

AGRICULTURE

LABOUR

1975 - 76

① ④  
② ~~123~~

SA. Jgix 4/4/75 p. 12.  
**FARM LABOUR LOANS SCHEME**

The loan scheme for the provision of housing for Coloured farm workers for the greater Western Province will be extended and improved to include the housing of all Black farm workers throughout South Africa, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr H. Schoeman, announced in Cape Town.

This had been decided as a result of representations by the South African Agricultural Union, the Minister said.

Loans available under the Agricultural Credit Act for the housing of farm workers would now be increased for farmers from R700 per unit up to R1 850 per unit. In addition, the loan scheme provides for the financing of water and electricity supply.

HANSLARD 5

Q. column 390  
7 March 1975.

4

**Bantu farm workers**

\*4. Mrs. H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

Whether an instruction has been given to officials in his Department to liaise with homeland governments in regard to the movement of Bantu farm workers from the White areas to the homelands; if so, (a) when was the instruction given and (b) what was its (i) purport and (ii) purpose.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU DEVELOPMENT:

No: (a) and (b) fall away

Officials are as a general rule, however, required to liaise with homeland governments regarding the settlement of Bantu in their respective homeland areas

HANWARD 5

Q. column 363-4.

4 March 1975

~~1-2609~~

Z. 4

Staff of Departments of Agriculture

\*32. Mr. G. S. BARTLETT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) How many persons of each race group are employed by the Departments falling under him;
- (2) how many (a) posts for agricultural extension officers are there on the establishment of his Departments and (b) of these posts are vacant

(The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Department	European	Bantu	Coloured	Asian
(a) Agricultural Economics and Marketing . . .	850	74	17	—
(b) Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure . . .	1 162	310	52	—
(c) Agricultural Technical Services . . .	5 968	4 704	736	34

(2) (a) Professional: 240.  
Technical: 458.

(b) Professional: 56.  
Technical: 53.

HANSARD 3 Q. column 158-159.  
18 February 1975.

1. 4  
~~2. 255~~

**Prisoners hired out as farm labourers** ✓

\*4. Mrs. H. SUZMAN asked the Minister of Prisons:

- (1) How many inspections were carried out during 1973 and 1974, respectively, into the condition of prisoners hired out as farm labourers;
- (2) whether conditions on any farms visited were found to be unsatisfactory; if so, (a) on how many farms and (b) what steps were taken by the Department to rectify the position;
- (3) whether permission to employ prisoners was withdrawn during these years; if so, in how many cases in each of these years

The MINISTER OF PRISONS:

- (1) 

1973	331
1974	356
- (2) Yes.
  - (a) 

1973	7
1974	6
  - (b) During 1973 the provision of prisoners on parole was permanently stopped in 3 cases and temporarily in 4 cases until the facilities have been improved. During 1974 the provision of prisoners on parole was permanently stopped in 3 cases and temporarily in 3 cases until the facilities have been improved.
- (3) Same as the reply to question 2 (b).

FM 7/2/75

(4)

are mainly Zulus.

Emphasis is being placed on cane-cutting, the aim being to turn it into a 'prestige job' being, as it is, a vital link. Cutters will now get a basic R1.75 a day (R45.50 a month) and other field labourers R1.25 (R32.50), with senior men getting about 30% more.

At the beginning of the current season cutters were paid a basic R1 a day and field workers 80c. SILO's December interim increase saw these edge up to R1.25 and R1 respectively, though wages paid by individual growers generally remained the same. With wages differing from farm to farm, labourers working for individual growers will now get an average extra 75c a day.

With bonus, which can be as much as basic wages, and food and accommodation provided, the earning equivalent of a good cutter is now reckoned to be anything between R100 and R120 a month.

Undoubtedly the size of the present hike has been prompted by the threat from the mines, though SA Cane Growers chairman John Chande is quick to point out wages have risen 25% a year the last three years and 'normal policy would have been to increase them again this year to compensate for inflation and to provide better living standards'.

All told the latest round of increases will total R15m. Until there's a new payment formula for millers and growers, which is only likely to be settled by about September, government has agreed 95% of the R15m can be added to the existing cane price, the extra amount coming from earnings which would otherwise have gone into the industry's price stabilisation fund.

## SUGAR INDUSTRY WAGES Topping the mines

While the Chamber of Mines exults over its success in recruiting Black labour since its December 1 wage increases, the sugar industry has overhauled its field wages as a defensive measure to safeguard against possible poaching by the mines.

Last December miller-planters, accounting for about 21% of all growing, through their sugar industry labour organisation (SILO), awarded slight increases when the battle with the mines' hotted up, though levels still lagged behind those of mines.

Now new scales, which will put a cane-cutter's basic wage slightly ahead of that of an underground mine worker, are to be introduced from April 1 by SILO and have been recommended by the SA Cane Growers' Association to all other growers.

Chief concern is to secure the continued support of Pondos, labour main-stay of the industry south of the Tugela. Apart from 20 000 a year recruited by SILO on 180-day contracts, thousands more work on a migratory basis for individual cane growers. North of the Tugela labourers



A better deal at last

# Farm labour talks'

## date is decided

By HOWARD LAWRENCE

FEBRUARY 27, 1975 is going to become a very important day for South Africa's Coloured farm labourers and their families.

On that day the South African Agricultural Union and various Government departments will be reviewing legislation relating to their living and working conditions.

The meeting, which will take place at Metlife Building — headquarters of the Department of Coloured Administration — will also be attended by Mr Solly Essop, CRC independent member for Bokkeveld.

Mr Essop has been one of the most consistent campaigners for farm labour reform in South Africa.

In a telephone interview from his Beaufort West home, Mr Essop said he was "delighted" with the invitation extended to him by the SA Agricultural Union to address them and make representations on behalf of farm labourers.

"The plight of the farm labourer and his family has been my obsession for many years," said Mr Essop, who is again standing as an independent for Bokkeveld in the March general CRC election.

Toward the end of the last session of Parliament, Mr Essop had talks with the Minister of Coloured Affairs and the Minister of Agriculture and shortly afterwards, the Government announced that it intended doing away with the Master and Servants Act, which had been the root cause of the shocking working and living conditions of farm labourers and domestic servants throughout the country.

The announcement also came at a time when European and British trade unions were threatening to introduce boycotts of South African produce and canned goods "because of the shocking conditions of Black

farm workers on South African farms". During my interview with him, Mr Essop said he had travelled 27 000 kilometres over the past three months and he had met and had discussions with the top officials of agricultural bodies all over the country.

"When I started out on that mission," Mr Essop said, "I had a very strong fear that I would meet with strong resistance to my proposals to have the whole farm labour situation drastically changed and brought into line with modern thinking on the matter."

"I was pleasantly surprised to discover that wherever I went farmers not only listened very intently to my pleas, but most agreed wholeheartedly with what I said."

Mr Essop said his talks with the farmers' organizations centred around a number of factors. The most important were wages, housing, annual leave, hours of work, medical care and training.

"I was very happy to note that some farmers have already begun implementing a number of the recommendations I made and which I will be making at the February 27 meeting in Cape Town," Mr Essop said.

Mr Essop said the main points of his recommendations are that farm labourers be given a "minimum" wage of R3 per day, that they work only an eight hour day — all time after that to be regarded as overtime and be paid for as such.

He wants farm workers and their families to be provided with medical aid, that their children be provided with transport to and from school "probably

with buses subsidized by the Department of Coloured Affairs" and he also wants farm workers who are permanent employees to be granted two weeks fully paid annual leave.

Mr Essop said these recommendations have met with widespread approval among farmers and officials of the various agricultural unions.

The only point on which farmers have shown strong resistance is Mr Essop's plea that farm workers be allowed to organize themselves into a trade union.

S.T.  
9/1/75  
Sunday Times 9/1/75

# Vaste oorleg oor plaaswerkers kom

DB- 7/11/74 Die Burger 7/11/74

AJC

Van Ons Politieke Redaksie

KAAPLAND se boere gaan voortaan op hoë vlak en deurlopend met Kleurlingleiers oorleg pleeg oor die lone en werktoestande van plaasarbeiders.

THE STAR JOHANNESBURG W

## Nats in a quandary on labour

• 20/11/74

**John Patten,**  
Political Correspondent  
Bloemfontein — Serious differences of approach within the National Party have come to light on the politically sensitive topics of Black farm labour and Government sports policy.

The Prime Minister, MR Vorster, who opens the congress officially tonight, is expected to make an important speech. This is sure to draw a huge crowd, probably overflowing the Bloemfontein City Hall.

### DIRECT CLASHES

There is speculation that Mr Vorster will refer to South Africa's position relating to the United Nations following her suspension from the world body.

As it is the first provincial congress he has addressed since the Parliamentary session, he is also expected to deal with

the country's internal political situation, South Africa's friendly moves towards Black Africa and homeland leaders' rejection of independence.

The Deputy Minister of Bantu Development, Mr Braam Raubenheimer, faces a tricky task in having to respond to no fewer than six resolutions — some of them clashing directly — on the question of Black farm labour.

In one resolution the Edenville division of the party calls on the Government to improve official measures for farmers to obtain labour from the homelands.

Yet the Signal Hill and Waverley divisions request the Government to speed homeland development "so that the homelands can form a greater magnet to pull surplus Bantu in the White areas to their own countries."

### "MONITOR" HIT

Five political divisions call for the Black farm labour issue to be debated in the light of the fact that "large numbers of farm Bantu are moving to the homelands, and from there go to work in the urban areas."

Positive measures to improve the working and living conditions of farm workers are noted in two resolutions, but these are counterbalanced by an almost unprecedented resolution hitting at the SABC's "Monitor" programme for conducting "misleading interviews over the wages of farm labourers."

Op die samesprekinge gister in Kaapstad tussen verteenwoordigers van die Kaaplandse Landbou-unie en 'n groep plattelandse lede van die Verteenwoordigende Kleurlingraad is besluit dat 'n gesamentlike landboukomitee vir dié doel gestig moet word.

Verhoudingskomitees in verskeie landdrosdistrikte, waardeur blanke en Kleurlingleiers oorleg sal kan pleeg, word ook in die vooruitsig gestel.

In gister se samesprekinge, onder die voorsitterskap van mnr. J. H. T. Mills, Sekretaris van Kleurlingbetrekkings, is besluit dat die gesamentlike komitee uit vyf lede van die Verteenwoordigende Kleurlingraad en vyf verteenwoordigers van die Kaaplandse Landbou-Unie moet bestaan.

en S. W. van der Merwe, sowel as sy sekretaris, adv. P. de Villiers, en mnr. G. Bosch van die sekretariaat.

Benewens die twee Federale L.K.R.'s wat lid van die afvaardiging was, mnre. L. Hollander en P. Smith, het mnre. T. Swartz, S. Cloete en P. Pietersen van die Uitvoerende Bestuur en senior amptenare die samesprekinge bygewoon.

### NET LEIDING

In 'n persverklaring wat op die beraad goedgekeur is, sê mnr. Mills dat die samesprekinge oor sake soos lone, huise, werkomstandighede, skoolgeriewe en beter opleiding gegaan het. Die Landbou-unie se verteenwoordigers het dit duidelik gestel dat die unie nie aan boere kan voorskryf nie, maar net leiding kan gee.

### MOSIE

Na verneem word, sal 'n mosie by die volgende sitting van die Verteenwoordigende Kleurlingraad ingedien word om verteenwoordigers in die komitee te benoem. Dit is onseker of die steun van die Arbeidersparty verkry sal word, maar die moontlikheid is nie uitgesluit nie.

Gister se afvaardiging van L.K.R.'s was onder die leiding van 'n Onafhanklike, mnr. Solly Essop van Beaufort-Wes. In die afvaardiging was twee lede van die Arbeidersparty, mnre. B. Savahl en D. Loubser. 'n Derde Arbeider, mnr. G. J. Fortuin, L.K.R. vir Breërivier, het gister weggebly, hoewel hy lid was van die afvaardiging wat op 8 Oktober twee Ministers oor die probleme van plaaswerkers gespreek het.

Die Kaaplandse Landbou-unie is verteenwoordig deur mnre. G. van Zyl (voorsitter), J. Jooste (ondervoorsitter), J. Krone, P. van Zyl, J. T. Nel

\* VERVOLG OP BL. SEWE \*



**Better**

12/19/74  
C.T.  
deal

**likely**

**for farm**

**workers**

Cape Times Correspondent

PRETORIA. — South Africa's one million farm labourers are likely to get greater social security, better working conditions and wages following the publication next week of a document prepared by the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU).

The document is intended as a guide to farmers and includes recommendations for the payment of old-age pensions, and paid holidays.

The director of the SAAU, Mr Chris Gilliers, said in Pretoria yesterday that he disagreed with the Progressive Party MP for Houghton, Mrs Helen Suzman, who said in Parliament this week that farm wages were "very low" compared with wages in other sectors.

This, Mr Gilliers, said, was a sweeping statement not borne out by the facts.

In general the pay conditions of farm workers compare well with conditions in the urban areas."

# THE CAPE TIMES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1974

## Farm wages

THE vehemence with which both Government and United Party speakers attacked Mrs Helen Suzman in the Assembly this week for daring to question the adequacy of farm wages was unedifying. It gave the impression that she had touched on a raw nerve. Excessive protestations to the contrary only seemed to confirm the existence of a feeling of guilt. Yet, as the member for Houghton conceded, many farmers did pay good wages. It was the average wage, as revealed in a farm census, that appeared to be shockingly low. For this reason she called for an inquiry into the conditions of South African farm workers—last investigated 35 years ago. A reasonable enough request! The spotlight tends to focus on the economic plight of urban Blacks, to the exclusion of about three million Africans and many thousands of Coloured people who work and live on White farms.

One would have expected some eagerness, on the official Opposition's side at least, for the detailed information that such an inquiry would undoubtedly elicit. Instead, members acted as if they

had been personally insulted. One after the other they exculpated themselves, farmers as well as non-farmers. They quoted instances of how well farm labourers were treated. One member even brandished his own documents in the House, saying he was not ashamed to show them to anybody. But nobody was accusing him, or any other farmer-MP for that matter. Personal protestations did not explain the low average. The fact is that all the members who attacked Mrs Suzman's proposal were themselves representative of the people who pay farm wages, not the ones who are paid. It was a matter of the employers patting themselves on the back and being judges in their own case.

As for the Minister of Agriculture regretting that Mrs Suzman did not have more "humanity" for the White farmers, they hardly need hers with so many politicians springing gallantly to their defence. Quite rightly the member for Houghton reserved her humanity for a huge group of workers who do not enjoy parliamentary representation and are in many cases paid, on available statistical evidence, a paltry wage.

## Farm wages disgraceful

FIRST of all industry and commerce increased the wages of Blacks then the mines, and now the farmers have followed suit. Mrs. Helen Suzman, Progressive Party MP for Houghton, was right when she said in Parliament this week that an in-depth inquiry into the wages and living conditions of Black and Coloured farm labourers was needed urgently. The last inquiry was held 35 years ago. There were more than a million African labourers on White-owned farms in South Africa, she said, and they had more than two-million dependants — but nobody seemed to care much about them. There were also tens of thousands of Coloured farm labourers. On an average, she said, farm labourers were paid R135 a year in cash and kind. The average cash pay was R7.50 a month. This is disgraceful. No society which calls itself civilized can pay human beings such starvation wages. Even the Sabc, in a recent programme, felt impelled to draw attention to the wages of Black farm workers, while another investigation, undertaken by a newspaper in Natal, revealed horrifying facts.

## 11 familieplase in gedrang

# Brandvlei: groot

Agre

## kommer

GROOT kommer is gister by die jaarlikse kongres van die Suid-Afrikaanse Landbou-unie uitgespreek oor die onteining van landbougrond vir uitbreidingsaan die Brandvlei-gevangenis naby Worcester.

Maar in die bespreking het die Minister van Landbou daarop gewys dat boere partykeer ook meewerk dat so iets gebeur deur uit hul eie hul grond te kom aanbied indien die prys goed genoeg is.

In 'n beskrywingspunt, ingedien deur die Kaaplandse en die Transvaalse Landbou-unie, is die kongres gevra om, met die oog op die beperkte hoeveelheid produktiewe landbougrond, die staat te vra dat gekoördineerde beplanning gedoen en 'n grondige ondersoek-deur alle betrokke owerthede ingestel word voordat grond vir nie-landboudoeleindes aangekoop en onteien word, en dat die landbou-organisasie ook geraadpleeg word.

Mnr. J. A. Jooste van die Kaaplandse Landbou-unie het in die bespreking gesê grond behoort net onteien te word as daar geen alternatiewe grond met 'n laer landboupotensiaal beskikbaar is nie.

Mnr. D. J. Bosman van die Transvaalse Landbou-unie het gesê dat die stelsel van oopgroefnyne in die noorde van die land 'n groot sondaar is op die gebied van vernieling van landbougrond.

### OORSTROOM

Mnr. G. van Zyl, voorsitter van die Kaaplandse Landbou-unie, het pertinent verwys na die onteining van grond vir uitbreidingsaan die Brandvlei-gevangenis. Die tronk, het hy gesê, moet nou verskuif word omdat die plek waar dit gebou is, oorstrom gaan word deur die water van 'n nuwe opgaardam. Elf familieplase is hier in die gedrang, asook 'n wynkelder wat deur die gemeenskap se produksie aan die gang gehou word, en 'n plaasskool.

Die tronk sal 1 200 gewan-genes huiswes. Dit beskik reeds oor 342 ha, en wil nou

bougrond dan ook daar laat besef, is om hulle 'n onteien sal word. Hy het beweer dat dit nie die boere is wat agter só 'n plan skuil nie, maar ander instansies wat meer mense na die gebied wil lok.

Mnr. Hendrik Schoeman, Minister van Landbou, het hierop gesê dat Suid-Afrika verdeel jaer tussen 25 000 en 30 000 ha grond verloor het weens die bou van snelweë en dorps- en stadsuitbreidings. Hy het dit beklemtoon dat voedselbehoefes. Sy mening oor die aspek is dat daar op die markte vir die tronke gekoop kan word, en dat die gewangenes beskikbaar gestel word aan die boere.

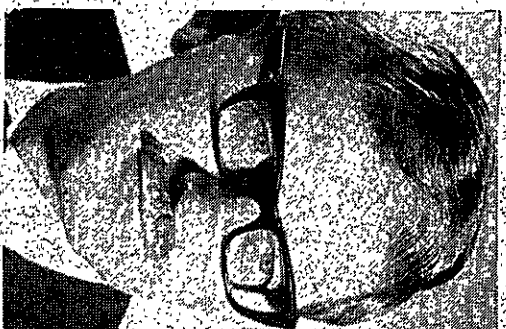
„Ek dink die enigste manier om ons mense die erns van hierdie situasie te laat besef, is om hulle 'n slag te laat honger by. Hy het gesê daar word aan-gewoer dat die gewangenes in tronke besig gehou moet word, en dat die tronke self voorsienend moet wees in hul voedselbehoefes. Sy mening oor die aspek is dat daar op die markte vir die tronke gekoop kan word, en dat die gewangenes beskikbaar gestel word aan die boere.

Hy het dit beklemtoon dat Suid-Afrika nie heeltemal kan keer dat hy van sy landbougrond verloor nie, want stede en dorpe mót gebou word, en die steeds groeiende bevolking mót gehuisves word. Maar dan moet die landbousektor self help en toesien dat die oorblywende grond tot die absolute maksimum benut word, al kos dit ook meer.

Mnr. Schoeman het daarop gewys dat die boere ook nie altyd self heeltemal sonder baaam is in sulke situasies



MNR. GIEPIE VAN ZYL



MNR. SCHOEMAN

nie. Hy het verwys na gevalle waar daar algemene verset teen 'n voorgenome onteining is, maar waar individuele boere dan stillejies na sy departement kom en hul grond kom aanbied omdat die prys wat met onteining aangebied is, te aanloklik is.

Hy het die kongres belowe dat hy hierdie saak verder sal voer.

DIE moontlikheid is gister by die jaarlikse kongres van die Suid-Afrikaanse Landbou-unie genoem dat alle landbou-opleiding deur uitbreidingsaan die Brandvlei-gevangenis moet word, sodat die personeel van landboukolleges meer geteelde beskikbaar sal wees vir kort kursusse vir boere.

In 'n beskrywingspunt wat deur die Vrystaatse Landbou-unie ingedien is, word gevra dat die kongres die noodsaaklikheid moet beklemtoon van doelgerigte landbou-opleiding op skool, landboukolleges en universiteite sodat daar nie net voorsiening gemaak word vir die opleiding van wetenskaplikes nie, maar ook om skaplik te verskaf vir boere van die laagste tot die hoogste vlak.

In 'n ander beskrywingspunt wat baie heimee saamval word deur die Suidwes-Afrikaanse en die Natalse

Landbou-unie gevra dat dit gend aandag gegee word aan die redes hoekom so min studente hulle as vakknudiges en tegniese beamptes bekwaam, en hoekom reeds opgeleide beamptes die diens verlaat.

Sprekers het hier gewys op die groot verskille tussen die salarisse van opgeleide vakknudiges, op landbougebied en ander sektore, en dit genoem as moontlike oorsaak dat mense uit die landbou padgee.

Mnr. Hendrik Schoeman, Minister van Landbou, het hierop gesê dit het tyd geword dat daar erkenning gegee word aan landbounavorsers wat dit hul lewenssaak gemaak het om in diens van die landbou te staan en diens selfs groot aanbiedings uit ander oorde van die hand wys sodat hulle in die landbou kan bly.

# OPLERDING VAN BOERRE

# Fears on SA farm labour 'imbalance'

The Argus Bureau

12/10/74

ARGUS

PRETORIA. — A State farming mechanisation authority is disturbed at what he terms the imbalance of an excessive rural labour force, in spite of the growing mechanisation of South Africa's agriculture.

