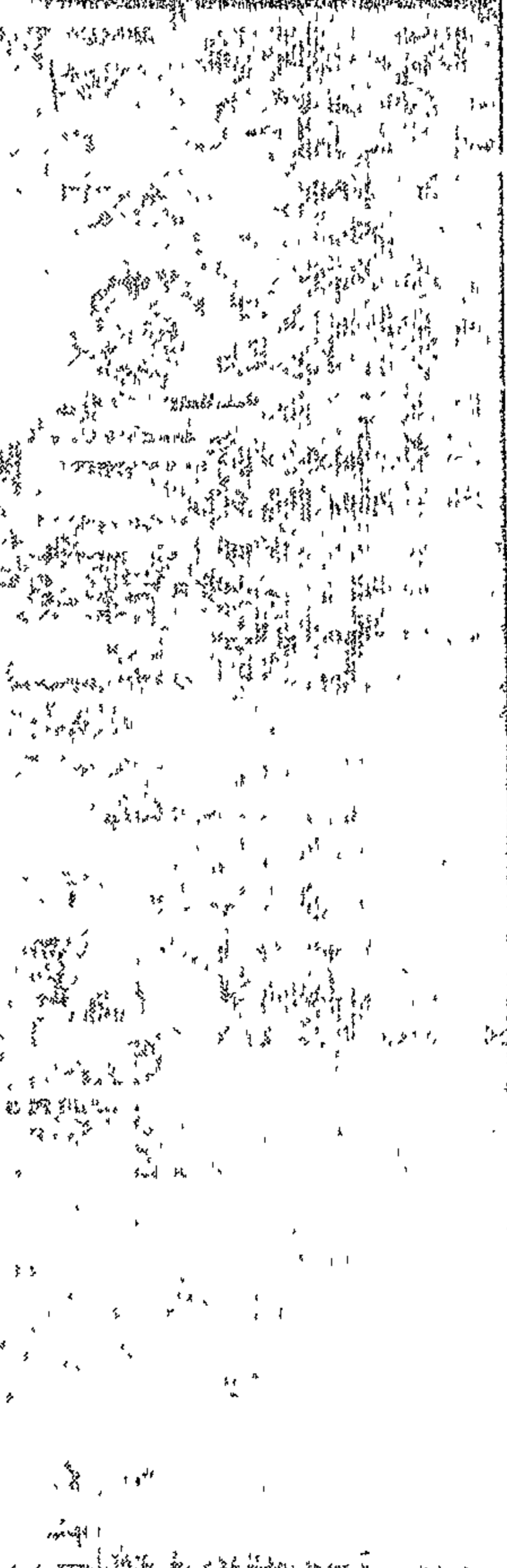
Argus 1313 262

THREE firemen were injured last night fighting a fire at a furniture factory and showroom in Victoria Road, Salt River.

The blaze at Steele Brothers is believed to have caused damage estimated at nearly R500 000 as it swept through the building. The injured firemen, D Collins, J Jaycox and M McLaughlin, were taken by ambulance to Woodstock Hospital.

A total of 52 firemen were used to bring the

MES pour from the furniture factory and showroom of Steele Brothers, Victoria Road, Salt River, last night. Three firemen were injured during the blaze.



# SEVERELY CRIPPLED SKI VICTIM ACCUSES 'CLAIM DEADLINE'


A SEVERELY CRIPPLED Kenwyn man is helplessly watching the days slip by — and, with them, his fading chance of monetary compensation from the paddle-skier who crippled him and alienated his family.

**NOW**  
**BE WHAT YOU ARE**  
 WEAR THE PERFECT PENDANT

Chrome Lightweight  
 R3,50 GST Incl  
 3 Paid 11th 1981  
 Minkent 7405

Name .....  
 Address .....

Enclose R ..... for number pendants



KING-TEN  
 SURFCOARD  
 BIG CROSS  
 CROSS  
 SMALL CROSS  
 WHISTLE  
 SHARK  
 HEART

**TALL SALES**  
**WINDSALE**

**FROM 17.00**  
**Send for SPECIAL OFFER**  
 to ASP Applied Services  
 PO Box 7328  
 CC12 Pretoria

or  
 phone 47-2789

**PROTECT**  
 Your Hand Guns and  
 Valuables 24 hours a  
**AGAINST** Day

**8000**  
**8100**  
**8200**  
**8300**  
**8400**  
**8500**

**SPECIAL**  
**SALES**

# Modderfontein blast news clamp

CAPE Times 26/2/82 131

## Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — An almost total clamp on information about Thursday's blast at the giant Modderfontein dynamite factory came into force yesterday

Spokesmen for AECI, the company which owns the factory, refused to allow any pictures to be taken. The area was a national key point, they said

Meanwhile, a government-appointed commission of inquiry has been set up into the blasts — two of which occurred on Wednesday. It will be conducted by the Chief Inspector of Explosives

The wife of one of the six whites killed in the blast — the third explosion in two days — said she had been told "by high authority" not to speak to the press or

allow any pictures of her husband to be published

An AECI statement said the five white men who were among 21 people injured in Thursday's blast were discharged from hospital yesterday

The names of the five blacks admitted to hospital have still not been released. They are migrant workers, and an AECI spokesman said it was difficult to contact their next-of-kin

One of the five was in a serious condition while the others were "progressing"

The names of the two black men killed would be released when their next-of-kin had been informed

The AECI spokesman released the addresses of the six white men killed. But most families would not talk to the press

UJET

66 64 62 60 58 56 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2

Star 20/2/82 (131)  
Death plant  
blow-up

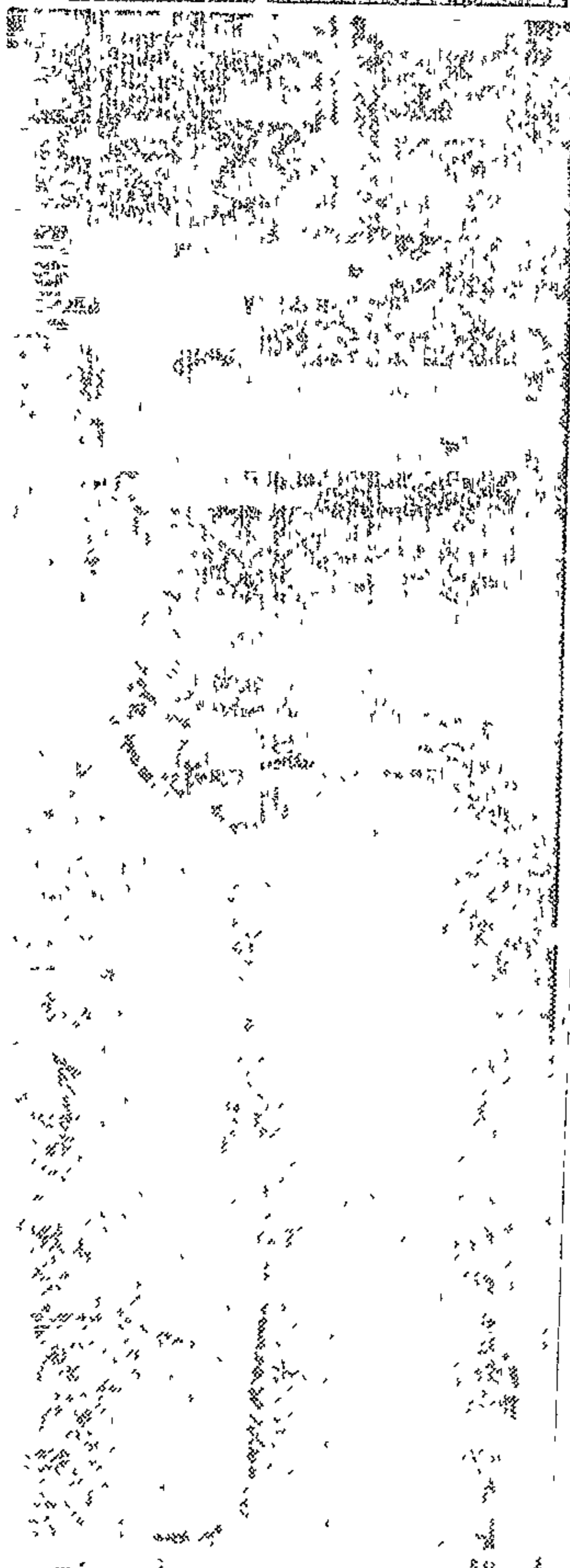
A controlled blast was due to be set off at the Modderfontein dynamite factory early this afternoon to destroy the remains of an acid system after nine workers were killed and 29 injured in two explosions earlier in the week.

Today's blast was aimed at demolishing the refuse and spent acid systems of the Number one nitroglycerine factory to reduce the risk of further explosions.

Before the blast, the factory area was cleared and access roads were closed to the public.

187 (131) S. Tribune 21/2/82

OPERAVANNE



's week at the Opera Ball

Tribune Reporter

# DEATH FACTORY WON SAFETY AWARDS

THE Modderfontein explosives factory where three blasts in 24 hours killed nine people and injured 28 others was the winner of National Occupational Safety awards in 1980 and 1981.

The African Explosive and Chemical Industries AECI plant at Modderfontein the world's largest commercial dynamite manufacturing plant, was regarded by the National Occupational Safety Association (NOSA) as one of the most safety conscious in South Africa.

On Wednesday an explosion in the refuse acid station and another in the pipeline caused the death of one man and seriously injured six others.

The following day — less than 24 hours later — an explosion destroyed two underground acid tanks and left a gaping hole in the ground, killing a further eight employees, and injuring 21.

The men killed in Thursday's blast were investigating the first two explosions.

A representative of Nosa said the Modderfontein factory had become one of the keenest participants in their campaign to reduce industrial accidents and in four years had virtually become a model plant.

Since 1978 an all-out effort to increase safety awareness was started by the plant's ex-Manager Ken Horsley, and inside two years

had achieved the association's five star rating. The following year the plant won a national safety award.

A representative of Nosa said the factory was an example to other factory managements.

They rose from a three star safety operation to a five star in less than two years and received the association's safety award the following year — an award given to the most safety conscious factory in each region and awarded to one winner nationally every year.

"AECI won two Noscas in a row," said the spokesman for Nosa.

He added that the work done by the Modderfontein plants was very good and the plant's injury rate was a tenth of the world injury rate.

"Despite the lives lost the blasts will be

regarded as a challenge. They will get to the bottom of it all and will most probably come up with a new safety scheme at the end of the investigation," he said.

Six of the eight men killed on Thursday were conducting an investigation into the previous day's explosion.

Yesterday the entire acid refuse system of pipes and tanks were systematically destroyed by a series of controlled blasts to eliminate any further trouble from them.

An AECI spokesman said a new system would be built within the next two weeks.

⊙ Sapa reports that five employees, all blacks, were still in hospital yesterday with injuries from the week's accident. One was still in a serious condition.

114  
2,  
3-  
1-  
t  
1

# 2 killed in subsidence

(131)

*22/1/82 D. Dispatch*  
JOHANNESBURG  
Two miners were killed  
and four others injured  
on Saturday after a fall  
of ground in the Westo-

naria gold mine  
One miner was killed  
instantly and the other  
was found dead under a  
pile of rubble — DDC



farm workers and domestic servants' these people had been excluded from the scope of application of several laws administered by his department including the labour relations act and the envisaged conditions of Employment

On account of a variety of circumstances and developments, and because the authorities also have a responsibility to look after the interests of workers in these sectors, I have decided to direct the National Power Commission to gently conduct an investigation into measures in terms of which minimum conditions of service in respect of the workers in these sectors could be regulated

'As in almost every other country in the world, there are in South Africa a variety of factors which militate against the institution of formalized or regulated conditions

**Consideration**

Factors which are peculiar to this sector and which must be taken into consideration are the intimate relationships between employers and their workers and employees and their domestic servants, the geographical distribution of such workers, the seasonal nature of mining operations, the influence of climatological factors such as rainfall on mining operations, the necessity of certain activities being performed on a daily basis

**Aggett inquest**

JOHANNESBURG — The inquest into the circumstances of union official Dr J Aggett's police-cell death recently is to be held in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court early next month. Chief Magistrate of Johannesburg Mr J A van der Merwe said at the weekend that the inquest would start at 10 am on Tuesday, March 2, in Court 18

**Read  
JOBFINDER  
in today's  
Cape Times**

**WATCHDOG**



**safeguards  
your rights**

**READERS with complaints regarding retail or wholesale trading or professional practices are asked to ring WATCHDOG at 22-4632 between 9am and 12 noon, Monday to Friday**



**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS  
BEGIN ON PAGE 1, TODAY**

**Brand  
Fourie  
sent  
to  
Washington  
— Page 2**



**Furniture factory fire:  
Arson investigations**

*CAPL TOWLS 22/2/82*

*(130) (153) (188)*

Staff Reporter

POLICE have begun investigations into arson as a possible cause of the Salt River furniture factory fire that injured four firemen last Friday night

The blaze at Steele Brothers factory in Victoria Road is believed to have caused damage estimated at nearly R500 000. The fire started on the first floor and destroyed the three-story building

Four firemen were injured in the blaze, described by one of them as being the worst in ages

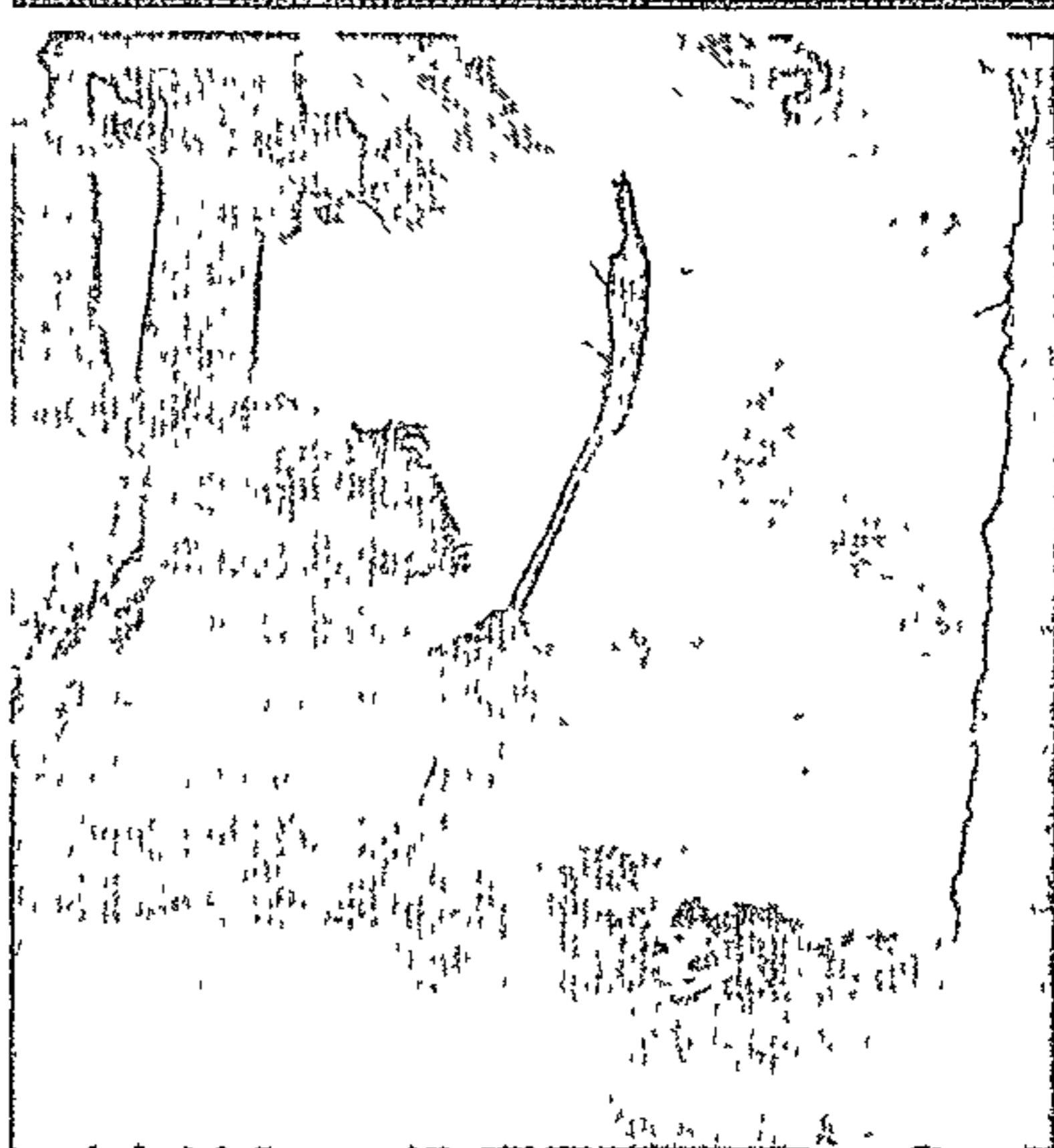
The injured firemen Mr D Collins, Mr J Haycox, Mr M McClaughlin and Mr H de Witt were taken to Woodstock Hospital. Mr Collins and Mr Haycox received leg injuries. Mr McClaughlin had facial abrasions and a back injury and Mr de Witt was burnt

'It was like hell in there — the water we were spraying on to the flames turned into steam as soon as it jetted out,' said Mr de Witt yesterday. His shoulder was burnt by falling boiling water

One of the two firemen crushed under a falling burning wall — Mr McClaughlin of Plumstead, said yesterday 'I still feel pretty shook up — the fire was terrifying. It is difficult to describe exactly how I felt when I saw a burning wall falling down on me'

The factory, filled with synthetic fibres and materials, burned easily. Fifty-two firemen were used to bring the blaze, which started after 11pm, under control

Eight fire engines, four service vehicles, a Metro Rescue Unit vehicle and an ambulance were sent to the fire. In addition, 12 water jets, two turntables and four breathing apparatus were used



Barefoot and wielding a fire-fighting beater he picked up, 15-year-old Peter Lino of University Estate lends a hand. Raging fire closes De Waal Drive, picture, page 3

**Sandy Bay: 5 arrested**

Staff Reporter

AT LEAST five people were arrested at Sandy Bay yesterday and charged with public indecency

Mr Vincent Barry, of Edward Road, Claremont, said he and his wife were sitting near Shelley Beach yesterday morning when he saw two men approach

'They were casually dressed in shorts and running shoes, but I immediately became suspicious. They sat down on a rock, but seemed very attentive and kept looking around'

Mr Barry said he saw a topless woman lying on her stomach on a rock nearby. She was arrested when she got into the water

She actually slid off the rock into the water, but they waited for the moment she exposed herself to pounce on her. 'I was disgusted by the way in which they sat waiting for her to move,' Mr Barry said

He said the policemen also arrested a group of other bathers

A Wynberg police spokesman confirmed that two men and three women were arrested about 1pm during a raid on Sandy Bay. He said they had been charged with public indecency and were expected to appear in the Retreat Magistrates Court today

<b>INSIDE</b>	TV . . . . .	2	Weather . . . . .	18	Aircraft . . . . .	18	Crossword . . . . .	1
	Focus . . . . .	8	Classified . . . . .	12-17	Business . . . . .	9	Editorials . . . . .	1
	Emergency & . . . . .	18	Look at today . . . . .	18	Cinema . . . . .	8	Horoscope . . . . .	1
					Comics . . . . .	13	Racing . . . . .	1
					Court Roll . . . . .	18	Radio . . . . .	1



100M 23/2/82

# (131) 'Baboon cannon' wounds farm labourer

POLICE are investigating reports that a "baboon cannon" went off on Sunday and wounded a farm labourer in the face and chest

The injured labourer, Mr Tommy Lotz, of the farm "Seekoegat", was taken to

hospital in Riversdale. He was later transferred to George Hospital, where a spokesman said yesterday his condition was "fair"

Mr Lotz was struck in the face by a number of twelve-

bore shotgun pellets and, according to police, one pellet struck him in the chest, narrowly missing his heart

Police reported that Mr Frederick Rall, owner of the farm, and Mr Lotz were setting the "baboon cannon" — a

converted 12-bore shotgun — in some maize fields

The "trap" intended for baboons went off and Mr Lotz was struck, said Major Eddie Snyman, police liaison officer stationed in Oudtshoorn — Sapa

SOLUT

(1) Premiums Treated as Business Expense

<u>01, Jan 1:</u>	Insurance Expense	300		
	Bank			300
	being payment of premium			
<hr/>				
<u>Dec 31:</u>	Income Statement	300		
	Insurance Expense			300
	being closing entry			
<hr/>				
Years 02 and 03 - same as 01				
<hr/>				
<u>04, Jan 1:</u>	Insurance Expense	300		
	Bank			300
<hr/>				
<u>Jan 2:</u>	Debtor (Insurance Company)	24 000		
	Income from Life Policy			24 000
	being accrual of proceeds receivable			
<hr/>				
<u>Jan 2:</u>	Income from Life Policy	24 000		
	Income Statement			24 000
	being closing entry			
<hr/>				
<u>Jan 2:</u>	Income Statement	300		
	Insurance Expense			300
	being closing entry			
<hr/>				
<u>Jan 31:</u>	Bank	24 000		
	Debtor (Insurance Company)			24 000
	being receipt of proceeds			
<hr/>				

(2) Premiums Treated as an Asset

<u>01, Jan 1:</u>	Life Policy	300		
	Bank			300
<hr/>				
<u>Dec 31:</u>	Income Statement	300		
	Life Policy			300
	(Surrender value of policy is zero - therefore no amount can be capitalised)			
<hr/>				

Continued/ .....

# Lift plunge: Extra man was likely cause

(B1)

RM 26/2/82

### Mall Reporter

A BOARD of enquiry into the lift accident at the Trust Bank building in Johannesburg on February 15 remained in doubt yesterday as to what actually caused the lift to plunge six floors and injure 12 men.

But it was assumed that an extra man in the lift was the cause of the accident.

There was also the possibility that one of more occupants jumped to get the lift moving when it stalled at the ground floor.

The enquiry found that 18 men had crammed into a lift which was only authorised to hold 17 persons.

The enquiry was chaired by Mr Thomas Leff, chief inspector of machinery at the Department of Manpower.

Three of the men denied yesterday that anything unusual had occurred on the day of the accident. Under cross examination by Mr Leff they denied a suggestion that one or more of them had jumped in the lift, thus drastically increasing the overall weight.

The lift, which plunged six floors into the basement, was authorised to hold 17 men, each weighing an average of 70kg — an overall weight of 1 190kg.

The board remained in doubt yesterday as to what exactly caused the accident. But Mr Leff assumed it had struck the safety buffers at the bottom of the lift shaft at a speed exceeding its normal travelling speed.

"I believe an extra, 18th person, was the straw that broke the camel's back," Mr Leff said.

One of the men in the lift at the time of the accident, Mr J Scholtz, said he was one of the last to enter. He said there was still enough place for him when he joined his colleagues on the seventh floor.

Mr Scholtz said the lift went to the ground floor, stopped for a moment and then started to go downwards.

Mr Leff put it to Mr Scholtz that several people jumped to get the lift moving at the ground floor. Mr Scholtz denied this.

"When the lift hit the bottom there was a lot of black dust, a loud bang and the ceiling fell in," Mr Scholtz said.

A spokesman for the Otis lift company explained after the hearing that if a man jumped in a lift his weight would be doubled.

The lift had been repaired but had still to be inspected by Mr Leff.

300

300

24 000

300

24 000

24 000

300

300

300

Dec 3

01, J

Prem

Jan

Jan

(2)

being closing entry

Income Statement

Income from Life Policy

Jan 2:

being accrual of proceeds receivable

Income from Life Policy

Debtor (Insurance Company)

Jan 2:

Bank

Insurance Expense

04, Jan 1:

Years 02 and 03 - same as 01

being closing entry

Insurance Expense

Income Statement

Dec 31:

being payment of premium

Bank

Insurance Expense

01, Jan 1:

Premiums Treated as Business Expense

(1)

SOLUTION TO: GLS

*Mercury* (131)  
**Durban building contractor fined**  
27/2/82

**Mercury Reporter**

A DURBAN building contractor has appeared in the Verulam Magistrate's Court on charges relating to unsafe scaffolding on a site in Umhlanga Rocks

Salvatore Pulverenti, a director of Pulbo Construction (Pty) Ltd, pleaded guilty on Thursday to 13 counts of contravening regulations under Chapter V of the Factories, Machinery and Building Works Act of 1941.

Magistrate Mr H J D Hitchcock fined him a total of R650

Prosecution was initiated after the Department of Manpower had issued the company a number of warnings about safety on all its sites, for failure to install toe-boards and handrails at the Umhlanga Rocks site and for

the use of an unsafe builders' hoist

The irregularities were discovered when a departmental inspector was called to investigate a fatality on another company's site nearby

Three other building companies with construction sites in Umhlanga Rocks recently have made court appearances in Verulam

P  
b  
M  
g.  
fi  
3)  
G  
P)  
al  
D  
10  
B.  
te  
Oc

2 March 1982

# Focus

on

# Safety

131

*Industrial week*  
2/3/82

OVER R400-million was lost by industry last year as a result of damage to equipment, property and worker deaths and disablements says Bunny Matthysen, general manager of the National Occupational Safety Association

Matthysen estimates that at least a quarter of a million South Africans will be victims of on the job accidents serious enough to keep them away from work for at least a day

NOSA was formed 30 years ago by the then Minister of Labour, the Hon Ben Schoeman, and the Workman's Compensation Board to promote safety in industry

Since its inception NOSA has reduced the number of accidents in industry significantly

In May NOSA will be mounting the National Occupational and Health Convention, CON'82 at Sun City

Next week Industrial Week will carry an in depth look at the aims of the convention in a special safety feature

UJET

66 64 62 60 58 56 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2

# Appliance safety code

131 Star 2/3/82

By Caroline Braun,  
Consumer Reporter

From March 13 local and imported electrical appliances will have to comply with compulsory safety requirements

The South African Bureau of Standards, with help from consumer representatives, manufacturers and importers, has spent 12 years drafting the safety specification, which covers appliances from electric toothbrushes to washing machines

The specification is based on world standards and SABS officials attended 10 meetings overseas to collect information and keep abreast of new developments.

Mr N W Bennett, head of the electrical appliances and safety division at the SABS, said most of the appliances on the market today were electrically safe, but a small percentage of goods had been found to be inferior

"There have been a few problems in the past with some local and imported appliances such as hair-driers and irons. They are isolated cases, but it takes only one faulty appliance to kill a person," he said

"From March 13 only appliances which comply with the stringent safety regulations will be sold"

The safety specification applies to all household appliances,

and includes lawnmowers, hairdressing equipment, hand tools and commercial stoves

It does not apply to appliances which operate at voltages below 42 volts; medical equipment under the supervision of a medical officer, appliances for high frequency heating other than domestic microwave ovens, and radio or television receiving and transmitting equipment

The specification lays down the following safety requirements

- Adequate protection against electric shock. The appliance must be constructed to prevent accidental contact with live parts

- Adequate heat resistance and mechanical strength.

- Freedom from electrical and mechanical hazards such as sharp edges, burrs and other defects that could injure the user

- An appliance with one or more heating elements must be able to withstand overloads likely to occur in normal use

- With splash-proof appliances, any water which enters must not affect the safety or normal use of the appliance

- The internal wiring must be smooth, free from sharp edges, and must be effectively protected from contact with moving parts

- There must be adequate radio and television interference suppression.

000 24	Income from Life Policy	24 000
000 24	Debtor (Insurance Company)	24 000
000 300	04, Jan 1: Insurance Expense	300
	Bank	
	Years 02 and 03 - same as 01	
000 300	Dec 31: Income Statement	300
	Insurance Expense	
	being closing entry	
000 300	01, Jan 1: Insurance Expense	300
	Bank	
	being payment of premium	
	(1) Premiums Treated as Business Expense	

SOLUTION TO: GL5

2/3/82 (131)

# Explosion leaves a trail of death *Star*

By Sarah Pennell and Mike Cohen

Several people were killed in an explosion at a plastics factory which rocked the industrial area of Spartan near Jan Smuts Airport this afternoon. Eyewitnesses said the explosion occurred just after 1 pm. Fire engines from as far afield as Bedfordview are at the scene and firemen are still trying to put out the fire. A large pall of black smoke hangs over Spartan. It is not yet known how many people were injured but a large number of ambulances is ferrying people to hospital. Businesses and factories around the area have been evacuated as it is feared further explosions will occur. The explosion was apparently caused by a large cylinder of butane gas.

NOT credited direct proceeds from the life partner so as to statement would have up as legal and

The death of a partner accounting entries. to be drawn up for to ascertain the correct policy would be shown to the partners' capital

Note 2:

At the end of year 03, the life policy would be reflected on the partnership balance sheet as a non-current asset at its surrender value of R240.

Note 1:

03, Jan 1: Life Policy	300	Bank	300
Dec 31: Income Statement	60	Life Policy	60
		Policy written down to surrender value (See Note 1 below)	
04, Jan 1: Life Policy	300	Bank	300
Jan 2: Debtor (Insurance Company)	24 000	Life Policy	540
		Income from Life Policy	23 460
		being accrual of proceeds receivable	
Jan 2: Income from Life Policy	23 460	Income Statement	23 460
		being closing entry	
Jan 31: Bank	24 000	Debtor	24 000
		being receipt of proceeds	

Year 02 - same as year 01

(2) Premiums Treated as an Asset - Cont'd:

2011 2/3/12

# Toy firm heeds prof's warning

**Mail Correspondent**  
 A MAJOR Durban toy wholesaler will no longer be distributing whistling balloons, labelled "potentially lethal toys" by a University of Natal professor  
 Mr S Berchowitz, sales director of the firm, said the warning by Professor B T le Roux, professor of thoracic surgery, that the plastic whistle attached to the balloon could be dislodged and inhaled by young children, was enough to convince him that the toys were not desirable.  
 The professor said he had removed whistles from the air tubes of four children in the short time the toy had been on the market and had

written a letter to the Chamber of Commerce urging them to withdraw the toy from the market. This message was passed on by the chamber to its members in the weekly bulletin.  
 The toys, which sell for 20c each, were imported from Taiwan and had been available in most stores for the past two years, said Mr Berchowitz.  
 The toy manager of a large department store said although he normally stocked balloon whistles, the stock was sold out.  
 He could not say whether the store would consider withdrawing them from the market as Professor Le Roux had urged.

300  
300  
24 000  
300  
24 000  
24 000  
300  
300  
300

300  
300  
24 000  
300  
24 000  
24 000  
300  
300  
300

(1) Premiums Treated as Business Expense

01, Jan 1: Insurance Expense

Bank

being payment of premium

Dec 31:

Income Statement

Insurance Expense

being closing entry

Years 02 and 03 - same as 01

04, Jan 1: Insurance Expense

Bank

Jan 2: Debtor (Insurance Company)

Income from Life Policy

being accrual of proceeds receivable

Jan 2: Income from Life Policy

Income Statement

being closing entry

Jan 2:

Inc

the store would consider withdrawing them from the market as Professor Le Roux had urged.

be

The toy manager of a large department store said although he normally stocked balloon whistles, the stock was sold out.

Bar

Jan 31:

01, Jan 1: Li

(2) Premiums Trea

Li

Dec 31: In

(Su

th

# Inferno death toll at factory could rise

131  
Sfen  
3/3/82

### Staff Reporters

The East Rand chemical factory fire which has claimed at least six lives was still raging this morning.

As exhausted firemen searched through debris in charred sections of the Alupac factory, there were fears that the death toll could be higher.

More than 90 people were seriously injured. A huge rescue operation was launched to ferry the injured — many of them badly burnt — to Tembisa Hospital.

Workers at the factory, part of the SA Drugists group, told today how terror spread through the staff canteen moments before the blast which set the building ablaze. A shocked Mrs Gladys Dhlamini (32), who escaped uninjured, described how the blast took place about 1.20 pm while most workers were in the canteen.

### STAMPED

Mr Samuel Khoza had run into the canteen screaming at everybody to run because he had smelled gas, she said. "Then we heard a loud explosion and everyone ran for the door."

"We stampeded down the stairs to try to reach safety." Six fire brigades and about 20 ambulances sped to the scene. Dead and injured were ferried to hospital in a shuttle service of

ambulances and private vehicles.

At Tembisa Hospital the operating theatres were unable to cope, said Dr J van den Hoven, the medical superintendent.

"Ambulances were arriving every minute. The injured suffered burns galore. Four of the most seriously injured were transferred to the Karitong Hospital for intensive care treatment."

### DAMAGE

By early today four people were still in a critical condition.

Mr A M Karis, senior manager of Lennon and Peterson, to which Alupac is affiliated, said today damage at the factory was estimated to be in the region of R10 million. Eyewitnesses said they believed the fire was caused by an exploding butane cylinder.

Mr Peter Moll, who works in a nearby factory, said the explosion had rocked the whole area.

A huge cloud of black smoke had risen several hundred metres. He had been one of the first people to reach the scene. "Workers were running out of the building."

Mr Matty Matthysse, Kempton Park's fire chief, said fire engines and ambulances were on the scene minutes after the blast.

"We heard the explosion and saw the smoke."

"We were moving even before we received a call," he said. The Gerinston, Elenvale, Bedfordview, Modderfontein and Jan Smuts Airport fire brigades arrived later to join the battle against the blaze.

An East Rand police spokesman said today an official death toll could not be given until firemen had completed their job. Bodies could still be buried under rubble, he said.

The ruined remains of the Alupac building near Jan Smuts Airport where a huge explosion occurred yesterday afternoon. Firemen and factory workers battled for hours to extinguish the blaze which at times sent balloons of fire more than 100 metres into the air. Pictures by Alf Kumalo and Philip Littleton



Emergency services officials attend to one of several injured at the scene



Continued/ .....



# Factory blast: <sup>131</sup> 7 dead, hero <sup>ROH</sup> <sub>3/3/82</sub> saves 3

## Mall Reporters

A MASSIVE emergency operation was still under way last night after a series of explosions ripped through a Kempton Park factory at 1.24pm — killing at least seven people and injuring at least 91.

And a personnel consultant last night told how he pulled three people from under piles of rubble — one young woman dying in his arms.

Late yesterday, more explosions were feared as the inferno raged on — fought by five fire brigades, while a combined ambulance fleet ferried the injured to the Tembisa and Kafong hospitals.

Other firemen searched through smouldering zinc and rubble for more victims.

By 5.30pm, 91 people had been treated at Tembisa Dr H G van der Hoven, the Tembisa Hospital superintendent, said 40 of the injured had been admitted.

Six were in the intensive care unit at Kafong hospital, while four Tembisa patients were in a "serious" condition.

Damage to the Alupac/K S Arnolds factory in Derek Road is estimated at R10-million. Most of the plant — the biggest of its kind in South Africa — has been destroyed.

Mr Rusty Schutte, a personnel consultant from a company in nearby Steel Road, heard the explosion and ran to the scene.

"I ran inside and saw those injured people who were able to move, rushing outside," Mr Schutte said.

"People were shouting. I saw others buried under collapsed walls.

"I started digging for people, and pulled out two women and one man from under the rubble.

"One young woman was still alive when I dragged her out, but she died in my arms a few seconds later.

"There was a body wedged under a staircase, but I couldn't get at it.

"There was one old man just standing there with three quarters of his clothes burned off. He could not move and just asked for help. I grabbed an office chair, seated him, and pulled him out of the blaze," Mr Schutte said.

The Kempton Park Fire Chief, Mr Matty Matthyser, said the explosion had set off a series of smaller explosions of liquid petroleum gas tanks in the warehouse.

Within minutes, the building had been engulfed by flames.

The Kempton Park Fire Department heard the explosion, and sent three fire engines and its six ambulances to the scene immediately — before even receiving a call. Minutes later, 17 ambulances and 10 fire-engines from Germiston, Bedfordview, Edenvale, Jan Smuts, Primrose and Boksburg arrived at the scene.

Mr Matthyser said they

had had to use gas masks to get past thick smoke — which rose about a kilometre into the air, and which could still be seen on the Witwatersrand during the 5pm peak traffic.

Firemen knocked huge holes through a factory wall to reach the centre of the blaze.

And 50 members of React, an emergency CB radio team, directed traffic away from the area, while the traf-

fic department cordoned off a one kilometre area and East Rand police in camouflage uniform — assisted by the Benoni Dog Squad — kept people at a safe distance.

An employee, Mr John Mazini, said he was sitting in the factory canteen when there was a huge bang and the ceiling fell in.

"I don't know how I got out. People ran everywhere. I was knocked about, and saw several people injured in the

rush," he said.

Mr Andries Johnson, a machine operator at BSCT Plastics, had been back from lunch for a few minutes, and was knocked out in the crush to reach the exit. He woke an hour later in an ambulance.

Another worker, Mr Elijah Lekoleng, said he saw a woman, gashed in the head by a falling water pipe, running for an exit.

Another woman was struck unconscious by falling

metal, but other people pulled her to safety, he said.

A number of black workers from neighbouring factories were having lunch on the pavement when the explosion occurred.

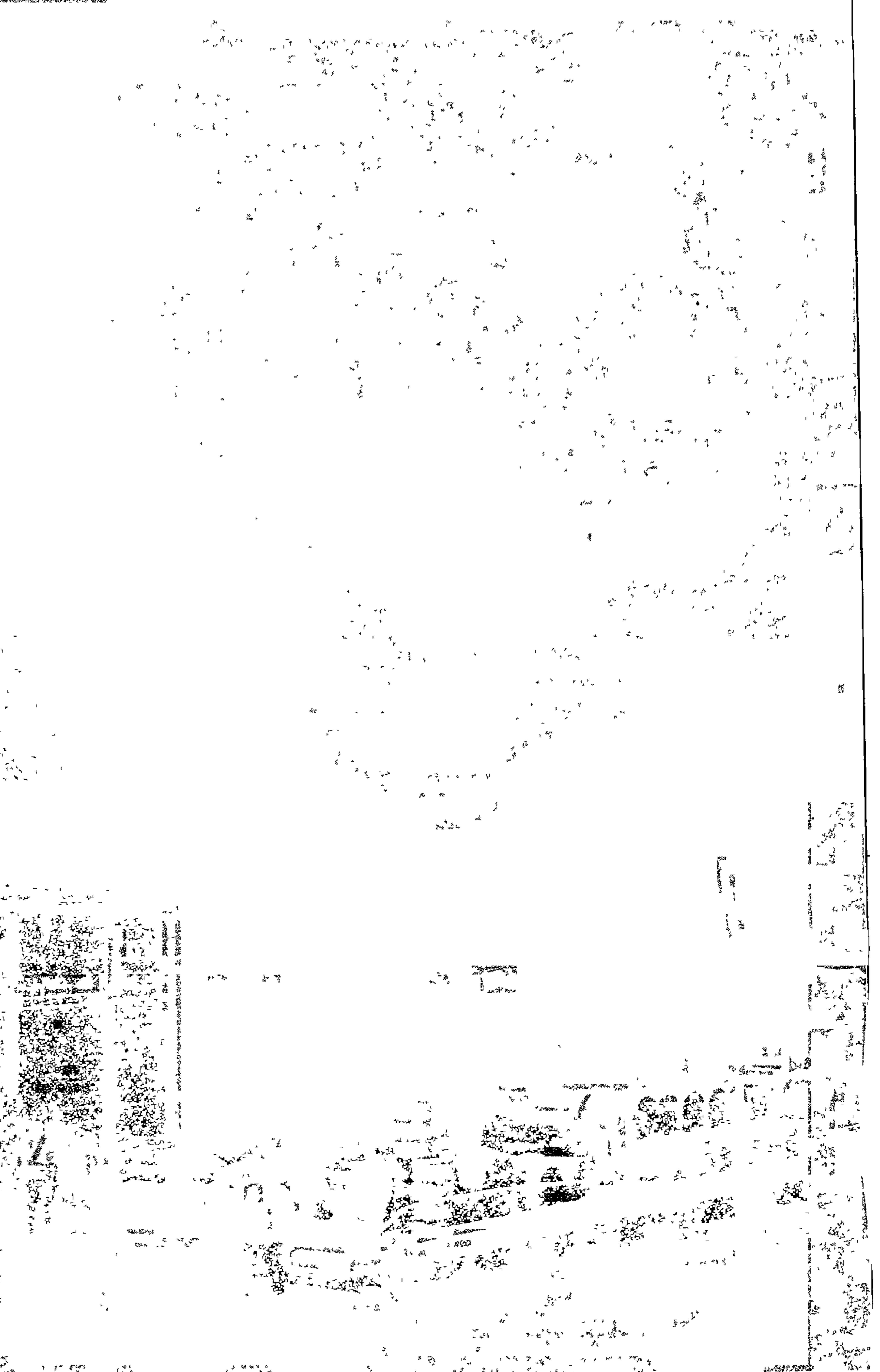
Mr Joshua Tshabalala said he was struck by flying glass seconds after the blast. Windows in at least two neighbouring factories were smashed.

A neighbouring factory that produces canvas and

tents also caught alight and was completely destroyed. Damage is estimated at R2-million.

The Alupac/K S Arnolds plant, with 350 employees, produced 24-million units of assorted cosmetics and toiletries a year. It handles aerosol filling for several cosmetic companies, including Helena Rubenstein, K S Arnolds, Faberge and Coty.

See Picture Page 2



Picture: JUHAN KUUB



The Kempton Park fire chief, Mr Matty Mathyser, said the explosion had set off a series of smaller explosions of liquid petrol-eum gas tanks in the warehouse. Within minutes, the building had been engulfed by flames. The Kempton Park Fire Department heard the explosion, and sent three fire engines and its six ambulances to the scene immediately — before even receiving a call. Minutes later, 17 ambulances and 10 fire engines from surrounding fire stations arrived.

### Gas masks

Mr Mathyser said firemen had had to use gas masks to get past the smoke, which rose about a kilometre into the air, and which could still be seen on the Witwatersrand during the 5pm peak traffic jam.

Firemen knocked huge holes through a factory wall to reach the centre of the blaze. And 50 members of React, an emergency CB radio team, directed traffic away from the area, while the traffic department cordoned off a one-kilometre area and East Rand police in camouflage uniform — assisted by the Benoni Dog Squad and the Kempton Park Commandos — kept people at a safe distance. An employee, Mr John Mazini, said he was sitting in the factory can-teen when there was a huge bang and the ceiling fell in. "I don't know how I got out. People ran every-

To page 2

**Six die as explosion rocks factory in Kempton Park**

# 100 HURT IN BLAST

*Sowetan*  
131  
3/3/82



**THE FACTORY:** Smoke billowing from the plastics firm yesterday. More pictures on Page 2.

Pics By JOE MOLEFE



**Eye-witness Ms Dorah Zwane saw fire cut a colleague like lightning.**

**AT LEAST six people were killed and about 100 injured when an explosion rocked a plastics factory in the industrial area of Spartan, near Kempton Park, yesterday afternoon.**

Six of those injured were yesterday rushed to the intensive care unit at the Kalafong Hospital, while four were said to be in a critical condition at the Tembisa Hospital.

The injured were rushed to the Tembisa Hospital by about 17 ambulances from Kempton Park, Bedfordview, Jan Smuts Airport and other nearby towns.

Sapa also reported that medical supplies had been sent from the white Kempton Park Hospital to Tembisa to supplement the supplies.

The factory employs workers from Pretoria, Tembisa, Vosloorus and Soweto. Some of the workers who managed to escape the inferno, which was still raging by late yesterday afternoon, told **The SOWETAN** that the explosion occurred just after 100pm. Some of the workers were inside the factory at the time, while others were in the canteen having lunch.

Pandemonium broke out when the blast rocked the factory and flames shot up. In the confusion, some people were trampled in the stampede for safety, and it was feared that the death toll may be even higher than first indications.

A police cordon was thrown around the factory as firemen battled the blaze. Factories nearby were also evacuated as more explosions were feared. Later, a canvas and tent factory nearby caught fire and was completely gutted. Damage to this factory was estimated at over R2-million.

One of the workers, Ms Dorah Zwane, who suffered a cut on her wrist and thumb, said that she had seen, at least four of her colleagues die. "One of them actually died right in front of me as a bolt of fire shot through her like lightning."

"It was just after 1 15 while we were in the

**By SELLO RABOTATHA**

canteen. The explosion was so loud, and the fire spread so quickly it soon engulfed the whole factory.

"Hell broke loose as everybody tried to run to safety. Some of the people were falling, others pushing. Some of the workers were upstairs and people were just running away in all directions," she said.

At the Tembisa Hospital, a crowd had gathered after the news of the explosion spread through the township. Most of the people in this township work in Kempton Park, and people did not quite know which factory was involved.

Some women were seen crying while being comforted by others.

The superintendent of the Tembisa Hospital first told us he would see us later, but later sent a security guard to tell us to leave. A white woman told a nurse to "watch it" and not to speak to us.

Some of the victims seen by reporters suffered from burns while others had cuts, apparently from glass and the corrugated iron that fell onto them from the roof.

It was initially believed that the explosion was caused by the ignition of a large cylinder of butane gas but later it was thought it was liquid petroleum gas.

Damage to the factory has been estimated to run into millions.

(13) Star  
5/3/82  
**Prayers for  
blast victims**

**East Rand Bureau**

Services will be held in three Tembisa churches tonight for the seven people killed in the factory explosion at Spartan, near Kempton Park on Tuesday.

The services have been arranged by the Tembisa branch of Acapo

Services will start at 6 pm at the Baptist church in Mqantsa section, the Lutheran church at Endulwini section and the St Matthews Catholic church at Endulwini section.

Sowetan 5/3/82

SOWETA

**Names are released**

131

# Explosion toll

ATTERIDGEVILLE'S Kalafong Hospital yesterday officially released the names of the 8 patients admitted following the massive explosion at a Kempton Park plastics factory on Tuesday.

**By MONK NKOMI**

Dr I Kapp, medical deputy superintendent at the hospital gave the names as follows Mr Koos Mokete (who died on Tuesday night), Mr Alpheus Ntuh, Mr Elias Mahlangu, Mr Lennox Ngobezi, Mr Hubert Msimango, Mrs Susan Solomons, Mrs Sarah Swart and Mrs Christinah Tsamane, whose condition was described by the deputy superintendent as "still bad". She is in an intensive care unit

Dr Kapp said the conditions of the other six were "fine" Asked

when they would be discharged, she said, "I do not know"

The addresses of all patients could not be established.

Twenty-eight more people who were injured were discharged yesterday from the Tembisa Hospital

The superintendent of Tembisa Hospital, Dr H G van der Hoven said yesterday 16 patients were still on the danger list The rest

were doing well and could be discharged even before the end of the week So far the numbers of those killed still stands at seven with the latest victim dying at the Kalafong Hospital on Wednesday

The fire started after a massive explosion had rocked the firm which belongs to SA Druggist group, manufacturing cosmetics and aerosols, just after 1pm on Tuesday

UJET

56- 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4

# Five injured in blast at Maitland factory

CAPE TIMES 5/3/82  
Staff Reporter

FIVE members of a fire team were injured yesterday in an explosion at a food oil company in Maitland

None of the injuries was serious and one of the injured men, works manager Mr K Wareham, was back at work later in the day. Members of the press were kept away from the scene and when a Cape Times reporter entered the factory with police liaison officers, he was told by a senior company executive to leave.

Company officials said later that negligible damage had been caused by

the blast and production was not affected.

Mr E A Dehning, commercial manager of Cape Oil Products, the manufacturers of salad and cooking oils, said in a statement yesterday that smoke was seen coming from an oil cake meal-bin about 7am.

Mr Dehning said the smoke was caused by spontaneous combustion which possibly resulted from high winds.

The injured were Mr Wareham, Mr Frank Adams, Mr Hubert Mketi, Mr Philemon Balana and Mr Morris Sombalo. They are reported to be in a satisfactory condition.

D. Diphatch 5/3/82

# Truck crashes into harbour

131

CAPE TOWN — A young welder's assistant escaped with minor injuries yesterday morning when the truck which he was driving hit a pole and plunged off a quay into 15m of water in Table Bay harbour here

Mr Derek Sewneth, 24, freed himself from the cab of the submerged truck and swam to the surface. He was taken to Woodstock Hospital, where his condition was later described as satisfactory

Mr J Kruger, second officer on the berthed coaster MV Swazi, said he was down in a hold supervising the loading of cargo when he heard "a loud crash"

"Everybody ran out to see what was happening. It seems that the truck hit a pole on the quay and then went over the side. I phoned for an ambulance and notified port control," Mr Kruger said

Mr Sewneth worked as

an assistant to a welder on the Swazi. It is not known why he was driving the three-ton truck, which belongs to a shipping company

Mr Sewneth's employer and a carpenter witnessed the incident and threw a life-buoy to Mr Sewneth as he surfaced from the submerged vehicle. They helped him onto the quay, where he was swathed in blankets

"Both his legs were cut and he was quite shocked, but otherwise he seemed to be all right," one eyewitness said.

Watched by a large crowd, the truck was later hoisted onto the quayside by a mobile crane. Two divers from the SAR harbour launch Troupant took down a line from the crane and fixed shackles onto the truck's front axle. The vehicle, badly dented and with its windscreen smashed out, was hoisted to the surface soon afterwards — DDC



# Fire death toll rises

By MONK SOWETAN  
NKOMO 5/3/82

WEARY firemen were still battling late yesterday to douse the fire that killed six people at an East Rand chemical factory, and fears were mounting that more bodies could be discovered when debris is cleared.

One of the eight victims admitted to the Kalafong Hospital in Pretoria died yesterday bringing the total number of known deaths to seven.

The superintendent of the Tembisa Hospital, which admitted 93 people on Tuesday, said yesterday that 34 of them were still in hospital, two were transferred to the Crown Mines Hospital while eight were taken to Kalafong for intensive care.

Dr H G van der Hoven said most of the people admitted were treated for burn wounds varying from severe to very severe, and lacerations. One of the severe

**VICTIM: Ms Susan Solomon is one of those still in hospital.**

cases included internal bleeding as a result of damaged intestines.

He said four of the 34 in hospital were still on the danger list, three were fair cases, and that the rest could be discharged even before the end of the week.

The fire started after a massive explosion had rocked the firm, which belongs to the SA Druggist group, manufacturing cosmetics and aerosols, just after 1 pm on Tuesday. The fire destroyed the factory causing damage estimated at R10-million.



One of the victims, Mrs Sarah Swart, who was blinded as a result of the explosion, told **The SOWETAN** during a visit yesterday "I am better than Tuesday when I was admitted". She had serious face wounds and a few stitches around her cheeks and had difficulty with her speech. With her hands hanging in a sling, Mrs Swart managed however to give her address as 563 Horton Drive Vosloorus (Sotho section, Boksburg), and that she had a seven-year-old child.

Another victim whose name was established as Susan Solomons had a deep gash on her left cheek. She was also blinded in the explosion. She could not say a word except to move her head in an attempt to talk. She too had serious face injuries. A spokesman for the hospital said the conditions of the seven was "satisfactory". Names of the other four surviving patients could not be established.

# NUCLEAR ENERGY

## Safety and sanity

FM 3/3/82

131

The recent deaths of nearly one hundred men in the world's second worst oil rig disaster is a sharp reminder that all forms of energy exploitation carry risk to life. Closer to home the latest explosion at AECI makes the same point in regard to another aspect of industrial activity. So too do the recent unfortunate air crashes. These examples tell against a certain brand of anti-nuclear activist who sees the safety issue through a special kind of distorting lens. Can it be imagined what the anti-nuclear crowd would have made of ninety-odd deaths on the oil rig or of nine deaths from nitroglycerine manufacture or of the deaths in the air crashes? Obviously, the inference that would have been drawn is that these forms of activity are inherently unsafe and must be suppressed altogether. To state the proposition like this is simply to draw attention to its inherent absurdity.

Yet extreme anti-nuclear attitudes are no more extreme and no more irrational as a study of the public utterances and written comments of the anti-nuclear people makes only too clear.

The irony of it all is that the peaceful uses of atomic energy (yes, they do exist and could make an even bigger contribution than at present to human welfare) have yet to kill or injure one single human being. Even the Three Mile Island mishap, which has certainly been an economic disaster of great magnitude, did not seriously harm, or even moderately harm, one single person. A possible exception is those people who suffered anxiety after the accident as the result of having been fed a heavy diet of emotional and dishonest anti-nuclear propaganda for years on end.

To make the point yet again, what could be more environmentally benign than a big hydroelectric dam? Yet every civil engineer knows that a really big dam will claim

twenty or so lives amongst construction workers before it is finished. And of course coal mining regularly kills far more people annually than that.

There is almost certainly a very important reason, though why people are so frightened of nuclear power — its association with atomic bombs. This connection is only natural, but it is partly the result of ignorance and misunderstanding. It is, for example, impossible for a nuclear power plant to explode like a bomb because its structure and composition make it quite impossible for a chain reaction to occur under any circumstances whatsoever.

However, there is a more sophisticated line of reasoning connecting nuclear power with nuclear weapons, and one which many governments — like the Carter administration in America — held very strongly. The argument goes that the spread of nuclear technology involved in the use of nuclear power around the world will facilitate the proliferation of nuclear weapons too, so increasing the risk of nuclear war. There are flaws in these arguments, however. In the first place, a country with a relatively modest technological and industrial base which wishes to acquire nuclear weapons will manage to do so, one way or another, regardless of whether it has nuclear power stations or not. Take the cases of Iraq, Israel and Pakistan.

Secondly, the causes of wars are very often found in economic privation and instability. The energy crises of recent years, especially high oil prices, have made for a

great deal of economic hardship and instability. If nuclear power, rationally used, can diminish these notorious causes of wars, then it may actually be improving the chances of peace.

Thirdly, a lot of the opposition to greater use of nuclear power exists in America, which is already armed to the teeth with nuclear weapons. So generating an extra 20% of electricity from added nuclear power

stations will not make the slightest difference to the state of nuclear armament which is a fait accompli anyway.

What is needed, therefore, is a balanced attitude to safety. Nuclear safety should always be kept in mind, without hysteria. But there should be far greater concern with other hazards like coal mining, chemical industry (a very bad transgressor all over the world) and air and road transport.

ROM (131)  
6/3/82  
**Gas blast  
injured  
'very ill'**

**Mail Reporter**

**FOUR** workers injured in Tuesday's gas explosion at a cosmetics factory in Spartan, Kempton Park, are still on the danger list at Tembisa Hospital, and another woman is in the intensive care unit at Kalafong Hospital.

Dr Henne van der Hoven, superintendent at Tembisa Hospital, said yesterday the four workers were still "very ill" after suffering burns of up to 80%.

Four other workers, also injured in the explosion in which four people died, were discharged from hospital on Thursday. Seven others were still in hospital but were recovering and were expected to be discharged soon, Dr Van der Hoven said.

A spokesman for Kalafong Hospital said the woman in intensive care, and seven others injured in the explosion, were all still "very serious".

**5-death  
crash:**

131

**'brakes**

**useless'** <sup>slow</sup> 8/3/82

**Court Reporter**

An engineer of the South African Bureau of Standards told a Johannesburg Regional Court today that a truck involved in an accident in Orange Grove in which five people died had brakes which were "totally ineffective"

Mr Ian Charlton said it was "very, very dangerous" to drive a fully loaded truck down Louis Botha Avenue

The driver, Mr Simon Nkosi (27), and the owner, Mr Phillipus Lodewicus Breytenbach (43), of Breytenbach Transport, Springs, have pleaded not guilty to charges of culpable homicide

The truck, loaded with bricks, ploughed into cars at a robot in Louis Botha Avenue last September 22

Mr Nkosi has also pleaded not guilty to an alternative charge of negligent or reckless driving

Mr Charlton said he examined the braking system after the accident. There was a slight air leak in the brake chamber diaphragms

"Every time the driver applied the brakes, he used twice as much air as he should normally have used," Mr Charlton said

(Proceeding)

# Shelter Horror — 5 Trapped in Rubble (131)

Shaw 7/2/82

## Own Correspondent

Horror-stricken workmen last night struggled to free five people — one of them a dead witchdoctor — from the wreckage of a Pre-toria bus shelter they had demolished.

The workmen were unaware that six people were sleeping in the dilapidated brick and concrete bus shelter on the corner of Boom and 11th streets, Marabastad, when they began demolishing the structure just after 10 last night.

The woman who was

killed when the concrete roof fell on the sleeping people was a witchdoctor in the area only known as Maletswale.

The shelter was pulled down with a truck chained to it.

One of the men who managed to escape and describe the ordeal was Mr Jeremia Sithole.

"We had a few drinks last night and decided to sleep in the bus shelter as we have done many times in the past. I was fast asleep when I was awakened by a roaring engine and rattling

chains. The next moment the brick wall started cracking.

"I shouted at my sleeping companions but they did not seem to hear me. I am not a coward but I realised I had to run for my life.

"The moment I ran out of the shelter the concrete pillars collapsed and the walls and concrete roof came down on top of my friends," said Mr Sithole.

Mr Sithole said he shouted to workmen that they should stop their operation because

five people were in the shelter. But it was too late.

"I have a slight head injury but I don't remember whether I fell in my hurry to get out of the shelter or whether a falling brick hit me.

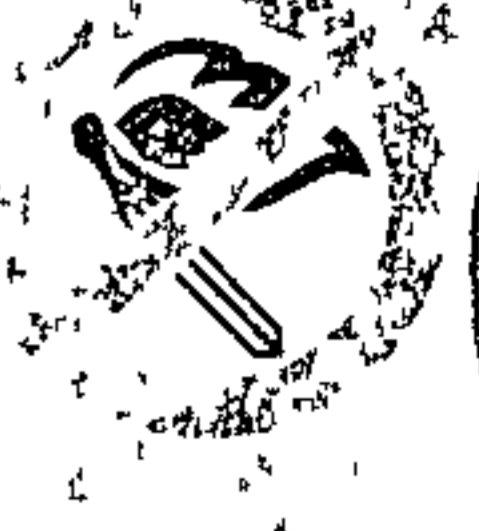
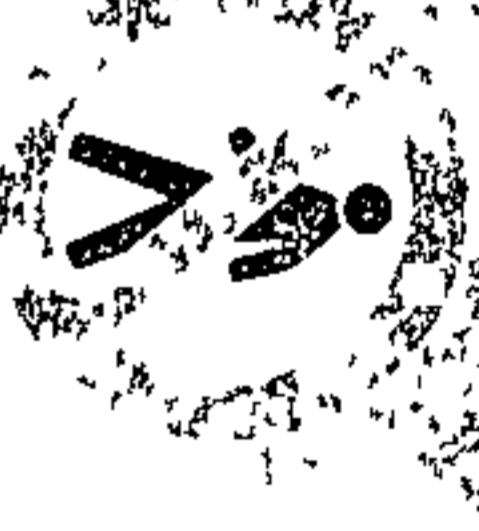
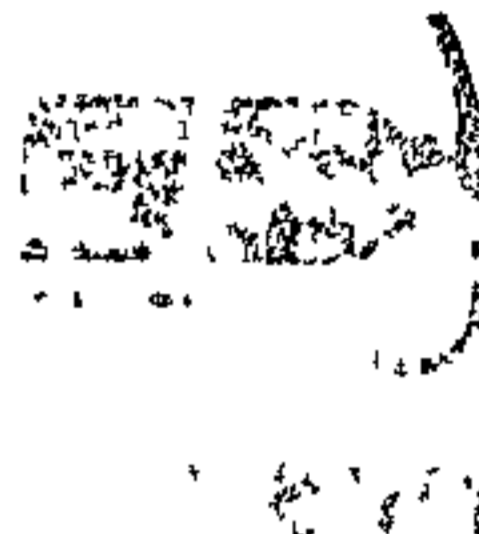
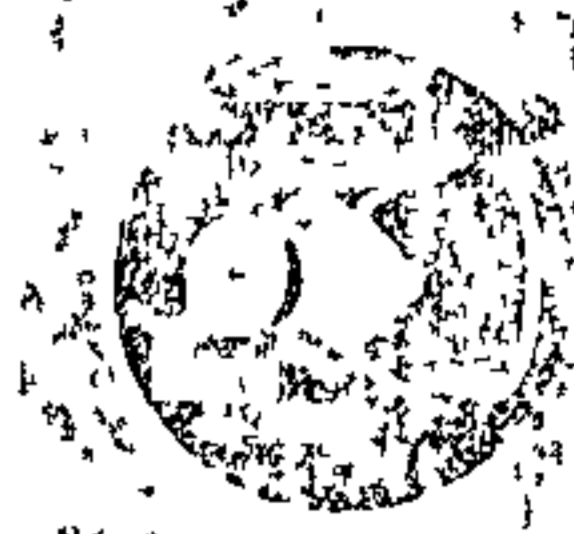
"The people inside the shelter were my friends and I was so shocked that I started digging in the rubble with my bare hands while the workmen called for help.

"It was terrible to hear my injured

friends screaming underneath the bricks and concrete. At first I did not realise our prophet (Maletswale) was dead. Who is going to help us now?"

The fire brigade and ambulance were on the scene within minutes. It took some time to free the body of the dead woman and the four injured men.

The injured were admitted to the Kalafong Hospital where their condition has been described as serious. Police are investigating.



# Sharp rap for local authorities

LOCAL authorities have come under attack from Nosa for their high injury frequency rate. According to latest Nosa reports 32% of the municipalities' workforce suffer from disabling injuries each year.

## Eye on safety

Municipalities should be aiming at the figure of about 2.0%, the national figure for all industry is currently 1.9%. "Springs is running at 0.8% and Alberton at 0.3% so it can be done."

According to Matthysen, local authorities face unique problems when trying to implement safety measures. "The activities of the majority of them are very wide spread making it difficult to create a closely knit safety programme for the entire authority concerned."

At present the only municipality with a Nosa five star grading is at Springs. On the Wednesday of the convention JF van Loggerenberg of the Municipality of Springs will discuss the municipality's experiences in implementing loss control.

Bunny Matthysen, general manager of Nosa who recently urged local authorities to improve their safety records.

# Industry tackles drink threat

9/3/82 86

A traffic officer who had stopped a truck which was involved later in a five-death accident in Louis Bontha Avenue, told the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday that he had tested the vehicle and found it had defects and no certificate of fitness.

The officer said he had stopped the truck on the M2 freeway in a routine check. Among the other defects, he found that "there was no effect when the emergency brake was

applied". He wrote out a document noting the defects, and ordered the driver to go to the nearest place where the truck could be repaired.

On September 22 the truck, laden with bricks, was involved in an accident at the intersection of Louis Bontha Avenue and

Seventh Avenue. Five people were killed. The truck driver, Mr Simon Nkosi, and the owner, Mr Phillipus Lodewicus Breytenbach (43), both of Breytenbach Transport, Springs, have pleaded not guilty to charges of culpable homicide.

Mr Nkosi (27) has also pleaded not guilty to an alternative charge of negligent or reckless driving.

The attorney representing them said they were disputing all the elements of the charges. An engineer at the South African Bureau of Standards who examined the truck's braking system last October and November said he found the brakes were "totally ineffective".

# Death truck failed road check

Staw 9/3/82

(131)

much air as he should normally have used. "It was definitely not safe to drive that truck fully loaded," he said.

Mr Charlton also found that there was "free play" in the brake mechanism.

"It was therefore not possible for the brake shoes to come into contact effectively with the brake drums."

All four brake drums would have been scrapped at the next overhaul," he said.

A witness to the accident said that as he slowed down for the robot at the intersection he noticed that the truck could be out of control. Men who were sitting on top of the bricks on the trailer jumped off the moving vehicle.

The truck then swayed in the road and hit cars before crashing into a shop front.

The hearing continues today.



update

# INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

# The bloody facts

Industrial Week  
9/3/82  
131

By Simon Cashmore

AS this year's National Occupational Safety and Health Convention (Noshcon '82) takes place, industry will lose over R3-million, due to damage to equipment, property, injuries and worker deaths.

In an effort to reduce this tremendous expense a record number of delegates are expected for the conference, to be held at Sun City from May 25 to 27

"The number of exhibitors has far exceeded expectation and we are having to alter our original plans to accommodate them," says Bunny Matthysen, general

## Equipment men change association

THE last few months have seen a change take place in the constitution of the protective equipment association

No longer called the Personnel Protective Equipment Association, but the Southern African Protective Equipment Manufacturers Association (SAPEMA), the organisation has changed due to a gradual shift in its membership

Craston Wilson, chairman of the organisation says "To a large degree our industry has been turned around from an importing to an exporting one"

When the organisation was formed in 1961 it comprised mainly of distributors, today the majority of members are manufacturers

This week Industrial Week gives an exclusive preview of some of the major topics to be discussed at NOSCHON '82. Pages 16 and 17 will cover the plenary sessions on May 25 and 27, while Page 18 will concentrate on the mini courses on May 25

manager of the National Occupational Safety Association, (Nosa), organiser of the convention

### Exclusive

In an exclusive interview, Matthysen told Industrial Week

"We are exceptionally fortunate in being able to boast speakers of this quality of Jim Findlay, general manager of the Canadian Industrial Accident Prevention Association (Iapa), and Ted Wire, loss control manager for John Deere, USA

"As well as this it has just been confirmed that the Minister of Industries, Commerce, Tourism, Education and Training, Dawie de Villiers, will be guest speaker at our banquet

The convention is aimed at the management echelon of industry and will be stressing how productivity and profits can

be increased through a greater awareness of health and safety procedure

Matthysen adds "We are not interested in safety theories, but practical applications. During the convention case studies will be presented by a variety of industrialists relating their experiences in implementing safety programmes"

### Courses

A series of mini courses will be held on the 26th which will enable delegates to obtain an understanding of such topics as loss control, alcoholism and vision problems in industry

Throughout the event the biggest exhibition of safety equipment in the southern hemisphere will be on display, allowing visitors to compare the price and efficiency of a whole range of safety products

## Shining example



LITEMASTER are spending R500 000 a year on the research and design of safer electrical accessories.

The company (whose factory is shown above) is the biggest manufacturer of electrical accessories in SA.

PRODUCTION lost due to an inadequate safety programme is immense yet this constitutes only part of the money lost through negligence

There are many hidden costs which are not reflected in the companies accounting systems

- Because the Accident Fund only pays 75% of the man's salary with a

## Cost of neglect

maximum of R185,25 a month for a temporary total disablement it is almost standard practice for the employer to make up the salary of the injured worker

- Due to an accident it is possible that machinery will be made obsolete

before its accepted depreciation time, causing extra expense and reduced production

- Once a worker has been laid off due to injury costs often increase due to the fact that another worker must be trained to do his job. At the same

time overtime must be paid to other workers in order to maintain productivity levels

- Finally once an accident has occurred valuable time is taken by the supervisory staff investigating the accident and the clerical staff will be required to undertake the lengthy process of claiming from the Accident Fund

## WE KNOW FENCING INSIDE-OUT - AND OUTSIDE-IN.

Because that's all we've been doing for over 15 years.

Superior fencing protection in today's insecure world is a must - don't leave it to chance.

We know the 'ins' and 'outs' of security fencing, saving you the 'ups' and 'downs'; through our meticulous attention to quality and service at highly competitive prices.



P.O. Box 85, Germiston 1400. Tel: 825-5306/7/8. Car Phone 213406 Code 998

CIRCLE ENQUIRY NO 28

## 5000 TYPES OF SAFETY lifting clamps

to solve all your difficult lifting problems



Lift Steel plates  
Profiles —  
Polished plates —  
Rails etc.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT **ALHAMY**

345 Mitchell Street, Pretoria West  
PO Box 4563, Pretoria 0001.  
Telex 3-0742



012-36731

(EDMS) BPK (PTY) LTD

CIRCLE ENQUIRY NO 29



# Worker care — the key to success

**OVER R400 million is lost by industry every year due to poor health and safety measures.**

The estimated potential and actual loss in manpower is some 32 million man days yearly, the equivalent to about 100 000 workers lying idle every working day.

From these facts it is clear that a comprehensive safety programme can pay dividends not only in workers' morale but also in increased profits and productivity.

Don Fyfe, MD of Truckmakers says: "As a direct result of the Five Star Grading Scheme we have cut staff turnover by 10% a year and have increased productivity

this approach is most effective.

A National Productivity Institute study shows high productivity and safety programmes go hand-in-hand and more importantly, that these high standards are only achieved in firms which have a high degree of management involvement.

By using a safety programme which has 80 key objectives Nosa's technical staff are able to pinpoint the areas in which productivity is being lost.

This enables management to take corrective measures to increase safety and subsequently profits. The system, which covers the whole spectrum of industrial

activity, ensures that all areas of loss through safety neglect can be identified and remedied.

Since the grading scheme was started in the 1950's the injury frequency rate has dropped from 4% of the workforce annually injured to 2,2%.

On the last day of the conference Pieter du P. Killian, factory manager at Rembrandt will give a talk entitled "Productivity vis-a-vis the 5 star programme".

In the evening Nosa awards will be presented to companies who have achieved outstanding accident prevention records, or substantial improvements to previous records.

appreciably. The grading programme was pioneered in SA and has been adopted by many other safety associations throughout the world.

Nosa has set out three clearly defined steps for the implementation of the grading scheme. Firstly management is set safety objectives to strive for.

Nosa then carry out audits to quantify how far the objectives have been met, and then, according to the results found, recognition is given to the company in the form of stars — one for a weak programme, five for an excellent one.

It has been proven over the years that

## Nosa to help in the home

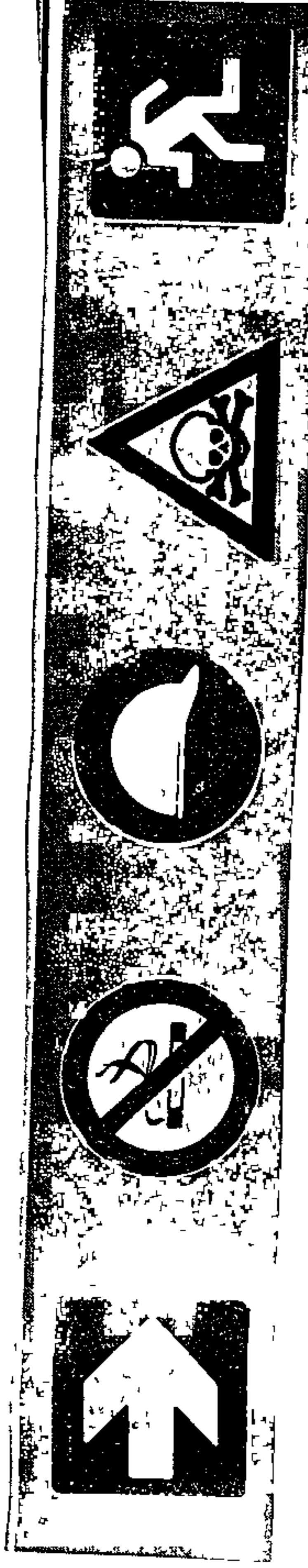
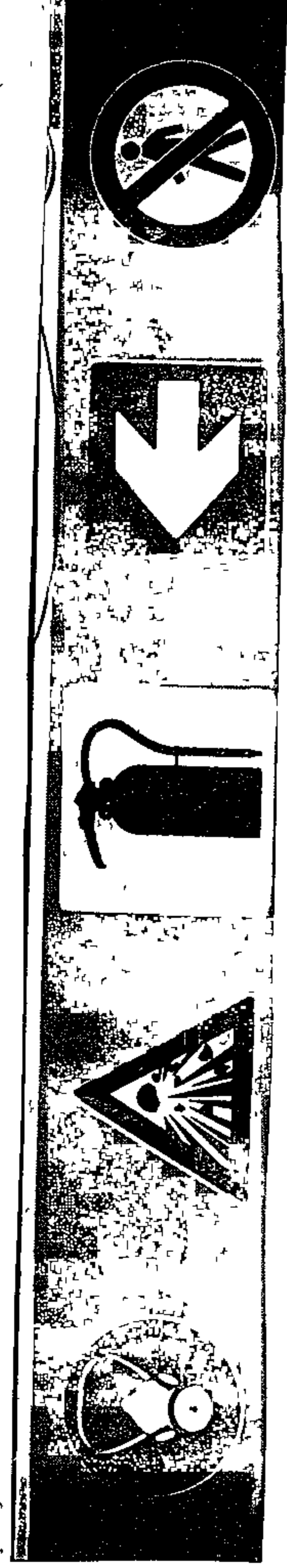
FOR 30 years Nosa has been striving to combat injuries in industry, at the last count there were approximately 350 000 people a year who required medical attention, yet over 1 million similar accidents occur in the home and until recently little effort has been made to alleviate this problem.

Kai Wainzheim, assistant editor at Nosa, tells Industrial Week "In order to reduce this tremendous number of accidents Nosa has just incorporated off-the-job safety into its Five Star Safety programme."

Such injuries are today costing companies between 500 and 800 man days a year. At a time when SA is suffering from a chronic shortage of skilled manpower it can ill afford to neglect this area of safety prevention.

Colin Murdock, MD of Mobil Refining industry states "In the last three years and eight months we have not had a disabling injury, yet during the same period our employees suffering 263 disabling injuries off-the-job, including 4 fatalities.

On the last day of the convention Colin Murdock will give a talk on off-the-job safety



9 March 1982

9 March 1982

131

# NOSHCON-'82

## Santa aids the sick

IT IS estimated that one in every hundred Black workers is at risk from Tuberculosis.

Adele le Roux of the South African National Tuberculosis Association (Santa), Johannesburg, says "To combat the pro-

blem of TB, Santa is increasing its health education and inaugurating a contributory unemployment fund to aid sufferers and their families."

In order to emphasise the importance

role the industrialist can play in combating the disease Nosa has invited Prof Erik Glatthaar, head of community health for the Medical University of Southern Africa (Medunsa) to give a talk at on the last day of the conference.

Ted Wire, John Deere US will be giving a talk on management by objectives.



Jim Findlay, executive vice-president and general manager of IAPA, Canada, has been invited by Nosa to examine occupational health and safety facilities in SA.

He will be presenting this year's Nosa awards and will give a talk on the comparisons between Nosa and its Canadian counterpart Iapa.

## Cost of experience

Simon Cashmore looks into safety in the chemical industry.

THE recent explosions at Modderfontein and Fedmis highlighted the importance of safety control in the chemical industry.

A naturally hazardous industry, it has had strict safety measures implemented over many years. Yet what is disturbing is the unit at Fedmis had been checked and passed safe in April.

Clearly existing safety procedures

must be investigated and improved. One hypothesis is the container wall of the drier at Fedmis cracked due to a chemical attack by the ammonia in conjunction with other intermediates in the process.

We shall have to wait until the respective investigative teams have finished their reports to see what we can learn from these tragedies.

On the opening day of the Noshcon convention, Viv Olvir, chief engineer at AECI Modderfontein

will give an audio visual presentation on section C72a of the factories act.

The next day Barry Burger, senior education officer (Nosa) will present the results of a chemical audit conducted by Trevor Kietz, a top chemical safety consultant from the UK.

Kietz, in SA from April 12 to May 14, will visit Sasol 1, 2 and 3, AECI, Somerset West and Caltex Oil, Cape Town.

He will pay special attention to control of plant and process modifications.

Twice as many people die from accidents in the home than at work, according to a Nosa report.

# Treading too lightly

By John van der Meer

~~126~~ 131  
Industrial week  
9/3/82

**WITH the current tyre shortage reaching grave proportions, many fleet managers are taking dangerous and illegal steps to combat this.**

According to Mr Alex Hawes, chairman of the National Retreaders and Tyre Dealers' Association, truck owners are allowing their vehicles to run on tyres with a minimum tread — or no tread at all — in an attempt to overcome the present shortage

"With this irresponsible practice safety factors are reaching dangerous levels

"Tyres are being used longer than is safe and it is up to the operator to ensure that sufficient stocks are kept to avoid danger point," Mr Hawes said

## Inventories

Unfortunately, there is not sufficient law enforcement to keep regular checks on tyre wear due to the manpower shortage in the provincial and municipal traffic departments

Mr Hawes, who is also MD of Quality tyres, said normal inventories of tyre stocks were down to one third of a month while normal stocks should be of two months' duration

He said that dealers had been "just managing" since October last year Tyres were no longer an off-the-shelf item

"Dealers have been avoiding panic buying and have been very sensible about this by limiting the number of tyres per customer"

While being interviewed Mr Hawes was faced with what is now a "daily occurrence"

## Stuck

A customer's vehicle was stuck in Durban without a tyre desperately needed for the haul back to the Reef

"We managed to find a tyre for him from another branch in Durban however and the matter was quickly resolved But this is a typical situation in which we find ourselves

## Light

However there is light ahead Mr Hawes predicted a slight downturn in the country's economy towards the latter half of this year but it would not be until the end of the year when dealers would once again be "really stocked up"

Coupled with that, the last two years had seen tremendous growth in the tyre manufacturing companies and the country would soon see a new generation in the tyre industry

# Bricks kill sangoma

(131) Sowetan 10/3/92

A witchdoctor was killed and four other people seriously injured when they were pinned down by bricks and concrete from a crumbling bus shelter being demolished by workmen on Monday night.

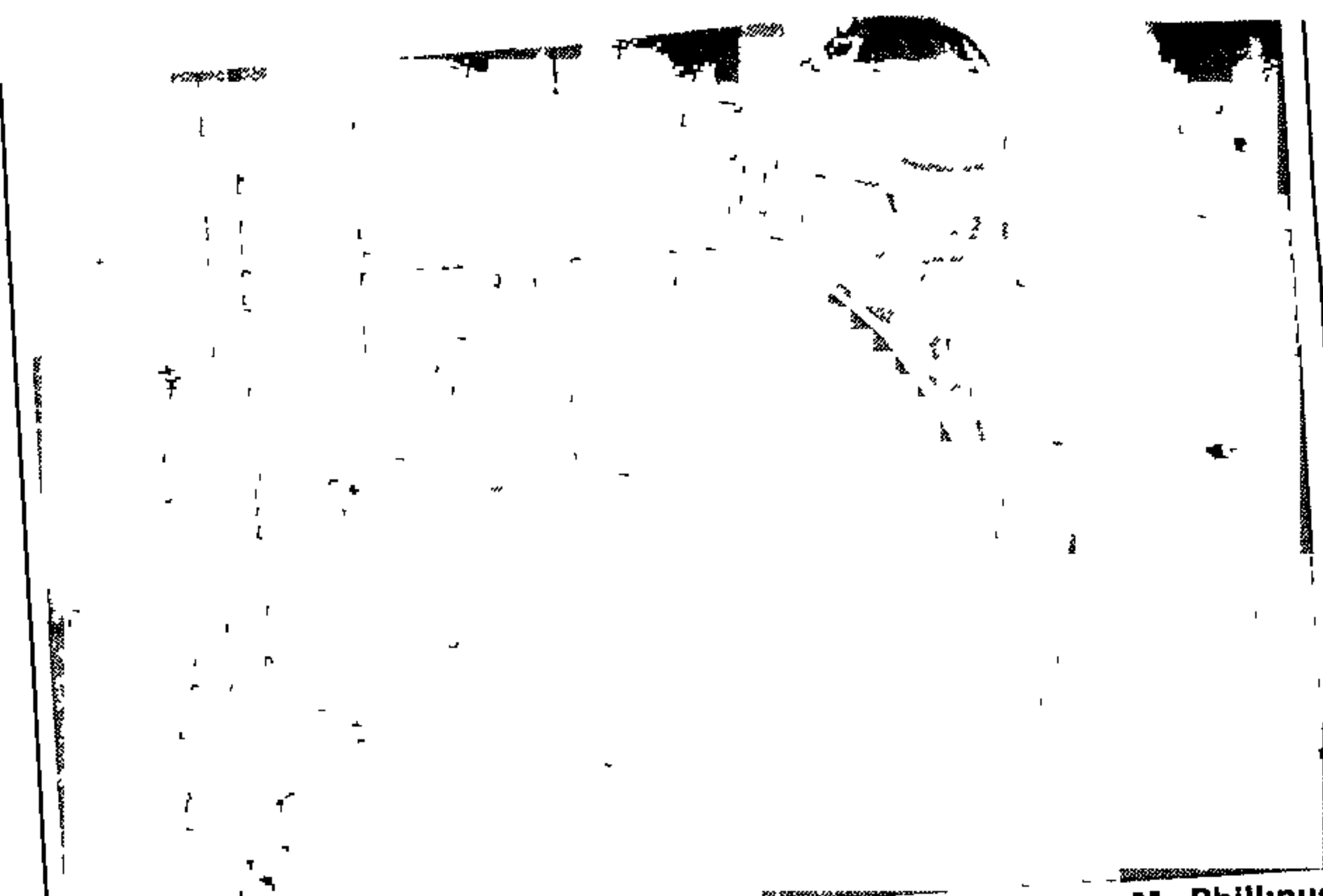
The five people were sleeping in the brick and concrete shelter on the corner of Boom and 11th Streets, Marabastad, in Pretoria when workmen unaware of the sleeping people began demolishing the dilapidated structure.

The witchdoctor, known only as Maletswale, of Marabastad, died on the spot and the four others were rushed to the Kalafong Hospital in Atteridgeville with serious injuries.

Horror-stricken workmen struggled to free the body of the dead woman and the injured after realising what had happened. The fire brigade and ambulancemen were on the scene within minutes, but it took some time to free the body of the dead woman from the rubble.

Mr Jeremia Sithole, one of the men who managed to escape, said he had sustained head injuries but could not say whether he was hit by a brick or had fallen in his hurry to escape falling pillars and bricks.

He said he was woken up by roaring engines and rattling chains. "The next moment the brick wall started cracking. I am not a coward, but I realised I had to run for my life," he said.



**DEATH BEND ACCUSED** . Mr Simon Nkosi and his employer, Mr Phillipus Lodewicus Breytenbach, at the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday

Picture NATALIE GOLDSMITH

131 RDM 10/3/82

# Driver tells Death Bend trial of narrow escape

## Mall Reporter

A MOTORIST told a Johannesburg Regional Court magistrate yesterday how he escaped death by a hair's-breadth the day a runaway horse and trailer carved a blazing trail of carnage on the Louis Botha Avenue "Death Bend"

Five people died as a result of the incident on September 22 last year

Yesterday the driver of the horse and trailer, Mr Simon Nkosi, 26, and its owner, Mr Phillipus Lodewicus Breytenbach, 42, of Breytenbach Transport, Springs, appeared before Mr T J le Grange on five charges of culpable homicide

They pleaded not guilty to all charges

Those who died were Mrs Shirley Valarie Flax, 45, Miss

Barbara Jill Flax, 18, Mrs Agnes Khumalo and her grandson, Sibongile Khumalo, 7, and Mrs Ann Zondo, 31

Mr Harry Mirels told the court he was sitting in his parked car when he heard a scraping sound

The car had been brushed by the trailer-truck as it passed at about 60km/h

The wing mirror of his car was knocked off He was not injured

He said the horse and trailer then rammed the rear of a car which had stopped, passed through a red light, mounted the pavement and hit a shop

Police Sergeant Daniel Hewitt said he was on patrol when he saw smoke coming from a building

He found the shop and

truck on fire

He spoke to Mr Nkosi, who appeared to be shocked He said he did not know what had happened before the accident occurred

An official of the SA Bureau of Standards, Mr Bruce Charlton, who gave evidence on Monday, was recalled by the State yesterday

He said he examined the truck and found it was partly damaged by fire

He said it was overloaded with bricks and the heavy load could have had a serious effect on the truck's braking system, which was not properly maintained

Mr Charlton said the truck could have been travelling at between 110km/h and 115km/h when it struck the shop

The trial was adjourned to May 26



**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN  
EXAMINATION ANSWER BOOK**

**Blast claims  
another three**

131

11/3/82 By MZIKAYISE EDOM *Sowetan*

THREE more people died this week from injuries suffered in last week's explosion at a plastics factory near Kempton Park, bringing the toll of fatalities to 10.

Six people were killed and about 100 injured in the explosion. A seventh victim died on Friday and the other three on Tuesday evening at the Kalafong Hospital.

Those who died on Tuesday are Mr Elliot Maphanga, Mr Lenos Ngobesa and Mr Herbert Simanga.

A spokesman for SA Druggists, which owns the factory, said yesterday the conditions of the three people still in Kalafong are still serious and that of the 16 who are still at Tembisa hospital, most are improving, with only two still on the danger list.

He also said the company will pay all funeral expenses for the 10 people and would organise buses to transport factory workers to the different townships where the 10 victims will be buried.

The factory, which



**INFERNO: Workers leaving the factory area while smoke pours from the blaze last week.**

employs workers from Pretoria, Tembisa, Vosloorus and Soweto was gutted by the fire after the explosion.

Some of the workers were inside the factory at the time while others were in the canteen having lunch when the blast

rocked the plant and flames shot up. In the confusion, some people were trampled in the stampede.

The spokesman said they were still working on plans to open new operations at different places.

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question asked (in the order in which it has answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

Internal	External
(2)	(3)
40	

**NOTE CAREFULLY**

- Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
- Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
- Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
- Do not write in the left hand margin.

**WARNING**

- No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
- Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
- No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
- All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

**Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University**

CRIME TIMES 15/3/82  
**Factory security man shot**

**Crime Reporter**

POLICE are investigating a possible murder charge after a Philippi factory security guard was killed early yesterday after a suspicious colleague fired a shot from his 12-bore shotgun.

A police spokesman said Mr Gideon Knight, 26, of Marais Street, Parow, died of serious injuries inflicted by a shotgun blast.

A security guard at the same firm told police he was on duty at 1.55am when he heard a "suspicious noise" in nearby bushes. He approached the spot and shone his flashlight on a man who was standing there.

**Challenged**

The security guard challenged the man and asked him to identify himself but received no reply although the suspected intruder remained where he was.

The security guard then fired a shot from his 12-bore shotgun in the man's direction and hurried back to his superior officer to report what had happened.

The police spokesman said they returned to the spot from where the shot was fired and later found their colleague, Mr Knight, lying on the ground about 170 metres away and bleeding heavily from a gunshot wound.

An ambulance was called and the injured security guard was carried back to the main building where he died shortly afterwards.

The police spokesman said a murder docket had been opened but no arrests had yet been made.

# Cable burns

## electrician

RPM 12/3/82 (131)  
Mail Reporter

A KEMPTON Park electrician, Mr Johan Oberholzer, 29, is recovering in hospital after being burnt by a flash from an 11 000-volt powerline

Mr Oberholzer, a Kempton Park municipality employee, was working on a high tension cable at Chloorkop when the flash occurred, burning his face, neck and arms

A hospital spokesman said his condition was "fair"



UNI  
EXA

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, MARCH 14, 1982

All answer books

Number of book

Number of this

Surname

First Name(s)

Date

22

Degree/Diploma  
you are registered

Subject  
(to be copied)

Paper No  
(to be copied)



Ambulancemen carry the body of the crushed man from the hotel yesterday afternoon

# MAN DIES AS HOTEL CEILING CRASHES DOWN

*g-Tribune*  
*14/3/82*  
**131**

A CONSTRUCTION worker was crushed to death when a reinforced concrete ceiling in the Cumberland Hotel on Durban's Marine Parade collapsed yesterday afternoon.

The man, whose name is being withheld until his next-of-kin have been informed, was working on demolitions in a room above the once popular Jolly Roger ladies' bar when the ceiling crashed down

Two other workers were "slightly" injured. Jaws-of-life and an eight-ton jack were used to prise the dead man from under the rubble

The hotel is undergoing a R2,5-million redevelopment which will transform it into a block of beachfront flats

The building was sold to Knowler and Bolt Developments (Pty) Limited towards the end of last year and builders, Hulsén, Morgan and Verbaan, were awarded the redevelopment contract.

Although the cause of the collapse is not known at this stage, it is understood the accident will be investigated by the Industrial Council.

A spokesman for the contractors at the site yesterday declined to comment on the accident.

### NOTE CAREFULLY

- 1 Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering
- 2 Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used
- 3 Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used
- 4 Do not write in the left hand margin

### WARNING

- 1 No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed
- 2 Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator
- 3 No part of an answer book is to be torn out
- 4 All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination

**Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University**



# 4 hurt in bus fire

17/3/82

131  
Gone for

FOUR students were injured when a Thari Transport bus they were travelling in suddenly caught fire at Krokodilkraal, near Brits on Monday afternoon.

About sixty students from Ramadikela Secondary School were on their way home when the accident happened at 4.15 pm

Two students who escaped injury A B Mosepe and Louisa Moutakwe said they were sitting at the back of the bus when they suddenly heard screams and saw the bus on fire

In the stampede that followed three students lost consciousness. Four other students were injured and rushed to the Garankuwa Hospital while other terror-stricken students fought their way out of the bus

According to Louisa, the fire was eventually brought under control by the bus driver

Mr Joel Mogase traffic superintendent at Thari Transport yesterday said he knew nothing about the accident

Meanwhile the Garankuwa Hospital yesterday confirmed the admittance of one passenger injured in the accident

# Injured man fired

131  
Served 19/3/82

WHEN a former employee of Nampak Corrugated Containers Company in Wadeville went to collect the remainder of his compensation money for injuries sustained in company time, he was told he was no longer entitled to the money.

Mr Steven M Johannes was awarded R2130 compensation after an accident on August 7, 1980, when a company machine split his hand lengthwise.

According to Mr Johannes, his salary decreased after the accident, his employer objected to his frequent absences from work for medical treatment and he was accused of being drunk at the time of the

accident and of sleeping on his job.

Finally, Mr Johannes claims, he was called into an office where he was questioned. 'I tried to explain my problems but was told to only answer 'yes' or 'no'.

He was told he had been sacked because he used to clock his card on Saturdays even if he was not

He was given a form to fill in and sign. 'I wanted to read the forms first but a man told me not to I refused and that was the end,' said Mr Johannes.

Personnel manager at Nampak Mr H Rundell could not confirm the reasons for Mr Johannes's expulsion but said Mr Johannes could fetch

the money still owed to him.

But when Mr Johannes went to claim his money, he was told the money no longer belonged to him.

# Bus shelter was home

By NORMAN NGALE

131  
Sowetan  
19/3/82

ONE of the surviving victims of the Marabastad bus shelter tragedy told The SOWETAN from her hospital bed that she would not have anywhere to go to after she is discharged from hospital.

Mrs Anna Hendrikse (60), a widow and Mr Peter Johnson (44) were injured last week when a bus shelter in Boom Street — their home for the last two years — collapsed on them.

Mrs Violet Letswalo (68) died instantly after she was hit by concrete roofing of the shelter which had been partially demolished by Pretoria City Council workers.

A police spokesman said yesterday that after the workers had demolished the public toilet attached to the shelter the remaining structure remained unsteady and that last Monday night the remaining brick and concrete walls collapsed on people inside.

Mrs Hendrikse, who sustained a fractured pelvis and injuries to her chest, said she had stayed at the bus shelter for more than a year as she had no relatives to stay with.

Building worker

AR 6015 19/3/82

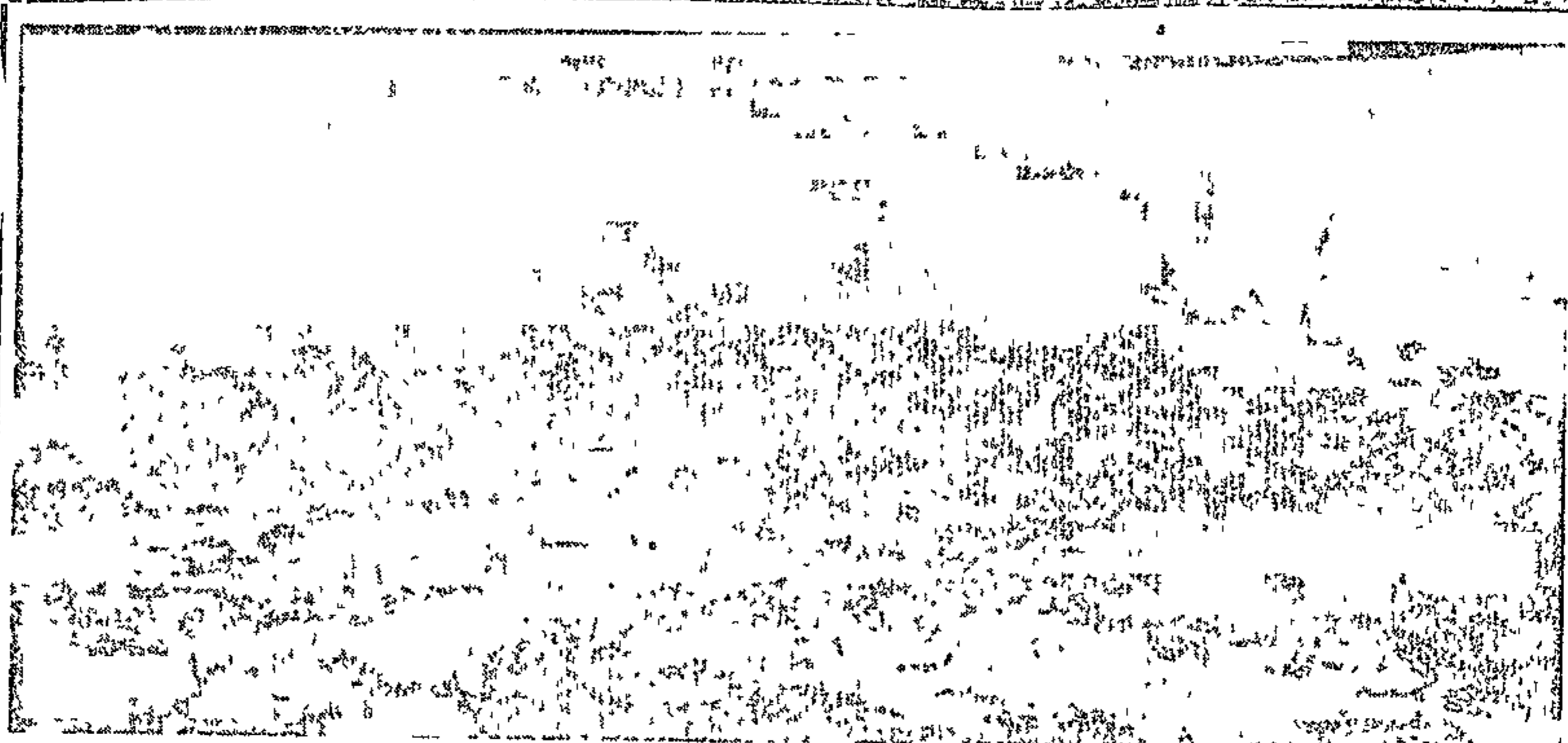
(131)

falls 16 m to death

A BUILDING worker was next of kin have been killed today when he fell notified He was in his 16 m from a construction site scaffolding at the thirties

University of the Western Cape The accident occurred at building extensions to

The dead man's name the Department of Human Ecology at UWC is being withheld till his



Solid waste containing asbestos next to one of Everite's settling basins at its factory in East London

# EL factory acts to clear asbestos waste

18/3/82

D. Dispatch

131

121

EAST LONDON — A factory which produces asbestos cement products is taking steps to clear waste containing asbestos from land in the vicinity of the company's waste ponds

Mr Archie Norval, the local manager of Everite, said he did not believe the waste had overflowed from the company's ponds or that it was a hazard, because it was rock hard and unlikely to be blown about like dust

He said, however, that

the company was acting immediately to clear the strip of waste which had been there "for a very long time"

Mr Norval said one of the ponds had overflowed this week because of the rain but this water had been clear of asbestos fibres. He said a pipe had been blocked last week and water containing asbestos had flowed across the street between the factory and the ponds but this had constituted no danger

A Cape Town doctor

and expert on asbestos and asbestos-related diseases, Dr Neil White, who investigated the site earlier this year, described it as a "health hazard"

The Everite ponds are situated on top of a steep incline and Dr White said he had found traces of asbestos in a stream at the bottom

A squatter family live on the other side of the valley and there does not appear to be any other source of running water nearby

Dr White said asbestos fibres were lethal and led to diseases such as asbestosis, mesothelioma and lung cancer, though these were normally contracted as a result of inhaling fibres in the atmosphere

He said, though, that asbestos fibres could be just as dangerous if they got into drinking water. He said cancer could result from quite small quantities of asbestos

Mr Norval, however, said he did not believe there was any danger of fibres getting into the

stream

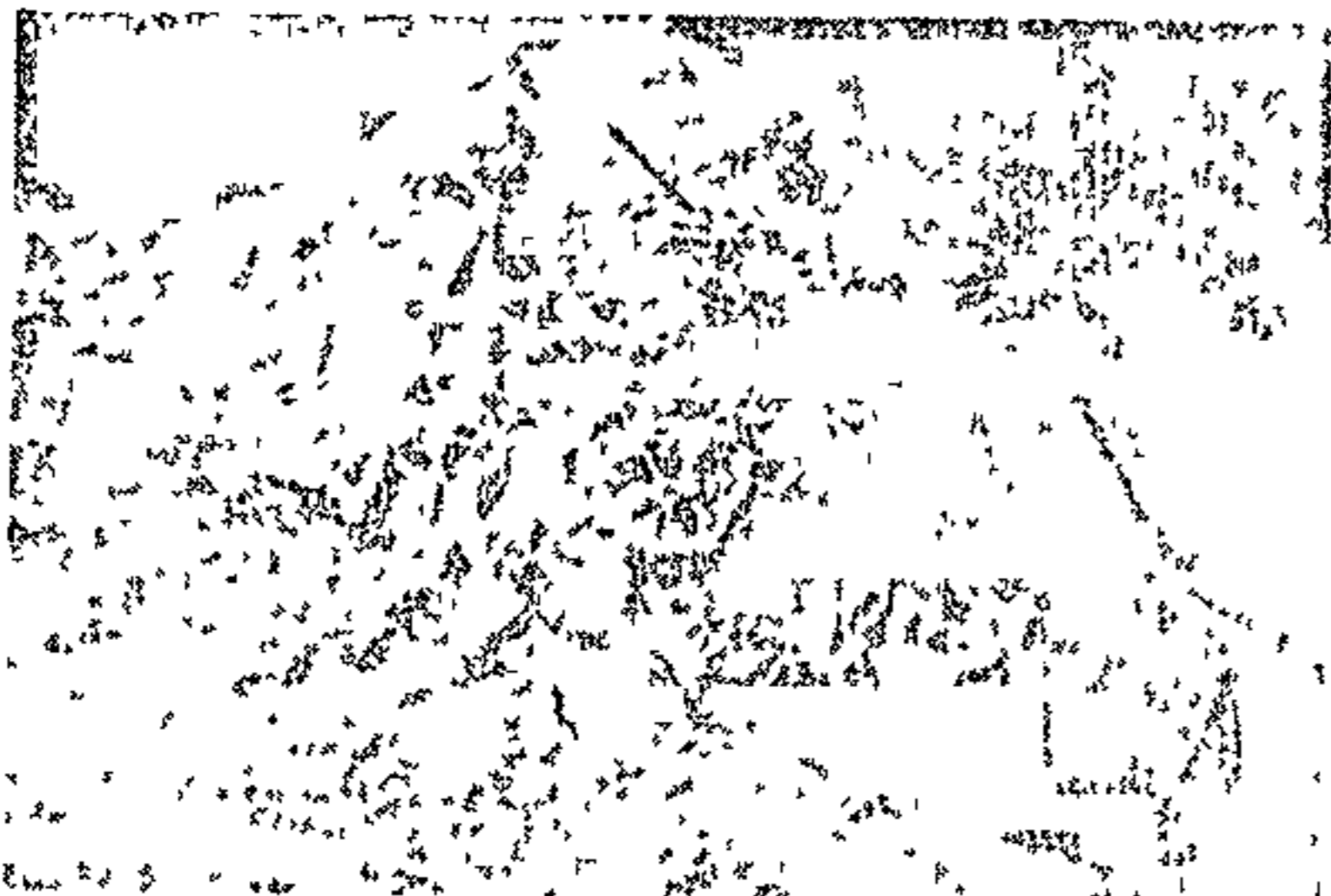
A spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs said the stream flowed into the Buffalo River

A Daily Dispatch reporter found a large belt of dried sludge, which had seemingly come from the ponds, sloping down the hill towards the stream. Because of the impenetrable bush it was impossible to tell whether the band, went right down to the edge of the stream

Mr Norval said the water overflowing from the ponds was "crystal clear". He said the ponds were settling basins and that any solids in the water would be removed

"While the water which overflowed this week was clean we have noticed an area of hard waste. Unless someone disturbs this there is little chance that the fibres will be loosened, even in heavy rain

Mr Norval denied that the waste had come from the ponds — DDR



A chunk of waste containing asbestos fibres which was pulled from the earth next to Everite's settling basins

# Boiling tar horror for driver

ARGUS  
23/3/82

(131)

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Firemen today struggled for more than two hours to free a truck driver from boiling tar after a road accident on the bridge over the Klip River on the Vereeniging road.

The driver was catapulted into the river with tons of boiling tar after the truck hit the side of the bridge about 6 am today.

Another man travelling in the truck was thrown on to the road on impact and was also covered in boiling tar.

He was taken to hospital with 100 percent burns.

## CRANE

When the driver was finally lifted from the river with the help of a crane he was covered with a thick layer of tar but still breathing.

A doctor at the scene said his chances of survival were 'minimal'.

A fire brigade officer said the man was entangled in the river vegetation which had become thick with the tar.

## ROPES CUT

'The tar was boiling at 150 degrees and the weight kept pushing him down. While we were trying to get him out we managed to keep his nose out of the water and the tar,' he said.

After the man had been lifted up on to the road firemen had to cut the ropes used to lift him as the tar made it impossible to untie them.

The doctor had to clear the driver's face of tar before he could insert a tube into his mouth to improve his breathing.



COVERED in tar, a truck driver is lifted on to a bridge over the Klip River, on the road between Vereeniging and Alberton, after a two-hour battle to free him.

# 2, sees young gunned down

slumped to the floor with several bullet wounds in the head. She died soon after.

Her shocked daughter Maritzsa and her grandmother, Mrs Sus van der Merwe ran screaming from the house as did other members of the family.

The couple had met more than a year ago and had been known to argue often.

Police said yesterday that Miss van der Merwe was preparing to return to Newcastle when the man arrived at the house.

A spokesman said a young man was being held for questioning and was expected to appear in court soon.

## crack of dawn



"They've revived the twist — the South African variety they call the 'broedertwis'."

**Tributes flow in for shy DJ the DJ, page 2**

CAPE TIMES 23/3/82  
**Seaman killed as ship docks**

A MEMBER of the crew of the cargo ship Greenville was killed last night when a rope struck him in the face as the vessel was docking.

The rope which was being used to tie up the Greenville came loose and struck the man as he was peering over the side of the ship.

A spokesman at the Port Captain's office said the man had died almost instantly. He was taken to Woodstock Hospital where he was certified dead on arrival.

### BUSINESS BRIEF

Gold (close)	\$321,25
FT index (close)	558,1
RDM 100	576,9



## Watchdog reports

WHEN was the last time you counted the number of matches in a box? Would you know a retread tyre from any other kind of tyre? Are you having problems applying your baby powder in the morning? What should be the price of soda water? Read WATCHDOG on page 9.

Columbia the only manned vehicle to fly in space more than once

**Minor hitch**

Apart from the AP problem, the launch in early stages of the mission went according to plan though the take-off was delayed for about an hour because of a minor hitch in some ground equipment.

A temperature-measuring device in a nitrogen heater on the launch pad was giving false readings and had to be bypassed for the computerized countdown to continue.

**Most prompt**

The bypass procedure took about an hour and Columbia blasted off minutes late — its most prompt departure to date. Its maiden voyage in April 1981 was delayed two days by a last-minute computer problem.

<b>INSIDE TV</b> . . . . .	<b>2 Weather</b> . . . . .	<b>20 Aircraft</b>	<b>20 Court Roll</b>	<b>20 Radio</b>	<b>20 The Facts</b> correction service
<b>Focus</b> . . . . .	<b>6 / Classified</b> 13-14	<b>Burger</b>	<b>5 Crossword</b>	<b>8 Small</b> 13-19	<b>41-3361 (Mon to Fri)</b>
<b>Emergency</b> ☎	<b>20 Look at today</b> 20	<b>10-17</b>	<b>6 Parliament</b>	<b>8 Sport</b> 20-22	<b>Cape Times, Box 11,</b>
		<b>Cinema</b>	<b>6 Parliament</b>	<b>20 Transport</b> 20	<b>Cape Town</b>
		<b>Comics</b>	<b>14 Rarities</b>	<b>4 Women's</b> 7	<b>(Registered at the GPO</b>
				<b>21 World Report</b> 4	<b>as a newspaper)</b>

gramme  
 The TV  
 of the  
 game  
 rully  
 frustrat  
 both ga  
 only the  
 20 minut  
 make the  
 couldn't  
 limited vi  
 We are  
 badly edi  
 the TV2  
 Birming  
 Watford  
 between  
 THE Br  
 TV  
 ROS-

It is understood that Ms  
 comment yesterday  
 was not available for  
 the Guardian newspaper,  
 ment and columnist for  
 ens' liberation move-  
 campaigner for the wom-  
 Ms Tweedie, a vigorous  
 Kitson party  
 from accompanying the  
 umnist, Ms Jill Tweedie,  
 vated newspaper col-  
 Last minute hitches pre-  
**Media coverage**  
 friend of the family  
 Mrs Hazel Selbourne, a  
 Southern Africa, and  
 Party's spokesman on  
 ton-Davis, the Labour  
 med by Mr Stanley Clin-  
 amanda will be accompa-  
 to return to Britain.  
 father but later allowed  
 Police after visiting his  
 tained by Security de-  
 Kitson, recently de-  
 She is the sister of Steve  
 morning to visit her fa-  
 Johannesburg this  
 wake up  
 furthering the aims of  
 trial for sabotage and  
 shoddy  
 All in a  
 is serving a 20-year sen-  
 ter of David Kitson, who  
 about  
 women  
 appropriate  
 The  
 ground  
 and its  
 was por  
 with gho  
 ably be  
 municip

# 'Hijack' trial told of odd landing

Mr De Villiers also said the split in the National Party appeared to mean the parting of company between those who were firmly committed to the approach of realism and those who overtly or covertly, still

Mr De Villiers also said the split in the National Party appeared to mean the parting of company between those who were firmly committed to the approach of realism and those who overtly or covertly, still

Mr De Villiers also said the split in the National Party appeared to mean the parting of company between those who were firmly committed to the approach of realism and those who overtly or covertly, still

# Motlana: Change unlikely

The Progressive Federal Party yesterday strongly supported the statement by the managing director of Nationale Pers, Mr David de Villiers, that there was a growing consensus that the master plan of apartheid had failed.

Mr De Villiers said fundamental structural reform was required over the whole spectrum of political, economic and social life in South Africa.

The chairman of the PFP's federal executive, Dr Alex Boraine, MP for Pinelands, said Mr De Villiers' call was "highly significant and is strongly endorsed and supported by the PFP".

The body of Marlene third arrest  
 ere was a possibility of  
 he weekend and that  
 had been held over  
 pokesman said the two  
 A Worcester police  
 y was found a week  
 Worcester girl whose  
 murder of a 10-year-  
 ted in connection with  
 WO men have been ar-  
 Crime Reporter

as found in a canal in  
 river man whose body  
 death of a young Dip  
 YSTERY surrounds the  
**mystery death**  
 March 10  
 eared from her home  
 The young girl had dis-  
 ere wounds to her head  
 he only visible injuries  
 bout 5km from her home  
 road to Villiersdorp  
 some bushes near the  
 room was found in  
 The body of Marlene  
 by the PFP"  
 endorsed and supported  
 he said  
 tory laws and practices,"  
 concerning discrimina-  
 grievances on their part  
 removing legitimate  
 PFP's federal executive,  
 Dr Alex Boraine, MP for  
 Pinelands, said Mr De  
 Villiers' call was "highly  
 significant and is strongly  
 endorsed and supported  
 by the PFP".  
 The body of Marlene  
 room was found in  
 road to Villiersdorp  
 about 5km from her home  
 he only visible injuries  
 ere wounds to her head  
 The young girl had dis-  
 eared from her home  
 March 10  
**mystery death**  
 Crime Reporter

**Boland**  
**Killing:**  
**TWO**  
**held**

# Farmer not guilty of barring health visit

D. Dispatch 24/3/82

(131)

EAST LONDON — A proprietor of the Bonarcord Poultry Farm at Triple Streams was found not guilty yesterday of refusing to allow a health inspector to inspect the farm

Mr S D B Ryan, 25, of McJannet Drive, Baysville, pleaded not guilty when he appeared before Mr A Nell in the Magistrate's court

A senior health inspector of the Divisional Council of Kaffraria, Mr Walter Kenneth Paul Smith, said he and another inspector, Mr J Turner, went to the farm to do a routine inspection

He told Mr Ryan it was

their intention to inspect the poultry farm Mr Ryan told them they could not, because they had not made an appointment

"I then explained to him that, according to the Public Health Act, it was not necessary to make an appointment

"I also told him it was an offence to refuse access to a health inspector during the execution of his duties Mr Ryan told us to go ahead and prosecute him if we wished to do so," said Mr Smith

They then left the premises

Under cross-examination by Mr J,

Oosthuizen, for Mr Ryan, Mr Smith admitted he did not produce and show Mr Ryan his identity card because he thought Mr Ryan knew him

Immediately after the State closed its case, Mr Oosthuizen applied for Mr Ryan's discharge

In his judgment, Mr Nell referred to a subsection of the Health Act which required an inspector to show his appointment card

Mr Nell found that Mr Smith did not produce this document to Mr Ryan As a result of this serious discrepancy in the State case, Mr Ryan was entitled to a discharge, he said



# Call to stop lump sum compensation

## Work linked diseases to rise?

CAPE TOWN—The incidence of occupational disease in South Africa was expected to rise, the Nieuwenhuizen Commission has found

In its report, which was tabled in Parliament yesterday, the commission said the expectation of the rise of occupational disease "is founded particularly on the increasing importance of chemical substances in the manufacturing industry and the fact that minerals are now being more fully processed domestically

"There is also evidence, however, that there is no cause for concern, particularly in the bigger industries, where most of the country's workers are concentrated

"The favourable remarks on the general health of the country's labour force as regards occupational diseases do not mean that the preventive measures being taken are sufficient or can be relaxed in any way"

The commission said although occupational diseases were connected mainly with the mining industry, "medical practitioners are agreed that conditions in industry are becoming increasingly conducive to pneumoconiosis, tuberculosis and the various forms of obstructive airways disease"

The commission was told in evidence that 90 per cent of all occupational diseases were mineral-related conditions. — PC

From BARRY STREEK

CAPE TOWN — A call for a single law to cover the payment of compensation to workers for occupational diseases was made yesterday by the Nieuwenhuizen Commission

The commission, whose report was tabled in Parliament yesterday, also called for the abolition of lump sum payments to workers as compensation for occupationally-caused disease

A large number of the commission's recommendations were opposed by the Secretary-General of the Mineworkers Union, Mr Arrie Paulus, who was a member.

In a minority report,

Mr Paulus said it had been found every year that more than 50 per cent of workmen "examined post-mortem were suffering from an occupational disease"

However, with all the equipment at the disposal of the medical bureau which inquires into occupational disease "it is not possible to establish beyond doubt during a workman's life whether he is suffering from a compensatable disease

"The mineworker would be done a great injustice if workmen were to be certified only if the occupational disease had been a factor contributing to their death."

Mr Paulus said

In the majority report, the commission said it was of the opinion that South Africa could no longer afford a dualistic system of compensation for occupational diseases "based on population, group and colour"

It said that uniform compensation could be achieved in South Africa if the title and provisions of the Compensation Act were extended

The commission, which was chaired by Professor P. J. Nieuwenhuizen, proposed that the Workmen's Compensation Act should be extended to incorporate the provisions of occupational diseases in the Mines and Works Act

The new consolidated law should be called the Accidents and Occupational Diseases Act and should be administered by the Department of Manpower

The commission felt the payment of pensions, instead of lump sum payments in compensation for occupational diseases offered the workman and his dependants advantages

Mr Paulus, however, disagreed with the commission on this point

The commission said the present state of affairs regarding the payment of compensation under the Occupational Diseases Act was not satisfactory and the present payments made to underground miners were not sufficient



...d... dered me to get out of the way which I did He then

The warder said Mr Brede mann took his pistol, aimed it

charges of escaping possession of a firearm and ammu

ing "After we had tea she told my fortune "She said my daughter had been murdered and her body would be found in the boot of a car lying at the bottom of the Boksburg Lake She also said two men could be responsible" Mrs Adolph told the court she was a professional fortune teller She read tea leaves and could "prophesy certain things"

CAPE TOWN — A labourer miraculously escaped death yesterday when he was buried for 90 minutes under 20 tons of coke at a Woodstock gas plant

Mr Wilson Zonke slipped while working on an overhead gear and fell into a bucket-shaped steel hopper

As he lay stunned at the bottom tons of black coke were loaded on top of him

Some employees dug frantically while others, assisted by the Cape Town fire brigade and an emergency service rescue

unit used oxy-acetylene torches to cut a hole in the wall near the base of the hopper

A fire brigade spokesman said Mr Zonke probably owed his life to the fact that his helmet slipped over his face and prevented him from being smothered

Fellow-employees reached Mr Zonke after 1 1/2 hours and dragged him out from under the coke through the hole in the wall

He was taken to a nearby hospital where his condition was described as "satisfactory under the circumstances" — Sapa

POLITIC... comment in this issue by Rev... Giblin in the... news... to Bern... Wessell... and sub editing by... Chris Smith... 171 Main Street... Johannesburg

over 36 months leading brands — keep up to date

price!

AFRICAN MARKET AND Reliable Service

der until JR QUOTE!

WELCOME

no

ser

rec

ay

FOR FREE QUOTES & PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

648-9182/3

or

648-9193/4

For satisfaction please try ALL numbers

After hours Terry Cohen 648 1528 Danny Vorster 648-2244

ASE RECOMMENDATIONS PROVE IT — WRITTEN GUARANTEES ARE YOUR

DAY OR NIGHT WITH OUR FULL RANGE OF SAMPLES

Y TO RELY ON US VISIT OR PHONE CALL

ER BEFORE WE YOU SEEN SO NY CARPETS ON DISPLAY

N TILL LATE & ON SATURDAYS

E PARKING BEHIND WROOM IN MULLER STREET



HOW TO WIN

Gilbey's Punter's Friend computer has been programmed to assess the relative abilities of 20 race horses from amongst the best currently in training and the best from the past decade or so This will be in the format of the popular Gilbey's Punter's Friend printout which appears twice a week in the Rand Daily Mail and will be scheduled to "run" at Turffontein Race Course over 2 000m on Saturday, May 1, 1982. Readers are invited to enter the

competition (details of which will appear extensively in the Rand Daily Mail) to predict the first four horses past the post in the correct order, to predict the winning time and the winning distance between the first and second horses.

Commentary of the "race" will be by Peter Duffield and relayed live at Turffontein and over Channel 702 The time of the "race" will be published in the race card and the Rand Daily Mail

ARLINGTON MILLION ENTRY FORM

NAME ADDRESS

PHONE



HORSE NUMBERS AS PUBLISHED IN THE RAND DAILY MAIL

Table with columns for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th place, Winner's Time, Distance between 1st & 2nd, Minutes, Seconds, Lengths, Fraction.

SPONSORS South African Airways, Gilbey's Zambia Airways, Holiday Inns, Channel 702 South African Railways

Win a trip to Arlington Park USA

to watch the world's richest thoroughbred race



1st PRIZE Two first class return tickets on South African Airways to Chicago, USA Ten days free accomodation for two at Rolling Hills Holiday Inn, Chicago, and R4 000 pocket money

2nd PRIZE Two return tickets on Zambia Airways to Cyprus with 7 days free accomodation for two and R1 000 pocket money

3rd PRIZE A weekend on South African Railways Drakensberg Express to the Durban July for two

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF HORSES

- 1 BOLD TROPIC 11 JAVA HEAD
2 CARADOC 12 MAZARIN
3 COLORADO KING 13 MILESIA PRIDE
4 ELEVATION 14 MOWGLI
5 FOVERUS 15 OVER THE AIR
6 FURIOUS 16 POLITICIAN
7 GATECRASHER 17 SEA COTTAGE
8 HAWAII 18 SLEDGEHAMMER
9 IN FULL FLIGHT 19 TIGER FISH
10 JAVA 20 YATAGHAN

RULES

- 1 No employees of SAAN or Time-form and their families are eligible for entry
2 Entries must be pasted on postcards
3 Facsimiles must be hand drawn and include borders
4 Photostat copies will be disqualified
5 There is no entry fee and no limit to the number of entries a person may send in The competition is open to all readers of the Mail
6 Entries must be sent to RDM Arlington Million PO Box 1485 Johannesburg 2000 Or place entries RDM Arlington Million box number of SAAN Building 171 Main Johannesburg Or at RDM Corner Russik and Jeppe Streets, Johannesburg Enquiries Jan Timmer phone 28-2121
7 The Editor's decision is final correspondence will be
8 Entries close at 5pm
9 30 1982 at RDM offices or
10 be placed in the RDM "million" boxes at Turffontein Race up to half an hour before the on Saturday May 1 1982

neighbouring states like Zumpat Swaziland and Lesotho, in terms of excise agreements. During 1980 it was common for games to store meat coming from Africa pending its approval.

More than 1 500 tons of meat could be involved. The Rand Daily Mail learnt that one of the country's biggest companies was allegedly involved. The meat, imported from Ireland, was supposed to have been re-exported to South Africa's neighbouring states but was sold on the South African market.

THE Meat Board has uncovered a R2 250 000 racket in which large quantities of inferior meat, exported at a loss from Ireland, was fraudulently dumped on the South African market.

BY NORMAN PATTERTON

R2,25m meat racket uncovered

TS

Salvadoran soldiers drag the bodies of guerillas from the scene of fighting in San Salvador The guerillas had been trying to disrupt the elections

of Miss Petronella Pietersen 58 Mrs Christina de Wilzen, 74 and Mrs Katherina du Plessis 59 on the night of June 9 last year

Mr Mvo and Miss Mjingwana also received ten years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances and six months for attempted housebreaking with intent to steal

In a judgment lasting more than two hours, Mr Justice Cloete dismissed claims by the two that they were assaulted by police as "far fetched"

The confessions they had made to a magistrate were so detailed it was inconceivable that these had been concocted by the police and committed to memory

Both were found not guilty of attempted rape of one of the dead women after the judge said medical evidence was so inconclusive as to leave some doubt

The three women were attacked with a butcher's knife and a brick and died of fractured skulls shock, multiple injuries and haemorrhage

Two of the women were severely charred in what the judge described as an attempt to incinerate the bodies and obliterate evidence of the crime

In the case of Mr Mvo, Mr Justice Cloete found there were no extenuating circumstances which would reduce his moral blameworthiness

The judge found that Miss Mjingwana was probably under the influence of Mr Mvo "as Xhosa women have for centuries deferred to men in the tribal context of their lives"

As one of Mr Mvo's girlfriends there were rivals with whom she had to compete for his favours Xhosa women were subservient to the men in every way and their whole lives were conditioned by this tenet he added — DDC

# Shuttle stays up extra day

NEW YORK — A sand blizzard forced Columbia to loop the earth an extra day and raised the possibility of becoming the first space craft to return to its launch site

A runway landing near the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida, was not planned for another six months and two more proving flights but Nasa controllers said conditions there were the best available

The decision to keep Columbia orbiting beyond its seven-day schedule came minutes before it was due for a fiery descent to the White Sands Missile Range in the New Mexican desert

As gusting winds whipped up sand storms and produced conditions similar to an Antarctic "white out", the final "wave off" order came on the advice of astronaut John Young, flying a shuttle simulator jet over the range

"It's not a good day," Columbia Commander Jack Lousma was told "OK, we had a good drill," was the laconic reply

Left frustrated in the desert were hundreds of thousands of spectators, drawn by the biggest event thereabouts since the first atomic bomb was exploded in 1945. That was secret. This was not, since the US army relaxed its rules and let the public into the normally restricted White Sands base

All was reported well aboard Columbia, which had been plagued with a series of minor troubles and a relatively major communications failure since its launch

# Death in wine vat and lucky escape

CAPE TOWN — One man died in a must vat in the Western Cape and another narrowly escaped death when he was buried under 20 tons of hot coke

A farm worker, Mr Willem Fortuin 25 dies in the must vat after apparently climbing into it and being overcome by carbon dioxide fumes

While Mr Fortuin's death would appear to be an accident Robertson detectives are investigating the case as it appears as if an attempted theft might have taken place

The accident occurred at the private cellar of the Bruwer family on the farm Mont Blois

Mr Pieter Bruwer said yesterday it was impossible to say exactly what had happened but it appeared as if Mr Fortuin had tried to climb down a ladder to the must the remains of the wine-making process

The carbon dioxide fumes had been too much for him and he had fallen into the must. Noises notified other farm workers but by the time Mr Bruwer reached

the scene, Mr Fortuin had disappeared

His body was recovered with the aid of a hook

Meanwhile, a Woodstock gas company worker, Mr W Zonke is lucky to be alive. He suffered third-degree burns while lying trapped in a steel bunker under 20 tons of hot coke for two hours as rescue squad members cut through thick steel and a layer of bricks before being able to reach him

He had been using a steel rod to free the hot coke which had jammed at the drawpoint of the

steel bunker. He was right inside the bunker when the coke burst free above him and carried him down with it

His life was probably saved by his safety helmet slipping down over his face and forming a small pocket as he was engulfed according to rescue workers who were at the scene

A spokesman for the superintendent of the Woodstock Hospital said yesterday Mr Zonke was in a "satisfactory" condition, but added he was in no state to talk to reporters yet about his escape — DDC

# Thanks — Gooch

DURBAN — Graham Gooch leader of England's cricket rebels, said he would not have agreed to play in South Africa "if I believed that in doing so I was in any way supporting apartheid"

Gooch, in a personal statement, thanked "all those who have afforded us the opportunity of playing cricket in South Africa"

"I believe in freedom of choice and the right of professional cricketers to pursue their careers where they choose. I also believe that sport, and cricket should be played on a non-racial basis," the 28-year-old Essex player added

Gooch was not prepared to answer any questions other than about the cricket itself — SAPA

Third test, page 20

# R220 000 for yearling

GERMISTON — An all-time South African record for a yearling was established here yesterday when Mr Cyril Hurvitz bid R220 000 for the filly Jehanne, bred by Mr Alex Robertson

The almost incredible bid for a filly came after a battle between a couple of buyers which lasted less than three minutes. The filly's price shot from R25 000 to R80 000 in one minute flat and then, after about another minute of coaxing by auctioneer Peter Lovemore, a straight fight between Mr Hur-

vitz and Mr Andy Williams developed

Mr Hurvitz, who became impatient with bids of R10 000, suddenly took the price from R150 000 to R200 000, waited for one more bid from Mr Williams, and then clinched the deal with a call of R220 000

The previous South African record of R191 000 was held by the Plum Line colt and that of a filly by Swan Princess who sold for R151 000 earlier in the evening

Earlier in the day, buyers were extremely

careful during the first Germiston sale of yearlings to be held this year

It was only when a consignment from the Birch Brothers, of Dordrecht made its appearance that the "fireworks" really started

Big Day, a colt by Plum Bold out of the mare Sofonisba, was very much out of the ordinary and it did not take long to change hands at R150 000, which was R115 000 above the average price established after 13 yearlings had been sold — DDC

police... evidence here yesterday that a Goubaire attorney had told them he was attacked and robbed of his car



# Meeting was

124  
263  
OVER

# Induna: Call for liferaft research

ARGUS  
5/13/82

(786)  
(131)

## Parliamentary Staff

THE controversy over the sinking of the South African-owned but foreign-registered Induna with the loss of the lives of 17 South Africans, has been raised again by a report of a commission of inquiry tabled in Parliament

The Commission of Inquiry into measures governing the safety of lives and property at sea under the chairmanship of former Cape Town chief magistrate, Mr Hercules van Huyssteen, dealt with two major factors involved in the sinking of the Induna — flags of convenience and liferafts

It found the existing laws did not provide adequate protection for South Africans crewing ships flying flags of convenience and was critical of the standards of liferafts

## RESEARCH

Although the sinking of the Induna is not mentioned in the report, the South African owners, Rennie's Coasters, and the sole survivor of the sinking, Mr Kim Macpherson, are mentioned in the list of people who gave evidence to the commission

The commission recommended that the Department of Transport 'should attend without delay to research on the design of liferafts'

The Induna, which was flying the Panamanian flag, sank south of Madagascar on September 5 1979

Mr Macpherson launched a personal campaign criticising the ship's owners after his rescue blaming the 'pathetic con-

dition of liferaft for the loss of life.

Rennie's Coasters said they were not responsible for the servicing of the liferafts

## UNNAMED

The Commission undertook a series of tests on a single but unnamed type of liferaft. It was found that the righting ropes pulled loose from the raft and in a strong wind it would have been impossible to turn it the right way up

In roughish seas it was 'considerably difficult' to board the raft

The Commission said that although it was competent only to refer to the make used in its tests 'the defects mentioned may be common to all makes because all liferafts are basically the same'

The commission visited all the liferaft servicing stations in South Africa and found 'on the face of it all the stations but one are suitable for the purpose

'All contractors are doing a good job and they appear to be efficient'

## CHANGED

Dealing with flags of convenience, the Commission found that many ships which were South African owned 'have now changed their flags and are registered elsewhere for trade reasons

'These ships and the men serving in them are then deprived of the protection of South African law and are, instead, subject to the laws of the country of registry.

'This may be satisfactory for the shipowner but leaves a great deal to be desired as far as the crews on the one hand and the ship and its cargo on the other hand are concerned'

More <sup>ARGUS</sup>  
31/3/82  
safety (131)  
at sea  
urged

Political Staff

A COMMISSION of inquiry has recommended big improvements to safety measures in South Africa's shipping and fishing industries.

The commission of inquiry into measures governing the safety of lives and property at sea, under the chairmanship of former Cape Town chief magistrate, Mr Hercules van Huyssteen, was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The commission found that there were insufficient safety staff in the marine branch of the Department of Transport, training standards were too low and safety measures generally did not come up to standard.

RECOMMENDED

It recommended the establishment of more training facilities for all races, improved training, improved safety standards, particularly with liferafts and lifejackets and a major revision of the Merchant Shipping Act.

It found that stricter application of rules for fishing vessels should be applied as well as stricter accident prevention measures by shipowners and skippers. It also recommended the compulsory fitting of two-way radio apparatus for fishing vessels.

Fishing vessels were often overloaded, placing their safety in jeopardy, capsized when pulling in nets full of fish, went to sea without radios or radio operators and crew members did not know how to handle safety equipment.

The commission has also recommended that the principal officer at a port should have the power to withdraw a safety certificate if satisfied that a ship was not seaworthy.

ARGUS 1/4/87  
**Worker's death — probe**

Argus Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG. — An official inquiry into the accident at a construction site in Sandton City where one man died and four were injured yesterday is to be held soon.

concrete on to scaffolding and formwork on the fifth floor of the building. The concrete and scaffolding crashed down, trapping labourers on the ground floor.

The body of the dead worker was recovered after more than four hours of rescue operations.

workers poured tons of

# Sandton City <sup>131</sup> <sup>stew</sup> death: <sup>1/4/82</sup> official inquiry soon

up  
t a  
ck  
ter-  
th  
  
pen  
the  
uck  
eef  
  
of-  
pli-  
med  
ther  
  
took  
safe  
e in-  
  
+

An official inquiry into the accident at a construction site in Sandton City where one man died and three others were injured is to be held soon

The three injured men, Mr Zakh Mchunu, M Lungile Kocini and Mr Mthaghvuzina Tumisan, are out of danger in Tembisa Hospital

The accident happened yesterday afternoon as workers poured tons of wet concrete on to scaffolding and formwork on the fifth floor of the building which is planned to house a

hyperama, several major department stores and supermarkets

A worker said this morning the accident was probably due to construction deficiencies in the structure which gave way.

The concrete and scaffolding then crashed down trapping labourers on the ground floor. The body of the dead worker was recovered after more than four hours of rescue operations.

This morning a single worker in a tractor was clearing the remaining debris.

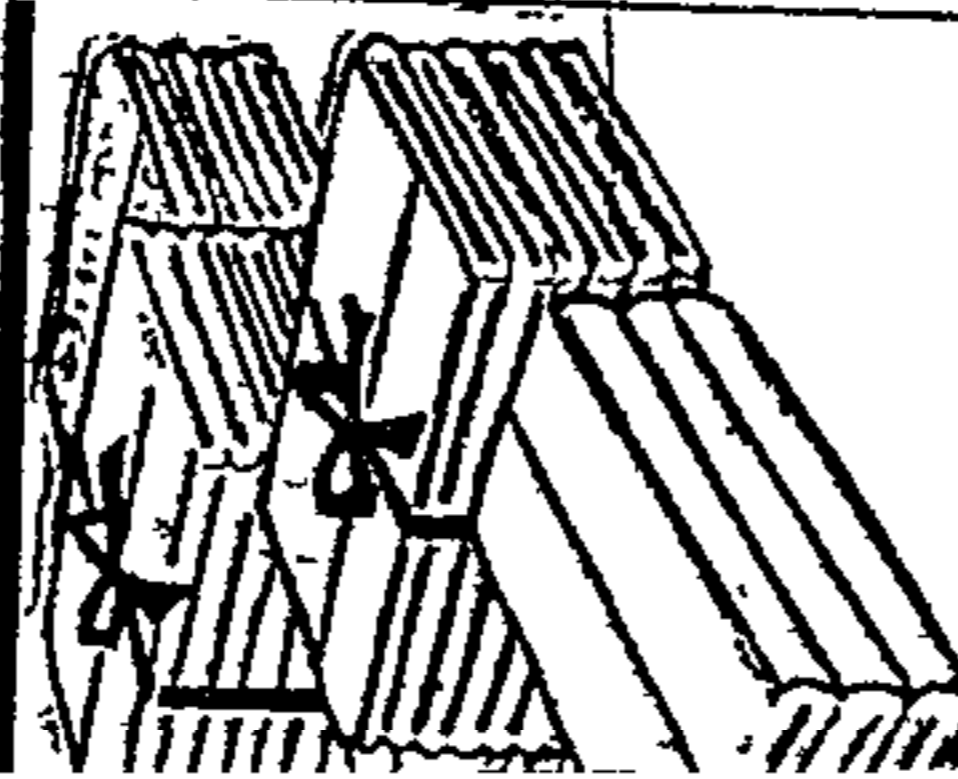


REGISTERED INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS IN SOUTH AFRICA

AT AP 31 MAY 1981

INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL				TRADE UNION PARTIES		EMPLOYER PARTIES		
Name	Area of Jurisdiction	Main Agreement No. & Date	Period	Variations in Scope	Name	Variations in Scope	Name	Variations in Scope
<p><b>Worker dies under wet cement</b> <sup>apt times</sup> 1/4/82 <sup>131</sup></p> <p><b>Own Correspondent</b>  <b>JOHANNESBURG</b> — One man was crushed to death and at least four others injured yesterday when several tons of wet concrete plunged five floors down a shaft in a crowded construction site at the R110m unfinished extension to Sandton City.</p> <p>Last night rescue workers were still combing the rubble in an effort to ascertain whether any other people were still trapped. The four injured workers were taken to Tembisa Hospital. One of them was rescued with the jaws of life after his arm was pinned under fallen debris.</p> <p><b>Narrow escape</b></p> <p>According to an eyewitness, another man working on the fifth floor had a narrow escape when his overall caught on the edge of a steel girder and he was left hanging in the air "like a piece of meat on a meat hook" until he was rescued.</p> <p>Directing the rescue work was Sandton City's head of construction, Mr Alan Johnston. He said the accident occurred when workers were pouring wet concrete on to scaffolding and formwork on the fifth floor about 1pm.</p> <p>The whole structure gave way and the wet concrete and scaffolding crashed down, taking workers with it and crushing more men working on the ground floor.</p> <p>The general manager of Sandton City, Mr John Jamieson, said there would be an official inquiry into the cause of the accident.</p> <p>Hundreds of subdued workers looked on late yesterday as rescuers unearthed the first body — just over four hours after the accident occurred. A head-count had been taken, but it was not certain whether anybody had been trapped under the debris.</p>								

ANGE OF POOL  
HEMICALS AT  
UARANTEED  
WEST PRICES



**8.99**

VS 9.00 am - 9.00 pm  
NDAYS 8.00 am - 1.00 pm



ED PARKING

D/P  
102



Genuine all leather  
casuals

**RUSTENBURG  
SHOE SALON**

**RONDEBOSCH**

39 Main Rd. Tel 69-1867

Bus stop 89

Visa, Mastercard, Buy Aid.

— there are more than 20 bred Arab horses catering points scattered around the showgrounds. More than 1200 horses are being stabled at the showgrounds and will be seen in the main arena in the various competitions from and can really go for show horses, show 'foreign' with a choice of Chinese, Indian, American, jumping, dressage and can, German, Portuguese harness classes

**Worker's death — probe**

Argus 1/4/82

Argus Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG. — An official inquiry into the accident at a construction site in Sandton City where one man died and four were injured yesterday is to be held soon.  
The accident happened yesterday afternoon as workers poured tons of concrete on to scaffolding and formwork on the fifth floor of the building. The concrete and scaffolding crashed down, trapping labourers on the ground floor.  
The body of the dead worker was recovered after more than four hours of rescue operations.

**HANEPOOT GRAPES**  
Come and pick your own, sun-ripened Hanepoot grapes on Friday 2nd and Sat 3rd from 7 am — 5 pm. Bring your own cutters and containers to take away. No children will be allowed in the vines. Please do not phone on Sundays. Price R8 incl GST per basket of 22 kg, smallest quantity available 11 kg. For directions only please phone 97-1459

to think of home security and you'll save on our showtime specials

**SAFTIDOR** "A" SIZE NOW ONLY **R79.00**

**GATES** GSS 101 NOW ONLY **R78.00**

**SAFTIGATE** SPECIAL OFFER **R69.00**

**BURGLAR BARS** "C" SIZE 860mm x 445mm **R6.99**

PRE-PACKED WITH SCREWS FOR ALL STANDARD WINDOWS

SEE US AT THE GOODWOOD SHOW

**WOODWEEK**  
**CASH & CARRY CENTRE**

CLAREMONT  
Wormular Centre  
(Opp. Woolworths)  
TEL: 64-4470, 64-3520

PAROW  
17 Jones Street  
(behind New National Hotel)  
TEL: 92-5154, 92-5183

**OPEN SATURDAYS**

# Five felled by cement avalanche

131 ROOM 1/4/82

enter in question ch it has is (2) and

By LIZ MCGREGOR and JO SHALLIS

A MAN was crushed to death and at least four others injured yesterday when several tons of wet concrete and scaffolding plunged five floors down a shaft in a crowded construction site at the R110m Sandton City extension.

Late last night rescue workers called off a search after establishing no more victims were buried in the debris

The four injured workers were taken to Tembisa Hospital — one of them rescued by the "jaws of life" after his arm was pinned under fallen debris

According to a witness a man working on the fifth floor of the development had a miraculous escape

His overall caught on the edge of a steel girder and he was left hanging in the air until rescuers could reach him

Directing the rescue operation was Mr Alan Johnston, site foreman for construction company Rapp and Maister

He said the accident happened as workers poured wet concrete on to scaffolding and formwork on the fifth floor about 1pm

The entire structure gave way as wet concrete and scaffolding crashed down, taking some workers with it and crushing more men working on the ground floor

The general manager of Sandton City, Mr John Jamieson, said there would be an official inquiry

A Rand Daily Mail team spoke to one of the wounded workers in the casualty section of Tembisa Hospital just outside Pretoria as he waited to be admitted

Sitting in a wheelchair a shocked Mr Ezekiel Mncunu said he was working with the wet concrete on the fifth floor

Then "the concrete fell down and I fell with it"

"People were screaming and there was a loud noise when the concrete hit the floor" he said

more

dm

ion Paper)

ion Paper)

l) of  
ues-  
tten  
sept-  
for  
hich  
heet  
al to

ble to disqualifica  
University

PSL/PD UCT


"People were screaming and there was a loud noise when the concrete hit the floor" he said

He said he had pains in his back and he could not walk

The names of the other victims were not released last night

Hundreds of silent workers watched late yesterday as rescuers unearthed the dead man at 5.15pm — over four hours after the accident occurred

Hanging debris had to be cleared away from the top floors before the rescue team could start searching for bodies feared entombed beneath the five to 10 tons of wet concrete and twisted debris

Traffic police had cordoned off central Sandton to enable ambulances to fetch the wounded and to keep back hundreds of people who flocked to the scene

High-ranking police officers were on the scene along with Sandton Fire Brigade and Ambulance Services personnel and Sandton City officials

A few metres away in Sandton City's Centre Court, hundreds of children oblivious to the tragedy, played with day-old chickens and rabbits during the centre's Easter promotion

The huge extension will house a hyperama, several major departmental stores and supermarkets and a Southern Suns hotel Part of the complex is due to be opened in August this year

external

(3)

### NOTE CAREFULLY

- 1 Enter at the top of the block on this column you are answering
- 2 Blue or black ink answers The use of a pen is not acceptable Red or green underlining, emphasis pencil may also be used
- 3 Names must be printed (e.g. graph paper examination book)

Any dishonesty will

Made in South Africa

### WARNING

- 1 No borrowing of material unless authorised
- 2 Candidates must be present for the examination
- 3 No parents or guardians are to be present
- 4 All candidates must be present for the examination

or other mat-  
amination room  
ed  
cate with other  
cept the invigi-  
e torn out  
d to the commis-  
bre leaving the

clusion from the

Vervaardig in Suid Afrika

# R2,5-m loss in tyre plant fire

AREAS 2/4/82

131

FIREMEN wearing special breathing apparatus fought to bring a blaze in a tyre plant and service centre at Natyre, Voortrekker Road, Kensington under control today.

A pall of thick black smoke spewed from the building as thousands of workers streamed to work in the Factreton and Kensington industrial complex.

The fire, estimated to have caused damage running into more than R2-million started at 5.30 am in the plant's rubber paint section. We managed to save the records but the whole plant has been extensively damaged, said general manager Mr S Cohen.

A factory spokesman said a worker had retrieved the plant's safe and placed it in his station wagon — but the safe had reportedly been stolen from the vehicle. The theft has not been confirmed.

Eight fire engines, a mobile hydraulic platform and a service van with breathing apparatus went to the scene at the corner of 12th Avenue and Voortrekker Road.

The fire swept through the plant, storeroom and office administrative block. The cause of the fire was unknown, but believed to be because of an electrical fault.

Police dog handlers were called to disperse crowds as asbestos roofing sheets exploded from the heat, sending shattered fragments showering into the road.

Mr Hoosain Sungay, manager of a nearby cafe at the corner of 12th Avenue, said: 'Somebody banged on my door at about 5.45 am and said there was a fire at the plant.'

'At first I thought the man was joking but then I looked outside and saw the black smoke pouring out of the building.'

'I telephoned the fire brigade at about 6 am and was told the fire had already been reported.'

'I was afraid for my own cafe as I am a general dealer and have liquid petroleum gas stored here but then I saw my premises were safe as firemen had contained the fire at the building.'

Mr Esau F Jones, a former member of the defunct Coloured Representative Council, who works nearby, said: 'This must be one of the biggest fires I have seen.'



BLACK smoke pours from the plant storeroom and administrative block of Natyre in Voortrekker Road Kensington, today.

# Thieves lift R1 500 while factory burns

CAPE TIMES 3/4/82  
Crime Reporter

131

Police said later that a company executive had removed R1 500 in cash from the safe and put it in his briefcase. He then locked the briefcase in his vehicle. Later he found it had been broken into and the money was missing.

WHILE firemen battled to bring a blaze at a tyre factory under control yesterday morning, thieves broke into the vehicle of a senior company executive and stole R1 500 in cash which only minutes earlier had been removed from the firm's safe.

Captain Jan Calitz, senior police liaison officer for the Western Cape, said police were investigating a case of theft following the disappearance of a briefcase containing the money.

The blaze at the Kensington plant of Natyre broke out about 5.30am in the painting section.

It is understood that a mixture of benzene and rubber chips was in the area.

Four men at the plant tried to put the fire out. Failing, they called the fire brigade.

The first call was received about 5.45am and within minutes two fire engines were at the scene.

## Six fire engines

Eventually six engines, including two turntables, were in operation. Also in attendance were members of the ambulance service's Metro rescue team and police.

Thick clouds of acrid black smoke covered the area. Flames leapt 20 metres and firemen had to use breathing apparatus.

## Damage

The fire was under control by 7.49am and by 10am only two fire tenders remained at the scene, with firemen conducting dousing operations.

Smoke still rose from the factory which was severely damaged.

The roof of one section collapsed totally and the contents of the building appeared to have been ruined.

Mr Sydney Cohen, general manager of the firm, said the warehouse and main factory had been destroyed and it would cost R2.5-million to repair the damage.

The factory would be out of business for several months but the public would not be affected as the firm had branches and factories in other parts of the country.

The serious problem at the moment was the inability to retread as a result of the fire.

Mr Cohen said the firm's records had been salvaged as a result of the "tremendous spirit" of the company's staff.

"But I have difficulty understanding why the fire started," he said.

l  
i  
-  
d  
n  
it  
o-  
a  
re  
ry  
e-  
on  
vy  
a  
sk  
r-  
al-  
ff  
th  
n-  
fr  
as  
to  
d  
y  
st  
i  
h  
e  
y

4115 (10-15) 5/4/82

# Tractor driver killed

Staff Reporter **(A) 731**

A FARM worker had drowned after being trapped under a tractor in a donga on a farm near Porterville, police said yesterday

Mr Dick Frazer, 20, was working on the farm 24 Rivers near Porterville about 8pm on Thursday when the tractor he was driving slipped into the donga and fell on top of the man

d  
r  
e  
d  
n  
d  
t  
y  
r  
o  
e  
y  
s  
i  
e  
t

131 (HRA) Star  
2/4/82

# Sea survivor dissatisfied with inquiry

## Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Mr Kim Macpherson, sole survivor of the Induna tragedy in September 1979 and central figure in the furore that followed, says the Van Huyssteen Commission's findings regarding safety at sea warrant further investigation.

In a telephone interview from Newport in the United States, where he runs a yacht delivery business, Mr Macpherson said last night that he was "surprised" the findings had finally been made public.

## EMPHASISED

The chairman of the commission, Mr Mercurius van Huyssteen, has emphasised that the inquiry was not into the loss of the Induna, a cargo ship that sank off Madagascar with the loss of 17 lives.

But the Minister of Transport, at the time, Mr Chris Heunis, said the commission was sitting as a result of the tragedy.

Although the vessel was managed, crewed and understood to be owned by South Africans, her Panamanian "flag of convenience" required her to abide by that country's regu-

lations — and anything to which Panama was a signatory — so the South African Government "washed its hands of the whole messy business," according to Mr Macpherson.

"For six months I waited in South Africa for this inquiry. Then I was told that, as the issue was sub judice — because Panama was supposedly inquiring into the whole thing — I could not give evidence before the commission," he said.

## LETTER

At the hearing in Durban Mr van Huyssteen said he had received a letter from the Panamanian authorities saying that they were conducting their own inquiry.

Mr Macpherson said. "As the only survivor, and the only one who knew, isn't it a little strange that I was never approached by that country about an inquiry?"

"And isn't it strange that a trade commission from the same country with whom I made contact in South Africa knew nothing of any inquiry?"

"It appears to me to have been an excuse for fobbing off my evidence," Mr Macpherson said.

# Platform

(131) E Post  
collapse:

8/4/82  
12 hurt

**PINETOWN —** Twelve men were injured yesterday when a work platform near the base of the shaft of a 150m-deep water pipeline at Westville collapsed during a lifting operation.

Ambulances and private vehicles were used to take the men, employed by the RUC Mining Company, to hospital.

The injured were lucky to have escaped with their lives. Suspended above them in the shaft, which is part of the Umgeni Water Board's tunnel through the hill to Durban, was a heavy metal kibble, a huge bucket used to lift workers to the surface.

Fortunately, a second cable held the kibble secure when the platform fell 12 metres.

Most of the men suffered back injuries, cuts and abrasions.

Mr Tseland Motoosane, a contract worker, is in a serious condition. — Sapa



★ (131)

# Man dies, 3 injured in maize silo accident

## Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG — One man died and three received treatment after firemen had used rescue harnesses to hoist unconscious workers from the bottom of a silo at a cooking oil factory here yesterday.

The accident occurred about 9am when a worker collapsed while levelling a mound of maize germ in a 30m silo at the Epic Oil Factory in the Willowton industrial area.

"He was spotted by his fellow worker at the top of the silo who

ran to alert us," the factory's manager Mr F J Naude, said last night.

"They always work in pairs for safety's sake."

"We rushed to the scene where one of my colleagues, Mr C S Nel, started down a rope ladder to the unconscious man several metres below us."

"He had descended only a short way before returning to the top to tell us it was impossible to breathe down there. We ran to call the fire Department and Ambulance."

"While we were away, two of the unconscious man's workmates decided to try to go down to him. We got back to find all three lying on the bed of maize," said Mr Naude.

Three firemen wearing breathing apparatus were lowered to the maize bed in an emergency harness. They brought the three unconscious men to the surface where they were loaded into waiting ambulances.

Three of the victims were taken to the Northdale hospital where Mr Kenny John, 23 and Mr Y

Moodley 18 were treated and discharged. The name of the man who died could not be released until his next-of-kin had been informed. A spokesman for the hospital said

Mr Nel was taken to Greys Hospital, where he is under observation. He is expected to be discharged tomorrow.

Work at one of the factory's 10 silos came to a standstill after the incident, but continued at the others.

Police at the scene took samples of the maize to try to determine the cause of the accident.

# Man dies in freak silo accident

131

9/4/82

Mercurey

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

ONE man died and two others were taken ill after they had been rescued by firemen using harnesses to hoist them, unconscious, from the bottom of a silo at a cooking oil factory here yesterday.

The accident occurred when a worker collapsed while levelling a mound of maize germ in a 30 m silo at the Epic Oil Factory in Willowton industrial area.

'He was spotted by his fellow worker at the top of the silo — they always work in pairs for safety sake — who ran to alert us,' Mr F J Naude, the factory's manager said last night.

## Workmates

'We rushed to the scene where one of my colleagues, Mr C S Nel started down the rope ladder to the unconscious man, several metres below us

'He had descended only a short way before returning to tell us it was impossible to breathe down there. We called the Fire Department.

'While we were away, two of the unconscious man's workmates decided to go down to him. We got back to find all three lying on the bed of maize,' said Mr Naude.

Three firemen wearing breathing apparatus were lowered by emergency harness and brought the unconscious men to the surface.

They were taken to Northdale Hospital, where Mr Kenny John, 23, and Mr Y Moodley, 18, were treated and discharged.

The name of the dead man cannot be released until his next-of-kin have been informed.

Mr Nel was taken to Grey's Hospital where he was under observation, Mr Naude said.

## Samples

Police at the scene took samples of the maize to try to determine the cause of the accident.

Prof Karl Pegel of the chemistry department of the University of Natal said that one likely cause was fermentation.

He said fermenting organic matter gave off gas — perhaps methane or carbon dioxide in the case of maize germ — which would slowly have displaced all the oxygen in the air, causing the men to suffocate.

Cape Times 15/4/87

# Fish scandal witness dies in factory blast

131

MR DENNIS Pretorius who was killed in a gas explosion in his Kalk Bay fish-smoking factory yesterday, had made a "valuable contribution" to the probe into alleged illegal catches of white steenbras worth thousands of rands

This was confirmed yesterday by Mr John Wiley, MP for Simon's Town, who said Mr Pretorius — a close friend — had been one of the people who recently made statements to him in connection with the allegations

A senior official at the Sea Fisheries Institute would earlier not confirm or deny that Mr Pretorius was a potential State witness for the investigation because it was still *sub judice*

It was reported last month that angry fisher-

By MARK VAN DER VELDEN

men involved in the alleged malpractices in False Bay had made death threats to potential State witnesses

Mr Pretorius, 40, well known in the local community, and his fisherman helper Mr Henry Daniel, aged about 60, were killed instantly when gas which had accumulated in the smoking ovens exploded at 10.40am

Another employee, Mrs Bonita Ferguson, 24, survived the massive explosion in the small upper floor smoking room but was admitted to the False Bay hospital with serious burns on her face and arms

The blast rocked the harbour master's building

next door and ripped five out of six stainless steel oven doors clean off their hinges flinging them into the room in which the two men and Mrs Ferguson were standing

Although pieces of half-smoked fish still lay undisturbed on the smoking racks inside the distorted ovens a brick wall dividing the upper storey of the building was ripped out almost in one piece and flung aside while the outer wall behind the ovens was dislodged and pushed outwards

The force of the explosion which was described as "an incredibly loud bang" by people near the building at the time, sent debris from shattered window frames flying nearly 60 metres out on to an open piece of land behind the building

The fire brigade put out a fire which started after the explosion, and police later sealed off the upper storey of the building

Muizenberg police station commander, Lieutenant R W Dowd, said the explosion had probably been caused by accumulated gas from outside cylinders igniting in the oven

Paying tribute to Mr Pretorius, Mr Wiley said his death would be a great loss to a wide range of people both in and out of the fishing industry

A former deep sea diver and salvor, Mr Pretorius had also been a perlemoen diver and was an office-bearer of the Association of Perlemoen Divers, Mr Wiley said

He is survived by his wife, Peri, and a son and daughter



This dividing wall was blasted aside by the force of the explosion. The smoking ovens in which the gas ignited are seen at the back

# Two die in gas blast at fish smokery

AKGUS  
14/4/82  
131

## Staff Reporter

TWO men were killed and a woman seriously injured when a powerful explosion ripped through the fish smoking factory at Kalk Bay harbour today.