He blames this situation largely on farmers untrained to employ their farm machinery to best effect and apply their labour so that it is an asset and not an economic cross.

The authority is Mr J. J. Bruwer, director of agricultural engineering in the Department of Agricultural Technical Services.

He expresses his misgivings in the Journal of Racial Affairs, published by the SA Bureau for Racial Affairs.

## HOMELANDS

Mr Bruwer sees farm mechanisation as a unique opportunity whereby non-White workers on White farms can gain farming knowledge, be able to be replaced and repatriated to the homelands, and take with them the knowledge gained to be put to the benefit of their own people.

But training for farmers was vital to the success of farm mechanisation, he said. It appeared as if farming was destined to be the preserve of early school-leavers.

Agricultural faculties at universities were experiencing a sharp downturn in student numbers, and although numbers at agricultural colleges were reasonably constant, this reflected a downturn in the light of growing demands on the farming sector.

The educational level of the current farming farm population was in no sense rosy.

## COMMISSION

The commission of inquiry into agriculture found in 1960 that only six percent of farmers had a matric or higher educa-

tion, 15 percent had higher than standard 8 and 79 percent had an educational level lower than Standard 8.

Mr Bruwer said that no

nation could afford to have its farmers tackle the great challenges of complicated agricultural practice without the necessary knowledge.

# Schoeman on labour changes

5-TAR 20/9/74

Pretoria Bureau

Big changes in the pattern of Black farm labour, brought about suddenly, would greatly disrupt agricultural production and would not be in the interests of the workers, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Schoeman, said in Pretoria today.

He was addressing the congress of the South African Bureau of Racial Affairs (SABRA) on Black labour in the farming sector.

Mr Schoeman said much emphasis was being laid on the importance of good relationships between White and Black. Those who lived on farms would, however, testify that this had long been observed by most White farm families, who encouraged such relationships among their children.

Black and White families were linked in their favourable and unfavourable life circumstances. A high value was attached to courtesy and mutual regard, especially by the young towards the aged, and this regard for age went further in that aged farm workers were able to retire and be cared for on the farm for as long as they lived.

Farm work was the oldest form of employment for the Blacks in South Africa, and had also sunk deep roots in the pattern of White farming. For

this reason it would be obviously unwise to precipitate big changes in the pattern.

A Pretoria University economist, Professor P J van der Merwe, sketched future possibilities in Black labour relationships, ranging from maintenance of the present situation to fully integrated trade unions, with a number of halfway stages.

He felt inclined towards trade union rights for "established" Black workers in the White areas, with or without homeland trade union rights for contract workers, depending on the views of homeland governments.

Irrespective of this, labour agreements with the homeland governments appeared to be an absolute necessity.

# TODAY: new hope for

Tribune Reporter

**THE MASTER AND SERVANTS ACT** — which places farm workers and domestic servants outside the protection afforded by the Industrial Conciliation Act — might be scrapped during the current parliamentary session.

This was learned after a deputation of Labour Party, Federal Party and independent members of the Coloured Persons Representative Council met with the Minister of Coloured Affairs, Dr Schalk van der Merwe, and the Minister of Labour, Mr Marais Viljoen, in Cape Town this week.

The deputation, led by Mr Solly Essop, independent Coloured Representative Council member for Bokkeveld, discussed with the ministers the plight of the farm labourers and also the working conditions of semi-skilled and unskilled worker on the platteland.

The deputation members described the talks as a "great success" and a "step in the right direction," but would not discuss details.

It was learned, however, that Dr Schalk van der Merwe told the deputation that certain old laws — like the Master and Servants Act — would be repealed.

This is the legislation that has provoked its strongest critics into describing it as the 'Slaves Act'.

After the meeting Dr Schalk van der Merwe said that the talks had been fruitful and positive steps were foreseen. He confirmed that the Master and Servants Act had been discussed.

Dr van der Merwe said that a meeting between the Cape Agricultural Union and a Coloured Representative Council deputation would consider the position of Coloured farm labourers.

Deputation members had promised to give evidence before the Theron Commission.

Other matters discussed included wages for semi-skilled and unskilled workers in the platteland, the problem of people leaving the rural areas for the cities, industrial decentralisation and medical facilities for farm labourers.

Mr Essop said it had been the Master and Servants Act which prompted him to ask for a meeting with the ministers.

## Arrested

About a month ago, a man who had been working on a farm in Swellendam left the farm after giving notice to take up a better position in Beaufort West.

The employer lodged a complaint that the man had absconded and the police arrested him in Beaufort West and escorted him back to Swellendam.

"This act is completely out of date and reduces farm workers to mere slaves. It is the root of more than half the problems facing the farm workers and I feel that it

## WHAT IT SAYS

FARM LABOURERS and domestic servants are not covered by the Industrial Conciliation Act which lays down conditions of work and the minimum rate of pay. Their work is governed by the Master and Servants Acts of 1856 to 1889, a piece of colonial legislation which reduces them to mere chattles.

Under these archaic laws it is a criminal offence for a labourer to desert his job. This is punishable by imprisonment. Under the Acts:

- No minimum wages are laid down.

- No fixed hours of work is stipulated.

- Female labourers can be dismissed if they marry or fall pregnant.

- Children under the age of 16 can be employed.

- Notice of termination of service can be refused by the employer.

should be scrapped," he said.

Mr George Fortuin, Labour Party spokesman on rural affairs who was also on the deputation, said that the ministers were sympathetic and agreed changes had to come.

## No relief

Mr Fortuin told the ministers that the farm workers were living and working under "terrible conditions" and even after five years of fighting for their cause in the CRC they had still not received relief.

# 1856 'SLAVE ACT' TO GO

*Agri.*

# Shackled...

# and for life

LIN MENCE

RDM  
7/9/74

Agnes

LAST FRIDAY Mr Vorster said of the United Party: "They talk constantly about the urban Bantu but the Bantu who finds himself in the rural areas and on the farms get little or no attention from them."

Mr Vorster is of course right. The Opposition should look at the position of farm labour. They could start by looking at what a Cape Bantu Administration Affairs Board (BAAB) official had to say on the subject to a farmers' association meeting this week.

Mr Dennis Bush, who is the regional director of the Cape Midlands BAAB, is reported to have told the Carisle Bridge Farmers' Association: "As the law stands, a Black person born in a rural community remains classified as a farm labourer for the rest of his days. Regardless of whether he has matric or even a higher educational qualification".

In the homelands there was "terrific scope for people with some qualification," but farm labourers should not expect to be allowed to move to White towns and more skilled jobs, he said. Partly as a result of complaints by many farmers about labour shortages, it was the board's policy to

check migration from rural areas by not registering any more rural Africans as city workers.

A farm labourer who disappeared could be traced through the labour bureau and he would not be registered in an urban area unless he had a letter from the farmer releasing him and also allowing him to return when he had finished a contract in town.

"Even a man who is unfit for farm work could not strictly speaking get work in town. But for humane reasons, we try to fix him up with something," Mr Bush said.

If there was surplus labour on a farm the board would arrange to place workers in rural areas where there was a shortage. When his board had its full quota of inspectors they would take a census of employed and unemployed farm labour and then the excess could be sent where they were needed. Unfortunately there was a shortage of inspectors.

Inquiries from a variety of other BAAB officials and a Bantu Administration Department spokesman confirmed that as the various boards take over control of rural labour in their areas, the policy will be to keep farm labour on the farms —

although the niceties of interpretation of the regulations may differ.

One official said: "I wouldn't say a man had to be a farm labourer for ever — I don't think you can actually say that." Another said the problem of an educated man wanting to leave a farm would be his family. Without him they would be squatters — with him they would be unlikely to obtain housing legally in town.

And another could not see why a man unfit for farm work should be fixed up somewhere else. "There's always light work on a farm," he said.

So maybe Mr Bush is too hard for some, too soft for others.

But Opposition spokesmen who look at the farm labour scene will not be concerned with niceties. They will just say something very unparliamentary about Black slave labour.

And then they would be right. Granted there is a farm labour shortage, as there is a BAAB inspector shortage, a Post Office technical shortage, and other public service shortages. But there is no law which prevents all public servants and their offspring from ever being anything else.

5 SUBSIDIE OP LENINGS

## Behuisings kros

### boer meer

Agnes (line)

10,974 Die

BURGER

E. C. MALAN, Middelpos, Welington, skryf:

Na aanleiding van Van Alle Kante in Die Burger van 28 Augustus, waarin André Rossouw aantyginge teen die boeregemonstasie maak wat nie onder regsstelling verhygelaat kan word nie, wil ek die volgende feite aangande behuising op plase verstreke:

Dit is vir die individuele boer baie duurder om 'n arbeidshuis te bou as vir 'n openbare higgam wat 'n behuisingprojek op werkljk groot skaal aanpak. Die normale driekamerhuis, volgens minimum-spesifikasies deur 'n bou-aannemer gebou, kos die boer in die omgewing van R1 500, terwyl openbare instansies, volgens baie omlangse gegewens, 'n huis volgens effens swakker spesifikasies vir ongeveer R500 kan bou vanweë hul groot bedingingsmag om boumateriale teen die laagste pryse te bekom en self te vervaardig.

### KEUSE

Verder word hierdie goedkoper huisvesting gewoonlik deur die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou gefinansier teen uiters lae rentekoerse, wat wissel van ¼ tot 1½ persent, met lenings wat vir 'n lang termyn beskikbaar is. Daarteenoor het die boer 'n keuse tussen twee moontlikhede: hy kan die huis self finansier met geld wat hom tussen 10 en 14 persent aan rente kos, of hy kan die baie onaanneemlike alternatief kies van 5 persent rente ná buitengewoon baie omslagtigheid en navrae. Nie elke boer is bereid om persoonlike

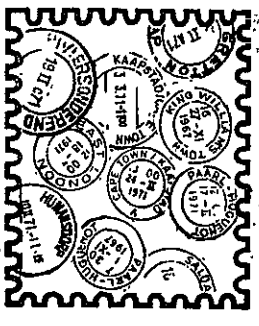
like komitee te openbaar ter wille van geringe geldelike bystand nie, en gevolglik die swak belangstelling in hierdie soort finansiering.

In die geval van 'n behuisingprojek is die koste van gratis behuising dus so laag soos die somtoetal van die uiters lae rente van sê 1 persent op R500 = R5, plus 'n delingspaaiement van 4 persent vir 'n delingsydeperk van 25 jaar, wat neerkom op 'n bedrag van R25 per jaar, of ongeveer R2 per maand.

Hierteenoor sal gratis huisvesting die boer baie meer kos as ons dieselfde basis van berekening gebruik. In die geval van eie finansiering kan dit bereken word as die rente van sê 12 persent op R1 500, plus die ooreenstemmende delging, wat neerkom op R240 per jaar, of wel R20 per maand. Met landboukrediet-finansiering sal dit neerkom op R135 per jaar of R11 per maand, wat reeds veel meer is as die "stuk of twee of drie rand per maand", aldus mr. Rossouw.

Hierby kom nog die normale instandhoudings- en

## MENINGS VAN ONS LESERS



herstelkoste, wat boere nog nooit oor hul hart kon kry om van hul getroue plaasboeders te verhaal nie.

Ten opsigte van die gratis vuurmaakhout en water, waarna mnr. Rossouw kleinrend verwyrs: die boer se waterpomp, opgaardam, pype, houtsaie en sleepwaens werk altemins verniet of sonder styfaste.

Volgens mnr. Rossouw kom die versoek om subsidiëring van behuising neer op "geld verniet kry". Dit strook nie met my kennis en ondervinding nie, want 'n subsidie is juis bystand of deelse vergoeding wat deur die staat verleen word nadat prestasie volgens spesifikasies deur die individu gelewer en uit sy eie sak gefinansier is. Dit geld veral waar 'n saak meer van individuele as van nasionale belang is, maar die geldelike las te swaar is vir die individu om alleen te dra.

Nou is dit interessant om daarop te let dat die genoemde lae rentekoerse op lenings van die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou reeds gesubsidieer word tot voordeel van die stedelike werke-

5	5.0	3
5	12.4	25.0
4	10.8	2.1

Africa.

(Die brief is gestryf voordat die Regering nuwe teenwings in hierdie verband aangekomdig het.)

# Stappe gevra om werkers te behou

DIE staat en die boeregemeenskap self moet dringend stappe doen om te voorkom dat al hoe meer plaaswerkers padgee. S6 lui 'n beskrywingspunt wat ingedien sal word op die jaarlikse kongres van die Kaaplandse Landbou-Unie wat vandag in Port Elizabeth begin.

Die beskrywingspunt is ingedien deur die Karoo-Landbou-Unie, en daarin word die Regering gevra om dringend uitsluitel te gee oor die aanbevelinge van die Kommissie van Ondersoek na Kleurling-plaasarbeid vir sover dit huisvesting van

plaaswerkers betref. Daar word ook gevra dat dringende aandag verleen word aan die verskaffing van onderwysgeriewe vir bruin kinders op plase, en dat Bantoe-kindere in die groter Wes-Kaapland ook dié skole moet kan bywoon as hul getalle geen eie skool regverdig nie.

vestig. Die unie vra ook dat die kongres hom ten sterkste uitspreek teen die beskikbaarstelling van verdere landbougrond vir die ontwikkeling van die Bantoe-tuislande in Oos-Kaapland.

Die Suid-Kaaplandse Landbou-Unie gaan in 'n beskrywingspunt o.m. vra dat seuns sowel as meisies by skole geleer word om te skiet, dat die weerbaarheidsprogramme uitgebou word en dat verdere Burgerlike Beskermingskolleges soos dié op George gestig word met die oog op die toenemende terrorisgevaar.

## GROND

In 'n ander beskrywingspunt word gevra dat die staat so spoedig moontlik aandui watter plase nog in Oos-Kaapland nodig sal wees met die oog op die konsolidasie van die Transkei. In dié beskrywingspunt vra die Noordoos-Kaaplandse Landbou-Unie dat waar grond nodig is vir dié doel, daar nie met die aankopery gesloer moet word nie, omdat jong boere hulle weer so gou moontlik elders moet gaan

## BENADEEL

Die Karoo-Landbou-Unie is bekommer oor die sosiaal-ekonomiese uitwerking wat die televisiediens op landelike gebiede kan hê as dit op 'n gebiedsgrondslag ingestel word, en vra dat aandag daaraan geskenk word om die televisiediens só in te stel dat geen gebied in Suid-Afrika daardeur benadeel sal word nie.

Die Oos-Landbou-Unie gaan ook vra dat 'n inkomstebelastingstelsel wat gegrond is op die Maatskappywet vir boere ingestel moet word wat sal rekening hou met die werklikheid van die landboubedryf. Die stelsel van individuele belasting hou nádele in vir die boere, word gesê.

# BOERE MOET WERKERS BETER OPLEI

Van Ons Spesiale Verteenwoordiger WORCESTER.

HOEWEL arbeid die belangrikste faktor in die landbouproduksie in Suid-Afrika is, het baie boere nog 'n onverskillige houding teenoor die opleiding van hul plaasarbeiders, het mnr. Albert Basson, voorsitter van die Suid-Afrikaanse Landbou-Unie, gister op Worcester gesê.

Mnr. Basson was die spreker op 'n kongres wat die opleiding en beter benutting van plaasarbeid bespreek het. 'n Groot aantal boere het die kongres bygewoon, wat deur die Adviesraad van die Kromme Rhee-opleidingsentrum vir plaasarbeiders in oorleg met die Bolandse Landbou-Unie gereël is.

Hy het daarop gewys dat geen ander Westerse land 'n groter arbeidspotensiaal (veral ten opsigte van die landbou-sektor) het as Suid-Afrika nie. Tog is ons land se landbouarbeidsmark van die swakste ter wêreld.

Mnr. Basson het gesê arbeid maak in sommige van die afdelings van die landbou tot 32 persent van die totale produksiekoste uit. In die skaapbedryf was dit in 1971 ongeveer 23 persent en in die vrugtebedryf meer as 25 persent.

Hy het 'n dringende beroep op boere gedoen om meer aandag aan die opleiding van

hul plaasarbeiders te skenk. „Ons moes reeds baie van ons beste manne aan ander sektore afstaan,” het hy gesê.

Prof. W. E. Kassier, hoogleraar in landbou-ekonomie aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, het boere skerp aangeval oor hul houding teenoor die plaasarbeiders. „Die boer moet optree soos dit 'n opgevoede mens betaam,” het hy gesê.

Prof. Kassier het voorgestel dat die boer die werker se hele salaris in kontant betaal. Hy meen dat die arbeider baie meer tevrede sal wees met kontant as met die kos, klere en ander artikels wat sommige boere aan hulle gee.

Vroeërvandeesweek is daar ook soortgelyke kongresse op Caledon en Citrusdal gehou. Die noodsaaklikheid van plaasarbeid in 'n gemeganiseerde landboubedryf en die benutting van die opgeleide arbeider is onder meer op dié kongresse bespreek.

# SO WIT EN TOG SO SWART

*AS*  
*Ret*  
*25/8/79*

DIE Vrystaat is teoreties die witste provinsie omdat hy so min Bantoegebiede het. Tog is die Vrystaatse platteland die swartste in die land.

Syfers oor die onrusbarende toename van swart werkers op die plase is só erg, het Adjunk-minister Braam Raubenheimer verlede naweek in Bloemfontein gesê, dat hy dit liever nie saamgebring het nie.

„Dis darem nie goeie maniere om die Vrystaters met sulke swak syfers te konfronteer nie,” het hy op die jaarkongres van die sentrale jeugbestuur van die Vrystaatse Nasionale Party gesê.

Is dit nie verbasend nie, dat die provinsie wat homself graag beskryf as die behoudendste in die land, só min omgee vir die blankheid van sy blanke gebiede?

Vrystaters kla ook bitter gou as hulle van hul swart werkers verloor. Op kongresse hoor jy dikwels die treurmare dat swartes na die tuislande gelok word — waar hulle eintlik hoort.

Mnr. Raubenheimer het vertel hy moes onlangs boere van Bèthlehem wat kla dat al hoe meer van hul werkers Witsieshoek toe wegloop, gaan kalmeer.

Waarom is die posisie in die Vrystaat so sleg?

Een van die redes wat mnr. Raubenheimer noem, is dat swart arbeid „ontsettend swak” gebruik word, m.a.w. dat die produktiwiteit baie laag is.

’n Ander rede is dat baie blankes té gerus en gemak-sugtig is.

Interessant dat een van die eerste politiek „betrokke” gedigte na aanleiding van apartheid o.m. juis oor die verswarting van die platteland gaan.

N. P. van Wyk Louw se in Nuusberigte: 1956” (in *Tristia*) o.m. die volgende:

„boer wat vandag in die stad boer en Geloftedae vier

(soos daaglikse sondes) vier

die oorwinning van Dingaan se impi's: die impi's

wat nou op die plaas in die Ou-Huis woon,

die peerboom afkap, die laning opbrand

sodat die baas (nog tydelik) met vier beskikbare motors

tussen cocktailpaartie en direkteursvergadering

ons grootste volkswil kan leef en uit leef

en dan behoortlik (wetti, of anders) opgedoe word.”

’n Paar dekades geleed, het verskillende volksleiers gesê die Afrikaner moet die stad verower. Moet ons nie darem ten minste probeer om die platteland te behou nie?

Soos Die Volksblad die week in ’n hoofartikel na aanleiding van mnr. Raubenheimer se toespraak skryf: „As afsonderlike ontwikkeling ten opsigte van die Vrystaat moet misluk, het dit geen hoop om onder blankes érens in die land te slaag nie.”

# Labourers: Govt gets warning

Port Elizabeth — Labour Party representatives who met the Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, and top Government officials on Monday, warned that unless the lot of Coloured farm labourers was improved within a year, it would call on the British Trade Union Council to ensure that none of its unions handled any South African produce.

This was disclosed by the Rev Alan Hendrickse, national chairman of the Labour Party, at a packed meeting in Gelvandale last night when members of the party's team, who conferred with Mr Vorster, reported back to party supporters.

He said Mr Vorster's reply was that he would not be threatened by anyone.

"His whole attitude was one of take it or leave it. When we tried to discuss certain principles, he would ask for an example of what we meant. So we give an example, enabling him conveniently to lose

sight of the principle," said Mr Hendrickse.

"We want citizenship. But we must not place all our hope in negotiation with the White people.

"South Africa must remember that while those of my generation are prepared to talk, our children will not be prepared to do so," said Mr Hendrickse.

He said Mr Vorster had been told the whole country's productivity was being impeded by separate development.

Mr David Curry, deputy leader, said Mr Vorster had challenged the feelings of the Coloured people.

Speaking on freedom of the Press, Mr Curry said newspapers could do nothing to incite Coloured people. "Government policy does it all the time. The Group Areas Act is incitement to us."—Sapa.

# NATS HIT AT FARM WORKER SURVEYS

By JOHN GROGAN

SURVEYS into the conditions of farmworkers by the Sunday Tribune and the SABC came under fire at yesterday's Natal Nationalist Congress in Durban.

The party's provincial vice-chairman, Mr Pieter van Rooyen, told about 250 delegates that the surveys were "one-sided and untrue."

"If the 700 000 farm labourers and their families are really unhappy with their conditions of service and pay, they are quite free to move; they aren't slaves."

Mr van Rooyen said tribute should be paid to White farmers for "averting a mass of unrest" by preventing thousands of Blacks flocking to the cities.

"I'm not saying wages cannot be improved but I can tell you our farm labourers are happy — that's why they are there."

The congress unanimously re-elected all its office bearers in Natal, but no decision has yet been made on a replacement for Senator Nico Pretorius, who leaves the post of provincial secretary.

The new Minister of Indian Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, paid a whistle-stop visit to the congress and exhorted South Africans "to put in an extra hour's work a day to help fight inflation."



**Staff Reporter**

Black wages and working conditions in South Africa are today a delicate, even emotive, issue. The ripples of the Guardian probe of Black pay in industry last year are still coming ashore.

Given this, it was surprising and enterprising that the SABC Afrikaans programme, Monitor, should have waded into this troubled water. It did so in a series of interviews by telephone with farmers throughout South Africa on the edgy

motion condemning the SABC for the programme, but this was ruled out of order.

What the farmers are doing is expressing anger at the opinions of their fellow farmers who were interviewed. The SABC interviewees did not attempt to evaluate or interpret what the farmers had to say.

Nevertheless this was judged "irresponsible" of the SABC by most farmers at the TAU congress.

The programme had started fires we and the Government will have to extinguish later," said Mr-

**"We will see that justice is done."**  
— Zoutspanberg farmer.

question of Black farm-workers' pay, conditions and fringe benefits.

It was probably less surprising that Monitor should have run smack into a broadside of angry protest from farmers claiming that survey was limited and unrepresentative of the farming community.

**Out of order**

Mr Chris Gilliers, director of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU), was given something of a hero's welcome for his reply when he turned up at the Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) congress at Silverton on Tuesday. The irate farmers wanted to push through a

Jaap Wilkens, vice president of both SAAU and TAU, in phrasing that has ominous overtones.

Mr J J Prinsloo, chairman of TAU's Bantu Affairs Commission, saw the whole thing rebounding in the United Nations.

**Justice**

A Zoutspanberg farmer wanted Black labour left alone: "We will see to it that justice is done to them," he said — without saying why it had been lacking up to now.

Marthin Darling, of Settlers, was forthright: "I must be honest with myself. The Bantu cannot live on the wages I pay him. If I pay him wages he can live on, I won't be able to live myself."

The Monitor interviews revealed a wide variation in pay, conditions, and concepts of responsibility by farmers for their workers.

This spectrum swung from a Natal farmer who paid no cash wages but allowed Africans to live on his farm, plough some land, and graze their animals in reward for work to a Transvaal vegetable farmer who paid unschooled labourers R16 a month, gave free housing with electricity, two baled meals a day cooked under supervision of a white matron, and tea breaks with snacks.

His clerical staff receive from R70 to R120 a month, annual bonuses and merit increases up to 30 percent, and 14 days leave with unrestricted sick leave.

A Natal wattle and sugar cane farmer rewards ordinary labourers in

**"If I pay him wages he can live on, I can't live myself." — Settlers farmer.**

grazing and ploughing rights but pays casual workers for piece-work — a wattle bark stripper gets R40 to R48 a month.

He is allowed an acre for gardening — not enough to provide all the food his family needs in a year but "a great help."

This farmer found labour easy to get, but he said others were not so

lucky. He went on to claim that some farmers expected farmhands to work for "a mere song" and were "inhuman"

towards them. A Transvaal crop farmer pays his labourers R5 a month, but gives them land and 40 bags of maize after the crop is in. He says they prefer to get their wages in a lump sum annually.

They are each allowed to keep two cows and receive daily meat and maize meal rations. They sell some of their planted maize and calves and all this pushes up their total

monthly income to about R146. Women and children could add an extra R15.

An Eastern Cape farmer, declining to detail cash wages, listed fringe benefits for R30 annually, blankets for R30, a month, one head of small stock each a month plus housing, and medical help.

His labourers were "very satisfied." Some had worked for him for 15 years.

A Cape wine farmer, with 35 coloured families on his property, pays R170 a day to unskilled workers and up to R250 a day for tractor drivers. Women and children on piece work could bring the total monthly earnings in a family to R200.

They work in summer

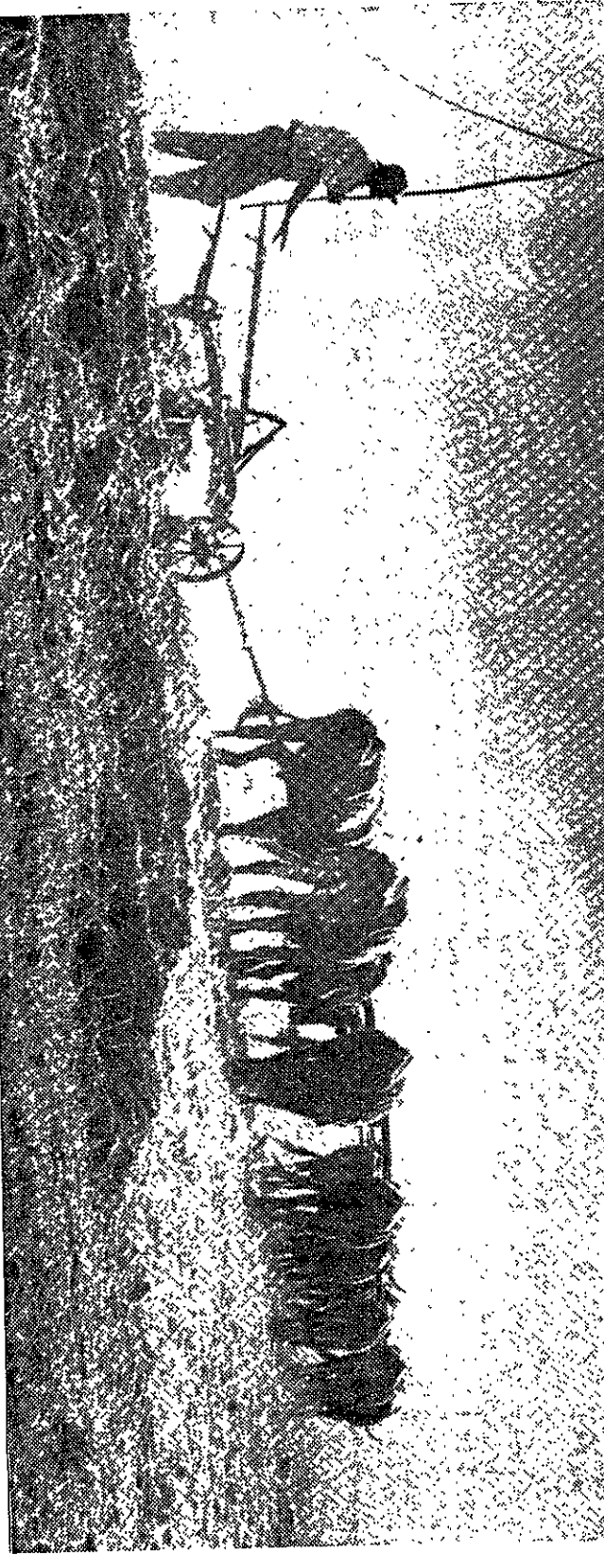
**THE Afrikaans radio programme "Monitor" sparked fierce controversy among White farmers. This is what it was all about. . . .**

13 hours a day with 14 hours in meal breaks. There is free housing, rations, vegetable patches, and the usual "gap" though this is not in payment of anything.

He felt the Government should give low interest loans for farmers to provide better housing.

Mr Gilliers said, as part of his reply quoted by the SABC, that the farmers were in favour of higher wages for labourers, but it must be achieved within realistic economic limits.

*Afrikaans*  
**Irate farmers disagree about radio views**



Fresh air and the open sky — but what about the money?



Black workers in South Africa's fields. Are their wages fair?

FACTS from an agricultural census in 1972 showed that there were 80 000 White farmers employing 1.5-million workers, mostly Black. The workers' total wages were R230-million, R50-million in kind. This gives an average wage of R154 a year—or only R12.85 a month.

# IN BUREAU OP JAANSIE

## Boere vra hulp vir swartes

Report 25/8/74

Van Ons Pretoriase Kantoor

### TRANSVAAL se boere gaan by die owerheid hulp soek sodat hulle swart werkers beter kan leef. Hulle gaan baie vra. Hulle gaan self ook die sak oopmaak, het hulle vandeeweek by die kongres van die Transvaalse Landbouunie in Pretoria besluit.

Insussen vra hulle dat die gat waardeur hulle arbeidsmag van die plase weg sijter na die groot stede, toegemaak word.

Verd die nuwe Bantoe-at doen het met mense, misionaristiese sake van die klein mindere ontwikkel en oore hoor. Dour die rade milder bevooreg, maar tot vif hulle hulp hê om vir 'n groot mate ons verantwoordelike is vir die volke te kry.

#### Kom vinnig

Monitor of die Monitor nie wat oor die radio so met die menskap se lone gemaak en plaaswerkers se lone gemaak. Ons sal ook aanpas. Soos ons kan. Die ding wat ons koud is, het die menskap en kolleges vir swartes.

Landboukolf en kolleges Die volgende is dat boere in 'n sukskade moet kry om werkers en hul gesinne beter te laat woon. Vir 'n lening van 500 000 Rands, hulle nie kans nie. Hul-lyke Christen-nense, steeds die sal self ook bydra. Party pedatrig daaraan dat ons te boere doen die dinge al uit

#### Stangehoude

'Sulke ongeleide mense sal sekerlik in groot vraag by die swart regerings wees en ons sal vir hulle moet bly. Dit moet ons eenduidig aanvaar.

Net so sal ons moet aanvaar dat ons onder mekaar vir die ongeleide man se diens sal moet bly. Vir die swartman beteken dit dat hy vir 'n hoër salaris sal kan beding en vir die boer behou ken dit dat hy 'n ongeleide man kry wat op die plase sy ander werkers sal kan tot wys maak," het hy gesê.

Al die getrewe werk die indruk dat die boeregemeenskap permanente swart landbouers in wil gebelê wil hê. Dit is nie so nie. Dit is mense sal stamgbonde bly. Hulle tuisland sal hulle Hui kinders sal nes die blanke plaskinders na die laer skool kosskool toe gaan. Dit sal nie beteken dat ouers en kinders uitmekaar geskeur word nie. Al is die kosskool in die tuisland, sal die kinders nog in vakansies of naweek waar moontlik by die ouers kan kom kuier, sê mnr. Prinsloo.

#### Sport

Daar moet sportgeriewe ook op die platteland kom vir die swart plasewerkers. Hiervoor kan die boeregemeenskap in streke verdeel word.

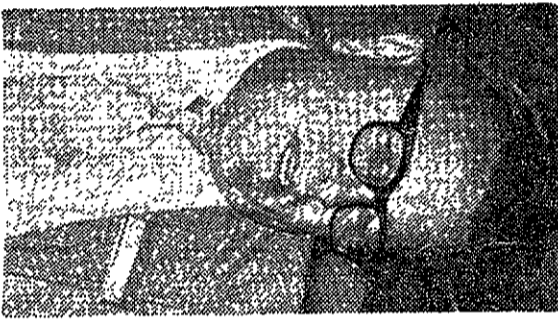
Intussen trek plassar-beidars tennig tuislande toe. Hulle vat skaars daar grond of hulle is die werkskoekers by die arbeidsburo en die volgende dag is hulle op pad na die stede om in die fabrieke te werk.

So gebeur dit op wetlike manier dat die boerdery sy werknag aan ander bedrywige moet afstaan en dit is nie reg nie.

Die spiraal van produksiekoste breek die boere se koppe. Hul voorman kan met sekere produkte nie meer 'n jaar vooruit beteken hoe hoog die pryse moet wees sodat die boer sy winsgrens kan behou nie, sê mnr. Louis Rothman, voorsitter van die Droeboonebeheerraad.

#### Vloerprys

Trekkers is haas onbekombaar en die boer wat in die verlede nog kon reken op kontantafslag vir 'n trekker minstrekken kom nou. Die pryse



HANNES PRINSLOO . . . ons sal aanpas soos ons kan.

regverdig nie, sal nie maklik in Suid-Afrika werk nie. Die kibboets-selsel van Israel sal glad nie hier werk nie. Elke boer glo by is die bas op sy plase en die heer van sy meer.

Die georganiseerde landbou van van tyd tot tyd dat die koste-strukture ondersoek word en is bly dat die stygende kospryse nie ten koste van die produsent gedemp sal word nie.

Vir die beginner word die boerdery 'n al groter risiko. Die produktsiekoste is so hoog dat hy nie 'n mislukte oos sal kan oorleef nie, sê mnr. Rothman.

Mnr. Nie Dacon, bestuurder van die Vleisrentaal en voorsitter van die TLU se Koperatiewe Raad, het vir die vleiseters net so min troos.

#### Een troos

Die hoë vleispryse het 'n golf van belangstelling onder die boere getrag. Maar die Koopdrag van die swart mense en die bewolkingsaanvans neem so toe, dat daar nie genoeg geproduseer sal word sodat pryse kan daal nie.

Een troos het hy daaron. Hy meen vleispryse sal afplat vir die produsent. Die verbruiker kan seker wees dat meer vleis van hoë kwaliteit op die mark sal kom, want al hoe meer kopersasies voer vee vir hul lende. Diere wat nie die moet te word is nie, word nie gevoer nie.

Al meer handvleis word geëet, die afselpe ses maande aansienlik meer as in die voreenstemmende tyd verlede jaar.

Van die vooruitstrewende sie boere sal deur die myne van hul grond af gedryf word met die oopgetoornode as dit onbeheer toegeliet word, sê mnr. D. J. Bosman, ondervoorsitter van die TLU.



LOUIS ROTHMAN . . . pro-dukeikoste spiraal al hoër.

Die besondere mynmetode laat boogte opdroog of laat die water verminder en dan is daar nog toegangs-panele, gronderoie, kam-pongs en oppervlak-besoedeling.

In Amerika is die soort skade met die uitersste moerte in enkele gevalle herstel. Gebied so groot soos Noord-Ierland is met dié metode in Amerika verwoes.

Tydlige weggewing moet ingedien word sodat oop-groewe onder toesig sal staan.



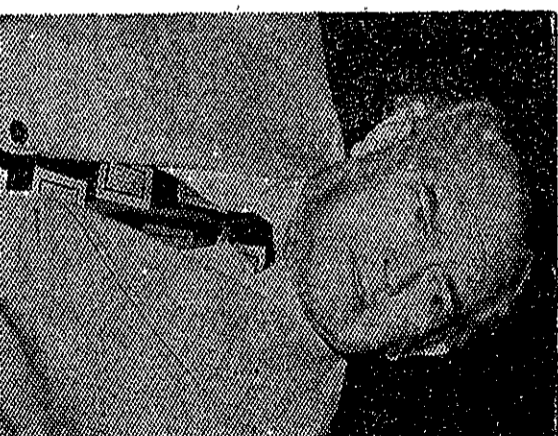
NIC DEACON . . . min troos vir al die vleiseters.

en net met die minste ont-wrigting en skade toegeleat sal word.

Grond moet ontleed word en die myn moet verplig word om die gebied te herstel voordat 'n sooi omgekeer word. "Aandag moet gegee word aan landskapherstel, nie net grond nie," sê mnr. Bosman.

Weggewing om dinge vir die nywe makliker te maak ten koste van die boer, moet beveg word.

Mnr. Jaap Wilkens, nuwe



D. J. BOSMAN . . . myne verniel ons grond totaal.

voorsitter van die TLU, sê 'n nuwe bedeling kom vir die georganiseerde landbou. Soos die melieboere nou 'n vereniging binne die raamwerk van die Landbou-Union KRY, sal die ander ge-spesialiseerde rigtings in die landbou ook hul eie liggame kry.

Almal sal onder een same-breef staan. Party landbouers is bang die ding sal 'n einde maak aan die provinsiale landbou-unies, maar dit is nie noodwendig so nie. Die



JAAP WILKENS . . . 'n nuwe bedeling kom vir landbou.

unies sal aanpas om die ver-enigings te huisves. Hy het een boodskap vir die boere: Agter die rug is 'n baie goeie jaar. Die geld wat gemaak is, moet gebuik word om te konsolideer, want die finansiering van die boerdery is vandag belangriker as die onderne-ming om te produseer.

Om kospryse af te dwing, sal die verbruiker en die boer nader aan mekaar gebring moet word. Dit is die middelman wat die koste so opjaag, sê hy.

#### Van sake het gestyg. Sino's

is duur, want arbeid vir die soort bouwerk is skaars. Arbeidars se lone het in 'n jaar met vyftig persent gestyg.

Die koepersasies help die melieboere en die ander boere met behoorde produkte. Die boere wie se produkte onderhevig is aan 'n vloerprys, soos melie, dreboone, trek, noutstrop, die handel betaal net meer as die vloer-pryse en verkooop weer die produkte ten duurste aan die verbruiker. Die vloerprys is maar net daar om te keer dat die boom nie heeltemal uit die boom val nie. Die normale markprys is veel hoër.

Op die buitelandse mark gaan dit ook maar stroef. Ons boere moet wedywer met ander wie se klimaat nie so wisselvallig is nie.

Die gedagte dat boere saam die dunnder masjinerie moet koop, waar hul eendrag uitvoer, moet altyd die oog ook op die landbou hou.

#### As dit nodig is, moet wet-

gewing kom teen mynbou-praktiese wat die bodem so verniel dat daar nooit weer op geboer kan word nie. Nie dat hy die gans wat die goue eler ja, wil keel-at he nie. Dit is net dat die mynbou en landbou as venote moet werk.

Die oopgroef-metode word naby Arnot toegepas. Die betrokke mynmaatskappy wil nie sê waar die rive ooral loop nie, maar dit lyk of die hele Oos-Transvaal in die gedrang kan kom.

Die strook loop van Kendaal oor Oogies, Bethal, Ma-Trendensende tot by Lydenburg. Trendensende hektaar kan omgedoel word. Dit kan 'n omherstelbare verlies kan 'n Suid-Afrika se landbou wees, sê mnr. Bosman.

Die Minister van Finansies het gese die mynbou moet sagkens behandel word, maar die mense wat die opdrag uitvoer, moet altyd die oog ook op die landbou hou.

# Soos iets tussen trekker en bees

Van Ons Vrystaatse Kantoor

BLOEMFONTEIN

11/8/74

**PREDIKANT van Bloemfontein wat verlede Sondag oor rasserverhoudinge gepreek het, sê daar is nog boere in die land wat meer van hul vee dink as van hul nie-blanke werkers. Maar teen 'n oordewe skuldgevoel ten opsigte van die nie-blanke, het hy sy gemeente ook gewaarsku.**

## SONDAGWOORDE OOR PLAASWERKERS

Dr. F. Burger van die hui wertmense aan te le N.G. gemeente Bloemfontein-Noord het van die sulke fantasiese skure bou, terwyl hul nie-blanke werkers in strooise woon?" het hy ook gevra.

"Dink u dis reg dat boere ker beskou as 'iets tussen 'n trekker en 'n bees, bloot ook gevra.

Hy het daarna verwys dat ke vandag die nie-blanke beskou, "is hy nog 'n vyand

se die Bantoes het nie 'n siel nie", en te kenne gegee daar is blankes wat 'n swart werker beskou as "iets tussen 'n trekker en 'n bees, bloot ook gevra.

Hy het gevra hoe die Blanke vandag die nie-blanke beskou, "is hy nog 'n vyand na aanleiding van Filémon 1:13-17. Die brief wat Paulus aan Filémon geskryf het dat hy sy slaaf Onesimus wat weg-

geloop het, nie moet dood maak nie, beskou hy as "die groot riglyn" vir sosiale en maatskaplike verhoudinge in Suid-Afrika.

Hy het gevra elkeen wat homself 'n Afrikaner noem, moet sy verantwoordelikhed besef en só lewe en só doen skuldkompleks kan nooit nor-

mal optree nie.

Of hy is te hard met die nie-blanke omdat hy 'n skuldgevoel het, of hy loop oor van "vriendelikhed en oorlaai die nie-blanke met dinge, en dis ook verkeerd.

Ons moet hierdie skuld-kompleks van ons afskud en normaal optree in ons verhouding met ons medemens, het hy gese.

Laat ons wat ons vir ons self neem, aan hierdie mense sun.

"God in die hemel het vir u en die swart man en die bruin man gemaak en in daardie opsig is ons almal uit een bloed gemaak — voor God gelyk."

Die nie-blankes wat die Here aangeneem het en van die prysenswaardigste lewens-voer, onder die moeillike omstandighede, moet as broeders in die gees" aan-geneem word.

Die Bybel ken apartheid beu-

aan die een kant is die gelowige, en aan die ander is die wêreld, 'n Heider lyn gaan tussen die twee deur.

Ons kan blanke bloed-broers wees, ons kan tot dieselfde kerk behoort, ons kan in dieselfde huis woon, maar as die een 'n kind van God is en die ander bloot maar het in naam Christen, is daardie tuijnsong wat 'n kind van God is en daardie een broer nader aan mekaar in die oë van God as die twee blanke broers.

Laat ons in hierdie krisis, 'n ons houding teenoor die nie-blanke sonder dwang in heroerweping neem en, laat ons aan hul hulle die respek en herte tton wat ons van hulle verwag, het dr. Burger gese.

"As ons verhouding met ons medemens reg is, moet ons nie te vrees nie, wat ook al aan ons grense ge-

# Veral Natalse

## RAPPORT 11/8/74 boere skok

**IN die nuwe vroegoggend-program Monitor het die SAUK vandeeweek gegewens oor die lone van plaaswerkers bekend gemaak wat die nugter mae van talle luisteraars geen plesier aangedoen het nie.**

*In telefoononderhoude met boere in die Swartland, Worcester, Stellenbosch, Natal en Oos-Kaapland is, op enkele liggunte na, 'n bedroewende prentjie geskets.*

Van 'n boer wat vir R10 en 'n halvesak mielie-meel per maand, ou klere en 'n liter melk per dag sy werkers twaalf uur per dag, sewe dae per week laat werk.

Van 'n Natalse koffieboer wat met „rantsone” en 50c per dag sy „eenhede” (vroue) vergoed.