The dead men were Mr Dennis Pretorius, 49, the owner of Kalk Bay Fish Smokeries, and an elderly man known only as 'Oupa Henry' who lived on Mr Pretorius's fishing boat Maine.

The injured woman is Mrs Bonita Ferguson, 24, of Lentegeur, who was burnt on the face and arms in the blast.

The explosion appeared to have occurred in the smoking ovens and wrecked the smokery.

## SEALED OFF

Part of an external wall was shifted outwards and an internal wall was thrown aside by the force of the explosion.

After police and firemen had completed their work the area was sealed off.

The hero of the day was Mr Mohammed Williams, a harbour assistant, who risked his life to pull Mrs Ferguson from the gas-filled interior of the smokery.

'I was in my office when I heard a blast that sounded like the big guns at Simon's Town. I went outside and saw the roof tiles lifting off the smokery and heard Mrs Ferguson scream,' said Mr Williams.

'I ran upstairs, kicked open the door and dragged her out. We were both nearly overcome by the powerful gas smell.'

Mr Pretorius, a former perlemoen diver, had operated the smokeries for about a year. He lived in Kalk Bay and is survived by his wife, Peri, and two children.

**Garlicks** CITY PAROW PAARL  
CLAREMONT ADD.TAX

**SUPERB SELECTION OF  
GENUINE LEATHER  
HANDBAGS for winter**

A multitude of styles and colours in fashion  
bags, slings and clutches **R22,99 to R69,99**

# Worker burnt to death in refrigeration room blaze

*19/4/82  
131*

**Staff Reporter**

A WORKER was burnt to death yesterday in a fire which broke out in a refrigeration room in Bloubergstrand.

The 29-year-old worker, whose body was enveloped in flames, had been installing insulation in the room.

His name is being withheld till his next-of-kin have been informed.

A fellow worker, Mr Joseph Davids, of Heath Road, Parkwood Estate, was severely shocked and overcome by smoke.

He was given sugar water by staff of a nearby restaurant and was then taken to Woodstock Hospital, where he was treated for burnt hands. His condition was described as satisfactory.

A police spokesman said the work was being done by the light of a gas lamp because the room had no electricity. A chemical reaction apparently occurred between the insulating material and the gas, which set the room alight.

The insulation material

was burnt, causing "slight damage".

The owner of the adjacent restaurant, Miss Georgie Street, lent her dry-powder fire extinguisher to put out the fire.

"He must have died before he even knew what happened," she said.

Miss Street said the workers were employed by the same company which installed the equipment in her restaurant.

### One exit

A fireman, called to the scene of the accident, said there were two small areas in the refrigeration room, which had only one exit.

He said the dead man had been in the area away from the exit and had obviously "struggled to get out".

The managing director of the firm which employed the two workers declined to comment yesterday afternoon.

"The whole thing is under investigation and it would be irresponsible to make a comment at this stage," he said.

# Man dies in 'fridge room fire

131

19/4/82

Argus

A WORKER was burnt to death and another injured when a fire broke out while they were installing insulation in a refrigeration room in Bloubergstrand.

The dead man was Mr Geoffrey September, 29, of Manenberg. Mr not yet been identified at the State Mortuary in Salt River today.

His colleague, Mr Joseph Davids of Parkwood Estate, received burns on his hands. Mr Aubrey Lionel Josephs, 19, of Stanley Road, Highlands Estate, Philipp drowned in a farm irrigation dam in Highlands Estate. Police said Mr Josephs' body was recovered by divers after he got into difficulties.

Mr Davids was admitted to Woodstock Hospital after staggering from the refrigeration room where he was nearly overcome by smoke.

His condition is satisfactory today.

Police said the workmen were using a gas lamp while installing insulation in the refrigeration room.

## GLUE

A spokesman said: 'It is understood that adhesive used to glue on the insulating material sparked off a chemical reaction with gas in the room.'

In Goodwood Miss S Brink, 28, address unknown, was killed in a two-car collision at the corner of Vanguard Drive and Voortrekker Road.

Mr A van Reenen, 23, address unknown, was knocked down and killed in 35th Avenue, Elsie's River.

In Matroosfontein Mr B Bresendale, 17, of Matroosfontein was knocked down and killed at the corner of Civic and Ems roads.

An unidentified motorcyclist was killed when he came off his machine after it skidded in Blakenberg Road, Bellville. He was in his 20s and had

## February on Africa's roads

The number of accidents on the roads went up from 27 803 in February last year to 29 953 in February this year — an increase of 7.4 percent

The number of people seriously injured increased from 1 348 to 1 478

Of those who died in February this year 148 were white, 88 coloured people, 18 Asian and 455 black

653

## Death shatters the dream of a young immigrant

*(131) Star 20/4/82*

East Rand Bureau  
A young Madeiran who arrived in South Africa last week with dreams of making enough money to build a house for his wife and daughter back home, fell to his death yesterday on his first day at work at a Nigel construction site

Mr Francisco Alvis (29) who worked for

Behnken Civil Engineering Works as a bricklayer was working on a 6 m high scaffolding when he fell

Mr George Bettencourt, of Currie Street, Roodepoort said the accident happened about 8.45 am

"Someone told me Mr Alvis had been hurt when I ran to

see what had happened I saw him dead on the ground

He said Mr Alvis had only arrived in South Africa last Friday

"He wanted to make enough money to build a house in Madeira," he said

Mr Alvis was staying with his brother-in-law, Mr Joao da Silva, in Roodepoort

# South African Blacks get blue asbestos pills

Senior members of the medical research establishment in South Africa, on the urging of the asbestos industry, suppressed research pointing to the link between asbestos and cancer

Laurie Flynn

In June, 1978, South Africa's mining companies were presented with something of a problem. Dr Leslie Irwig, a researcher at the National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases, decided that on a forthcoming visit to New York he would read not one, but two papers to a scientific conference on the control of environmental hazards organised by the New York Academy of Sciences.

The first, which he duly read at the academy's "Science Week" at the New York Hilton Hotel, was a paper on the risks workers in South Africa's crocidolite (blue) and amosite (brown) asbestos mines face of developing the debilitating chest disease called asbestosis as a result of breathing asbestos. Written by Irwig and seven other scientists from South Africa, the scrupulously researched paper reached the entirely uncontroversial conclusion that, when it comes to causing asbestosis, the risks from crocidolite and amosite are more or less the same.

The other paper Irwig proposed to read was more of a hot potato. Called "Mortality from asbestos related disease in South Africa", this paper mentioned the dreaded word cancer and, on the basis of a careful analysis of the available data, concluded that people living in asbestos producing areas (but not necessarily working in the asbestos industry) died more often than usual from cancer.

The New York Academy of Sciences, which for years has periodically brought together the leading scientists in the asbestos field, was not destined to hear this important paper at its 1978 Science Week. Irwig and his co-author, Dr Hannes Botha, were flatly ordered not to read the paper by the South African Medical Research Council (MRC). And the MRC made its move to suppress the paper for political, not scientific reasons at the direct request of the asbestos mining companies who did not like what it said. Today, three and a half years later, the research has still not seen the light of day.

This story of scientific suppression began when a copy of Irwig and Botha's paper somehow came into the hands of Fritz Baunach, health consultant to the Kuruman Cape Asbestos Blue mine company and its parent Asbestos Investments/ Everite, the South African component in the Swiss-Belgian multinational called Ecomit. Baunach, a remarkable 70-year-old who sincerely believes that asbestos, particularly blue asbestos, is a gift from God and, by extension, that health campaigns against it are the work of the Devil, was more than a little disturbed by the contents of the paper and the obvious implications of its publication. Publication would have meant that a South African government department was disclosing evidence of a link between blue asbestos and cancer, a link which South Africa's asbestos companies had been vehemently denying for many years.

The instruction that the paper should not be read in New York came from Professor A. J. Frank, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at "Columbia" University and Pres-

ident of the South African Medical Research Council. He flatly ordered Botha to pass on the instruction to Irwig, who had already left for New York.

I tried to interview Irwig and Botha about the affair. Both men agreed to see me and for the short time the interview lasted treated me with typical South African courtesy. Both men, however, refused to discuss the affair. Nevertheless, the affair sent enough shock waves through the MRC, The National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases (since renamed the National Centre for Occupational Health) and the Department of Health for it to be possible to discover the essential facts.

The intervention of the asbestos companies to prevent the publication of data linking their product with cancer did not end with their victory in New York. Once the two doctors returned from their travels, they naturally still wanted to publish their findings. They prepared a second version of their paper and expected permission to publish. The man who could have given it was the director of the institute, Professor Ian Webster. Webster, a brilliant but sincerely aggressive man, equivocated. Meanwhile, Baunach, who sits on the advisory panel of the MRC's

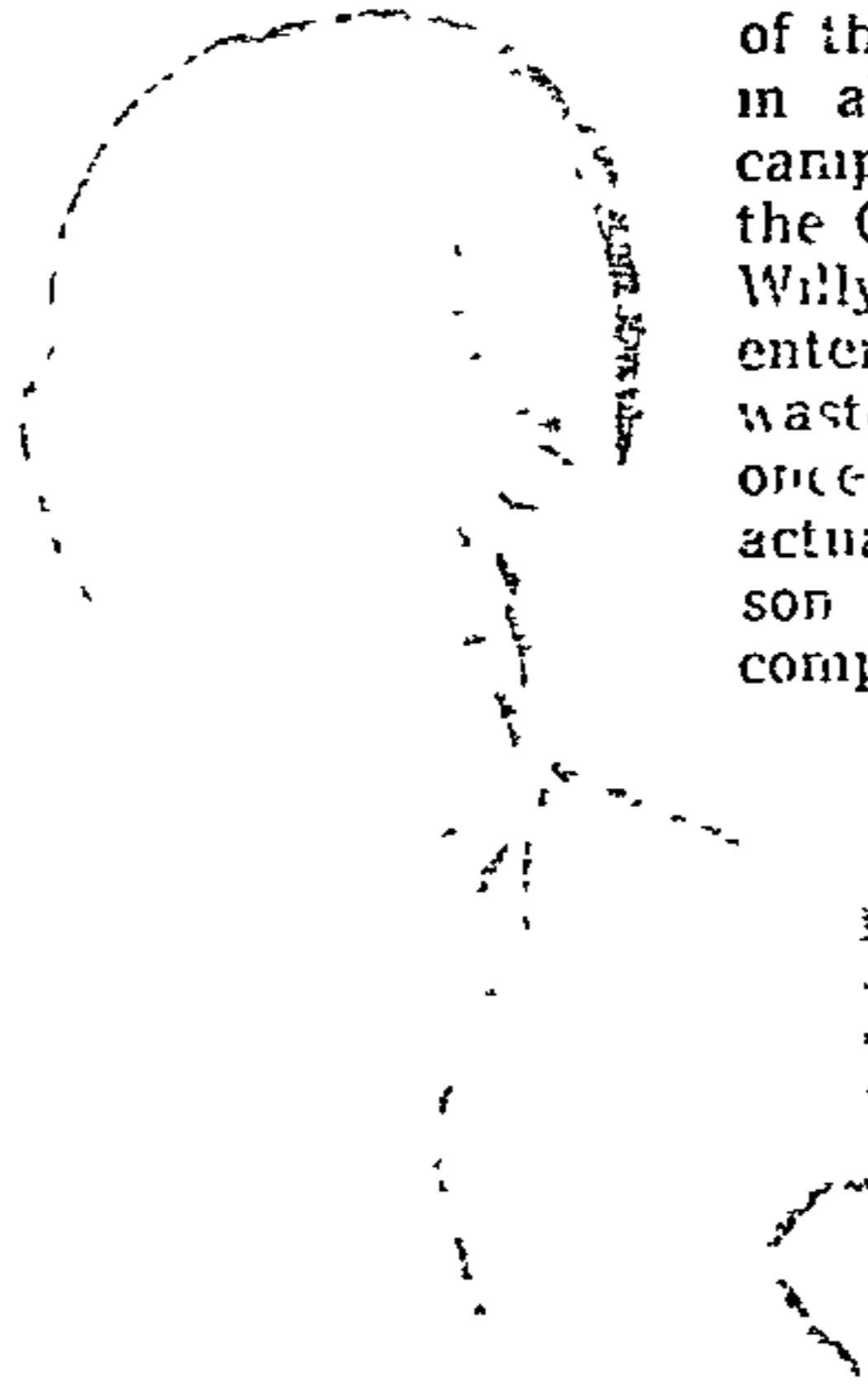
Asbestos Research Project, obtained a copy of the revised paper. Baunach, who told me in all seriousness that the world health campaign about asbestos was "stirred up by the German Metalworkers Union as part of Willy Brandt's scheme to replace private enterprise with workers' self-management," wasted little time before moving into action once again. He went to a firm of consulting actuaries in Johannesburg called J. A. Carson and Partners and commissioned the company to produce a report criticising Irwig and Botha's unpublished paper.

When I first tried to ask J. A. Carson and Partners about this report, I was told that Jack Carson, the man I knew to be its author, was retired and unavailable at present. The firm, I was told, had no knowledge of the study. Asking for Jack Carson's address and telephone number, I was told that the company had now located the report. After another exchange J. A. Carson and Partners sent me a copy of the

report. It was just five paragraphs long.

The first paragraphs make one or two familiar observations about the difficulties of Irwig and Botha's study—difficulties that beset any epidemiological survey. The fifth and final paragraph contains the sting in the tail and might as well have been written by a public relations officer for one of the asbestos mining companies. It records that J. A. Carson and Partners believes all future epidemiological investigations into the asbestos industry in South Africa should be confined to workers in the mines. "People at risk because they live in mining areas should be excluded from future studies because they are too difficult to study."

\* Irwig and Botha studied only whites and coloureds. If they had included the black African population similar anomalies would be noted by normal epidemiological methods. The South African government, through its Pass Laws, obsessively regulates the movement of black workers. But it does not record their births or deaths. Their numbers, so numerous, are simply uncountable.



Fritz Baunach, executive director of SAAPAC

Laurie Flynn is a writer for Granada TV and is cited on the world in relation to the asbestos industry in the South African asbestos industry, "Dust to Dust."



I asked who paid for the study and how much? This, J A Carson and Partners insisted, was not something that could be discussed. It was "confidential between us and the client and cannot be disclosed". I have been able to find out that the client was the South African Asbestos Producers Advisory Committee (SAAPAC). Regrettably, however, I have not been able to discover the size of the fee. But if SAAPAC's usual generous disbursements are anything to go by, J A Carson and Partners is responsible for the five most expensive paragraphs in epidemiological history.

SAAPAC was not slow to spread the Carson critique around. It provided the faint-hearts at the South African MRC with an excuse. The advisory panel to the Asbestos Research Project voted to suppress the publication. Ever since, a relatively uncontroversial scientific paper that demonstrated an excess of cancers among people who live in asbestos mining areas has remained unpublished. Today, the people living and working in these areas are still subjected to grave environmental risk. The two scientists concerned are bravely trying to repeat their research, this time with the new census material. Even now, they have no guarantee of publication. Dr Irwig has since resigned.

Every single act of suppression is injurious to the scientific process as a whole. From the point of view of the victims of suppression, it has the effect of depriving them of the scrutiny, criticisms and advice of other members of their profession, all the more important in this case because there are no other qualified epidemiologists working for the government in South Africa in the field of occupational and environmental health. Professor Brink's censorious and anti-scientific intervention has other, broader, effects. It helps to establish an atmosphere within the South African MRC in which scientists asking original and awkward questions, far from being supported and encouraged, were seen to be pressurised and restricted.

I tried to speak to Professor Webster about the suppression of Irwig and Botha's research. He insisted he knew nothing about it. I also asked him about the fact that by giving a few thousand pounds toward research, the South African asbestos manufacturers found themselves in the enviable position of having seats on the advisory panel of the Asbestos Research Project and therefore of being able to vet all papers from the National Centre for Occupational Health prior to publication, and better than that, when not insisting on the suppression of research to demand that some things be excised and other qualifying phrases inserted. This is how the tape of the conversation runs:

The man from the asbestos companies, Mr Baunach, does he have any scientific qualifications?

(Webster) *To the best of my knowledge he hasn't. No—he has a lot of experience.*

But he vets the work of scientists?

*He gives advice. It's not vetting. He gives advice and, his editorial comments are sometimes very good.*

Does anybody from the trade union side of the industry occupy a similar position?

No.

Do you not think that's a bit unfair?

*Er, not particularly, no.*

Well, have you considered perhaps getting some representatives from the African Mine Workers to give you some editorial advice?

*At the present moment I don't know who I would get in touch with. But we haven't considered that, no.*

But you don't think the involvement of a consultant to the asbestos manufacturers before the publication of scientific research is bad practice?

#### *Unprotected workers in a South African asbestos plant*

*It hasn't caused us any particular concern, no. So, it's never stopped you and your colleagues doing things that you want to do?*

*No, never.*

Unfortunately, this is not true.

Twenty years ago, Professor (then Doctor) Webster was involved in another research programme into the relationship between asbestos and cancer. The project was under the auspices of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and its Pneumoconiosis Research Unit. It followed the historic work of Dr C A Sleggs and Dr Chris Wagner connecting the outbreak of strange lung diseases around Kuruman in the Northern Cape with the dominant industry in the area, asbestos mining and milling. Their work indicated that there was a grave outbreak of asbestos-related cancers, especially mesothelioma (a cancer of the lining of the lung and/or the abdomen—see box), in the blue-asbestos mining areas.

Wagner's investigations went further. He found unbelievable conditions at the mines and mills in the area. The roads on these huge properties were made of loose asbestos waste. There were great plumes of blue dust over the mills. The industry used unlined hessian sacks, cheaper to fill than impermeable ones, and every time the sacks were moved and loaded or unloaded, asbestos dust escaped from them. In places, the asbestos was separated from the rock by the most dangerous and primitive method, hand labour by women often with their babies strapped to their backs. Immense dumps of milled asbestos waste, heavy with fibre, lay open to the wind. People who had lived in the area for short periods, or who had simply passed through, were developing mesotheliomas. In short, there was a public health disaster on a truly terrible scale in the blue asbestos mining areas of the Northern Cape.

Webster was the architect of the research project that followed Sleggs's and Wagner's pioneering investigations; and its guardian in the extraordinary environment of South Africa where the lines between business and government have always been faint. Before long the researchers—and Webster—hit an immovable object: the business interests of the asbestos companies. While prepared to clean up a bit and halt some of their worst excesses, the companies were determined to carry on producing their deadly commodity for profitable domestic consumption and export abroad where it caused still more cancers.

The first phase of the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit's mesothelioma survey was complete by April, 1962. The results were devastating. According to a confidential report dated 30 April, 1962, the survey showed that "even after the most critical re-assessment of the findings... people who live or have lived in the areas of Prinska, Koegas, Kuruman and Penge are in danger of contracting asbestosis even though they have no industrial exposure to

asbestos dust inhalation," and that "an alarmingly high number of cases with mesothelioma of the pleura [the lining of the lung] has been discovered among people who live or have lived in the North Western Cape area and that there is evidence to suggest that this condition is associated with an exposure to asbestos dust which again need not be industrial

"Experiments at our Pneumoconiosis Research Unit over the last three years," the report continues, "suggest that crocidolite asbestos dust may be the carcinogenic factor . . . These discoveries now make it imperative for both the Department of Mines and the industry to assess present dust control and disposal methods and to take immediate steps to attempt to effectively deal with this hazard" Webster was the man charged with the unpleasant task of telling the asbestos industry about the disaster in the Northern Cape. The report records "the industry was accordingly apprised of this fact by Dr I Webster. Unfortunately this knowledge appears to have excited various untoward reactions"

Not the least of these was the decision of the asbestos mining companies to deny funds for more research. They

had initially paid 8000 Rand (about £5000) toward the research, but there was to be no more. Furthermore, a campaign to denigrate the scientists involved was embarked upon. They were accused of "trying to destroy a valuable export industry for self-aggrandisement". They were told that they were meant to be looking into silicosis, not cancer, and it was made abundantly clear to them that they were no longer welcome on the company properties; they had to visit if they were to conduct any further research.

The confidential report of April, 1962, says that these "untoward reactions" meant the "cessation of all field work and accordingly the Mobile Unit [for X-rays] was recalled and has meanwhile been returned to the Department of Mines". An investigation into mesothelioma and air pollution in Prieska was to continue but "would now be called 'An Investigation into Possible Air Pollution by Asbestos Dust' with no direct reference to any possible relationship to the term mesothelioma". The asbestos companies were not only polluting the air, they were polluting the science too.

The confidential report explained why nothing was said: "The unfortunate publicity that was given to the survey in its early days has resulted in certain mining groups feeling that reference to a form of cancer has attached a stigma to the area in which they operate, and that such stigma could adversely affect not only the future recruitment of personnel for their mines, but even the economy of the industry as a whole. While emphasising that this Unit realises its obligation to humanity it is desired to point out that it will endeavour to continue what is regarded by us as necessary research as discreetly as possible and with due consideration of all policies which may be involved."

The "discretion" was soon put to the test. When scientists at the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit broached the matter of publishing their research, the asbestos industry was consulted. The response of the Chamber of Mines and the asbestos mining companies, most then registered in Britain, was amazing. They would allow publication, but only if the cancer hazard was passed off throughout as tuberculosis!

The question of publication haunted the unit for two years, with the then director, Louis Walters, trying to find a way to salvage something. The best he could manage was a shabby compromise. In a letter dated 23 June, 1964, Walters explained "it was subsequently proposed by the Director of the Unit that the survey as such be 'finalised' by the submission of the findings that had been made and a statistical analysis of these. Such a 'report' would not be published or made available outside the Unit, other than to sponsors and the various members of the working committees that had been concerned with the conduct of the 'survey'. This proposal has now been carried out."

In the intervening time, however, two of the scientists involved in the survey resigned. One of them, J C Wagner, came to Britain, joined the Medical Research Council's Pneumoconiosis Research Unit at Penarth in Wales, and continued working on the increasingly incontrovertible relationship between asbestos and cancer. Above all, his work focussed on that particularly potent carcinogen, blue asbestos, which informed and impartial scientific opinion throughout the world has long accepted as so dangerous that it should be left undisturbed below the surface of the Earth. However, the South African asbestos producers continue to fly in the face of all the evidence, to mine and mill blue asbestos and to claim that their product is safe. Their behaviour is an act of criminal folly and will continue to cause death, disease and injury to the people of South Africa and other countries for years to come. Meanwhile Irwig and Botha, worthy members of the scientific community, continue to rework their data. In South Africa the truth is a harsh mistress. □

### The shocking history of asbestos

1857 The first asbestos products appear in England. But it is only with the opening up of deposits in South Africa and Canada in the latter part of the century that production begins in earnest.

1910 The first officially recorded production of blue asbestos (crocidolite) in South Africa. Mining of amosite (a fawn coloured asbestos named after the Asbestos Mines of South Africa) begins soon after.

1918 The Prudential Insurance Company in New York refuses to issue life policies on asbestos workers following reports in the medical journals of cases of lung disease among asbestos workers.

1927 The word "asbestosis" first appears in the medical literature, reflecting a growing medical consensus that the lung scarring that doctors have seen in asbestos workers is not coincidental but is caused by asbestos.

1930 E R A Meiwether and C V Price, medical and engineering inspectors of factories in England respectively, place before parliament a report on asbestos and disease. The now famous report formally recognises that asbestos causes fibrosis of the lung. It leads to legislation the following year forbidding the mixing and blending of asbestos by hand, enforcing local ventilation in factories and demanding the wearing of respirators. But the toll of disease still grows as the industry expands.

1955 Richard Doll publishes evidence that asbestos also causes lung cancer. Although there were sporadic reports of individual cases of lung cancer among asbestos workers as long ago as 1935, it is Doll's paper that convinces many independent scientists that asbestos causes cancer.

1969 Chris Wagner produces overwhelming evidence that blue asbestos has caused cancer among South African miners and among people who lived near the mines. In this case, the cancer is a rare and invariably fatal one called mesothelioma, a cancer of the lining of the lung or abdominal cavity.

1963 The British Occupational Hygiene Society (a professional but unincorporated association) issues a safety standard for chrysotile (white) asbestos that it says, with regard to asbestos workers, "is the only one to be developed". The standard in one form or another is adopted in many industrial countries. Later research shows it to be all right.

1970 Britain adopts a "safety" standard based on the BOHS standard, with the exception that the limit for blue asbestos (0.2 fibres/cu cm) is a tenth that for other kinds of asbestos. This standard is so tough that imports of blue asbestos cease.

1973 In South Africa, the government announces that concentrations of asbestos in the air should not exceed 112 fibres per cubic metre. The government has the power to do so.

# Young father dies in fall at work



**FRANCISCO ALVES**  
First day at work

By JO SHALLIS

A YOUNG bricklayer fell to his death on Monday — three days after arriving in South Africa to earn money for his young family in Madeira

Mr Francisco Alves, 29, arrived unexpectedly in South Africa on Friday, telling relatives in Roodepoort that he had decided to work in this country to raise enough money to build a home in Madeira

He began work at a Nigel building site on Monday and died an hour later when he fell from scaffolding eight

metres above them ground

Miss Rosa Alves, one of Mr Alves' relatives, said yesterday the family had tried since Friday to contact Francisco's wife in Madeira, to tell her he had arrived safely in South Africa

But because the telephone number in Madeira had been changed they only got through on Monday, when they had to break the news of his death

Miss Alves said that all she could say at first to his wife was "Francisco isn't coming back to Madeira."

"Three years ago their daughter died after swallowing poison, then they had a baby girl and things were looking up for them. Now this terrible thing has happened," said Miss Alves

Mr Alves was working on a Nigel construction site for Behnken Civil Engineering Works when the accident occurred

Miss Alves said she had visited the site to try to determine what had happened

Mr Alves will be buried tomorrow after a service at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church in Roodepoort

6+ SECTION 6

2 The Cape Times, Wednesday, April 21, 1982

# A-G gets report on explosion death

Staff Reporter

THE Department of Manpower has submitted a confidential report to the Attorney-General following its inquiry into the death of a City Tramways welder who was killed when a fuel tank exploded

Mr Rodney Campion was welding the tank at the City Tramways Tollgate depot on February 26 when it exploded. He suffered serious burns and died in Woodstock Hospital a few days later.

A Department of Manpower machinery inspector who conducted an inquiry at City Tramways on March 17, Mr A Wyntje, said yesterday he had submitted a report on his findings to the Attorney-General, who will decide whether anyone should be prosecuted.

Mr Wyntje said neither

Mr Campion's wife nor City Tramways had legal representatives at the inquiry.

The senior public prosecutor at Cape Town Magistrate's Court, Mr G Odendaal, said yesterday the judicial inquest into Mr Campion's death had not yet been held "to the best of my recollection".

Mr Campion's wife, Lynette, said she had not heard from City Tramways since filling in a workman's compensation claim about three weeks ago. She was not advised of the date of the inquiry.

However the firm had agreed to send her husband's tools and equipment home.

The Public Relations Officer for City Tramways, Mr Bob Krause, said the company was conducting its own inquiry.

Examiner's Initials:

Initials van Eksaminator:

## CAPE TOWN KAAPSTAD

Heading on the Examination Paper:

B. Bus. Sci.

No. of Answer Books handed in  
Aantal antwoordboeke ingelewer

Number of this book  
Nommer van hierdie boek

## NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

### WAARSKUWING

1 Candidates must not use both sides of the paper for their answers. The left-hand pages may be used for rough work, but the examiners will only give credit for answers written on the right-hand pages.

2 Candidates are reminded to indicate their names on all loose sheets accompanying an answer to an examination question.

3 No candidate may have with him in the examination room any books or notes whatsoever unless specially instructed by the Registrar by written notice to bring such with him, when he may take into the room the books indicated but no other books or notes.

4 A candidate attempting to help or obtain help from any other candidate, or having any unauthorised books or notes in his possession will be liable to be disqualified and to be further dealt with as may be determined by the Senate.

5 A candidate must not take out of the examination room any examination books supplied by the University.

6 Pages must not be extracted from this book.

1 Eksamenantwoorde mag net aan één kant van die papier geskryf word. Kladwerk mag op die agterkant van 'n bladsy gedoen word, maar die eksaminator sal vir eksamendoeleindes alleen in aanmerking neem wat op die voorkant geskryf is.

2 Kandidate word herinner om hulle name op alle los blaaië wat 'n antwoord op 'n eksamenvraag versels, te skryf.

3 Geen kandidaat mag boeke of aantekeninge van watter aard ookal by hom in die eksamenkamer hê nie tensy die Registrateur deur skriftelike kennisgewing las gegee het om bepaalde boeke mee te bring.

4 'n Kandidaat wat probeer om 'n ander kandidaat te help of om hulp van 'n ander kandidaat te verkry, of wat ongeoorloofde boeke of aantekeninge in sy besit in die eksamenkamer het, stel homself bloot aan diskwalifikasie en sulke verdere stappe as wat die Senaat nodig mag ag.

5 Geen eksamenskrifte deur die Universiteit verskaf, mag uit die eksamenkamer weggenem word nie.

6 Geen bladsye mag uit hierdie eksamenskrif geskeur word nie.

# MAN DIES AS SCAFFOLD FALLS

131  
Sowetan  
24/4/82

A MAN was killed and three others seriously injured on Monday morning when scaffolding collapsed on site at the multi-million highway under construction outside Soweto.

The dead man was Mr Sale Ely of Cape Town and the other three undergoing treatment at Leratong Hospital are Mr Edward Nchupetseng from Matikeng, Mr Miteleli Tomi, a Ciskeian, and Mr Sam Selekanjo also from Matikeng

It is believed Mr Ely's body will be flown to Cape Town where it will be buried according to Malaysian rites

The accident occurred at 8 am near Marasburg at a bridge under construction. According to site agent Mr Martin Woodman, the five metre steel scaffold "just collapsed"

### INQUIRY

"No one knows why it fell," he said. Mr Woodman said the steel frames are supported by concrete blocks and mounted on other concrete blocks

Mr Woodman said it would need a "big shove" to push the scaffold from the concrete slabs. He added that an inquiry was going to be conducted into the accident

frames coming down on us I thought the end had come," said Mr Tomi. He said their only warning was a "shattering" noise

### CONFUSED

"For a moment I was confused and did not know what to do, and when it dawned on me that the frames were coming down on us it was too late to run away. I closed my eyes and screamed as the

Mr Ely was working on the bridge when the scaffold collapsed and the other men were working under the bridge

### LUCKY

The three men were taken to Leratong Hospital after the accident. Speaking from his hospital bed yesterday Miteleli Tomi, whose condition is less serious than the other two, said he was lucky to be alive.

"I praise God that I am still alive today," he said. "After I saw the



IN HOSPITAL: Mr Miteleli Tomi.

# King <sup>(131)</sup> officer killed

D. D. Hatch  
23/11/82

**KING WILLIAM'S TOWN** — The body of a 37-year-old policeman was found under tons of machinery which had apparently fallen from a truck onto his car

Police recovered Sergeant M R Mbelu's body yesterday morning, although the accident occurred in Cathcart Street at about 10 pm on Wednesday night

Captain G Jansen, of the CID here, said the extremely heavy machinery had lifted the cab off the car Sergeant Mbelu had been driving

"We're not sure how the accident occurred, but Sergeant Mbelu must have died instantly," he said

The truck driver was not injured — DDR



Police and office workers from nearby buildings battled for more than 20 minutes to free a man from this combi after yesterday's accident.

Picture: RAYMOND PRESTON

# Three hurt as truck smashes 7 vehicles

By JAYNE LA MONT

A RUNAWAY truck slammed into seven vehicles, pushed two of them 50m and flung a wheel high across a busy street to crash into the topmost branches of a tree in central Johannesburg yesterday.

Police and office workers from adjoining buildings, armed with crowbars and saws, battled for more than 20 minutes to free a severely injured man, Mr Richard Moors of Soweto, from a combi which the truck had wrecked.

A passenger in a newspaper delivery truck, Mrs Lizbeth Mafunga, was admitted to Hill-brow Hospital with concussion and bruising and Mr Ubet Mazubko of Hammanskraal was admitted to the hospital with minor injuries.

All are in a satisfactory condition. The driver of the truck, a delivery van for the OK, was not injured and there was only slight damage to his vehicle.

The accident, on the corner of Bok Street and Nugget Hill, occurred shortly after 10am. The owner of a business machine company, Mr Derrick Megson, whose four fleet cars were damaged, saw the accident. "The truck hit a Peugeot parked near the corner in Bok Street, then slammed into a newspaper delivery van which was travelling down Nugget Street.



Two of the seven vehicles which were damaged yesterday by a runaway truck. A 6m fir tree in the park was jamaged by a wheel which flew off the combi. Although the accident happened just metres from him, the man sleeping in the park, left, was oblivious to all the noise and excitement.

"The newspaper van swung around and crashed into a blue combi. The combi's right front wheel flew off and hit a tree in the park on the other side of the road, breaking the branches off all the way down.

"The truck meanwhile swung into Nugget Street and collided with the first of my cars. Then it hit the second and pushed the third and fourth more than 50m down the road before eventually stopping outside my shop," he said.

Mr Megson said if the cars had not been parked outside, the truck would probably have crashed through the plate glass window of his shop and into his reception area.

And traffic between Pretoria and Johannesburg was held up for nearly six hours after a truck overturned on Hadden Bridge near Fountains Circle early yesterday.

Mr Theme van Rensburg, chief superintendent of the Pretoria Traffic Department, said although the road was cleared at 7am, all entrances to the city were heavily congested during the rush hour.

The driver and his passenger were slightly injured after the truck loaded with potatoes, crashed into a kerb and jackknifed on the Verwoerdburg turn-off — Sapa

(131) ~~1971~~ 1981  
23/4/82

# Canned hobos get a rude awakening

By JAYNE LA MONT

A PAIR of vagrants who decided to sleep off a night of revelry in two dustbins, were tipped into a garbage truck yesterday and almost crushed to death.

One man was admitted to the Hillbrow Hospital where he is in a satisfactory condition.

His friend, though bleeding and bruised, disappeared after an ambulance had taken them to hospital.

The two middle-aged men apparently climbed into the dustbins at a factory at Ka-

zerne on Wednesday night.

Early yesterday morning a garbage truck from the Johannesburg Municipality arrived to collect the refuse.

The garbage men loaded the bins, and the two sleeping men, on to their shoulders.

Both men were dumped in the laden truck which drove to the dump at Heriotdale.

It was only when the huge truck was tipping its load out that the two men were found.

One had extensive injuries and the other, although shocked and bleeding, was able to walk.



Water in Marine Drive  
131 C. Times  
Ammonia  
24/4/82  
leak closes  
City road

Staff Reporter

A SECTION of Marine Drive was closed to traffic yesterday morning while firemen sprayed water over a leaking liquid ammonia container.

According to a spokesman for South African Transport Services, the container's safety valve had started leaking shortly before 9am at the container berth where it was awaiting transport to the Fedmis factory in Milnerton.

Railways staff then towed it to an open section of Marine Drive which they closed to traffic.

Members of the Metro Rescue Unit and Cape Town Fire Brigade were called and the container was sprayed with water.

A spokesman for the fire brigade said yesterday that there had been no danger of an explosion. An excess of escaping gas would have been uncomfortable for anyone caught in its path.

He said firemen wearing breathing apparatus had sprayed water to dilute the gas, minimizing its burning effect.

# You, too, can be a newshound

Do you know that YOU can be a newshound? It's as easy as reaching for the telephone if there is something happening in your neighbourhood that you think we ought to know about. Remember we are YOUR newspaper, at YOUR service.

desk and we will get a reporter to that event. I necessarily have to be a big accident.

Remember, news is ANYTHING that people: Be a newshound TODAY - and get your area into We serve you!

So phone us NOW - at 673-4160/2/3. Ask for the news

## Big indaba to be held tomorrow

# KAUNDA T MEET P W

*Sowetan 29/4/82*

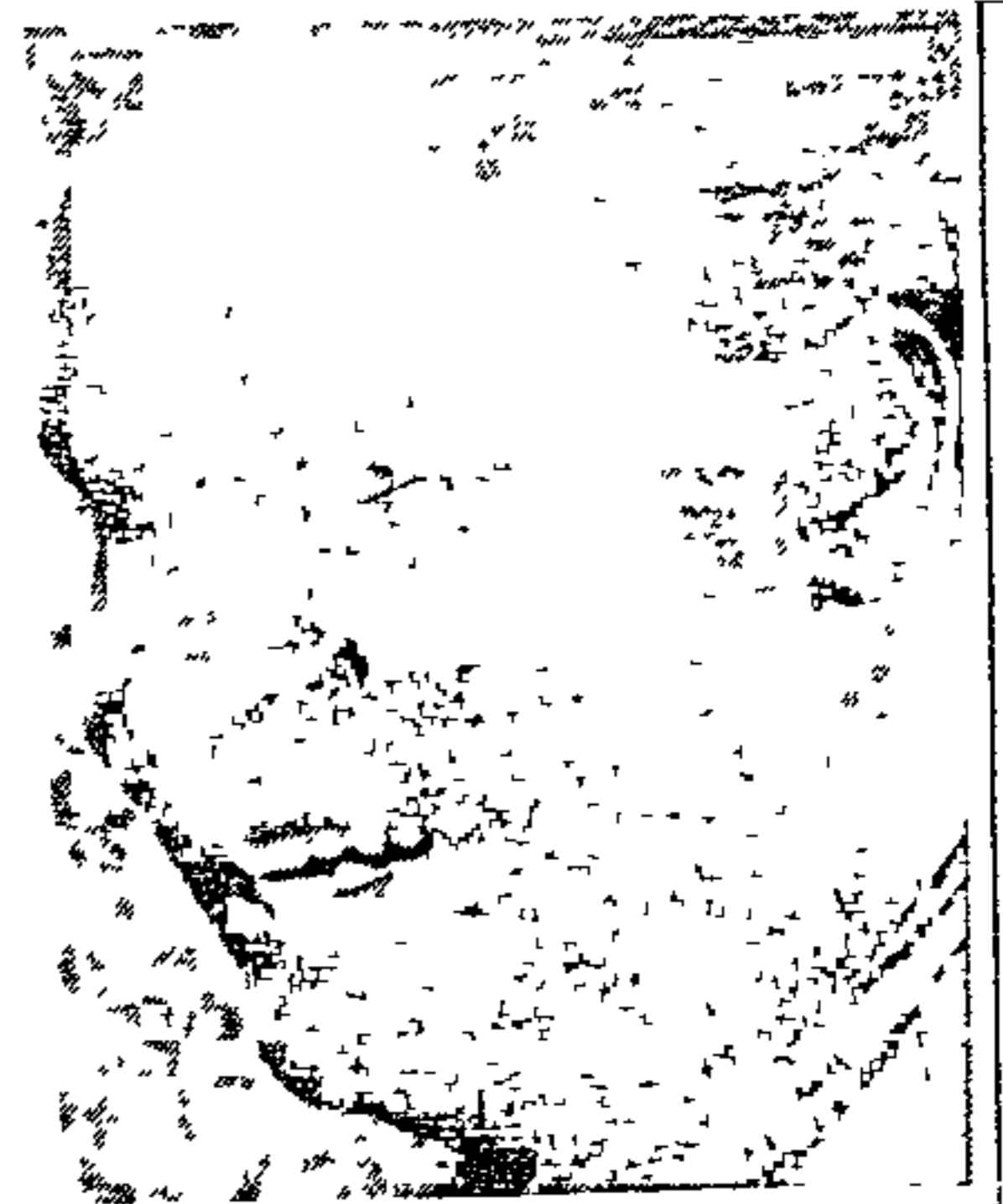
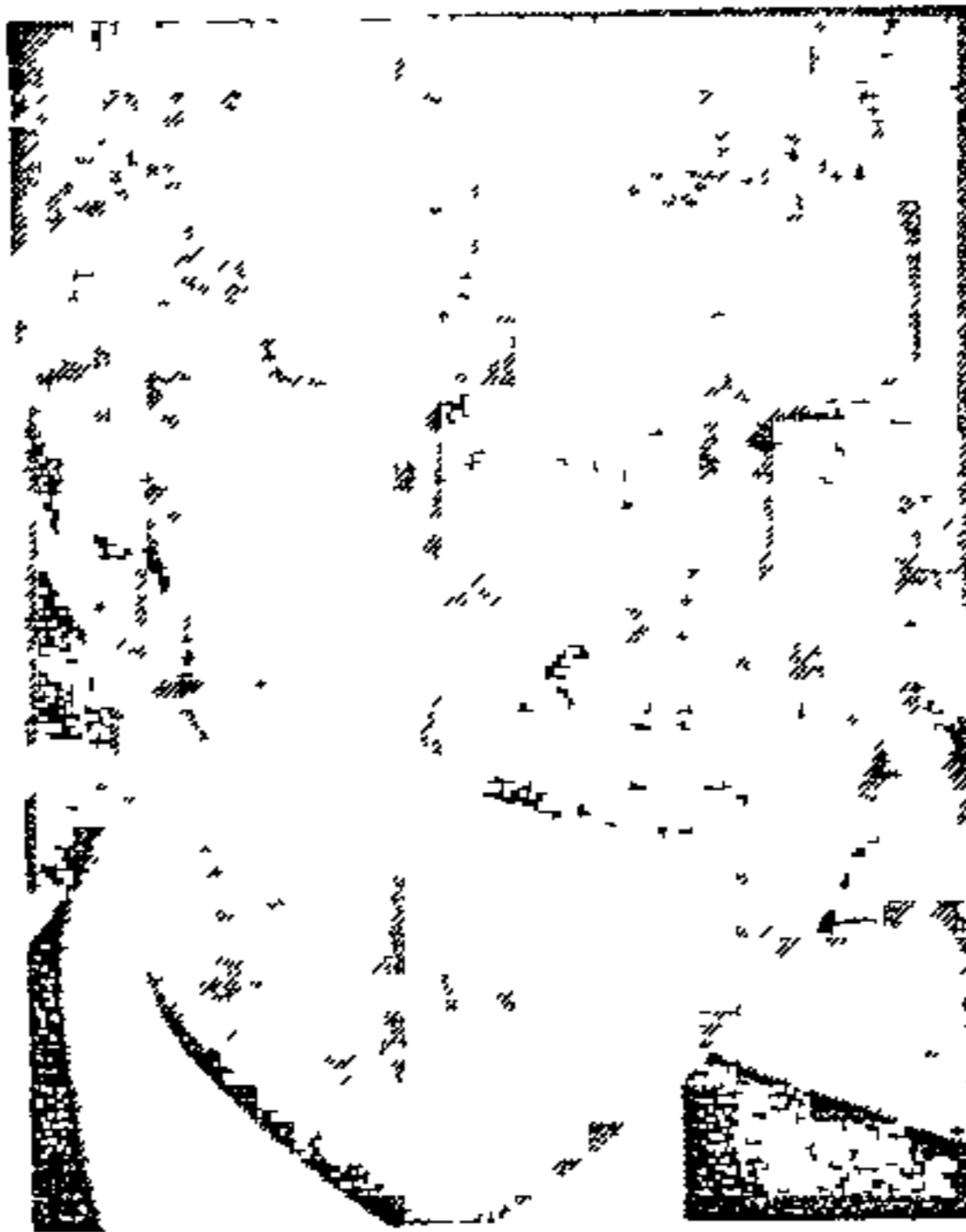
**SOUTH AFRICAN Prime Minister P W Botha and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia meet in a secret venue tomorrow just north of Mafikeng.**

Mr P W Botha and Dr Kenneth Kaunda are to discuss delicate matters affecting both countries

This is the first time in nearly seven years that the two governments will meet at such high level

The previous occasion was the Bridge Summit in August 1975 when former Prime Minister Mr John Vorster and Dr Kaunda had talks at Victoria Falls during the Rhodesian settlement negotiations

First indications of a possible meeting between Mr Vorster's successor and the Zambian President came from Dr Kaunda when at a Press conference in Lusaka he said he believed he and Mr Botha ought to discuss the "explosive situation" in southern Africa



FACE TO FACE: P W Botha meets Kaunda tomorrow

southern Africa and... takes place, we are

## Mute workers get compensation

This was in reaction to an article published in the SOWETAN of April 17 on how the Sebeldas were dependent on a meagre pension. Mr Sebeldas was not present at his home when we broke the news to the family.

Mr Elias Sebeldas sole ill-health and that it was for his own good to submit his proof for birth as early as possible. He denied the fact that Mr Sebeldas was dismissed after he had lost sight while on duty.

Mr Visser told the SOWETAN yesterday that Mr Elias Sebeldas sole ill-health and that it was for his own good to submit his proof for birth as early as possible. He denied the fact that Mr Sebeldas was dismissed after he had lost sight while on duty.

A deaf and dumb Sowetan man who was allegedly fired from work after sustaining injuries while at work will soon receive a workman's compensation. The group personnel manager of Ozalid South Africa Pw Ltd



affected - Sapa  
its services from operat-  
serving about 25 000  
buses in the area

# Meadowlands woman falls into electricity ditch

# TRENCHES KILL

Some of them  
131

THE DREADED SOWETO trenches have finally claimed a life — a 42-year-old Meadowlands woman this week fell head-first into an electricity trench and died.

And just two days before she met her death, another woman fell into another trench in the area and fractured an arm.

The dead woman, Ms Lydia Mogamise, died instantly in the trench that runs from her 471F Zone Three, Meadowlands home's front door. Her family said yesterday she seemed to have bashed her head against the hard bottom ground of the near one-and-a-half metre deep trench.

Her husband, Mr Abraham Botsi, told reporters his wife also had a broken neck and a serious injury on the eye

when taken out of the trench

"As if they do not care, these people were still busy digging and widening the same trench this morning

Whites in town don't have trenches opened and left like that for ages. Did someone have to die first before people responsible could act?" asked a sad Mr Botsi.

Another relative, Mrs Julia Sepatake, said she was inside the house when Ms Mogamise

slipped and fell into the trench at about 8 pm on Tuesday. "By the time we realised what was happening, she was dead," she said.

In another incident in the same area, Mrs Johanna Ratombo (32) injured her leg and fractured her arm when she slipped and fell into a trench dug in her yard.

The trench runs from her front door to another that runs the street's length along the fence



KILLER: Mr Botsi shows trench.

the Motor Industry Combined Workers Union.

## Angry

These incidents come at a time when the trenches, which have been lying open for about two years, are reported to have made councillors in the Diepmeadow Community Council angry. The council has appointed a special committee to "find out why the trenches are not yet filled."

Just five months ago a 78-year-old granny fell into a trench injuring herself seriously. The gaping trenches can be found in most parts of Diepkloof, Meadowlands and central Soweto.

Mr J C Mahuhushi, chairman of the Diepmeadow Council, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

In Buenos Aires, the Argentine Government confirmed that British Harrier jets had attacked the Port Stanley airfield.

A communiqué from the military junta said the attack had "not affected the defensive capability of the recovered territories", taken to be a claim that the airfield was not seriously damaged.

It also claimed that the Harriers had been "repelled by anti-aircraft fire".

The Noticias Argentinas news agency quoted "reliable sources" as saying that two Harriers had been shot

### re-president

#### Cricket Union

Province's Geoff Dakin the South African Cricket meeting at the Wanderers

it of the Eastern Province and is a former captain of cricket career he scored more up competition and played and New Zealand touring attention to the post as a great and himself He was proud age 3

freezing temperatures and poor food, the raid is certain to affect morale

Government spokesman stressed the air strike did not mean that Britain was abandoning efforts to find a diplomatic solution

The attack this morning was launched as the the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Francis Pym, prepared to fly to Washington for talks with the US Secretary of State, Mr Alexander Haig, on the 30-day-old Falklands crisis

The visit comes in the wake of a major political development in which the United States, after failing to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the dispute, has sided openly with Britain and has increased its pressure on Argentina to withdraw from the islands

A ban on US arms sales to Argentina and suspension of certain government credits and loan guarantees, described by a senior Administration official as a "political signal", were announced yesterday, as well as an offer to support the British task force in the Atlantic with military supplies

SIMPSON (Cape), LEIGH HARDING (Johannesburg), BLOEMFONTEIN and DENAE WRIGHT (Johannesburg). The finals take place on Monday night in

# Industry in PE/U'hage area exacts a grim toll of death

By SALLY KERNOHAN

ONE man dies every seven working days in industrial accidents in the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage complex, Weekend Post established following lengthy research this week

Three men are permanently disabled every two days

While research was in progress a man was blown up and seriously burnt in an explosion at a city plastics factory His was one of few cases finding its way into newspapers

The vast majority of accidents — numbering 9 667 in a particularly bad year (1976) — are never reported and victims are statistics buried in Government files Weekend Post unearthed

some of them with difficulty this week No local breakdown of industrial blackspots was available from any Government source and the latest collated Government figures were four years old

Even so, they confirmed suspicions raised by immigrants who have frequently complained to Weekend Post about the inferior safety measures found here in engineering shops and motor plants

In the last three years for which these figures are available, ending 1978, a total of 102 men died — averaging 34 a year In a 48-week working year, of five days a week (240 days), this meant one man died every seven working days

In the same period, 1 076 men were permanently disabled — an average of 359, or three every two working days

In one engineering shop alone in Port Elizabeth, workers claimed, between 23 and 27 people have lost limbs in the last 10 years

Totals varied according to individual recollections Yet this region is regarded as a "relatively low-key accident potential area" by Government officials

Inspections of individual engineering shops take place only once every four years — and the factories are notified in advance when an inspection is going to take place

The National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa), which is the watchdog over industrial safety, can visit only factories to which it has been invited, in order to provide advice and guidance

But Nosa's figures do reveal that the black spots are the small engineering shops — the injury rate there being three times as high as the large concerns, and 12 times higher than in the motor plants

He said many concerns pleaded ignorance when accidents were attributable to negligence, but this was no excuse as the Factories, Machinery and Building Work Act had been in existence for more than 40 years

"Every enterprise has to have a copy of the Act clearly in evidence and there is no excuse for not complying with the rules and regulations laid down in it," he said

It was in a North End erection

## Love affairs and intrigue in Dias Council

The whole issue had taken on the dimension of personal in-fighting because Dr Botha was determined to get to the bottom of the reason for resignations by staff

Dr Botha became chairman after the shock resignation of the former chairman, Mr Leo Kohler, allowing Mr Botha's election as vice-chairman last October

Two other councillors who also relinquished their posts in sympathy with Mr Kohler are the former vice-

chairman, Mr Dennis Howard, and Mr Bernie Calitz

"But the rot had already set in before that," said the former Divisional Council employee She thought the councillors might have resigned because they had seen the writing on the wall and did not want to get involved

She claimed there were problems in the work situation arising out of love affairs which clouded people's better judgment

"A seed of discontent was sown in the office," she said

She was "not surprised" that senior committee clerk, Mrs Judy Wennmann, had resigned She was subjected to "vicious backbiting"

Other employees had to "cover up" for the liaisons of those involved

"People who did not accept the situation were branded as immature and were victimised — so much so that some were forced to seek employment elsewhere"

Dr Botha, who himself

cheerfully admitted to Weekend Post today to having a colourful background, said that the claims made by the former employee were not *wolhaarstories* (shaggy dog stories)

He declined to comment further, but said that "it would all come out" in the council's internal inquiry, and it would be up to the presiding officer to weigh up the evidence

Dr Botha said he hoped that the sitting councillors

## Entries are pouring in for Post Supermum competition



THERE have been entries from all over the Eastern Cape for the Evening Post-VSN SUPERMUM competition, which offers prizes totalling more than R3 000 to entrants of all ages, their Supermums and Supergrans.

To enter the competition, simply tell us in not more than 20 words why you think you have a Supermum, and you could be a winner. An entry form and a full colour page of some of the entries is in today's Family Post

Enterainers Des and Dawn Lindberg will be in the VSN Centre, Main Street, next Saturday with a special Mother's Day show to entertain all Port Elizabeth's "Super people". There is no admission fee and the show and prizegiving begins at 11am Don't miss it!

To page 3

**Weekend Post Reporters**  
TO get up-to-date statistics of industrial accidents in the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage region is no easy task

The National Occupational Safety Association figures are based on a disabling injury which prevents a man doing his job for longer than a full shift, or if he suffered bone damage.

These figures are incomplete because they reflect only accidents at premises to which Nosa has been invited.

The figures are not broken down into categories for fatalities or permanently maimed workers

The Department of Manpower Utilisation in Port Elizabeth had a national figure, but because this had not yet been tabled in Parliament, they

# Hunting accident details proved a difficult trail

E. Post  
11/5/87  
31

could not release it

Officials there suggested telephoning the Occupational Safety Department in Pretoria, who in turn suggested getting hold of a copy of the *Workmen's Compensation Act 1941 — Report on Statistics*

This bound book was freely available through libraries, the official said.

But reference sections at the Port Elizabeth Library and University of Port Elizabeth Library could only turn up copies dating back to the late 1930s.

Contained in this report is a complete breakdown

of all industrial accidents on a regional basis as well as numbers killed, permanently injured or not seriously injured.

Library personnel suggested the regional offices of the Department of Statistics.

Here it was found that statistics were kept of all accidents excluding domestic workers, but that no analysis was made of these accident statistics on a regional basis

A spokesman for the regional office also admitted that the figures were misleading as many accidents were reported

through head offices not situated in this region

Another call to Pretoria — this time to the Department of Statistics there — revealed that the most recent figures they had were for 1978, though they were busy working on those for 1979.

A department official explained: "Figures are only released once most of the negotiations with the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner on payments have been completed"

The official admitted that his department had a backlog going back at least two years

# High death toll among local factory hands

131  
G. Post

● From Page 1

press shop that the spate of 23 to 27 accidents allegedly took place

Workers there claimed that injuries varied from lost finger tips to arms being cut off at the elbow due to a lack of proper safety guards on machinery and the inadequate training of employees

Figures from Livingstone Hospital indicate that in 1980, 1 614 workers (six every working day) were treated following accidents on duty. In 1979, 1 450 were treated and in 1978, 1 443. Last year's figures are not yet available

Injuries to the accident victims ranged from minor sprains to lost limbs. A breakdown of the injuries was not available either.

One of Nosa's latest reports shows South Africa has experienced 333 675 injury-causing industrial accidents in one year

The estimated loss in manpower is 29 000 000 working days

According to the report the latter figure is equivalent to about 100 000 workers lying idle every working day which far exceeds the present effective immigration growth

Even more startling is that the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner and the accident funds approved by him pay out about R26,2 million a year in compensation, rehabilitation and medical expenses because of injuries.

● Government officials from the Department of Occupational Safety in Pretoria claim that the industrial accident rate is decreasing on a national basis. A spokesman said "When you consider that more and more people are coming into the national workforce, the figures are not rising that much."

# Asbestos

## probe

Cape Times 3/5/82

## cover-up

## denied

131  
[Signature]

By LOUISE DENDY-YOUNG

AN ALLEGATION by a leading British science journal that the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) had suppressed publication of a scientific paper on the deadly hazard of blue asbestos as a result of pressure from the asbestos industry was strongly rejected by the MRC on Friday

The MRC admitted, however, that it had stopped the publication of the paper at a conference in New York in 1978 because of doubts as to its "scientific value"

The allegation of the MRC's suppression of the paper, which pointed to the link between asbestos and cancer not only for those working in the industry but also for those living in the vicinity, appears in an in-depth article in the latest edition of the authoritative British Science Journal "New Scientist"

### Actuaries

The journal also claims that a firm of actuaries in Johannesburg was probably paid handsomely by the South African Asbestos Producers' Advisory Committee for their part in the alleged cover-up

Describing the alleged withholding of the research paper as an "act of criminal folly", the journal states that in 1978 Dr Leslie Irwig, a South African researcher working at the National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases, was to have presented a paper on the "Mortality from asbestos-related disease in South Africa" to a scientific conference organized by the New York Academy of Sciences

However, the article claims, "Irwig and his co-author, Dr Hannes Botha, were flatly ordered not to read the paper by the South African Medical Research Council

"Today, three-and-a-half years later, the research has still not seen the light of day"

Medicine at Stellenbosch University, and President of the MRC he flatly ordered Botha to pass on the instruction to Irwig, who had already left for New York"

Later the doctors submitted a revised version of their paper This met a similar fate

According to the journal, a health consultant to the Kuruman Cape Asbestos Blue Mine Company, who also sat on the advisory panel of the MRC's Asbestos Research Project, obtained a copy of the revised paper and commissioned a firm of consulting actuaries in Johannesburg to produce a report criticizing the revised and still-unpublished paper

### Workers

"It (the actuarial report) records that all future epidemiological investigations into the asbestos industry in South Africa should be confined to workers in the industry People at risk because they live in mining areas should be excluded from future studies because they are too difficult to study"

The firm of actuaries was paid for the study by the South African Asbestos Producers' Advisory Committee, probably generously, the article states

As a result of the report, the advisory panel of the MRC's Asbestos Research Project voted to suppress the publication

After being supplied with a copy of the New Scientist report by the Cape Times, Mr W B Olivier, Public Relations Officer for the MRC, said the "allegations made are unfounded and further, a distortion of a half-truth"

### Vice-President

Mr Olivier said the MRC did in fact stop the reading of the paper in New York The MRC's decision was conveyed not by Professor Brink but by Professor J de V Lochner, Vice-President of the MRC This was because it was felt the paper was open to criticism on

### Reasons

According to the journal, "the MRC made its move to suppress the paper for political, not scientific reasons, at the direct request of the asbestos mining companies, which did not like what the paper said

"The instruction that the paper should not be read in New York came from Professor A J Brink Dean of the Faculty of

"But we did not forbid them to publish point blank" Mr Olivier said

He added the asbestos workers' union had representation on the MRC's asbestos advisory panel and that the MRC rejected outright any suggestion that it had acted as a result of pressure from the asbestos industry

Cape Times 4/5/82

# 'Horrified' by blue asbestos cover-up claim

131

By LOUISE  
DENDY-YOUNG

A PARTNER of a Johannesburg actuarial firm said yesterday that he was "horrified" at the accusation in the latest edition of New Scientist that his firm had been paid generously to discredit a scientific paper on the deadly hazard of blue asbestos.

New Scientist, a leading British science journal, claimed in its April 22 edition that the firm was involved in a cover-up of the scientific paper which was called "Mortality from asbestos-related disease in South Africa" and was written by Dr Leslie Irwig and Dr Hannes Botha.

The paper claimed that "people living in asbestos-producing areas (but not necessarily working in the asbestos industry) died more often than usual from cancer".

According to the article, the South African Medical Research Council (MRC), under pressure from the asbestos industry, was also involved in the "suppression" of the paper.

The MRC, while acknowledging it stopped publication of the paper in New York in 1978 because of its "doubtful scientific value", has denied it refused publication of the paper "point blank".

According to the article in New Scientist, Mr Fritz Baunach, who sat on the advisory panel of the MRC's Asbestos Research Project, tried (successfully) to halt a second at-

tempt to publish the paper by commissioning an actuarial firm in Johannesburg to produce a report criticizing the paper.

The article claims further that the actuarial firm produced the report for a presumably generous fee paid by the South African Asbestos Producers' Advisory Committee.

On the strength of the actuarial report, the paper was again suppressed, according to the article.

Both the actuarial firm and Mr Fritz Baunach, contacted yesterday, acknowledged they knew about the paper.

"I am absolutely horrified at the suggestion that there is any sort of cover-up," a partner of the firm said.

"We did not actually charge a fee for it (the actuarial report) and it contained nothing that any elementary student of statistics could not have written."

"I assure you we are absolutely respectable and horrified."

Mr Baunach, who is a member of the advisory panel of the National Centre for Occupational Health, admitted "Yes, we threw it (the Irwig/Botha paper) out because the premises of the investigation were wrong."

"Dr Hannes Botha admitted that to me."

Mr Baunach suggested the Cape Times contact Dr Botha himself at Tygerberg Hospital. However, Tygerberg said it had no such person on its staff.



er-  
di-  
an-  
the  
500  
on  
m-  
dy  
up,  
in,  
li-

## Worker hurt in lift shaft fall (13)

20M, 5/5/82  
A CONSTRUCTION worker was seriously injured yesterday when he fell down a lift shaft while working on Sandton's new Holiday Inn building site

The accident occurred near where a roof collapsed during building several weeks ago, killing one man and injuring two others. Mr Siteh Kili was taken to hospital with an injured back

A  
te  
b-  
id  
in  
n

# Court told of attack on security guard

CAPE TIMES 6/5/82

Staff Reporter

A BLOUBERG-STRAND man drew a gun and hit a security guard in the mouth with the butt after being asked to leave the premises of the Heerengracht Hotel on April 17, a Cape Town magistrate heard yesterday

Mr George Daniels was testifying at the trial of Jean Louis Pelissier, 41, who pleaded not guilty to a charge of assault with the intent to do grievous bodily harm and a further charge of pointing a firearm

Mr Daniels told the court he was on duty at the hotel and about 7 30pm he went to the fifth floor to check for loiterers

"I saw Mr Pelissier and two other people in the corridor and I asked them what they were doing there as all the bars and restaurants were closed Mr Pelissier then became very aggressive and as we got to the lift he pushed me into the doors and then he drew a revolver from his bag and hit me in the mouth with the butt"

Two police reservists were summoned and Mr Pelissier was taken to a mobile police post on the Grand Parade

Constable P M du Toit testified that he arrived at the caravan and asked Mr Pelissier to hand him the bag with the gun

"When I tried to reach for the bag, he drew the revolver and pointed it at my head His finger was on the trigger and I was very scared I lunged forward and took the gun away from him and emptied the chambers," Constable Du Toit said

## Birthday celebration

Mr Pelissier said he could not remember the incident as he and a few friends had gone to a restaurant to celebrate a birthday and had been drinking all afternoon

He also said he carried the gun with him for self-defence as he had been assaulted four times

The hearing was adjourned to May 10

Mr D Cronje was the magistrate Mr S Shrock prosecuted Mr G P J Crawford appeared for Mr Pelissier

ation

RVICES

CS

Commercial, Catering & East London Liquor &

Catering and Accommodation

Transvaal Retail M

Eretorlase Vakbond v

National Union of D

National Union of Ca

Kimberley Shop Assis

Domestic Workers and

Concession Stores and

Commercial, Catering

Black Allied Workers

Wholesale & Retail T

WHOLESALE & RETAIL TR

S.A. Electrical Work

Steel, Engineering an

S.A. Woodworkers

S.A. Operative Masons

Port Elizabeth Operat

National Union of Eng

Metal and Allied Work

General Workers Union

Engineering Industria

Engineering and Allied

Electrical and Allied

Electrical and Allied

Building Workers Union

Building, Construction and Allied Workers Union

Blankenbouverkervakbond

Black Allied Workers Union

Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers

Amalgamated Engineering Union of South Africa

Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers

## CONSTRUCTION

Johannesburg Municipal Water Work Mechanics Union

General Workers Union

Escom Workers Association

Escom Salaried Staff Association

Escom (Cape Western Undertaking) Salaried Staff Association

Cape Town Gas Workers Union

## ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER

S.A. Diamond Workers Union

S.A. Association of Dental Mechanicians

Optical Workers Union

Jewelers and Goldsmiths Union

Diamond Cutters Union of South Africa

Other

# Asbestos hazard claims probed

CAPE TIMES 7/5/82 (131)

Staff Reporter  
DR Hannes Botha, co-author of the controversial research paper on the hazard of blue asbestos which has been withheld from presentation since 1978, told the Cape Times yesterday that the validity of the research results were currently being verified and it was hoped the paper would be presented within a year.

He said additional information was also being collected.

The paper, which points to the link between asbestos and cancer, not only for those working in the

industry but also for those living in the vicinity of asbestos mining, was first scheduled to be read at a science conference in New York in 1978.

According to the latest edition of the authoritative British science journal "New Scientist", the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) "flatly ordered" Dr Botha and his co-author Dr Leslie Irwig not to read the paper at that conference.

The MRC has admitted it stopped the presentation of the paper at that stage because of doubts as to its "scientific value". It denied however, that it prevented publication "point blank".

According to New Scientist, a later attempt by the doctors to present a revised version of their paper was again stymied by the actions of Mr Fritz

Baunach who sat on the advisory panel of the MRC's Asbestos Research Project.

Mr Baunach, who is now a member of the advisory panel of the National Centre for Occupational Health admitted this week "Yes, we threw it (the Irwig/Botha paper) out. Because the premises of the investigation were wrong."

"Dr Hannes Botha admitted that to me."

However, contacted yesterday, Dr Botha disagreed that the premises of the investigation had been wrong.

## 'Shortcomings'

What he did admit to Mr Baunach, he said, was that "we were aware of certain shortcomings in the study. However it is customary for research workers to present preliminary results at scientific meetings to elicit criticism which would lead to an improvement of their work."

Dr Botha, who works at the Institute for Bio-Statistics at the MRC, said it was not possible for the Cape Times to see the paper.

"We do not want it published in the press before its been published in a scientific journal," he said.

He added "Because of the sensitivity of the issue, the MRC felt that the validity of the results should be verified and at present a second phase of the study encompassing a 10-year period, is under way."

"It may be noted that at present a medically-qualified staff member is devoting most of his time to this study."

Dr Botha said he hoped the paper would be presented by late this year or early next year.

The co-author of the paper, Dr Leslie Irwig, was not available for comment as he is in Canada.

l  
I  
a  
b  
c  
n  
v  
s  
s  
E  
-  
fl  
di  
br  
za  
c  
a  
s  
c  
l  
j

# Asbestos: Clamp on report condemned

ARGUS 13/1  
7/5/82

## Science Reporter

LACK of controls in the asbestos industry, in spite of many studies dating from 1955 which have linked asbestos to lung cancer, is an example of the legislative timelag which gives cancer-causing substances the benefit of the doubt.

This was stated in a debate at the University of Cape Town on medicine and industrial health by Miss Jude Cornell, a member of Department of Sociology's industrial health research unit.

She said the alleged suppression by the Medical Research Council (MRC) of a report on the relationship between cancer deaths and blue and brown asbestos mining was "a particularly crass example of irresponsibility in science."

## RISK

She added "It was made worse because the whole debate took place at a level where it was completely out of the hands of those most at risk — the mineworkers and their families"

The allegation of the MRC cover-up was made recently by the New Scientist, a British journal which described the withholding of the report, due to have been delivered at a conference in New York in June 1978, by its co-authors, Dr Leslie Irwig and Hannes Botha, as "an act of criminal folly."

The MRC has admitted that it stopped the publication of the paper, but

dismissed the New Scientist allegation that this was on the insistence of the asbestos industry.

Its authors were told not to present their findings because of "doubts of their scientific value"

Miss Cornell, however, said that Dr Irwig, who was working at the National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases, "is a very widely respected scientist"

She said there were many comparable studies throughout the world which supported the paper's findings that people living in asbestos-producing areas, including those who did not necessarily work in the asbestos industry, faced a greater cancer threat than those living elsewhere

## PANEL

These studies, and Dr Irwig's report were in direct contradiction to an actuarial report which the New Scientist alleged was commissioned by a member of the advisory panel of the MRC's asbestos research project and who was a "health consultant to the Kuruman Cape Asbestos Blue Mine Company"

According to the journal, the actuarial report recommended that "all future epidemiological investigations into the asbestos industry in South Africa should be confined to the workers in the industry. People at risk because they live in mining areas should be excluded from future studies because they are too difficult to study"

Welders Society

Pretorlase Bakmywert  
Operative Bakers, C  
National Union of W  
National Union of S  
National Union of O  
National Union of D  
National Milling Wo  
Natal Sugar Industr  
Natal Baking Indust  
General Workers Uni  
General Workers Uni  
Food, Beverage & Al  
Food and Canning W  
East London Meat Tr  
Cadbury In-company  
Brewery Employees I  
Boland Immaakwerke  
Black Allied Worke  
Bakery Employees I  
Amalgamated Engine  
African Food and C  
Food & Beverages

## MANUFACTURING

Underground Offici  
S.A. Technical Off  
S.A. Engine Driver  
S.A. Electrical Wo  
S.A. Boilermakers,  
Mine Workers Unio  
Mine Surface Offic  
Mine Coloured Sta  
Iron Moulders Soc  
Federated Mining  
Black Mineworkers  
Black Allied Work  
Amalgamated Socie  
Amalgamated Unio  
Amalgamated Engin

## MINING AND QUARRIES

Trawler and Line  
Orange-Vaal Gener  
National Certific  
Food and Canning  
Farmworkers Unio  
Black Allied Wor

## AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY

Unions have been classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities. The full extent of the operation of the following general workers unions has not been established:

National Federation of Workers  
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union  
General and Allied Workers Union

131 RDM 14/5/82

# Computer screen hazard warning

GENEVA — Employers and trade unions should negotiate strict rules for the use of Visual Display Units (VDUs) to prevent damage to health, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said yesterday.

An ILO study said the microprocessors have revolutionised the handling of information, but at a price

For one thing it said, "thousands of jobs are at risk as traditional skills become obsolete"

"At the same time, the possibility of other repercussions has arisen" the ILO said

"Using screen-based VDUs means that hundreds of thousands of people in the world

will spend their working day staring at a bright flickering screen

"According to a research report VDUs cause eye-strain, backache and exhaustion if used for a long time

"The main stress factor is the frequent switching of eyes from copy to the keyboard and screen and back —

up to 33 000 head or eye movements per day'

Studies into the dangers are underway in the United States, Britain, France and West Germany, the ILO said

In France last year 48 terminal keyboard operators won an extra 25-minute daily break and the option of working one hour a day without using display screens — UPI

# 1 killed, 2 hurt in factory blast

Argus 14/5/82 131

Chemical &

Black Alliance  
Cape Explosives  
Chemical and  
Chemical Workers  
Chemical Workers  
Durban Rubber  
Engineering  
Engineering  
Federated  
Industrial  
General Workers  
Metal and  
National Union  
National Union  
S.A. Chemical  
South African  
Steel, Engineering  
Umbogintweni  
Weskaapse

Non-Metall

Building,  
Glass & Al  
Glass Workers Union  
National Cement Employees Union  
National Union of Brick and Allied Workers  
Transport & General Workers Union

Products

on

rs  
th Africa

Argus Correspondent  
**JOHANNESBURG.**  
One man died and two men were injured in an explosion at the Modderfontein Dynamite factory near Johannesburg last night bringing to 10 the number of people killed in blasts at the plant this year.

The names of the dead and injured are being withheld until their families have been informed.

The explosion happened at 9.25 pm in the detonating fuse plant in the section of the factory where cotton is wound round the explosive core of detonating fuses.

An AECI spokesman said the two injured men were taken to the plant's hospital. Their condition was not serious.

The spokesman said the

explosion happened inside a cubicle with strengthened walls. The detonator core was continuously fed through the wall.

"The moment a problem occurs a guillotine cuts the core and seals the cubicle off. In this way the explosion was minimised," explained the spokesman.

On February 17 a man was killed and six were injured in two explosions in the refuse acid station at the factory. Fire broke out at the station immediately after the explosion.

A day later eight people died and 21 were injured when a third explosion rocked the AECI plant as a team investigated the previous day's blasts.

The cause of last night's explosion is not yet known.

Base Metal Industries and Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products  
Machinery and Equipment

- Amalgamated Engineering Union of South Africa
- Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers
- Black Allied Workers Union
- Electrical and Allied Trade Union of S.A.
- Electrical and Allied Workers Union of S.A.
- Engineering and Allied Workers Union
- Engineering Industrial Workers Union of S.A.
- General Workers Union
- General Workers Union of South Africa
- Iron Moulders Society of South Africa
- Metal and Allied Workers Union
- Motor Assembly Components Workers Union of South Africa
- Motor Industry Employees Union of South Africa
- Motor Industry Combined Workers Union
- Motor Industry Staff Association
- National Union of Engineering, Industrial and Allied Workers
- National Union of Motor Assembly & Rubber Workers of S.A.
- Radio Television, Electronic and Allied Workers Union
- S.A. Boilermakers, Iron and Steelworkers, Shipbuilders and Welders
- S.A. Electrical Workers Union
- S.A. Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union
- S.A. Tin Workers Union
- South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)
- Steel, Engineering and Allied Workers Union
- Transvaal, Radio, Television and Allied Workers Union
- United African Motor and Allied Workers Union

# Woman dies in outhouse blaze

es

14/5/82

Post Reporter

E. Post

A DOMESTIC worker, Mrs Susan Hofmeyer, died early this morning in a fire which gutted a wood and iron outhouse in Mount Pleasant.

The fire at 22 Phyllis Road also damaged an adjoining garage on the premises. The home is occupied by Mr and Mrs P J Rautenbach.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It is thought possible a lighted candle may have accidentally been knocked over, as the shack had no electricity.

A lawnmower in the garage is thought to have exploded shortly after 1am as a result of the fire. A large crowd gathered as firemen battled to extinguish the blaze.

"When we got to the fire the shack was already burning furiously," a spokesman for the Mount Pleasant fire brigade said.

"We put out the fire quickly and it was only afterwards when we put a spotlight on the shack that we saw the body," he said.

Mrs Hofmeyer was lying with her legs drawn up to her chest, according to a bystander, Mr H S Du Plessis.

The owner of the house, Mr Rautenbach, refused to speak to reporters.

The police are investigating.

Pretorlase Bakmywe  
Operative Bakers,  
National Union of  
National Union of  
National Union of  
National Union of  
National Milling W  
Natal Sugar Indust  
Natal Baking Indust  
General Workers Uni  
General Workers Uni  
Food, Beverage & Al  
Food and Canning W  
East London Meat Tr  
Cadbury In-company  
Brewery Employees U  
Boland Imakkwerker  
Black Allied Worker  
Bakery Employees In  
Amalgamated Enginee  
African Food and Ca  
Food & Beverages

## MANUFACTURING

Underground Official  
S.A. Technical Officials Association  
S.A. Engine Drivers, Firemen and Operators Association  
S.A. Electrical Workers Association  
S.A. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Workers Shipbuilders and Welders Society  
Mine Workers Union  
Mine Surface Officials Association of South Africa  
Mine Coloured Staff Association of South Africa  
Iron Moulders Society of S.A.  
Federated Mining Explosives and Chemical Employees Union  
Black Mineworkers Union  
Black Allied Workers Union  
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers of S.A.  
Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers  
Amalgamated Engineering Union of S.A.

## MINING AND QUARRYING

Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union  
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union  
National Certified Fishing Officers Association  
Food and Canning Workers Union  
Farmworkers Union  
Black Allied Workers Union

## AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING

National Federation of Workers  
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union  
General and Allied Workers Union

Unions have been classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities. The full extent of the operation of the following general workers unions has not been established:

## UNIONS OPERATING IN 1981 GROUPED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

FM 2/5/82  
**OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE**  
**Problem in mining**

Major changes in the health care system on the mines will come about if some of the recommendations made by the Nieuwenhuizen commission of inquiry into compensation for occupational diseases are adopted. The commission, headed by RAU economics professor Petrus Nieuwenhuizen, reported to Parliament earlier this year and government is now awaiting comment from interested parties.

One of the key institutions the commission examined was the Medical Bureau for Occupational Diseases. This is responsible for issuing "red ticket" certificates of fitness for conducting compensation examinations for diseases related to mining and for the general health care of miners in SA (including the homelands).

The bureau, however, only caters directly for the mining industry's 50 000 white, coloured and Indian miners. Effective responsibility for the health of the 650 000

black miners lies with mine owners.

This would be in line with steps taken in the UK, where a body called Employment Medical Advisory Services supervises medical services throughout industry.

The Nieuwenhuizen report criticised the bureau's supervision of black miners health needs and stated that "workmen in the more remote rural areas do not always receive the necessary attention."

It recommended that the bureau should continue to have overall responsibility for fitness and benefit examinations, but that provision of facilities and arrangements for examinations — for all miners — should become the responsibility of mine owners.

The bureau is affected by a critical staff shortage and only one of its three positions for medical inspectors — who have to be qualified radiographers — is filled. While agreeing with the report's recommendations for the enlargement of the inspectorate, Arrie Paulus, general secretary of the Mine Workers' Union, who sat on the commission, is vehemently opposed to the fitness and compensation examinations being moved from the bureau.

In his minority report in the Nieuwenhuizen document, he says "the present function of the bureau should remain as it is," but that working conditions for doctors should be revised to attract more people.

Paulus says that if the employers become responsible for examinations of white miners, "the present distrust prevailing among the workers would be aggravated."



# Piece of scaffolding kills man

(31) Post Reporter

A MAN was certified dead on arrival at the Provincial Hospital in Uitenhage yesterday after a piece of scaffolding fell on his head

Major Gerrie van Rooyen, the Eastern Cape police liaison officer, said today the 50-year-old man, Mr Frans Mpati, from Biko Street, Kwanobuhle, employed by an electrical firm, was standing under scaffolding at a factory in

Uitenhage when a piece came loose and fell on his head

Also in Uitenhage yesterday, a 19-year-old man, Mr Richard Salman, of 13 Khahana Street, Kwanobuhle, was taken to the Provincial Hospital with a bullet wound in his back

According to police, a bus in which Mr Salman was a passenger was stopped by an inspector for being overloaded, and some

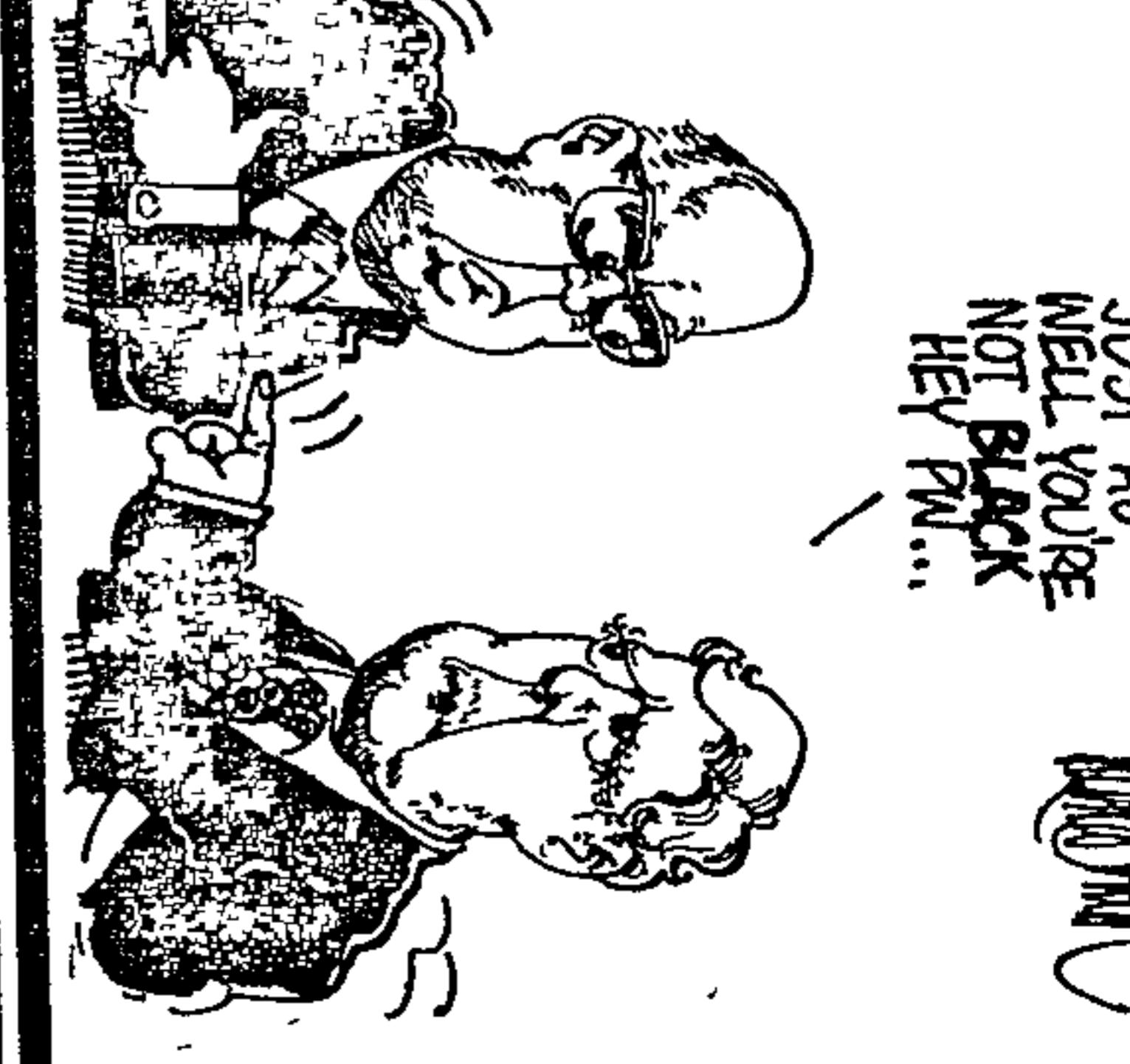
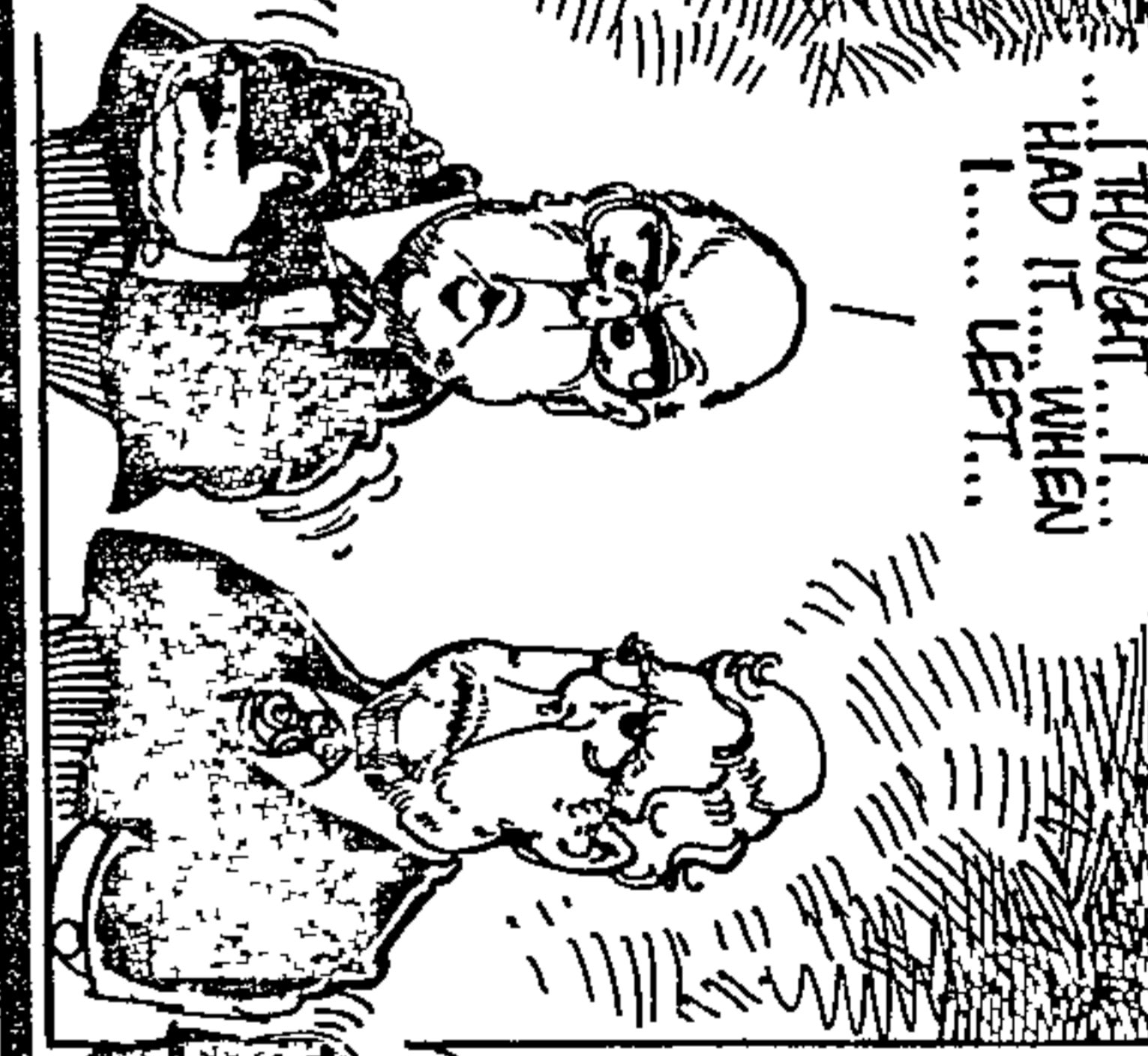
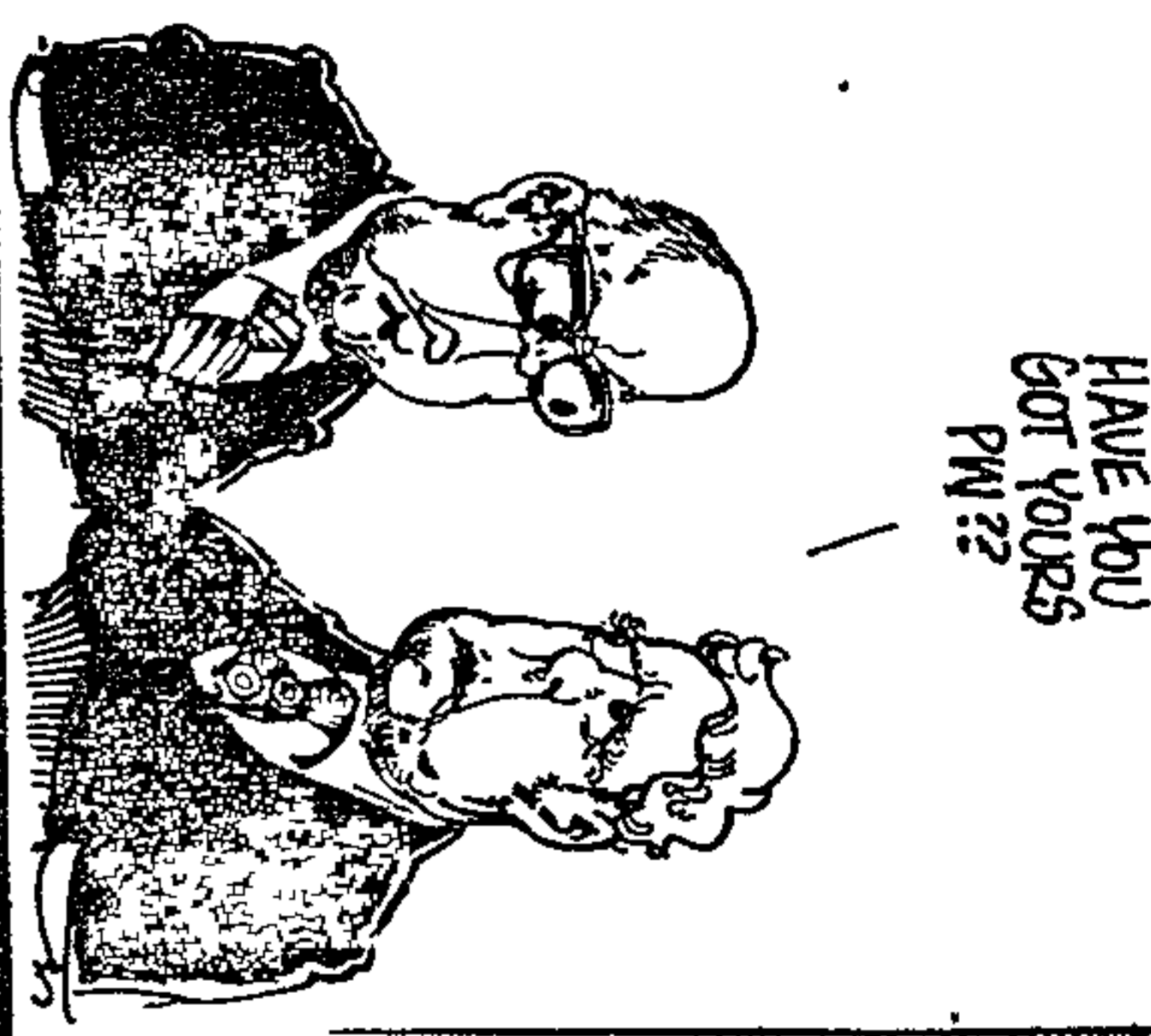
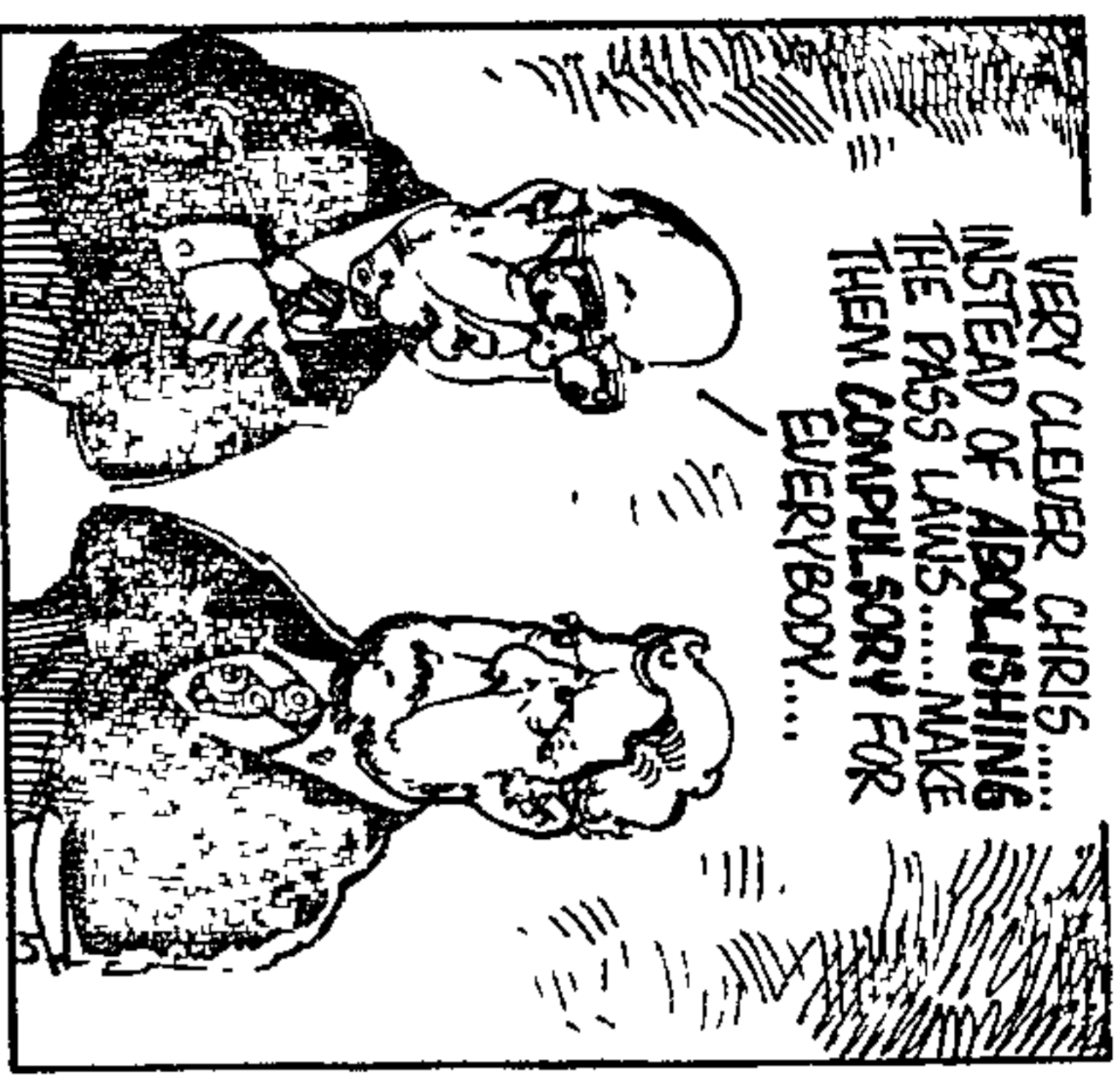
of the passengers had to get off

In an incident which followed a shot was fired, hitting Mr Salman in the back. His condition is not serious

In another incident today, a burglar alarm went off at 4 15am and two members of the patrol dog unit, Sergeants W J van Meyeren and J Kilian, went to investigate

● Turn to Page 3

Richard Smith



EVERY year the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner (WCC) pays out R47-million — that's R98 a minute, day and night

All this is compensation for industrial injuries sustained in accidents, 98% of which need never have happened, according to a spokesman for the National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa)

Of the 98% of industrial accidents which are preventable, 88% are caused by the unsafe acts of people," as Mr Sakkie Burger puts it, and 10% by the conditions in which people work

According to the industrial safety watchdog spokesman the estimated potential and actual loss in manpower is 32 million man-hours a year. Or looked at another way, 100 000 workers might just as well be lying idle every working day

The loss in working hours exceeds the effective growth in economically active people — despite immigration

The national injury rate is 9.5 a million man-hours and 1.92% of South Africa's work force have injuries serious

*131*  
**R47m is yearly payout**  
 — and 100 000 workers  
 might as well be idle

BY CATHY KENTRIDGE

enough to keep them away from work for a full day

But to put these figures into perspective Mr B Matthyssen, general manager of Nosa, said that when Nosa was founded in the 1950s, the injury rate was 4%

Today South Africa is the only coun-

try in the world which has shown a constant downward trend in industrial injuries. The equivalent figure in the United States is 2.79%

Mr Matthyssen said that workers today get more compensation for a lower premium

In the past 10 years the premium has dropped from 114c to 80c for each R100 in wages

"It's got to be the only type of insurance where the premium has gone down

and the actual protection gone up, despite increases in compensation levels and rising medical and rehabilitation costs," said Mr Matthyssen

Nosa, which gives guidance, education and training to various echelons of management in accident prevention techniques, attributes this "good news" to management's improved accident-prevention skills

Government inspectors have also helped in this sphere and Nosa has pro-

vided incentives, as well as guidance, to managements by recognising effort and giving star gradings and awards.

Internationally, the injuries frequency rate (IFR) is worked out per million man hours, which is what 500 men would work in one year

According to this system, fishing is the most hazardous industry in South Africa with an IFR of 39, or 8%, followed way down the scale by woodcutting, transport, mining and building and construction

The safest industry to work in is banking — it has an IFR of 1.3

Industrial injuries are costly in terms of compensation paid to victims and of loss of production and damaged machinery

Nosa is adamant that the cost of injuries far exceeds the cost of making machinery and work conditions safer.

Mr Kevin Wiggel, manager of the Johannesburg branch of Nosa, said the total number of disabling injuries in his area from July 1980 to June 1981 was 1 182

*S. Express 23/5/82*

### Conference on work safety ends

Health and safety in the work place was the subject of a three-day conference organised this week by the National Occupational Safety Association

The conference held at Sun City, covered a range of subjects including eye care, alcoholism, smoking and asbestos hazards  
More than 30 speakers from health associations and business addressed delegates

### Bad behaviour in business 'is alcohol-linked'

Drinking is a major problem in industry and commerce, Mr Andre Beugger, a director of the South African National Council on Alcoholism (Sanca), told a conference about employees and alcoholism

An estimated 80 per cent of problem behaviour in business was alcohol-related and this resulted in an eroding factor in performance potential, Mr Beugger said.  
He outlined a number of options for employers to take in trying to cope with this problem.

Labour Reporter  
Smoking in the work place is a serious health hazard — especially when the smoke mixes with other chemical or physical agents

This is the view of Professor Terence Kilise-Smith of the Centre for Occupational Health, who spoke at the Noshcon conference recently  
He listed several ways in which smoking could affect conditions in an occupational environment

## Don't let your health go up in smoke at work

Tobacco agents acting as vectors when contaminated with toxic agents found in the work place could enable these harmful agents to attack the body through inhalation, ingestion or skin absorption  
Workplace chemicals

could also be transferred into more harmful agents through smoking  
Polymer fume fever which resulted in permanent lung cancer was a result of fumes combined with prolonged smoking, he said  
Smoking could cause

already existing toxic agents found in the workplace, such as chlorine, cotton dust and radiation, to have an added biological effect  
Workers who already faced illnesses such as chronic bronchitis (gold miners) and lung

Smoking affected visibility and could cause coughing or irritation of the eye, he added  
Smoking could also create a hazard where inflammable and explosive chemicals were present

## More eye care urged for workers

Labour Reporter  
Not enough was being done in the work place to ensure eye care

Mr Terry Strachan of the South African Personal Protective Manufacturers' Association, who addressed Noshcon delegates on the subject of eye protection, said there were several reasons why eye-care programmes failed to meet expectations  
These were

- How workers on the shop floor were educated about eye care
- The problem of radiation was not always realised until it was too late

In the field of education, workers had to be made aware how and why they see and

### All reports by Tony Davis

therefore, to understand how easy it was to be robbed of sight or have impaired vision, Mr Strachan said.  
The dangers to the eyes abounded in modern industrial practices with all the present chemical, mechanical and radiation hazards

Mr Strachan also discussed the importance of protective lenses when working in an area where there could be effects from radiation.

# Danger: men at leisure

Off-the-job injuries are a major cause of lost productivity and wasted man-hours in SA

Mr Colin Murdoch, managing director of Mobil in Durban, told delegates at Noshcon "Off-the-job injury statistics in this country are 'frightening'"

He said the problem cannot be ignored "Employers, safety organisations and Nosa should combine in a team effort to influence the behaviour and attitudes of employees who are away from the

safety disciplines of the workplace,"  
Mr Murdoch said that in a sample firm of 800 skilled and unskilled employees, one in every 10 workers would probably suffer a disabling injury in 1982

Every four or five days an employee will have an accident which prevents him from coming to work  
The firm would also lose 5500 manhours during the year from disabling injuries, Mr Murdoch said

Taking the figures further, it is likely that

## Off-the-job injuries are costing SA millions

millions of manhours are lost annually in South Africa, he said  
"Because of the current skills shortage the country cannot afford these losses"

Most off-the-job injuries happen on the roads or on sports

fields  
Mr Murdoch suggests a number of steps that could be taken by a firm to reduce these incidents  
These are

- Films and lectures on road safety and a presentation of defensive driving
- "Home safety" calendar dealing with off-the-job hazards and "going home" safety boards at work with various messages.
- Paying employees only by cheque.
- Including off-the-job accident prevention in the company's annual

providing maximum benefit for workers and to ensure there was little wasted light energy

## Designers make heavy weather of light work

Lighting in many companies is often inadequate and can cause hazards, says an executive from a lighting firm, Mr Keith Lumsden

Mr Lumsden told de-

legates at the Noshcon conference that many lighting designers used only a simple design process which often proved to be unsatisfactory.

Lighting plans did

not always take into account obstructions or visual requirements of the workers, Mr Lumsden said.

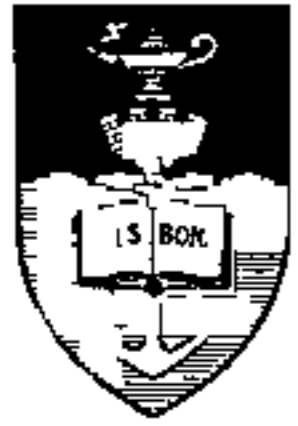
Industrial tasks required a more sophisticated lighting design to

provide maximum benefit for workers and to ensure there was little wasted light energy

The more sophisticated system was required where visibility was affected, where

working hazards were involved, where high intensity lamps were required and where workers had to see detail on a vertical or inclined level, Mr Lumsden said.

working hazards were involved, where high intensity lamps were required and where workers had to see detail on a vertical or inclined level, Mr Lumsden said.



# UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION

## ASBESTOS AND HEALTH

### British charges

131

FM 28/5/82

A British scientific journal has accused top SA scientists of suppressing research suggesting that there is a definite link between exposure to asbestos, and cancer. For their part, the scientists claim the research was of low calibre.

The article, in *New Scientist (NS)*, points fingers at leading medical men such

All answer books must be numbered

Number of books handed in	2
---------------------------	---

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question attempted (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank

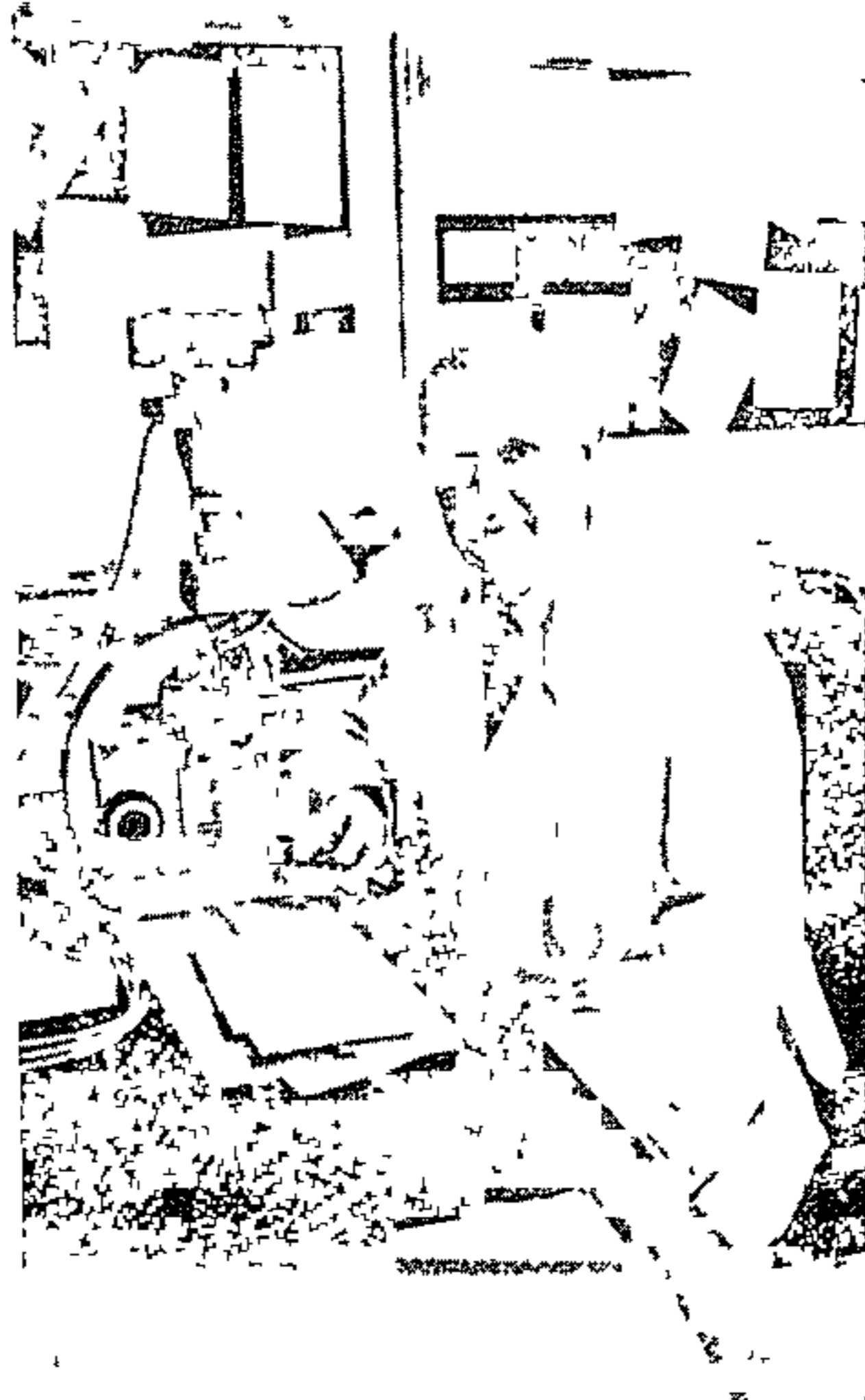
	Internal	External
	(2)	(3)
	70	

as Professor Andries Brink, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Stellenbosch and President of the SA Medical Research Council (MRC), and Professor Ian Webster, director of the National Centre for Occupational Health (NCOH). They deny the charges emphatically.

The NS claims that NCOH researcher Dr Leslie Irwig was prevented from reading a paper called "Mortality from Asbestos Related Diseases in SA" at a conference organised by the New York Academy of Sciences in 1978. Irwig's conclusion was that people living in asbestos producing areas (not necessarily working in the asbestos industry) died of cancer more often than normally.

Asbestos is internationally acknowledged as hazardous to health and is a known carcinogen. Some, such as Dr Johnny Myers, author of *Asbestos and Asbestos Related Diseases in SA*, maintain there is no safe level for asbestos exposure and that more than 40 000 SA workers are currently at risk.

According to the NS, Irwig and his co-author Dr Hannes Botha were "flatly ordered not to read the paper by the MRC." in accordance with an instruction from Brink "Publication of the paper would have meant that an SA government department was disclosing evidence of a link between blue asbestos and cancer, a link which SA asbestos companies had been vehemently



Webster ... scientific research 'never suppressed'

denying for many years

"The attempt to suppress the paper came at the direct request of the asbestos mining

companies who did not like what it had said. Today, three-and-a-half years later, the research has still not seen the light of day," the NS claims.

Webster rebuts this "We have never repressed scientific research. The work to be presented was not of the scientific calibre or standard that is required of work published by the NCOH."

And, according to Brink, the decision by the MRC was conveyed to Irwig, not by him, but by Professor J de V Lochner, vice-president of the MRC. The instruction stated "It was felt that the paper was open to criticism on scientific grounds to such an extent that it would be unwise to publish the paper or present the data at an international congress at this specific point in time and without clarifying the various scientific aspects."

However, the NS claims that the intervention was on political rather than scientific grounds, and furthermore that this sort of intervention "helps to establish an atmosphere within the SA MRC in which scientists asking original and awkward questions, far from being supported and encouraged, were seen to be pressurised and restricted."

The report claims that "an alarmingly high number of cases with mesothelioma of the pleura has been discovered among people who have lived in the north-western Cape area and that there is evidence to sug-

### NOTE CAREFULLY

- 1 Enter at the top of each page a number of the block on this cover the question you are answering
- 2 Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
- 3 Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
- 4 Do not write in the left hand margin.

gest that this condition is associated with an exposure to asbestos dust which again need not be industrial."

Irwig is in Canada and unavailable for comment

, pieces of paper or other material brought into the examination room as are so instructed

- 2 Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator
- 3 No part of an answer book is to be torn out
- 4 All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination

**Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University**

# SAFETY FIGURE

S. Ind. News

30/5/87

131

ONE MAN'S BATTLE AGAINST DANGEROUS DRUGS

## Finance Reporter

THE immediate past-president of the SA Retail Chemists and Druggists' Association, Max Katz, has mounted a campaign to get retail chemists involved in an all-out effort to reduce drug-induced accidents and loss of productivity in industry.

This has been a pet theme of his for years. He has raised it on a number of occasions at meetings of his association, but on each occasion it has met with a lukewarm reception.

Katz now intends to go to industry itself to get his way. He says he now wants to set up a meeting with the National Safety Organisation (Nosa) and after that with other representative bodies.

He believes if chemists cooperate and join him in what will be an ongoing, grant education process, industry and South Africa can be saved the millions of rands that accidents, deaths, loss of productivity and inefficiency caused by drugs cost the country a year.

He believes that at least five percent of people who land up in hospital do so because of reaction to

drugs — and that figure could be drastically reduced if somewhere along the line someone had told those patients about the inherent dangers of the drugs that landed them in hospital.

Stressing that his efforts are virtually limited to the man on the shop floor, Katz says many industrial accidents are caused by analgesics and anti-histamines.

"These drugs are used as decongestants, but they have a slowing-down effect, they reduce alertness and have caused many accidents," he said.

"Their slowing-down effect is increased by the use of alcohol. This can lead to a situation where a guy buys a patent cough medicine, not knowing that it has an anti-histamine in it, takes one or two doses before lunch then goes out and has a beer with his lunch.

"His reactions would probably be slowed down considerably by the time he goes out to lunch, but, because of the beer he had, they

would be dramatically slowed down after lunch, making him a prime candidate for a serious accident."

Katz stressed that these drugs could be found just as easily in patent medicine as in prescribed medicines.

Analgesics and anti-histamines aren't the only villains of the piece — some drugs can cause blurred vision.

He feels that if a doctor prescribes medicines with drugs that can affect a person's performance in any way, he should warn the person of what he must expect and that the chemist who makes up the prescription should be obliged to do the same, to hammer the point home just in case the doctor forgot.

Similar warnings should be given to those who buy patent medicines.

"I am working for a situation where the public will automatically be warned of the inherent dangers of medications," he said.

"There's no point taking a tablet to cure a cold or a headache if it

leads to your chopping off your hand.

"I would also like a situation where management is told about staff who are receiving what can be called dulling or potentially dangerous medication, to ensure that they not be allowed to operate dangerous machinery while their medication lasts and that they not be given tasks that are vital to productivity."

Katz said he felt his campaign, if he ever gets it off the ground, can save industry millions of rands and the loss of many many manhours each year.

He was not prepared to put a figure to either, but felt that the workmen's compensation commissioner could conduct an investigation to find out what drug related industrial accidents are costing industry.

"It is only education and timeous warning that will solve the problem at present. Blood tests won't show that a man is high on a few anti-histamine tablets and a bottle of beer," he said.

### Chemical & Chemical Prod

- Black Allied Workers Union
- Cape Explosives Industry
- Chemical and Allied Workers
- Chemical Workers Industrial
- Chemical Workers Union
- Durban Rubber Industries
- Engineering and Allied
- Engineering Industrial
- Federated Mining, Expl
- Industrial Salaried Sta
- General Workers Union
- Metal and Allied Worker
- National Union of Engin
- National Union of Motor
- S.A. Chemical Workers U
- South African Allied Wo
- Steel, Engineering and
- Umbogintwini Industrial
- Weskaapse Plofstof & Ch

### Non-Metallic Mineral Pr

- Building, Construction
- Glass & Allied Workers
- Glass Workers Union
- National Cement Employe
- National Union of Brick
- Transport & General Worl

### Base Metal Industries ar Machinery and Equipment

- Amalgamated Engineering
- Amalgamated Society of
- Black Allied Workers U
- Electrical and Allied T
- Electrical and Allied W
- Engineering and Allied
- Engineering Industrial
- General Workers Union
- General Workers Union o
- Iron Moulders Society o
- Metal and Allied Worker
- Motor Assembly Componen
- Motor Industry Employee
- Motor Industry Combined
- Motor Industry Staff As
- National Union of Engin
- National Union of Motor
- Radio Television, Elect
- S.A. Boilermakers, Iron

- S.A. Electrical Workers Union
- S.A. Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union
- S.A. Tin Workers Union
- South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)
- Steel, Engineering and Allied Workers Union
- Transvaal, Radio, Television and Allied Workers Union
- United African Motor and Allied Workers Union

# 'The luckiest man in Africa' . . .

Mercury Reporter

THE luckiest man in Africa — that's how Mr William Nongqayi saw himself after escaping with just a bump on his head from a freak accident on the southern freeway yesterday morning.

Describing how the front of his sugar-laden truck had plunged over the edge of the freeway to hang suspended, Mr Nongqayi said he had one thought in those terrifying few moments 'Please don't let the two rear trailers come crashing down on top of me.'

He said the accident had happened after he had been forced to brake suddenly to avoid colliding with a van which had tried to squeeze down his left side to get on to the Moore Road offramp in front of him

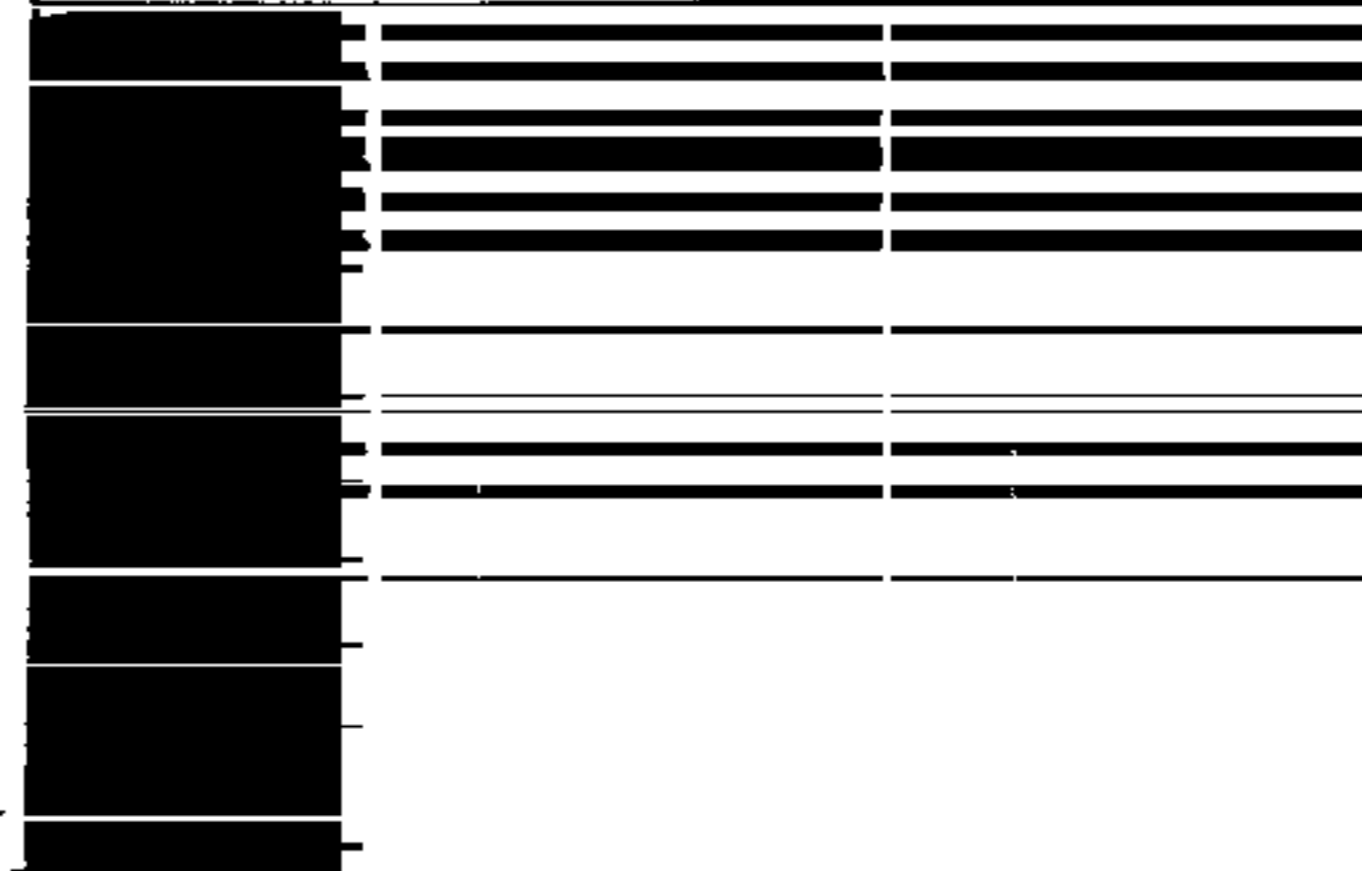
## Smashed

He had swung the wheel in an attempt to continue on down the freeway, but the truck had jack-knifed out of control, bouncing through the barrier to hang over the edge

Thrown forward by the impact, Mr Nongqayi smashed the windscreen with his head and waited, terrified, while the truck rocked back and forth before settling

He then opened a window and called for help, and a passerby, who had run below the freeway, threw up a rope which he used to climb down from the cab

DRIVER William Nongqayi



THE sugar-laden truck with its cab hanging over the southern freeway

## Sugar

For the Durban Central Fire Department, the problem remained to lift the truck.

First an electric wire for the freeway emergency lights, which had been exposed in the accident, had to be disconnected, and then a large crane was able to haul the cab slowly back on to the freeway.

By about midday the task was completed, and for helpers and bystanders there was a small reward — sackloads of sugar which had spilt on to the highway during the accident.

## New stamps

THE fourth definitive postage stamp series of South Africa will be on sale at all the country's post offices from July 15, a spokesman for the post office announced yesterday

# Vehicles skid on diesel patch

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

A BUSLOAD of passengers and a motorist escaped uninjured yesterday when the vehicles in which they were traveling skidded on spilt fuel and left the national road near here

A police spokesman said a large quantity of diesel had been spilled on the road, making the wet surface at Cliffdale more hazardous

Shortly after the spillage occurred, a bus loaded with passengers and a car skidded off the road, he said

Sand was scattered over the spill to prevent fur-

ther accidents, he said

In several other accidents in the capital area at the weekend, nine people were injured and one man killed

An Indian man, identified only as a Mr Chetty, died when his vehicle overturned on the road near the Lion Park Six others, believed to be passengers in the vehicle, were taken to Northdale Hospital for treatment

In another incident, a man and a teenage boy were injured when their car overturned on the Thornville Road near Pietermaritzburg

Both were taken to Northdale Hospital.

131

Construction workers who continually use vibrating power tools risk losing all sensation in their fingers which may swell and whiten, and in extreme cases — become gangrenous

In an article in the magazine of the Safety First Association of South Africa, National Safety, the condition known as Raynaud's phenomenon is a warning to workers using

# Power tools a gangrene risk

hand-held pneumatic tools

The vibration of the tools damages and breaks arteries in the fingertips, restricting blood supply.

If the condition advances far enough the fingers may become gangrenous and have to be amputated, but with rest circulation usually returns

Damage may first be caused by working in cold weather or with hands held above the head.

In Britain, the article says, better design and balance of power tools has reduced the number of workers afflicted by the condition. Investigation is still continuing in South Africa



VCC



UNIONS OPERATING IN 1981 GROUPED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Unions have been classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities. The full extent of the operation of the following general workers unions has not been established:

- National Federation of Workers
- Orange-Vaal General Workers Union
- General and Allied Workers Union

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING

- Black Allied Workers Union
- Farmworkers Union

- Food and Canning Workers Union
- National Certified Fishing Officers Association
- Orange-Vaal General Workers Union
- Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union

MINING AND QUARRYING

- Amalgamated Engineering Union of S.A.
- Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers
- Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers of S.A.
- Black Allied Workers Union
- Black Mineworkers Union
- Federated Mining Explosives and Chemical Employees Union
- Iron Moulders Society of S.A.
- Mine Coloured Staff Association of South Africa
- Mine Surface Officials Association of South Africa

MINE WORKERS UNION

- S.A. Boilermakers
- S.A. Electrical
- S.A. Engine Drive
- S.A. Technical Of
- Underground Office

MANUFACTURING

Food & Beverages

- African Food and
- Amalgamated Engi
- Bakery Employees
- Black Allied Work
- Boland Inmakwerk
- Brewery Employees
- Cadbury In-Compan
- East London Meat
- Food and Canning
- Food, Beverage &
- General Workers U
- General Workers U
- Natal Baking Indus
- Natal Sugar Indus
- National Milling I
- National Union of
- National Union of
- National Union of
- Operative Bakers,
- Pretorise Bakeryw

DISGUSTING

"I tried in vain to reason with the men that both workers were badly hurt and needed medical attention as soon as possible," Mr Rudolf said

"But the ambulance left Johannes moaning with pain," he said

"It was another four hours before we could get transport

"This action by the ambulance men is disgusting and smacks of racism," he added.

White-only ambulance



mal burns Mr Botha was burned on his face and broke a leg," Mr Rudolf said

An ambulance was called but when it arrived a few minutes later, the driver and his colleague refused to take Johannes to hospital, saying the service was meant for whites only

Star 4/6/82  
Ambulance ignores black man

A black worker, seriously injured in a factory explosion, had to wait four hours for hospital treatment because an ambulance would take only his white colleague who was also injured in the blast, according to the men's employer

The explosion occurred at a glass manufacturing factory, RHO Group, at Balfour yesterday afternoon

"According to Mr J Rudolf, a foreman at the factory, Mr J Botha and a black man whom he knew only by his first name of Johannes, were trying to open a drum of thinners solution when it exploded

"Johannes suffered deep gashes on his chest and arm, lost all his fingers and had f

To Page 3, Col 8

Workers Shif...lders Society

# Factory Act: 131 firm fined 8/6/62

EAST LONDON — A company was found guilty in the magistrate's court here yesterday on five counts under the Factory Machinery and Building Works Act

Mr Gerardus Martinus van Zummeren and Mr G Radder appeared before Mr N. R Oosthuizen in connection with the charges against Gerardus Martinus van Zummeren (Pty) Ltd, of Plumbago Street, Braelynn

An affidavit handed to the court said Mr Van Zummeren was authorised to plead on behalf of the company. He pleaded guilty to all the counts and the company was fined R25 on each

The first count was that the company had failed to provide substantial guard rails for every work platform of scaffolds more than 2 m above the ground

The second count was that it had failed to safeguard adequately all openings through which persons could fall

The third count was that the company had failed to have the tower of a builder's hoist enclosed on all sides

The fourth count was that it had failed to ensure that the conveyance on a builder's hoist was so constructed as to prevent material falling from it

The fifth count was failure to ensure that every board of a scaffold platform was securely fastened to prevent its displacement Mr Van Zummeren said in mitigation that there had been a lack of supervision because Mr Radder, the site foreman, was not on duty full-time as he had an eye injury — DDR

131  
2011 9/16/82

## Sailor slips to his death

CAPE TOWN — A Malaysian seaman was killed when he slipped while cleaning the side of his ship and hit his head on the gangway yesterday.

He then fell into the water between quay and ship.

Brigadier P du Plessis, chief of the Railway Police in the Western Cape, said the body of Seaman Mohammed Jupry was recovered by divers and taken to Woodstock Hospital.

Eyewitnesses said Mr Jupry had been working on the hull of his ship, the Kota Berkat, after it berthed in Cape Town harbour, when he slipped and fell.

"It's possible he was dead before he even hit the water," Brig Du Plessis said.

# The frailty of firemen

'None reached retirement because of health hazards'

Municipal Reporter

131  
Mercury  
10/6/82

IN THE past 25 years not a single Durban fireman had reached retirement age — because of the job's health hazards

This shock disclosure was made yesterday by city Fire Chief Steve Smith, who said. 'Since I joined the service 25 years ago, not a single operative fireman has reached retirement age

'They have all retired early because of ill health or been medically boarded out

'I have been concerned about this for some time and with the support of the Durban Municipal Employees' Society we are pressing the Corporation to use specialist physicians to monitor the firemen's health'

The biggest problem seemed to be the heart and lungs. When a man applied for a fireman's post he first should be thoroughly checked by a specialist. If accepted he should then be checked every three years by a specialist and a careful study made of his reasons for being off sick during that time

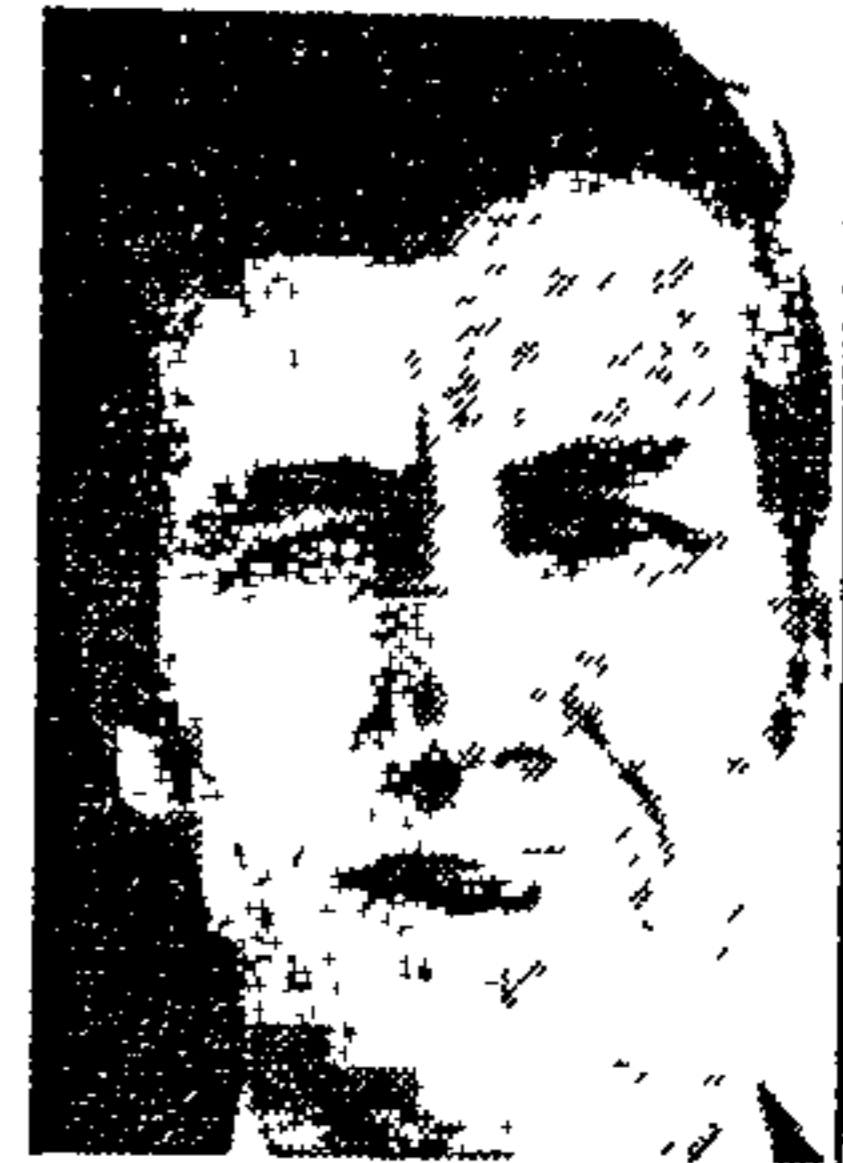
'We must establish the cause and eliminate it,' Mr Smith said

'In Britain they are busy conducting a survey on the occupational stress suffered by firemen, but it is only two years' old so there are no findings to date

## Adrenalin

'Firemen are subject to a tremendous amount of stress. When that alarm bell rings at night you don't know what you are heading for, a fire or a bad accident.

'The adrenalin starts pumping straight away. My pulse beat still shoots up every time I hear the alarm, even though I am not directly involved'



STEVE SMITH  
'the adrenalin starts pumping'

Firemen worked in shifts of two days on, two nights on and two days off. The day shift was from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and night duty from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. — a 15-hour stretch

'We do take them off routine work between 11 p.m. and 5.30 a.m. and allow them to rest, but there is no way they can really sleep'

On fitness Mr Smith said 'Quite often a man thinks he is fit but finds he isn't fit enough when he has to rescue someone from a third or fourth floor, carry them down, have a short rest and then do it all over again

'They often push themselves well beyond their fitness level and I am hoping to motivate the City Council into buying some equipment that is used in several gyms'

Mr Smith said 'It is vitally important that we improve conditions for firemen, they will be needed more and more in these socially sick times. The Minister of Justice sees us as the third line of defence in the country'

Today Manco is scheduled to consider the health monitoring of firemen and a report by the Medical Officer of Health, Dr Colin Mackenzie, who has suggested regular physical checks by specialists

131 (11) E. Post  
**Worker dies  
under tractor**

Post Reporter 1/6/82

A FARM worker in the Pearston district died yesterday when the tractor he was driving overturned and fell on him.

A police spokesman said Mr Roelf Jordaan, 40, who worked for Mr G T Botha on the farm Hartebeeslaagte, was delivering poles for a fence which was being built on the farm.

As he drove up a steep slope the tractor skidded backwards and overturned.

# Call on industry health policy

Staff Reporter

THE need for an organized professional workforce in the field of industrial health is demonstrated by the fact that there had been 309 000 industrial accidents in the past year in South Africa, says the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw.

Opening a symposium at the Civic Centre yesterday on industrial nursing, he said the figure excluded casualties of other occupational health hazards.

Statistics clearly showed the extent of the task facing the profession

Nearly 5,7-million workers were not covered by occupational disease legislation, 1,25 million people worked in 30 000 factories in the Republic and 700 000 people were employed in the mines, he said

Thousands of workers came into contact with metal and chemical substances that were potentially dangerous

Mr Louw said that in full realization of the problem, the Erasmus Commission had been appointed in 1975 to investigate occupational diseases and industrial health

He urged the industrial nursing profession to study the report as it contained important recommendations

The report emphasized that there were not enough trained industrial nurses, and the "key role" that they had to fulfil in the maintenance of optimum industrial health

l  
y  
a  
r  
I  
(  
I  
S  
I  
I  
S  
f  
h

131

Call time 11/6/82

# Plans for safety of chemicals on vehicles

131

Regulations are to be published soon to ensure greater safety in transporting potentially hazardous chemicals and other materials on South African roads

The regulations will be issued by the Department of Health under the Hazardous Substances Act, and will include recommendations by the Vehicle Safety Group of the

CSIR's National Institute for Transport and Road Research

The group's research was sparked by an accident near Durban in 1978 when a tanker caught fire on a highway and three later incidents involving the loss or spillage of cyanide

Before drawing up

the recommendations, the group interviewed hauliers, chemical manufacturers, vehicle builders and suppliers, fire chiefs, traffic officers, and others involved in the road transport of hazardous materials

Its report, published in the latest issue of *Scientiae*, the CSIR's quarterly journal, re

commends that there be regulations to make it compulsory for all incidents in which chemicals are spilled to be reported, that vehicles be labelled to show what cargo they are carrying, that there be special routes for vehicles carrying such materials, and that there be regular health checks on the drivers

(131) (270)  
Crushed man was  
ignored <sup>16/6/87</sup> claim <sup>Staw</sup>

A black railway employee whose right leg was crushed after he tried to board a moving train, was left lying on the station platform for more than an hour before he received any assistance.

This was claimed by a woman from Springs who asked not to be named "I had gone to the Johannesburg Station to see my parents off last Friday evening," she said

"The man's foot hooked on the steps of the train at about 8.45 pm. He fell between the carriages and his leg was crushed. The people who saw this acted as if nothing had happened.

"It is a disgrace that a man lost his leg and none of them was really bothered about it

"The man was left ly-

ing there with no one making any attempt to make him comfortable or cover him with a blanket"

The woman said she had never seen such callousness

An ambulance arrived at 10 pm "To make it worse, no one got into the ambulance with the man to help or comfort him," she said.

A spokesman for the South African Transport Services confirmed that the accident had happened. He said the man was Mr Joseph Molekwe, a carriage cleaner

The spokesman said he could not establish whether railway employees had been present when the accident had happened

The police were informed only after the ambulance had arrived, he said.



W Rand

miner

feared

dead

131

Staw

17/6/82

By Jerry McCabe  
West Rand Bureau

One miner is feared killed and another 26 injured in a rockburst at the West Rand Consolidated Mine at Krugersdorp early today.

Some of the injured men are said to be in a serious condition.

A spokesman for the Krugersdorp Ambulance Department said 25 of the injured miners were blacks and had been admitted to the mine hospital. A white miner was taken to Cottesloe Hospital in Johannesburg with head injuries.

The men were trapped underground at Deep Shaft at about 6 am when the rockburst happened.

Rescue teams were quickly on the scene and the trapped men were rescued within hours.

A spokesman for General Mining said they were not yet certain of the details of the injured miners and could not name the man feared dead.

The violent tremor which shook the Witwatersrand last night is unlikely to have any connection with the West Rand accident.

The tremor, which lasted about five seconds, came at 11.46 pm.

It registered between 4.2 and 4.3 on the Richter scale, according to the department of geophysics at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr. Rod Green said the time lag of around six hours between the tremor and this morning's rockburst made it unlikely that the two incidents were connected, though there was a possibility the tremor had loosened some rock.

"Normally the rockfall would take place during the dynamic of the tremor," he said.

(13) D. Phipps  
17/6/84

# Falling wall kills woman

PRETORIA — A woman was killed when a bus knocked a wall onto her at a bus depot here early yesterday

Mrs Elsie Tsoko died in the accident

The bus driver was reversing out of the depot when the back of his bus touched the wall. He said he saw the wall falling

He established that apart from a broken reflector, the bus was not damaged

He did not at first realise someone was under the rubble.

"On the spur of the moment I decided to dig in the debris. At first we saw bloodstains and when we dug further, we found the mutilated body of the woman. She was neatly dressed and probably on her way to work," the driver said

Police said they could not trace anyone who witnessed the accident  
— SAPA

nearly five hours - when they entered Soweto to report on the service

Last night foreign news-men were sending personal accounts of their detentions to newspapers and radio and television stations around the world

The police action was condemned by South African editors, journalists and Opposition spokesmen

In another incident a Rand Daily Mail reporter, Mr Montshuwa Moroke, and a reporter, a photographer and a driver from The Star were detained by police for about an hour while on assignments in Soweto

According to witnesses, Bishop Desmond Tutu the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, tried to stop the stoning of vehicles outside Regina Mundi after the service

Stone-throwers dispersed after the bishop's appeal, but later re-formed and continued stoning buses

A spokesman for Putco reported last night that between 30 and 40 buses and three inspection cars had been damaged by groups of stone-throwers throughout Soweto - mainly along the old Potchefstroom road

Two bus drivers were stabbed and another was injured in an accident

A Putco bus left the road and crashed into parked cars outside Regina Mundi after being stoned. No injuries were reported

Another bus was hijacked by a group of youths outside Baragwanath hospital, but crashed about 300m further on

Putco suspended services into Soweto last night to prevent further damage to vehicles

Putco technicians would work through the night to repair buses so that commuters would not be inconvenienced this morning, a company spokesman said

The use of Putco services on the Reef was about 20% below normal yesterday indicating a partial stayaway from work

Employers allowed thousands of workers on the Reef to go home early yesterday to avoid rush-hour confrontations

Speakers at services in Soweto, Lenasia and Pretoria yesterday said six years after 1976 the Government had failed to respond to the real grievances of blacks

● Pictures and more reports - Page 3

ounded by onlookers. The bus veered off the road and crashed into the ch... people were injured when police used sjamboks, batons and teargas to disperse the crowd outside the chu...

# Karoo farmer dies of exposure

A FARMWORKER at Richmond in the Karoo has died in the cold weather which has swept large parts of the country, ruining crops and killing livestock

Mr Jonas Johannes, 45, was found dead from exposure yesterday after he had gone out on horseback to look for a flock of sheep on Monday evening

For much of the northern Cape, Free State and Transvaal, Tuesday night had been the coldest this year

Lesotho weather stations reported that scores of lambs were perishing in bitterly cold winds that blew off the snow-covered Maluti Mountains

Transport throughout the country was disorganised by the freeze

Flights to Johannesburg from Bloemfontein and Cape Town were delayed or cancelled and there was a spate of minor traffic accidents on the icy roads

The cold weather continued over much of the country yesterday

● Editorial comment - Page 8

# Baby's death: doctor and nurse negligent

A RADIOLOGIST and a radiographer at Vereeniging Hospital were both found criminally negligent at an inquest hearing into the death of a five-week-old baby

The inquest held in Johannesburg was into the death of Izak van der Vyter, who suffered severe convulsions and brain damage before dying of cardiac arrest on June 10 last year

He died five days after being given X-rays at Vereeniging Hospital

In previous evidence, Dr Adam Bezuidenhout, the hospital's radiologist, told the court he could not remember how much contrast material - X-ray fluid - had been given to the child out of a 250ml container

Professor N J Scheepers, a State pathologist, said the maximum to be given to a child of that age and weight should be 12ml

He said every container of contrast material came with a pamphlet giving the prescribed dosage and side-effects of an overdose. He read out the pamphlet which said 2 to 4ml should be given per kilogram of body weight

Izak weighed 3kg on June 5 last year. Dr Bezuidenhout told the court he did not know Izak's weight before administering the drip

A student nurse at the hospital, Miss S Dreyer, told the court she had been in the room and watched the drip for one-and-a-half hours - Dr Bezuidenhout had said earlier the drip was only in for an hour - and during that time had not seen Dr Bezuidenhout at all

She said the full bottle of contrast material, 250ml, had been given to the child, and after the X-rays were finished the child immedi-

ately showed signs of distress

The radiographer, Mrs Wilna Leeuwner, had said the baby was probably cold

Miss Dreyer said by the time they took the child to the ward, he was blue

Prof Scheepers who did the autopsy on Izak, gave the cause of death as cardiac failure and added the findings were consistent with an overdose of contrast medium which was allegedly given intravenously

In court yesterday Dr Bezuidenhout said he had done tests after Tuesday's hearing and was now able to say he had definitely given the prescribed dosage

At Tuesday's hearing he said he could not remember what dosage he had given

Mr C Schoeman, appearing for the Van der Vyter family, asked Dr Bezuidenhout if he understood the meaning of the oath because of his changed evidence before the court

Mr A M Snyman also appearing for the family, said Miss Dreyer's evidence that the whole bottle had been used was unchallenged while neither Dr Bezuidenhout nor Mrs Leeuwner could remember exactly what was left

"I don't think it is necessary to re-examine in detail the evidence. It is my submission that Dr Bezuidenhout's own evidence clearly demonstrates that he stands condemned before this court," Mr Snyman said

He said the incident showed the "grossest negligence in a specialist who should know better"

The magistrate, Mr A H Van Zyl, assisted by Dr V Kemp, Chief District Surgeon, found that Dr Bezuidenhout and Mrs Leeuwner, who was not in court yesterday, were both criminally negligent

# Few clues for aircraft search

THE South African Air Force has little information on where to search for the Cessna aircraft which has been missing with six passengers since Sunday

The identities of four of the five passengers have been revealed by a Johannesburg woman

Mrs Loupo Ruth says they are all Israeli nationals living in Johannesburg. They are her father, Mr Ari Unger, of Highlands North, her

mother, Mrs Flora Unger, her brother, Mr Eitan Unger of Berea, and a friend, Mr Uda Klein, also of Berea. Mrs Ruth says she does not know the identity of the other passenger. The pilot is Mr Stan Isaacson, of Berea, Johannesburg

Two SAAF light aircraft were yesterday searching the Natal Midlands after reports that an aircraft was seen near Mooi River on Sunday evening

But by late afternoon there was no sign of the plane that took off from Margate and never arrived at Rand Central Airport

The party is believed to have spent the weekend in the Transkei

An air force spokesman said a report had been received that an aircraft which may have been the missing plane was seen in the Creighton-Mooi River area at about 6pm on Sunday



# Rudolf Nureyev considers Sun City offer

RUDOLF Nureyev, the world's best known ballet dancer, may appear at Sun City next year, his agent said in London yesterday

Last night a Sun City spokesman, asked to confirm that Nureyev may be coming out, said "At this stage, negotiations are at too premature

a stage for us to comment"

Nureyev, now in London for his annual Colosseum Festival season, is said to be considering an offer to give eight performances next year in Sun City's 7 000-seat theatre

Mr Sander Gorlinsky, Nureyev's agent, said in London yesterday "We have been approached for a season. It is a

possibility but nothing is confirmed. We expect discussions to take place with a South African representative next week"

He added "For 10 years South Africa has been asking Nureyev to come. Now we talk"

Mr Gorlinsky said Nureyev could pick and choose

from 10 different places to perform at any one time - and it was still too early to say if the Russian-born dancer would choose Sun City

Sources in London say that if Nureyev does come out, the Zurich Ballet, with whom he is appearing in London, will accompany him. Mr Gorlinsky refused to confirm this

Dr the jury... Jus... of... a can... of... fixed the... in... sec... 19... 19... 19... 14... 17... 16... 17... 10... 19... 6... 20... 19... 7... 22... 7... 2... 4... 18... ill

# Mute breadwinner loses hope of compensation

## Ten live off one pension

BY ALINAH DUBE

A SOWETO deaf and dumb man has lost hope of ever being compensated by a company he served for more than 10 years.

Mr Elias Sebetlela (38) of Naledi, sole breadwinner for a family of 10, was allegedly fired from Ozalid Pty Ltd after getting injured at work.

According to his family, he was not paid workmanship's compensation after his eyes were severely injured.

people after having sustained injuries while on duty.

"The thought of having to repeatedly go to this company only to be dismissed without getting the money, leaves me hopeless," said Mrs Violet Sebetlela senior.

Mrs Sebetlela said she had on two occasions accompanied her son to his former work-place and was told it was not a birth certificate they wanted but a medical certificate.

"This really con-

said a birth certificate was just one of the things needed before Mr Sebetlela could be compensated.

"We told those people to wait until we got a doctor of our own to check on Elias — and that I think has been organised by now. Anyway, we will get in touch with them very soon," Mr Visser promised.

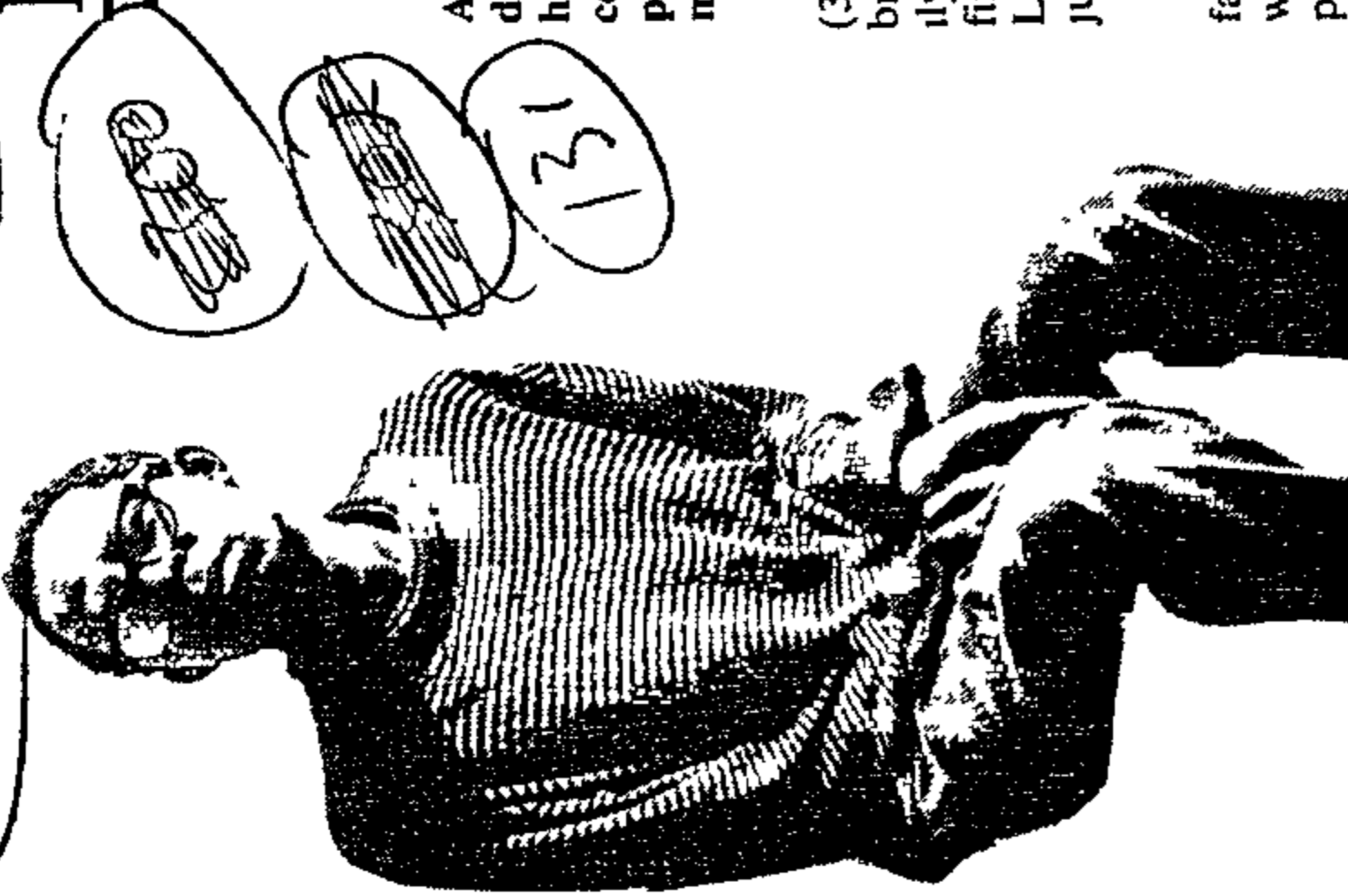
After having asked if I personally knew Mr Sebetlela, Mr Visser commented, "as you've seen he is a danger to any industrial situation".

fused me as I had read in The SOWETAN that all my son had to submit was his birth certificate," she said.

Mrs Sebetlela said she was told to send her son for a medical check-up.

"After I had taken the trouble of having Elias checked at the Baragwanath Hospital, I was told the medical certificate we had was invalid. This gives me a feeling I am going to spend all my pension money on transport to these people," Mrs Sebetlela said.

This time Mr Visser



HOPELESS Deaf and dumb Mr Elias Sebetlela.

# Joshua Nkomo - the end of the road?

FOR a man who was being vilified daily by Zimbabwe's leaders a few months ago and faced imprisonment for allegedly plotting a coup, Joshua Nkomo is in a pretty buoyant mood these days.

Are you an assassin? he asked jocularly of a correspondent who had come to his modest home in the black residential area of Pelandaba. "My spies tell me that a man who poses as a journalist is com-

the Matabeleland province, and more than 25 killings. Much of this activity is banditry but a political motive is becoming increasingly evident as the dissidents start turning their guns on government targets.

For the time being, it is being reasoned in government circles, it would be unwise to provoke further unrest by bringing charges against Nkomo over the arms caches.

Privately Nkomo scoffs at suggestions that he



1  
1  
-  
-  
it  
e  
e  
d  
1-  
10  
b-  
a-  
lp  
a-  
r-  
n  
d  
ity  
at  
d

£, Pest (131)  
**Man dies of**  
17/6/62  
**exposure**

JOHANNESBURG — A 45-year-old farmworker at Richmond in the Karoo has died of exposure after going out on horseback to look for a flock of sheep in the cold weather which has swept much of the country

The body of Mr Jonas Johannes, of the farm, Lui-paardsvlei, was discovered on Tuesday near the kraal where his horse was found. Mr Johannes went out to look for the sheep on Monday evening — Sapa

ARGUS 18/6/82

**Paarl**  
**link to**  
**highway**  
**horror**

**Argus Correspondent**

**MARITZBURG**

Four people, believed to be from Paarl, died in the mangled wreckage of a heavy duty truck which crashed on the Wembley section of the N3 here yesterday

The truck, transporting a load of wine, crashed through the steel safety barrier on a sharp curve on the south-bound carriageway and overturned

Cases of wine were thrown across the road. Shocked rescuers retrieved the severely mutilated bodies.

The bodies were taken to the Government mortuary. The identities have not yet been established.

# Two die in gas explosion at Iscor (131)

TWO steel workers were killed and 10 injured, four seriously, when a gas explosion — caused by hot molten slag — spilled on to a wet surface — ripped through the Iscor plant in Pretoria yesterday afternoon

An Iscor spokesman said the extent of damage to the plant was not yet known

The spokesman said the blast occurred shortly before

lunchtime. Three Iscor doctors were on the scene within minutes and the injured were taken to the H F Verwoerd Hospital

The explosion had not sparked off a fire in the plant but a thick cloud of smoke hung over the factory yesterday afternoon

The names of the dead are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been

informed. *RDH*  
In a statement Iscor said "Following a tap at number one open heat furnace, a slag (waste) ladle chassis derailed

"During the attempt to re-rail the chassis with an overhead crane, the ladle tipped, spilling molten slag on to wet ground, which caused a heavy gas explosion" — Sapa

*19/16/82*

## Two killed in Iscor explosion

*Cape Times 19/6/82 (13)*  
PRETORIA. — Two steel workers were killed and 10 were injured, four seriously, in a gas explosion yesterday afternoon at the Iscor plant on the outskirts of Pretoria

but added that the explosion had not sparked off a fire

The names of the dead are being withheld pending notification of their next-of-kin — Sapa

An Iscor spokesman said the blast, caused when hot molten slag spilled on to a wet surface, had occurred shortly before lunchtime

Three Iscor doctors were on the scene within minutes to aid the injured, who were ferried to the H F Verwoerd Hospital by Iscor's own ambulance fleet

The spokesman said the extent of damage to the plant was not known yet,



# Death furnace was to be closed soon

131  
RDM-189

Pretoria Bureau 21/6/82

THE Pretoria Iscor steel furnace, which claimed the lives of three workers and seriously injured nine others during an explosion last week, was scheduled to be closed permanently at the end of the month, Iscor's works manager, Mr BHP Havenga, said yesterday

The furnace, which was known as number one open hearth, started operations in 1937 and is believed to be the oldest furnace in Pretoria

Two workers were killed instantly and 10 others injured when an explosion took place at Iscor on Friday. The two men who died were Mr J A van Zyl, of Pretoria West, and Mr Johannes Banda, address unknown.

The third man, Mr J R Fade of West Park, died in hospital on Saturday.

Mr Havenga said it was the first accident reported at the furnace since it started operations.