Van die Natalse boer wat sy werkers niks betaal nie. Hulle bewerk elkeen 'n eie stukkie grond en die feit dat hulle „dipvry, watervry, grasvry en houtvry” is, is genoeg vergoeding.

Die program het volgens die omroepers Cobus Robinson en Michael Steenekamp groot reaksie uitgelok. Veral die stelling van die Natalse boere het die luisteraars geskok.

'n Stellenbosse wynboer het vertel dat sy trekkerbestuurders tussen R1,70 en R2,50 per dag verdien. Gewone arbeiders, snoeiers en parsers kry 'n laer loon en word weekliks betaal.

In die somer werk die mense van sesuur soggens tot halfsewe saans. In die winter is dit 'n bietjie korter. In Augustus kry hulle vier dae vakansie en om en by Nuwejaar 'n week.

Oor huisvesting vir sy 35 werker-gesinne op die plaas sê dié boer: „Ons ideaal is om vir hulle dieselfde huisvesting te gee as wat die bruinman op die dorp kry.

„Daar word steeds deur landbou-organisasies vertoë tot die staat gerig om geld goedkoop aan die boere beskikbaar te stel vir hierdie doel.”

### Dopstelsel

Oor die tradisionele dopstelsel op Kaapse wynplase, sê hy: „Ons is besig om dit geleidelik minder te maak in dié sin dat daar in die verlede op verskillende tye van die dag aan die arbeiders drank gegee is. Ons skakel dit uit deur nou aan die einde van die dag aan elkeen 'n bottel wyn te gee en hom aan te moedig om dit saam met sy kos te geniet.”

In die omgewing van Malmesbury vertel 'n boer dat loonsverhogings nie die produktiwiteit sal verhoog nie, omdat arbeiders roetine-werk verrig.

Behalwe 'n basiese loon kry sy werkers 50 kg meel per maand, 15 kg mielie-meel,

15 kg mieliegruis en as dit beskikbaar is, vis en groente.

Dié boer sê daar is op sy plaas geen arbeidsonrus nie.

In Worcester se wêreld word duidelik onderskei tussen bruinmense en „trek-arbeiders. Laasgenoemde woon nie in huise nie, maar in kamers. Dié mense kry gemiddeld R2 per dag.

In Natal lyk die prentjie anders.

„Ek het nog plakkerdiensbodes. Hulle is manne wat op my grond woon en hulle mag vee aanhou en ploeg. Hulle is dipvry, watervry, grasvry en houtvry. Ek betaal hul nog nie 'n salaris nie.”

Omroeper: „Hoe bly hulle aan die lewe?”

Boer: „Hulle het hul vee en hulle ploeg lande. Hulle wen kos op die lande.”

Omroeper: „Gee u hulle ook leiding hoe om van hul produkte ontslae te raak?”

Boer: „Nee. Hulle gebruik al die produkte wat hulle kweek. Hulle kry ook daaglik iets gekook — hulle rantsoen.”

### Rantsone

Omroeper: „En klere?”

Boer: „Hulle werk net 'n jaar vir my. Dan gaan werk hulle op Newcastle. Daar verdien hulle 'n hele klomp geld, genoeg om vir hulle klere te koop en vir hul vroue en kinders te gee en al daai klas van dinge. Hier is al boere wat hulle iets betaal.”

'n Suikerboer betaal R40 per maand. Sy arbeiders kry kos van hul eie stukkie grond. „Nie heeltemal genoegsaam nie,” erken die boer, „maar dis 'n groot hulp vir hulle.” Hy kla dat arbeid 'n groot uitgawe is.

In die omgewing van Port Shepstone betaal 'n koffieboer R25 „per eenheid” per maand. Hy het baie vroue wat koffie oes. Hulle kry 25c vir elke 14 kg (35 pond) koffie. Gewoonlik pluk hulle 36 kg per dag. Daarvoor kry hulle 50c.

Omroeper: „Sou u sê dis 'n leefbare inkomste?”

Boer: „Man, ja. Hulle kry ook vry rantsone.”

In Oos-Kaapland wissel die lone tussen R14 en R15 per maand. Plaaswerkers kry rantsone soos melk, vleis en mielie-meel ter waarde van ongeveer R25 per maand per

man.

Die meeste van hulle het ook vry huisvesting vuurmaakhout en water, in waarde om en by R10 per maand. Die boere het ook mediese dienste vir hul werkers en party verskaf klere soos skoene en oorpakke.

Een boer betaal sy werkers R14 per maand plus byvoordele wat ongeveer R30 per maand bedra. Die voordele sluit in: 'n slagding per maand vir elke werker; vyf liter melk per dag per werker; genoeg brandhout en klerasie en komberse ter waarde van R36 per man per jaar.

### Vakansie

Elke arbeider het ook die reg om vyftien bokke en twee beeste aan te hou. Van die bokhaar verdien 'n arbeider gemiddeld R15 per maand. Met Kerstyd gee die boer ruim geskenke en bonusse.

„My arbeiders doen goed op die plaas en is tevrede. Van hulle werk al vyftien jaar vir my,” vertel hy.

'n Melkboer in die omgewing van Johannesburg betaal sy mense tussen R36 en R40 per maand, 'n saai-boer tussen R5 en R20 per maand. Sy werkers het ook gesamentlik 'n stuk grond waaruit die inkomste ongeveer R500 per jaar is.

'n Ander boer sorg veral vir sy werkers se vakansie. By hom is dit 'n instelling om hulle jaarliks na 'n Bantoe-vakansieoord aan die Suidkus te neem.

Behalwe hul maandelikse lone kry hulle R1 per dag sakgeld vir die tien dae wat hulle daar is. Die boer betaal hulle ook om na besienswaardighede daar te gaan kyk.

„Ek wil graag hê my werkers moet 'n menswaardige bestaan voer,” sê dié boer.

Maar die derde Johannesburgse boer betaal net R10 per maand plus 'n halvesak mielie-meel, 'n liter melk per dag en ou klere. Sy mense werk twaalf uur per dag, sewe dae per week. Die enigste vakansie wat hulle kry, is elke tweede naweek vry.

● Die program word móre voortgesit. Noord-Transvaal en die Vrystaat kom dan aan die beurt.

## Criticism of SABC ‘probe’

Farming Editor

THE SABC's Afrikaans programme “Monitor” is moving towards a confrontation with the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) on the matter of farm labourers' wages.

The director of the SAAU, Mr Chris Cilliers complained today that he was unable to “get through” to the organisers of the programme.

“They are rapidly putting themselves in the position of certain newspapers in the country that took pictures of a few shanties, the like of which can be found everywhere in the world, and sent it throughout the world as representative of the housing of farm labourers in the country,” he said.

“Theirs is a very superficial investigation and they have the audacity to call it an investigation in depth. It is the very pinnacle of irresponsibility to telephone 50 or 100 farmers picked at random out of a total of 90 000 farmers and say this small sample is representative of the farming community.

### DISRUPTED

“The sample is so small that you get a totally distorted picture of the factual position,” Mr Cilliers said.

Mr Cilliers said the picture broadcast to the world merely added grist to the mill of the country's external enemies. Already international labour unions have been agitating for the formation of trade unions for farm labourers in the country.

# TRONKE LAAT GEMOEDERE KOOK

10/6/74 RAPPORT

Rapport

Agnes

**DIE gemoedere van boere en stadsjapies kook oor bouplanne van die Departement van Gevangenisse in die omgewing van Worcester en Durban. In Durban loop die snobisme hoog. Bou tronke by die nie-blanke woonbuurt, nie by ons nie, word gesê.**

*Terwyl vrae vandeeweek in die Parlement gestel is, het Worcester se boere aangekondig dat hulle „tot die bitter einde” gaan veg oor die onteiening van elf wingerdplase om die Brandvlei-plaasgevangenis. In Durban weier ’n stadsraad om elektrisiteit, riolering en ander dienste te verskaf as ’n nuwe tronk van R27 miljoen by die spogwoonbuurt Westville gebou word.*

In Pretoria, hartlik raad-op vir die gekyf, sê kol. George Steytler van Gevangenisse: „Dis tipies. Almal weet en begryp dat daar gevangenisse moet wees, maar tog net nie naby hulle nie. Die plek waar hulle dit wil hê, lê gewoonlik iewers tussen die lokasie en die dorp se rioolplaaas.”

Die onteiening by Brandvlei is nodig omdat 1 500 morg van die plaasgevangenis se beste landbougrond en sekere geboue deur die waters van die nuwe Kwaggaskloof-Brandvleidam verswelg gaan word.

In Durban is vyftien plekke oorweeg voordat daar op Westville besluit is as die geskikste plek om die tronk met sy spoggerige siertuine te bou. Dit sal ’n eie hospitaal hê en dien as die hoofkwartier van die Durban-gevangenis-kommandement.

Westville se stadsklerk, mnr. Johnny Coetzee, sê dat die 60 000 inwoners van Westville, Queensburgh en Pinetown al die afgelope vier jaar veg om die tronk uit Westville te weer.

Hulle was al tot by oud-

min. Peet Pelsler, want Westville is ’n spoggerige woonbuurt, die Houghton van Durban. Wie wil ’n tronk in die middel van hul woonbuurt hê en wat dink jy gaan gebeur as daar van die gevangenes ontsnap? vra hy.

Die tronk kan liewers by die Bantoe-woonbuurt Kwa Mashu of by die Indiërs se Clairmont gebou word. „Maar ondanks al ons vertoë het ons nou teen ’n klipmuur vasgeloop,” sê hy.

Mnr. Piet Groenewald, voorsitter van Worcester-se boerevereniging, sê reguit hulle gaan tot die bitter einde toe veg.

Die elf plase wat in gedrang is, beslaan sowat 1 160 ha en is hoofsaaklik wynplase. Dit is sowat twintig kilometer van Worcester in die rigting van Villiersdorp geleë. Die gemiddelde waarde van bewerkbare grond is sowat R5 000 per ha.

„By die Brandvlei-gevangenis is daar hoogstens sewentien hektaar wat op die oomblik bewerk word. Wat wil gevangenisse nou met hierdie magtige stuk grond van 1 160

ha maak?” vra mnr. Groenewald.

Hy is baie verbitterd, want sy plaas, Hermitage (37 ha), is al ses geslagte in die familie. Hy is 44 jaar gelede op die plaas gebore.

Albei mnr. Jan Louw se plase, Vrede (232 ha) en Die Grip (160 ha), loop gevaar om onteien te word.

Mnr. Theuns Visser van die plaas Nuwe-Aanleg (68 ha) sê: „Ons wil nie hierpadgee nie. Ons het onbewerkte grond in ’n meer suidelike rigting van die dorp voorgestel, ’n deel van Moddergat en Doringrivier. Tot vandag het ons nog geen kommentaar op hierdie alternatief gekry nie.”

Die ander plase is P. S. du Plessis se Klipdrift (428 ha), E. L. van der Merwe se Ook Tevrede (85 ha), J. W. Groenewald se Moedig (34 ha), Pieter Groenewald se Goedemoed (34 ha), G. S. D. van Schalkwyk se Kweekkraal (42 ha), Piet Marais se De Goedetrou (15 ha), en C. P. du Plessis se Halfweg (25 ha).

*Western Argus 2/14/14*

# WAGGE: R5 A MONTH

**By John MacLennan**  
**STELLENBOSCH.—The**  
**archaic Masters and**  
**Servants Act came**  
**under sharp focus this**  
**week with the dis-**  
**closure that farm**  
**labourer Attie Arendse**  
**had a legal battle on**  
**his hands when he**  
**tried to take on a new**  
**and better job.**

For 18 years Mr Arendse, who now has five children to support, worked for R5 a month, according to his sworn statement. But he was nearly charged with desertion when he started work with another farmer at R10 a week.

This startling battle for freedom to work where he wants — the only thoroughly substantiated one to be made public in recent years — discloses that some farmers apparently practise a near feudal labour system in the Western Cape.

The existence of such a system is confirmed in a letter from his previous employer.

The man who helped Mr Arendse move to his new job — Mr Noel Wood of Banthoek Protea Farm near here — describes the facts in Mr Arendse's case as 'tantamount to a master-slave relationship.'

According to Mr Wood, the full 'salary' due to Mr Arendse every month was R10.

Not only is this figure hardly sufficient to keep a dog in tinned meats for a month, but the farmer went further and decreed that he would not pay the full amount each month, but would only pay the full amount at the end of every three months because he did not want his 'folk' to go into the village more than once every three months.

'Accordingly for the first and second months he gave him R5 per month. At the end of each three-month period the balance due and payable, namely R20 was not paid over at all, but deducted for an indeterminate figure of 'food-stuffs' supplied.

When Mr Arendse was offered a new job on Mr Wood's farm at R10 a week he gave notice and offered to work out his one-month notice period for April.

But the farmer refused to accept this ruling and told him that he would only release him at the end of the year.

Mr Arendse refused to accept this ruling and was told that if he did not agree he would have to accompany the farmer to the police station where he would be charged with desertion.

Farm workers are not covered by the Industrial Conciliation Act but by the Masters and Servants Act. In terms of this colonial legislation the 'desertion' of a servant is a criminal offence.

Mr Arendse refused to go to the police with the farmer and he refused to work for the man beyond the end of this month.

He was then shown bills more than six years old totalling some R250 which the farmer said was due by Mr Arendse for medical expenses.

He couldn't pay, but he was allowed to leave the farm and told that he could pick up his household goods and furniture when he returned with the money.

Mr Wood later arranged for a court order which compelled the farmer to hand over the furniture and household goods.

In his affidavit Mr Arendse denies being indebted to the farmer for any amount, and adds that if the farmer has a lawful claim he could make it through the courts.

Mr Arendse's previous employer in a letter to Mr Wood discloses a startling labour system in which farmers 'buy' labourers by taking over their debts.

He says that for years he paid Mr Arendse's funeral policy premium, his dog licences and doctor's bills.

He also alleges that Mr Arendse earned R15 a month — not R5 — and that he was daily given free meat, fish, meal, water, wood, vegetables and grapes.

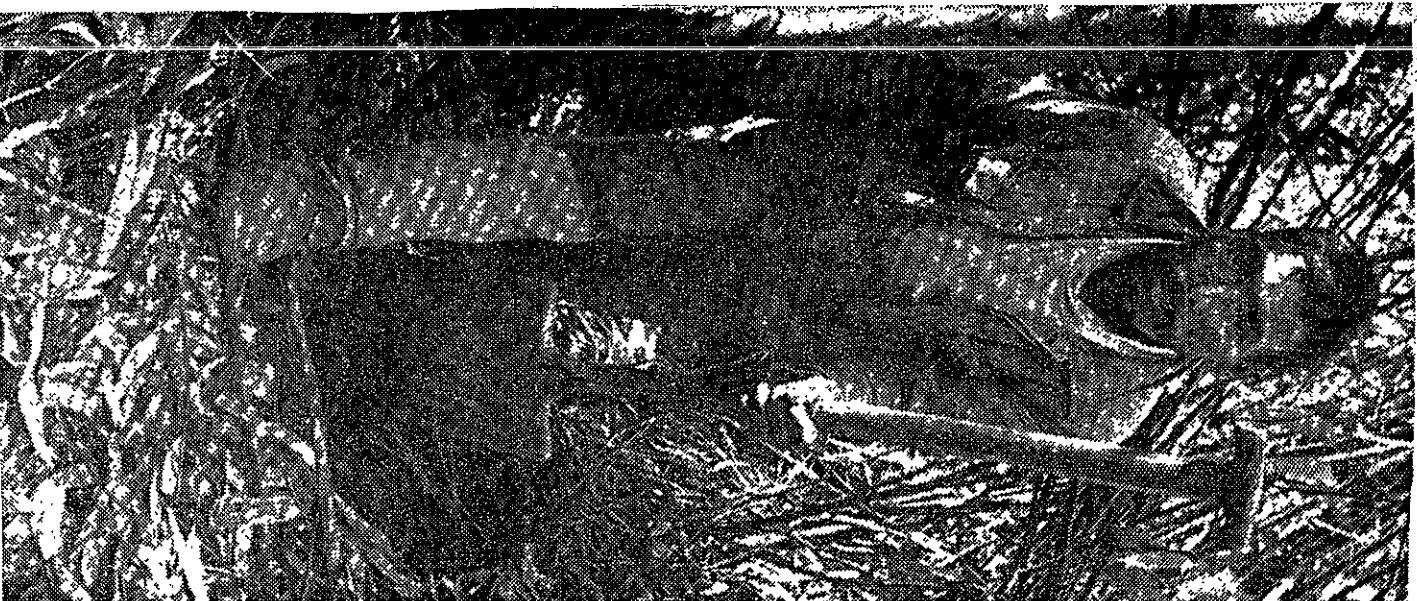
When Mr Arendse first came to him he owed R32, which the farmer had to pay.

He adds: 'If a labourer comes to us and asks for work, and we cannot pay his debts, then we do not take him on. In that way he must carry on until such time as he finds someone who is prepared to pay his debts.'

**BILLS**

Mr Wood later arranged for a court order which compelled the farmer to hand over the furniture and household goods.

In his affidavit Mr Arendse denies being indebted



**FARM labourer Attie Arendse had to go to court before he could leave his former employer, take his household goods, and start a new job.**



**ON SOME** of the beautiful farms of the Western Cape, some farmers apparently use the archaic Masters and Servants Act to fetter their labourers. But Attie Arendse, seen driving a tractor at his new job, found he could still sell his labour freely by going through the courts.

## COLONIAL

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F.M. 4/4/75

4.

# From soil to stope face

**The mining industry's drive to attract more SA Black labour is likely to have a far reaching impact on White farms**

The mechanisation drive in agriculture, fuelled by record farm earnings, appears to be moving into top gear. Sales of tractors and agricultural implements reached a record R150m in 1974 (1973: R121m) and leading implement dealers expect a further increase this year.

The bulk of the expenditure is on bigger tractors and the wider trailing implements that go with them. Some 14 000 tractors (all imported) were sold in 1974 and dealers could have sold more had it not been for shortages in the US and Europe and port congestion in SA.

The companies specialising in big tractors, notably John Deere and International Harvester (IH), simply couldn't meet demand. Fred Gilchrist, MD of Deere SA, expects 1975 sales to double.

Deere has imported more tractors in first quarter of 1975 than the total brought in during 1973.

Business is also booming in implements, many of which are manufactured locally. Pan African Industries, associated with IH, has doubled its sales of over 40 types of implements (mainly cultivation equipment and planters) within the past three years, in spite of price increases that have sometimes reached 40% over that period.

Surprisingly the trend to mechanisation, unlike the experience of most countries, has not resulted in a diminution of farm workers, nor does it appear to have been greatly stimulated by labour shortages.

Rather the moves towards capital intensive agriculture arise from expectations of increased efficiency in production and correspondingly higher crop yields through mechanisation.

Profit-making large-scale farmers seem to see the labour crunch as still in the future and current mechanisation thus anticipates the day when labour will be in short supply.

There are strong signs, however, that the hitherto stable Black population of 3,7m on White farms will increasingly be drawn off into the mines and towns.

Chris Cilliers, director of the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) and Dolf Schumann president of the Chamber of Mines have already reached an agreement whereby the Chamber may begin to recruit in the rural areas.

If approved by government, the mines will be allowed to go into rural areas that have a labour surplus (for example, Rustenburg and Weenen) once they have exhausted the potential of the

urban areas. The only stipulation is that the Chamber's recruiting agents may not physically come onto farms and entice workers away.

The agreement is designed to increase the proportion of SA labour on the mines. Interestingly, it amounts to a *de facto* admission by the SAAU that there is underemployed labour on White farms, an admission not previously made.

The number of Africans living on White farms has not changed much since 1960, despite increasing mechanisation. However, the percentage of the total African population living on the White farms has decreased from 30,7% in 1960 to 24,3% by 1970, suggesting that most of the natural increase has moved either to the Homelands or urban areas.

Of resident Black population on White farms, more than 800 000 are full-time workers.

The conditions under which farm workers live and toil must be among the poorest in SA. Scattered in kraals of one or more huts, families often survive at mere subsistence levels with wages that at best reach R40 (per family) per month.

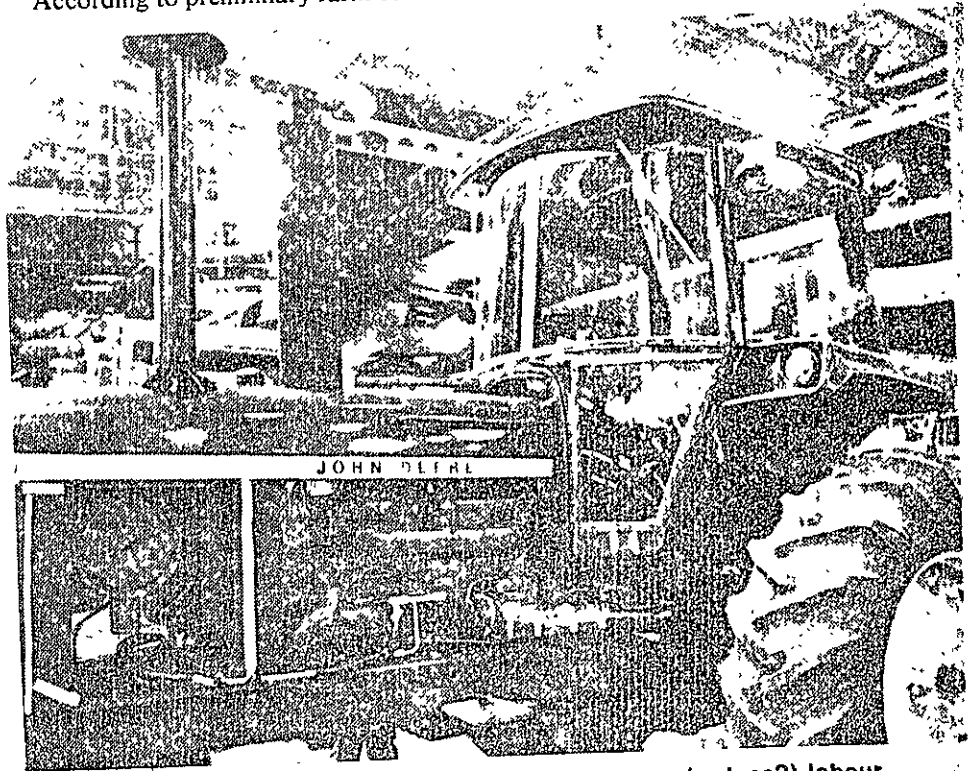
According to preliminary farm census

figures, the average cash wage of farm labourers in 1973 was R11,50 a month. In the Transvaal, where more than 40% of African residential farm workers live, it is usual for the farmer to provide each family with a sack of maize meal per month, a free plot with a hut or two on it, water and firewood for cooking and heating. They may sometimes keep a cow for milk or lobola.