Arkus 21/6/82 (131)

# Machinery traps, kills worker

A MIDDLE-AGED farm driveshaft as he knelt over the machine He was whipped repeatedly against the pump before his coat was hooked in the moving driveshaft of a tractor

Mr Jan Louw, 55, was operating a water pump attached to the tractor's driveshaft when the accident occurred

Police said his coat got hooked in the moving way for nearly 30 years

A woman died and a serious fire in a shack on Lansdowne Road, Phlippi, early today. The blaze was extinguished by neighbours.

Both their names are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been notified

An ambulance took the man, who was unconscious, to Grootte Schuur

He was later transferred to the burns unit at Tygerberg Hospital where his condition was described as serious

A woman, who drowned in Kalk Bay harbour on Saturday when she got into difficulties after falling from the jetty has been identified

She was Miss Beryl Hendricks, 36, a vagrant with no fixed address.

An unidentified man, aged about 35, was up, and robbed her of R480

knocked down and killed Mrs Cornelia Smith, who lives alone, told police she was asleep shortly after midnight

Another unidentified man was knocked down and killed in Blue Bell Street, Ravensmead early yesterday

Police are hunting for the three men who broke into the home of an 85-year-old woman in Steen-

Iscor (131)

blast: Agnes

Third

death

2/6/82

t  
e  
g  
-  
t  
t  
s  
e  
o  
o  
"  
t  
t  
1  
s  
t  
l  
r

PRETORIA. — Iscor confirmed today that a third man had died after a gas explosion which caused an estimated R200 000 damage at the Pretoria works on Friday.

A spokesman said Mr Jose Frade, of Wespark, Pretoria, had died in Pretoria's H F Verwoerd Hospital early on Saturday.

He apparently had 70 percent burns in the blast, which was sparked off by molten slag spilling on a wet surface.

#### OTHERS

Two killed instantly were earlier identified as Mr Adriaan van Zyl, of Pretoria West, and a black man, Ml Johannes Banda.

Another white, Mr J A du Preez, and three unidentified blacks were seriously injured.

They were today in a satisfactory condition.

A statement said about 3 000 tons of liquid steel had been lost. It would take about a week to repair electrical cables and water mains.

However, it was not certain whether the furnace involved would be put back in operation. — Sapa

131 *Murray*  
**Blast victim**

21/6/82  
PRETORIA—Another white man who was injured in the explosion at the Iscor plant here on Friday, has died. This brings to three the number of people killed in the blast. Nine others were injured. — (Sapa)

# Three die in Iscor blast

(3) Sowetan 21/6/82

RESCUE workers using torches searched through the darkened chamber under an open-hearth furnace for survivors of the blast at Iscor's Pretoria works on Saturday

Two men died instantly, one died later in hospital and 10 others were injured — four of them seriously — when 10 tons of molten slag tipped from a ladle on to a wet surface causing a heavy gas explosion. The ladle was being put back on the tracks after a chassis was derailed.

The names of those killed have been released. They were Mr J A van Zyl of 527 Ser-

vaas Street Pretoria-West. Mr Johannes Banda (address not known) and Mr J R Frade of 7 Cordelto Street West Park.

Seven other men, two whites and five blacks, were admitted to hospital for burns. Their names have not yet been divulged.

The two whites were reported last night to be in a serious condition in Pretoria's H F Verwoerd Hospital.

Two of the injured admitted to the black Kalafong Hospital in the city were said to be critical. One was reported to have burns covering 90 percent of his body.

Another man was described as being pretty bad while the other two blacks were reported to be in a satisfactory condition.

Others injured were apparently handled in Iscor's sick bay.

Iscor's general works manager Mr B H P Havenga said the main danger to rescuers was the wet conditions and exposed electrical cables.

The explosion was "savage" as it occurred in a confined space, he added.

An investigation into the blast has been launched.

DOM 2/6/82 (131)  
**Electricians  
hurt in blast**

**Mall Reporter**

**THREE** electricians were slightly injured when a transformer they were working on exploded in Kroon Street, Roodepoort, yesterday

A police spokesman said a crime was not suspected at this stage and it was not known what caused the incident

The men had turned the power off and when they turned it back on again the transformer exploded. A Roodepoort Fire Department spokesman said none of the men was seriously injured

# Shock report on 126 fire deaths and R161-m losses

(131)

Mercury  
24/4/82

Mercury Reporter

FIRES in South Africa caused the death of 126 people and damaged goods and property valued at an all-time record of R161 million in 1981

The chairman of the Fire Protection Association of Southern Africa, Mr G H Watson, said in his June address that reports of fire-related deaths showed that for the second year in a row 126 people died from burns or asphyxiation in 1981

The figure for damage was R27 million higher than that for 1980, and highlighted the increasingly important role the association had in making the public aware of basic fire safety, he said

Annual fire losses fluctuated and although they decreased between 1976 and 1979, they had increased dramatically during the past two years, said Mr Watson

The damage incurred by the industrial sector was R99,8 million last year — in 17 cases it was more than R1 000 000. Chemical and petrochemical fires accounted for the greatest loss, with 24 fires causing damage of R30,8 million, followed by textiles and clothing where 20 fires damaged property and goods valued at R22,4 million

Statistics in the June issue of Fire Protection indicate that electrical faults were responsible

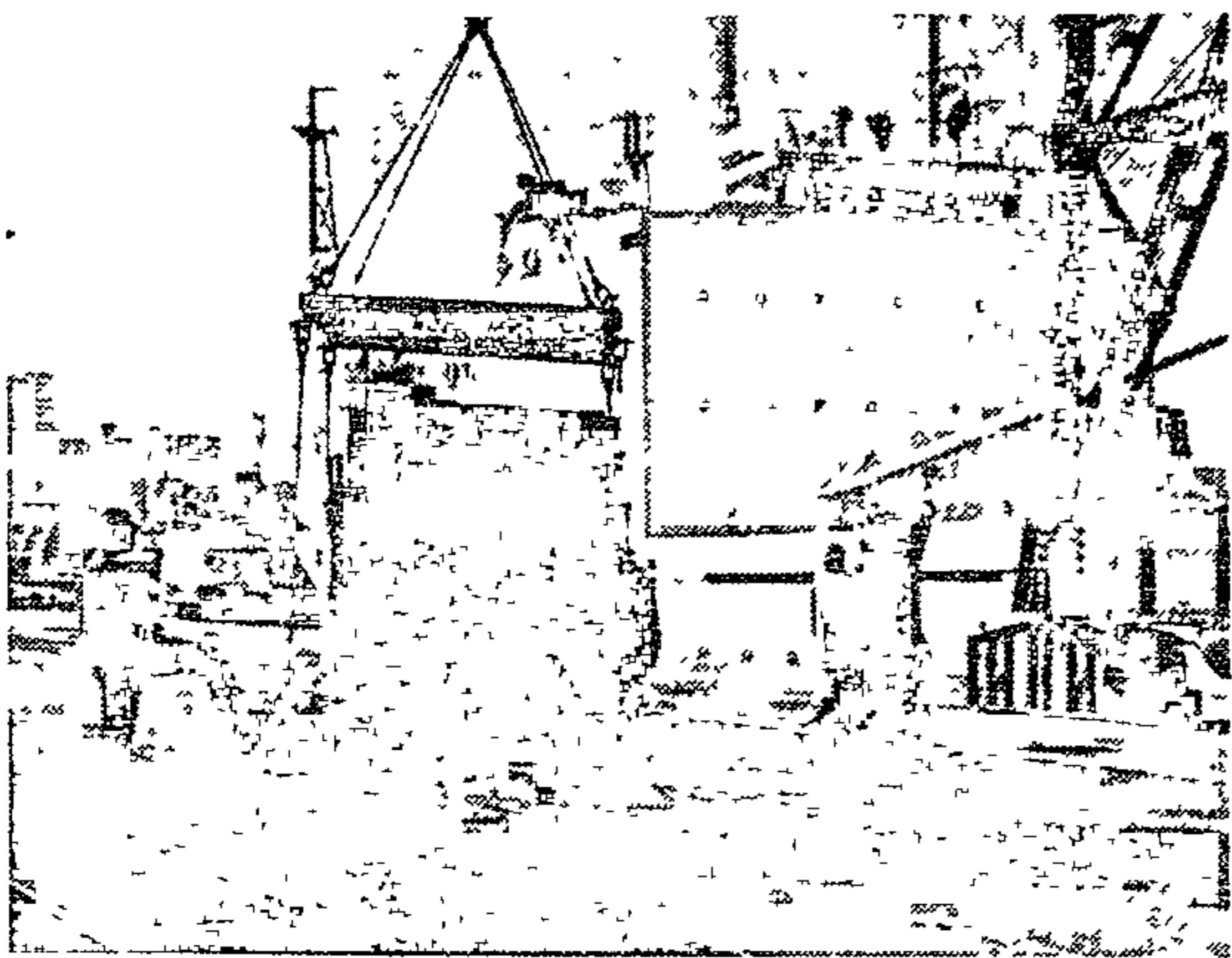


MR G H Watson, chairman of the Fire Protection Association of Southern Africa.

for 26 percent of all fires last year, open flames for 18 percent, and cigarette smoking for 11,2 percent.

Durban Fire Brigade had attended 1 418 fire calls, the second highest number in the country, Cape Town had the highest with 1 843 and Johannesburg 1 412

In each case the most common reason — apart from rubbish, bush and grass fires — was cars which had caught alight, Durban Fire Brigade having attended 179 of these during the year



CITRUS being loaded in Durban

# Exports doubt

THE export of citrus through Durban has almost doubled in the last three years and the number of shipments through the port are to grow even further next year because of a diversion of the fruit from Cape Town.

By next year only citrus produced in the Western Cape will pass through Table Bay, a fairly insignificant amount when compared with what used to be exported through the port.

Western Cape produce is expected to be shipped out in about 2 or 2.5 million cartons while three years ago about 10 million cartons passed through the port.

The rapid increase in rail charges over the last few years has forced the citrus industry to divert the large volumes of their export fruit from the Cape to the ports of Durban and Maputo.

This diversion of Transvaal fruit is not a sudden decision, a spokesman for the Citrus Exchange said.

In 1978 the Citrus Exchange shipped about 8 million cartons through Durban,

of which almost 7 million were on the east side at Point and the remainder were for Johannesburg.

More of the fruit is now containerised. Of the 8 million cartons which will pass through Durban this year, six million will leave in containers and will be shipped in bulk to the Port of Maputo.

Slightly more than 1 million cartons will be shipped out of Durban compared with 3,6 million through the Mozambican port in 1977.

'In spite of the severe recession in Europe our orders are stronger than at this time and consequently current prices are better than this year,' says the spokesman for the Citrus Exchange.

'However costs are higher than last year. We are nevertheless optimistic about the 1982 season.'

## Move to improve safety of vessels

(131) Mercury 25/6/82

THE International Maritime Organisation is hoping to spur flag states into looking at the safety of vessels under their registries. They are publishing a list of vessels which were found to be deficient during port inspections and which the states involved have not filed their amendments.

The first list, published recently, contains 16 ves-

sels, of which six fly the Panamanian flag.

IMCO is using the new approach in an effort to obtain from the flag states long-awaited comments on action taken against in response to deficiency reports filed by port states.

Imco will in future only send one reminder to the state and if the country

concerned ignores the reminder, the ship involved will appear in a regularly published 'List of Outstanding Comments'.

With free-flag countries trying to brush up their images by saying they are stepping up their safety control, such a list may cause them embarrassment if any of their vessels appear

## Catfish have anglers purring

Anglers across a long time over where Redinger, several other during the of over 4 kg ght a total the river er Mr B club land- two other ack and Mr angling at 24 catfish biggest tak- one of 5 kg.

Although winter has set in anglers are still turning out for competitions and in a recent Angling Association event at Chelmsford Dam 38 carp and 11 scabies were landed.

Dannhauser Club has won the final league event and Glencoe Club has recorded the largest carp — a fish of 2,28 kg — during the competition.

Newcastle Club has recorded the best catches at Chelmsford, Mr F Moodley taking top prize with a 31kg carp. Mr F du Plessis landed a catfish of 6,12 kg. At Spienkop Dam a 6,2 kg carp was taken by junior angler J Joubert of the Ladysmith Police Club and this fish came close to the local record which stands at 7 kg.

Graham Lizamore

## IMPORT

POINT SHEDS B/C Umfolosi, G Meliton, L Marathon Reefers, M EXT Cyclopus, N Nedlloyd Kimberley, O Flisvos.

MAYDON WHARF 2 African Express 3/4 Ajax 6A Gouritz, 7 Ville De Mahebourg, 8 Ascona, 9 Mkuze, 10 Venture, 11 Sisal Trader, 12A Sezela, 12C Ridge, Baunton PIER NO 1 102 SA Huguenot, 104A Pantera, 104B Cadmus, 105 Maritime Carrier 106 Princess Nancy, 107 Gomasa

CONTAINER TERMINAL 203 Hayakawa Maru. BLUFF Alpac Africa. ISLAND VIEW Finn Fury SRJ Aegean Career GRAVING DOCK Odyssey EBB Thorheide.

ARRIVALS Franky, Pondoland, Koowic, Tilly

DEPARTURES S A Huguenot, Maritime Carrier

### WAR DECLARED ON SARDINES!!

<p><b>PENN REELS</b></p> <p>500A R42,00 49A R58,95</p>	<p><b>DAWA REELS</b></p> <p>50H R55,00 350H R79,00</p>
--	--

**SHAD TRACES READY TO USE ONLY 60c**

<p><b>ABU AMBASSADEUR</b></p> <p>7000 R75,00 9000 R90,00 10 000C R110,00</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 50px; margin: auto;"> <p>5 KG DEEP SEA SQUID R13,95</p> </div>	<p><b>CAST HAND</b></p> <p>10-11 FOC RE</p>
--	--	---

**SINKERS: 36z, 18z, 46z, 24z, 50z, 30z, 16z**

<p><b>MAXIMA 1 000m SPOOLS</b></p> <p>20 LBS R10,95 25 LBS R12,00 30 LBS R13,50</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 50px; margin: auto; transform: rotate(-15deg);"> <p>FRESH BAIT AVAILABLE</p> </div>	<p><b>CASTM: SUPER C.</b></p> <p>14 FT. FRCA</p>
---	---	--

PRICES EXCL GST

OUR SPECIALITY; SAME DAY ROD & REEL

ANGLER'S PARADISE

103 WARWICK AVENUE • TEL. 2

Hols have a till

TYRE!

Repairs, inflat  
without a wheel



Sapa

COM (131)  
**Iscor blast  
two more die**

26/6/74 Pretoria Bureau  
TWO more victims of last week's accident at Iscor's Pretoria West works have died at Kalafong Hospital  
Mr Paulus Mahlangu, 21, and Mr Philemon Moshima, 34, bring the death toll to five  
Mr A van Zyl of Pretoria, Mr Johannes Banda of Atteridgeville and Mr José Frade died earlier  
Seven more victims are in a satisfactory condition at Kalafong Hospital

Dad's (131)  
plough (H)  
kills son Argus  
26/6/82

Weekend Argus  
Bureau

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD BOY died under a disc-plough driven by his father on a farm in the Cradock district yesterday.

Jannie van Rensburg was taking water to his father, Gert van Rensburg, a labourer on Mistkraal Farm.

Owner of the farm, Mr Schalk Vorster said Jannie went to an onion field at about 4 pm.

His father told him to stand back so he could turn the tractor and plough.

"He must have turned too fast. The boy landed under the plough. It went right over him."

The father frantically reversed, but went too far and the rear wheel went over the boy.

Mr Vorster's wife Mara ran to her home with the badly mutilated child in her arms.

He died after about 10 minutes.

He was the second youngest of seven children of Mr van Rensburg and his wife.

# Cargo crew wins port safety award

131  
Awards 29/6/87

THE cargo handling crew at Cape Town harbour's A Berth — the old mailship berth — has won the safety competition held over the past six months between units which

fall under the control of the port manager.

The competition was run along the lines of the National Occupational Safety Association's rules and involved the cargo handling crews of 10 commercial berths in the Duncan Dock and Victoria Basin as well as the Ben

Schoeman Container Terminal, cartage units and garage complexes.

According to the deputy port manager, Mr Kallie Haupt, the competition is to be run on a regular basis with a special shield being awarded to the winner each time.

The system manager of

the Western Cape Mr Ernie Kirsten, will present the shield for the first time to the workers at A Shed tomorrow afternoon.

The award will be accepted on behalf of the men by their foremen — Mr Willie Burger and Mr M T H Geldenhuys.

ARGUS 29/6/82 (131)

# Man dies in Durban hydrogen blast

Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — A man was killed and another injured in an explosion at the Afrox plant in Durban's Maydon Wharf area last night

A company spokesman said today hydrogen cylin-

ders were being filled by the night shift in the compressor station

One is believed to have ignited. The compressor exploded, blowing the roof off the lean-to shed and blasting five or six large cylinders into the air, one landing on an

adjoining property

The name of the dead man will be released after next of kin are notified. The injured man was discharged from hospital today

The spokesman said stringent safety precautions were applied at the

plant, where many thousands of cylinders were filled each year. This was the first accident in 20 years

Engineers and the railway police were today investigating the cause of the blast

*Dispatch*  
Cause of  
gas/blast  
still (131)  
unknown

DURBAN — The cause of the explosion at the Afrox gas factory on Monday night in which one man was killed and another severely injured, is not yet known.

The general manager, Mr J P Fredericks, said a specialist engineering team from Afrox, Johannesburg, as well as local experts and the railways police were investigating the blast.

He said police had ruled out the possibility of sabotage.

Mr Fredericks said the two workers were checking the purity of gas being pumped into cylinders from the manufacturing plants when the accident happened. They were standing between two banks of cylinders, and wearing regulation overalls and safety boots at the time of the blast — about 9 40 pm.

The extent of the damage has yet to be established. The dead man is Mr Stanley Vusumuzi Shezi — DDC

6  
a  
S  
d  
et

# Uitendaele engine

## Driver killed

(121) E. Roek 1/11/83

### Passenger train from Cape Town derailed

By JERRY McCABE

A RESCUE team battled for four hours today to free the trapped body of a diesel locomotive driver killed in a freak derailment, near Uitenhage, of the Cape Town to Port Elizabeth passenger train.

Mr Gert Visser, 40, of Uitenhage, died instantly when the front locomotive of the train jumped the rails between Kariega and Bluecliff stations about 40 kilometres from Uitenhage.

The rest of the train miraculously stayed on the rails and eventually stopped 100 metres further along the line.

Mr Visser's assistant, Mr F van Jaarveld, managed to jump free and was slightly hurt. He was later admitted to the Port Elizabeth Provincial Hospital with rib injuries.

The manager of the Cape Midlands Transport Services, Mr G D Engelbrecht, said today the accident occurred at about 4.30am.

A special railways rescue squad arrived at the derailment at about 7.25am and immediately started trying to free Mr Visser's body from where it had been trapped in the mangled wreckage of the cab.

The team of 13 used acetylene equipment and crowbars to prise the body free.

Railway workers at the scene were amazed that the derailment of the front locomotive had not caused the whole passenger train to leave the track, with a possible additional loss of life.

Although railway officials were unable to say how many passengers were aboard it is understood the train was fairly full.

The accident occurred on a bend in the line. The coupling between the first and second diesel locomotives snapped and the front engine plunged down an embankment.

The line was not damaged in the accident.

A spokesman for the Cape Midlands Transport Services said the train was originally due in Port Elizabeth at about 6.15am. It eventually arrived in Port Elizabeth at 10.30am. Mr Visser leaves his wife and three children.

### Body removed from wrecked loco



Members of a railways rescue team carry the body of Mr GERT VISSER in a blanket after a four-hour battle to free him from the wreckage of the diesel locomotive which was derailed near Uitenhage today.

Picture by Jack Cooper

The nine injured were taken to the Cecilia Makawane Hospital.

Major Brown said some of the injured were in a serious condition.

In another fatal accident, an East London man, Mr W F Swiegers, was killed today when his car left the road and hit a tree.

Mr Swiegers, of Dutton Road in Cambridge West, was travelling along Rosedale Road in Amalinda, when he apparently lost control while going round a bend.

He was taken to the Frere Hospital where he was certified dead on arrival.

# Child trapped under rubble

By Tyrone August

A four-year-old Pageview, Johannesburg girl was trapped under a pile of bricks yesterday afternoon when large chunks of concrete falling from an adjacent building being demolished, hit the kitchen of her home

Little Amsa was in the kitchen with her mother, Mrs Khairon Hassan, who was cooking her family's supper, when the concrete struck the roof

"Fortunately a piece of zinc from the roof fell near her and blocked off most of the falling bricks," said an angry relative, Mr Ahmed Hassan "She was lucky to escape with only a gash across her forehead

"She had to have 15 stitches at Coronation Hospital to close the wound She has a few bad bruises on her back as well Her mother was lucky to have only a few cuts on her neck"

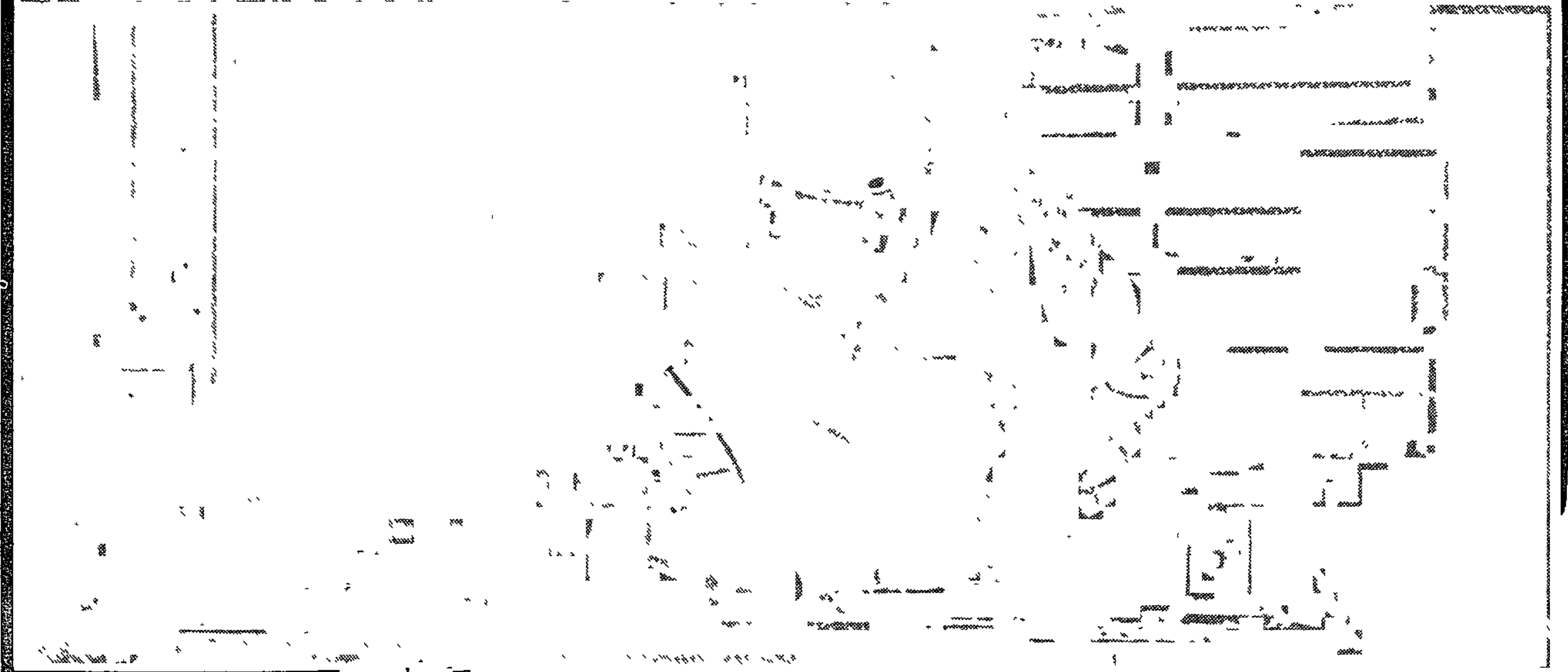
Mr Hassan said his family has complained to the Johannesburg City Council in the past because they felt demolishers were not taking adequate precautions

He said a piece of concrete from the adjacent building had fallen on to the roof of their home in 11th Street two weeks ago and had badly damaged the roof

The manager of Gons Demolishers, Mr John Goncalves, could not be reached for comment yesterday

## Welding, Fasteners & Adhesives

# Arresting the silent killer



Industrialists are recognising the dangers of welding fumes and are using simple, effective ways to extract them from the working environment says Richards Tregoning, director of Nilfisk.

Industrial Week 6/7/82

(13) **Gas hazard hits production, says MD**

THE CALL for protecting technicians from welding fumes no longer goes unheeded, says Richard Tregoning, director of Nilfisk. "Traditionally welding fumes were accepted as an occupational hazard, but

European studies show that the workers' productivity can be adversely effected by welding fumes in the environment," says Tregoning.

While carbon dioxide is not recognised as a toxic gas, it is included as a high concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> will

also adversely effect productivity

Carbon monoxide of 0,02 volume may produce headaches and mental dullness. More than 0,06 volume for more than an hour may cause unconsciousness.

Since carbon dioxide is heavier than ox-

xygen it may displace the oxygen in the work area and cause asphyxiation.

Nitrogen dioxide is irritating to the eyes. Exposure to high volumes may produce coughing and chest pains.

The inhalation of one to two parts per million of ozone for two hours produces headaches, pains in the chest, and dryness of the upper respiratory tract.

High concentration of phosphine toxic gas are irritating to the eyes, nose and skin. Chronic poisoning disturbs the sight, speech and motor functions.

It is generally agreed, and recommended by world wide authorities that a "spot extraction" method should be used to minimise the degree of pollution in the local atmosphere at the point of welding.

There is no single recognised solution to the toxic gas problem. However, Nilfisk has been active for some years in the industrial sector, advising on welding fume extraction. The Nilfisk industrial vacuum cleaner, when fitted with fume collection accessories such as an absolute filter, is ideal for fume collection.

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

CAPE TOWN  
ANSWER BOOK

External



131

2/18

240

# Asbestos workers win

Own Correspondent

LONDON — Charter Consolidated an associate of the Anglo American Corporation, may be compelled to meet claims against its subsidiary, Cape Industries, arising from US court actions

After an award of R65-million against Cape Industries, a Pennsylvania court has ruled that Charter is subject to the state's jurisdiction

The action was brought by 54 asbestos workers after the deaths and illnesses of workers, allegedly from asbestos poisoning, at the Union Asbestos and Rubber Company in Bloomington, Illinois — a customer of Cape Industries.

Cape does not accept responsibility for the

## Anglo associate may be liable for R65-m claim

damages as it sees "no reason to question the issue of why, as a mere supplier, Cape should be expected to compensate employees of a customer organisation, whether in Bloomington or anywhere else in the world, over whose working conditions it had no means of control

"It is, after all, the control of asbestos dust within the manufacturing process by the employer through adequate supervision, safety procedures and dust

extraction equipment which prevents the health risk"

Cape said the legal actions had arisen because the US courts, constrained from penalising the direct employers by the limitations of the US Workman's Compensation Act and under pressure from lawyers working on a contingency fee basis, had, in recent years, progressively evolved a system of allowing claims to be brought against suppliers

"This system is contrary to that generally applied in the Western world where the direct employer is responsible both in practice and at law for the safety of his employees," the firm said

"Cape has paid more than R8 million compensation in the United Kingdom to those of its own past or present employees who have contracted asbestos-related disease and to whom it properly considers itself to have a responsibility"

### UNCONTESTED

Cape did not contest the case in the US nor will it contest other cases which are in progress

It liquidated its US company, North American Asbestos Corporation, in January 1978 but has continued to supply the American market through a European-registered company

So, with no assets to be attached, the lawyers acting on behalf of the workers have decided to rope in Charter

A spokesman for Charter confirmed that "a lower court" had ruled against them

But he stressed that the ruling applied only within the state of Pennsylvania and not throughout the US.

Furthermore, he said, an appeal against the ruling had been lodged

"Charter owns 67.3 percent of Cape Industries but its operations and management are autonomous," he said.

"They are trying to prove we had a hand in the day-to-day operations and management — we feel the courts will find this not to be the case"

### BASIS

Legal experts in London said there was a basis on which Charter could be drawn into the battle

In a process known as "lifting the veil", courts can look behind the corporate structure.

"Instead of taking a purely legalistic view of the matter the courts would take a realistic view," one expert said

He said the US had progressed further along this path than any other country. It was only in exceptional circumstances that this law had been invoked. But it had been done and was probably being done in this case

● Cape Industries is a UK subsidiary of the British mining and industrial group Charter. Cape Industries has interests in the construction industry and manufacturers insulation and fire protection products. The company is a client of the South African mining group, Gencor, from which it acquires its asbestos. Its own asbestos mines in South Africa were sold many years ago

Argus 9/7/82

# Asbestos row to be raised in Commons

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — The refusal by the British asbestos company Cape Industries to pay more than R62-million compensation awarded by an American court to workers who handled brown asbestos will be raised in the House of Commons.

Two labour MPs, Mr Dennis Skinner and Miss Jo Richardson, said they would write to Trade Secretary Lord Cockfield asking him if he would bring pressure to bear to ensure that the company recognised its moral responsibility to 250 dead or seriously ill workers in Illinois

independent organisation over whose working conditions it had no control. The company was sued by 34 survivors and relatives of 20 men who died.

Mr Skinner said he would urge the Secretary of State to seek a meeting with the directors of Cape Industries to impress upon them the need not to desert the workers.

Miss Richardson said she would table a motion for debate.

Damages were awarded on behalf of 54 former workers at the Unarco factory.

### SUPPLIED

However, Cape, which supplied the asbestos through its subsidiary, North American Asbestos, has so far avoided responsibility by withdrawing from its American premises.

It also took no part in the court action.

Cape said earlier this week that it did not accept responsibility towards employees of an

in  
lg  
ad  
r  
-  
y  
3  
-  
l  
-  
l  
3  
3  
-  
7  
l  
t  
t  
2  
y  
B  
-  
l  
a  
r  
S  
G  
-  
-  
3  
-  
O  
IS  
O  
S  
-  
3  
n  
S  
7  
-  
3  
it  
n  
e  
o  
e  
r  
af  
3  
n  
i  
2

[  
S  
E  
S  
N  
17  
w  
ir  
v  
j

# Report prompts safety drive for E Cape industry

131 E. Post 17/7/82

By SALLY KERNOHAN  
PROMPTED by the Weekend Post report of maimings and deaths in industrial accidents in the Eastern Cape, the local branch of the Chartered Institute of Industrial Safety Engineering is launching a campaign to make industry more aware of safety measures

The Eastern Cape chairman of the institute, Mr Alistair McKay, said members of the institute had been "shocked and appalled" by the figures published in the report

Many factory safety officers have indicated that an acute shortage of factory inspectors lies behind the problem

They agree with Weekend Post's findings that small engineering shops are the danger spots

Mr George Stevenson, principal inspector of machinery in Port Elizabeth, would not comment on whether there was a shortage of inspectors in the Eastern Cape.

However, a Pretoria spokesman for the Department of Manpower told Weekend Post that there were staff shortages

He said "As in all Government departments countrywide, we, too, are suffering from staff shortages"

Mr McKay said Weekend Post's report had been raised at two meetings and there was great concern among the institute's members

"Our members are in no doubt that the figures are accurate and we as a body feel that we can help a tremendous amount," he said

"We would like to call on all interested people to attend our meetings, which are held on the first Wednesday of every month, and every one of our members is prepared to give advice as well"

Mr McKay said the institute's meetings took the form of brainstorming sessions, at which each member was able to draw from

other members' experiences

"All aspects of safety are discussed and we also have a guest speaker at each of our meetings"

Mr McKay, who is also safety officer for the Port Elizabeth Municipality, said that in his experience the most frequent industrial accidents occurred during material handling

"This is where you get the back injuries and crushed fingers," he said

"These might not be particularly spectacular injuries like in machinery accidents, but they still cause a break in the efficiency chain, causing lost man hours, lost productivity and, of course, lost revenue"

Mr McKay said representatives of any part of local industry would be welcome to attend the institute's meetings

Further information can be obtained from Mr McKay at ☎ 27951 ext 200 or the institute's secretary, Mr Brian Hunt, at ☎ 48261

Construction workers (131)  
found dead in site cabin  
WOM 20/7/82

**Mall Correspondent**

CAPE TOWN — Three construction labourers were found dead in their site cabin on a farm near Philadelphia yesterday

Fellow workers broke the door down after the three failed to report for work

A police spokesman in Philadelphia said it was presumed that the men, two of them brothers, had died of carbon monoxide poisoning from an open cooking galley in the portable cabin

They were Mr David Swarts, 30, of Calitzdorp, his brother Mr Arrie Swarts, 21 of Prieska, and Mr Niklaas Kok, 31, also of Prieska

Workers told police the men had gone to sleep the previous night about 8pm and that nothing was suspected until early yesterday morning when they did not report for work

Attempts to wake the three men failed, and they broke into the cabin. The dead men were still in their beds

131

# Court rules no one responsible for death

**EAST LONDON**—An inquest court magistrate yesterday ruled that no person was responsible for the death of an employee at the local abattoir.

Mr Maxwell Zifiza Gqokoma, 36, died three days after air from a high-pressure hose was allegedly discharged into his rectum.

At a previous hearing Dr Carl Edrich Schulenberg said Mr Gqokoma had been admitted to Frere Hospital on July 28, 1981. He told him someone had pushed a high-pressure hose against his overalls and discharged air up his rectum.

Dr Schulenberg said Mr Gqokoma had been operated on and had been recovering normally. There had been no anticipation that he would die.

On the third day after the operation he started getting delirium tremens and died on August 1.

Dr Schulenberg said Mr Gqokoma had died as a result of DTs and not his injury.

The principal district surgeon, Dr Basil Wingreen, said the cause of Mr Gqokoma's death was undetermined and he had entered it on his medical form as such.

However, it was consistent with alcoholic myocarditis, he said.

Yesterday Mr Cedric van der Westhuizen, a migrant workers are a fraction of this while income from agriculture works out at less than R1 a week per person.

felt better," the statement said.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said he reported the incident to his manager. He later heard Mr Gqokoma had been admitted to hospital. He visited Mr Gqokoma there and told him he knew it would happen he would never have done it.

"I had used the air hose previously as a prank. I later ascertained Mr Gqokoma had died. Nobody told me the hose was potentially harmful. It was always used to clean dust in the workshop. I am still upset about the incident," Mr Van der Westhuizen said.

In his finding the magistrate, Mr N R Oosthuyzen, said according to evidence led Mr Gqokoma had an operation and made successful progress.

He later developed DTs and was treated without success. Mr Oosthuyzen said medical evidence indicated that the air in his body was not a contributory factor to the death and therefore no person was responsible for Mr Gqokoma's death — DDR.

**Kangwane**

SENT resident population is 350 000 — a 7% increase in 10 years but is still less than the putative population of the area.

Population has accelerated with 150 000 people added by 1980. The story is now to go to ziland.

Black Sash report touches on that other Government population re-allocation the Areas Act. In terms law, up to December, 4 000 coloured, 35 000 Indian and 2 234 white families had been shifted.

Of the R261 million spent on coloured and Indian housing between 1960 and 1975, R200 million was spent on rehousing those people resettled — despite the massive backlog.

In 1966 it was estimated that 75% of the Indian population lived on freehold land. By 1990 — thanks to the act — nearly 80% of the population will be living in council housing.

The central theme of the report is that the homelands are getting poorer — not richer — and the communities inside them disintegrating through poverty, migrant labour, crime and malnutrition.

So much for the base on which the Government hopes to build a new

Of those moved, about two million were black, half a million coloured, a quarter of a million Indian and just over 12 000 white.

The startling scope of the Government's consolidation and removal policy has been emphasised again in a Black Sash report, *South Africa — A Divided Land*, edited by Ethel Walt.

With "final" consolidation proposals for the homelands now thought to be only weeks from publication, the Black Sash report gives a topical and horrifying insight into the cost in human and statistical terms of Grand Apartheid.

In 1955 the Tomlinson Commission estimated — on the basis of extremely conservative figures — that by the mid-1970s the homelands would have to create jobs for 1,6 million workers. A total of 280 000 jobs, or 17% of the number required, have in fact been produced.

A guide to this hidden side of South Africa provides the following statistics about the homelands — independent or otherwise

**Transkei**

SINCE independence in 1976, 50% more men have had to leave the homeland as migrant workers. At home the numbers of people involved in agriculture dropped from 30% of economically active men to 20%.

Every year between 15 000 and 25 000 new workers come off the job market. Only a fraction — and a decreasing fraction —

**Wandebele**

Next most likely target for independence. Population has rocketed seven-fold from 1975 to 1980 — again due to resettlement. It is little more than a vast resettlement camp.

**Gazankulu**

CONSISTS of 673 000 hectares in three pieces. In 1977 only 41% of the ethnic group concerned lived in the area, with the rest scattered in white South Africa.

**Kwazulu**

CONSISTS of 40 pieces of reserve area and 140 black spots. Removals in this province have been "staggering", with half a million people moved in the 1960s in Natal alone because of the abolition of labour tenancy.

Tens of thousands of others have been moved from urban areas, "black spots" and consolidated areas.

**Lebowa**

CONSISTS of 11 separate areas with 18 "closer settlements" (camps comprising small plots with no grazing or arable land) and another 44 planned. More than 200 000 people will be dumped here.

Mean household monthly income is R72 — almost 60% of households earn less than R50 a month.

**Venda**

NINETY per cent of the domestic work force is engaged in agriculture, but contributes only a fraction to the gross national income. Industrial development is minimal, the largest employer of wage labour being the Venda Government itself. There is a constant flux of people, but removal has been particularly intense recently.

**QwaQwa**

ALMOST certainly destined for incorporation in Lesotho, it consists of a tiny mountainous kingdom. Its population has increased by nearly 1 000% in 10 years due to

**Hungertands**

Thirty years ago the Tomlinson Commission

**Transkei**

SINCE independence in 1976, 50% more men have had to leave the homeland as migrant workers. At home the numbers of people involved in agriculture dropped from 30% of economically active men to 20%.

Every year between 15 000 and 25 000 new workers come off the job market. Only a fraction — and a decreasing fraction —

**Wandebele**

Next most likely target for independence. Population has rocketed seven-fold from 1975 to 1980 — again due to resettlement. It is little more than a vast resettlement camp.

**Gazankulu**

CONSISTS of 673 000 hectares in three pieces. In 1977 only 41% of the ethnic group concerned lived in the area, with the rest scattered in white South Africa.

131 302 star 22/7/82

# 'Building blast led to woman's death'

A stone sent flying by an excavation blast struck a woman on the head and killed her, the Johannesburg Regional Court heard yesterday.

Mr Mzimkulu Dlaza was giving evidence in the trial of Mr Petrus Johannes Annandale (53) of Verwoerdburg.

Mr Annandale, a blaster, is charged with culpable homicide or alternatively, failing to take the necessary safety precautions to guard against injury by not adequately blocking off holes drilled for explosives.

Mr Annandale has pleaded not guilty.

Mr Dlaza said on

July 30 last year, he was working on a building site in Diepkloof near where a highway to Vereeniging is being built.

He heard "a noise like someone shooting" and saw a large stone strike a wall nearby. When he turned around he saw a co-worker, Princess Radebe, lying face down on the ground.

He turned her over and saw she was badly injured on the head.

Near her was a large stone on which there was some of Miss Radebe's hair. There was an indentation in the ground, Mr Dlaza said.

(Proceedings)

(131) (229) (220) W.M.

# 'Killer asbestos' film hits share markets

By IAN HOBBS  
London Bureau

LONDON — Millions of rands have been wiped off the stock market value of two companies in the asbestos industry since a British television film on the high incidence of asbestos-related diseases and claims of a cover-up by the industry

The shares of Cape Industries, a subsidiary of Charter Consolidated, dropped by about R5 600 000 after the screening of the two-hour Yorkshire TV film, "Alice — A Fight for Life"

The share value of the British asbestos company, Turner Newall, which has mining interests in Southern Africa, fell by more than R10 000 000

The programme, which took two years to make, featured Mrs Alice Jefferson, 47, who allowed the TV company to film her dying days

Her doctors and the programme suggested she had contracted lung cancer while working in an asbestos factory as a 17-year-old

Her doctor said he had found startling levels of asbestosis (scarring of the lungs from asbestos dust) and cases of mesothelioma (cancer of the lung lining) in the York-

shire area

23/7/88

The programme said asbestos dust was the worst killer in industry and that industry had been aware of the material's link with lung disease since the publication of a Government report in 1931

Blue asbestos has been banned in Britain since 1970 but the programme produced evidence claiming white asbestos was also a killer

White asbestos is in daily use in millions of households, in articles ranging from oven gloves and door linings to pipe lagging and roof linings

Britain's giant General and Municipal Workers' Union has demanded a parliamentary investigation into the scale of the health hazard and into what it calls a "cover-up" by the asbestos industry

A former asbestos company doctor, Dr John Morris, told Yorkshire TV he had discovered one in four workers at a Lancashire factory had asbestos-related diseases

But he said the company had withheld the figures from a Government advisory body on asbestos, the Simpson Committee, claiming instead a figure of only one in 300

# Shares fall after film on asbestos

Cape Times 23/7/82

131

From IAN HOBBS

LONDON. — Millions of pounds have been wiped off the stock market value of two companies in the asbestos industry following a television film on the high incidence of asbestos-related diseases, and claims of a cover-up by the industry.

The shares of Cape Industries, a subsidiary of Charter Consolidated, dropped by about R5 600 000 after the screening of the two-hour Yorkshire Television film "Alice — A Fight for Life".

The share value of the major British asbestos company Turner Newall, which has mining interests in Southern Africa, fell by more than R10 million.

The programme on asbestos, which took two years to make, featured Mrs Alice Jefferson, 47, of West Yorkshire, who allowed Yorkshire TV to film her through her dying days.

Her doctors and the programme suggested that she had lung cancer because she worked in an asbestos factory when she was 17 years old.

Her specialist doctor said he had found startling levels of asbestosis — scarring of the lungs from asbestos dust — and cases of mesothelioma or cancer of the lung lining (which Alice had) in the Yorkshire area.

### 'Worst killer'

The programme alleged that asbestos dust was the worst killer in industry and the industry had been aware of its certain link with lung disease since a government report here in 1931.

Blue asbestos has been banned here since 1970 but the programme, which referred to the asbestos industry in South Africa, North America and Britain, produced evidence and experts claiming white asbestos was also a killer — though it was in daily use in millions of households.

Britain's General and Municipal Workers' Union (GMWU) has now demanded a parliamentary investigation

into what it claims is a "cover-up" by the asbestos industry.

The union wants a parliamentary select committee to report back within a year and hold public hearings to "halt the asbestos tragedy".

More than 60 men stopped work at a brake-lining factory in Bradford on Tuesday and only resumed work after three hours when management at the Mintex plant gave them assurances on safety.

A former asbestos company doctor, Dr John Morris, had disclosed to Yorkshire TV that after making a two-year study at the Turner Brothers plant in Rochdale, Lancashire, he concluded that one in four workers had asbestos-related diseases.

### 'Golden handshake'

But he claims that the evidence was withheld from the British Government advisory body on asbestos, known as the Simpson Committee, with the company claiming a figure of only one in 300.

Dr Morris subsequently left the company with a R24 000 "golden handshake" but said he regretted that his facts had not been reported.

Following the "Alice — A Fight for Life" programme the government-aided Health and Safety Executive has opened investigations with Dr Morris and Turner and Newall.

The company said it had been "very open about asbestos and health" with its employees and was waiting for screening of a second part of the film next Tuesday.

Cape Industries has not commented on the film.

ANY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question asked (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

Internal	External
(2)	(3)
70	

### NOTE CAREFULLY

- 1 Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering
- 2 Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
- 3 Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
- 4 Do not write in the left hand margin.

### WARNING

- 1 No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
- 2 Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
- 3 No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
- 4 All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University



# Peninsula seamen in missing liferaft

131

ARBUS 23/7/82

TWO Cape Town seamen are known to be among the crew of the Taiwanese tunny catcher, King Chun, who are adrift in a liferaft after abandoning the 184-ton vessel shortly before it sank 900 miles west of Table Bay on Wednesday night

This was indicated today by both the ship's agents and the Taiwanese consul-general, Mr David Hong

A spokesman for the agents said two seamen, Mr David Cupido and Mr Clive Arendse, signed on as temporary crew of the ill-fated vessel shortly before it left Cape Town four weeks ago

Two other seamen, Mr Vernon Bentley and Mr Samuel Dunn, both of Bellville South, had also signed on as crew, but decided against sailing with the ship shortly before it left Cape Town

Agents for the King Chun confirmed today that the two local seamen sailed with the ship.

They were also trying to track down relatives of the two men.

## EXPOSURE

The search for the 20 missing crewmen has been extended to an area of 6 000 square miles as their chances of survival decrease by the minute.

After 36 hours in a liferaft on stormy seas the men will now be suffering from exposure, exhaustion and dehydration from the continual motion of the dinghy which introduces acute sea-sickness

In addition, drift and wind have possibly blown

their frail liferaft hundreds of miles away from where their vessel went down on Wednesday night after developing a leak

Today's first search aircraft reached the vicinity where the men are thought to be adrift at mid-morning. It was joined at lunchtime by a second Safair Lockheed L-100

They will spend a combined 11 hours scanning the South Atlantic in the hope of finding the crew.

## VISIBILITY

Maritime Command reported that the wind in the vicinity had freshened to 10 knots. This was accompanied by a 3 m swell

Three other vessels, the frigates Victorian, Arabian Sea and Sea Explorer, have altered course to aid the three ships and two aircraft already involved in the rescue mission

They are expected to join the Kung Ben 202, Chen Chung 6 and Merian overnight

Shipping Editor  
and  
Defence Reporter

● See Page 3.

Cape Times 24/7/82

# Today may be last of search

Defence Reporter

TWO Safair L-100 Hercules aircraft are scheduled to take off this morning on what will probably be the last attempt to find the crew of the missing Taiwanese tuna boat King Chun

Late yesterday afternoon, with one of the aircraft back from the search area and the other due to land soon, an Air Force spokesman admitted that "hopes of finding survivors are fading fast" and that "in all probability" the aerial search will be called off after today's flights

Weather and visibility in the area remained good yesterday, with 10-knot headwinds and five-eighths cloud cover, and the search teams were confident that "had there been a liferaft in the search area they would

have detected it", the spokesman said

"To make absolutely certain, we intend covering the whole area again tomorrow"

But it is three days since the King Chun's crew sent a desperate radio message that the ship was sinking and they were taking to an inflatable liferaft — and with every passing hour the raft, if it is still afloat, will be drifting further away from the vessel's last known position

If any of the crew are still alive and in the search area, their chances of being found will improve today, when the Safair L-100s will be joined by five merchant vessels who have been steaming towards the search area since being alerted by the distress message

# Faint distress signal from the missing seamen

W/L ARGUS  
24/7/82

131

Weekend Argus Reporter  
A FAINT distress signal believed to be from a dinghy radio has been intercepted by ships searching for crewmen of the Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun, reviving hopes of finding the 20 missing men alive.

"This is the first positive information that we've had and we have

renewed hope of finding the survivors," a spokesman for Southern Air Command at Silvermine said today.

Late today the spokesman said they were tuned into the radio frequency and were still receiving the signal, trying to determine its exact position. The search aircraft was due to leave the search

area at 8 pm, but would "definitely" return early tomorrow to continue the search. Ships will continue searching throughout the night.

Two Cape Town seamen are known to be among the crew of the 184-ton vessel which sank 900 miles west of Table Bay on Wednesday night.

If they are alive, the crew have been adrift in

liferrafts on stormy seas since they abandoned ship. In spite of an intensive air search since Thursday, their chances of survival were thought to be diminishing rapidly.

It had been decided, before the signal was heard, that if the seamen were not found today the search would be called off.

According to the spokesman for Southern Air Command, the faint distress signal was intercepted by the Taiwanese trawler Yi Sheng and another vessel in the search area at midnight last night.

## REVISED

"A revised search area has been planned, based on this information, and the aircraft and ships in the area are being advised," said the spokesman.

The two Cape Town crewmen are Mr David Cupido and Mr Clive Arendse, who signed on as temporary crew of the ill-fated vessel shortly before it left Cape Town four weeks ago.

The spokesman said the weather in the new search area, adjoining the earlier search area to the west, was fair and visibility was good.

Searchers were covering an area of 1400 square nautical miles.

# PE blast victim carried can of petrol

131  
E. Post  
26/7/82

## Help for burnt worker

Post Reporter

IT was confirmed today that a can Mr Stanford Twane was holding when an explosion occurred at the Hotel Elizabeth yesterday had petrol in it

Mr George Lehman, the general manager of the hotel, which was evacuated after the blast, said today he thought that Mr Twane, who was seriously injured, must have lit a cigarette

Mr Twane works for a car hire firm and was in the basement cleaning cars and doing stocktaking shortly before the explosion

"He went to his office, holding a can of petrol just before the blast," Mr Lehman said

Mr Lehman confirmed that the power supply to the basement had been cut off as staff at the hotel were working on the building's wiring

Mr Keith Crindle, who had been working with Mr Twane but did not go through to his office with him, said Mr Twane lit a match to see what he was doing

However, Mr Lehman insists Mr Twane must have lit a cigarette as he had a torch with him

"They were informed by letter that the cut was going to take place," he said

A Livingstone Hospital spokesman said Mr Twane was in a satisfactory condition

No one else was injured in the blast and damage was minimal



A badly burnt Mr STANFORD TWANE is lowered gently by ambulancemen after an explosion yesterday morning at the Hotel Elizabeth. Picture by Evert Smith

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

# Two views on worker protection

Mercury Reporter

26/7/82

THE general manager of a swimming pool construction company says he is trying his best to get his staff to wear protective clothing and observe safety regulations when using dangerous equipment, but his instructions are being ignored

But labourers at one of the company's swimming pool construction sites said, however, that protective clothing had never been offered to them, and an angle-grinder operator complained of a persistent chest complaint and said he had spent two days in hospital last year when a tile chip became lodged in his eye

After concerned members of the public had contacted the Mercury and said that a labourer was using an angle-grinder without any form of protection outside a house in Princess Alice Avenue, the Mercury interviewed the man who said he had never been offered any form of protective clothing

Mr Gina Mandla, who cuts coping tiles, was enveloped in a cloud of dust while he did his job

## Required

He said he was having problems with his chest, and colleagues confirmed that he had suffered from a bad cough for a long time

Mr Mandla also said that he had spent two days in hospital last year when a piece of tile had become lodged in his eye

Mr M Roskam, the deputy director of the Department of Manpower, said in terms of the Factories, Machinery and Building Act, operators of angle-grinders were required to wear protective clothing, which included protection from inhaling harmful dust

'It is also up to the owner of the equipment to ensure that these regulations are adhered to, failure of which can lead to a fine,' he said

According to the University of Natal's Department of Chemical Engineering, it was possible that the coping tiles Mr Mandla was cutting contained silica, which if inhaled for long periods could lead to silicosis

When the Mercury contacted Mr Harry Beckx, general manager of Blue Lake Pools, he said he



MR GINA MANDLA, a swimming pool construction company's labourer, using an angle-grinder without any protective clothing

was well aware of the requirements of the Act and tried his best to enforce them

'We have protective clothing, but some of our staff refuse to wear it. It is difficult to keep track of the men because they are spread out on different sites all over Durban, but if I find a man ignoring my instructions I fine him as a form of punishment,' he said

Mr Beckx said it was a great problem trying to ensure that all his workers complied with safety

regulations, and added that he suspected some of them sold the safety equipment they were given

## Police deaths

GWERU—Four Zimbabwe police officers died and 16 others were injured when their armoured vehicle overturned near Shurugwi at the weekend. Two died at the scene, another was dead on arrival at Gweru hospital and the fourth died later in hospital — (Sapa)

BOYS' CREW  
T-SHIRT

100% cotton  
Sizes: S-M  
In white

R 1

BOYS' SHIRT

Sizes: 56-  
In White &

R 1



WE ACCEPT

# Trawler had only one raft

Cape Times 27/7/82

131

Staff Reporter

THE Taiwanese tuna catcher King Chun carried only one inflatable liferaft and the vessel's safety equipment was probably last inspected nine months ago — in Taiwan, which like South Africa is not a signatory to the 1977 Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels.

A spokesman for the Marine Division of the Department of Transport Affairs said yesterday that normal international practice was for vessels the size of the King Chun to carry at least two inflatable liferafts.

At a press conference at the 35 Squadron base at D F Malan Airport yesterday it was learnt that the freighter Victoria 1 had found an unactivated liferaft from the sunken trawler on Sunday afternoon with the carbon-dioxide canisters for inflating the raft rusted solid.

Had the gas canisters been working, the 19-man crew might have survived — but there were no survivors from the vessel's crew of 19, which included two South Africans.

The Victoria 1 is expected to arrive in Table Bay about 9pm today.

Yesterday's top-level briefing included Colonel J Kotze and Commandant Ben Kriegler, respectively Southern Air Command's senior staff officer operations and staff officer maritime operations, Commander D F Silberbauer, OC naval operations command, representatives of Port Control, and Mr David Hong, Taiwanese Consul-General in Cape Town.

Colonel Kotze said buoys found around the liferaft indicated an attempt had been made to make it float.

Mr Hong said the King Chun's only liferaft was large and capable of carrying up to 25 people.

In terms of Taiwanese safety regulations, vessels such as the King Chun had to be checked annually, he said. Such a check would have been made before the vessel left Taiwan nine months ago and another would have been done in three months' time.

Life-rafts were sealed off after a check and set to inflate automatically when released in an emergency.

Mr Hong said he could only surmise that the rusting-up of the King Chun's carbon-dioxide canisters had been caused by "the very rough weather" in the South Atlantic fishing grounds in the past few months.

The cause of the sinking is not yet known.

# Taiwan

## 'Lax in

ARGUS 27/7/82 131

## checking

## its ships'

By Bill Goddard  
Shipping Editor

THE Taiwanese Government's lax approach towards the seaworthiness of ships and the unscrupulous attitude of many Taiwanese shipowners are two of the main contributing factors to the death of the 19 crew of the tunny catcher King Chun

This is the opinion of the American Bureau of Shipping's principal surveyor for Southern Africa, Mr Harry Millard, who said that many of the Taiwanese fishing craft operating out of Cape Town could only be described as "floating death traps"

"Taiwan is not a signatory to the SOLAS agreement — an international society which lays down set rules governing the safety of life at sea — and has its own laws covering the surveying and checking of vessels," he said

The 184-ton ship sank 900 miles off Cape Town last week.

### Regulations

Mr Millard said that Taiwan's marine regulations made it obligatory only for ships over 500 tons to be checked by a surveyor from one of the recognised classification societies

"This means that the bulk of Taiwanese-registered ships escape having to go through regular checks by a qualified marine surveyor

"International marine laws are very elastic and are bent to suit the needs in each country," he said.

### Owners

Mr Millard said the owners and operators of the fishing craft — a large number of which operate out of Cape Town — were just as much to blame for the King Chun fatality which claimed the lives of 17 Taiwanese and two South African seamen

"You'll find many of the Taiwanese fishing boats are over-crowded and do not have sufficient serviceable life-saving equipment. Life is cheap to some of the shipowners," he said.

"Taiwan's shipping regulations for small ships should be tightened up all round... but there is nothing anybody except the Taiwanese Government can do about it," he added

### SA praised

Mr Millard complimented the South African authorities for what he described as "fantastic work" they did in carrying out a search for the ill-fated King Chun

"Nowhere else in the world would you find sea rescue organisations spending so much time on a costly search outside of territorial waters," he said

The Taiwanese Consul General in Cape Town, Mr David Hong, disagreed with Mr Millard's accusation about his country having lax attitude towards shipping regulations

"I agree that we do have two sets of rules for different classes of ships, but our men who check the vessels are qualified

marine surveyors," he said  
Mr Hong acknowledged that Taiwan was not a signatory to the international SOLAS agreement, "but we adhere strictly to the regulations," he added

Mr Hong said that as far as he could ascertain the King Chun was checked shortly before it left Taiwan. He could not say why the CO<sub>2</sub> canisters in the inflatable liferaft of the King Chun were found to be rusted and unserviceable

# hand - Eglin



Eglin

There was in fact growing Government arrogance and a drift towards totalitarianism

He accused the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange and the Minister of Defence, Mr Magnus Malan, of interfering with court proceedings in the Aggett inquest hearing and the Seychelles hijack trial

Dr John Sonnenberg, MPC for Green Point, said that the incidence of tuberculosis, polio, cholera and serious malnutrition in the homelands showed how Third World conditions were present in South Africa

Government policies, including the migrant labour system, were directly responsible for these conditions

There was also mismanagement of health services due to the actions and attitudes of policy makers and Government ideology

se and make difficult task peaceful solu much more ne will say n van der fo Green the Govern rnt nothing ing support arrogant atti last year's ion

# - Boraine



Boraine

before handing it over to Swaziland.

Dr Boraine said he earnestly hoped both these special meetings would contribute to constructive and peaceful change

"I urge the Prime Minister to leave the danger and to lead our country away from ever-increasing confrontation and hostility into a just and secure and peaceful future," Dr Boraine said

Referring to detentions without trial and the inquest on Dr Neil Aggett, Dr Boraine said "The charges and rumours surrounding the inhuman treatment meted out to those in detention are so consistent that I urge the Government to institute a commission of inquiry so that the question of whether or not torture is practised in our jails can be resolved once and for all"

On the issue of Press freedom, Dr Boraine said a government that banned people and newspapers, as the present Government had done, could not be trusted with the freedom of the Press

Mr Geoff Everingham, MPC for Pinelands said the whole apartheid framework, which pervaded South Africa's economy, was a debilitating factor

one of two tant" meet- d on July ly expected me Minister t the Govern- cense to the Council's re- ms at the meeting as proposals to the NP's in the next

important the one king of the held in the t of this meet- among other ble the king agony" with and to seek on how to Government's excise the a district



MRS MAUDE ARENDSE, mother of one of the 19 missing crewmen of the Taiwanese tunny boat, the King Chun, is comforted by her granddaughter, Grzelda, as she awaits "any" news of her son Clive who was on board the vessel when it sank last week Mrs Arendse still has hope that her son is alive

# Family 'unaware' city man on sunk vessel

ARGUS 27/7/82

131

CLOSE relatives of Mr David Cupido — one of the 19 men who is missing, presumed drowned, after the sinking of the Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun 900 miles west of Cape Town last week — were unaware until yesterday that he was on board the vessel

An extensive sea and air search for the missing men covering 12 000 square miles was called off on Sunday when an empty deflated liferaft was found floating in shark-infested waters

To date only one body has been found and the rest of the crew are all missing presumed dead

### UNAWARE

When The Argus yesterday traced Mrs Lea Cupido to where she is employed in Durbanville, she was still unaware that her brother-in-law had been a crewman on the King Chun

All she knew was that he was at sea and that he had said when he left "in June sometime" that he would be away for about two or three months

Mrs Cupido said he had "always worked at sea"

He had been a painter for a short while but longed for the sea and returned



THE last photograph taken of Mr David Cupido before he left Cape Town on the ill-fated King Chun. It was an offer of more money which prompted him to join the crew of the doomed tunny catcher

Mrs Cupido said he was at home for about two weeks before he went to sea on this last occasion.

He had always worked on the same ship, but before he left he told her he was joining another one (the King Chun) because he was offered more money

She said when he returned from sea he always brought fish and her five children were always very happy to see him as he was fond of them

Mrs Cupido said her brother-in-law was very much a loner and very often happy only when he could go to sea

He had other relatives, but visited her and her husband most frequently

He was not married, and had no other home, besides the sea

The other Cape Town man on the King Chun when it sank was Mr Clive Arendse of Laverder Hill, Retreat

Both men signed up as temporary crew before the vessel left Cape Town about four weeks ago

Two Bellville men, Mr Samuel Dunn and Mr Vernon Bentley are lucky to be alive today.

They signed on as temporary crew, but left the ship only hours before it sailed because of a dispute over wages.

Even when he returned home, he stayed on the ship and came to visit them at their home in Durbanville each day



151 Sowetan 27/7/82

# DRIVER KILLS IN BUS SMASH

ONE person died and three were injured on the East Rand and nine others were injured in Soweto, while several escaped death in Pretoria in three separate Putco bus accidents yesterday morning.

In what looks like a bad day for Putco, the first accident happened near New Cananda Station outside Soweto at 8am when two buses collided seriously injuring one driver while eight passengers were slightly hurt.

The most serious of the accidents occurred

30 minutes later on the Alberton-Thokozana road near Alrode when a bus collided with a truck, killing the truck driver and badly injuring three passengers in the bus.

In Pretoria a bus carrying passengers left the road and hit a pole, injuring several passengers. Nobody was reported dead.

The driver of the truck — belonging to the South African Railways — involved in the Alberton accident died on the spot, while the injured were admitted to the Natal-

spruit Hospital. The three were the bus driver Mr Frans Pola, Ms Thembi Zwane and Ms Busi Ncosonke.

According to eye witnesses the accident happened at about 8.30am near a chain-store warehouse. They said the bus had been travelling from Kaitl-hong to Faraday Railway Station and the truck had been travelling in the opposite direction when they had collided, killing the truck driver instantly.

Ms Ncosonke who

twisted her knee in the accident told The SOWETAN yesterday that she had been talking to friends when the accident had happened. "When the truck and the bus collided, we were flung from one side of the bus to the other. During the commotion I twisted my knee."

The driver of one of the buses involved in the Soweto accident has been identified as Mr Benjamin Hlongwane. He has been admitted to the Baragwanath Hospital.

According to Ms

Anne Purwitsky, public relations officer at Putco. Two of our buses were involved in collisions yesterday morning at eight. Only one bus was carrying passengers. Eight passengers were injured, though slightly in one bus and the driver of the other bus was injured more seriously.

The driver has been admitted to Baragwanath Hospital and the passengers were treated. Most of them were discharged. I don't know what the damage to the buses is," she said.



INJURED Miss Busi Ncosonke in hospital

*D-Dispatch*  
**Death:**  
*29/7/82*  
**worker**  
**fined** (131)

JOHANNESBURG.— A road construction worker has been convicted on a charge of culpable homicide after a woman was killed by a flying stone during rock-blasting

A regional court magistrate here fined Petrus Johannes Annandale R1 000 (or 12 months)

Half of the sentence was conditionally suspended for three years

Mr Annandale was also found guilty of using explosives contrary to regulations and the magistrate, Mr T J Coetzee, fined him R50 (or 25 days)

At about 2 pm on July 13 last year, Mr Annandale ignited charges at a road construction site, the court found

A 14 kg rock flew through the air for about 400 m and fatally struck Miss Princess Radebe on the side of the head

Mr Annandale told the court he had 10 years' experience in rock-blasting. He had not been involved in any other accidents during this period — SAPA

# Liferaft had floats attached to it

Shipping Editor

THE 20-man life-raft from the ill-fated Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun was only partially inflated and most of the mattress section had broken away from the support walls and was hanging limply underneath when it was found by the Panamanian freighter Victoria 1

This has been disclosed by the Taiwanese consul-general, Mr David Hong, following talks he had with the master of the 7382-ton vessel which sailed from Cape Town today

Mr Hong said that the captain of the Victoria 1, which was on its way from South America to South Africa when it interrupted its voyage to assist in the search for the 19-man crew from the 184-ton King Chun had also told him that the large number of fishing line floats which he brought into port had been attached to the rubber raft apparently in an attempt to keep it afloat

Officials from the Taiwanese consul-general's office and local representatives of the China Corporation Register of Shipping have examined the two sections of the liferaft which had several patches and other repair marks

Although the South Africa authorities are not officially connected with

the issue the pieces of the liferaft and two rusty steel CO2 bottles have been taken to Ysterplaat air force base to be examined by safety equipment specialists

The claim that Taiwan's marine safety regulations are rather lax and that many Taiwanese fishing boat owners are unscrupulous was made earlier

this week by the American Bureau of Shipping's principal surveyor in Southern Africa, Mr Harry Millard.

Mr Hong said today: "Although the Republic of China is not a signatory to the international SOLAS agreement — due to international politics — we can assure you that the Chinese maritime authorities are extremely

strict and spare no effort in maintaining a very high standard of safety on all seagoing vessels

"These safety requirements are based on the international SOLAS regulations"

Mr Hong said the regulations required fishing vessels from 20 to 1000 tons to comply with the requirements set down by authorities.

"These vessels do not escape the annual and special four yearly surveys required by the authorities"

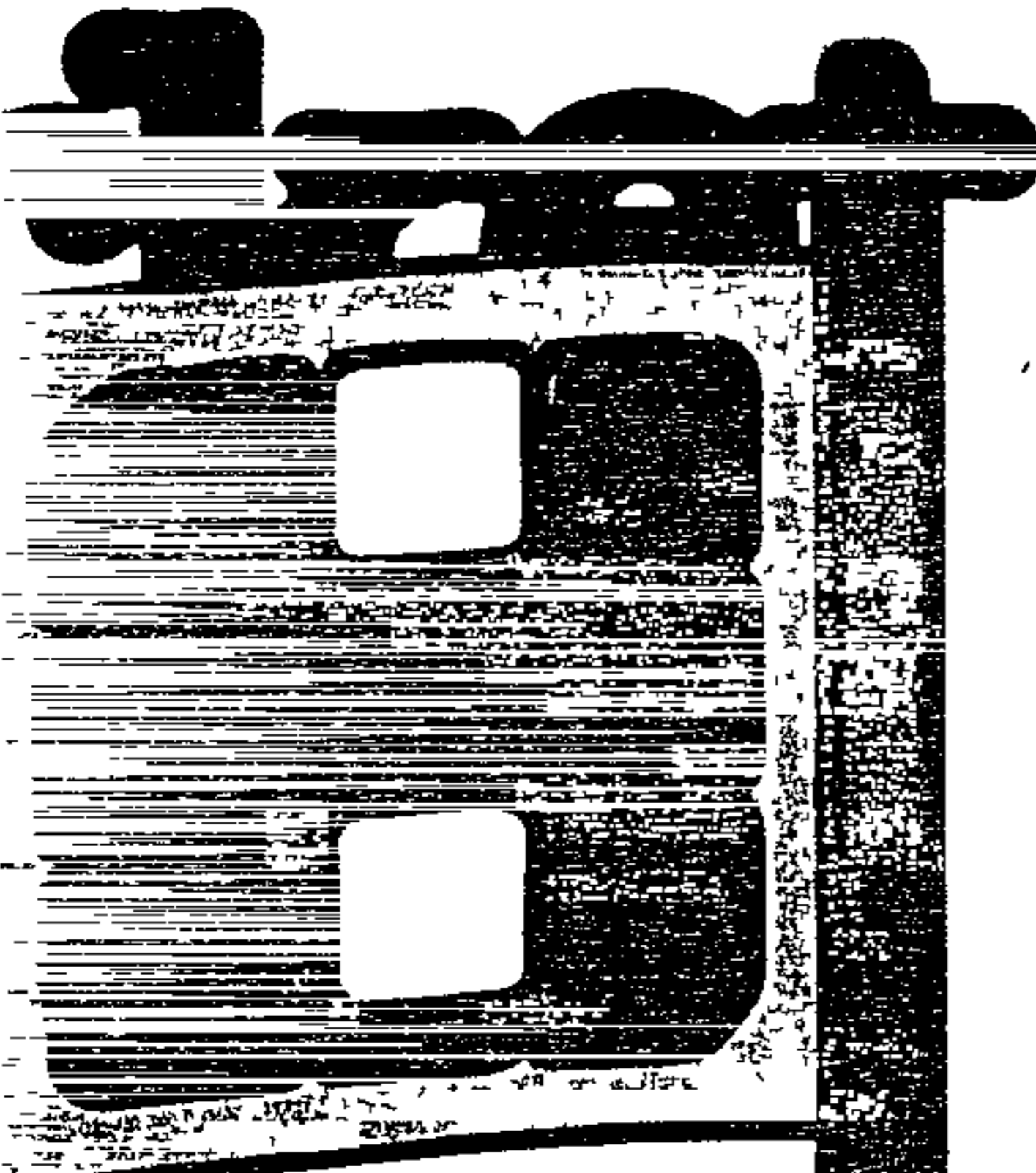
"Further, the lifesaving equipment is, at the time of survey, serviceable and in good condition

"It is unfair to state that the vessels are overcrowded — the accommodation is small but reasonably comfortable"



OFFICIALS from the Taiwanese consul general's office and surveyor representatives of the China Corporation Register of Shipping examine the bottom section of the inflatable life-raft from the ill-fated tunny catcher King Chun. The partly inflated rubber raft was found and brought to Cape Town by the Panamanian freighter Victoria 1. Circled in the foreground are two of the numerous patches on the craft

**SHOPPING HOURS:**  
 Mon, Tues & Thurs 8.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.  
 Wednesdays 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.  
 Fridays 8.30 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.  
 Saturdays 8.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.



**DEFINITELY NO DEALERS!**  
 We want you, the customer, to get the savings!

**ONLY**



# Industry's use of asbestos 'covered up'

131 E. Post 30/7/82

By GILLIAN McAINSH  
 INDUSTRY is involved in a "cover-up" over its use of the "killer" insulation material, asbestos, according to a Port Elizabeth businessman, Mr T Howard

He is managing director of Energy Conservation Applicators, an insulation firm, and his own father-in-law died from asbestosis, an incurable disease in which asbestos fibres impregnate and scar the lungs

Last week Yorkshire Television screened a documentary detailing the horror of death from asbestosis, one of three fatal diseases people who handle the material are prone to contract

It led to a drop of more than R15 million in the value of asbestos shares on the London Stock Exchange and allegations of a cover-up by the asbestos industry

Although asbestos has been banned in many countries as the cause of fatal respiratory diseases, Mr Howard said it was still used in 90% of Port Elizabeth's major industries

One of his employees, a 71-year-old man, died from asbestosis last year, having last come into contact with asbestos 20 years before

"Asbestos is definitely a killer. There are alternatives to it, but industry is too lazy to turn around and look for them. It's a cover-up by industry. In the United Kingdom and the United States asbestos products are banned," he said

Here it would be financially impractical for the Government to ban asbestos

"In a country like South Africa where there has to be employment, you have to weigh up the consequences of banning asbestos. It may kill two or three people a year, but it probably employs thousands of people a year in the mines. Add three or four kids and a wife and you are going into

## Known cause of three diseases

company in South Africa, employs 10 000 people in its mines

Asbestos is still used in household gloves, car brake linings and for many insulation purposes. Mr Howard said he had seen limpet asbestos on the office ceilings of one of Port Elizabeth's multinational firms

There are three main diseases related to asbestos: asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma - cancer of the lining of the chest. All three develop very slowly and are generally incurable and lead to death

In some cases, the symptoms of the diseases emerge only 30 years after exposure to asbestos. Smokers who are exposed to asbestos run 30 to 40 times the risk of contracting lung cancer as a non-smoker exposed to asbestos

A respiratory specialist at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town said the South African regulations governing asbestos were "more lenient" than those of America and most European countries

"Our levels of exposure laid down by law are much higher than those of other western countries. We should be paying more attention to lowering the levels allowed," he said

The British limit for fibres of blue asbestos is 0.2 fibres a cubic centimetre

are to get asbestosis. Each generation will decide what is safe for the present workers so we should act now to protect them. We should curtail the mining - meaning regulate it more strictly," the specialist said

A spokesman for General Mining said most of their employees would be "involved" in the actual mining and processing of asbestos

"However, there are dust regulations and the mines are obliged to comply with these limits. The mines are government-regulated and we abide by this"

Mr H H Gossling, the chief mineral economist in charge of non-metallic minerals at the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs, said any mineral mine could be a health hazard and that asbestos was no exception

"We are in strong competition with Canada and there are strong political currents," he said. "The unions in Europe want us out, to let Canada in, and they are using this health hazard as a lever. If you are not very familiar with the whole thing, stay out of it"

Mr Mike Beart, the applications engineering manager for a Port Elizabeth firm, said his company marketed a ceramic fibre insulation material which could withstand higher temperatures than asbestos. It was now being manufactured locally

"We import most of our textiles purely because the market here doesn't necessitate a bigger operation," said Mr Beart. "If there was an asbestos ban, we would increase our production and there would be a few more jobs for the local inhabitants"

Mr Howard agreed the alternative was as good as asbestos, if a little more expensive

"It's just a matter of educating the people to use it. Ceramic fibre insulation is

# 'covered up'

By GILLIAN McAINSH  
INDUSTRY is involved in a "cover-up" over its use of the "killer" insulation material, asbestos, according to a Port Elizabeth businessman, Mr T Howard

He is managing director of Energy Conservation Applicators, an insulation firm, and his own father-in-law died from asbestosis, an incurable disease in which asbestos fibres impregnate and scar the lungs

Last week Yorkshire Television screened a documentary detailing the horror of death from asbestosis, one of three fatal diseases people who handle the material are prone to contract

It led to a drop of more than R15 million in the value of asbestos shares on the London Stock Exchange and allegations of a cover-up by the asbestos industry

Although asbestos has been banned in many countries as the cause of fatal respiratory diseases, Mr Howard said it was still used in 90% of Port Elizabeth's major industries

One of his employees, a 71-year-old man, died from asbestosis last year, having last come into contact with asbestos 20 years before

"Asbestos is definitely a killer. There are alternatives to it, but industry is too lazy to turn around and look for them. It's a cover-up by industry. In the United Kingdom and the United States asbestos products are banned," he said

Here it would be financially impractical for the Government to ban asbestos

"In a country like South Africa where there has to be employment, you have to weigh up the consequences of banning asbestos. It may kill two or three people a year, but it probably employs thousands of people a year in the mines. Add three or four kids and a wife and you are going into the many thousands of people it would affect"

He claimed the Government was "scared of trying to educate the people because of what it involves"

Russia and Canada produce more asbestos than South Africa

General Mining alone, the biggest asbestos mining

## Known cause of three diseases

company in South Africa, employs 10 000 people in its mines

Asbestos is still used in household gloves, car brake linings and for many insulation purposes. Mr Howard said he had seen limpet asbestos on the office ceilings of one of Port Elizabeth's multinational firms

There are three main diseases related to asbestos: asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma - cancer of the lining of the chest. All three develop very slowly and are generally incurable and lead to death

In some cases, the symptoms of the diseases emerge only 30 years after exposure to asbestos. Smokers who are exposed to asbestos run 30 to 40 times the risk of contracting lung cancer as a non-smoker exposed to asbestos

A respiratory specialist at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town said the South African regulations governing asbestos were "more lenient" than those of America and most European countries

"Our levels of exposure laid down by law are much higher than those of other western countries. We should be paying more attention to lowering the levels allowed," he said

The British limit for fibres of blue asbestos is 0,2 fibres a cubic centimetre for the amount of dust allowed in the air. For white asbestos the British limit is one fibre a cubic centimetre for the amount of dust allowed in the air, compared to the South African limit of five fibres a cubic centimetre

"The more exposure you have the more likely you

are to get asbestosis. Each generation will decide what is safe for the present workers so we should act now to protect them. We should curtail the mining - meaning regulate it more strictly," the specialist said

A spokesman for General Mining said most of their employees would be "involved" in the actual mining and processing of asbestos

"However, there are dust regulations and the mines are obliged to comply with these limits. The mines are government-regulated and we abide by this"

Mr H H Gössling, the chief mineral economist in charge of non-metallic minerals at the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs, said any mineral mine could be a health hazard and that asbestos was no exception

"We are in strong competition with Canada and there are strong political currents," he said. "The unions in Europe want us out, to let Canada in, and they are using this health hazard as a lever. If you are not very familiar with the whole thing, stay out of it"

Mr Mike Beart, the applications engineering manager for a Port Elizabeth firm, said his company marketed a ceramic fibre insulation material which could withstand higher temperatures than asbestos. It was now being manufactured locally

"We import most of our textiles purely because the market here doesn't necessitate a bigger operation," said Mr Beart. "If there was an asbestos ban, we would increase our production and there would be a few more jobs for the local inhabitants"

Mr Howard agreed the alternative was as good as asbestos, if a little more expensive

"It's just a matter of educating the people to use it. Ceramic fibre insulation is more expensive, but I think they can absorb it once they consider the killer aspect"

"The dangers of asbestos have become evident only in the past 50 years. Most industry in the past 40 years has used asbestos, as people weren't educated in those days and it was just an accepted product."

**DEFINITELY NO DEALERS!**  
We want you, the customer, to get the savings!

ONLY



# 4 stars for safe job

131 C. Herald 31/7/82

**A FOUR-STAR award for a job safely done.**

That was the reward for the construction company which last week eased the final bit of their 537-metre curved viaduct into place over the Hugo's River just outside Paarl, to complete one of their most safety-conscious contracts to date.

The man behind even their attempt to qualify for this prestige award was Dave Labans of Belhar, the site accountant.

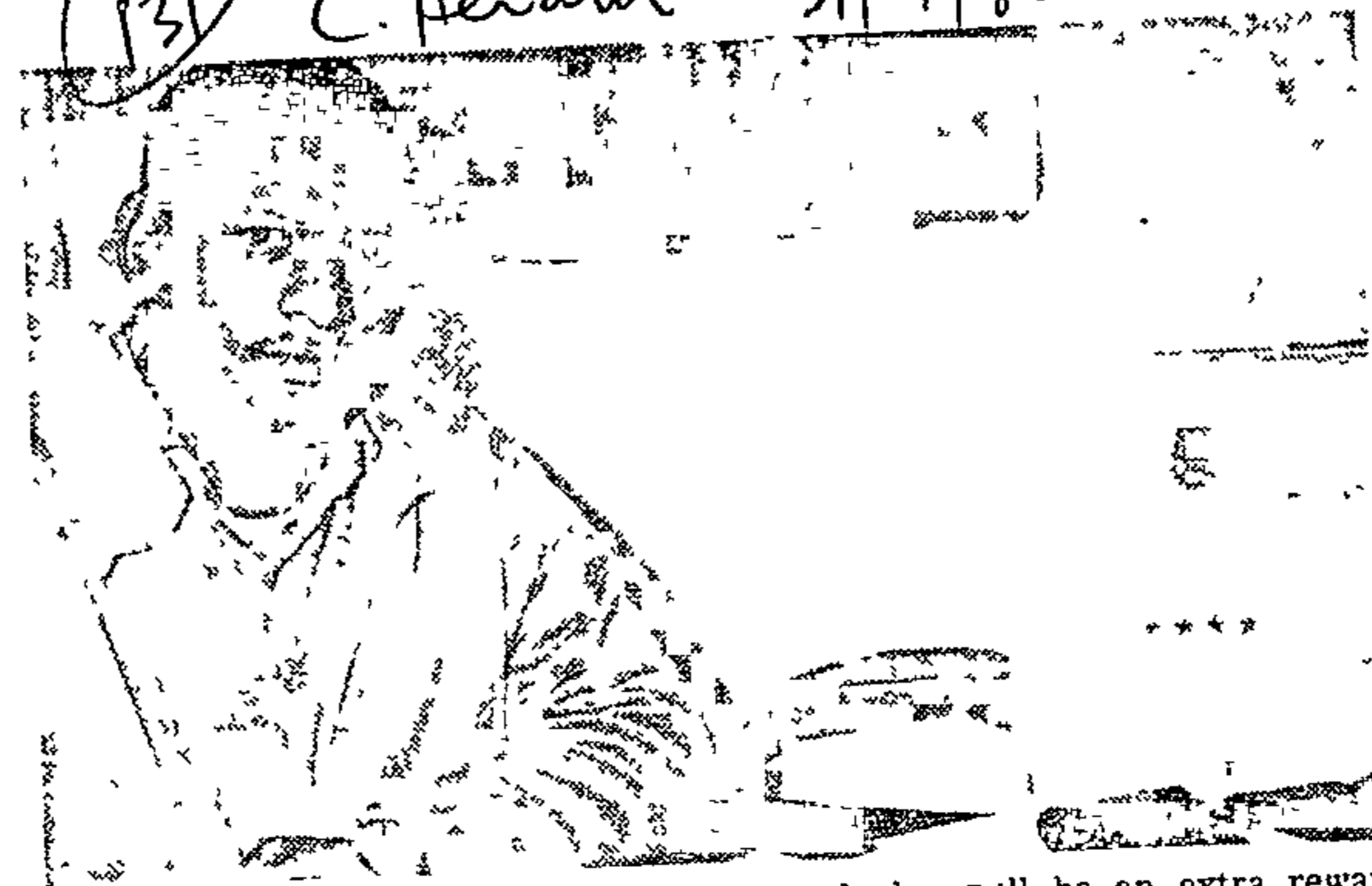
He said "From the start of the project our site agent Ear' Buntmann decided that he wanted to make this job as clean and as safe as possible.

## DETAILS

"In March last year we informed the National Occupational Safety Association (NOSA) that we wanted them to give us a safety evaluation of our site.

"To qualify for a rating from NOSA, the construction company has to be in constant contact with them, keeping them up to date on mounds of statistics."

Requirements for the NOSA award included precise details of storage methods, fire prevention



● DAVE Labans with the certificate he worked so hard for, which takes pride of place on his desk.

methods, food protection methods and hearing conservation consideration on site.

Although the job of monitoring all these statistics did not fall within the realm of his duties, Dave Labans took on the responsibility of doing it since he is interested in "figure work."

He has been a figures man in the building trade for 10 years and is presently studying towards a Bachelor of Commerce degree at UNISA.

His time for study is very limited since he has to leave his home at 6:30

am each day and he seldom returns before 7 pm.

"But," he says philosophically "I regard it as a challenge. It was unusual for a construction site such as ours to be given such a good rating."

"Normally only building sites which have the advantage of being in confined spaces bother to apply for safety awards."

"Here at the Hugo's River project we are interfering with nature — and she's not the type to give up easily."

According to the construction company's public relations officer on site, Mr Noel Wheller, it is sometimes difficult to predict what the elements can do.

## FOLLY

"There was a time," he said, "when the bridge was only halfway across the valley and to wander out to its edge would have been sheer folly."

"Back here near the base you might light a match quite easily, but out there in the middle of the valley, 46 metres from the ground you'd find it difficult to hold on because of strong wind."

Dave, as the driving force behind the safety campaign, attended several courses conducted by NOSA and brought his influence to bear on the site staff.

## PROVE

"We just had to prove to ourselves and to the company that we could win the award," said Dave.

For Dave Labans there

will be an extra reward, in the form of promotion coming his way when work at the Hugo's River is completed in October.

He will move to head office of his company, where he will control the accounts and administration of all his employers' contracts in the Western Cape.

## Bikers to be banned from the bridge . . .

MOTORCYCLISTS will not be able to use the bridge over the Hugo's River because of the metal interlocking joints at its extremities, which allow for the expansion and contraction of the road.

Mr Noel Wheeler, public relations officer for the construction company which built the impressive bridge, said that it would be too risky for two-wheelers to cross these joints as they stretched over a distance of 200 mm and would almost surely cause motorcycles to skid.

"By prohibiting motorcyclists from crossing the

bridge we are only following the example set by Johannesburg authorities who have prevented them from using some of their roads which incorporate the same joints," he said.

## OLD ROAD

"Motorcyclists will have to use the old road, which will be retained as a scenic route."

"Also, the bridge and the proposed Dutoitskloof Pass tunnel, which, when completed, will cut off approximately 11 km of the existing tortuously-twisting pass, will be one of the toll roads proposed by the Minister of Transport."

## CHRISTMAS IN AUSTRALIA

### 26 DAY HOLIDAY

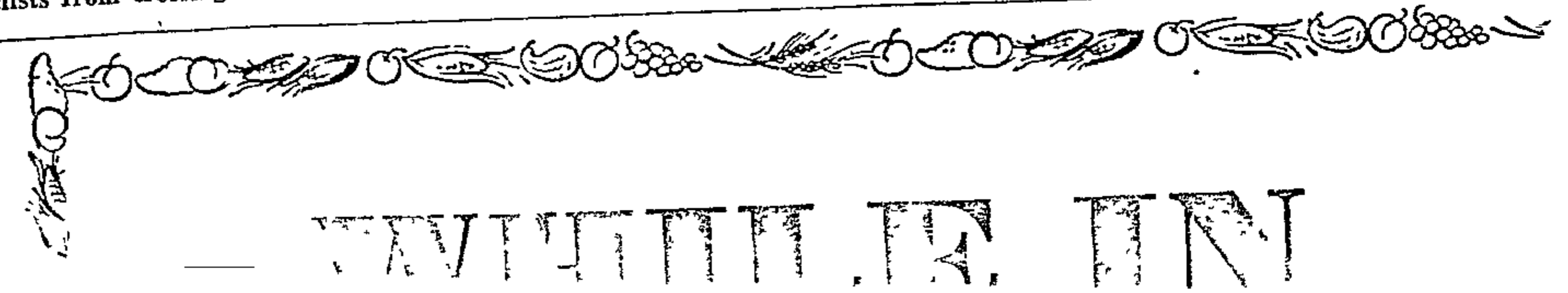
Departs: Johannesburg 17th December  
Returns: 11th January 1983

### COST: FROM R1 960

- Includes: Return economy airfares
- 11 nights accommodation: B & B Basis
- Transfers
- Two sightseeing excursions

APPLY WITHOUT DELAY TO

TOURS DIVISION  
**RONDEBOSCH TRAVEL**  
111 MAIN ROAD, RONDEBOSCH, PHONE 751-1111



# 'My son raced to catch death ship'

A RETREAT mother told this week how her son went out of his way to join the ill-fated Taiwanese tunny ship King Chun which sank to a watery grave in the South Atlantic last week.

"Clive ran to catch the ship because he told me that he could not afford to miss it," said a distraught Mrs Maude Arendse

"As he rushed out of the house he told me that he would be back in four months' time," she said

Her son, Mr Clive Arendse, 29, was one of 20 seamen on board the stricken tunny ship

They are believed to have died in a liferaft after abandoning their sinking vessel in shark-infested waters last Wednesday

Faint signals were picked up over the weekend but the search was called off at 1 pm on Sunday

After tracking a faint distress call for almost 36 hours, the liferaft emitting the signal was eventually sighted by the freighter, Victoria I. It was found that the liferaft was unactivated. The carbon dioxide canisters used to inflate the raft were rusted solid

Mrs Arendse said the police had been to see her and told her there

was little hope of her son being alive

"But we still hold out hope," said Mrs Arendse

She said that her son was married and had a nine-year-old son

Another Cape Town seaman who died in the tragedy was a Mr David Cupido

Two other Cape Town fishermen, Mr Vernon Bentley and Mr Samuel Dunn are lucky to be alive

They changed their minds about joining the King Chun at the last minute after signing on as temporary staff

A relieved Mrs Irene Bentley of Bellville said she was extremely happy that her husband had changed his mind about going to sea in the King Chun

She said that he had worked in the Transvaal for the past three years and returned to Cape Town in April

"He asked me if he should go to sea last week but I was against it" said Mrs Bentley

"Just before the ship sailed he telephoned me and again I told him not to go"

Mr Bentley has started work for a spinning company

By MIKE HEWITT

A MAN who slept on the job, died on the job ... crushed by tons of maize in his strange hiding-place.

The 25 year-old man might still have been alive today if he had not slipped away for a cat-nap — on top of a pile of maize inside a railway truck

When the valve under the railway truck was opened, the napping worker was sucked down and crushed as the maize gushed out

The dead man, Mr Hendrik Bezuidenhout — who need not even have been at work last Sunday — was only spotted when his legs slipped through a valve as the maize poured out of the truck

Horrified workers rushed to the rescue, but it was already too late to save him from the crushing weight of 40 tons of maize

The dead man's boss, Mr H P Geldenhuis, said this week

"Nobody knows why he climbed into the truck. If Mr Bezuidenhout had been so sleepy, he could easily

# Killed by a catnap

## Sleeping man crushed by maize

11/8/82  
51  
11/8/82

have just walked home to his house up the road

"It is a real mystery and I doubt we will ever know the answer"

Mr Geldenhuis, manager of Koeberg Mills near Malmesbury, said that it was also mystifying why Mr Bezuidenhout had decided to work on Sunday — his day off

"But he obviously decided to do overtime of his own free-will and clocked in at 9am

"The foreman, Mr A P Koorts, asked him to clean the mixer as the only other work being done last Sunday was offloading of the maize. And Mr Bezuidenhout was not on that team

"He was seen again in the afternoon by the foreman, and he obviously climbed into the maize truck after that," said Mr Geldenhuis

Every day maize railed from the Transvaal arrives at the mill and is emptied into a pit before being stored in silos. Mr Geldenhuis explained that

each railway truck holds 40 tons of maize, which takes 90 minutes to empty through three valves underneath the trucks

The trucks can be entered only from the top through a trap door

Although it appears most likely that Mr Bezuidenhout crept into the laden truck to sleep, Mr Geldenhuis says his worker may have suffered a heart attack

"The noise when those trucks are moved and when they collide is enough to waken the dead," he said

"And anyone sleeping inside would surely have woken up, but it remains a mystery what happened to Mr Bezuidenhout, who was sucked down into one of the emptying valves"

After his feet were seen sticking from the valve, the foreman opened side gates on the truck to empty the maize faster, but Mr Bezuidenhout was already dead when workers reached him

A Railways Police spokesman at Malmesbury said it appeared that Mr Bezuidenhout died from suffocation

However, post-mortem results would be known in two weeks



# DEATH DUST STORM ERUPTS

*Industrial Week*

131

Staff Reporters

*S. G. Jones*  
3/8/82

THE ASBESTOS industry, long haunted by the spectre of lung disease, was recently faced with the awesome spectacle of its shares plummeting after the screening of the film "Alice — a fight for life". Millions of rands were wiped off the stock market value of companies in the industry following the film's screening on British television.

## Death dust storm

From P...  
Dr John Morris, a former asbestos company doctor, told Yorkshire Television that he had discovered one in four workers at a Lancashire factory had asbestos-related diseases. He said his company had withheld these figures from a British Government advisory body on asbestos the Simpson

sequed fr

Claims of a health cover-up in the asbestos business have been made in the wake of the documentary

The film dealt with the life of Mrs Alice Jefferson (47), who allowed Yorkshire Television to film her dying days

Her doctors suggested she had contracted lung cancer while working in an asbestos factory as a 17-year old

The shares of Cape Industries dropped by R5,6-million, while the market value of Turner Newall fell by more than R10 million

The programme said asbestos dust was the worst killer in industry and that asbestos companies had been aware of the material's link with lung cancers since the early 1930's

Blue asbestos has been banned in Britain since 1970 but the film claimed that White asbestos was also a killer

### Unaware

A Cape Town doctor, Neil White, interviewed recently by Industrial Week, said "Several thousand people in the Northern Cape could be harbouring lung-related diseases and are completely unaware of it

"I have conducted an intensive survey of towns in that region and found the atmosphere heavily laden with Blue asbestos dust"

In the past two years at

least 40 people have died of mesothelioma and many more who are still children will die within years, according to Dr White

Another research project undertaken by the National Centre for Occupational Health involved tracing 4 000 contract workers from the mines in NW Cape to their homes in Bophuthatswana

### Children

The study was completed recently but results have yet to be released

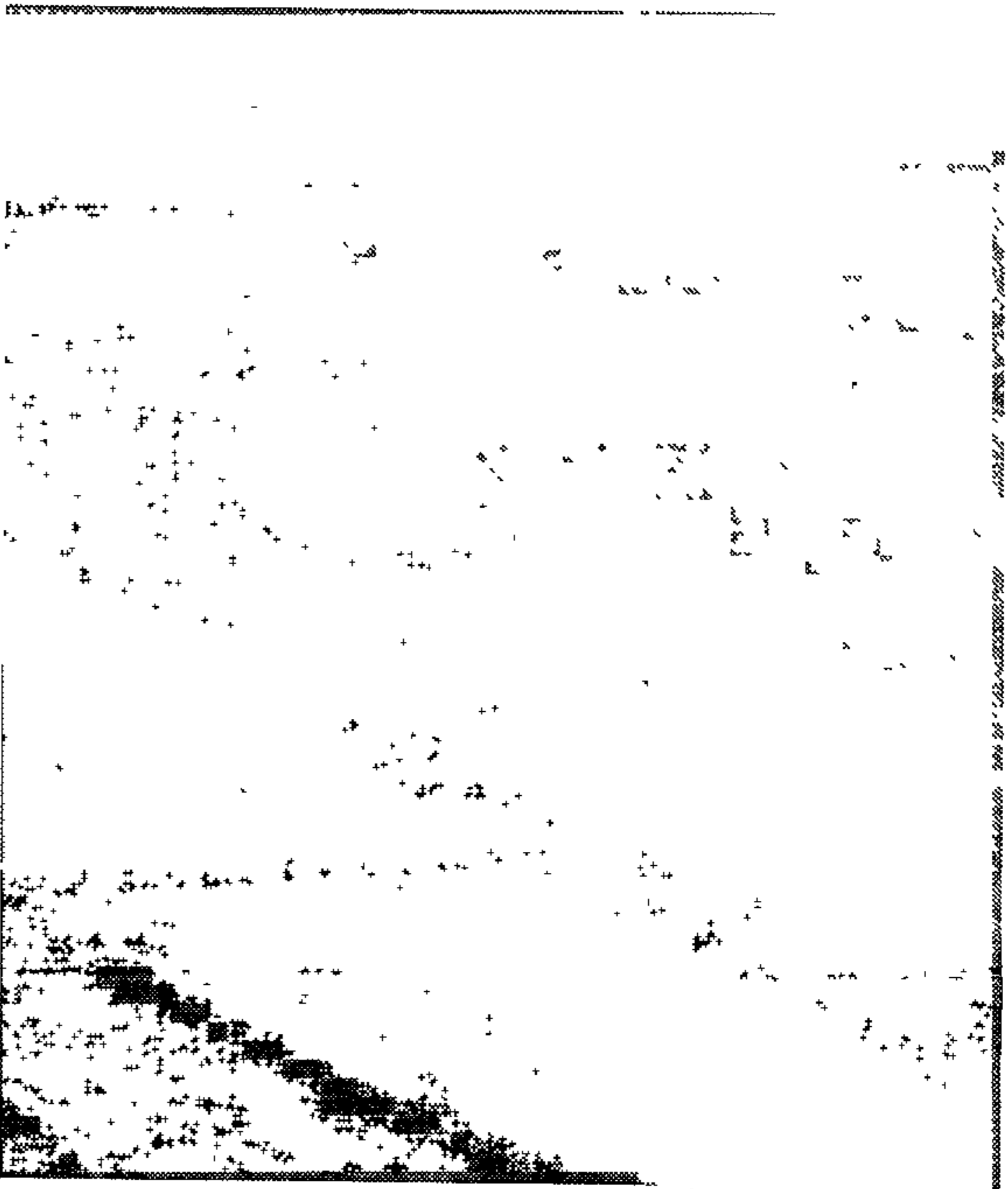
Dr White, who is backed by other medical men, said that about 500 cases of mesothelioma from the Cape had been treated in the past six years

He added that the disease can lie dormant for 20 to 30 years but children exposed to the dust are in danger of dying as young adults

A spokesman for Gencor, when asked about conditions at the mining town of Prieska, said "The old mill in the town was closed in 1960

"The remnants of the tailings dump have been covered with soil and terraces have been established to prevent storm-water damaging the cover

"The tailing dump outside Prieska has also been covered under the supervision of the Chief Inspector of Mines in Kimberley and the Prieska Municipality



Prieska ... a town reprieved from the threat of deadly dust clouds.

"Considerable attention is being paid to environmental conditions and Gencor has an ongoing programme aimed at reducing the potential asbestos health hazard in the vicinity of mines

"Much progress has been made in reducing dust counts at various mines and in introducing safer methods of packaging and transportation"

Director of the National Centre of Occupational Health, Professor Ian Webster said that only a small percentage of people exposed to asbestos died of malignant tumours associated with it, but he warned that asbes-

tos was a "dangerous substance" and that health and industrial legislation should be amended

### Ignored

Yorkshire Television claimed that British-owned companies in the NW Cape ignored warnings given 20 years ago that workers risked cancer and other lung-related diseases

Prof Webster pointed out that people interviewed on TV had contracted cancer some 30 years before and safety regulations then were not

as strict as they are now. A spokesman for the National Air Pollution Committee, run by the Department of Health said that on-the-spot investigations carried out some time ago showed heavy asbestos pollution

Some of the mines investigated had "clouds of dust hanging over them and asbestos was lying everywhere"

To Page 2

Mr. Glass waltz

3/8/82  
**Man crushed to death**

(131) Mercury Reporter *Mercury*

AN Indian worker was crushed to death in the machinery at Alitex Textile Mills, North Coast Road, Briardene, Durban yesterday.

According to a spokesman for the company the man, who may not be identified until his next-of-kin have been informed, was killed when his coat caught in a warping machine

programme on the Afrikaans

## vy - more jobs to go

er heavy naval vessels  
the past. After all we  
ave only one frigate left  
nd are concentrating on  
rike craft and corv  
a navy spokesman  
Simon's town said  
23  
This meant that the  
y would be taking in  
hool leavers and people  
ith skills in the elec  
onic fields who would  
place the unspecified  
umber of civilian  
employees in the Simon's  
own naval dockyard laid  
off at the end of last

month.  
The navy spokesman  
said a further 60 appren  
tices many of them rig  
gers shop builders weld  
gers marine fitters and  
boilermakers would be  
trenched over the next  
few months once they  
have completed their  
apprenticeships.  
Several Defence organi  
sations and labour organi  
sations had been contac  
ted by the navy and some  
positive results had  
been obtained to accom  
modate them.

# Concern at worsening TB on mines

IN SPITE of intense  
screening of new recruits  
nearly 4000 African  
miners were certified as  
having tuberculosis in  
1980/1981. Dr N White  
of the occupational health  
project of the Health  
Care Trust said in Cape  
Town yesterday.

The TB problem on the  
mines showed no signs of  
disappearing he added.

Addressing the Medical  
Students Council confer  
ence on tuberculosis at  
the University of Cape  
Town Dr White said the  
incidence of TB among  
black miners in fact  
appeared to be worsening.

### CONDITIONS

It appears in the  
main to be determined  
by economic factors —  
how much the mining  
companies are prepared  
to spend on housing, on  
feeding the miners or on  
improving the under  
ground working condi  
tions," he said.

"The most important  
factor is the length of the  
working day.

"If black miners  
worked a 46 hour week  
as do industrial worker  
and white miners and if  
their working day inclu

ded the time taken to  
travel from the surface to  
the face where they work  
then I am convinced that  
the incidence of tubercu  
losis would decline.

But economic conces  
sions of this nature are  
not made lightly. They  
affect the rate of profit.  
They will only come  
about when the owners of  
mining capital realise  
that it is in their own  
economic interests to  
make concessions.

### IMPROVEMENTS

Dr O Matiny, medical  
adviser to TEBA, the  
mines recruiting office  
and president of the Mine  
Medical Officers Associa  
tion said living and work  
ing conditions for miners  
had improved consider  
ably in recent years and  
improvements were still  
being made.

After representation  
by us Government legisla  
tion has been amended as  
far as compensation is  
concerned he said.

It is now possible for  
miners to be paid out  
lump sums in compensa  
tion and we are presently  
awaiting the mining in  
dustria to work out the  
details of this scheme.

## Victims healed — but jobs lost

MANY tuberculosis suf  
ferers who were under  
treatment and no longer  
infectious still lost their  
jobs simply because of  
their disease the Medical  
Students Conference  
heard yesterday.

Miss J Cornell of the  
Industrial Health Re  
search unit at the Univer  
sity of Cape Town said  
there were no legal re  
quirements for employers  
to allow workers to be  
treated on the job, to pay  
workers for time spent at  
clinics or if they were  
put in hospital to assure  
them of a job once they  
were cured.

"Workers are depend  
ent entirely on the good  
will of their employer.  
With high unemployment  
it is all the more likely  
that employers with a  
steady supply of healthy  
workers will choose  
dispense with workers  
who have TB," she said.

There is also the ques  
tion of loss of pay. The  
Factories Act provides for  
sick leave on full pay for  
two weeks a year.

For longer periods of  
illness workers have to  
rely on unemployment  
sick pay or disability  
grants for which many  
are not eligible because  
they are classified as  
homeland citizens.

"This starts a vicious  
cycle that makes it very  
hard to cure the disease."

## Rescued from ice floe

The ship is expected to  
reach into Greenwich on  
August 30 ending  
James and Burton's  
three-year expedition  
around the globe by way  
of both poles.  
Expedition spokesman  
Colin Eales said they  
celebrated their rescue  
with champagne and  
chocolate cake.  
"They started off with  
about 90 kg of equipment

each. There were some  
large areas of open water  
which they were able to  
paddle through and they  
did the last 11 km in a  
few hours.  
"They came up to the  
side of the ship dragging  
the canoes. The ship's  
bosun put down a rope  
ladder and it was the  
quickest trip up a rope  
ladder you have ever seen  
two men make.

## honours military

The mavors of neigh  
bouring towns which fall  
within the commandos area  
will also be present.  
After a tea break the  
Chief of the Defence  
Force General Constand  
voen will unveil a  
memorial to the fallen.  
**MEMORIAL**  
Villiersdorp has lost  
three of its sons on the  
border and their names  
will appear on the me  
morial.

They were Jan Hendrik  
Malan who died on Oc  
tober 25 1976 Isak Nel  
Myburgh who died on  
January 26 1977 and  
Abraham Danie van der  
Merwe who died on Aug  
ust 23 1978. The ceremony  
starts at 11 am.  
After an official lunch  
eon in the town's banquet  
hall General Viljoen will  
officiate at a medal parade  
of Overberg Commando.  
The SACC band will take  
part in all three cere  
monies.

# ...e that's stood ...re test of time

Mr Glass would fill a glass and

# Firemen hurt in gas blast

131

By JOHAN BUYS

SIX Brakpan firemen were injured yesterday when three gas cylinders exploded at an armaments factory igniting 108 other cylinders and sending a mushroom cloud of smoke into the air.

Five ambulances and three fire engines raced to the Sandoc Astra factory in the Vulcania industrial area to remove the injured and prevent the burning gas cylinders from setting the rest of the factory alight.

The first gas cylinder exploded shortly after 10.35am yesterday.

Firemen battling to douse the burning cylinder with foam were injured when two more cylinders exploded and escaping gas caught fire.

The men — two of them seriously injured — were admitted to the Far East Rand Hospital with severe facial, arm and leg burns. The seriously injured men, Mr G F Oosthuizen, a deputy fire chief, and Mr Douglas McCarthy, a fireman, were inches from a cylinder when it exploded.

According to the divisional officer Mr Naas Dannhausser, "they were lucky not to be blown to bits".

Mr Dannhausser said "The escaping gas from the cylinders was burning fiercely so we decided to let the gas burn itself out, as there was no further danger of more explosions."

It took the escaping gas from the 108 cylinders nearly five hours to burn itself out and by 4.15pm the situation was under control.

The injured admitted to hospital are Mr Oosthuizen, 29, with facial and hand burns, Mr McCarthy, 21 (facial burns), Mr Charles Terre Blanche, 24, senior divisional officer, (facial and hand burns), Mr Buks Bothma, 32, leading fireman (facial burns), Mr Braam Pretorius, 22, (facial, hand and leg burns) and Mr Johan Grobler, 23 (facial and hand burns).

A hospital spokesman said last night that the four men were out of danger and comfortable.

The injured men refused to be interviewed. As far as could be ascertained no members of the factory staff were injured.

The cause of the explosion has not as yet been established.

# Man electrocuted in freak farm accident

(131) ~~11~~

Crime Reporter

5/8/82

A man was electrocuted today in a freak accident on a farm in the Patensie district

Police said Mr Jimmy Blaauw, 40, a labourer on the farm De Mist Kraal, belonging to Mr Theo Ferreira, was cleaning nozzles on an irrigation system

The irrigation plant is mounted on wheels, with two boom pipes each 60 metres long, which rotate

Mr Blaauw jumped on to one of the boom pipes to clean the nozzle. The other boom flipped up into the air — as in a see-saw — and touched an overhead power line

Mr Ferreira rushed Mr Blaauw by car to a doctor in Patensie who injected him in the heart. But there was no response

Q u Q b, (i) a) gov  
any gap

# Robbers garotte guard

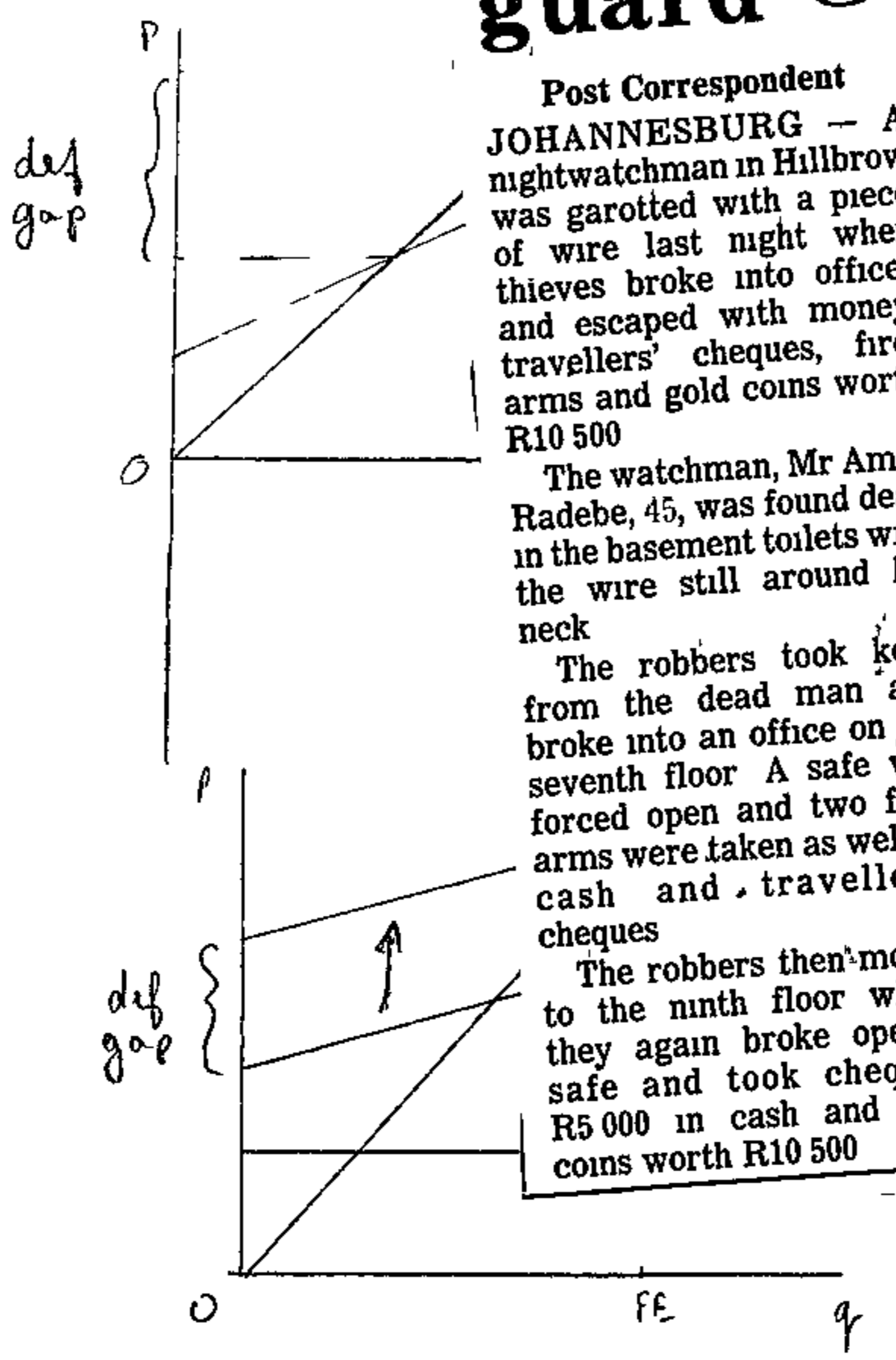
Post Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG — A nightwatchman in Hillbrow was garotted with a piece of wire last night when thieves broke into offices and escaped with money, travellers' cheques, fire-arms and gold coins worth R10 500

The watchman, Mr Amos Radebe, 45, was found dead in the basement toilets with the wire still around his neck

The robbers took keys from the dead man and broke into an office on the seventh floor. A safe was forced open and two fire-arms were taken as well as cash and travellers' cheques

The robbers then moved to the ninth floor where they again broke open a safe and took cheques, R5 000 in cash and gold coins worth R10 500

inditure & thus close deflation

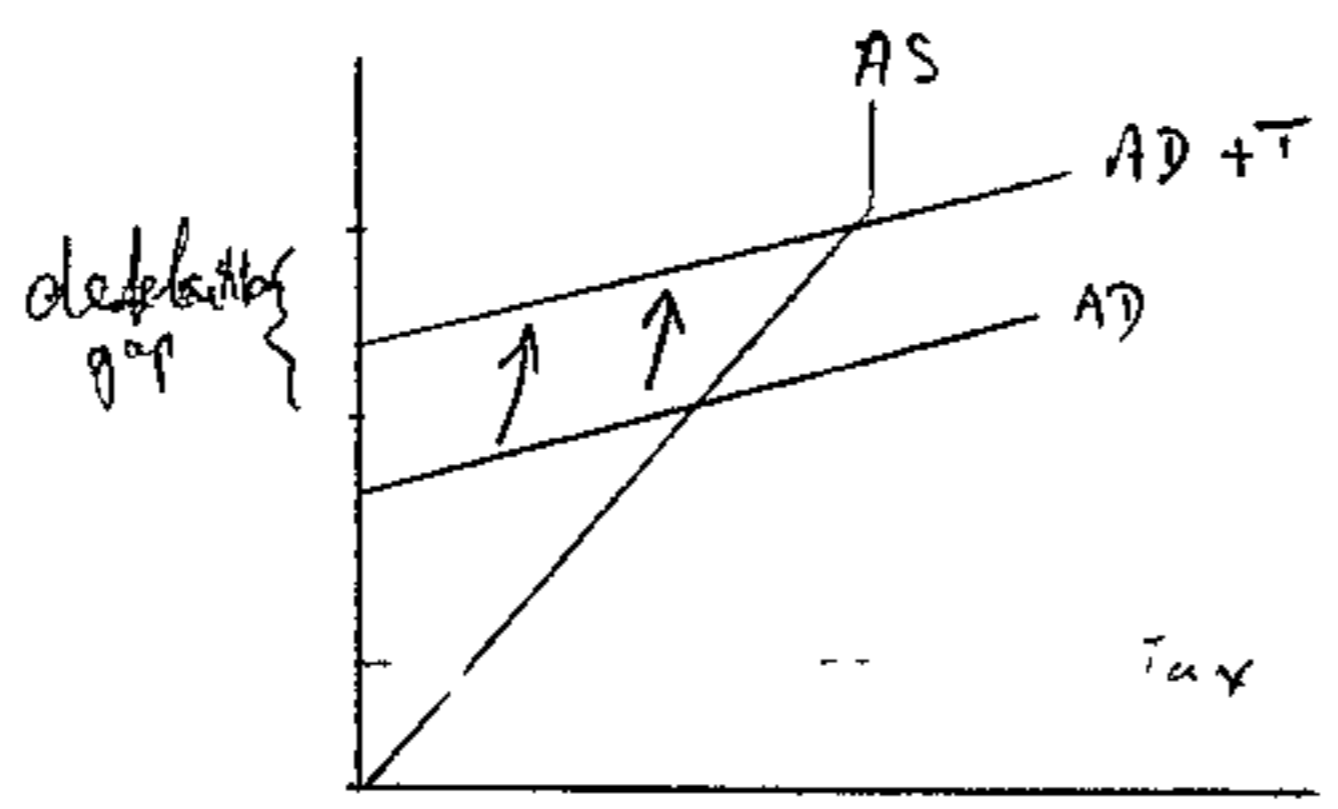


*What is AD?  
What is CG?*

a) is autonomous ~~autonomous~~  
therefore by adding G to AD you close def gap how  
initially govt has deficit of G but as economy picks up this decreases. how

There will always be a def NO gap even after G is introduced but it won't be as wide.

b) Govt can close deflationary gap by  $\downarrow$  taxes. By this method the deficit suffered by the govt is greater than by the first method of  $\uparrow$  G. This is because as taxes  $\downarrow$  the economies GDP is  $\uparrow$  & so they remove part of it into savings etc. M  
By reducing taxes you have to allow for saving



*as above there will always be a def gap*

# Crew's liferaft 'came apart'

CAPE TOWN 12/8/82

131

Chief Reporter

**"SHOCKING deterioration" of adhesive used in its construction 16 years ago caused the inflatable liferaft of the Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun to come apart at the seams — probably with the crew in it — after the vessel sank in stormy weather nearly 1 000 nautical miles from Cape Town last month.**

Investigation of the liferaft, recovered in a deflated state from the disaster area, has shown that the bottom of the raft was torn from the air-bag.

It appeared that the carbon-dioxide canisters, although badly rusted externally, had been activated and that the raft's emergency rations had been partly used. Leakage at the seams would have caused the air-bag to deflate.

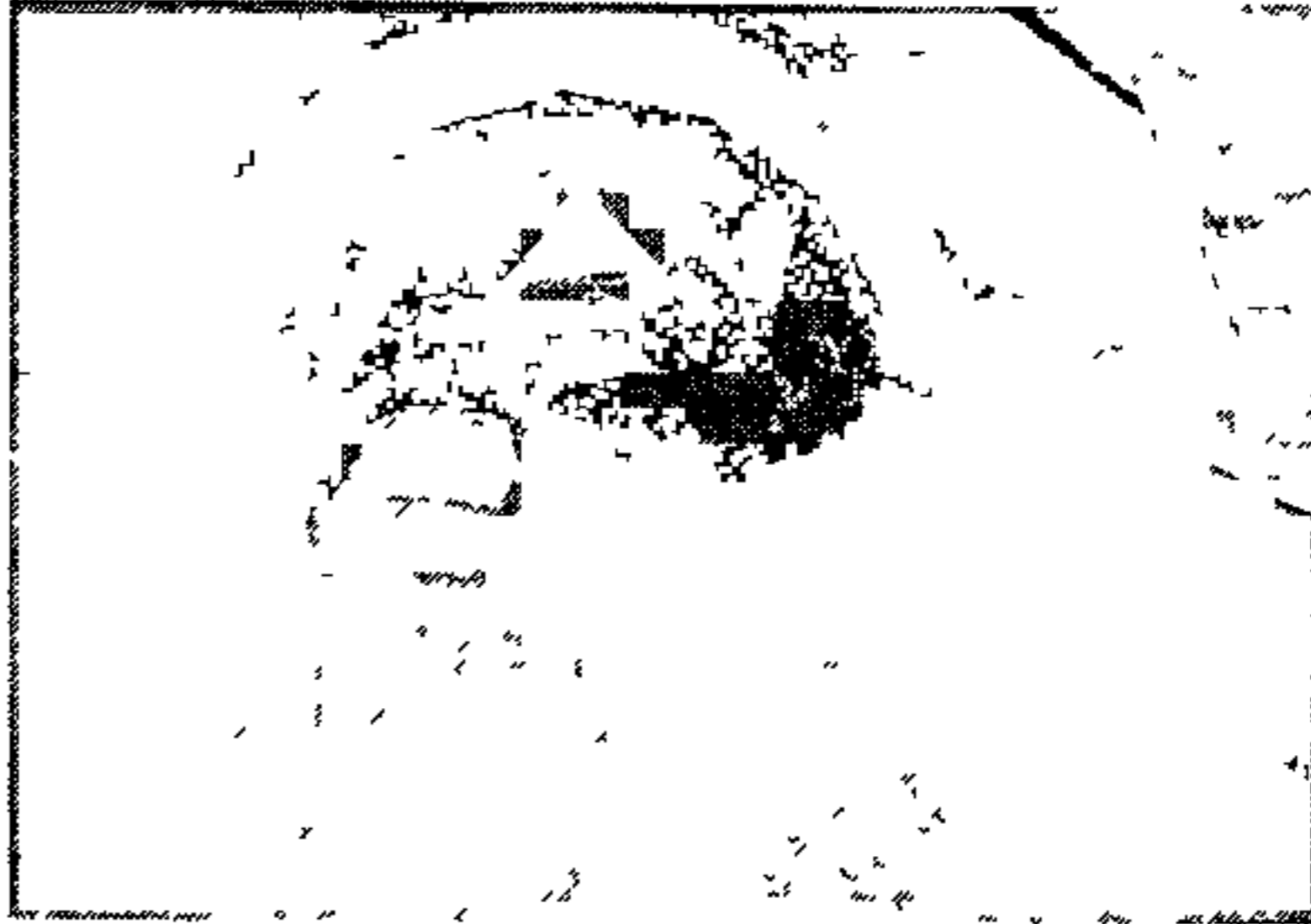
## No survivors

The distress signal sent out from the vessel before it sank said the crew had taken to an inflatable liferaft. But in the intensive air-sea search that followed only bodies, no survivors, were found. Nineteen crewmen were known to have been on board when the tunny-catcher left Cape Town, although a figure of 20 was given in the distress call.

The Institute of Polymer Science at the University of Stellenbosch was asked by the SA Search and Rescue Organization (Sasar) to conduct a scientific survey on the recovered raft — in the interest of correcting any possible structural or other defects in lifesaving equipment used on the South African coast.

Dr Ron Sanderson, director of the institute, said yesterday it had been established in the survey that the raft was 16 years old and that the adhesive used in its assembly had deteriorated "shockingly".

The adhesive technology of 16 years ago, he said, was inadequate for the purpose. Considerable advances had been made in this field since



Mr L F Potgieter, manager of the liferaft station at a Paarden Island firm, inside a 25-man inflatable liferaft similar to that of the ill-fated Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun.

then

In modern assembly techniques, vulcanizing and stitching as well as special adhesives were used and he had recommended a maximum lifespan of 10 years for a liferaft in which only adhesives had been employed.

## Cape Town survey

The ship's agent for the King Chun said the records showed that the vessel was last surveyed in the Republic of China in June last year, and that when the vessel underwent a survey in Cape Town in 1977, everything including the liferaft was found to be fully in order.

A marine surveyor said that when liferafts were periodically inspected, they had to be fully inflated and inspected minutely for leakage and for any signs of perishing of the materials used.

A spokesman for the firm that inspected the King Chun's liferaft five years ago said he had noticed in television pic-

tures of the raft recovered from the scene of the disaster last month that this was not the same one his firm had inspected.

## Second-hand

"The raft we looked at from the King Chun was a Mitsubishi, without canopy, and the one that was recovered was a Sumitomo, with canopy."

He had noted that Taiwanese fishing vessels operating in Cape waters usually acquired second-hand, not new liferafts, the spokesman added.

● Mr David Hong, Consul-General of the Republic of China in Cape Town, said "We are grateful to the South African authorities for producing an investigation report, which we regard as important and which will be sent to the authorities in the Republic of China for further study."

"If these authorities find there is any way in which our inspection systems can be improved, they will in my opinion take the necessary action."

ships  
 it seems the Johannes-  
 City Council is likely to  
 court action against

residents at the next council  
 meeting and we will also be  
 discussing the possibility of tak  
 ing legal action against the

one - there is no electricity Maree, were unsuccessful

15/8/82 S Express 131  
**Probe clears an ambulance service**

By HELENE ZAMPETAKIS

BALFOUR'S ambulance service was not to blame for an incident in which a black lay bleeding for five hours before he was taken to hospital

This is the conclusion of a month-long investigation after allegations of 'ambulance apartheid' in the town which lies south-east of Johannesburg

The inquiry was conducted after a black's employers accused a white ambulance-driver of refusing him service, the director of Transvaal Hospital Services, Dr H Grove, said this week

The incident happened at a glass factory two months ago after a drum of thinners exploded and injured Mr Johan Botha and Mr Johannes Motswene

Mr C Ferguson, general director of the company, said Mr Motswene lay bleeding in a local doctor's rooms for several hours before being taken to hospital,

The inquiry has found that Mr Motswene was not carried in the ambulance with Mr Botha because he needed immediate treatment before being taken to hospital

Several of his fingers had been sliced off and his left calf had been torn away Dr Grove said the doctor decided to treat the open wounds before he was admitted to hospital

After treatment the doctor found that Balfour's black ambulance was out of town

"The doctor told Mr Ferguson he could safely carry Mr Motswene in a car but the company refused," Dr Grove said.

"Finally they used the meat factory's ambulance. At no time was ambulance service refused"

**G SCOOP!**

**unmatchable price offer**

depression we have been able to buy a quality clay paving bricks at a bargain,

work paving from only R13,50 a square metre

more reasonable All other bricks available, 12 years experience, easy terms SIGN AND QUOTATION SERVICE with no per

*crafters*

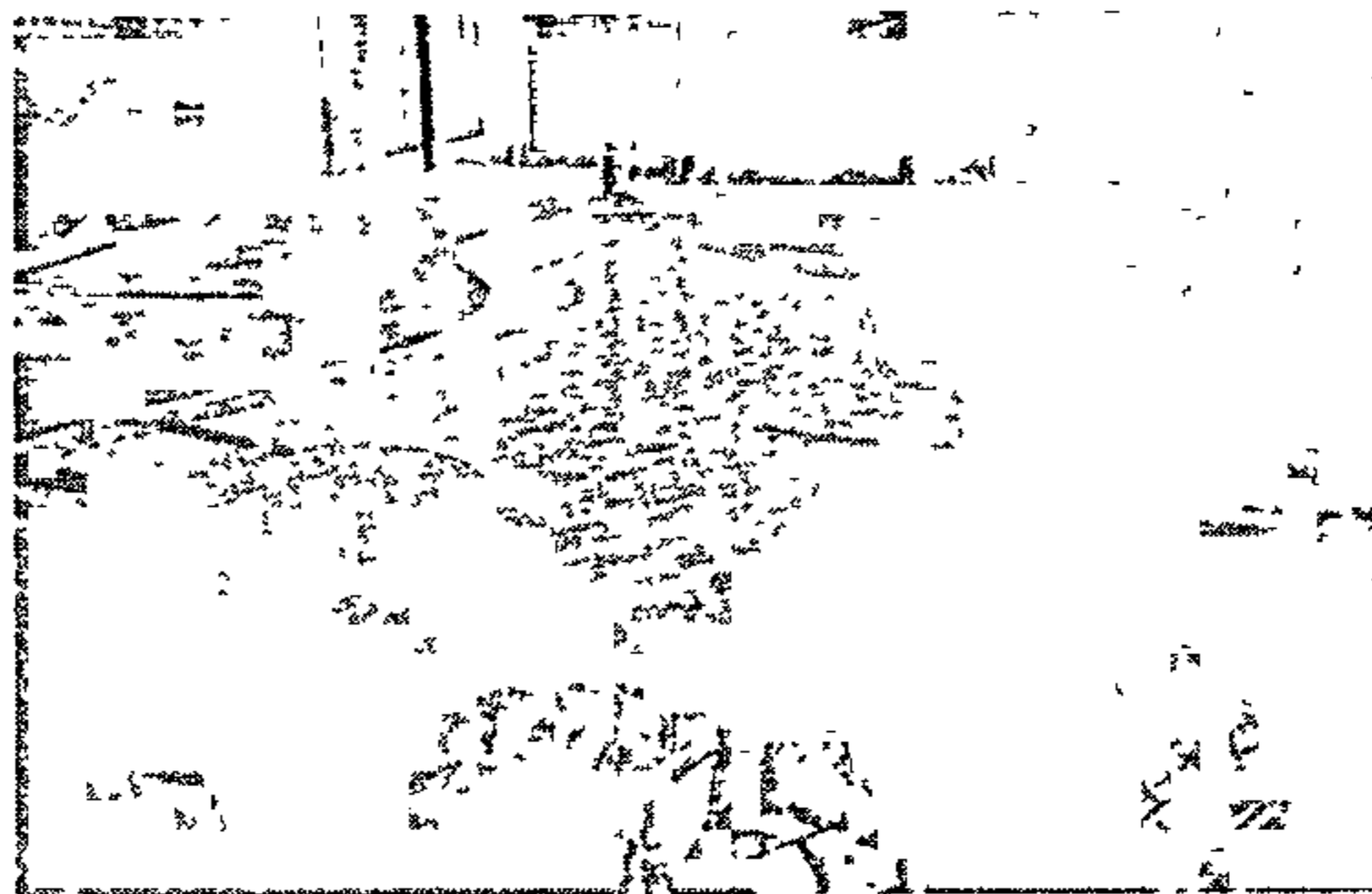
ation Tel. 40-2264/5

job size is 70 square metres Cash or bank credit cards only

**YOU ARE THE KING AT CASTLE POOLS**

ICES	
3m	R4 250
3,6m	R4 450
4,6m	R4 550
5m	R4 950
6,1m	R5 250

**POSIT — 5 YEARS TO PAY  
 10 YEAR GUARANTEE**



**Member of National Swimming Pool Institute**



# Study of lead level in teeth

CAPE TIMES  
16/8/82

131

Staff Reporter

SIGNIFICANT differences in lead levels have been found in the teeth of children living next to industrial plants as opposed to those living near light industries in the Cape Peninsula

These are the findings in a survey done by Mr C W van Wyk and Mr S R Grobbelaar of the dentistry faculty at the University of Stellenbosch, and reported in the latest issue of the South African Medical Journal

They believe the results point to possible problem areas and suggest that a survey of industrialized zones be done

They also feel that the findings are important in the study of pollution, but add that average levels for the whole Peninsula would be of little value because of the wide spectrum of variations which might exist

"It is now accepted that lead fall-out is often associated with industry, and especially with certain types of industry. Since industrial complexes form part of most towns today, it is understandable that populations from these regions have been shown to have higher lead levels than those from rural areas

"Our studies are based on analyses of teeth, because the lead content of teeth is a measure of the duration of exposure," they said

A residential area in Bothasig near a large refinery and a fertilizer plant, and an area in Parowvallei near light industries were used

# Hazardous loads to be controlled

131 Industrial Week 17/8/82

**Hugh Poulter**

**AFTER a thorough investigation by the Vehicle Safety Group of the CSIR's National Institute for Transport and Road Research, new safety regulations are to be published for transporting hazardous materials by road**

The investigations came after a public outcry about several incidents involving the spillage or loss of cyanide and an accident in Durban in which a tanker caught alight on a highway

According to the CSIR the regulations should enforce the reporting of any accidents or spillage of hazardous materials. It

recommends that vehicles be labelled to identify the cargo, special routes must be devised for vehicles carrying hazardous materials and the health and competence of drivers must be checked regularly

## Reporting

The CSIR proposed that a standardised form be designed for incident reporting, on the lines of those used by the US Department of Transportation

At present the only records concerning accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials, are company records which are often not available for external scrutiny, and vary in content and detail

The CSIR also recom-

mended that the British designed HAZCHEM labelling system be adopted

This requires that the internationally recognised UN labels are attached on both sides and the back of a vehicle so that at least one label is always visible

Each member of an emergency service team will then carry a decoding card which will help him interpret the information on the label

## Training

It also advised that the drivers of vehicles carrying hazardous materials be carefully selected and trained in how to react in an emergency as well as have regular performance and health checks

Star (131)  
Man dies  
19/8/82  
after mishap

A construction worker died yesterday after a freak accident involving a steamroller at the Southern Sun Hotel building site in Sandton City.

The man, a crane mechanic, apparently fell under the steamroller as he walked in front of it.

A site spokesman, Mr A Johnston, said the man died soon after being admitted to the Johannesburg Hospital.

The man's name was being withheld until his next of kin had been informed. Mr Johnston said the worker had been in his late thirties — Sapa.

*Johnston*  
*Johnston*  
*Johnston*

By Carina le Grange

South Africa is the major producer of crocidolite — the most dangerous kind of asbestos in asbestos related diseases — yet is far behind other countries in providing safety measures

Professor S Benatar, professor of medicine in Cape Town, told a Clinical Research Day at the Johannesburg Hospital yesterday that little if any attempt was being made to enforce the minimum level of five asbestos fibres per centimetre allowed in the working environment

The rest of the Western world applies a minimum of two fibres per centimetre, he said

The level of airborne concentration on the surface of mines was much improved, he said, but as asbestos-related disease could take as long as 50 years to present itself, there was no reason to be complacent

Referring to challenges in respiratory disease, the professor said there had been a tremendous up grade of this field in the past 10 years

Outlining complicating factors in respiratory disease, Professor Benatar said.

# SA lags in care of chest diseases

● Twenty-four percent of all adult blacks, 42 percent of whites and 43 percent of coloureds in South Africa smoked — but in the United States the anti-smoking campaign had been a big success

● By the age of 18 only 28 percent of schoolchildren had never smoked, showing that the habit began early — mostly due to peer pressure

● In a study of 100 people in which cancer of the lung was diagnosed only 25 were found to be operable and, of those only six survived beyond five years of diagnosis

● South African doctors know little or

nothing about occupational asthma which is the only type of asthma that is curable and is a compensatable disease in Britain

● South Africa has the highest incidence of tuberculosis in the world after Swaziland, Bolivia, the Philippines and Korea.

Professor Benatar said a task force was needed to control and evaluate tuberculosis countrywide. This should be integrated into the health services and treatment provided on a long-term basis at no cost because most sufferers were victims of socio-economic conditions and could not afford to pay

# Industrial safety training plan a first for PE

131

Post

21/8/82

By SALLY KERNOHAN  
PORT ELIZABETH is the first city outside Pretoria to hold an industrial safety training programme on a national basis

This move follows a Weekend Post report three months ago in which it was revealed that the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage complex was a potential "blackspot" as far as industrial accidents were concerned.

Previously all safety management training courses organised by the National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa) were held at Nosa headquarters in Pretoria

Members of Nosa's advisory committee for the Eastern and Southern Cape region, made up of executives representing different industrial categories, are delighted.

The committee, chaired by Mr W Passet, director of an industrial chemical concern, guides Nosa on what

should be tackled to improve safety

According to Nosa, industrial accidents cost the economy at least R400 million a year — well over R1 million is wasted every working day

By the end of this year, more than 250 000 workers will have been so seriously injured that they will lose at least one shift from work. About 32 000 will be permanently injured and over 2 000 will be killed

This loss in manpower is equivalent to about 100 000 workers lying idle for a whole year.

But, says Nosa, 98% of these so-called "accidents" can be eliminated through better loss control

The key to this is the national training programmes — held annually by the organisation — in which the various echelons of management will be educated and trained in the techniques of professional safety and loss-control management

The month-long course in Port Elizabeth begins on October 25 and because it is being held locally, it will save every industrial concern enrolling a candidate close to R2 000 — the amount usually spent on flying and arranging accommodation for the candidate attending the course in Pretoria

The venue for the local course is the Ford Struandale Training Centre and the course is aimed at production, personnel, financial and safety and loss control managers and others to whom the prevention of losses form part of their daily tasks.

More information on the course can be obtained from the local Nosa office

131

# LEAD IN TEETH: CALL FOR PROBE

*w/k ARGUS 21/8/82 21/8/82*

CHILDREN in Bothasig and Parow Valley have considerably more lead in their teeth than children in Malmesbury, indicates a Medical Research Council study.

High lead levels have been associated with poor school performance

Two members of the MRC Research Group in dental epidemiology, Professor C W van Wyk and Dr S R Grobler, who made the study, have called for a systematic study of industrial zones to obtain a larger sample

They studied 48 of the shed milk teeth of children between about six and eight years who had grown up in Bothasig — an area near the oil refinery and a large fertiliser plant — and Parow Valley — an area of light industry

## ENAMEL

As a control, they also studied milk teeth of children from Malmesbury, a town in the middle of an agricultural area 70 km from Cape Town

The lead levels they found were 19,926 ppm (parts per million) in the

BY VIVIEN HORLER

dentine of the Parow Valley children, 22,733 ppm in the dentine of the Bothasig children, and only 3,12 ppm in the Malmesbury children.

Dentine is the substance of which teeth are mainly composed, and is covered by the enamel

An American study which appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine three years ago found that children with lead levels this high (20 ppm or more in the dentine) scored significantly less well in a battery of tests than children with low levels

The study also found that "non-adaptive classroom behaviour" was more common among children with the high levels

While the toxic effects of high doses of lead on the brain are well known, none of the children selected for the American study showed any symptoms of lead poisoning. Yet their performance in the tests showed that many had been affected

27/11/82 12:04  
**Asbestos victims** (31)

NEW YORK — America's largest asbestos manufacturer has filed under US bankruptcy laws for protection against thousands of lawsuits brought against it by workers suffering from asbestos-related health problems

Manville Corporation's president, Mr John McKinney, said legal consultants urged the action because of the growing number of health suits, but that his company was in good shape

The US asbestos industry is demanding that the Government set up a compensation board to spare companies the crippling expense of contesting tens of thousands of asbestos-related cases

Many of the lawsuits stem from the Second World War when workers were exposed to dangerous levels of asbestos in the rush to build warships

27/8/82

# FIVE Injured by falling ornament

DURBAN (S.A.P.)  
An ornamental structure  
crashed down on the bar  
of the four star Flanger  
Hotel's restaurant here  
during the bar's closing  
hours on Monday.

Police said that  
Miss Michelle Olivier,  
21, was lucky to escape  
being killed by the  
champagne glass shaped  
structure.

Witnesses Mr Gunter  
Freimulh and Mr Derek  
Clemence said "There  
is no doubt in either of  
our minds that if the bar  
maid hadn't been on the  
telephone she would  
have been killed."

Miss Olivier has a  
broken wrist and was  
treated in hospital with  
two others who had cuts  
and bruises.

Another two people  
had minor injuries.

The hotel's manager  
Mr Mark Williamson  
Noble said no photo-  
graphs could be taken  
for reasons of insurance.

Miss Olivier said she  
was talking to her fiance  
on the phone when she  
heard a crack in the ceil-  
ing as a heavy beam col-  
lapsed pinning her to  
the counter and sending  
drinks and broken glass  
flying.

"If I hadn't been on the  
phone I'd prefer not  
to think she said —  
SAPA



12/9/87 (131)  
**Court told of fall to death**

**EAST LONDON** — A man plunged more than 6 m to his death from a scaffold at a Wilsonia factory, a labourer at the factory told the magistrate's court here yesterday.

Mr E Wongama was giving evidence in a trial in which Johnson and Johnson (Pty) Ltd, Mr B L Arbuthnot, then a director of the firm, and Mr R P Asbury, an employee, are charged with culpable homicide and four counts under the Factories, Machinery and Building Works Act.

Their appearance follows the death of Mr E F Hex on June 30, 1981, while he was employed as a fitter by Johnson and Johnson at their Wilsonia plant.

The other counts are that they unlawfully permitted scaffolding to be erected other than by or under the personal supervision of a competent person.

That they failed to cause every board of the scaffold platform to be securely fastened to prevent its displacement.

That they failed to cause every working platform of a scaffold to be provided with substantial guard rails, and that they failed to cause every working platform of a scaffold to be so arranged that the gap between the platform where workmen were required to sit and the structure was not more than 300 mm.

A plea of not guilty to all the charges was entered.

Mr Wongama told the magistrate, Mr N R Oosthuysen, that he was standing below the scaffold watching Mr Hex cutting a hole in the metal wall of a factory building.

Mr Hex was sitting on top of the scaffold and was leaning forward and bending down to reach the section he was working on. He was using his feet to balance himself against an iron girder running along the wall, Mr Wongama said.

Seconds later Mr Hex fell from the scaffold and plunged headfirst to the concrete floor after first hitting the scaffold's bars.

Mr Wongama said the scaffold had been erected two days earlier by himself and two other labourers under the supervision of Mr Hex. The scaffold was then used to

get to the upper reaches of the wall where a high-pressure pipeline was being fitted by Mr Hex.

The planks on top of the scaffold had not been secured and there were no guard rails, although the brakes on the wheels worked properly.

Mr Asbury and a Mr G James, now deceased, usually inspected the apparatus to see if "the job had been done properly".

Asked by the prosecutor, Mr W A Walden, whether the men had been satisfied, Mr Wongama said he did not know as they did not make mention of any fault.

A rope tied to the scaffold was not used to secure the planks but was there to hoist pipes and buckets to the working platform, he added. The planks were "sometimes secured, and sometimes not".

Under cross-examination by Mr C Louw, who appeared for the accused, Mr Wongama said he was aware that it was a Johnson and Johnson rule that scaffold boards should be tied down if placed higher than 2 m, but that this was not done every time.

"It depends on us, if we want to we do, if we don't we don't".

Asked by Mr Louw who he was referring to when he said "us", Mr Wongama said "The people who do the assembling of the scaffold".

After the accident, the scaffold had been moved so that Mr Hex could be pulled from beneath it, Mr Wongama said. He had gone to the factory's welfare sister and the plant engineer to report the incident.

Asked by Mr Louw whether he had noticed "anything strange" regarding Mr Hex's condition on the day of the accident, Mr Wongama said he had not. Asked why, he told Mr Louw that because Mr Hex was a "white man" he did not take notice.

He then said he would not know a drunk man if he saw one in reply to a question by Mr Louw.

Under re-examination by Mr Walden, Mr Wongama said he and Mr

Hex had used the scaffold from about 7 am until the accident in the afternoon.

The scaffold had been borrowed by painters for a period before lunch and returned later in the afternoon.

Nothing on the scaffold had been changed during the course of the day.

The Johnson and Johnson plant engineer, Mr N Cryer, who among other duties is responsible for plant safety, said he was in an office at the time of the accident. He was summoned by Mr Wongama.

When he arrived at the scene he did not notice anything wrong with the scaffold although the boards placed on top had not been secured. He could not understand why the planks were so high because the point where Mr Hex was working was about 600 mm below the level of the platform.

Asked by Mr Walden what he would have done if he had seen Mr Hex on top of the structure, Mr Cryer said he would have called him down and asked him to explain why the boards were on top and not lower where he would have been protected by guard rails.

Asked by Mr Oosthuysen how the boards were supposed to be secured, Mr Cryer said "With a rope. That's the general rule".

The rope tied to the scaffold was not the "securing rope". This could be obtained from the carpenter's shop or the engineering department, Mr Cryer said. This would have been told to Mr Hex, he added.

Questioned by Mr Walden on the erection of scaffolding, Mr Cryer said it was left to workers "to a degree and that up to a certain point we check it". No procedure was laid down for checking the scaffold but the wheels, bars and planks were usually covered in the check. The scaffolding was not kept intact but was reassembled for each particular job.

In reply to a question by Mr Oosthuysen, Mr Cryer said Mr Hex was a qualified millwright who had erected scaffolding on a number of occasions.

Oosthuysen regarding the standard of Mr Hex's work, Mr Cryer said it was above standard and added that he would not say Mr Hex was accident prone.

Asked by Mr Walden during re-examination who had made Mr Hex aware of safety measures and procedures, Mr Cryer said he, Mr Asbury and Mr James had "from time to time"

Mr Walden: "While on a job?"

Mr Cryer: "I can't say. Since the accident new instructions to employees on the use of scaffolding had been issued, Mr Cryer told Mr Oosthuysen."

The chief inspector of machinery in East London, Mr D Bezuidenhout, said he was informed of the accident at 4.20 pm and had told Mr Cryer, who phoned him, not to disturb the scene and to take pictures of the scaffold involved. He went to the factory the next day and took measurements at the scene.

The platform was 6.42m above ground and 380 mm away from the wall. The area where Mr Hex had been cutting a hole was 40 cm below the working platform.

There were no safety rails around the working platform.

The scaffold could not have been moved closer to the wall because of a raised concrete foundation. However, if the scaffold had been lifted and a platform placed under the wheels to bring them level with the foundation it could have been moved closer.

Mr Bezuidenhout said he was not aware that anyone else had taken measurements or that the scaffold had been moved after the incident.

All he was told when he arrived at the factory was "that is the scaffold", Mr Bezuidenhout said under cross-examination. He also said the factory had a "very satisfactory" safety performance and that he seldom heard from them.

An application by Mr Louw for the accused to be discharged on all counts when the state closed its case was turned down by the magistrate.

Judgment will be given on November 8 — DDR.

Under cross-examination, Mr Cryer told the court that he had heard the day after the accident that a "miniature bottle of cane spirits" had been found in Mr Hex's locker. The bottle was empty.

He also said that Mr Hex had been "made aware" of safety measures and procedures at the factory during his six years of employment there.

After the accident he had taken measurements and found the scaffold to be 283 mm from the wall.

Questioned by Mr Oosthuysen.

# Asbestos claims: (131) Lloyd's <sup>RDW</sup> braces <sup>28/8/82</sup>

## London Bureau

LONDON — Lloyd's of London is expecting a flood of claims from America as a result of damage awards to victims of asbestosis.

The insurance market is piling up reserves in expectation of the mass of bills expected this year.

Unofficial estimates have put the liability at upwards of R114-million, but Mr Richard Ballantyne, chairman of Lloyd's Non-Marine Underwriters' Association, says it is as yet impossible to be precise.

"It is going to be a bonanza for the lawyers," he said. "Policy wordings have been construed in many different ways, most of them to the detriment of insurers."

The major danger is not the pay-outs but the costs of the litigation. "For every R1 300 000 paid in indemnity, R2 180 000 dollars is being paid in fees," Mr Ballantyne explained.

Lloyd's is liable both as direct insurer to the companies involved with asbestos and as re-insurer to insurance companies which have laid off some of the risks.

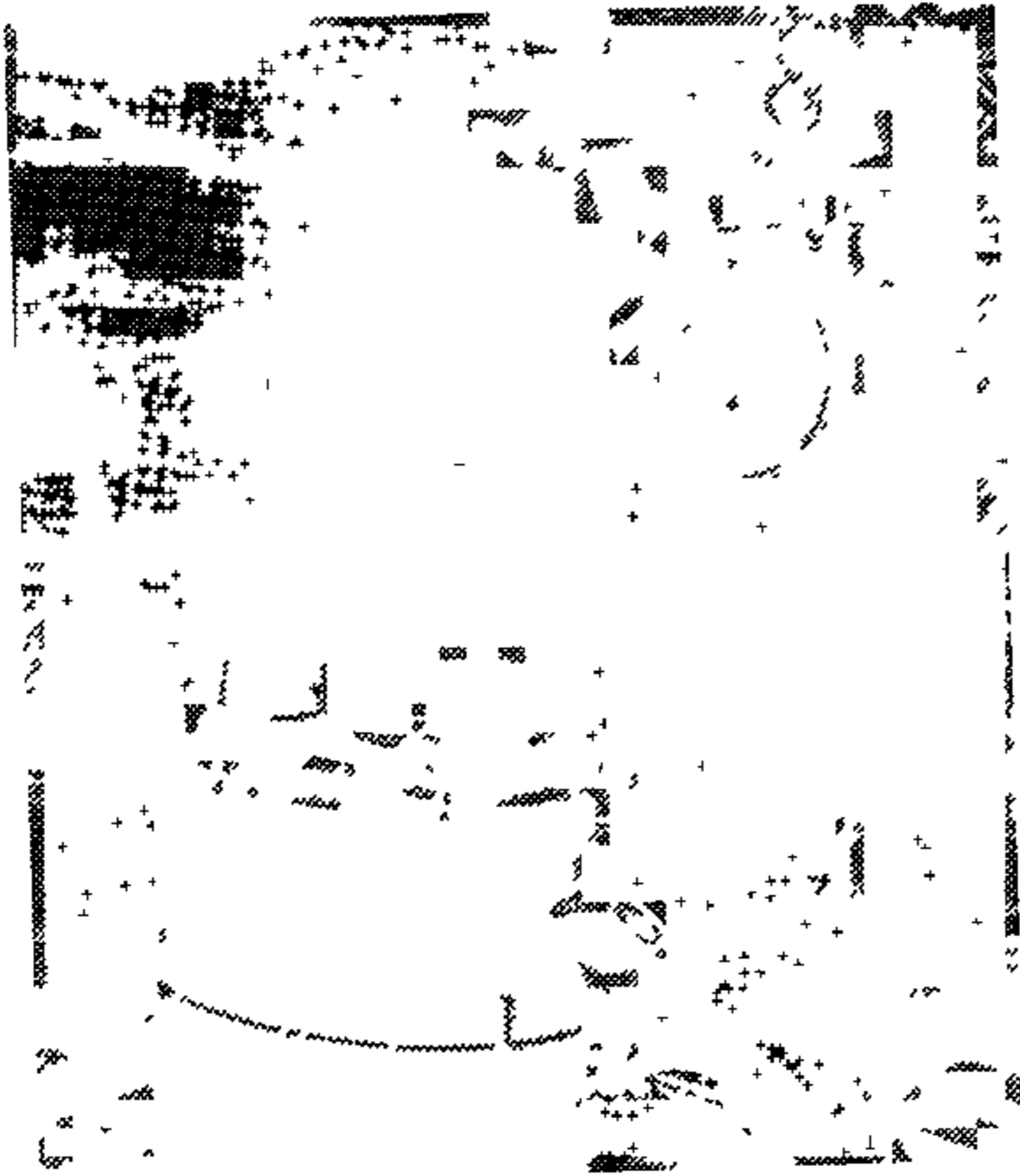
The huge American conglomerate, Manville Corporation, has sought protection under the Federal Bankruptcy Code following a flood of lawsuits alleging health damage caused by the asbestos it used to manufacture

# Industrial filter combats dangerous dust hazard

31/8/82

131

Industrial Week



The Nilfisk filter system removes dust and dirt particles as small as 0,0006 mm in diameter.

NILFISK has developed a filter system for its industrial vacuum cleaners

The system removes dust and dirt particles as small as 0,0006 mm in diameter, and is available as a stationary or mobile unit

Creating a working environment free from smoke, dust and evaporating solvents can be an expensive operation

A clean working area protects workers not only from immediate hazards but also against the long-term effects such as allergies and infections

The conventional filter system consists of a dust filter and a diffusion filter

When clean exhaust air is required, the diffusion filter is replaced by an exhaust filter which removes all particles larger

than 0,0006 mm in diameter

Consequently Nilfisk's vacuum cleaning equipment fulfils demands made, among others, by the pharmaceutical and the foodstuffs industries

The creation of a good working environment often involves large investments for companies and expensive accessories can stand idle for a long time

The Nilfisk system solves all that as it can be readjusted and used for other purposes

# Workers hit by <sup>131</sup> gas <sup>E. Post</sup> leakage <sup>19/82</sup>

Post Reporter

SIX workers were overcome by gas at a refrigeration plant in Port Elizabeth last night

This is the second time this week that workers have been affected by gas at the plant and taken to the Livingstone Hospital for treatment. On Monday five people were treated.

The general manager of Harvest Time Corporation, Mr Johan Grobbelaar, said gas escaped from a compressor yesterday.

He said a compressor sprang a leak, causing a fault to develop in a control switch.

"This caused the cylinder head gasket to blow and the leak occurred," Mr Grobbelaar said.

"It was replaced and after testing the system it was found to be in order."

The five people who inhaled the ammonia gas on Monday were admitted to the Livingstone Hospital. One was discharged the same night and the other four the next morning.

Last night the six who inhaled the ammonia gas were immediately treated by the sister. They were then taken to the Livingstone Hospital and discharged soon afterwards.

Ammonia

6

## US HEALTH LITIGATION

### Not coughing up

FM 3/9/82

131

Good for Manville Corporation chairman John McKinney. Rather than submit his profitable, well-run company — the world's largest producer of asbestos and a leader in forest products — to being pecked to death by more than 11 000 court suits over health damage claims, McKinney has decided to carry the fight to his opponents.

The American penchant for litigiousness has long bordered on the absurd. But the Manville case borders on farce.

Over the past decade or so, US consumer and environmental laws have steadily ex-

panded the liability for health-related damage claims back in time and back to the original producer. In the past three-and-a-half years, Manville and other asbestos mining and manufacturing firms have been swamped with damage claims from individuals who claim to have contracted various lung and cancer-related ailments from asbestos exposure. It is the fault of the producers, the injured claim, for not having warned them at the time of the risks of exposure.

Most of the claims filed stem from the World War 2 era when asbestos was widely used in the war-time boom in ship construction. Scientists claim that it often takes 20 years or more for asbestos-related health problems to surface. By Manville's estimate that means it could face three times as many suits in the years to come.

The American court system is an expensive one. Each case often costs \$40 000 to settle and plaintiffs are increasing their demands with each new settlement. Nor is the American law on health liability clear. It varies from court to court and it may take a decade before the US Supreme Court sifts through the thousands of precedents for some sort of legal standard. The result is a potential bonanza for that sleazy brand of US tort lawyer who is slaving at the prospect of even more suits for plaintiffs who suffer side-effects from exposure to other products — say to benzene used in pesti-

cides and solvents, or to urea-formaldehyde, which is used in home insulation. Or to printer's ink.

One of the ironies of the Manville case is that the actual plaintiffs, in most cases, are not the injured individuals, but 50 or more insurance companies, such as Aetna Life and Casualty, Travelers, and International Telephone and Telegraph's Hartford insurance group, which have written general liability coverage for the asbestos industry for years, but which no longer want to pay off the individual claims.

So Manville's McKinney followed the lead of another producer a month ago, and sought the protection of the bankruptcy courts while some sort of restructuring could be made. At the same time, last Friday, the company's Johns-Manville subsidiary, which is the asbestos producer, filed a \$5 billion punitive damage suit against the insurance companies for failing to honour their obligations.