Housing remains atrociously inadequate with the typical hut having an earth floor, no glass windows, and simple metal sheets or grass for a roof. Few farm workers have electricity or modern toilet facilities. There are often 10 people, including children, relatives and the elderly in a family unit.

Education is expanding, but most primary-school pupils must walk considerable distances to school and must provide their own books. In many cases the landowner discourages education, preferring the children to help in the fields. Health care is sometimes non-existent and there are documented cases of malnutrition.

There is no data to support the contention that such farm labourers have experienced any improvement in real living standards despite ongoing mechanisation.



More horsepower, more productivity, and more (or less?) labour

Does mechanisation reduce the need for labour? According to Cilliers and farmers like S J Murray, manager of Anglo American's Soetvelde, the answer is no.

They point out that bigger tractors and more equipment require more workers in maintenance and that efficient tractor utilisation often involves two shifts of drivers a day.

On the other hand, tractor dealers stress that one large 113kW (150hp) tractor can do the work of perhaps six smaller ones and that these machines do cut labour costs. Indeed the experience of countries like West Germany shows a decrease in farm workers from 5,0m in 1950 to just under 2,5m in 1972, largely as a result of mechanisation.

Obviously, mechanisation requires an upgrading of skills. Not only is the newer equipment technically more complex but people must be trained to use

the machines properly. In SA training has been lacking, resulting in high repair costs.

The SAAU and the Department of Bantu Administration have accordingly joined together in planning a "Bantu In-Service Training Scheme" at Potchefstroom where selected farm labourers can be trained in driving, machine maintenance, and foreman skills.

Bantu Administration has allocated R150 000 towards the training centre, but the operating costs will have to be financed by individual farmers. Unless additional money can be provided (perhaps from the Department of Agriculture) farmers will have to pay as much as R100 to send a man for a two-week course.

Training is indeed an awkward problem for farmers. One large Transvaal farmer told the *FM* he was reluctant to

train men to operate sophisticated equipment as he feared that having acquired the skills, they would leave for more lucrative jobs in urban areas.

SAAU and Department of Agriculture policy is to build skills on a base of resident farm workers, who would be paid competitive wages and housed in much improved quarters.

These workers would be supplemented by migratory "labour teams" during peak labour demand. It seems as if the only way farm wages can improve significantly is through competition from other sectors.

The move to the countryside by the labour hungry mines is therefore to be welcomed — provided it does not cause a drop in food production or undermine the competitive position of the farm sector in export markets.

Hopefully greater mechanisation will ensure that it doesn't.



Daily Dispatch 18/4/75

# Farm hands claim 4 gunpoint eviction

**KING WILLIAM'S TOWN—** Two brothers, Mr Nqabisile Fanga with his wife and six children and Mr Witness Fanga with his wife and two children spent the night in the veld near Breidbach, five kilometres from here, on Wednesday after they had been evicted from a farm on which they worked.

The men who claimed they had worked on the farm for seven months said they had

not been paid off and some of their belongings had been confiscated by the farmer, Mr P. J. le Roux.

The men said they had been driven off at gunpoint.

Mr Witness Fanga said, "It was a terrible night and we had no option but to leave as Mr le Roux dismissed us at gun-point with our wives and children crying."

Asked why they had been dismissed, Mr Fanga said they were merely told they were not working properly. He said things had been "unpleasant" since his son, Lawrence, had been involved in a collision with Mr Le Roux's vehicle some weeks ago.

Both men reported their eviction to the Magistrate's offices in Zwelitsha yesterday but were referred to the Bantu Affairs Commissioner in King William's Town.

The families of the two men were still at the roadside yesterday.

Late yesterday afternoon a spokesman for the Bantu Affairs Commissioner's office said the men had not been brought to him.

Asked to comment on what the two men had said, Mr Le Roux said: "I have nothing to say to the newspaper. It's my private business and it does not concern anybody else. Let them say what they say and it does not worry me." — DDC.

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18/4/75

**Coloured girls allegedly enticed from farms  
in Western Province**

\*12. Mr. C. W. EGIN asked the Minister of Coloured, Rehoboth and Nama Relations:

- (1) Whether he has had allegations investigated that young Coloured girls are being enticed from farms in the Western Province on false undertakings of training and employment in domestic service in urban areas; if so,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

†The MINISTER OF COLOURED, REHOBOTH AND NAMA RELATIONS:

- (1) Allegations in this regard are at present being investigated.
- (2) Will be considered when particulars are known.

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# Union told complaints are 'naive'

N Mercury Reporter 24/4/75

CRITICISMS of the alcoholic content and marketing of Bantu beer made this week in the Natal Agricultural Union's newspaper showed "naivety and ignorance," the chief director of the Port Natal Bantu Administration Board, Mr. S. Bourquin, said yesterday.

- (1) Agri.
- (2) Liquor
- (3) Local A.S.

An editorial in the newspaper *Natal* claimed that drunkenness among tractor drivers was on the increase and blamed "the number of hours the beer is on sale," its alcoholic content and the abundance of distribution points.

The article attacked Bantu Administration Boards for "receiving a substantial slice of their income from the beer whose abuse is having a deleterious effect on the Africans towards whose benefit the boards are working."

Commenting on the article, Mr. Bourquin pointed out that the hours the beer was sold and the number of distribution points (bottle stores) were determined by the Liquor Act and the Liquor Licensing Board.

The alcoholic content of Bantu beer, he said, was three percent by volume — the lowest of all alcoholic drinks available in South Africa.

"If the African is deprived of Bantu beer he will either turn to illicit concoctions, such as shimiyane, which are terribly injurious to health, or else take up so-called White liquor which will dent his pocket much more and has no nutritious value," he said.

29 April 1975

4

Loans for Housing for farm workers

\*25. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) How many farmers in (a) the Western Province, (b) the rest of the Cape Province, (c) the Orange Free State, (d) the Transvaal and (e) Natal applied for loans for housing for farm workers in each month of 1974;
- (2) (a) how many of these applications in each area were granted and (b) what was the total amount of the loans granted in each area in each month;
- (3) what is the (a) maximum loan amount per dwelling and (b) rate of interest payable by farmers on these loans.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Reply laid upon Table with leave of House)

(1) Month	(a) Greater Western Cape Province	(b) Rest of the Cape Province	(c) Orange Free State	(d) Transvaal	(e) Natal
January . . . . .	0	1	0	0	1
February . . . . .	0	1	0	2	0
March . . . . .	0	2	1	0	0
April . . . . .	0	0	1	1	0
May . . . . .	1	1	0	1	0
June . . . . .	0	1	0	1	0
July . . . . .	1	7	1	1	0
August . . . . .	3	0	1	1	0
September . . . . .	0	2	0	0	0
October . . . . .	9	1	1	1	0
November . . . . .	18	1	0	0	1
December . . . . .	32	6	0	1	0

(2) (a) and (b)

Month	Greater Western Cape Province		Rest of the Cape Province		Orange Free State		Transvaal		Natal	
	Granted	Amount	Granted	Amount	Granted	Amount	Granted	Amount	Granted	Amount
January . . . . .	0	R 0	1	5 480	0	R 0	0	R 0	1	R 2 960
February . . . . .	0	0	1	3 700	0	0	2	15 800	0	0
March . . . . .	0	0	2	5 460	1	3 500	0	0	0	0
April . . . . .	0	0	0	0	1	5 320	1	7 400	0	0
May . . . . .	1	1 400	1	7 400	0	0	1	8 400	0	0
June . . . . .	0	0	1	3 360	0	0	1	0	0	0
July . . . . .	1	2 960	7	25 600	1	8 400	1	1 500	0	0
August . . . . .	3	7 124	0	0	1	3 200	1	8 400	0	0
September . . . . .	0	0	2	7 000	0	0	0	0	0	0
October . . . . .	9	33 249	1	3 220	1	8 000	1	6 720	0	0
November . . . . .	18	111 256	1	2 400	0	0	0	0	1	2 150
December . . . . .	32	221 140	1	2 660	0	0	1	8 000	0	0

(a) R1 500-00 per three-roomed dwelling and R1 850-00 per four-roomed dwelling, while an amount of R200-00 per dwelling for the supply of water and an equal amount per dwelling for electricity are also available.

(b) 5% per annum, 4/5ths of which are subsidized by the State with the result that the farmer is expected to pay 1% interest only.

① ④  
② 320

# Inspectors of Bantu Board alleged to be overstepping mark *Croaff-Kenit Advertiser 8/5/75*

MR C. A. (CHIPPER) KINGWILL asked at the monthly meeting of the Sneeuberg Farmers' Association last Tuesday (May 6) what the duties of an inspector of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (Karoo) were, and how he should perform those duties.

Mr. David Kingwill, who is a member of the Board representing Organised Agriculture, said that he had no idea from him to do so he would not hesitate to prosecute him.

It was pointed out that some of the inspectors were going onto farms without the owners' permission, ordering their staff around.

Farmers felt they were not entitled to do so without first approaching the farmer. This was only courtesy.

Mr. Walter Murray warned that if any inspector came to his farm without permission

① Health + Dis - Venereal Dis  
② ④

GRAAFF-REINET, C.P. THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1975

# Investigating venereal district

Graaff-Reinet  
Advertiser 8/5/75

## NINE POSITIVE CASES FOUND IN SAMPLE TESTS

ON instructions of the Department of Health the incidence of venereal disease in the division of Graaff-Reinet is being investigated, according to a statement made by the chairman of the Divisional Council, Mr W. J. Minnaar.

This investigations follows on representations made by the Graaff-Reinet Farmers' Union, who were concerned at the growing incidence of VD in this area.

The Camdeboo Farmers' Association last year did a sample test in their ward and found that one in six had contracted VD.

The Graaff-Reinet Farmers' Union felt that the authorities should launch a campaign in the division against VD, and offered to find qualified nursing sisters in their areas who could take the blood tests.

The authorities are wary about large-scale VD campaigns because the cost of diagnosis was so high.

Farmers have been told that penicillin injections could quickly remedy the problem, but the problem was that such injections could not be given indiscriminately.

In her quarterly report the TB sister of the Council, Sister I. E. Dames, said that a sample of 122 Wasserman tests had been taken in the districts. Nine were found to be positive.

She also reported that 44 cases were being treated.

Mr Minnaar said that the Department of Health had instructed

the Council to conduct an investigation into VD in the district.

He recalled how when he and Col W. L. Kingwill, former chairman of the Council, had been to Cape Town to discuss with State Health officials the growing incidence of VD in the division as far back as 1951, they had been informed that the State had only R300 (then it was £150) on their budget for VD in the Cape Province. They did not deem the matter serious.

Mr Danie Els said that the increase in VD was a phenomenon. The same applied to Graaff-Reinet.

Mr J. T. P. Swart, magistrate, said that since the pill had been introduced as a means of contraception, VD had spread like wild fire across the globe. It has got out of hand in overseas countries.

Mr Minnaar said that when Dr Rauch, a full-time district surgeon in Graaff-Reinet, and his wife had fought VD he had been horrified at the number of children suffering from blindness caused by VD in parents.

"If people only had the courage to report the sickness, it could easily be controlled," he said.

et die choreograaf, Harold King, atie se Tros morceaux en forme e poire gebruik.  
Ander items is Geld is Alles, et choreografie deur Elizabeth Iegaardt, op Seiber se Dances Jazz Idiom; Noorse Rapsodie.

# Classification of Bantu

## wanted by farmers

Graaff-Reinet Advertiser 12/5/75

Those born and bred here cannot even speak a Bantu language

4  
families

MR SCHALK PIENAAR recommended at the Sneeuberg Farmers' Association monthly meeting on Tuesday that the Department of Internal Affairs be asked for a reclassification of Bantu farm labourers in the Graaff-Reinet division on the grounds that they were not true Bantu, and really Coloureds.

He pointed out that many Bantu workers in the district had been registered as Bantu, while their families were registered as Coloureds.

"Our Bantu in Graaff-Reinet are halfway (halfpad) Coloured," he told the meeting.

"A general re-registration is the only answer to our problems," he said.

The discussion was a sequel to a statement made at the meeting by Mr. David Kingwill, vice-chairman of the Midlands Agricultural Union, and a member of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (Karoo) and of the Sneeuberg Farmers' Union, that farmers would have to pay 40c a month levy on all Bantu male and female workers in their employ.

### PERMIT

Farmers could not employ any Bantu workers unless they had checked to see if the applicant for a post was in possession of a work seekers' permit.

He also warned that before any Bantu male or female was employed by a farmer, that Bantu had to be registered at the BAAB offices in Graaff-Reinet.

Prosecutions would be instituted if these regulations were not complied with.

Some farmers in the division had already been charged and

fined. The fine was R30.

The normal farm labourer was not the problem, he pointed out Farmers should be more concerned about the fencers and shearers. They were a problem

They had to pay a levy of R1,80 as self-employed Bantu. They had to register themselves.

However, it is the policy of Boards in the Cape Province

(Continued on page 3)

## Reclassification of Bantu families

(Continued from page 1)

not to issue permits to Bantu who were contractors. A problem had cropped in De Aar where Bantu fencers and brick-makers were prevented working for themselves.

### HOMELANDS

The Bantu Affairs Administration Board feels that if these people are good enough to work for themselves, they should go to the Homelands where men of their capabilities are needed.

If a Bantu shearer wishes to register as a contractor in the Karoo, he has to apply to the Chief Bantu Commissioner in Cape Town, and it is their policy to refuse such permits. They want these people to work in the Homelands.

If a Bantu was not registered and an inspector came and made this discovery, then the employer would be in for the high jump.

"As I see it, we will have to hire our shearers and register them at 40c a month," he said. "Women who work for you must also be registered."

Mr I. P (Boet) van Heerden, chairman of the Graaff-Reinet Farmers' Union, said that this was not what had been told the Union when they agreed to support the BAAB.

The Union had been told that if a Bantu was an entrepreneur he would be able to register himself and work on farms.

### WHAT GAIN

"This scheme has now been operating for two years," he said. "Now I want to know just what the farmer is gaining from the Bantu Affairs Administration Board?"

Mr. Kingwill: The authorities say that you gave the privilege of having a Bantu in your service in an area which is a Coloured preference area. They (the Board) are making you a special concession.

He said that the Board had to run Bantu Affairs in the Karoo and to operate had to levy fees on Bantu workers. They had wanted to raise the levy from 30c to R1. Organised agriculture had approached the Minister who had refused to increase the levy to R1 and had agreed to a 10c increase only.

Mr Kingwill said that there was an anomaly in the whole matter of Bantu Boards. Each Board was autonomous, and had to pay their own expenses and find their own income. They

need' time to supply services. However, he could see no way they could serve the farmer, employ of a farmer, he had the except when a Bantu left the right to go to the Bantu Board and ask for work within the Karoo area.

### MUST CONTRIBUTE

He felt that for that service the farmer should contribute.

"Organised Agriculture does not think that the Boards are as effective as they are said to be," he told the meeting.

Mr. Chipper Kingwill said he just could not understand the whole matter. The Bantu in Graaff-Reinet were born and bred here and had lived here happily for generations.

He could see the need of Boards and levies if there was an influx of Bantu into the area, but there was not.

Mr. Kingwill said that the Bantu people on his farm had been there since his father (Mr R. P. Kingwill) was "knee-high." The levy had to be paid. There could be no discrimination.

Commerce and industries paid R1,80 a month as against the 40c of the farmer. But the towns were given services such as housing, electricity, community halls and schooling.

Mr. Chipper Kingwill said that as he saw the whole matter, the Board was trying to discourage the Bantu from working in the Karoo.

### PRODUCTIVE

"We can't do without the Bantu labourer," he said. "Here he is productive. If he goes to the Homelands and there is no work for him, then he will be unproductive."

Mr. David Kingwill: It is government policy that the Bantu must return to the Homelands.

Mr Jerry Rose-Innes, chairman of the Sneeuberg Farmers' Association said that Bantu Boards and government policy was a fait accompli. They were here to stay.

Mr. Roland Kingwill: Why?

Mr. Chipper Kingwill: The Bantu are needed here.

Mr. Rose-Innes. A law has been passed. We must now bend that law to suit our needs, not fight it.

Mr. David Kingwill said that Mr. Punt Jansen had said that it was not government policy to move indigenous Bantu out of their area. He pointed out that Bantu Boards were something new Few had any experience on Bantu Board's and

were feeling their way.

"If you have feelings of a political nature against Bantu Boards, then they must be raised through other channels", he said "But we must accept that they are here to stay, and we have to obey the rules and pay the 40c a month. This is not much in terms of our labour structure on farms. If we start to discriminate against the Bantu who should pay the levy and those who should not, we will run into trouble."

### TSTOTSI

He appealed to farmers not to discriminate against their Bantu employees as, if they could not work here, they would have to find work elsewhere in the region. There was a demand for labour in the forest areas of Knysna. They could be employed there. It would only lead to a tstotsi problem.

Sneeuberg would have to think of organising the shearers and employing them as a gang, and pay the required levy. Then Sneeuberg were the employees and there were no contractors.

"This may lead to a better use of the shearers in this area", he said

Mr Schalk Pienaar then called for a reclassification of Bantu who had been born and bred in this area and said he was certain they were really Coloured.

"Many can't even talk a Bantu language," he said

Mr. David Kingwill said that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board could in no way empower the reclassification of Bantu. This was a matter dealt with by the Department of Internal Affairs.

Most of the members of the Board for the Karoo region also felt that a reclassification was necessary, and that an application should be made to the Minister as he would be sympathetic.

There was a statute that children born to parents, one of whom was of mixed race, should be classified as a Coloured. Magistrates did not agree with this, however.

It was felt that the matter should be taken up through the Midlands Agricultural Union and the Cape Province Agricultural Union.

Mr. David Kingwill is to draft a memorandum on the subject.

The meeting also decided to invite the chief director of the Karoo Board to address a meeting of the Association to clear up problems facing farmers.

# Your servant to cost more <sup>RDM</sup> 2/1/75

By PATRICK LAURENCE  
EMPLOYERS of African servants will have to pay an additional 50c levy a month during the coming financial year.

The ordinary household employs more Africans than factories of commerce and will have to pay the biggest increase in levies to the West Rand Administration Board.

It was calculated yesterday that employers will contribute an extra R2,4 million to the board.

The board is responsible for the administration of Soweto and African townships attached to West Rand towns like Krugersdorp and Randfontein.

Its chairman, Mr Manie Mulder, said yesterday labour levies would be channelled into providing more and better services for the townships, including roads, high-mast lights,

stormwater drainage and recreation.

The board's executive meets tomorrow to consider its financial estimates for the 1975-1976 financial year. The estimates have already been presented to African urban councils and advisory boards for comment.

Although the board has not yet released its estimates, it is possible to calculate its increased revenue from labour fees.

Employers of African labour in industry, building, commerce, agriculture and government all have to pay an additional 30c per labourer per month. For the most part, the levy has risen from R1,50 to R1,80.

Employers of African servants have to pay an additional 50c — R1,00 a month.

1-123  
2-70  
3-12  
4-2  
5-31  
6-12



RDM 285/75 (4)

# Farmers warned on low wages

CAPE TOWN. — Coloured and African workers were no longer willing to work in the agricultural sector in the Western Cape for low wages and in bad working conditions, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr W. A. Cruywagen, warned farmers yesterday.

Speaking at a fruit growers convention held by the Cape Pomological Association at the Cape Showgrounds, Mr Cruywagen urged farmers to reappraise the Coloured labour situation in the Western Cape.

"Otherwise this source of labour will leave agriculture and the industry will then have to turn to African workers — a very insecure labour source," he said.

He pointed out that in

1960, 30,86 per cent of economically employed Coloured people worked for agriculture.

By 1970 this figure had sunk to a "worrying" 16,94 per cent as more and more Coloured workers left farming to work in towns and cities where wages were higher.

African workers in the homelands were no longer willing to travel to the Western Cape to work for low wages and under poor employment conditions.

The general employment situation of the migrant labourer must be improved, Mr Cruywagen said.

"Improvements can be made by creating better working conditions, better wages, housing and transport facilities," he said. — Sapa

# Train farm workers to use machinery call

Daily Disp. 29/5/75

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CRADOCK — The training of farm labour in mechanised agriculture had become essential, Mr J. J. Bruwer, the Director of Agricultural Engineering, said in his address at the congress of the Midlands Agricultural Union here.

He predicted that farm labour would become scarcer not only because of a move to the cities but also because wages were going up.

It was therefore essential that ways be found to increase the productivity of farm labour and to limit production costs.

At present farmers were spending more money on

mechanised agriculture than on labour, but machinery was being operated by labourers who had no training.

It had been shown that maintenance costs of tractors in the Republic were higher than overseas and that tractors driven by untrained labourers had a higher depreciation.

Courses for training farm labourers, as well as black instructors, were being organised.

Mr Bruwer said farmers themselves should be trained, but less than ten per cent had had any formal training in agriculture. — DDC.

# Labour plea to farmers

Mercury Reporter

**DAIRY FARMERS** should "play industry at its own game" and use the same tactics to attract good labour, said Mr. D. Edmonds, vice-chairman of the National Co-operative Dairies Limited, in Durban yesterday.

He was addressing a two-day conference of advisory committee members on the subject of retaining labour on the dairy farm.

### LEISURE

"Those sectors of the economy with which agriculture must compete have decided to make a scientific study of their African work force, with the object of making each worker more effective and satisfied in his work.

"Our competitors are one jump ahead of us," he said.

Farmers dare not rely on restrictive legislation to provide their labour requirements. They should instead make deliberate efforts to under-

stand the needs — material, mental and social — of the African, said Mr. Edmonds.

In an interview after his address, he said: "Leisure is a very important factor but there are many farms where labourers are expected to work seven days a week."

Farming was no longer a way of life but a business enterprise with maximum profits as the aim, the director of the Natal region of Agricultural Technical Services, Dr. P. Hildyard, said in Durban yesterday.

### DEMANDS

Addressing members of a farm business management course at a beachfront hotel, Dr. Hildyard said each farmer had to formulate his own long term objective according to his principles, convictions, needs, abilities and preferences.

It was fairly readily accepted that many of the present problems in farming originated

through poor managerial ability of a large percentage of farmers.

"I must remind you that the new technologies associated with farm production today make obviously greater demands on both management and technical skills than the simpler practices which prevailed a generation ago."

Nowadays successful farm operators had a much more complex job in determining the highest income potential of their enterprises.

# Doelstellings van Arbeidsburo's verduidelik

Craff-Reinet Advertiser 5/6/75

MNR M. S. ROTHMAN, direkteur van arbeid en behuising van die Bantoesake-administrasieraad (Karoo), het Dinsdag op 'n vergadering van die Sneebergse Boevereniging die doelstellings van arbeidsburo's verduidelik.

"Arbeidsburo's is ingestel in gevolge die Wet op Bantoe-arbeid en regulasies en word beheer deur 'n amptenaar wat gelisensieer is deur die Minister van Bantoe Administrasie en -Ontwikkeling om 'n Arbeidsburo te bestuur," het hy gesê.

"Die doelstelling van 'n Arbeidsburo is:

- Om Bantoes in diens te plaas en om die verskaffing van arbeid te reël ten einde dit te korreleer met die vraag daarna.

- Die samewerking van werkgewers en werkoekers in verband met arbeidsburo's te verkry.

- Data te versamel en te korreleer en inligting te verstrek in verband met die bestaan van vakatures en die beskikbaarheid van werkoekers.

- Om so ver doenlik te verseker dat werkoekers in diens geplaas word waarvoor hulle die geskikste is.

- Om die Bantoebewysburo op hoogte te hou van die beweging van Bantoe werkers. (Beroepsregister en maandelikse statistiek).

## TWEE SOORTE

"Twee soorte arbeidsburo's word in die praktyk in Blankegebiede aangetref naamlik 'n Distriksarbeitsburo en 'n plaaslike Arbeitsburo. Beide arbeidsburo's ressorteer onder die jurisduksie van 'n Bantoesake Administrasieraad en is hulle doelstellings presies dieselfde, met die uitsondering dat 'n distriksarbeitsburo beheer uitoefen in nie-voorgeskrewe gebiede en 'n plaaslike arbeidsburo beheer uitoefen in voorgeskrewegebiede.

"Vir praktiese doeleindes is d'e hele Bantoesake Administrasieraad: Karoo gebied tot 'n voorgeskrewegebied verklaar en word hier alleenlik plaaslike arbeidsburo's aangetref.

"Kortliks kan net verduidelik word wat 'n voorgeskrewegebied is in gevolge die Wet op Bantoe-arbeid.

- Elke stadsgebied, indien nie reeds in 'n voorgeskrewegebied ingesluit nie;

- Elke ander gebied wat op die eerste dag van Januarie 1965 in gevolge sub-artikel (1) van artikel drie-en-twintig van die Stadsgebiede Wet geproklameer is;

- Enige gebied wat in gevolge subartikel (1) van artikel nege bis van die Stadsgebiede, (Wet 25/1945) deur die Minister by kennisgewing in die Staatskoerant tot voorgeskrewe gebiede verklaar is.

## WES-KAAPLAND

"In Wes-Kaapland is 'n werkgewer eerstens aangewese op Kleurling-arbeid. Wanneer 'n vakature ontstaan, nader die werkgewer die plaaslike kantoor van die Departement van Arbeid, indien laasgenoemde kantoor nie selfstandig bestaan nie, dan die plaaslike Landdros kantoor.

"Indien laasgenoemde kantore nie daarin kan slaag om die werkgewer van Kleurling-arbeid te voorsien nie, sal 'n sertifikaat tot dien effekte uitgereik word.

"Die werkgewer word dan van 'n afskrif van die sertifikaat voorsien en 'n verdere afskrif word aan die plaaslike Arbeitsburo gestuur. Laasgenoemde Arbeitsburo registreer dan die vakature en poog om die werkgewer van Bantoe-arbeid te voorsien.

"Indien u 'n voornemende werkgewer van Bantoe-arbeid is en in besit is van 'n sertifikaat van nie-beskikbaarheid van Kleurling-arbeid, moet u asseblief die volgende prosedure volg by die registrasie van Bantoe-arbeid in voorgeskrewegebiede.

- Geen Bantoe werker (man of vrou) mag in 'n voorgeskrewe gebied in diens geneem word sonder die voorafverkreë goedkeuring van die plaaslike arbeidsburo nie.

- Indien 'n Bantoe hom by u aanmeld vir werk, moet u, indien u in besit is van 'n certifi-

kaat van die nie-beskikbaarheid van Kleurling-arbeid en u sy dienste benodig, moet u die Bantoe na die arbeidsburo stuur of, om u moontlike ongerief te bespaar, homself na daardie buro neem ten einde die nodige vergunning te verkry.

- Indien u homself nie kan neem nie, gee aan hom 'n brief waarin u die vereiste besonderhede aangee, dit wil sê u volle naam en adres, telefoonnommer, van welke datum u sy dienste benodig, besoldiging, volle naam en persoonsnommer van die Bantoe.

## KONFRAKTE

"Normaalweg sal die arbeidsburo nie toelaat dat 'n Bantoe in diens geneem word nie en sal hy ook nie die dienskontrak registreer nie, indien:

- Die Bantoe nie in besit van 'n bewysboek of 'n tydelike identiteitsertifikaat is nie;

- Die Bantoe se bewysboek nie deur sy vorige werkgewer afgeteken is nie;

- Die Bantoe ionger is as 15 jaar;

- Die Bantoe nie kwalifiseer om in u gebied te werk nie;

- Die Bantoe 'n getroude vrou is en sy nie die goedkeuring van haar egenoot het om werk te aanvaar nie;

"Indien die Arbeitsburo magtiging vir indiensneming gee, sal Afdeling A van die Bantoe se bewysboek geëndosseer word ten effekte dat die Bantoe toegelaat word om in die gebied te wees terwyl hy in u diens is.

## DIENS AANVAAR

"Die Bantoe kan dan by u diens aanvaar mits u:

- die arbeidsburo formeel daarvan verwittig — deur die advies van indiensneming kaart wat deur die arbeidsburo voorsien word, te voltooi en aan die buro te oorhandig of te pos tesame met die voorgeskrewe gelde betaalbaar (dit sal deur die arbeidsburo meegedeel word).

- Afdeling B van sy bewysboek voltooi en teken as bewys van die feit dat 'n dienskontrak aangegaan is.

- Indien 'n bewys van registrasie deur die arbeidsburo aan u gestuur word, moet dit sorgvuldig bewaar word. Dit dien dan ook as register van die Bantoes in u diens.

- Indien die Arbeitsburo nie plaaslike arbeid kan voorsien nie en u beskik oor goedgekeurde

huisvesting vir Bantoe-arbeid, kan 'n rekwisisie vir die invoer van arbeid vanaf elders voltooi en by die arbeidsburo ingedien word tesame met die deposito's deur die arbeidsburo vereis. 'n Spesiale aansoekvorm is van die arbeidsburo verkrygbaar. Vergunning sal nie gegee word indien 'n nie-kwalifiserende Bantoe reeds wederregtelik by u diens aanvaar het nie.

## ELKE MAAND

"Binne drie dae na die begin van elke maand moet u:

- die bewysboek van elke manlike Bantoe in u diens teken in die betrokke kolom as bewys van voortgesette indiensneming (dis nie nodig in die geval van vrouens nie);

- die foote (waar van toepassing) aan die arbeidsburo betaal en die kwitansie bewaar. "By diensbeëindiging moet u:

- Afdeling B van die Bantoe se bewysboek afteken;

- die arbeidsburo daarvan verwittig deur die advies van diensbeëindiging (groen kaart) — wat aan u voorsien is of per gewone skrywe.

"Indien dit nodig word om arbeid wat reeds in u diens is, of buite 'n voorgeskrewe gebied of binne 'n ander voorgeskrewe gebied, na 'n ander voorgeskrewe gebied oor te plaas moet dit met die toestemming van die arbeidsburo geskied.

## WEIERING

"Indien u nie toegelaat word om 'n besondere Bantoe in diens te neem nie, sal u dienooreenkomstig verwittig word deur die betrokke arbeidsburo.

"Indien 'n Bantoe hom vir diens by u aanmeld en dit uit sy dokumente blyk dat hy buite die RSA gebore is, sal u onder geen omstandighede toegelaat word om hom in diens te neem nie.

"Indien enige van u Bantoe werkers op 'n openbare plek in 'n stadsgebied moet binne gaan waar 'n aandklokkeëling afgekondig is, gee aan hom 'n skriftelike permit daartoe deur u geteken. Hierdie bepaling is slegs van toepassing op stedelike gebiede.

## WET

"Gemelde prosedure word voorgeskryf in die Wet op Bantoe-arbeid 1964 en Bantoe-arbeidsregulasies, 1965, afgekondig by Goewermentskennisgewing R1892 gedateer 3 Desember 1965 waarvan onder geen omstandighede afgewyk kan word nie."

# Bantoesake-Administrasierade pas dieselfde wetgewing toe Is aangestel om beheer oor Bantoes uit te oefen

**DIE** hoofdirekteur van die Bantoesake-administrasieraad (Karoo), mnr J. F. Meintjes, het Dinsdag tydens die maandelikse vergadering van die Sneebergse Boerevereniging gesê dat dit wel waar is dat Bantoeade aangestel is om oor die hele Republiek beheer oor die Bantoe uit te oefen, maar dis onwaar dat hulle nuwe wette toepas.

Hulle pas nog presies dieselfde wetgewing toe wat vir die afgelope aantal dekades deur die verskillende plaaslike owerhede moes toegepas gewees het.

"Dit is ons beleid en ons benadering om sover moontlik korrekte inligting oor die verskeidenheid van werksaamhede van die Bantoesake Administrasieraad: Karoo aan alle publieke sektore oor te dra en daarom word die geleentheid om vandag hier op te tree verwelkom en wil ons u Boerevereniging graag hartlik bedank vir die uitnodiging," het hy gesê.

"Dit is vir ons 'n voorreg om hier te wees.

"Soos ons uit plaaslike persberigte kon vasstel, bestaan daar onder sommige boere ernstige onsekerhede en wanindrukke oor sekere aspekte van die doelstellings en werksaamhede van Bantoesake Administrasieraad in die algemeen en oor die Karoo Raad se werksaamhede in die besonder, wil dit my voorkom, bestaan dit ook.

"Dit is vandag die doel om te poeg om dié onsekerheid en wanindrukke met korrekte informasie uit die weg te ruim en daarom sal vroeë verwelkom word.

#### VERGISSING

"Die eerste en baie belangrike vergissing wat bestaan en uit die weg geruim moet word is die beskouing dat Bantoesake Administrasieraad alles kom omkrap het. Dit word soms deur sommige lede van die publiek voorgestel asof Bantoesake Administrasieraad nou ewe skielik op die toneel verskyn het en of daar nou ewe skielik baie meer wette en regulasies is wat nagekom moet word.

"Niks is verder van die waarheid nie want die 22 Bantoesake Administrasieraad wat oor die hele Republiek ingestel is, is wel nuwe beheerliggame oor groter geografiese gebiede, maar hulle pas nog presies dieselfde wetgewing toe wat die afgelope aantal dekades deur die verskillende plaaslike owerhede, dit wil sê Munisipaliteite en Afdelingsrade ten opsigte van Bantoe administrasie in blanke gebiede toegepas is; wetgewing waarvan die Stadsgebiedewet nr. 25 van 1945, Wet op Bantoe arbeid, nr. 67 van 1964 en die Bantoe Arbeidsregulasie 1965, die belangrikste is.

"Dit moet vermeld word dat die Bantoesake Administrasieraad wel ingestel is met die doel om beheer uit te oefen en laat ons maar erken dat ons nie almal eenders voel oor die beginsel van die toepassing van beheer nie, dat ons nie almal ewe entoesiasies daaroor is nie, maar dit lê op die politieke terrein en dit staan as 'n voldonge feit voor ons.

#### WERK SAAM

"Dit is nie ons doel om die beheer wat wel in die verlede deur die onderskeie plaaslike bestuurs uitgeoefen is, trouens ons Raad werk steeds ten nouste met plaaslike bestuurs saam, te kritiseer nie, dog die feit dat daar om verskeie redes nie effektiewe beheer was nie, kan nie weggeredeneer word nie.

"So was daar byvoorbeeld vir die 27 landdrosdistrikte onder hierdie raad se beheer by oornamse slegs 2 inspekteurs en 'n groot tekort aan voertuie om inspeksies op plase uit te voer.

"Die Raad het intussen sy inspektoraat tot oor die 20 inspekteurs uitgebrei, 24 voertuie aangekoop en 'n senior inspekteur aangestel wat onder andere groepinspeksies reël van distrik tot distrik.

#### BEGRYP

"U kan dus begryp dat die taak om beheer uit te oefen oor toestroming, arbeidswerwing, kanalisering, indiensplasing en registrasie deur middel van genoemde inspektoraat in samewerking met die 26 arbeidsburo's nou op georganiseerde en gespesialiseerde grondslag uitgevoer word in teenstelling met die vorige bedeling.

"Laat my toe om weer te beklemtoon dat die betrokke wetgewing en toepaslike regulasies nie vreemd of nuut is nie, maar lankal reeds bestaan en dat dit nou deur Bantoesake Adminis-

traasieraad werklik in die praktyk toegepas word.

#### NUUT

"Trouens die enigste stukkie wetgewing wat vir die Bantoe en vir u en my nuut is, is Artikel 26 van die Wet op die Administrasie van Bantoesake, 1971, en hierdie stukkie wetgewing het juis vir die Bantoe nuwe en beter geleenthede geskep om sy arbeid in 'n groter geografiese gebied en dus op 'n wyer arbeidsmark aan te bied.

"Daarom is dit verbasend dat volgens 'n berig in "Die Burger" van 15 Mei die Doornhoek Boerevereniging "verontrus is oor die onstabiele arbeidsmag in die landbousektor weens die werwing van werkers deur die myne en nywerhede en die onvermoë van die Bantoesake Administrasieraad om iets aan die toestand te doen."

"Mag ek hierop met die nodige respek teenoor hierdie Boerevereniging sê dat dit seker nie Bantoesake Administrasieraad se doel en taak is om Bantoe arbeid in die landbousektor te sêfêr van landbou arbeid vas te pen en tot daardie kategorie te beperk nie, veral nie gesien in die lig van die bepaling van Art. 26 van die Wet op die Administrasie van Bantoesake waarna reeds verwys is nie.

"Trouens dit is tog 'n aanvaarde beginsel dat die arbeider sy arbeid aanbied waar dit vir hom die voordeligste is. Vraag en aanbod bepaal dus die beskikbaarheid.

#### FONDSE

"'n Tweede en ewe belangrike vergissing wat wyd aangetref word, is dat Bantoesake Administrasieraad deur die Staat gesubsidieër word. Hierin steek natuurlik geen waarheid nie.

"Bantoesake Administrasieraad kan wel ten opsigte van die uitvoering van beleid as 'n verlenstuk van die Departement van Bantoe-Administrasie en Ontwikkeling beskou word, dog die Rade is statutêr en outonoom in soverre die Rade kragtens Wet ingestel is en tot 'n sekere hoogte outonomieit geniet, dit wil sê onafhanklike besluite neem oor sekere aangeleenthede — onder andere oor hoe en waarvandaan die Raad sy fondse moet kry om sy taak uit te voer.

"In die praktyk word wel beperke outonomieit ondervind aangesien begrotings insluitende begrotings vir kapitale aankope en projekte onderhewig is aan die goedkeuring van die Departement van Bantoe Administrasie en Ontwikkeling.

#### PERSBERIGTE

"U sal ook onthou dat daar

plaaslik persberigte was toe die Bantoesake Administrasieraad — Karoo vroeër vanjaar voorstelle aan die Departement van Bantoe Administrasie en Ontwikkeling voorgelê het ten opsigte van verhoogde bydraes deur werkgewers van Bantoe arbeid.

"Dit is 'n praktiese voorbeeld van die beperkte outonomieit van Rade want die bydraes is toe vanaf 1 April 1975 (heelwat verskillend) in die Staatskoerant afgekondig van die voorstelle wat deur die Bantoesake Administrasieraad—Karoo aan die Departement voorgelê was.

"Dit is dus duidelik dat om beheer uit te oefen, administratief en andersins, 'n diens aan die gemeenskap beteken, want indien geen beheer bestaan het nie, vra 'n mens jousef die vraag af wat die gevolge vir die Bantoes en ander bevolkingsgroepe sou gewees het.

#### RADE

"Vir die Rade om as arbeidsreëlinsinstansies te kan optree wat alle publieke sektore behulpsaam moet wees met die werwing, kanalisering en registrasie van Bantoe arbeid, is kantore, personeel en voertuie onder andere nodig en dus ook fondse.

"Die beskikbare arbeidsburo's is dus daar vir die gerief van almal — ook vir die boer. As boere minder van die arbeidsburo's se diens gebruik maak as ander sektore, is dit 'n situasie wat ongelukkig nie deur Bantoesake Administrasieraad behelp kan word nie — die diens bly beskikbaar.

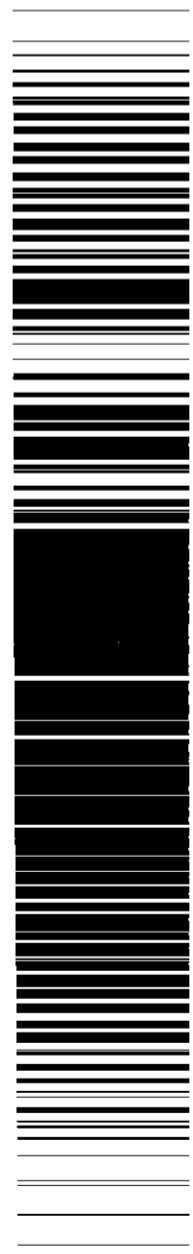
"Die fasiliteite bestaan soos reeds gesê vir alle sektore om te gebruik wanneer nodig.

#### MLU

"Terwyl mnr Roothman net hierna kortliks die wettlike aspekte en prosedure wat op die arbeidsburo's betrekking het aan u sal skets, gaan ek nie nou verder daarop in nie en wil ek volstaan deur u te verwys na die uitgawe van die Graaff-Reinet Advertiser van 27 Februarie vanjaar waarin 'n skrywe van ons kantoor aan mnr M. H. Louw, voorsitter van die Middellandse Landbou-Unie volledig gepubliseer is asook in dieselfde uitgawe 'n persverklaring deur die voorsitter van die Bantoesake Administrasieraad: Karoo.

"Ek wil die hoop uitspreek dat die informasie in daardie uitgawe wyd onder alle boere bekendge-

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# Farm schools are invaluable

Pretoria Bureau  
 MORE than a third of a million African children are attending farm schools in South Africa. Their number has trebled since 1957 and they have more than six thousand teachers.