By carrying the fight to the enemy's territory — the courts — the Manville suit may hasten some broader legal standard from the US Supreme Court. In any event, McKinney has given his persecutors something to worry about. And he may well find imitators among other asbestos and chemical firms which are currently dithering about in Washington, trying without success to get a recession-minded Congress to set up a fund to pay off future claims when

they are connected with war or government-related exposure to as yet undetermined hazardous substances.



# Lawsuits 'force' asbestos companies into bankruptcy

NEW YORK. — Tens of thousands of lawsuits are threatening to bury the asbestos industry under a legal landslide that is forcing companies to flee to the bankruptcy courts for protection.

The Manville Corporation, the world's largest asbestos producer, has announced it is filing for reorganisation under the US Federal bankruptcy code

The company chairman, Mr John McKinney, said that while the company's businesses were sound, "we are completely overwhelmed by the cost of the asbestos health lawsuits filed against us"

A Chicago company, UNR Industries, which has not made asbestos products since the 1960s, took the same route last month because it was facing some 12 000 lawsuits filed in July

For years asbestos was deemed to be a relatively harmless fibre with no end of uses — fireproofing warships, soundproofing schools,

controlling moisture, making walls and ceilings, potholders and pipes

But in the early 1960s, scientists exposed asbestos as a silent killer causing lung cancer, asbestiosis and mesothelioma, the rare cancer that has killed, among others, actor Steve McQueen and whose only known cause is exposure to the fibre

A television documentary on the risks of asbestos production has rekindled controversy over the fibre in Britain and caused the stock market value of the biggest producer there, Turner and Newall, to plummet

The International Metalworkers' Federation has called for a complete ban — Sweden has already done so — because it claims asbestos causes more industrial deaths than any other substance

Manville and its 19 North American subsidiaries had escaped the brunt of the recession. Its profits and cash flow were strong, consolidated assets topped \$2 200-million while liabilities, excluding asbestos health liabilities claims, totalled less than half that

But according to Mr

McKinney, the company had no recourse but to file for protection under the bankruptcy laws because a company study showed that it could become the subject of 52 000 asbestos lawsuits with claims of over \$2 000-million

So far 16 500 suits have been filed against Manville and new ones are coming at the rate of 500 a month

Mr McKinney blamed the courts and the government for Manville's predicament, claiming that what was needed now was swift Federal action to untangle a Gordian knot

"This is not a financial failure, it is a failure of our court and our legislative system to provide an orderly way to compensate victims of an unexpected occupational health catastrophe," he said

For months, Congress has been urged by the industry to set up an asbestos compensation board with either the government and the industry or the industry alone paying out claims, saying this would spare the industry and asbestos workers billions in legal expenses — costs that are crippling both

The industry's Asbestos Compensation Coalition estimates that out of every \$150 000 judgement ordered after a long and costly trial, a claimant keeps only \$28 000

But industry spokesmen say asbestos victims only win about half of the cases that go to court — and for the losers, there is no compensation

In London, Mr Richard Ballantyne, chairman of Lloyd's underwriters non-marine association which handles much of the insurance for the asbestos industry, said that for every \$1 500 000 indemnity, \$2 500 000 was paid in fees

He said it was impossible to estimate the total cost of the suits, but he saw some indication of a slowdown in new claims

By filing for reorganisaton,

Manville and UNR have temporarily put a stop to the cases against them

The reorganisations freeze litigation and perhaps increase pressure on Congress to act

While several key congressmen such as Colorado's Senator Gary Hart, favour creating a compensation board, many asbestos victims and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America oppose the idea, arguing that a board would cut off a worker's right to sue not only for compensation but also for punitive damages

The asbestos industry argues that the federal government shares a responsibility for the damage caused to workers by being exposed to dangerous levels of asbestos

During the Second World War, thousands of workers were exposed to asbestos in shipyards and defence industries and the industry says that about half the asbestos claims stem from that period

Dr Irving Selikoff of New York's Mount Sinai Hospital, a leading expert on asbestos diseases, estimated that 9-million living Americans have been exposed to the mineral fibre and that asbestos-associated cancer will claim between 8 500 and 12 000 lives for each of the next 20 years in the United States

In addition, he said between 75 and 90 children die each year due to exposure to asbestos in their schools

The industry has been criticised for trying to block government regulation of asbestos while at the same time demanding help.

Under pressure from the industry, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency has recently delayed new rules on asbestos exposure standards that many argue are vital to protect present and future generations of workers — Sapa-Reuter

Employee has narrow escape

# Three hurt as storm rips off factory roof

By EMIELIA JAROSCHKE  
Crime Reporter

THREE people were injured and six cars crushed when a massive corrugated iron roof blew off a pharmaceutical factory in Springfield, Johannesburg, yesterday.

The roof, weighing several tons and covering several hundred square metres, was blown off Verleigh Pharmaceuticals in Marlborough Road during a brief storm about 2.20pm.

The three injured — all Botswana residents on a business trip — were taken to the Hillbrow Hospital for treatment.

Another woman missed death by a split second when about a ton of metal roofing crashed down on her car as she was about to get out.

Mrs Priscilla Gouws, who works for Verleigh Pharmaceuticals as a medical representative, was protected from injury by the roof of her car, which was badly buckled by the impact.

"I remember nothing of the moment itself. I think I felt a black mass come down on top of the car. It was all over me."

"I still recall climbing over huge sheets of bent roofing which lay all over the street to get into my factory," the badly shaken Mrs Gouws said after the incident.

The driver of a van from Botswana, Mr Fred Rantukane Kobe, a Gaborone shop-owner, received a deep gash in the head when the roof of the vehicle collapsed on him. Also injured were two women with him, Mrs Julia Motlogelwa and Mrs Jean Motswakhomo.

They were returning to Gaborone with steel cabinets they had bought.

A fourth occupant, in the back of the van, Mr Elias Mtsweni, 53, escaped injury.

A mangled mass of corrugated iron blocked almost an entire street, cut through overhead wires, knocked down part of a factory wall on the other side of the road and left a pharmaceutical factory without electricity and a faulty telephone service.

Mr Benjamin Motiang, who was loading supplies into a truck from adjoining premises at the time, said he saw the driver of the van suddenly accelerate — as if to get away — moments before the roof crashed down.

A nine-year-old boy Tyronne Evans said he saw the incident. He heard a sound like a gunshot and next remembered seeing the driver, whose head looked as though it had been split open.

The damaged cars included a white Commodore Chevrolet belonging to the managing director of Verleigh Pharmaceuticals Mr S Pogorelsky, which was completely ruined.

Mr Pogorelsky said the metal roof of the building was temporary as they were intending to build a third floor. He said the area seemed to be a wind belt.

His building as well as the building opposite — on which part of the roof landed — had both been renovated recently, he said.

Fire-engines, electricity department employees and traffic police rushed to the scene for injured, turning away traffic, cutting the power supply in the area and shifting part of the mass of metal off the cars.

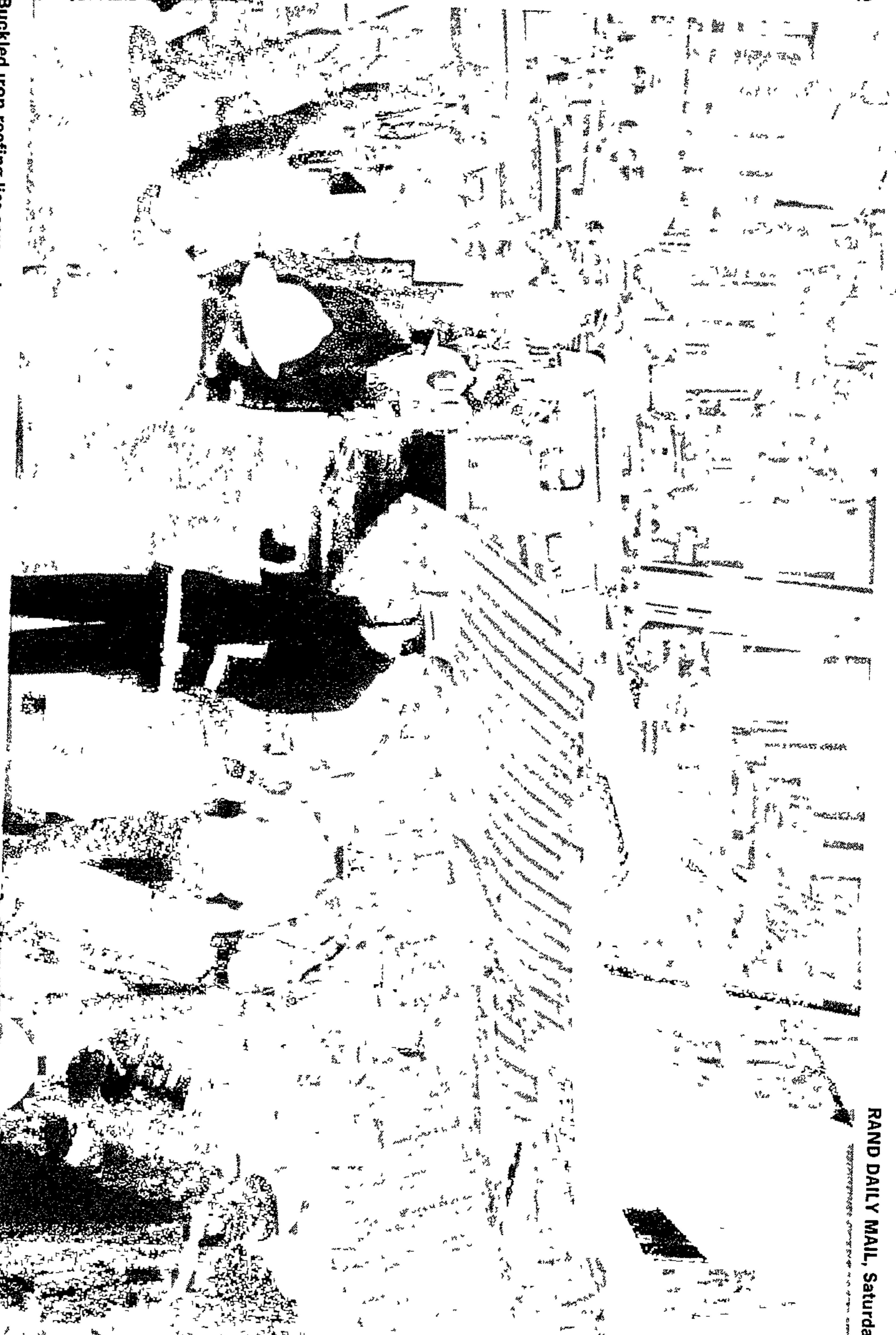
A pump and snorkel and about 11 firemen were sent to pull the people from the debris. Firemen battled for at least four hours to clear the roads and used circular saws to cut the corrugated sheeting into smaller sections.

Assistant Superintendent Hans Scholtz of the Johannesburg Traffic Department said at one stage his officers had to use a dog to keep the crowds away. He said six cars were badly damaged.

Mr Mtsweni, who had been in the back of the van from Botswana, said he heard a "heavy crash like thunder" and felt the vehicle suddenly stop.

He did not see the roof coming down. He said he and others helped the three injured people out of the van. They were all badly cut about their faces and the driver's head was cut open.

The front of the van suffered the most damage.



Buckled iron roofing lies across almost an entire block after being blown off a pharmaceutical factory in Marlborough Street, Springfield, in Johannesburg, yesterday. The roof injured three people when it crashed on to a white van (standing amid the debris) and damaged five other cars.

Picture ASSOLOM MNISI

...ated by the  
force in another  
ntry, and the  
South Africa has  
imate authority  
gives the criteria  
of a socio-econo-  
only has validity  
doctrine to the  
All the main-  
which it may be  
s " to keep one  
tion today be-  
need to be seen  
ne clear way of  
tic SA " (p 3)

ment by  
TION



...are situation in South Africa

# Fire kills 13 men, leaves 400 jobless

Star 23/9/82  
Own Correspondent

More than 400 employees of the Ga-Rankuwa Itireng Institute for the Blind have been laid off work because of a fire yesterday.

The fire which started when a grinding machine exploded destroyed the entire workshop of the institute.

A blind man was killed and six men and a woman were taken to the nearby Ga-Rankuwa hospital with injuries. The men were treated and discharged but the woman is said to be badly burned and is still in hospital.

Mr J de Wald Pretorius, manager of the institute, told the employees yesterday they would not lose their pay. He said he would notify them to return as soon as the institute had been rebuilt.

Mr de Wald Pretorius has appealed to the workers to help rebuild the workshop.

Fergusson said yesterday the start... sion to a magistrate. They Natal early next year.

# Fireman tells of death down a manhole

131 Mercury 24/9/82

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

A FIREMAN yesterday recounted how he went into a 9 m deep manhole filled with poisonous exhaust fumes to find one man slumped, unconscious, on a ledge and another dangling upside down with his head in the water at the bottom

Fireman Eric van Zyl was testifying at a joint inquest and Department of Manpower hearing into the death of a labourer on the night of the Day of the Covenant last year  
Mr Mandla Zondi died

when he went down the manhole to help fellow labourer Mr Ndodanya Jili, who recovered

Mr van Zyl told Magistrate P J Venter and chief factories inspector Mr M Roskam that the department had reached the construction site of the Edendale to Darville outfall in Alexandra Park at 9 p m

When he descended with breathing equipment he found Mr Jili slumped next to a portable pump, which was still running although it was stuttering  
He was breathing and

had a pulse, Mr van Zyl said

He found Mr Zondi with a foot hooked into a trestle and his head dangling in the water — although he was not able to say whether it was fully submerged

His pulse and breathing were much weaker

He placed a respirator over Mr Zondi's face and lifted him to the platform. However, he was unable to have him hoisted past Mr Jili who had to be rescued first

Mr Zondi was finally brought to the surface

about 20 minutes after Mr Jili

He was dead when he reached hospital

Mr van Zyl also said the manhole had not been fenced, was accessible to the public, and had loose bricks lying around which firemen had had to clear before entering

The foreman in charge at the time, Mr J M Blom, said he had personally taken the decision to work that night but had warned his labourers not to enter the hole under any circumstances

The hearing was adjourned until today

was a...  
I was...  
sun...  
in...  
sho...  
my...  
my...  
T...  
m...  
str...  
face...  
per...  
thin...  
out...  
he h...

FDC 441/27 E

**Aggett inquires hears detailed torture claims**  
**Witness tells of policeman's jibe about 'flying Indian'**  
**Natal city go c next year**  
**they're getting**

JOHANNESBURG—A Court heard yesterday one of the most detailed allegations of police torture of a detainee ever given.  
 Pramanathan Naidoo was giving evidence at the inquest on trade leader Dr Neil Aggett.  
 Naidoo was in detention when Dr Aggett was found hanged in his Vorster Square cell on February 5.  
 A factory worker, he is presently serving a one-year sentence for hounding an escaped prisoner.  
 He told the Court of a seven-day interrogation session in which he was allowed little sleep. At one point he screamed and of being forced to exercise for long periods.  
 In an affidavit Naidoo said he had been taken to the office of Maj Arthur Cronwright soon after being detained on November 27, 1981. There he had met a Maj Arbee.  
 Maj Arbee asked me when I joined the African National Congress. When I would be well. He did ed and made a statement, I gave the same questions again. He placed this head from time they asked me. He placed this canvas bag the office and then went to a court.

reacted with anger yesterday when details were revealed, and many accused the Government favouring the profession's most senior people...  
 We thought they wanted to recruit nurses, not...  
 asked another sister...  
 out that senior matrons, principal matrons, chief matron nursing officer would all get increases of more than...  
 the sisters, male nurses, school nurses and district nurses would get less than 25 percent more...  
 Pupil nurses and student nurses would receive 20 percent more...  
 until they qualified...  
 The sister, who said she had been asked to voice the feelings of 20 colleagues, said she was amazed, stunned and simply could not believe the breakdown of salaries.  
 'There's no shortage of matrons — and most of them have already feathered their nests for their retirement in a few months' time anyway,' she said.  
 She also claimed nurses who were paid R130 or R160 dependent on schooling, were getting nothing out of the new deal.  
 'And many of the smaller hospitals are completely dependent on them,' she said.  
**Not true**  
 Temporary nurses, who presently received no leave, sick leave, medical increase may appear...  
 Although the 20 percent increase may appear...  
 R1 300  
 R1 100 and for a bachelor's in the sciences,  
 the humanities would be  
 R1 100 and for a bachelor's degree in the  
 al charge for a bachelor's degree in the  
 R1 100 and for a bachelor's in the sciences,  
 R1 300  
 Although the 20 percent increase may appear...  
 un-  
 Friday

*D. Dispatch 24/9/82*

# Firemen battle toxic gas leak

*131*  
EAST LONDON — A drum of chemicals giving off highly toxic fumes kept firemen busy for six hours early yesterday morning

The drum, containing cyanurichloride, started emitting fumes after water seeped in

The alarm was sounded at 2 am and the fire brigade raced to the premises of Aqua Marine, in Gately Township, and were confronted with a stack containing more than 500 100 litre drums

"The fumes were coming from the centre so we donned our breathing apparatus and combed the top of the stack in an effort to isolate the leaking drum," a spokesman for the fire department said

When the leaking drum was found, firemen smothered it in foam to stop the generation of more gas

"This was not too successful because the drum was not on the top of the stack, but under

two or three others. We then sprayed sand over it and this seemed to help," the spokesman added

Meanwhile, the owner of the firm had been notified and he arrived with a crew of labourers who cleared a path through the drums so that firemen could reach the leaking drum

"About 150 drums had to be moved, but this did the trick and we were able to get the drum out and dispose of it," he added

No-one was injured in the incident — DDR

# Tough rules for transport of poisons

slow 131  
25/9/82

## Own Correspondent

South Africa is to get legislation governing the transport of dangerous substances

The need for such a step was highlighted this week when a consignment of more than 500 kg of the deadly poisonous gas, methyl bromide, went missing on Monday

The consignment of crop-spraying poison, which was enough to wipe out an entire town, disappeared when the truck carrying it was stolen in Bethal

Luckily, the truck and its death load were found abandoned near Bethal on Wednesday morning

The introduction of "specific" regulations regarding the transport of these substances was revealed by Dr Gerhardus Oberholster, director of environmental health services in Pretoria

"At the moment we do have certain regulations about the packaging and labelling of dangerous substances," he said, "but the stricter compulsory measures which are coming are very necessary"

The regulations envisaged were similar to the Hazchem (hazard-

ous chemicals) system whereby vehicles transporting dangerous substances would have to have a coded or printed sign attached to the back of the vehicle, he said

This sign would set out the emergency procedures which should be employed with that particular chemical

All emergency services would have the key to the coded signs

"This means that people will immediately know what medium to use to counteract the chemical, whether to evacuate the area where the chemical has spilt and so on," he said

He explained that several South African companies were already using the Hazchem system, but on a voluntary basis

# Inquest told of powerline 'bang'

**Pietermaritzburg Bureau**  
 A MAGISTRATE and factories inspector heard yesterday how a crane driver was lowering a heavy metal pipe into a trench when he heard an explosion and saw a blue flame on the cable holding the pipe.

He saw the four labourers who had been guiding the pipe section 'scatter in all directions' with their clothes smouldering, while one lay on the ground crying for help.

Mr Absalom Mthembu was giving evidence at a joint inquest and Factories Act hearing into the death on November 21 last year of labourer Mr Phillip Mvelase, before Mr P J Venter and chief factories inspector Mr M Roskam.

According to the evidence the boom of the mobile crane had touched an overhead powerline while

it was employed on the Edendale to Darville outfall project where the Umsindusi and Dorpspruit rivers meet.

**Clothes**

Mr Mthembu said the director of the contracting company, Thistle Construction, Mr M H da Silva, was personally overseeing operations and guiding him in the operation of the crane.

After the 'bang' Mr da Silva had shouted to the unhurt labourers to help Mr Mvelase, but they had been reluctant to touch him.

'His clothes were burned off and he was naked. His body was scalded white all over — only his face was normal.'

Eventually Mr Mvelase was 'reluctantly' taken away by his fellow labourers and collected by an ambulance. He died three days later.

One of the other labourers said he also had been shocked when the pipe touched the water in the trench. He had spent a month in hospital.

Mr da Silva said he was not directing the crane at the time — Mr Mthembu had an assistant who directed him by means of handsignals.

At the moment of the accident, he was in his bakkie drinking coffee, Mr da Silva said.

It had been difficult to judge the height of the power lines but they seemed to be higher than the crane could reach and he had taken no special precautions.

The hearing, as well as another relating to the death of another labourer in a separate incident in a manhole during the same contract, has been adjourned until November 4 to enable additional witnesses to be called.

127  
D. D. D. 25/9/82  
EAST LONDON — One man was killed and seven others injured when a truck carrying a full load of bricks overturned near the Nahoon Dam turnoff on the King William's Town road at about midday yesterday

The seven injured men, who had been travelling on the back of the vehicle, were taken to the Cecilia Makiwane Hospital by Divisional Council ambulances

Two of the men, most of whom suffered fractures to their legs, had been seriously injured

Four ambulances and a rescue vehicle were sent to the scene to transport the men to hospital

It is believed the truck left the road and overturned after one of its front tyres burst

Meanwhile two accidents were reported in the city yesterday

# Brick truck rolls: 1 dead 7 hurt

(131)  
A man, who received bruises and abrasions to his right hip and back, was taken to Frere Hospital after an accident on the Old Transkei Road in Nahoon at about 7 pm

In another accident a man injured his right leg and was taken to hospital by ambulance following an incident in Station Street shortly after 6 am — DDR

Rem 29/9/82

# New concept in office design

Factories Act subject

**Property Reporter**

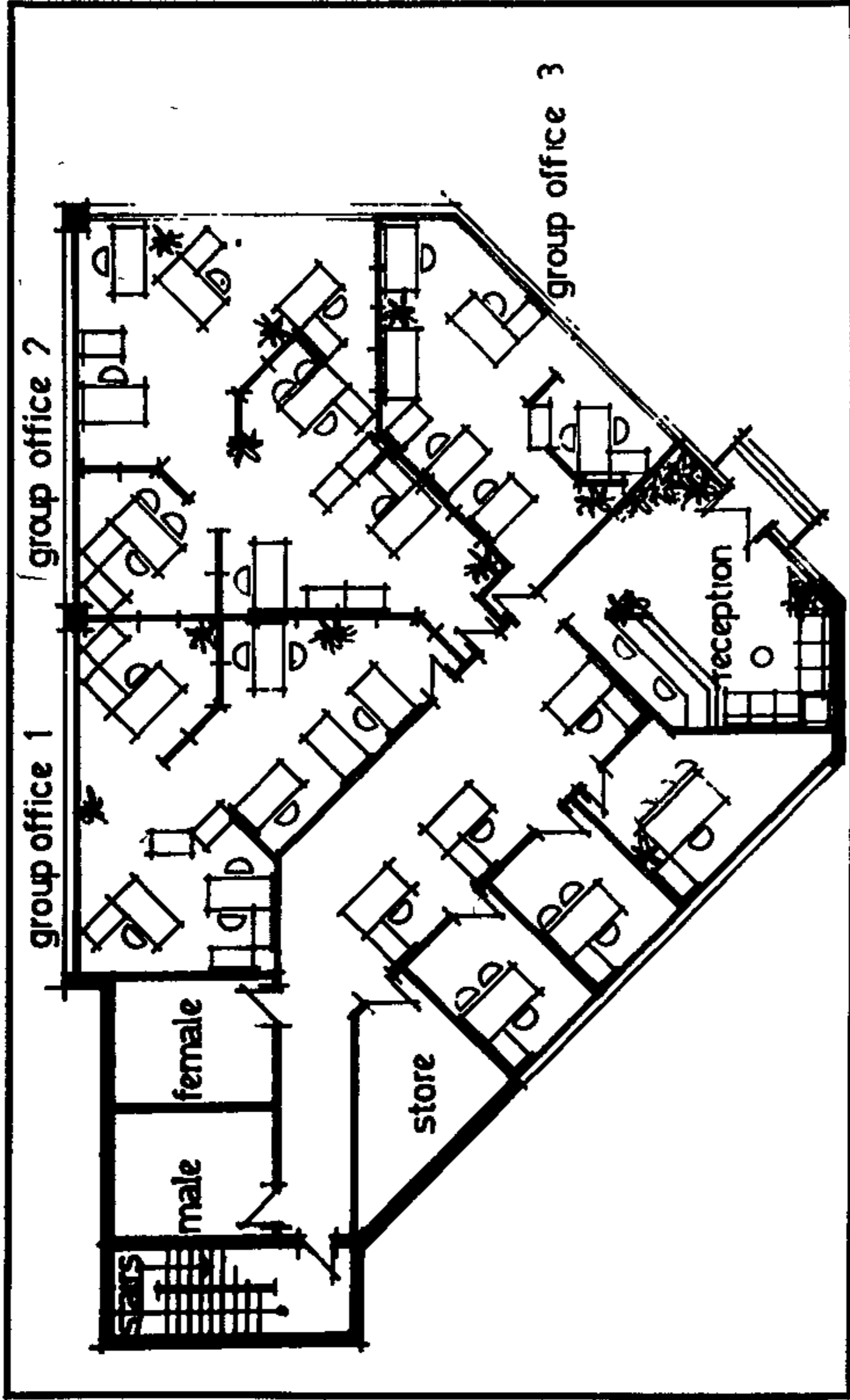
EUROPEAN office designers and architects have come up with a new option in office layouts which, it is claimed, is having an impact on thinking on the subject of the ideal plan.

Called "group offices", the concept is evolved from the open-plan design. But instead of limitless open spaces, group offices are confined to a maximum of 30 people in one area.

According to Mr Alec Rubinstein, managing director of Anglo Dutch Ltd, about 80% of communication which normally occurs in an office is between groups of five to eight people. That is, groups of five to eight people collaborate directly.

"The concept of the group office is built on this unit or multiples of it. One such group may occupy a separated area of floor space. Or two such groups, which have substantial interaction, may share the same space," he says.

Office planning and architecture are "responsive" to changes in society and this new concept, which gives an-



other option to consider when tailoring an office layout, is an example of this responsiveness to human need and technological development, wasted annually in accom-

he adds Mr Mike Been, Anglo Dutch's marketing director, says millions of rands are

modation costs and the office manager should ask himself, 'do I use 100% of my space?' He points out that the National Productivity Insti-

tute of South Africa has found that white collar worker productivity falls far shorter of realisable potential than blue collar worker productivity.

**Financial Reporter**  
THE National Building Research Institute is to hold a series of two-day seminars next month on the technical aspects of the new Factories Act, which is due for promulgation in the New Year.

The purpose of the Act is to ensure the safety and health of factory workers and may be viewed as a move towards better labour relations.

The new regulations are based on findings that large increases in productivity can be realised when factory lighting is increased to certain recommended levels and that premises which do not satisfy certain environmental temperature requirements can suffer serious losses in productivity.

The institute points out that industrialists who fail to comply with the regulations could be fined up to R5 000.

The Act is based on a number of technical concepts and the NBRI has arranged the seminars to explain their implications, particularly in building design, for industrialists, engineers and architects.

# Shunter loses hand in fall

CAPC-TM 30/9/82 (31/9/82)

Staff Reporter

A SCOTSDENE railway shunter, Mr Christoffel Matolla 31, is fighting for his life in Conradie Hospital after an accident yesterday morning in which he lost his right forearm and seriously injured his right foot.

Mr Matolla of Titus Street who is a senior shunter at the Bellville South goods yard, was compiling a goods train about 10.30am when the accident happened.

A Railway Police spokesman said Mr Matolla had slipped when he jumped on to one of the trucks to apply the brakes. Mr Matolla had fallen under the wheels and five trucks had ridden over him before he could be pulled away.

The wheels had severed his right wrist, crushed his right foot and gashed his hip, the spokesman said.

Mr Matolla had been

taken to Conradie Hospital where he had undergone emergency surgery.

A spokesman for the hospital said yesterday afternoon the injured man was in an unsatisfactory condition.

Mr Matolla has worked for the railways for many years, for the past six years as a shunter.

● An unidentified man was crushed to death after falling off the back of a lorry at a Brackenfell building site yesterday.

The man known only as "Fliefie", was working at a brick factory when the accident occurred at 2.30pm. His age was estimated to be 24.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Captain Jan Calitz, said the man had probably been standing on the rear left wheel of the lorry when the vehicle moved, causing him to fall underneath.

Police are investigating.



Rom 30/9/82

# Appeal Court rules against city council

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — The Bloemfontein Appeal Court yesterday upheld an appeal by the Commercial Union Assurance Co of SA and dismissed an application by the Johannesburg City Council to proceed in a matter where the council held the insurance company liable for payments made to an employee under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Mr R C Schaper was seriously injured in a collision on August 28, 1978. The council was entitled under the Act to a right of action against the insurance company for recovery of compensation which it was obliged to pay as a result of the collision. However the council failed to institute its action before prescription supervened.

When Mr Justice Steyn granted the application in the Witwatersrand Local Supreme Court on May 20, 1981, he ordered the insurance company to pay the council's costs in the defended application.

Yesterday Mr Justice Joubert said that the failure to take the necessary steps to protect the council's claim from becoming prescribed was caused by the neglect of Mr Atkinson, the council's

claims-manager, who candidly admitted in his affidavit that it was only early in November 1980 when he directed his attention for the first time to the question of prescription.

The right of action under the Workmen's Compensation Act had become prescribed on August 27, 1980 before compliance by the council with the provisions of Section 25 (1) of the compulsory Motor Vehicle Insurance Act — that is before timeous delivery by the council of its claim on prescribed form MVA13.

There was a clear and direct causal connection between the negligence of Mr Atkinson and the failure on the part of the council to comply with the provisions of Section 25 (1) or to serve summons timeously on the insurance company to interrupt prescription or to obtain timeously an extension of the prescriptive period from the company.

Such negligence on the part of Mr Atkinson was in conflict with the Motor Vehicle Insurance Act.

The judge said the lower court should not have granted the application — Sapa

# UK army boss in Harare

Mali Africa Bureau

**HARARE** — The British Army Chief of Staff Sir John Stanier arrives in Harare today for a week-long assessment of the work and future of the British military advisory team in Zimbabwe.

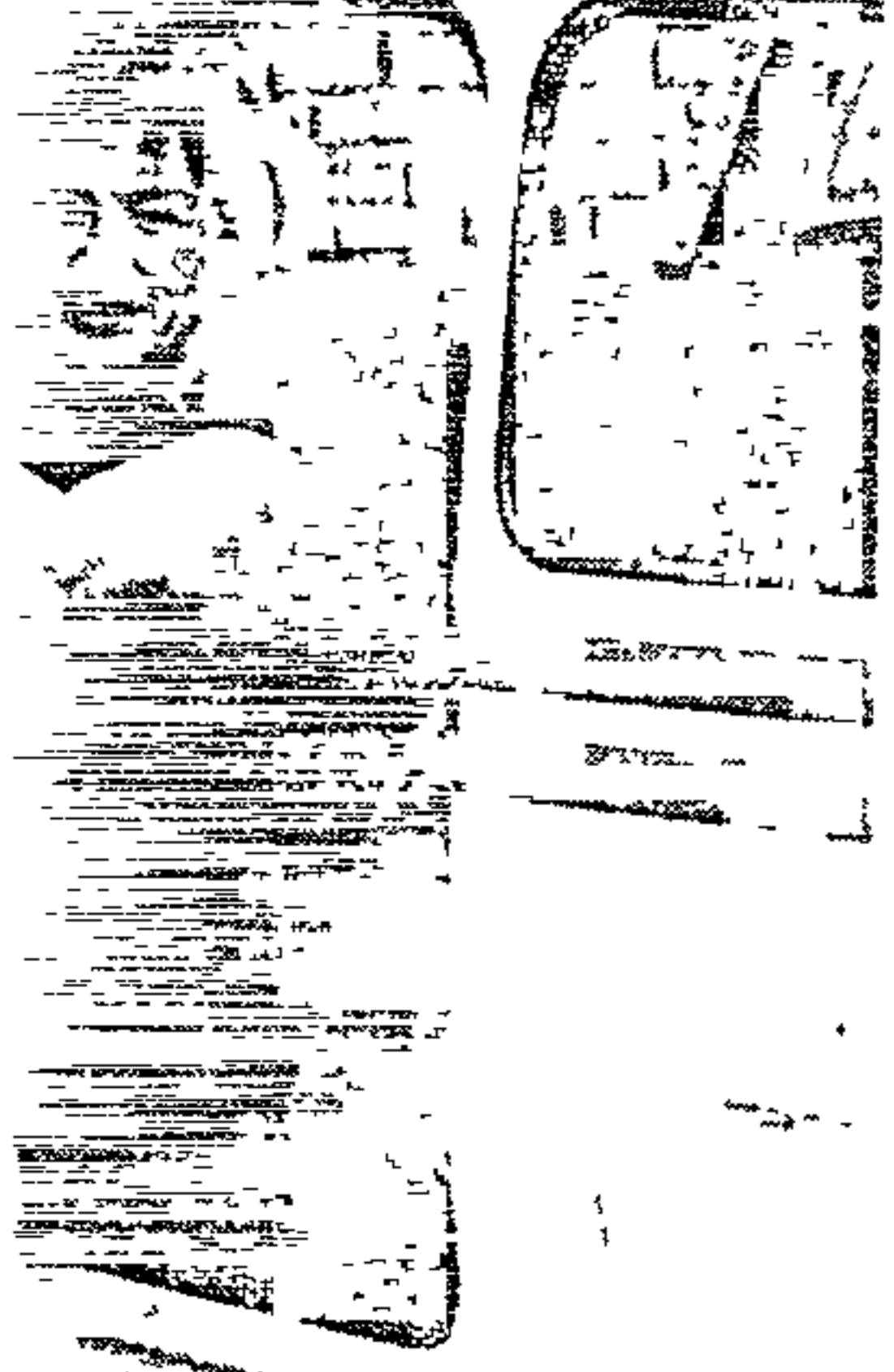
The 80-man team of military advisers and instructors is Britain's biggest military team in Africa.

The British team has completed the first phase of its work — the integration of the Zanla and Zipra guerrilla armies and the former Rhodesian Army — and discussions have started on the form of the second phase.

The British Defence Secretary Mr John Nott paid a 24-hour visit to Harare at the weekend. He had talks with the Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe.

Observers believe there was a degree of discomfort in the military talks which centred around the arrest of top air force officers and allegations that soldiers hunting dissidents are being heavy-handed towards villagers.

But informed sources say there is no question of Britain withdrawing its team.



in distress Mrs Angela Morwood where she works

Picture JULIAN EDELSTEIN

# her bonnet

He said it was the first time in his career as a beekeeper he had seen this. Armed with a smoker he rid Mrs Morwood's car of the last bee in less than 10 minutes.

Mr Whitecross said he thought the bees had moved from the drought-stricken outlying areas to look for "greener pastures".

He said the swarm known as a "track swarm" was not difficult to remove as it had not settled in properly.

Kaunda

## METRO MAIL

### Centenary meeting for Jo'burg's 1986 birthday

THE first meeting of the Johannesburg Centenary Committee to discuss plans for the 100th birthday of the city in 1986 will be held today. The Johannesburg Publicity Association and the Central Business District Association are expected to be invited to attend future meetings of the Centenary working group. The chairman of the centenary committee is Mr Carel Venter, leader of the National Party in the city council.

### Rates rule upset

JOHANNESBURG old age pensioners who own homes are upset by a ruling from the Administrator of the Transvaal Mr W A Cruywagen that they cannot get a full rebate on their rates. The ruling was announced by the Johannesburg City Council, which recently decided pensioner-homeowners whose incomes were below R350 a month should get a 50% rebate. The Administrator has let it be known that in terms of a Local Government Ordinance pensioners who own properties can only qualify for a maximum rebate of 40%.

### Day for all pets

ST FRANCIS' 800 birthday anniversary will be celebrated at the Episcopal Diocesan Chapel, 44A Louis Botha Avenue Berea, with an open service on Sunday at 7pm. Members of the public are invited to bring their pets for a blessing. This celebration is also known as World Animal Day and part of the service will be devoted to prayers for all animal welfare organisations. It will be conducted by the Rt Rev John Manson.

Rand If the offer is accepted, the ceremony will be held in February next year.

### Gardening tips

KEEN gardeners can get lots of handy tips by attending a free training course at a Sandton nursery, almost next door to the Sandton Clinic on Sunday. Mrs Ingrid Kuys, an authority on ground cover and perennials, will be talking on her favourite subject from 2.30 to 5.30pm. Other gardening experts will also be in attendance. For further information phone Mr Brian Rees or Mr Andries Fourie at 706-4531 or 783-6402.

### 2 new cinemas

TONIGHT Ster-Kinekor will open two new cinemas in Kempton Park — Kempton Park Kine 1 and Kine 2. They will be opened by the mayor of Kempton Park Mr J J Jacobs and will seat 232 and 196 people respectively.

### 100s of bloomers

THE 19th national Iris show will be held at St Vincent School for the Deaf, 158 Oxford Road, Melrose, Johannesburg, on October 9 from 11.30am to 5.30pm. There will be hundreds of blooms and various species of iris on show. Refreshments will be available and admission is 70c a person, with no charge for children under 12. Contact Mr G Anderson at 728-7240 (business) or 53-4271 (home) for information.

### New appointment

The Deputy Director-General of Industries, Mr Tjaart van der Walt has been appointed Provincial Secretary in the Free State from November 1. He was born in Middelburg, Cape in 1929 and matriculated at the Middelburg High School.

(131) *S. Times* 3/10/82

# Machine-trapped worker loses arm

By ISOBEL SHEPHERD-SMITH

A DURBAN worker lost part of his arm in emergency amputation carried out on a factory floor yesterday.

Mr S. Bagwandeem of Chatsworth was caught in machinery at Genkem, an adhesive and paint factory.

It was impossible to release him without amputat-

ing his right arm so emergency services were summoned.

The doctor who performed the operation said he amputated the arm below the elbow.

"His general condition is good but I am not sure about the use of that arm," he said.

Mr Bagwandeem was taken to King Edward VIII hospital for further treatment.

Cape Times 4/10/82 (131)

# Doctors refuse to aid trapped man

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — A young Durban man was trapped for more than an hour, his arm crushed between the blade and bowl of a huge mixing machine at a glue factory in Jacobs, while co-workers and police struggled to find a doctor to attend to him at the weekend.

18-year-old Sunilduth Bugwandeem, of Road 706 Chatsworth, eventually had to have his arm amputated to free him from the machine.

A police spokesman said a number of doctors were telephoned to help the stricken worker, but were all "too busy" or "not prepared" to rush out to the factory to oper-

ate on him.

As a last resort, the medic emergency at Addington Hospital in Durban was contacted, and a doctor found to attend.

The doctor said that by the time he reached the man his hand was attached to his arm by only a few centimetres of skin, and his forearm was severely injured. The doctor was forced to amputate from below the elbow, but could not say whether the arm might have been saved had the operation been done earlier.

Mr Bugwandeem is recovering in King Edward VIII Hospital, where his condition is satisfactory.



EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD Sunilduth Bugwandeem in hospital yesterday.

**Drama as**  
*(131) Mercury*  
**worker's arm**  
*4/10/82*  
**amputated**

**Mercury Reporter**

A YOUNG Durban man was trapped for more than an hour, his right arm crushed between the blade and bowl of a huge mixing machine at a glue factory in Jacobs, while co-workers and police struggled to find a doctor to attend to him.

Eighteen-year-old Sunilduth Bugwandeem, of Road 706, Chatsworth, eventually had to have his arm amputated to free him.

A police spokesman said a number of doctors had been telephoned to help him, but had all been 'too busy' or 'not prepared' to go to the Genkem factory in Quality Street to operate on him.

As a last resort Addington Hospital was contacted, and a doctor found to attend.

The doctor told the Mercury that by the time he had reached Mr Bugwandeem, his hand was attached to his arm by only a few centimetres of skin, and his forearm severely injured. He was forced to amputate below the elbow, but could not say whether the arm might have been saved had Mr Bugwandeem been attended to earlier.

Mr Bugwandeem is recovering in King Edward VIII Hospital, where

his condition is satisfactory

In an interview he said that although he had been working at the factory for nine months, it was the first time he had been sent to check the consistency of a batch of glue.

He had stuck his arm into the mixer to scoop a handful out.

# 3 holiday time WP winners

vince's vic  
ie Cup win-  
and all the  
represented  
this season  
be given ar  
aid holiday  
Football  
reward for  
his season  
ward presi  
PRFA said  
at players  
decide at  
ing in Stel  
day where  
o go if they  
oliday at all  
ave a prob  
e students  
ating their  
soon and  
and Paul

Lombard leave for Italy  
this week. Mr Pickard  
said  
"I am not sure where  
they are going but it will  
be a nice holiday for  
them. Mr Pickard added  
Northern Transvaal  
beaten 24-7 by a highly  
motivated Western Pro-  
vince side at Newlands on  
Saturday will lick their  
wounds on a South  
American rugby tour lat-  
er this month.

Northern Transvaal  
Rugby Union officials  
are however keeping  
mum about the precise  
details of the trip.

"We can't say too much  
at this stage, but we do  
envisage undertaking a  
trip to South America  
sometime in October.  
Further details will be re-  
leased at a later date,"  
said a senior official.

Paraguay, Uruguay and  
Brazil and perhaps even  
Argentina are the coun-  
tries most likely to be  
visited.

The planned trip lifted  
the spirits of Blue Bulls  
captain Jan Oberholzer,  
nursing two broken bones  
in his right hand, who  
vowed "I'll join the boys

even if it's in a manage-  
ment capacity."

Injured "golden boot"  
Naas Botha agreed with  
"Obie", the man who re-  
placed him as captain,  
saying "The tour is just  
what the doctor ordered."

If medals were handed  
out for bravery on the  
rugby field, stand-in skip-  
per Oberholzer would  
figure prominently on the  
honours list.

The prop played  
through 69 minutes of Sat-  
urday's SAB Currie Cup  
final with two broken car-  
pel bones in his right  
hand the result of an ac-  
cidental flykick from a  
Province player.

The incident occurred  
only three minutes after  
the Northerns right wing  
Deon Coetzee had been  
forced to leave the field  
with a dislocated right  
shoulder after falling  
awkwardly when failing  
to tackle Province  
fullback Colin Beck.

Oberholzer admitted  
that he had originally in-  
tended quitting the field,  
but mid-fielder Dirk  
Hoffman, a doctor, ad-  
vised him to stay.

## Doctors refuse to aid trapped man

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — A young  
Durban man was trapped  
for more than an hour his  
arm crushed between the  
blade and bowl of a huge  
mixing machine at a glue  
factory in Jacobs white  
co workers and police  
struggled to find a doctor  
to attend to him at the  
weekend.

18 year old Suniduth  
Bugwandeem of Road 706,  
Chatsworth eventually  
had to have his arm  
amputated to free him  
from the machine.

A police spokesman  
said a number of doctors  
were telephoned to help  
the stricken worker, but  
were all "too busy" or  
"not prepared to rush  
out to the factory to oper-

ate on him

As a last resort the  
medic emergency at  
Addington Hospital in  
Durban was contacted,  
and a doctor found to at-  
tend.

The doctor said that by  
the time he reached the  
man his arm was at-  
tached to his arm by only  
a few centimetres of skin  
and his forearm was se-  
verely injured. The doc-  
tor was forced to  
amputate from below the  
elbow but could not say  
whether the arm might  
have been saved had the  
operation been done ear-  
lier.

Mr Bugwandeem is  
recovering in King Ed-  
ward VIII Hospital,  
where his condition is  
satisfactory.

## 100 fight Bain's Kloof fire

Staff Reporter

MORE than 100 farmers and foresters fought for several  
hours yesterday to control a bush fire at Bain's Kloof  
Pass.

The fire destroyed 100 hectares of fynbos, wattle, vine-  
yards and orchards. It started before 9am and was under  
control by 7pm. None of the firefighters was injured.

The fire started at a picnic spot and south-easterly  
winds swept it down the valley.

The regional director of the Directorate of Forestry,  
Mr J A Fenn, said he did not yet know what had caused  
the fire. He warned the public to be especially careful  
when making fires in the hot and dry weather.



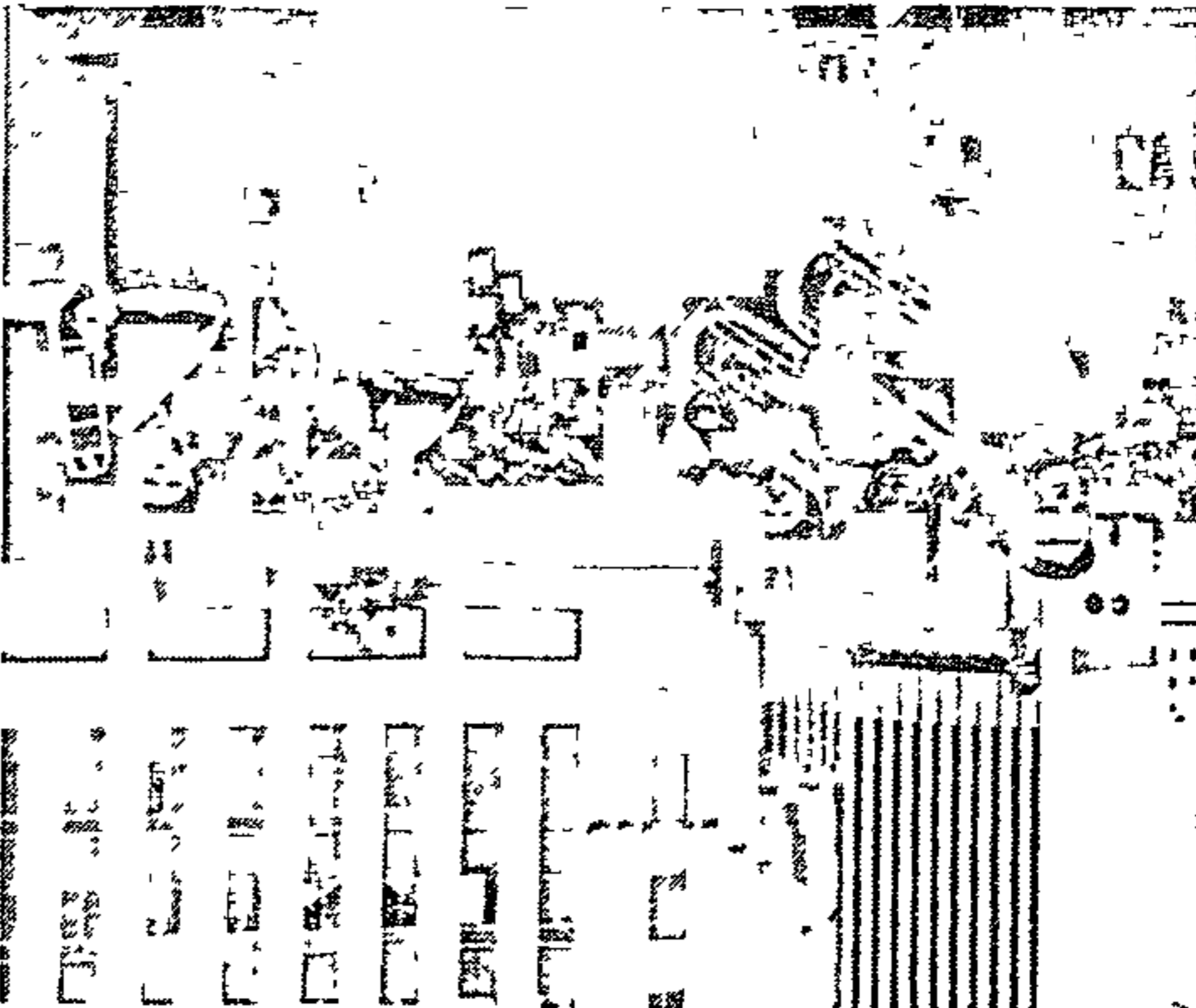
### INSIDE

The emblem on the left marks  
the centenary year of the  
Newspaper Press Union.

TV	2	Weather	16	Aircraft	16	Editorials	10	Sm
Focus	8	Classified	13-16	Business	12	Horoscope	16	Spo
Emergency ☎	16	Look at today	16	Cinema	8	Racing	17	Trat
				Comics	14	Radio	16	Woi
				Crossword	10	Science column	9	Woi

war incident" and is out to kill  
News 6 00  
Video Two Welcome back to li  
6 14  
dine Bramagan. A look at the  
summer fashions as well as  
ball gowns for the matric dan-  
cers from Pact Ballet perfo-  
deux" from Coppelia and the  
production Presented by Ricci  
Delia Sainsbury  
Miss Candida A Doctor's D  
comes to Dogstown with the  
circus. But the presence of a  
with the funfair turns the  
Dogstown into hypochondriac  
duced by Hans Kuhle Sr.  
Transplant Olympics. The  
Transplant Olympics have been  
past four years in Athens. C  
tants who come from all over  
all recipients of an organ tran-  
and endurance are very much  
events and it is this aspect w  
gated. This is the first time th  
has been invited to particip-

Memo  
on  
detainee  
care  
given  
Own Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG — The  
Detainees' Parents'  
Support Committee has  
made recommendations  
for the protection of de-



are believed to be still  
General Bernard Rog-  
ers Nato's Supreme Com-  
mander and the historic psyche-  
present defensive posture  
and the historic psyche-

D.  
other  
once  
custo  
Cor  
noun  
the v  
Cape  
Hous.  
Norm  
was d  
felt w  
which  
other  
He  
20 000  
waitin  
the Ca  
area  
Mr  
memb

## U.S.A.

LOND  
terdav  
mats f  
activit  
"The  
and st  
from S  
Labour  
fairs  
The  
mat at  
Secret  
Thurso  
The  
ment II  
of Pub  
arising  
don th  
● The  
denied  
Van de  
at the  
An en  
der Kl  
cause t

Two killed and (131)

*Mercury*  
30 injured as  
*7/10/82*  
bus lands on truck

**Mercury Reporter**

TWO people were killed and 30 injured when a bus and truck collided and plunged down a steep embankment near Verulam yesterday.

The Ndwedwe bus landed on top of the truck, trapping many passengers.

The accident occurred on the main Ndwedwe road, 25 km north of Durban.

Police and passing motorists used a hoist to lift the bus to free some of the injured who were trapped beneath the bus and truck.

According to the police the bus and the truck were travelling towards Verulam, when they col-

lided. The truck careered into a deep culvert followed by the bus.

Scores of spectators gathered and ambulances were summoned from the nearby Oakford Priory clinic.

Two injured were taken to the Osindisweni Hospital where a spokesman said they were in a satisfactory condition. One person was transferred to King Edward VIII Hospital in Durban. A spokesman said the patient was 'very ill'.

The remainder of the injured were treated and allowed to go home.

It is understood that the driver of the bus disappeared after the accident.

● Picture Page 3

ops

29¢

edges

29.39



RE,09

RE,22

59¢

39¢



# Fire leaves blind workers jobless

A fire which partly destroyed the Itireleng Workshop for the Blind in Garankuwa on September 22 caused damage of about R2 million.

The fire which broke out when 300 blind workers were in the workshop killed two men and injured 10 others. It destroyed more than half of the workshop's working area.

Mr Dewald Pretorius, general manager of Itireleng said an electrical fault apparently caused the fire.

"We have not retraced any workers but only half the 300 are working. We need assistance urgently as we are still paying wages to those not working," Mr Pretorius said.

Itireleng was founded in 1967 by the then Transvaal Bantu Blind Society. It grew into a factory with a

hostel for workers, a creche, a clinic and a concert hall.

The factory had three departments — one for manufacturing mattresses, pillows and cushions, one for making baskets and one for making brooms and brushes.

"The fire destroyed more than half of this," said Mr Pretorius. "We desperately need assistance — employment or money — from the public and businessmen in the Witwatersrand area."

Itireleng is one of the few places where black people who are blind can earn money for themselves and their families.

"We also provide training so they can fit into other jobs," said Mr Pretorius.

Blind workers are encouraged to learn braille typing and how to operate the switch board.

131  
Star 11/10/82  
200

HASSEN MAYET, missing since September 28

## Schoolboy missing for 10 days

A 14-year-old Eldorado Park schoolboy has been missing since he left for school on Tuesday last week.

Hassen Mayet, a pupil of Ernest Hobbs Primary School, was wearing long grey pants, a white shirt and a blue jersey.

"I have looked all over for him since last week," said his worried father, Mr Dullek Mayet.

Hassen, who has brown eyes and black hair, is short and stout.

Anyone with information on his whereabouts can contact his father at home at 945-3510 or the Kiptown police station at 945 1600.

## Police on the record

The South African Police will compile a book on the force's history to commemorate its 75th anniversary in 1988.

The public's help is needed with interesting stories, old pictures, sketches and other information.

All documents, pictures and sketches will be returned to their owners once copied.

Anyone able to help should telephone Captain Dippenaar at Pretoria 21-4511 Ext 146 or 42 5757 after hours.

# 18 1/2

## percent, with Syfrets Participation Bonds.

Talk to Syfrets about:

# Stricter controls for asbestos

By Sheryl Raine  
Pretoria Bureau

Stricter controls to reduce health hazards associated with asbestos will be introduced into the asbestos mining industry over the next two years by the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs

In a hard-hitting statement today, the department presented a formidable list of controls to protect the health and welfare of asbestos mine employees. Some are already in force, others have still to be implemented.

New regulations in the pipeline will add to the already long list of safety regulations which govern highly profitable asbestos mining concerns — but which have been criticised as inadequate by local and international medical authorities and trade unions

## LUNG DISEASE

The moves for further controls of asbestos — "silent killer" — come after two documentary films on asbestos in South Africa were shown abroad and caused a political storm

Controversy in South Africa and abroad about the health hazards associated with three types of asbestos, but in particular blue asbestos (crocidolite), has raged for years

Several diseases, some fatal, are associated with people who work with asbestos, or their families, who may pick up asbestos fibres from their clothing

Asbestosis, a crippling lung disease, does not necessarily kill its victims, but they are handicapped for life

Mesothelioma, a cancer of the lining of the lungs, is usually fatal. The disease can lie dormant in the human body for up to 30 years, but victims usually die within a year

To Page 3, Col 3

# Stricter controls for asbestos

of mesothelioma being diagnosed

Among the new controls scheduled to come into effect are:

- Reduction in the acceptable asbestos fibre concentrations found in surface operations from five fibres per millilitre to two. This will come into effect on January 1, 1984
- Modernising asbestos mills handling

the production of the substance. Only about 10 percent of these mills are still regarded as antiquated, but the aim is to modernise them all

● Phasing out of sun drying and double handling of asbestos. Research into the elimination of these procedures is being carried out at Rines asbestos mill in the Kuruman area

● A pre-employment information system to tell workers of the dangers of working

with asbestos is being designed. No date has been set yet for implementation

In July there were 624 whites, 250 coloured and nearly 10 000 blacks in service on the country's 30 asbestos mines.

It is estimated, however, that more than 40 000 workers mine, produce or handle asbestos in the broader industry

South African authorities do not believe that asbestos is as dangerous to health as

is claimed in other parts of the world

Representatives of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs, who unofficially attended a world symposium on asbestos in Montreal in May, were satisfied that the world trend was not to ban asbestos mining altogether, but to reduce associated health hazards. Some countries have banned asbestos — one is Sweden.

The milling of blue

asbestos in Britain without special permission is prohibited

Asbestos mining, particularly in developing countries, is largely considered too profitable to ban

In recent years, South Africa has captured a sizeable part of the Western asbestos market

World asbestos prices are rising steadily. The price is expected to reach R396 a ton this year and R437 next year.

131

8/10/82

Stew



In definite 'Kee'

(1) When Kee is of the location

eg.

(131) D. Dispatch  
Call for stricter asbestos control

PORT ELIZABETH — Present legislation on safety regulations concerning the industrial usage of asbestos was ill-defined and needed to include stricter controls, the chairman of the Automobile Component Remanufacturers Association (Acra), Mr Jan Stekhoven, said yesterday

Interviewed at the conference of the Motor Industries Federation (MIF) here Mr Stekhoven said European standards should be introduced into South African legislation

While many large companies using asbestos adhered to the European norm of two asbestos fibres per cubic centimetre, the current South African legal limit was five, he said

Specific details of the method of assessment of pollution would

have to be laid down in order to apply modern thinking on asbestos safety levels. Such legislation would give the factories inspectorate "the necessary clout" to apply more positive control health standards

Current parameters defined in the legislation were broad but South African industrialists, who were "very conscious of setting high standards of dust control", generally worked to these or better, he said

Mr Stekhoven said response to his report from members — who all use asbestos in the reconditioning of brakes and clutches — had been "cautious", particularly among smaller companies which feared the additional costs involved in stricter controls — DDC

... '812' is dropped

... in 'a' or 'e' the ll

= Recubantu

D. van der Merwe 13/10/82

# Man <sup>(3)</sup> crushed by crane

EAST LONDON — A man died here yesterday after a crane, which was loading equipment onto a truck at the reclamation yard of the South African Transport Services in Chiselhurst, toppled and crushed the cab of the truck

The local stores superintendent for SATS, Mr C van der Merwe, said the driver of the truck was pinned inside the vehicle after the crane overturned onto it at about 2.30 pm

The vehicle, belonging to Schenk's Saw Mills of Cathcart, was being loaded with a tractor which the company had bought at an auction at the yard when the accident occurred

Another crane was brought to the scene to raise the fallen crane, and the driver's body was removed at about 4.30 pm

The crane operator was not injured.

Mr Van der Merwe said a commission of inquiry would be appointed to investigate the cause of the accident — DDR

*D. D. 74/10/82*  
**Crane death man named** (31)

EAST LONDON — The name of the man who died in a vehicle at the South African Transport Services reclamation yards, on Tuesday after-

noon when a crane overturned onto the vehicle has been released

Mr Blackie Xotoyi was pinned inside the vehicle, belonging to

Schenk's Saw Mills of Cathcart, after the crane loading a tractor onto it toppled and crashed through the cab of the truck at about 2 30 pm

# SADF accident death toll climbs to 647

7-26-82  
14/10/82  
131  
~~254~~

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Accidents have killed at least 647 members of the South African Defence Force since the beginning of 1979.

Road, explosives and shooting accidents have also injured more than 3 900 servicemen during the same period, according to figures taken from Paratus, the official journal of the SADF

By comparison, 107 national servicemen have died fighting the war in that time

## EXPLOSIVES

Quoting Major-General M J du Plessis, Inspector General of the Army, the Defence Force journal said explosive and shoot-

ing accidents had, since 1979, resulted in 144 deaths and 1 090 injuries

The toll of 144 does not include the five servicemen who died in an explosives accident earlier this week or the four railway policemen killed in a vehicle accident on Tuesday

The five men were killed in a hand grenade accident in the operational area during a weapons demonstration, said an SADF statement

Those who died were Candidate Officer Casper

Geusteyn, 20, of Bethlehem, Lance Corporal Edgar Wessels, 19, of Avondson Farm, near Kroonstad, Lance Corporal Jacobus Meyer, 19, of Warden, Candidate Officer Paul Venter, 19, of Bloemfontein and Lance Corporal Alan Jones, 19, of Maritzburg

Other soldiers were injured in the accident, but the Defence Force did not name them or say how many were hurt

The Chief of the SADF, General Constand Viljoen, expressed his sympathy with the next of kin of the killed and injured

A board of inquiry has been appointed to investigate the accident.

The railway policemen killed were Sergeant A M Moring of Natal, Constable K C Kap of Durban, Constable E A Kleynhans and Constable D Myburgh of New Brighton

Since 1979 road accidents have killed 498 members of the Defence Force, and 2 898 have been injured

"If operations had claimed as casualties during that period, there would have been an outcry," said Major-General du Plessis

The Defence Force has launched a major campaign to cut down on deaths on the road

Major-General du Plessis said it was vital to raise the standard of driving in the Defence Force to save lives and equipment

Speaking about the grenade accident deaths announced yesterday, General Viljoen said the SADF would "continue to tighten up measures to ensure the safety of members"

He said the SADF did everything humanly possible to prevent accidents

*Post 14/10/32*  
**Firemen  
free hurt  
worker** (31)

**Post Reporter**

**FIREMEN** were called to a furniture manufacturing company in Deal Party, Port Elizabeth, yesterday to free a woman worker whose hand had been caught in a machine

Mrs Joan Grootboom, of Booysen Road, Helenvale, was unable to free herself and factory personnel were also not able to free her hand, which was badly injured.

Firemen managed to free her and she was taken for medical treatment.

(137)  
2 hurt

as tyre

D. DIS petch

bursts 16/10/72

EAST LONDON — Two workers were taken to Frere Hospital after they were injured at a tyre factory in Buffalo Street yesterday

They were Mr Michael Vele Mbengo, who fractured his left arm, and Mr Enock Mqadara, who has stomach injuries

Both men were pumping a tyre when it burst and the apparatus they were using was flung into the air, a spokesman for the company said

The condition of the men was described as satisfactory yesterday —  
DDR



Recently enjoying the seaside delights of Bournemouth was shapely British actress, dancer, singer and model Mandy Perryment (21), who was in town for the traditional summer show "Give Us A Crew," which ran from July to September

Although "Give Us A Crew" marked Mandy's stage debut, she has appeared on TV and in films. She has also featured in many TV commercials and has released a record called "It's So Easy," an old Buddy Holly song

To keep in shape, Mandy, who lives near Regents Park, London, enjoys roller-skating, swimming and keep-fit classes

# Govt bares all in asbestos row

By Cheryl Raine

Following a controversial British TV documentary on asbestos mining in South Africa last year the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs instituted an inquiry into health conditions in asbestos mining towns

The department recently bared its soul to critics and produced a formidable list of controls to protect workers in asbestos mines

Some of these controls are already in force

The British programme alleged that in Prieska and Pomfret in the north-western Cape safety measures were being ignored

## BAN

Some doctors and researchers in South Africa have called for the banning of asbestos mining as Sweden has done

The Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs does not believe banning is the answer

Government mining engineer Mr G P Badenhorst, said "The answer lies in the systematic and concerted application of a rigorous and continual control in the asbestos mining industry"

Mr Badenhorst has drawn attention to the regulations which govern the country's 30 asbestos mines

Workers undergo regular medical examinations

White and coloured workers under 30 are examined every two years by the Medical Bureau for Occupational Diseases

Workers over 30 must be examined every year

Black workers are examined every nine months. An inspector

visits mines to ensure high standards are maintained for X-ray examinations. Sample batches of X-rays are read regularly by bureau radiologists

There are regulations governing asbestos dust in the Mines and Works Act

Ventilation officers examine and report on conditions relating to ventilation and health

Dust is supposed to be effectively controlled by the use of

**"The answer lies in the systematic and concerted application of a rigorous and continual control in the asbestos mining industry"**

water and other dust-allaying agents or by dust extraction

Experts object to dust dampening because they say asbestos fibres can be dispersed over a wide area by wind or rain

Although there are regulations requiring asbestos containers to be closed while being transported, much asbestos is still sun-dried in South Africa

While drying asbestos flakes off and spreads. The Government is planning to phase out sun-drying procedures

A Government mining engineer has determined acceptable levels of dust concentration at two fibres a millilitre for underground workings and five fibres a millilitre for surface operations

The latter is due to be reduced to two

However Dr Jonathan Mvers of the

South African labour and development research unit at the University of Cape Town points out that the fibre concentration level is often calculated as an average measurement for the whole of a mine's underground or surface workings

There is much controversy over the effectiveness of breathing apparatus

Government-approved respirators have a filtering efficiency of close to 100 percent, Mr Badenhorst said

Dr Mvers believed no respirators or masks were effective against asbestos fibres

A risk committee determines risk areas in each registered asbestos mine

A compensation commissioner administers a compensation fund for those workers who suffer disease as a result of their work

Dr Mvers has suggested the fund is inadequate

By law records have to be kept of white, coloured and black workers at asbestos mines

There are a number of inspection routines within the asbestos industry, some run by the industry, others run by the Government

District inspectors of mines and machinery carry out surveys

In accordance with the determined risks, the mines are required to contribute to the compensation fund

The industry for the period (January 1 to September 30 this year) spent R1 250 000 in working mines and R106 000 on dormant mines, in an attempt to control dust, he said



Botanist, his old & Wendy to see ya Wendy!

After supper, sulky Belinda Weber & her boyfriend excuse themselves

I thought we agreed that you'd stay in tonight, Belinda

Tsk! You'll never get to UNIVERSITY this way DISCOS every night

I don't care

STUFF university! STUFF EVERYTHING!

Don't be SO RUDE! You know you really must stay in .... I insist!



*D. Dispatch 12/10/82* 121  
**Tractor death: man named**

EAST LONDON — The man who died when a tractor ran over him at a poultry farm near here at the weekend has been identified as Mr Sekunani Kewute

noon when he apparently fell off

The back wheel of the vehicle ran over his chest and he died instantly.

Mr Kewute, an employee of Panmure poultry farm, was driving the vehicle on Sunday after-

Mr Kewute, address not known, is survived by his wife and his brother — DDR



S.A. 1st. Weeks 1966 1967 1968

# Nosa winning fight against carelessness

(131)

THE National Occupational Safety Association (Nosa) has trained almost 22 000 people in the techniques of accident prevention during the past year. This was revealed by Don Carroll, a director of Middelburg Steel and Alloys, who was recently re-elected as this year's Nosa chairman.



Don Carroll.

"By training people in safety, accident prevention and loss control we can improve safety attitudes among our work force and directly contribute towards the elimination of unsafe acts which cause nearly 90% of all our industrial accidents," said Carroll.

He added that two of the eight Nosa regions in SA, are experiencing a disabling injury frequency rate of less than 10 a year, but an all-out attempt will be made to ensure that all regions reduce to below this figure.

"An organisation like Nosa with limited resources and a dedicated staff has proven to me beyond doubt that tremendous work can be done if the right leadership is given," said Carroll.

Post 20/10/82  
**Man killed  
by wall** (31)

Post Reporter

A CRADOCK man, Mr Stephundu Malgas, 26, died instantly yesterday when a wall which he was repairing collapsed on him.

Brigadier Izak van Niekerk, Divisional C.I. Officer for the Eastern Cape, said Mr Malgas had been plastering and repairing the wall of a house in Victoria Street when the accident occurred.

**Delivery**  
D. Disputer 20/10/87  
**man hurt** (3)

EAST LONDON — A delivery man, Mr Harold Temban Ligwa, was taken to Frere Hospital by ambulance with minor injuries after the motorcycle he was riding was involved in a collision with a car at the intersection of Cambridge and Union streets yesterday afternoon.

Mr Ligwa was treated and discharged — DDR.

O. Disputed 23/10/82

EAST LONDON — A man told a magistrate here yesterday how a fellow-workman was burnt to death in an explosion in a toilet at A1 Retreaders in February

Mr Henry Qonono, 44, of Gevaba Location, Mooiplaas, pleaded not guilty to a charge of culpable homicide and one of theft before Mr W Opperman

It is alleged that Mr Qonono was cleaning his pants in a toilet on the premises, with stolen benzine, when Mr Alfred Nlotti, came in and asked him to remove the benzine

Mr Nlotti was alleged

# Fire (131) death: man in court

to have later returned with a burning cigarette. An explosion followed, and Mr Nlotti was burnt to death

Mr D J Charters, the prosecutor, said an inquest was held, and Mr Qonono was found to

have been responsible for Mr Nlotti's death

Mr Qonono said in his statement that he knew nothing about any benzine. He said he was washing his face in the shower, when Mr Nlotti came in and went to the toilet

He said he heard an explosion, and saw flames

He denied having used any benzine on that day, and said he did not know what had caused the fire

Mr Qonono was remanded until November 9, when he will appear in the regional court —  
DDR

# Gas blast deaths: No one to blame

REAS 28/10/82 (131)

A SIMON'S TOWN magistrate has found no one was to blame for the death of Mr Dennis Lawrence Pretorius, 35, in a gas explosion in his Kalk Bay fish-smoking factory on April 14 this year.

Mr Pretorius was praised after his death by Mr John Wiley, Minister for the Environment, for his "valuable contribution" to the probe into alleged illegal catches of white steenbras worth thousands of rands earlier this year.

Mr Pretorius died in his factory with one of his workers, known as "Oupa Henry" (Mr Henry Daniels).

Miss Bonita Ferguson of Mitchell's Plain, who was injured in the explosion, said in a statement she arrived late for work at the smokery on April 14 and started to make coffee for Oupa Henry and Mr Pretorius. She noticed a strong smell of gas and told Mr Pretorius.

He asked her to check the gas burners in the smoking ovens. She did so and told him they had gone out. She then saw Mr Pretorius bend over the oven and turn a black valve near the burner. He also closed the yellow safety valve.

She turned away and the next instant there was an "enormous explosion".

Mr Pretorius fell against her. She was also knocked over and felt "all sorts of things" falling on her. She struggled towards the door, and lost consciousness.

Mr Mohamad Joseph Williams of Lansdowne, a harbour assistant, said he was in his office when he heard the explosion. Through the door he saw sections of the smokery roof flung into the sky.

He ran to the smokery and heard a scream from

behind a closed door. He opened the door and found Miss Ferguson, whom he brought outside.

He re-entered the building but his passage was blocked by overturned racks of fish. He went for help and returned with a building contractor, Mr Henry Wilken, and building worker Mr Jerome van Zyl. They removed the rack and found Mr Pretorius and Oupa Henry lying near the oven.

Mrs Peri Pretorius said she went to the smokery with her husband at 8.30 am on the morning of his death. She attended to the books while he started cleaning the smokery.

She left to go shopping at about 10 am, shortly after Miss Ferguson arrived at work. When she returned she was told by a friend that there had been an accident and her husband had been killed.

Mr D W Gildenhuys was on the Bench.

# Fighting against White Death

THE Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs is to introduce stricter controls into the asbestos industry over the next two years to protect workers who are in contact with asbestos.

The Garment Worker, the official newsletter of the Garment Worker's Union, reports that the move will help to bring South Africa in line with the rest of the world at a time when the country's

companies have been criticised for failing to protect these workers

Since a British Government report in 1931, asbestos has been linked to lung diseases and is said to be the worst killer in industry. All asbestos is banned in Sweden and blue asbestos has been banned in Britain since 1970. White asbestos is also said to be a killer.

Available figures show that 624 whites, 250 coloureds and about 10 000 blacks work on the country's 30 asbestos mines. More than 40 000 workers mine, produce or handle asbestos in industry.

All these workers are vulnerable to two fatal diseases:

- Mesothelioma — a cancer of the linings of the lungs, and is usually fatal within a year. It can however be dormant for many years even after contact with asbestos has ended.

- Asbestosis — a crippling lung disease, in-

volving the scarring of the lungs by asbestos dust. It is not always fatal but victims are handicapped for life.

New plans announced by the Government include

- from January 1, next year, there is to be a reduction in the acceptable asbestos fibre concentration found in surface operations

DD 157-10412 6

# Tractor crushes Berlin man

11/92  
131

EAST LONDON — A Berlin man died when his tractor fell on him while he was ploughing

Mr Wilfred Daubermann, 62, a retired mechanic, was killed instantly, his nephew, Mr Alan Preston, said yesterday

"It was wet, and we think the tractor slipped and fell down a ditch, with my uncle underneath. My uncle always did some ploughing for residents in the location, and also did mechanical work for many of us when he had spare time"

According to Mr Preston, Mr Daubermann had just retired from Spargs Garage in Idutywa in Transkei, where he had worked for many years — DDR





# Three injured as scaffold collapses

Shw 9/11/72

(32)

Three labourers were injured yesterday when a three-storey scaffold on which they were working in central Johannesburg collapsed.

The three — Mr Hlabeyathe Sithole, his brother Mr Skhisane Sithole and Mr Jackson Phasha — were working outside the Edgars branch in Market Street when the accident happened.

They were taken to Hillbrow hospital and later Mr Phasha was transferred to the

Crown Mines Hospital

A spokesman said Mr Phasha was admitted with a broken elbow and face injuries and the Sithole brothers were discharged.

A spokesman for Edgars said the three men were cleaning the building when the accident happened.

They were not Edgars employees and worked for a company charged with maintenance in the building, the spokesman said.

(137)

# 'Active interest' in industrial accidents urged

Memorandum  
11/11/82

Labour Reporter

A CALL to 'stem the ever-rising tide of industrial trauma' has been made to employers in South Africa by Mr Hennie du Toit, the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

South Africa's 'high' industrial accident figure of 300 000 workers injured every year resulted in a loss of nearly 30 million man-hours

Addressing the National Occupational Safety Association's annual awards function in Durban, Mr du Toit said 'this trauma can have crippling and far-reaching effects and it is imperative that all levels of management should become fully involved in the well-being of their workmen as individuals and breadwinners of their families.'

He said he was aware that many employers did take an 'active interest' in their injured workers and made cash advances to them, although they were not compelled by law to do so

## Hardships

'On the other hand there are unfortunately those who do not realise what hardships are experienced by some of their injured workers who are laid off work for long periods without their usual income'

He appealed to employers to ensure that they kept records of injured workmen's whereabouts so that they could 'at least' be contacted by the commissioner's office when compensation was due to them

'I can assure you that we are not dragging our feet when it comes to benefits and claims are normally recorded, considered, and paid in full within three or four weeks of the date on which the necessary documents are received by my office,' Mr du Toit said

Turning to workers, Mr du Toit said 'It is my contention that many workmen laid off work because of minor injuries which do not implicate vital tissues are capable of resuming duties days before the date specified in the medical certificate.'

He suggested that a worker who had suffered more serious injuries could be accommodated by being given lighter duties

# Tractor driver killed

*D. Dispatch*  
*11/11/82*

EAST LONDON — A man died yesterday after the tractor he was driving at Pleasant View farm, Horseshoe Valley, overturned onto him.

The Divisional Council rescue service ambulance was called to the farm at about 11.30 am, where Mr Joe Robbertse had been trapped by the tractor.

Rescue medic Mr Chris Larkin, aided by farm workers, managed to pull Mr Robbertse from under the tractor.

He was taken to Frere Hospital where he was certified dead on arrival.

Chief ambulance officer, Mr Rob Walmsley, said the tractor was towing a loaded lorry when it apparently flipped over backwards, crushing Mr Robbertse.

Mr Walmsley expressed concern over the fact that this was the third tractor death within a month — at the start of the sowing season — and said he hoped that this would not be a trend. —  
DDR

1311182  
Two mine  
(13)

# disasters: 19 dead, 6 missing

Staff Reporters  
Rescue workers are searching the rubble after 19 miners were killed, six disappeared, believed dead, and 13 seriously injured in two Transvaal mining disasters yesterday.

Spokesmen believe the death toll will be at least 25 as rescue hopes fade.