This was said by Mr. K. B. Hartshorne, director of education planning at the Department of Bantu Education. "A farm school is the responsibility of the farmer concerned," said Mr. Hartshorne, "We cannot go in and insist a school be established on someone's private property. But once the farmer has taken the initiative and decided on a school we do everything we can to help with subsidies towards the cost of the building and the

Department of Bantu Education. "A farm school is the responsibility of the farmer concerned," said Mr. Hartshorne, "We cannot go in and insist a school be established on someone's private property. But once the farmer has taken the initiative and decided on a school we do everything we can to help with subsidies towards the cost of the building and the

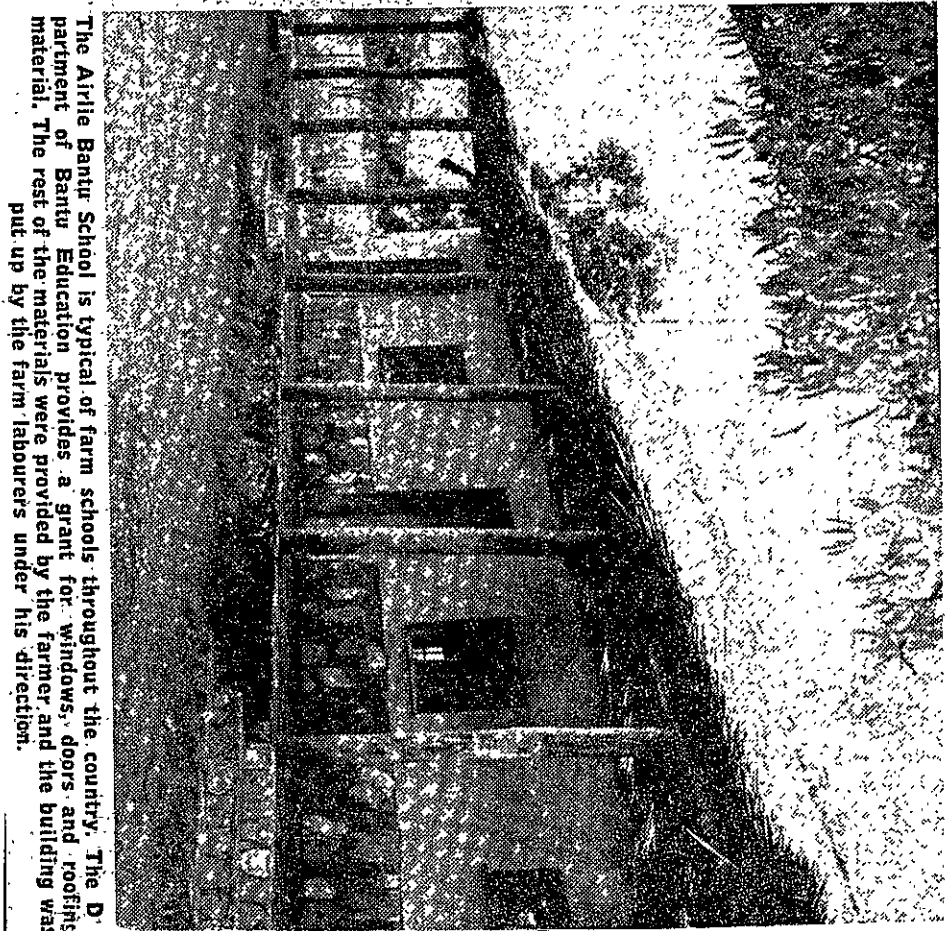
Decks, benches and requirements, such as blackboards and chalk are given by the department, together with some textbooks. It is hoped to provide all books needed in another two years and then a start will be made on providing stationery as well. At present the children have to pay for this themselves. A fairly typical farm school is the one at Airlie.

ON THE FLOOR  
 It was established many years ago and now has 240 children attending in two sessions. There are four teachers, three paid by the department and one by the farmer. It takes the children through to standard six, although most farm schools go only to standard five. Only the top class has desks. The second class has benches and the little ones in the two lower groups sit on the floor, though it is hoped to remedy this soon.

The building is sturdy, with stone floor and thatched roof. It is light and airy and has a stage at one end, and folding doors to divide it in half. Results are excellent: for the past three years the school has had the best examination results of all African schools in the area.

School concerts are memorable occasions. "We never miss them," said the farmer's wife. She added that they start officially at eight in the evening but it was usually nine before they got under way and they never finished before seven the next morning. "The singing is fabulous," said the farmer and manager of the school who did not want his name mentioned. "And when you get 40 kids packed on to that small stage singing and dancing, the effect is terrific."

Farmers who run schools on their estates are doing a valuable service to the community. They are also acting in their own interests. Africans prize education for their children more than anything, and a good school ensures a contented work force.



The Airlie Bantu School is typical of farm schools throughout the country. The Department of Bantu Education provides a grant for windows, doors and roofing material. The rest of the materials were provided by the farmer and the building was put up by the farm labourers under his direction.

# Educate rural black children — farm union

*Daily Dispatch*  
5/6/71  
(4)

EAST LONDON — Black children born on farms could never get an education beyond Standard 6, as there were no schools available for them, the congress of the

Eastern Agricultural Union noted yesterday.

Passing a resolution requesting the Department of Bantu Education to provide adequate facilities for secondary education of blacks in rural areas, the congress pointed out that farm children would not be accepted at urban schools.

"They can attend schools in the homelands, but these schools have no hostel facilities. The children with nowhere to stay obviously cannot go to these schools," one of the delegates, Mr Barry Armstrong, said.

Effectively, the children could go no further than a Standard 6 education.

The farmers also resolved to approach the department for a higher subsidy on classrooms they built themselves. They are presently given

R240 for the first classroom, and R120 for additional rooms.

To build the schools often cost R4 000. They resolved to ask for a subsidy of R750 per classroom.

Replying, the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner for the Eastern Cape, Mr T. R. H. Gafney, said farm children could not attend urban schools as parents of urban children had paid for the schools themselves.

In the Cape Midlands area, the department was short of 650 classrooms, and in the Eastern Cape, it would take the department 31 years to catch up with the backlog of classrooms.

He could not offer any suggestions on how the matter could be overcome, but said it was "out of my field". — DDR.

## Join medical aid call

EAST LONDON — The medical aid scheme for farmers was in a precarious position unless it could recruit more members, the President of the Midlands Agricultural Union, Mr Thys Louw said here yesterday.

Addressing the congress of the Eastern Agricultural Union Mr Louw pointed out that the scheme had attracted only 2 636 members since its inception seven years ago.

The scheme was expensive, averaging R350 to R400 per annum for a family, but Mr Louw pointed out that the farmers were individuals and did not have the large contributions made by urban employers.

"In addition it is voluntary, unlike schemes in the cities. I would appeal to you to join the scheme. It is worthwhile," he said. — DDR.

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# Boards bring workers, employers together

Daily Star 6/6/75

EAST LONDON — The district labour bureau of the Bantu Affairs Administration Boards existed to bring work-seekers and employers together, the chairman of the Eastern Cape board, Mr. L. A. van der Vyver, told the Eastern Agricultural Union congress here yesterday.

But if farmers did not work one hundred per cent with the bureaux, the system could not work.

The increase in the levy from 10c to 40c for each

farm worker was to improve the salaries and conditions to attract the right type of person to the board's service.

"If you pay peanuts, you'll get monkeys," said Mr Van der Vyver.

He said it was incorrect to say workers could not leave farms to seek work in other sectors.

A worker could be signed off to return to his homeland where he could apply for other work but it was illegal for farm workers to leave the rural areas directly for the townships.

Delegates complained that the labour drain to the cities continued in spite of legislation and that the efficient working of the board could not give the assurance of permanent efficient labour on a farm.

"Only the farmer can keep him (the worker) there," said Mr Van der Vyver.

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STAR 11/6/75

# Move to hold farm labour

**Political Correspondent**  
CAPE TOWN — The Government is taking steps to ensure that the mining industry does not recruit labour off South African farms.

The Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr Cruywagen, said a meeting of representatives from agriculture and mining is en-

visaged to discuss labour recruitment "especially having in mind that Bantu workers should not be drawn away from farms."

The move is one of several being planned to meet the problems of farmers. It was discussed by representatives of the South African Agricultural Union with Mr Cruywagen and the Deputy

Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr Janson, yesterday.

The agricultural representatives were told that a meeting of all the executive committees of Bantu administration boards — in which agriculture is represented — was being planned to discuss difficulties in agriculture over contributions for

Black labour.

This meeting would be followed by a conference of all sectors having an interest in the paying of contributions.

It was pointed out at yesterday's meeting that Mr Cruywagen had already directed Bantu administration boards to give attention to the farming community complaints.

# TUCSA backs call on Black labour

STAR 11/6/75

**Labour Reporter**  
A White labour leader called for free competition on the Black labour market today amid prolonged negotiations over mine labour recruitment from White farming areas.

At the same time, the Chamber of Mines disclosed that a survey showed

underemployment in the White farming areas.

Mr Robert Kraft, assistant general secretary of the 220 000-strong Trade Union Council of South Africa said all sectors of the economy would benefit ultimately from free competition for Black labour.

He was asked to comment on last night's statement by the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr

Cruywagen, about further talks on mine labour recruitment from farms.

"The mines sorely need additional workers and it is in the national interest that they be allowed to employ unemployed and underemployed workers in farming areas," Mr Kraft said.

"TUCSA fully supports the call last November by the president of the Chamber of Mines, Mr Schu-

mann, for Black workers to be allowed to sell their labour to the highest bidder."

### TREND

There were many social and economic reasons why surplus labour should be drawn away from the farms. The farming community would have to accept that the depopulation of farming areas and more efficient use of fewer workers was a world-wide trend, Mr Kraft said.

In February the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr M-C Botha, said the Government was studying a proposed agreement between the South African Agricultural Union and the chamber for the recruitment of mineworkers.

by mining  
D. Agre

# Two hit at farm ties

STAR 14/6/75  
3A/1/75

Labour Reporter

A Senator and an author of books on mine and farm labour have spoken out for the "fundamental" right of Black farm workers to seek employment on the mines.

"It is deplorable that farm workers should be prevented by artificial barriers from working on the mines — the one employment sector free from the restrictions of influx control," said Senator Anna Scheepers, president of the Garment Workers Union of South Africa.

Dr Francis Wilson, author and head of research at the school of economics at the University of Cape Town, said:

"It would be outrageous if in the last quarter of the 20th century any group of employers should use the power of the State to prevent men and women from working where they are most valued."

They were asked to comment on the announcement by the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr Cruywagen, that representatives of agriculture and mining are to meet again to discuss mine labour recruitment, specially having in mind that Bantu workers should not be drawn away from farms.

"Far from binding people yet more tightly to jobs whose wages are too low to keep them voluntarily, the time has come to sweep away the cobweb of restrictions," said Dr Wilson.

"People should be allowed to choose their own jobs in the country of their birth."

Senator Scheepers commented: "I fail to understand why the Government should have to deliberate at all over such a basic human right."

Progressive farmers realised that the era of cheap labour was over.

(1.) (4)

~~2) 217~~

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w/ARGUS 11/4/67

# CRC AND FARMERS PUT BACK MEETING

Weekend Argus Reporter

THE meeting between members of the Coloured Representative Council and farmers of the Western Cape Agricultural Union originally set down for next week has been postponed to September 3.

The meeting has been arranged to discuss the plight of farm workers in the Western Cape. It will be held in Cape Town.

The delegation, comprising members of the CRC, is expected to ask representatives of the farmers' union to agree on a basic wage for farm workers.

Mr H. Krynauw, the secretary of the committee, said an effort will be made to bring farm workers closer to the farmers.

There has been much dissatisfaction in the past about the working conditions and wages of farm workers in the Western Cape.

# Fort Hare man will train 150 000 workers

*Deinh. Disp. 16/6/75*

*14*  
*176*  
*21*

EAST LONDON. — The South African Forestry Council has appointed Professor Wolhuter Backer, 38, an authority on work motivation, as director of training for the timber industry.

Professor Backer, professor of industrial psychology and Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences at Fort Hare, takes up his new post on July 1.

He is the author of the book, *Motivating Black Workers*, and is well known for his seminars on personnel management and work

motivation.

Professor Backer will be responsible for training more than 150 000 workers in the timber industry — 95 per cent of them blacks.

The forestry council, a statutory body, has set aside a budget of more than R200 000 to establish the training scheme on a national basis. South Africa's first training school for rural blacks will eventually be established under the scheme. In addition mobile units will reach timber workers in remoter areas. — DDC.



PROF BACKER

HMOSARD 19

Q. 1185.

17 June 1975.

Bantu workers in agriculture recruited for other labour

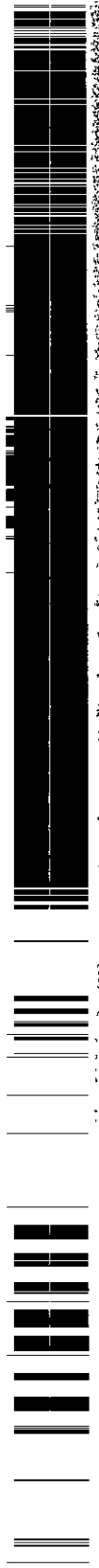
\*33. Mrs. H. S. ZVIAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) Whether steps have been taken to prevent Bantu workers in agriculture from being recruited for labour (a) on the farms or (b) in other sectors of the economy; if so, what steps.
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU AFFAIRS:

- (1) (a) and (b) Mines and other sectors of the economy are not permitted to recruit Bantu workers in agriculture directly. Unemployed Bantu may under certain circumstances be recruited in collaboration with the labour bureau system.
- (2) No

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HANSARD

19

Q. 1196

17 June 1975.

X Labour tenants

349 Mrs. H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) How many labour tenants were registered in Natal at the end of 1974;
- (2) how many labour tenants were (a) found redundant and (b) evicted from farms during 1974;
- (3) how many of the evicted labour tenants and their families were resettled by his Department during that year.

The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) 14 381.
- (2) (a) 437.  
(b) 34.
- (3) 33.

4

HANSARD 19

Q. 1193

17 June 1975.

**X Liaison officers for agricultural labour/  
urban areas**

350 Mrs. H. SUZMAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) How many (a) agricultural labour liaison officers and (b) urban areas liaison officers are there in the employ of his Department;
- (2) (a) how many farms were inspected by agricultural labour liaison officers in 1974 and (b) in what areas were these farms situated.

The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) (a) 32.  
(b) 9
- (2) (a) 7 434.  
(b) Orange Free State—1 549.  
Eastern Cape—1 661.  
Western Areas 400.  
Northern Transvaal 451.  
Transvaal Midlands 2 653.  
Natal 720

(14)  
~~2 259~~  
~~3 132~~

# AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT

Natal Mercury 17/6/75 (Zululeni Show Supplement)

## A new look at labour

THE IMAGE of South African farmers in the eyes of African labour is very poor and unless it improved agriculture will lose its best labour to industry.

Mr Doug Horton and his partner Mr. Bill Mullens, of the farm Cosmoore near Camperdown, have evolved a revolutionary approach to labour relations which is believed to be unique in South Africa. It is based on the recognition of the fact that African workers can be highly productive if given the responsibility and incentive.

Their method involves delegating nearly all authority to African indunas whom they train to run the farm for them. No decisions are taken until the indunas have been consulted and their approval obtained. The indunas are allowed to hire and fire their own labour.

The farm is run by a management committee made up of the two partners and the indunas, and together they plan the farming operations with the indunas carrying out the day-to-day tasks. The partners are responsible only for major policy decisions and financial control. Both admit that they have sometimes been wrong and have had to fall back on the advice of the indunas.

### SHARE

By adopting this system of management they have proved that African workers can be highly productive if allowed to share in the fruits of their labour. Mr Horton says: "If African workers are given the responsibility, they can be trusted to work both efficiently and productively."

Although both men are perhaps visionaries and idealists, the farm has an

impressive record of achievement. Apart from being a consistent winner of farming competitions, the farm — 405 ha and small by South African standards — has a high level of production.

2 500l of fresh milk per day, and an annual production of:

1 500 tons of silage and 250 tons of hay,

40 000 pockets of potatoes 30 000 trays of tomatoes,

60 000 bags of cabbages,

9 000 tons of sugarcane.

Since Mr Horton and Mr Mullens adopted this system of management their turnover has increased from R22 000 in 1961 to a staggering R210 000 today.

Mr Horton, who acted as spokesman for the

is therefore of the utmost importance — it is no use offering a man casual or seasonal work. What he expects is continuous employment.

Mr. D. C. Sinclair, president of the Natal Agricultural Union, agrees that by offering a man more pay, employers are not solving their labour problems. He said: "It is only when a labourer begins to realise that he has the power to buy consumer goods and that he has something to lose — his job — that labour really becomes motivated."

In return, of course, the farmer expects higher output. He is the one who must establish the climate in which, for higher output, — the employee reaps the rewards he wants, and not what

By PETER SUTTON  
Agricultural Reporter

partners, said he believes that there are two kinds of farmer — the operator and the manager. An operator, he says, "is a man who drives his own tractor, supervises his own labour, attends to his own milking, lends a hand with the hoeing and probably works 15 to 18 hours a day."

Perhaps old-timers will agree that this is how it should be. Not Mr. Horton. He says: "My main work is in the office which I only leave to check if things are running smoothly and to discuss with the indunas any change of plan or urgent matter that may crop up." He also believes that a farmer's most productive hours are those spent planning his activities.

### PROBLEM

One of the most crucial problems facing South African farmers is that of training and motivating farm labour and improving the respectability of farm work. How to keep African labour on farms is becoming as important as training them.

In the past there have been great numbers of unskilled Africans in need of work no matter what it was. But today labour is becoming selective and with the demand for labour fast approaching the supply level, the less attractive occupations — farming for example — are feeling the pinch.

Another problem that South African farmers spend hours discussing is: what makes labour work? What, in fact, motivates the agricultural labourer so that he can be productive?

Mr Horton believes that offering more money will only motivate a man for a few months until "the novelty wears off." He says that a labourer must be made to feel that he belongs and is part of the organisation.

### CASUAL

A farmer's utilisation of the labour he employs

the farmer thinks he should have.

On Cosmoore the whole farm is planned so that workers can be offered continuous employment. The problem was to fill the gap between the various seasonal farming operations like weeding, reaping, planting, burning fire-breaks, and so on.

It was the committee of indunas who solved the problem. Why not grow vegetables, they suggested, to keep the workers fully occupied throughout the year?

Perhaps this was an obvious solution, but it is significant that it came from the indunas and not the owners.

I asked Mr. Horton, as many others have done, what he looked for in an induna and how one found one? His answer was: "You don't find an induna; you make one. The most important quality I look for is that of leadership. I concentrate on my indunas, all my activities are spent discussing and motivating these key men. It is a continuous process of motivation and training and it takes years, not weeks or months. Encouragement is important — otherwise you are training him for someone else."

### SYSTEM

It has taken the two partners 15 years to evolve this system of shared management and anyone who visits the farm is soon convinced that it works.

I asked him to give some pointers to other farmers who might be interested in following their example. That many are anxious to learn is evident from the fact that he is being continually asked to address farmers' meetings or being visited by groups of farmers from all over South Africa.

In his opinion these are some of the factors needed:

(Continued on Page 23)





SHARED management — Bill Mullens (left) and Doug Horton discuss the day's work with their indunas. Together they jointly farm a highly productive enterprise near Camperdown.

(Continued from previous page)

## NEW LOOK LABOUR

Farmers must have the right attitude of mind. They must believe that the system is practical. They must learn that Africans have the ability to cope with the responsibility given to them.

Farmers must learn not to speak with "two

voices." Mr. Horton says we all adopt a different tone of voice when addressing an employee. "Don't" he says, "for they can hear the change in inflection."

Communicate on a man-to-man basis without being bossy or conciliatory. Communication is an attitude of mind as well as the ability to speak the other man's language.

Be respectful at all times. The labourer you are berating may hold a high position in his own community. If you do not show him the respect that is his due he will not respect you.

### STEPS

Once farmers have adopted the correct approach and have the

right attitude, the next steps are simple:—

Choose an enterprise on the farm that is already running well with an established routine.

Train and encourage an induna so that he can gradually take over. Point out mistakes and let him learn from experience.

Do not delegate responsibility and then take it back. Trust the person whom you have selected and let him use his initiative.

Concentrate only on the key men on the farm — the indunas and sub-indunas. Recognise that some men will always be labourers while others are leaders. Leave the labourers to the indunas to train and give orders to.

In Mr. Horton's opinion, Africans appreciate leisure far more than Europeans. As he says, "Quite a number of farmers seem to get upset when they see their labour sitting around in the sun or gazing into a fire when the day's work is done."

These men, he says, should not be despised, for if they have worked hard they appreciate sitting down and doing nothing far more than a White man can understand.

Appreciating this point of view has solved one of dairying's most difficult problems — that of week-end duty. By discussing the problem with the workers, themselves, a system of three times a day milking was worked out so that

who has a problem. He looks upon himself as the head of a big family who all look to him for support and encouragement in times of trouble.

The greatest compliment to the labour system evolved on Cosmoore comes from the employees on the farm who do not regard it as a place of work but as their home.

Generally Africans consider their fellows who work on farms as inferiors. This is not the case with Cosmoore and employment there is very much sought after.

Professor C. L. S. Nyembezi, a former lecturer in Bantu Languages at Fort Hare, who knows the farm well, told me that the Africans on Cosmoore regard the farm as their home and the owners as their fathers.

everyone had time off. Now the dairy is the popular section on the farm.

### NOVEL

The approach to discipline on Cosmoore is another of their novel ideas. There is a number of committees and one is the disciplinary committee, with the indunas trying the cases themselves. Those found guilty — of absenteeism or drunkenness — are fined and this money goes into a fund for providing amenities for the whole community.

Domestic problems are also put to the committees for discussion.

But Mr. Horton also believes that the gap between worker and employer must never become too wide. He is therefore always prepared to listen to anyone

# Mine chief hits at labour ban

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STAR 24/6/75

## Labour Reporter

The president of the Chamber of Mines, Mr A W S Schumann, expressed regret today at White agriculture's failure to permit recruitment of unemployed Black workers for the mines.

His presidential address at the chamber's annual meeting highlighted the Black labour shortage and inflation as the industry's most formidable problems.

In the 13 months up to the end of April, the proportion of South Africans on the mines had risen from 22 to 32 percent, Mr Schumann said.

The chamber was "specially interested" in attracting unemployed or underemployed workers from farming areas without disturbing the interests of the farmer. But progress towards agreed action was "regrettably slow."

Mr Schumann expressed the hope that Malawi's

recruitment ban would be lifted and said that recruitment in Lesotho and Mozambique had increased "quite markedly" during the last few months.

Mr Schumann also revealed the chamber's demand that:

- The cost of unskilled (Black) labour constituted 23 percent of total working costs on the gold mines last year.

- Deferred pay and remittances to home territories amounted to R57-million.

- A new fortnightly newspaper for Black mineworkers is to be launched.

Referring to the dispute over a five-day week and the chamber's demands for White concessions to Black labour, Mr Schumann said: "It would be a pity if ill-founded fears were to hold up an advance of a kind that is already commonplace elsewhere in industry.