A methane gas explosion at the Ermelo coal mine in the Eastern Transvaal is believed to have caused one disaster which killed 11 men and seriously injured another 11.

## ROCKBURST

A rockburst at Vaal Reefs gold mine near Klerksdorp is known to have killed eight men and are believed dead. Another two are seriously injured.

A spokesman for Gencor, which owns the Ermelo coal mine, said only two names of those killed could be released as next-of-kin had not yet been informed.

The two were Mr Peter John Zerf (41) an underground electrician from Ermelo who was married with three children, and Mr Pieter Jacobus van der Westhuizen (30), an underground fitter, also from Ermelo and married with two children. One of those killed was a young Polish immigrant in his 20s.

## EXPLOSION

The explosion happened about 130 m below surface. The rest of the mine is closed off from the affected area and mining operations continued.

A spokesman for Anglo-American, which owns Vaal Reefs, said the rock burst occurred at 71 level about 2300 m below surface.

The burst registered 4.3 on the Richter scale and entombed the missing men for whom the mine holds no hope of survival.

No names have been released as next-of-kin have yet to be informed.

# DEATH TOLL HITS 25 AFTER BLACK WEEK ON COAL, GOLD MINES

**Sunday Express Reporter**  
THE six miners missing underground at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Klerksdorp after a rockburst on Friday have been presumed dead.

This will bring the death toll in Friday's two mine disasters to 25. Nineteen miners were killed in acci-

dents at Vaal Reefs and at the Ermelo coal mine.

At Vaal Reefs the death toll after a rock burst — registering 4.3 on the Richter scale — was eight.

Six miners, missing after the accident on the 71st level more than 2 000m underground, were presumed dead, a

spokesman said yesterday. The bodies of the six missing men may be brought to the surface tomorrow, he said.

Two more men were seriously injured in the accident.

The dead men will not be named until their next of kin have been informed.

At the Ermelo coal mine 11 miners — three whites and eight blacks — were killed in an underground rock explosion at 11am on Friday morning. Eleven more were seriously injured.

The names of the black men and a Polish immigrant have been withheld because their families have not been

informed.

The two dead white miners are underground electrician, Mr Peter John Zerf, 41, and Mr Pieter Jacobus van Westhuizen, an underground fitter.

One of the injured, Mr Christoffel van der Linder, 38, is receiving treatment at the Cottlesloe Mining Hospital

# Little hope <sup>(137)</sup> for buried miners

By SAVVAS GEORGIADES

**THE** search for six miners, believed dead and buried under rubble, is expected to be completed only by tomorrow.

The six miners were among the casualties in one of the two mining accidents in the Transvaal on Friday which left 19 miners dead and another 15 injured.

Eleven miners were killed and another 11 were injured in an underground blast at the Ermelo Coal Mine on Friday Morning.

The six missing men were from the Gold Reefs Gold Mine at Klerksdorp where eight men died and four men were injured in a rock explosion.

Methane gas was believed to have caused the explosion 130m below surface in the Ermelo mine.

A spokesman for Gencor, which owns the Ermelo-coal mine, said most of the casualties were migrant labourers.

## Immigrant

The dead white miners were Mr Peter John Zerf, 41, an underground electrician from Ermelo who was married with three children, and Mr Pieter Jacobus van der Westhuizen, an underground fitter, also from Ermelo and married with two children.

A 21-year-old Polish immigrant, whose name was withheld because his family has not been informed, was also killed.

Two other miners, one black and one white, were flown to Johannesburg by helicopter last night.

Mr Christoffel van der Linder, 38, whose leg was amputated in an emergency leg operation at the Cottesloe Hospital last night was said to be in a satisfactory condition.

The other nine miners were treated for minor injuries at the mine's hospital in Ermelo.

The spokesman for Genco said the relevant places in the mine were shut off but it would not effect production.

A spokesman for Anglo-American, which owns Vaal Reefs, said the rock burst occurred at 71 level about 2 300m below surface.

**Tragedy  
strikes  
Vaal  
miners**

# DEATH TOLL

(131)  
**- rises to 19 -**

**THE PROVISIONAL** death toll from two separate mining accidents in the Transvaal on Friday rose to 19 at the weekend as rescue workers continued to clear rubble.

Six miners are still missing and 13 others are being treated for injuries.

The worst accident was at the Ermelo coal mine, 150 km east of Johannesburg, where 11 people died and the same number were injured in a blast. The mine is jointly owned by General Mining, British Petroleum and Total.

At the Klerksdorp Vaal Reefs gold mine, 200 km south west of Johannesburg, eight people died, two were injured and six are still missing after part of the mine face collapsed.

The South African Gold and Coal Mining industry has concentrated on safety measures in the last few years with the introduction of the International Mine Safety Rating Scheme, a Chamber of Mines spokesman said in Johannesburg.

The spokesman told Sapa the scheme rates mines from one to five stars by reflecting the effort put into safety. Accidents and fatalities are "significantly lower" at those mines with three, four or five stars.

The fatality rate of the Republic's gold mines for the first six months of this year — at 1,20 deaths per 1 000 employees — is the lowest ever, the spokesman said.

The fatality rate for coal mines for the same period was 0,65 a 1 000.

The spokesman gave comparative figures for the American coal mining industry. Preliminary figures released in May last year were 0,73 for every 1 000 employees — the most recent figures available.

The spokesman said the figures for South Africa were "encouraging", particularly as mines were getting deeper and the numbers of employees increasing — Sapa-AFP.





25m 16/1/82 (131)  
**3 miners found dead**

Mail Reporter

THE bodies of three more workers were discovered at the Vaal Reefs gold mine at Klerksdorp yesterday, bringing the death toll to 11

Three miners are still missing after Friday's rock burst at the mine and, according to a spokesman for the Anglo American Corporation, there is little hope that the missing men are still alive

According to the spokesman, rescue workers were uncertain as to when they would reach the missing workers as the rockfall

blocking the entrance to the tunnel, where the men are trapped, was far greater than first anticipated

"There are a lot of loose rocks lying in the tunnel and the rescuers have to remove them by hand," she said

Rescue teams were working six-hour shifts and everything possible was being done to recover the missing people

The spokesman said production at the mine was almost back to normal, but the rescue of the remaining three workers was being given priority

in keeping with the  
the rescue control  
the rescue control agreed

# DOWNSTAIRS

# PROBABLE

*Handwritten notes:* 10/11/82, Industrial Work

*Handwritten notes:* 131, ~~131~~

## Staff Reporters

The booklet, "Cotton Dust Kills", was written by Dr. Neil White of the Health Care Trust and Bratlex. The management of the factory of end Dr. White per...

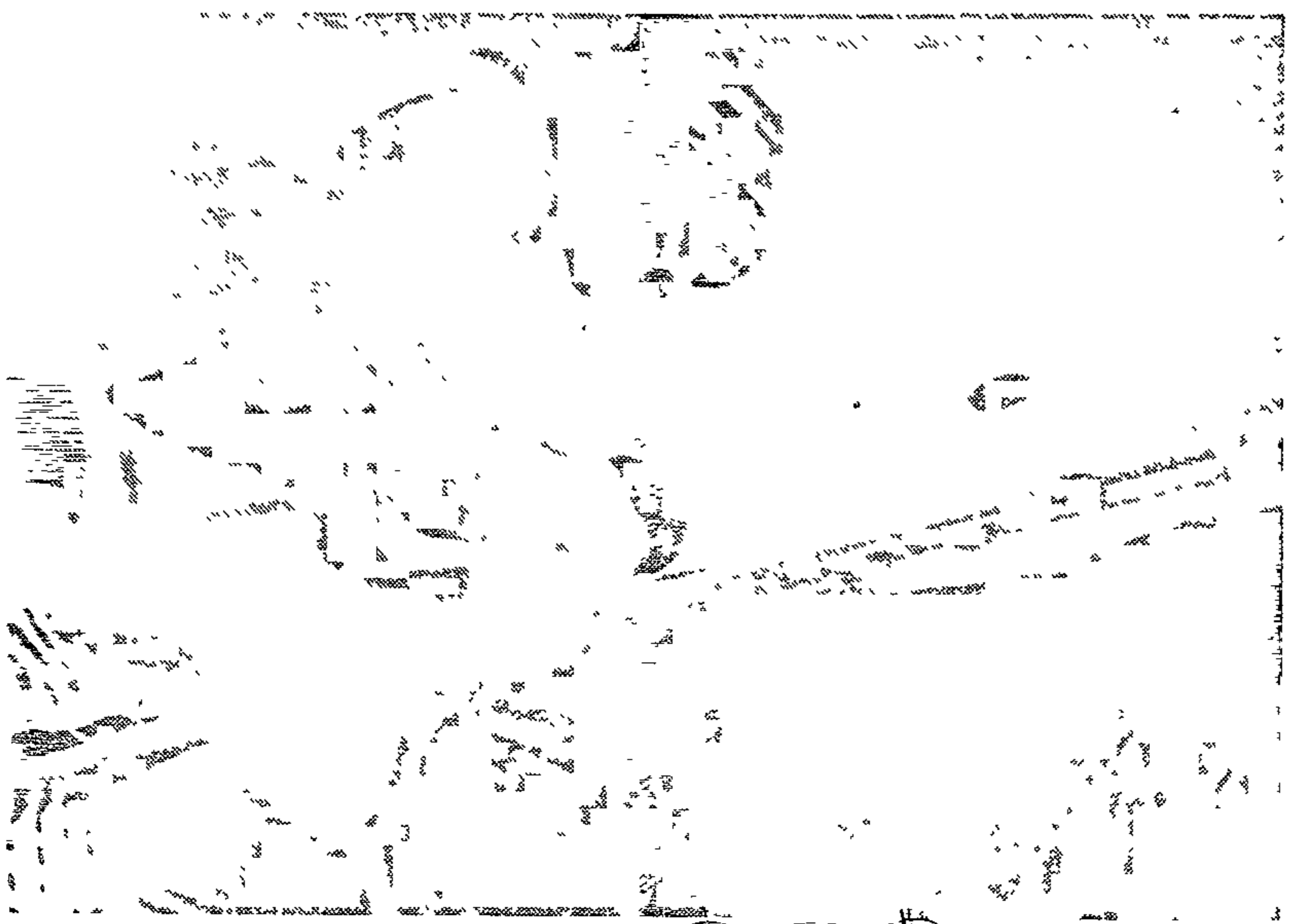
on us without our permission. We don't know this doctor and we are suspicious of him. They have decided to sign a petition "telling their management that they will only have more tests done on them if the union agrees to accept the doctor involved."

As the bickering continues, workers are said to be in very real danger from the killer dust which causes brown lung.

A cotton factory manager who does not wish to be named told Industrial Work that the union is being over-

A NATIONWIDE campaign to warn textile workers of the threat of "brown lung" disease is in danger of faltering as managements and the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) continue to bicker over "medical ethics".

Subscription in the

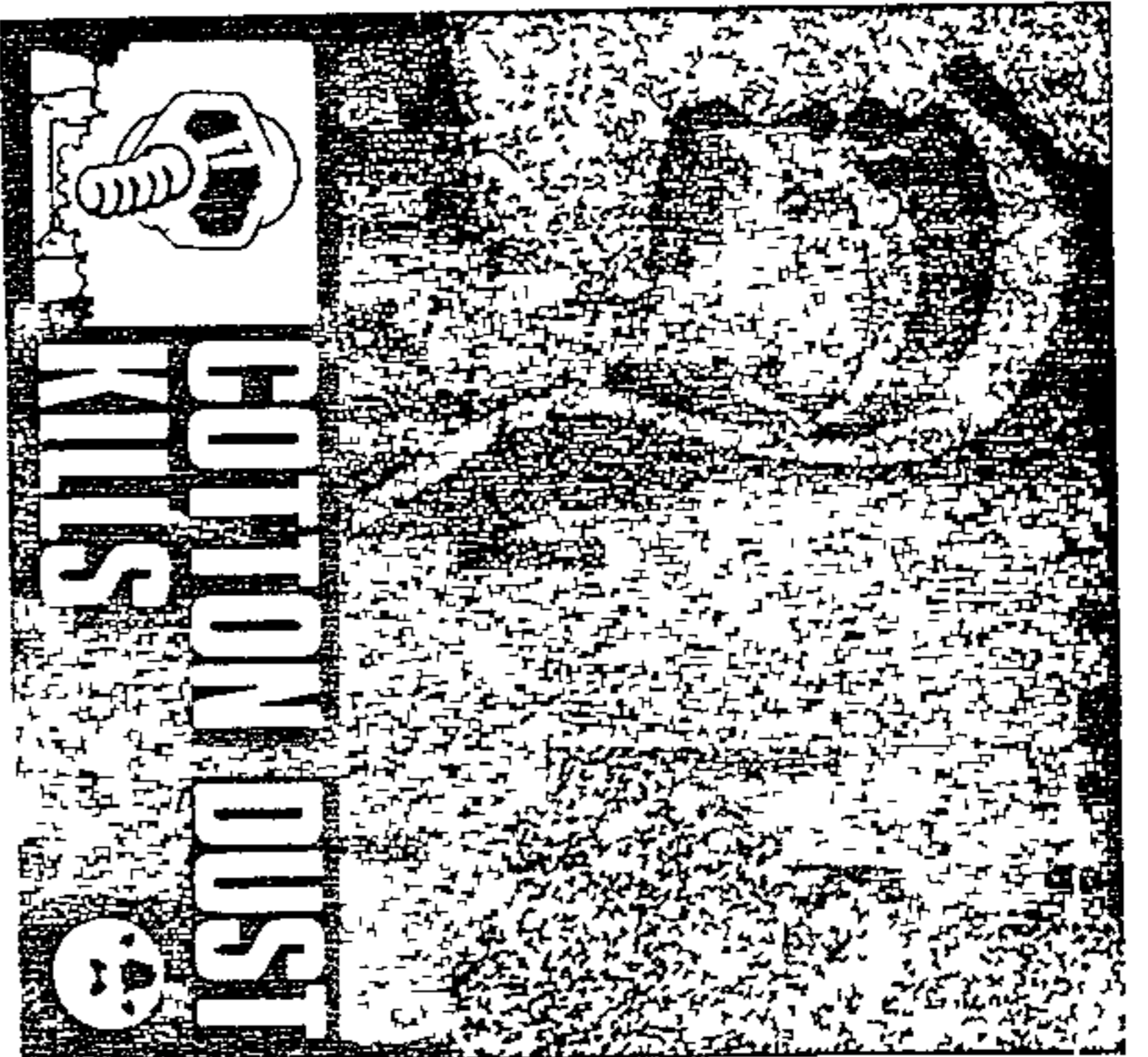


**in danger of faltering as managements and the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) continue to bicker over "medical ethics".**

Suspicion is rife among NUTW members as cotton mill owners seek to bring in company doctors to examine workers for incidence of the disease which is said to be caused by cotton dust

Workers have refused to be examined and insist that union-appointed doctors be used

The NUTW, in conjunction with Fosatu's health and safety committee, have published a booklet telling workers about the disease



published by the Centre for Allied Legal Studies of the University of the Witwatersrand

Dr White was flown from Cape Town by the union to conduct tests at a Springs factory,

conduct the tests and brought in their own doctor

The workers rejected the company doctor saying "Who are you? He can't come and do tests

union agrees to accept the doctor involved. As the bickering continues, workers are said to be in very real danger from the killer dust which causes brown lung

A cotton factory manager who does not wish to be named told Industrial Week that the union is being unreasonable

"They seem to be taking a very dogmatic stance over the issue

"Why should we allow their doctors on our premises when our own medical men are at hand?"

"Workers claims that we will use the results of the tests against them are nonsense

"The whole furore is reminiscent of a scene from the Middle Ages with the big, bad management cracking the whip over the dogsbodies"

**Page 2**

**Is she at risk? A worker tends her fibre blending machine in a Transvaal textile factory oblivious of the row that is brewing within the industry. Workers at some factories on the Reef have refused to allow company doctors to examine them claiming that they fear dismissal. If found to have the dreaded "brown lung" disease which unions say is caused by contact with cotton dust.**



injury free manhours. Seen by Pieter Grobbelar, Kallie

# Poor visibility causes deaths

131 Industrial Week 16/11/82

By Geoff Craig

THE quality of air in the worker's environment has a direct bearing on his safety

One would think this to be obvious to even the most naive employer, but unfortunately, in many cases this does not appear to be so

If a machine is partly

obliterated in a cloud of dust, the operator's chances of being an accident victim increase accordingly, and the loss of production and profit comes straight out of the employer's pocket

This is apart from many other adverse factors which an unsatis-

factory environment perpetuates

A dusty environment greatly increases the wear on all mechanical moving parts, which are likely to receive less attention from maintenance staff who seek work in a more amenable part of the factory environment

It is not a coincidence that the best companies in terms of profitability are those who employ the best housekeeping

Fortunately, many of the chemical and pharmaceutical companies introduced the overseas

standards for air quality control when building their factories here but the small operators operating in the drug industry and mixing blending in the raw materials should come under much more careful scrutiny

than they are at present. Spending on air pollution control in 1978 was R327 million in 1980 R220 million in 1982 R91 million

Geoff Craig is the chairman of the South African Gas Cleaning Equipment Suppliers' Association

indicate amount spent on basic equipment only, and do not include things like electrical wiring and

could be increased. Some of the cost of air pollution control is borne by the state

are both interesting and pertinent

The overall 300% increase in spending during last year is unfortunately not applicable to improving the overall air pollution standards but is largely as a result of large capital expenditure by the public sector on new plant

A trend that has been confirmed from the year 1979 onwards is the swing to low energy wet scrubbers where sales have more than doubled every year

This trend will have to be watched very carefully

particularly with regard to the high amount of water consumed by these systems

It may well be that the authorities will have to persuade industry to go more towards dry collection methods as the attrac-

tion of these systems is substantially reduced lower capital cost should be considered

conservation of water is a problem in many areas

The following trend shows a water use of high capacity bag filters encouraging

ing are some of the results of vastly improved older plants - one noted East Rand steel producer having completed a five year clean up programme with great success and to the left of the local residents whose quality of life has been visibly and measurably improved



# up attack SA market

... of the  
sited in  
in the  
Armbruster  
'Week  
of Uhde's  
with a  
5 had  
heavy  
services  
ent com-  
und  
recent  
the lo-  
kec the  
ny at

"We now have fully fledged departments covering all aspects of plant contracting, including specialist services  
Armbruster added that his company had opened up a process engineering department  
Among its major projects is a fertiliser ammonia plant for Omnia at Sasolburg, a chlorine dioxide plant for Sappi at Ngodwana

panies now look at set to review premiums

companies It is unlikely

# Union stalls health probe

From Page 1

Braitex MD, Dr Roso chscki, could not be contacted for comment at the time of going to press

Meanwhile the Fosatu Workers News has urged members to take cognisance of "Cotton Dust Kills" and reiterated the six demands made in the booklet

- Workers' lungs must be tested
- Only the union's doctor should do the test in this way, workers will be sure that they will be told the results and that they will not be used against them
- Dust levels in the factory must be measured and shop stewards told the results

• Efficient exhaust ventilation machines must be provided to reduce dust in the factory The union should provide expert advice on this matter

• The machinery and factory should be cleaned with a vacuum and not with compressed air and by sweeping

• Workers affected by brown lung should be moved to dust free departments and they must not be dismissed

Fosatu Natal regional secretary, John Mawbey told Industrial Week that the campaign has not progressed very far

"Obviously this is the first stage of the campaign and we are trying to find out how serious the problem is"

interest and there of set underwriting

Neal Helps group engineer of Stenhouse Hogg Robinson international insurance brokers agreed with Wibi



Aubrey Wiblin

"Premiums will start to edge upwards towards the premium levels the industrialist was paying a few years ago," he said  
He said that accident insurance (excluding motor vehicle) is one of the few commodities, which has come down by 30 to 40% in the last three years

Extremely competitive conditions are prevailing in the broking of the R800 R1000 on a year short term insurance industry, according to Wiblin

Brokers control about 85% of the premiums generated from short term insurance

back Paul ... State lines

## Versatility

"Versatility - the name of the game as carriers look for the sort of sophisticated equipment which will enable them to transport a wide varieties of goods"

He added that the emergence of the smaller operators offering an efficient custom service was stimulated by price war, and contractors are knocking hard on the doors of the private or in house carriers as they prove themselves more efficient and cost effective

"Many people argue that the hauliers will only travel the more profitable run but right now the competition is fierce and haulier will grab anything they can get" said Davis

ATER  
ERS

FOR OFFICES  
AND  
FACTORIES

No  
R6 pm ex  
Petona area  
type water  
cut light

VERY CONVENIENT

Telephones  
011 608 1563  
011 608 1473

y) Ltd.

P.O. Box 11433  
JHB 2010

VERIFIED  
SUPPLY  
ALL YOUR  
MOTOR  
NEEDS  
Large range of  
commercially  
offered

Please send free brochures

Name \_\_\_\_\_

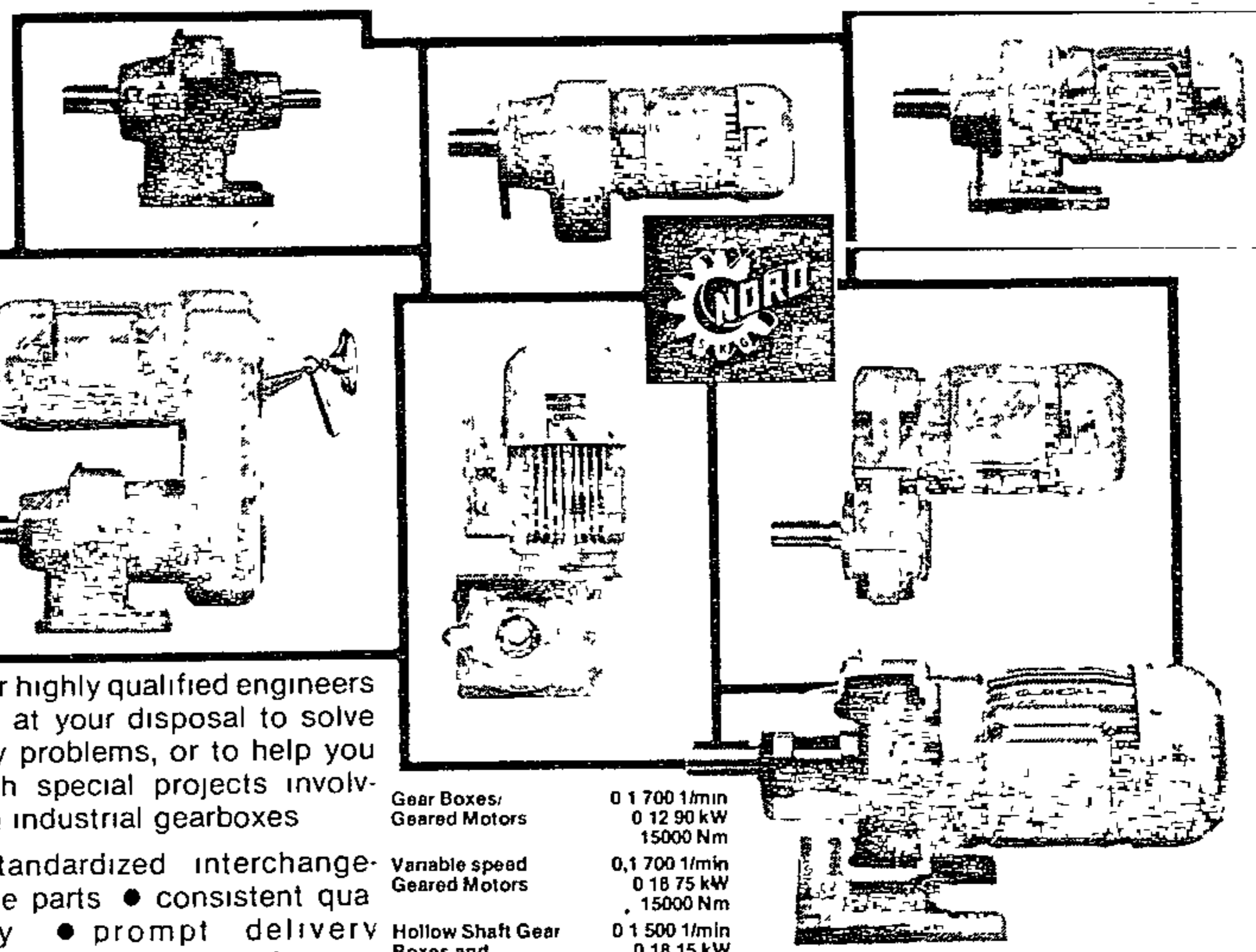
Address \_\_\_\_\_

TD  
ENT

Screens  
•  
•  
• Bins

ices  
street  
ndor  
sdorp

# German technological experience at its best - from Nord Gears South Africa...



Our highly qualified engineers are at your disposal to solve any problems, or to help you with special projects involving industrial gearboxes

"Standardized interchangeable parts • consistent quality • prompt delivery • competitive pricing"

**NORD GEARS**  
SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

- Gear Boxes/ Geared Motors  
0 1 700 1/min  
0 12 90 kW  
15000 Nm
- Variable speed Geared Motors  
0,1 700 1/min  
0 18 75 kW  
15000 Nm
- Hollow Shaft Gear Boxes and Geared Motors  
0 1 500 1/min  
0 18 15 kW  
1500 Nm

P O Box 2065, Kempton Park 1620  
Cnr. Dogar & Ilana Sts ,  
Delville Ext 1 Germiston  
Tel 34-0360/1/2

*Sowetan 17/11/82*

# Insurance won't pay up

A SOWETO man injured at work two years ago is now being refused treatment at Crown Mines Hospital — because an insurance company has not paid his medical bills dating back to 1980. (131)

Out-of-job Mr Isaac Mabela, of Orlando West, is unable to pay the outstanding money — about R300. He injured his hand while working as a store clerk for an electrical company.

All this fuss is causing sleepless nights for Mr Mabela, whose treat-

By LENMASEKO

ment is now overdue by a month. The company, Federated Insurance, has told him that his medical file has gone missing.

"I was due to have undergone an operation some time last month, but the doctors at

Crown Mines told me that they would only operate after I paid my medical bill. I went to the insurance company to find out why they had not paid the bill but was referred to the commissioner's office, where I was told to go back to the company," Mr Mabela said.

To add to his sorrows, Mr Mabela lost his job months ago after a quarrel with his employers, and his chances of getting another job appear very slim, as his hand has not been functioning properly since the accident.

What worries Mr Mabela more than anything is that the doctors have told him that he should settle his debt "as soon

as possible because the delay of treatment may affect the use of my hand for the rest of my life."

The SOWETAN spoke to Mrs A Wiese, of the insurance company, who promised to investigate the matter. She admitted that the claim should have long been paid to the hospital.

# Mine death <sup>(13)</sup>

toll 14 <sup>Stas</sup> 18/11/72

The bodies of all six men missing after Friday's rockburst at Vaal Reefs gold mine have been found, bringing the death toll to 14

The names of the dead — seven Xhosas, five Sothos, a Swazi and a Zulu — cannot be released as their next of kin have not yet been notified. The rockburst registered 4,6 on the Richter Scale and took place between the first and second shafts at Vaal Reefs' East Division on the 71st level.  
—Sapa.

(131)  
**Lift crushes  
Star 13/11/72  
repairman**

A Johannesburg lift repairman was crushed to death yesterday while repairing the lift at the Rand International hotel

Mr Albert Ax (25), was found by ambulancemen at the bottom of the lift shaft shortly before 3 pm. Hotel staff became worried when his job took too long and he was found dead in the lift shaft a short while later.

Police said Mr Ax was crushed against a wall when the lift suddenly began operating.



# Four miners found dead

THE bodies of four miners have been unearthed at the Klerksdorp-Vaal Reef Mine in the past two days. *18/11/82*

*however*  
The bodies are those of the men trapped 3 000m underground when the face of the mine collapsed killing

eight people and seriously injuring two

Two more bodies are still missing

Mr I Saunders, public relations officer for VRM, said they were having difficulties in getting in touch with the dead men's relatives. He said names would be re-

leased as soon as they had been contacted

"Teams are still busy with the search for the two men still buried. But we hope to recover them soon," said Mr Saunders

Mr Saunders said the two injured miners were "fine"

120m 19/4/82

# Oil ignited, caused fatal mine blast (13)

## Mail Reporter

THE explosion in the No 4 shaft of the Grootvlei Mine, Springs, in which nine people were killed and 11 injured on June 27, was caused by oil which ignited, a Springs inquest magistrate found.

Mr H S Hammond found that nobody could be held responsible. The inquest finding was released yesterday.

The victims were in a three-tiered cage about 700m below the surface at an intermediate pump station on the fourth level when the explosion occurred.

According to evidence, the men died or were injured when the middle and bottom decks of the cage were exten-

sively damaged by the blast. The explosion was presumably caused by oil overheating in a resistance starter and vapour being ignited by an electrical fault.

Those killed were Mr Koos Jonker, 69, of Brakpan, Mr Nic Jacobs, 49, of Vischkul, Springs, Mr M C Haasbroek, 45, of Springs, Mr Henry Jantzen, 24, of Stubenvale, Springs, Mr Hendrik Gothart, 25, Mr Sigukile Mehlenkono, 47, Mr Antonio Chaia, 35, Mr Mabicilaza Mataka, 39, and Mr Ramontana Phatasone, 42, no addresses given.

According to evidence, there was no sign of explosives being present in the pump chamber.

b. Disposed 23/11/82

(13)

# No one to blame for J and J death

EAST LONDON — Johnson and Johnson (Pty) Ltd, Mr B L Arbuthnot and Mr R P Asbury — in their capacities as directors of the company — were yesterday found not guilty of culpable homicide and four counts under the Factories, Machinery and Building Works Act and were discharged by Mr N. R Oosthuysen in the magistrate's court here

The case followed the death of Mr E F Hex on June 30, 1981 while he was employed as a fitter by Johnson and Johnson at their Dawn factory

The other counts were that they unlawfully permitted scaffolding to be erected other than by or under the personal supervision of a competent

person. That they failed to cause every board of the scaffold platform to be securely fastened to prevent its displacement.

That they failed to cause every working platform of a scaffold to be provided with substantial guard rails, and that they failed to cause every working platform of a scaffold to be so arranged that the gap between the platform where the workmen were required to sit and the structure was not more than 300 mm

They pleaded not guilty to all the charges

Mr Oosthuysen said the state had failed to prove its case on all five charges — DDR

12  
11

**Sleeper** (3)  
**kills**  
*Mercury*  
**shipyard**  
*25/11/82*  
**worker**

**Mercury Reporter**

**A WORKER** was killed at a Durban shipyard when a grease-covered sleeper which had been used in the launch of the tug Voortrekker slid off a pile of sleepers and struck him on the head.

**Mr Melvyn Bredenkamp, 22,** worked for a company sub-contracted to Dorbyl Marine.

According to a colleague, who did not want to be named, the accident happened during a tea break at the weekend. The sleepers, covered with special grease, had been removed from the water and stored at the shipyard. They had been used to launch the tug which on three previous occasions had refused to launch.

**Mr Bredenkamp** had been walking behind a gang of other workers when he was hit by the sleeper.

He was taken to Addington Hospital where he died.

A spokesman for Dorbyl Marine yesterday confirmed the incident.

# Union wins three year battle for compensation

Sowetan 29/11/77

131

THE Textile Workers Union has won a three year battle to get compensation for a worker who was fired for being "useless" after his hand was amputated by a machine at work.

Mr Jonas Makhoba (32), of Evaton, was given a R2 000 cheque and guaranteed R67 a month until his death, by the Workmen's Compensation

In an interview with The SO-WETAN, Mr Makhoba said his hand was amputated by the machine he was operating at William Hunt Non-Woven in Vereeniging in 1979

He stayed in hospital for two months. On his discharge, he began to drive a forklift for the same firm

He said that after about a year,

he was told that because he did not have a hand, he was useless, and he was signed off

The company had applied for compensation on his behalf and he was given R120 in cash and told that about R300 of the compensation had been used to buy him an artificial hand which he said he could not use

Mrs Evelyn Selore, general secretary of the Textile Workers Union said her union started recruiting workers from Mr Makhoba's firm about two weeks before he was fired

"I took the matter up and at the end of the long battle, Mr Makhoba received R1 830 and has been guaranteed R67 a month, which will be paid to him until he dies "



MR MAKHOBAs The amputated hand that cost him his job

WHAT happens to mine labour relations now the new Confederation of Mine Associations and Unions has refused to admit the (black and coloured) Federated Mining, Explosives and Chemical Workers Union?

The move is certain to create problems. But it came as no surprise to learn that Cusa's National Union of Mineworkers, a newly formed black union with no links to the established mine unions, was hardly grief-stricken by the move.

NUM was worried that the confederation, if it admitted a black union, would demand the sole right to bargain for all mine workers.

This would have left NUM out in the cold unless it joined the new body and it is likely to reject joining at its first conference this coming weekend.

The decision to veto FMECWU, sources in the union argue, now leaves it free to work out a deal with the mines independently of the white-led unions.

Meanwhile, NUM is reported to be making steady progress in its recruitment drive and will begin seeking recognition at some mines fairly early in the New Year.

# Split vote confounds new union

Industrial Week - 30/11/82

By Lynn Carlisle

CONFUSION broke out in the "mixed" Confederation of Mines Unions, after the split vote over the entry of a "black-coloured" union at a meeting last week.

In the light of the Arrie Paulus-led Confederation's executive rejection and application by the "black" Federated Mining, Chemical and Explosives Workers Union (FMCEWU) some founder members have been thrown into a state of disarray over their future membership of the six-week-old umbrella movement.

Doubts also reign among some executive members concerning last week's voting "tactics", and there is disagreement as to whether any vote should have been taken as the Confedera-

tion's constitution has not been registered with the Department of Manpower



**Ben Nicholson... doubts about any real abstention.**

When chairman Arrie Paulus asked if a request by Ike van der Watt, general secretary of the Boilermakers' Union and the FMCEWU to vote there and then (at last Monday's meeting) be taken, only the Mine Sur-

face Officials Association (MSOA) abstained with what could have been the deciding "yes" votes, (14 were needed)

"Based on a technicality, we felt the Confederation - with its constitution only in draft form - is not in a position to accept or reject members," said MSOA general secretary Robbie Botha.

The question now arises whether last week's hitch could jeopardise new membership of other non-white mining unions.

Visions of the country's 500 000 black miners, currently without any pay bargaining forum, joining unions acceptable to the Confederation look slim.

An alliance of rightwing founder members, led the Arrie Paulus' Mine Workers Unions (MWU), appears to have staved off admission a by non-white union although still prepared to share membership with several "mixed" unions under the Confederation umbrella.

Founder member and leader of several unions, Ben Nicholson, expressed reservations about there having been any "real" abstention on the day.

"But as the FMCEWU is a member of our Federation of Mining Unions we will discuss its rejection at FMU executive level before deciding our future in the Confederation", said Nicholson.

# Molten steel spilt from pot — witness

AN INQUEST court heard in Pretoria yesterday how six men were killed in an explosion at the Iscor works earlier this year

Mr Adriaan van Zyl, Mr Jose Rodrigues Frade, Mr Johannes Andries du Preez, Mr Leseka Johannes Kolela, Mr Thabadga Johannes Makgoga and Mr Mathou Philemon Moshuma died in the blast on June 18

Mr Hendrik Willem Roos told the court he was at the site with a team of cleaners

"I was standing with Mr Van Zyl, one of the deceased, looking up at the pot being hoisted so it could be put back on the rails

"It started to tip, I shouted a warning, and ran as an ex-

plosion and smoke filled the air"

Mr Roos said the pot may have tipped because it was overfull

Mr M Booysen told the court he had been a last-minute replacement to be the intermediate signaller between the signaller on the ground and the crane driver

"Mr Frade, who was on the bottom level, signalled to me to hoist slowly and then suddenly made a stop signal and ran away. The man next to me also ran away. I made the stop signal for the crane driver and before I had time to run, the explosion occurred," he said

The hearing continues —

Sapa



138 11/2/82  
**Mine unions may face split**

By Tony Davis,  
Labour Reporter  
The 53 000 strong SA  
Boilermakers Society  
will decide next week  
whether it will continue  
its membership in  
the new mining union  
confederation

Last week the Con-  
federation of Associa-  
tions and Mining  
Unions refused to ad-  
mit the black and  
coloured - member  
Federated Mining,  
Chemical and Explo-  
sives Workers Union  
into its ranks

The general secretary  
of the Boilermakers  
Society, Mr Ike van der  
Watt, is also secretary  
of the FMCEWU and  
he told an Anglo  
American seminar in  
Johannesburg yester-  
day that the confedera-  
tion's decision had

created difficulties for  
the Boilermakers

An executive commit-  
tee meeting of the  
union next week would  
decide on its future  
association with the  
confederation, he said

Mr van der Watt  
said he had hoped the  
confederation would  
create an opportunity  
to form a labour cau-  
cus made up of all  
workers in the mining  
industry

Whatever next  
week's executive meet-  
ing of the Boilermakers  
Society decided, he  
said he would continue  
to work towards estab-  
lishing such a caucus

The reason for the  
current dispute was the  
"inability on the part  
of some of the people  
involved to abandon  
existing structures"

and to accept new prin-  
ciples which were basic  
to sound labour rela-  
tions and democratic  
trade unionism, Mr van  
der Watt said

Freedom of associa-  
tion was essential and  
many closed shop and  
allocation of occupation  
agreements would have  
to fall away, he said

The dispute had  
created a situation in  
which many unions in  
the mining industry had  
to re-assess their tradi-  
tional roles in terms of  
labour relations

Although racial dif-  
ferences did exist, the  
Boilermakers adhered  
to a policy of non-  
differentiation

"We will not recog-  
nise any differentiation  
when it comes to pay,  
conditions of em-  
ployment, trade union



Mr van der Watt, .  
will continue to work  
towards a mine labour  
caucus.

rights or democratic  
rights with a trade  
union," Mr van der  
Watt said

*Local Times*  
**City worker  
2/12/82 (31)  
electrocuted**

**Crime Reporter**

A MAN was electrocuted yesterday when a door being moved by a crane in Blackheath touched a power cable

A police spokesman said that about 8.15am yesterday, Mr Alfred Nguxa, an employee of Concor Construction, was driving a crane lifting a heavy steel door. Mr Hessel Makeleni, 31, was stabilizing the door when it struck a power cable and 11 000 volts passed through his body and killed him

# On living

Evans said the campaign was "mainly directed against vehicles with faulty drivers"

Evans said if a traffic officer felt that a vehicle was faulty, he had the right to summons the driver to the department where it would be dealt with.

Evans said that the Traffic Department was starting a campaign to persuade pedestrians that it was in their own interest to check their roads were clear before they crossed.

Also with our campaign being fully booked, people should wear reflective clothing or even reflective material on their car.

Another aspect of the concern is that drivers should maintain a reasonable distance from themselves and other motorists and they should also abide to the "left and pass on right" rule — DDR



## Woman robbed at beach

EAST LONDON — A 41-year-old woman was assaulted and robbed inside a bathers' change room at Nahoon Beach here

The woman, whose name is being withheld by the police, was grabbed by the neck from behind when she walked into the changeroom

Her assailant choked her and threw her to the floor and ran off with her beach bag containing R30 worth of goods

The woman suffered scratches and bruises to her neck

Police are investigating, the liaison officer here, Major W W Brown, said yesterday — DDR

## Man crushed by tractor

EAST LONDON — A man seriously injured the lower part of his body after the tractor he was driving overturned onto him here yesterday afternoon

The chief ambulance officer of the Divisional Council Rescue Service, Mr Rob Walmsley, said the man was crushed beneath the tractor, receiving serious injuries to his lower abdomen

Apparently the tractor overturned in the Marine Drive area while the man was dragging vehicle wrecks with his tractor at about 6 pm

It is believed the vehicle he was towing at the time of the accident hooked onto a stump, causing the tractor to

overturn. Workers helped to lift the tractor so that the man could be removed

He was taken to Frere Hospital

A hospital spokesman declined to comment on his condition as he was still receiving treatment in theatre late last night

One man was killed and two injured when two vehicles collided on the King William's Town-East London road near the Breidbach turn-off late last night

It is believed that one of the vehicles was a Ciskei Police van

The man who died was driving the civilian car

The two injured policemen were taken to hospital — DDR

Although this sunfish appears to be in good condition, it might also not live long either. "They don't seem to last very long in captivity," said the deputy director at the Port Elizabeth museum, Dr Graham Ross

Initial attempts to feed the fish failed, but yesterday morning it ate four pilchards — to the delight of the oceanarium's curator of fishes, Mr Allan Cooper

Mr Victor said the fish appeared to be "in trouble" and did not swim away when they approached it. They trapped it with ropes and bags and slowly dragged it in. The operation took 25 minutes

They called the oceanarium, and Mr Cooper dashed down to the harbour and transferred the heavy sunfish to a mobile tank. "It has skin like sandpaper," said one of the fishermen — DDC

## CMC couple acquitted

EAST LONDON — A former chairman of the Coloured Management Committee and his wife were discharged yesterday when they appeared in the magistrate's court here on a charge of taking part in a CMC discussion in which they had a pecuniary interest

Mr Wally George and Mrs Lillian George, also a CMC member, pleaded not guilty to the charge before Mr D van Lamp

Mr and Mrs George were accused of attending a CMC meeting on July 13 and taking part in a discussion in which they directly or indirectly had a pecuniary interest

The discussion allegedly concerned the cancellation of a contract of sale between the East London Municipality and Mr George in re-

spect of a portion of land for the building of a cinema

They were also accused of attending a meeting and taking part in a discussion "relating to any intended or pending legal proceeding to which the Municipality was or may have become party and in which they had any interest"

The court found yesterday that Mr George merely explained and gave certain details to the meeting, and that he had not taken part in any conversation, or discussion of the matter

It was found that Mr George had informed the meeting of certain aspects of the matter, and had not tried to influence the meeting in any way — DDR



Miss G C Peterson, principal of St Francis Xavier Primary School, locks the door of her office for the last time. Waiting for her are pupils (from left) Niresh Rama, 6, Kiran Rama, 6, Laver Bryce-Pease, 8, and Royston Groep, 11

## Many weep as school closes

EAST LONDON — There were sad scenes yesterday as the Saint Francis Xavier Primary School in North End closed after serving the local Indian and Coloured communities for 69 years

The principal, Miss G C Peterson, said that all the teachers were upset by the closing of the school and that she had found "a number of them weeping silently in the classrooms"

from six to 11, will be going to St John's Primary School while the rest of the pupils will be going to Buffalo Flats, Pefferville and Braelyn schools

The school which was started in 1913 by Sister Romelda was divided into two sections with standards three to five being housed in Maclean Street and Sub A to Std 1 in Ryan Street

However, in 1967, the Maclean Street part of

## 11 arrested on dagga charges

EAST LONDON — Police arrested 11 men and confiscated nearly R4 000 worth of dagga in four incidents during the past week. Narcotics bureau detectives in Queenstown arrested four men and took possession of 18 kg of dagga worth R1 000 and a No

Members of the East London branch of the bureau arrested a man on the Mdantsane-Duncan Village road and took possession of his car after finding 10 kg of dagga worth R1 000 inside

They also arrested



All answers  
Number  
Number

Surname

First Name

Date

Degree/  
you are

Subject  
(to be)

Paper No  
(to be)

**NOTE**

- 1 En of qu
- 2 Bl an ab un wt
- 3 Na (e) ex
- 4 Dc

Any dis

Made in South



Mr N Mpendulo and Mr S. Khembele at the scene of the construction accident after their release from hospital. Next to them is the top section of the hoist which flung them to the ground when it toppled.

*Disaster 9/1/82* 15  
**Eight injured on construction job**

**EAST LONDON** — Eight people were injured in a construction accident in Chiselhurst yesterday afternoon

Three ambulances were sent to the scene after the call was received at 4.39 pm

The ambulance spokesman said the injuries the men received included limb fractures, lacerations, and head and back injuries

Late last night, two of the injured, Mr Nkululeko Mpendulo and Mr Siphon Khembele, were found at the Hunter Construction company where they work

They said they had been working at a nearby site — also in Manchester Road where the construction company is situated — when a hoist trestle toppled over, throwing them to the ground

Mr Khembele said eight workers were on the scaffolding at the time, and were flung to the ground

The scaffolding crashed onto a telephone wire, snapping it, Mr Mpendulo said

Mr Khembele pointed to tear marks in his work overall and said he had been struck by the scaffolding. He had hurt his legs in the fall

Mr Mpendulo, who was limping, said he had injured his leg and arm

They said they had been released from hospital after treatment and had decided to return to Hunter Construction to spend the remainder of the night as it had been too late to return to their homes

A hospital spokesman said last night that four of the injured had been discharged

The four men admitted had received back, shoulder, ankle and knee injuries respectively, but were in a satisfactory condition

No one from the company could be reached for comment last night — **DDR**

OK

**EVERY CANDIDATE MUST** enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank

	Internal	External
(1)	(2)	(3)
5	60	62
Examiners' Initials		

**WARNING**

No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed

Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator

No part of an answer book is to be torn out

All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination

qualification and to possible exclusion from the

# Crippled man claims compensation

131  
Sowetan  
9/12/82

By SELLO RABOTHATA

A 62-YEAR-OLD Soweto man yesterday claimed he worked for a Denver company for 24 years and was injured while on duty but has never been compensated.

Mr Cornelius Lefifi of Molapo, who is crippled from the waist down, told The SOWETAN that he and his wife, Flo, rely on R14,42 pension, paid out by the Metal Industries Group Pension Fund

"I worked for H W Gordon in Denver for 24 years as a 'baas-boy' until I was injured in a van while doing deliveries. The steel we had in the back of the van slid and injured my waist

## for accident in 1949

My feet were also affected by the impact

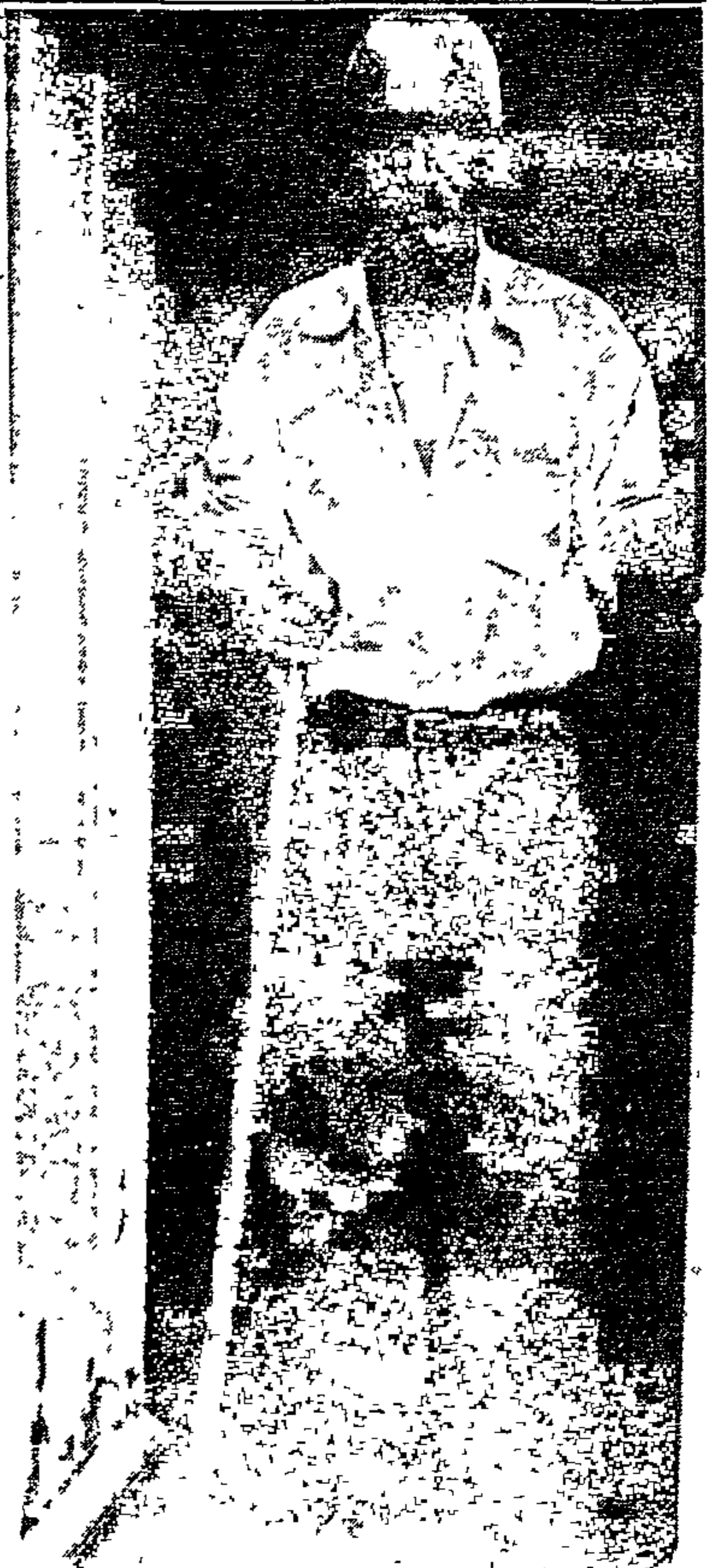
Mr Lefifi had problems in recalling dates, but said the incident occurred in Hertzog's time, possibly 1949. A quick check in his reference book showed that he was discharged in 1972. This gave him a 23-year service with the company. In 1949 he started working for H W Gordon and Sons

He said, after his accident he was told to go to

Albert Street where he was given some money. He could not remember how much it was but said he was promised more at a later date. He still has not received any more to date. His pension fund declares "entitlement — R5,97 and ex gratia payment R8,44" which comes to R14,41 per month

Mr Lefifi and his wife said they were unable to live on the little money they received. They said after paying rent they could not afford to eat

The SOWETAN yesterday tried to contact H W Gordon and Sons, but all attempts proved futile. The only company by that name in the telephone directory is in Rosebank and the telephone at this company was not answered



CORNELIUS LEFIFI Not compensated enough

D. Dispatel 10/12/82

# Injured workmen satisfactory

(13)

EAST LONDON — The four men admitted to hospital after receiving injuries when a construction hoist crashed to the ground on Wednesday afternoon are in a satisfactory condition

Eight Hunter Construction employees had been injured in the accident which occurred at a building site near the company

Mr N Mpendulo and Mr S Khembele were among the four men discharged after the accident

A hospital spokesman said those admitted to hospital were Mr Harry Sparg, Mr Elliot Dayim-

ani, Mr Natsayini Mahobe and Mr Sibobo Weti

The other two men discharged, who could not be contacted yesterday, were not identified, and the construction company could not furnish the names

The managing director of Hunter Construction, Mr Anthony Hunter, confirmed that the men were injured when a hoist "toppled", causing scaffolding to crash to the ground

"I am happy to say that nobody was seriously injured, and the four men in hospital are recovering well" — DDR

Doctors lash 'outdated' asbestos safety standards

# The silent killer

131

BY TONY SPENCER-SMITH

DOCTORS have hit out at South Africa's asbestos safety standards, claiming that they not only lag behind those of the rest of the world but are still "in the range well known from USA and UK data to be associated with significant asbestos-related disease."

The controversy over the health hazards of the silent killer flared again with the publication of an editorial in the SA Medical Journal which points out the permitted atmospheric level of crocidolite — blue asbestos, the "most feared" form of all — is 25 times higher than that in Britain

The editorial says it is important that the lessons learnt in other countries be applied in South Africa "without waiting for the inevitable ill-effects of outdated safety regulations to be inflicted upon another generation of workers"

It says this applied particularly to the continued large-scale mining and use of crocidolite, "which many consider unacceptable"

The stringent safety standards for blue asbestos in Britain had effectively eliminated its use there, while South Africa contributed the biggest portion of world production of this fibre

South Africa, it states, is also one of the top world producers of amosite (brown asbestos) Crocidolite and amosite "appear to be the most

dangerous fibres in the induction of mesotheliomas and lung cancer"

Mesothelioma — cancer of the lining of the lung — could develop up to 50 years after a patient had been exposed to asbestos, and surgery can only provide a cure if performed soon after the appearance of symptoms

In an interview this week, Professor Solly Benatar, head of the department of medicine at the University of Cape Town, who is also one of the authors of the editorial, said not only were safety limits inadequate, but were not yet strictly enforced

He said at least 80 percent, if not all, cases of mesothelioma were caused by exposure to asbestos

The risk of contracting lung cancer increased so much for smokers exposed to asbestos that the increase was "multiplicative rather than additive"

The editorial says while the British standards for permissible atmospheric levels of asbestos are one fibre per ml for chrysotile (white asbestos), five fibres for

amosite and two fibres for crocidolite, in South Africa it was five fibres per ml for all three

In America the admissible level since 1976 has been two fibres per ml for all types of asbestos

Meanwhile in Britain, public awareness of the hazards of asbestos increased this year with the screening of two powerful television documentaries which showed how hundreds had suffered and many died from inhaling the lethal dust

Recent reports from America said tens of thousands of lawsuits were facing the industry there, forcing some companies to go to bankruptcy courts for protection

The suits were being filed by people seeking compensation for ill-health

It was mesothelioma which killed actor Steve McQueen

Professor Benatar told me that while improvement had been made in South Africa in recent years, a lot still had to be done to bring local standards up to those of "more sophisticated countries"

Star 13/12/82

# Black amputee seeks aid

By Maud Motanyane

Three days before Mr Alfred Khumalo completed an 80-day prison term for drunken driving, his left leg was crushed in a harvesting machine while he was working on a farm near Bethal

He was taken to the Bethal Provincial Hospital on May 19 last year and later transferred to the Kalafong Hospital in Pretoria, where his leg was amputated. Four months later he walked back home to Sebokeng with an artificial leg.

"The last time my wife and children saw me was when I took a drive to Evander where

I was arrested. Seven months later I walked back to them with an artificial leg," Mr Khumalo said.

Mr Khumalo has not been able to find a job since he was released from jail more than a year ago.

With the help of the Industrial Aid Centre in Vereeniging he was able to claim from Workmen's Compensation

Last month he was granted R1115, which he will get in monthly payments of R10,35.

"This is not enough to support my family. My house rent alone is more than R40," Mr Khumalo said.

He is now seeking legal advice on whether Mr N C Greunen, the farmer for whom he was working when injured can be held responsible for his disability.

Mr Greunen hired Mr Khumalo and several other prisoners from the Bethal Prison to work on his farm.

"My job was milking cows, but on the day of my injury Mr Greunen asked me to help him on the harvesting machine," he said.

The Department of Prisons has asked Mr Khumalo to submit a written complaint before his case can be investigated.

131



# Accident

**rate for**  
**heavy**  
**vehicles**

131

Mercury  
14/12/82

## 'stable'

### Mercury Reporter

HEAVY duty vehicles represented only 8 percent of the road accidents in South Africa, according to a spokesman for the National Road Safety Council

Mr R Cronje of the Road Safety Council's statistical department in Pretoria, told the Mercury yesterday there had been a slight increase in the number of new heavy duty vehicles bought in the past year, but there had not been an increase in the number of accidents in which they were involved

In 1981 22 500 light duty vehicles were bought and 8 200 heavy duty vehicles. This showed an increase on 1980 by 2,5 percent and 6,6 percent respectively

'Last year 451 576 cars were involved in accidents and 41,564 heavy duty vehicles. This means about 8 percent of all accidents in the country involved heavy duty vehicles

'In Natal the figure is slightly higher because of the hilly terrain where the accident rate of heavy duty vehicles is 14 percent,' Mr Cronje said.

# Crash victim dies in caustic soda

131 RDM 14/12/82

## Mall Reporter

A MAN died yesterday when his skin was burnt off by caustic soda — a strong alkaline liquid — pouring from a tanker which careered through a barrier on a highway outside Johannesburg.

Another man, Mr Clifton Walaza, had one of his legs broken and injured a shoulder in the accident which occurred shortly after 2pm on the Potchefstroom off-ramp of the Western by-pass.

The tanker's front wheel burst while travelling at about 80km/h. It broke through the guard rail and ploughed into a nearby embankment.

Both men were flung out of the cab by the impact. One of the men fell into the path of the stream of caustic soda. He was dead by the time the ambulancemen reached him.

The dead man was one of 27 who died on South African roads since Friday.

A young Chatsworth man and three members of his family died in a car crash at Besters near Ladysmith yesterday.

They were Mr Melvin Naidoo, 20, Mr Norman Padayachee, 31, his wife, Angie, 20, and their 20-month old baby, Namo.

A spokesman at Besters police said the car in which the four had been travelling was found lying in a ditch by the side of the road, about 24km from Ladysmith on the Van Reenen road. No other vehicles were involved.

No fatal road accidents were reported in Natal yesterday.

Other fatalities at the weekend included two horror smashes, one at Harrismith

in the Free State, where six people lost their lives. Three whites, Mr Erroll Benjamin, his wife Winnie and 12-year-old daughter Nicolette, and two blacks were killed instantly. Another black man died on the way to hospital. Their identities have not been released yet.

Mr Benjamin's two young sons, Michael and Gregory, are "out of danger" at the Universitas Hospital at Bloemfontein.

A Harrismith police spokesman said a black pedestrian was killed when he was struck by a car on Van

Reenen's Pass earlier in the weekend.

The other horror smash was on the Eston Road near Winklespruit, where the parents and two children of a Transvaal family were killed instantly when their car collided with an articulated cane truck on Friday afternoon.

In Northern Natal a young motorcyclist, Mr A Gassner, 23, was killed on Sunday night when his motorcycle and a minibus collided and in Newcastle a 24-year-old motorist, Mr CJ van Schalkwyk, died in a head-on collision

with another car on the Newcastle-Memel road. A man appeared in the Newcastle Magistrate Court yesterday on a charge of culpable homicide.

An unidentified young white cyclist died in the town on Thursday last week when he was collided with a car.

It is reported that in the Cape Peninsula four people died in road accidents at the weekend, and another two were killed in a collision on the Nico Malan Pass near the Eastern Cape town of Cathcart.

In the Johannesburg area at least three people were killed on the roads at the weekend.

Meanwhile on the Natal South Coast two young Durban motorcyclists, Mr Nick Ramsden, 19, and Mr Steven Mayer, 23, were seriously injured when they collided with a car near Port Edward on Saturday night.

Their condition was described as satisfactory by a St Augustine's Hospital spokesman.

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank

	Internal	External
(1)	(2)	(3)
7		
Examiners' Initials		

## WARNING

- No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed
- Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator
- No part of an answer book is to be torn out
- All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination

- question you are answering
- Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used
- Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used
- Do not write in the left hand margin

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

# Stevedores suffer high stress, <sup>(131)</sup> ~~ROM~~ medical study finds <sup>14/12/82</sup>

**Mail Correspondent**  
CAPE TOWN — A survey by industrial health researchers has found an "alarmingly high" prevalence of hypertension, which they regard as a stress-related disease, among unskilled and semi-skilled manual workers.

The study, conducted among stevedores in the Cape Town docks, found that rises in blood pressure were "significantly related" to

stress-inducing factors in the work situation, such as dangerous work, excessive overtime, inadequate rest periods, noise, hot or cold conditions and the presence of dust or fumes in the working environment

Of the 421 stevedores examined during the study period, 185 (43,9%) were found to be hypertensive according to the World Health Organisation definition

The prevalence of hypertension among 220 stevedores who had not yet worked their shift was 39,1%, while among 201 men who had worked a shift it was 49,3%

The researchers said stevedores were still under pressure to work double shifts during periods such as the fruit season, despite the fact it was now voluntary owing to recent trade union

developments

Stevedores also performed dangerous work amid moving machinery, were subject to "uncomfortably cold" sub-zero conditions in frozen cargo holds and suffered irritation of the eyes, nose and throat when dealing with certain cargoes

"The higher mean blood pressure and prevalence of hypertension in the group examined after working the

daily shift may be attributable to strain resulting from exposure to these stress factors," the researchers concluded

The survey was conducted by Dr John Myers, Dr Neil White and Ms Judith Cornell of the industrial health research group attached to the department of sociology at the University of Cape Town. The study is documented in the latest issue of the South African Medical Journal.

# SA 'lagging' 131 on asbestos

Star  
14/12/82

Ermas  
Cawz  
Neozlo  
Storhc  
Cham

By Pamela Kleinot

South Africa did the first definitive report on asbestos exposure and disease but lagged behind the rest of the world in setting and ensuring acceptable fibre levels in the working environment, the South African Medical Journal has said.

An editorial on "The asbestos hazard" predicted that South Africa would continue to see abundant asbestos-related disease during the next half-century, as it took up to 50 years before the onset of disease after being exposed to asbestos.

The editorial said that in 1979, 53 percent of all pneumoconiosis cases in white miners and 15 percent in blacks were from asbestos-related diseases (Pneumoconiosis is a disease of the lungs caused by inhaled dust)

Asbestos is an important component of cement, insulating materials, friction products, textiles, paper and plastic products.

During the past 80 years a lot of evidence has been gathered on the harmful effects of asbestos on health, resulting in increasingly stringent standards being set for permissible atmospheric levels, to protect industrial workers.

Although crocidolite (blue) and amosite (brown) make up only seven percent of world asbestos production they appear to be the most dangerous fibres in causing mesotheliomas (asbestos-induced tumour) and lung cancer. These types of asbestos are produced almost exclusively in South Africa and Western Australia.

Asbestosis occurs in workers with heavy,

prolonged exposure to the fibre and workers in the insulation industry appear to be most at risk, the editorial says

Until 1975 the guideline for asbestos mines was 45 fibres per ml, reduced to 12 fibres per ml between 1975 and 1981 and to five fibres per ml in 1982

"Strict enforcement of this standard is not yet practised. While South Africa produces only six percent of the world's asbestos, half is crocidolite and this constitutes the great majority of world production of this fibre," the editorial said.

"It is important that the lessons learned in other countries be applied in South Africa without waiting for the inevitable ill-effects of outdated safety regulations to be inflicted upon another generation of workers."

100



near the at 10 am

# Explosion kills miner <sup>15/12/82</sup>

(131) (272) West Rand Bureau Star

A man was killed and five injured—four seriously—in a mystery explosion at Randfontein gold mine yesterday. A police spokesman said that a group of black mineworkers were going off duty at the No 1 Cooke shaft at the mine. It is understood that one of them tossed an unknown object into a waste bin.

There was an immediate explosion, during which the man believed to have tossed in the object was killed, and the others injured. The injured were admitted to the mine hospital. Mine authorities are investigating.

*But is also the  
Koyak...?*

# Hypertension among City stevedores 'high'

Staff Reporter

A SURVEY by industrial health researchers has found an "alarmingly high" prevalence of hypertension, which they regard as a stress-related disease, among unskilled and semi-skilled manual workers

The study, conducted among Cape Town stevedores, found that rises in blood pressure were "significantly related" to stress-inducing factors in the work situation, such as dangerous work, excessive overtime, inadequate rest periods, noise, hot or cold conditions and the presence of dust or fumes

Of 421 stevedores examined, 185 (43,9 percent) were found to be hypertensive according to the World Health Organization definition

The prevalence of hypertension among 220 stevedores who had not yet worked their shift was 39,1 percent, while among 201 men who had worked a shift, it was 49,3 percent

The researchers said that till recently, stevedores had been compelled to work double shifts during periods such as the fruit season. Double-shifts were no longer compulsory, but there was pressure on in-

dividuals not to refuse double shifts when asked to do so

Stevedores also performed dangerous work amid moving machinery such as overhead cranes and forklift trucks, and there was the constant danger of being struck by falling or moving objects, or slipping and falling

The survey was conducted by Dr John Myers, Dr Neil White and Ms Judith Cornell, of the Industrial Health Research Group attached to the Department of Sociology at the University of Cape Town. The study is documented in the latest issue of the South African Medical Journal

# SA lags in asbestos safety

17/12/82  
131  
Cape Times  
Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA has lagged behind the rest of the world in setting and enforcing acceptable asbestos fibre levels in the working environment in mines and factories, it is claimed

In an editorial in the latest edition of the South African Medical Journal, the head of the department of medicine at the University of Cape Town's Medical School, Professor S R Benatar, and Dr E D Bateman, said strict enforcement of permissible levels of asbestos fibre was not being practised in South Africa

Evidence over the past 80 years had shown that asbestos, used as a component in cement, insulating materials and textiles, is harmful to human health. The fibres released during the mining and industrial processing of asbestos were known to cause lung tumours and cancer if inhaled continuously over a long period

Until 1975, the permissible fibre level for South African asbestos mines and factories was 45 fibres per ml. This was later reduced to 12 fibres per ml and to five fibres per ml in 1982. In the United States, the acceptable level since 1976 had been two fibres per ml.

The doctors also called for a review of the mechanisms by which compensation was awarded to affected workers



# PRINTING

IF IT IS NOT READY ON TIME  
IN BY 9am — BACK SAME DAY  
REMEMBER SAME DAY OR  
NO PAY  
ALSO FREE COLOUR FILM  
OR 20% DISCOUNT

## LENKEM PHARMACY

WITHINSHAW CENTRE  
MAIN RD., WYNBERG  
ALSO AT

## WYNBERG PHARMACY

222 Main Road, Wynberg

"very heavy penalty"

### 'Sabotage'

He said the measures should not be seen as a punishment "We are trying our best. We are not in normal circumstances and people should not expect normal lives"

Last week a spokesman for Mr Makoni's ministry said the supply crisis had been caused by the sabotage of fuel depots at Beira on December 9 which had precluded the use of the fuel pipeline to Mutare

All fuel is now being railed from Mozambique, most of it via the north-eastern Transvaal

CAPL TIMES 24/12/82

# Union secures bail for six

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Six former workers at the Teltron electronics company, which was hit by a strike recently, have been arrested and are believed to be facing charges under the Intimidation Act

A spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA) said yesterday the union had secured the workers' release on bail after hearing of their arrest. He said all six were released yesterday

When the Intimidation Act was introduced recently, following a recommendation by the Rabie Commission into security legislation, unionists and lawyers warned it would be used against worker leaders

The act lays down heavy penalties for "intimida-

tion", which it defines very widely

Since then, union members have been arrested and charged with contravening the act on several occasions

Thus far, most of those arrested have been members of the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU) But only one worker has been convicted of Intimidation Act charges and in two cases, involving MAWU members, charges against the accused were withdrawn. Workers at Teltron were fired after downing tools in protest at the sacking of a colleague

Negotiations between CCAWUSA and the company ended in deadlock — chiefly because workers rejected a company stipulation it would not rehire all of them. Most of the strikers refused to return and were replaced

D  
fa  
d  
m

DUR

ma

fell

dea

Cha

in

Wec

Mr N.

sha

was

five

Accor

pol

had

zine

beh

peri

the

sent

till

the

Dr Sh

Mou

Afri

said

vid

sear

fixer

loter

the

Hot

"But t

in sh

to c

We

heli

the

rove

once

was

and

in"

The fo

body

helic

airli

Mr Be

by h

teen

### Cra

TWEL

jured

sion in

Philipp

last m

whose

not be

taken

tal, Wy

balanc

K  
9  
li  
Ta  
pn  
Alv  
aut  
Fla

**SHIRT SPECIALS**  
Monatic Consulate Jayson™ & Manhattan  
Lounge & Sports Plain & Fancy  
SIZES 37 cm to 46 cm

**R9,95 & R12,95** Excl GST

# ANDY'S

**MAN'S SHOP**  
282/4 VICTORIA RD, WOODSTOCK PH 47-4313

## LARGE DELUXE FLIP PHOTO ALBUM

# PHOTO ALBUM

**FOR ONLY 69c EACH**  
**USUALLY SOLD AT 3,99**

YOU SAVE R3,30. BRING IN A FILM FOR DEVELOPING AND PRINTING YOU WILL GET A LARGE PHOTO ALBUM FOR 69c TO HOLD 100 PHOTOGRAPHS JUST BRING ALONG THIS VOUCHER FOR RUBBER STAMPING!

PRICES EXCL GST

**WITH EVERY SPOOL YOU BRING IN FOR DEVELOPING AND PRINTING**

TRANSPARENT SHEET,  
HOLDS PHOTOS IN  
PLACE  
without paste or corner  
mounts protects them  
from dust and fingermarks  
remove or rearrange  
photos easily whenever you  
wish

**MAXIMUM  
6 ALBUMS  
PER CUSTOMER**

RUBBER STAMP HERE	RUBBER STAMP HERE	RUBBER STAMP HERE
RUBBER STAMP HERE	RUBBER STAMP HERE	RUBBER STAMP HERE

(13) Mercury  
Gas blast

24/11/82  
Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—Three Post Office workers were seriously burned yesterday when gas exploded in the manhole outside the Johannesburg Municipal Gasworks in which they were working with a blow torch. A Post Office spokesman said Mr C Kruger, of Bernard Street, Triomf, Mr A Grove, of Die Oupad, in Florida and Mr Steven Monshasi, from Soweto, were working in Owl Street, Auckland Park.

nes for Ch

# Post Office workers hurt in manhole gas explosion

131 (268) ROM 24/12/82  
By ANN PALMER

THREE Post Office workers were taken to hospital yesterday after gas exploded in a manhole outside the Johannesburg Municipal Gasworks in Auckland Park

The men were working with a blowtorch when the explosion happened

The injured men were named as Mr C Kruger, of Bernard Street, Triomf, Mr A Grove, of Die Ou Pad, Flor-

ida, and Mr Steven Monshasi, from Soweto

The general manager of the gasworks, Mr Malcolm Woodroe, said staff had found no trace of a gas leak from the plant

The condition of Mr Kruger and Mr Monshasi was said by doctors last night to be satisfactory Mr Grove's condition was described as "quite serious"

● Picture Page 4

# Young man shocked to death while moving cash register

131

e  
e  
t  
y  
f  
-

By SHIRLEY PRESSLY

A PART-TIME worker at an hotel near Mossel Bay was shocked to death at the weekend when he moved a cash register

Mr Gysbert Kleyn, 20, of Linden, Johannesburg, was killed instantly. The freak accident took place at the Golden Rendezvous Motel on Christmas Day.

The Divisional Criminal Investigation Officer for the South Western Districts, Colonel J M Kriek, said six murders were reported at the weekend.

All the murders, which were fatal stabbings, with the exception of one in which a kerie was allegedly the murder weapon, took place on farms.

A woman pedestrian, Mrs Fransina Wagenaar, 40, of Groenvlei, Sedgfield, was knocked down and

killed while walking on the national road near Lake Pleasant on Christmas Eve.

A man is being held by police on a charge of arson after a house burnt to the ground in Bridgton, Oudtshoorn, at the weekend.

A pedestrian was mugged while walking home at Plettenberg Bay on Christmas Day. Mr J G Malan, 47, was robbed of his portable radio by two men. The radio was recovered by police and a man arrested.

Miss Christolene Isaac, 15, of Deyselsdorp, was killed early on Christmas Day when the car in which she was travelling overturned between Oudtshoorn and De Rust.

Two children from Port Elizabeth were killed when the car in which they were travelling overturned on the national road near

Misgund on Christmas Day.

One-year-old Bennett Christians and his sister, Charlene, four, of Skool Street, Bloemendal, were killed.

Two men from Leeugamka were killed when their vehicle collided with a truck on the Prince Albert Road on Christmas Eve. The victims were identified as Mr Cornelius Mouton, 55, and Mr Sarel Swarts, 26, both of Leeugamka.

One student was killed, four injured and one slightly injured when the microbus in which they were travelling overturned near Beaufort West today.

Col Kriek said the students were from the University of Stellenbosch. The name of the dead student could not be released until the next of kin had been informed.

# Christmas eve feast kills five labourers

**FIVE PEOPLE, including a year-old baby, from Paul Roux in the Orange Free State died at the weekend, after eating liver cooked in a tin containing a weed-killer police said yesterday.**

Major Victor Haynes of the police directorate in Pretoria said Mr Skow Vilakazi (42) and four girls aged one, two, seven and 16, died after eating the poisoned liver on Friday. Five other people were rushed to hospital for treatment and were discharged yesterday.

Major Haynes said, Mr Jurgens Human of Wildealsskop Farm had given his labourers sheep to slaughter on Friday morning. The labourers cooked the liver in a tin which presumably contained a weed-killer. The five people died during the night.

A 27-year-old police constable killed his wife and then fatally shot himself at Makgapane, Gazankulu, on Christmas day, police said yesterday.

Constable M E Mohale of Tzaneen fired

two shots at his wife, Erner Mohale (26) and then turned the gun on himself and shot himself through the head after an argument. They both died instantly.

The charred body of an unidentified person was found in a burnt-out car on a mine dump near City Deep, Germiston, on Friday at about 5am. Major Haynes said the body was found on the back seat of the car. The race and sex of the person has not yet been identified and no arrests have been made.

Mr Reginald Steenkamp, age and address unknown, is in a critical condition at the H F Verwoerd Hospital after being gunned down by an unidentified man at Boom Street, Pretoria on Sunday night.

Police said he left a gambling session at about 11pm and while walking down Boom Street, a man travelling in a white car approached and shot him in the stomach. He was rushed to hospital where he underwent an emergency operation. His

condition was yesterday described as serious. No arrests have been made.

A 25-year-old man, who together with a few others "gatecrashed" a labourer's party at Mr Charles Hamilton's farm near Hammanskraal, is at the Kalafong Hospital after being shot by the owner of the farm on Friday night.

After being informed that a group of people had invaded his plot and was causing a disturbance, Mr Hamilton took his shotgun and went to investigate. When he told the men to leave his premises one of them, Mr Bosman Matlhaba, allegedly charged at him with a hunting knife. Mr Hamilton shot him in the left upper leg. His condition is not serious.

Police are looking for two armed men who allegedly held a 31-year-old petrol attendant, Mr Abraham Matjila and robbed him of R237 in cash at Hammanskraal Motors on Christmas Day. Mr Matjila was allegedly approached by the two men on foot and about 11pm. He was injured.

# Parks employee killed when tree falls on him

S. Post

131

29/12/82

CAPE TOWN — A 61-year-old municipal parks superintendent died yesterday after a 10-metre bluegum tree he was sawing fell on him

Mr A N Campbell, parks superintendent for the Kraaifontein Municipality, was pinned underneath the tree when it dropped as he was sawing through its 60-centimetre diameter base.

Workmen with him on a tree-clearing operation next to municipal workshops in First Avenue, Kraaifontein, rushed to his aid

They lifted the tree off him and called an ambulance

A municipal spokesman said: "Mr Campbell was using a power saw when the tree toppled over and fell on him

"He was still breathing when the workmen lifted the tree, but his pulse was faint when the ambulance arrived."

Mr Campbell was taken to Tygerberg Hospital, but he was certified dead on arrival

"It was necessary to clear away the trees for proposed building extensions on the workshops," the spokesman said

Mr Campbell joined the municipality eight years ago — Sapa