"We are going to need

all the men we can get. White and Black. None need fear there will be a loss of opportunity for rewarding and life-long careers."

It would be a pity if artificial restrictions were to stand in the way of both the five-day week and improved productivity and earnings for Black workers, Mr Schumann said.

# Farmers

deny

labour

# monopoly

Staff Reporter

THE agricultural industry had no aim to monopolise a large section of the country's African labour force, the director of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr Chris Cilliers, said in Pretoria yesterday.

He was reacting to a reported statement by the president of the Chamber of Mines, Mr A. W. S. Schumann, earlier this week that he regretted White agriculture's failure to permit recruitment of unemployed Black workers for the mines.

He said the chamber was particularly interested in attracting unemployed or underemployed workers from farming areas without disturbing the interests of the farmer.

## ACCESS

Mr Cilliers said the mines, like all other sectors of the economy, had free access to available Black labour.

It was becoming a highly competitive situation where wage levels and working conditions were important factors.

"We certainly would object if the mines or other interests went on to the farms and started recruiting Black labour".

But if the mining industry consulted the Bantu labour boards, pin-pointed areas where there was unemployment, and recruited there, the agricultural industry could not object.

For instance Black labour was scarce in the Free State, but there were other areas where there was surplus labour, he said.

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2 Agri Union

# Hut era over, says board

RDW  
28/6/75

By JIM KIDSON

THE era of the old mud hut to house African farm labourers is over, says the chief director of the East Rand Bantu Administration Board, Mr Frikkie Buitendag.

The board hopes to build 2 000 four-roomed houses on farms in its area during the year.

Mr Buitendag said farmers were responding enthusiastically and were asking for plans so they could carry out their own construction work.

Coupled with this, comes news of an ambitious scheme to assist in the training of homeland farmers.

The homeland governments will select about 100 farmers this year to

travel to the East Rand on the board's bursary scheme.

They will be placed with local farmers who are employing modern farming techniques.

The homeland farmers are required to stay on the farms for at least a year, preferably 18 months, while they study various aspects of modern agriculture.

The Cabinet of the Ciskei Government recently travelled to the board's headquarters in Germiston to discuss the scheme.

Mr Buitendag said the students were placed on dairy farms and chicken farms, among others.

The farmers provide the students with food and accommodation and they are paid during the training.

Organised agriculture plans to launch a recruitment organisation second only to that of the Chamber of Mines — to ensure adequate supplies of Black farm labour.

This was announced in Pretoria today by the director of the South Africa Agricultural Union, Mr C J P Cilliers.

Mr Cilliers believes there is ample Black labour available for the needs of all South African employers.

"But the Black workers will have to be motivated and drawn by better wages and working conditions," he told The Star. He denied there was

Two primary industries — mining and agriculture — have become the prime competitors for South Africa's Black labour resources.

The Chamber of Mines has made it clear that it is not permitted to recruit all the Black labour it believes to be available in White farming areas.

The Star's Labour Reporter, SIEGFRIED HANNIG, approached the South African Agricultural Union for its view of the changing labour situation brought about by the shortage of mine labour and the need to employ more South African Blacks on the mines.

any substantial unemployment and underemployment among Blacks in White farming areas.

"White farms are being run with an indispensable nucleus of Black workers who are fully employed throughout the year and who live on farms with their families," he said.

"That is why farmers are being granted loans of up to R2 000 per housing unit at one percent interest to improve living conditions and to attract more workers."

"We are also taking full

advantage of the Government's scheme for in-service training of Blacks in White areas. One of the eight industrial training centres now being built and equipped at government cost is due to open at Potchefstroom in January for the exclusive use of organised agriculture.

"We hope another one — for the timber growing regions of the Eastern Transvaal or Natal — will be allocated to us in time to be opened in March," Mr Cilliers said.

### From the homelands

Mr Cilliers emphasised that there was no seasonal Black labour on White farms.

"All our seasonal labour has to be recruited from the homelands or from White areas. That is why we are planning to establish a central recruitment organisation similar to that of the mining industry," he said.

The plan was to coordinate labour requirements for harvesting or shearing throughout the country, to recruit the necessary labour and to provide basic training for the recruits.

Mr Cilliers pointed out that such a recruiting service already provided labour for woolgrowers.

The next step was to extend the scheme to forestry and maize harvesting, he said.

"As far as we are concerned, unemployed workers in White areas — whether be farming areas or urban areas — are recruited by any

### Poaching is out

"The only thing we object to is recruitment on White farms or in White farming areas where there is already an acute labour shortage, in which case there would not be any unemployed labour," Mr Cilliers said.

"We cannot allow recruitment on farms — just as we shall not try to poach workers from mine compounds."

Mr Cilliers pointed out that Black workers in White farming areas were free to migrate to Black homelands. They did so to an increasing extent, he said, and from the homelands they could seek work wherever they wanted.

The mining industry, unlike agriculture, is permitted to recruit abroad. When agriculture asked the Government for permission to seek labour South Africa should look after its own Blacks first, Mr Cilliers said.

### The same boat

"Organised agriculture recognises the need for more Black South Africans to work on the mines," Mr Cilliers said.

"Mining and agriculture are in the same boat now. Both of us are trying to find sufficient labour within South Africa and I believe there are enough workers for all employers."

"Let us hope that the immediate pressures that are not jeopardising the friendly relationship and co-operation between agriculture and mining."

FOOTNOTE: The head of the Chamber of Mines recruitment organisation, Mr Tony Fleischer, commented: "We welcome competition — as long as it is fair competition — and we do not wish to harm the farming sector."

"But we can show that there is underemployment, perhaps not on White farms but certainly in which farming areas are closed to us because of limitations on the issue of labour agents' licences."

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# Colenso Africans facing eviction

Natal Mercury 12/7/75

African Affairs Correspondent

**MORE THAN 100 Africans living on farms in Colenso face eviction or gaol—some have been gaoled already—but they have nowhere to go.**

Most of the people have lived all their lives on the farms they have been told to leave. Mr. Mantaliano Madondo, born on Vaalkrantz during the Bambata Rebellion in 1906, was told to leave by June 20 last. He has since spent 20 days in prison for trespassing on land he has known since childhood.

Mr. H. A. Dreyer, assistant Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner, said: "We will do everything we can to help."

Five kraalheads from Moordkraal, Vaalkrantz and Gannahoek, spoke to the Mercury yesterday

about their situation.

Mr. Pikinkane Mbata has lived and worked as a tenant labourer on Moordkraal since he was born 35 years ago. His kraal comprises 16 people and a neighbour, Mr. Joel Mabaso, has a kraal of nine.

Last year the owner ordered the Africans off Moordkraal by February this year because he was selling the farm.

Mr. Mbata said: "I was also sent to gaol for 20 days, and the police have told me they will put me in gaol again. What can I do? I haven't any land."

### CATTLE

Mr. Bckiza Mbaso (69), born on Gannahoek, part owned by Mr. A. P. Botha, has appeared before the magistrate in Colenso. "He gave me a warning. He told me I must take my people and my cattle away."

Mr. Mbaso has a kraal of 11 people and on the same farm is Mr. Tunzimpi Kanyile, with a kraal of 10. Mr. Mbaso said: "Mr. Botha said he was selling the farm, but we have nowhere to go."

Mr. Mantaliano Madondo, with a kraal of 28 people, on the farm Vaalkrantz, owned by Mr. Pat Mattison, is only one of several kraalheads affected by the farmer's decision to sell.

### NOTICES

Mr. Fana Dlimpa has a kraal of nine, Mr. Mbalegilo Magubane has 12, Mr. Mnuwa Madondo has 16 and Mr. Killiman Mbaso has 10. They have all been informed of Mr. Mattison's decision to sell and have all received eviction notices.

Mr. E. A. Goedeke, director of the Drakensberg Bantu Administration Board, in whose area the farms lie, suggested the Africans go to a chief in KwaZulu and ask for land or apply to the KwaZulu Department of Community Affairs.

He conceded his Board was responsible for Africans in White areas, but he said: "We can't move these people on to some other White farmer's property and we can't move them into an urban township because they don't qualify."

Mr. H. A. Dreyer, assistant Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner, said: "If any farmer has any complaint he should get in touch with this office. In fact we are dealing with the Gannahoek farm now, and I am surprised that action is being taken against the Africans there."

Mr. Pat Mattison, owner of Vaalkrantz, told the Mercury last night that the sale of the farm "is my business and has nothing to do with you."

# LABOUR CLASH DEATH

16/7/75 Mercury Reporter

PIETERMARITZBURG—  
One man was killed and two injured in a clash between gangs of labourers employed by two timber companies in the Kranskop area on Monday night.

Police said that at about 7 p.m. on Monday two African men, one from the firm of Hunt Leuchars and the other from the Umyoti Wattle Company, began brawling.

Then 18 men from the one firm and 14 from the other attacked each other with sticks and knobkieries, killing one and injuring two.

Thirty-one men were arrested and are likely to appear in court today.

(4)

# Call for lessons on farm work

*Cape Times 17/7/75*

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING, recreational facilities and a pension scheme were among proposals for the improvement of working conditions for Coloured farm workers accepted yesterday by the Boland Agricultural Union.

The proposals were put forward by delegates on the second day of the union's three-day national congress at a City hotel.

Also accepted was a call from the Paarl Farmers Association for a streamlining of the procedure used in issuing identity cards to Coloured workers.

A union executive member, Mr. D. H. Carinus said that the number of Coloured farm workers had declined from 34 per cent of total farm labour in 1975 to 16,9 per cent in 1970.

Many Coloured workers still in agriculture could benefit from training to cope with mechanization. This, in turn, would help to check the drift from the farm to the city.

Elementary farm methods could be taught in Coloured primary schools and agriculture as a subject could be given between St 5 and St 8 in the high schools in certain rural areas, said Mr. Carinus.



# DELEGATE

ARGUS 17/7/75

## ATTACKS

## DELAY IN

## TB TESTS

THE two weeks delay between the taking of X-rays and the confirmation of tuberculosis in Black workers represented a threat to other workers who came into contact with affected workers during this period, the Bolland Agricultural union congress in Cape Town was told yesterday.

Mr J. de Villiers of the Western Cape Fresh Milk Producers Union, said although the incidence of tuberculosis in the Transkei and homelands was declining, Black workers were X-rayed when they returned from the homelands.

But because of the staff shortage at the X-ray unit, it was two weeks before the disease was confirmed.

Mr de Villiers said those workers who were not seriously affected with tuberculosis were given tablets to take and it was the responsibility of the employer to ensure these were taken regularly.

However this was not always done and the tubercular germs could spread and endanger other Coloured and Black workers.

Mr de Villiers suggested workers suspected of having tuberculosis be kept away from work which involved the handling of food. This included work in hotels.

He suggested a solution might be to X-ray workers before they left the homelands. Congress agreed to ask the Department of Health to ensure that Black workers recruited for work on dairy farms were kept free from tuberculosis.

(1) 4

(2) 91

(3) 102

(4) 200

(4)

4

# Brits pair in Botswana labour case

RDM 19/7/75

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**By CLIVE EMDON**  
**GABORONE.** — Two South African farmers from Brits have been released on R500 bail each after being charged for contraventions of labour recruitment laws.

The charges arose after 36 Botswana farmworkers returned from South Africa and complained of ill treatment.

Some of them were treated for wounds alleged to have been received during their employment.

The farmers, Mr Jan Johannes Powell and Mr Jacobus Johannes Odendaal both pleaded not guilty to

the charges when taken to court on Wednesday evening.

The charges are:

● That they committed an offence by recruiting at least seven workers under the age of 18;

● That they failed to pay their employees in full after entering an employment contract during the period February 23 1974 to June 2, 1975;

● That they recruited employees without medically examining seven of them;

● That they employed a recruiter, Mr Lerotsi Mokopotsa, who did not have a permit.

State counsel, Mr A. Ma-

rumo, asked for a postponement of the case to allow the State to bring witnesses.

He also asked that the two men should be kept in custody.

"The accused are foreigners from South Africa. They came on a mission of recruiting manpower.

"They have been charged with serious offences which affect the purpose of their presence in Botswana," he said.

Mr Marumo argued that the history of the two farmers was "marred by dishonesty" and he feared they might possibly escape to South Africa.

He asked that if bail was granted their passports and vehicle be confiscated.

Mrs J. Helfer, instructed by Richard Lyons, said the two men had come of their own accord and "it will be unjustified to deprive them of their free movement".

The Chief Magistrate, Mr A. Osibogun granted bail of R500 each and said the men were to report to the Central Police Station every Monday.

The case resumes on September 2.

**Workers warned of cities**

The workers of the city of New York are being warned that the city government is planning to raise the rates of the city's various utilities. This move is expected to result in a significant increase in the cost of living for the average worker.

It is stated that the city government is planning to raise the rates of the city's various utilities, including water, gas, and electric power. This move is expected to result in a significant increase in the cost of living for the average worker.

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2. 31
- (3) 317
- (4) 281

(4)

# A victory for Solly and dialogue

Sunday Times (Extra) 20/7/75

**MR SOLLY ESSOP, independent CRC member for Bokkeveld, is "delighted" with the Boland Agricultural Union's decision at their annual congress this week to accept far-reaching recommendations on wages and conditions of farm workers.**

"This is what I have been fighting for all my life" an elated Mr. Essop said from his Beaufort West home, and it makes my heart glad that at last the most deprived and exploited people in our community — the farm workers and their families — are going to get a stake in the country.

Mr. Essop has been the

most consistent and hard-working CRC member insofar as the plight of farm labourers is concerned and it was largely due to his efforts that a joint CRC-Agricultural Unions committee was established earlier this year to go into the whole question of farm labourers' pay and conditions.

Among the proposals which the Boland Agricultural Union agreed to were:

- Immediate long term programme for the formal training of Coloured farm workers.

### Facilities

- Incentives to farmers to provide recreational and sport facilities, schools, clinics and creches for their workers.

- An agreement in principle to establish a com-

mission to go into the possibility of establishing a pension fund for farm labourers.

- A minimum rate of pay and a record of service in agriculture which would provide incentive for promotion, transport concessions, improved working conditions and training facilities.

An official of the SA Dried Fruit Association, Mr. N. H. Brink also called for acceptance of a differentiated wage-scale for farm labourers based on experience and not on academic qualifications.

Asked to comment on the proposals, Mr. Essop, who was discharged from Groote Schuur Hospital a few weeks ago after a heart operation, said much of what he had been fighting for had been agreed to by the Boland organisation.

"Their acceptance of

these proposals gives me hope that White people in this country are changing for the better and this must inevitably have a profound effect on the country as a whole.

### Attitude

Mr. Essop believes that the Boland Union's acceptance of the far-reaching proposals was a "victory for my policy of dialogue".

"If we had adopted the Labour Party's attitude of refusing to talk to people and boycotting everything then we would not have been able to bring this very important issue of the farm labourers wages and conditions to a head", Mr. Essop said.

Mr. Essop, when informed of the Boland Union's decision, immediately telephoned the union's president, Mr

Giepie van Zyl, to thank him "for having worked to interest the farmers in his Union in the plight of their workers."

Mr. Jaap Muller, Labour Party CRC member, for Swartberg was also "very happy that the farmers are at last facing the fact that they have not treated farm labourers as they should have."

Mr. Muller, who was the first man ever to raise the plight of farm labourers in the CRC said the Boland Union's acceptance of the proposals "must be welcomed very much".

### Together

"The desire to bring about long overdue and much-needed change in the lives of farm labourers is obviously there and one can only hope that now they have

themselves admitted the plight of the labourers, they will work fast to implement their proposals as soon as possible."

He felt that all parties in the CRC should now work together with the Boland Agricultural Union to bring to fruition the long-desired changes and by doing so, "set an example to other agricultural bodies throughout the country so that these principles can be implemented not only in the Boland, but throughout the country."

He expressed the hope that the Boland Agricultural Union now that it "has seen the light will not find reasons for delaying the implementation of its proposals because that would only serve to make people lose hope and confidence in the future", he said.

# Bok urges recreation for farm labourers

ARGUS 23/7/75

From a Staff Reporter

PAARL. — Lack of recreational facilities for labourers could be a cause of the high staff turnover on farms, and there was a need for urgent research into the problem, Springbok cricketer Eddie Barlow said last night.

He was addressing the annual meeting of the Paarl Farmers' Association here.

The whole matter of providing much-needed recreation facilities for farm labourers is so comprehensive that organised agriculture could well take the problem to experts who have experience in commerce and industry, Mr. Barlow said.

Farmers were less able to afford a high labour turnover than commerce or industry and the problem had been extensively researched. However, attention should be given to the lack of recreational facilities as a possible contributory factor.

Employee relations in agriculture were no different than in any other field, Mr. Barlow said.

## CONSULTATION

It was important that the labourers themselves should be consulted, he said. He had often come across people in the sporting world who thought they knew what was best for others, but the workers should be allowed to speak for themselves.

It seems a high-level committee should investi-

gate the question of what the farm labourer really needs. In any schemes the labourers should be given a say in the management and running of the project.

The problem should be tackled urgently, but the labourers should point the way, he said.

(4)

# Farmers' objection

*Cape Times 30/7/78*

THE Cape Flats and District Farming Association yesterday objected to Divisional Council approval of living quarters for Coloured labourers in the White farming area of Philippi.

The objection was based on the Association's claim that the cottages had been built for 240 labourers without prior planning permission, that the labourers were not employed on farm work, and that the farm occupant was a building contractor and not a bona fide farmer.

The matter was referred back to the Works Committee for further discussion.

# Blacks will benefit from liquor profits

31/7/75

The Argus Bureau  
PRETORIA.—The Government has made a major policy switch to inject millions of rands of additional funds into services for urban Blacks from profits on the sale of liquor.

Reversing its share of profits on hard liquor (not Bantu beer), the Government is now allowing 50 percent of profits to be used for services in the urban areas. Previously 80 percent of the profits were taken up by the Department of Bantu Administration for use else-

where (including the homelands).

The change was made by the Government to demonstrate that it was prepared to play its part with employers and Black urban residents in putting the financing of urban services for Blacks on an entirely new and sound footing.

Details of the new deal emerged from an interview today with the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr. W. A. Cruywagen, who held a conference in Johannesburg on Tuesday at which the

Bantu Administration Boards, commerce, industry, agriculture and city ratepayers were represented.

The three-pronged attack on the problem of finding funds for services in the urban townships involves:

- ① Increased Government contribution from hard liquor profits.
- ② Increased employers' levies, which took effect in April this year.
- ③ Increased rents on housing, which is seen as the contribution the Blacks themselves make to stable urban financing.

Mr. Cruywagen said Tuesday's meeting was convened after discussions with the South African Agricultural Union during the parliamentary session and after other complaints had been received concerning the increased levies.

Biggest complaints had been that farmers' levies had gone up without better services being given in return. Farmers had called for a reduction in their 40c levy and also for better services.

(2) 4  
3 319

# KID-SNATCHERS

## Sick Transkei children claim they were hijacked to farms in Natal...

**STARTLING CLAIMS** that African children are brought from the Transkei, without their parents' knowledge and often against their own wishes, to work on Natal farms for as little as R4 a month are being investigated.

The investigation, by Government and local Bantu Affairs officials, was sparked by an outbreak of typhoid and other sickness among young farm labourers in the Pietermaritzburg area. Thirteen youngsters have been admitted to hospital from one farm in the past three months.

The officials are checking the living conditions of the labourers. "Everything will be investigated — wages, the labour recruiting system, the registration of labourers, the lot," says Pietermaritzburg's Bantu Affairs Commissioner, Mr Ken Mungeston.

Three sick boys I interviewed at Eden-dale Hospital claimed they were unwillingly recruited as farm labourers and brought by van from the Transkei to Natal.

One said he got into the van under the impression he was being given a lift home. Another said he thought he was being taken a short distance to do a job. The third thought he was being taken for a joyride and was amazed when he ended up on a Natal farm.

I was told by one farmer, Mr Gerrit Barend of Claridge, near Pietermaritzburg, that he had employed boys without their parents' consent. They were brought to him by an African recruiter. He planned to apply to have them registered.

### Van loads

Labourers on his farm received at least 50 cents a day — R13 a month.

His son, Carl, who helps run their sugar farm, said he believed many African labour recruiters brought vanloads of people illegally from the Transkei to work on Natal farms.

"They are in this for money, making R8 a head and most times overloading their vans," he said.

Young boys got a minimum 25 cents a day — R6,50 a month — for working on the farm. They might include some from the Transkei.

The three boys in hospital said they were driven to Natal by White men. One claimed he was paid R5 a month and another only R4. They were allowed to keep only a small amount of their pay because, they were told,

BY TERRY MCELLIGOTT

if they kept it all they might run away.

Two boys said they were 14 and the third said he was 16, but they looked younger.

One 14-year-old boy said he lived near Lushisiki in the Transkei and was sent to town by his mother to buy a shirt for school.

He and two other boys met an African man in town who told them to get into a van. The driver was White.

### Told to work

"We thought we were being given a lift back home and refused because we had not got what we had come to town for."

The man said they were being given a lift and they got in, thinking they were going for a joy ride. The African was left at Lushisiki and they were driven most of the day until the came to a farm near Pietermaritzburg. They were told they were there to work. That was three months ago.

He was told to clear weeds from the sugar cane. His pay some months was R5.

"I was given the money to have a look at it — and then it was taken away again. The farmer said we would run away if we were given all the money."

And he confirmed that he would have run away. His parents did not know where he was.

"They didn't give me a chance to go home to tell my parents where I was being taken and I had no idea where we were going."

Another boy from the Tabankulu district in the Transkei said he and two companions were in Flagstaff about three months ago when an African woman told them they would be taken by car to their homes.

Instead they were taken to a farm near Pietermaritzburg in a van driven by a White man. It carried about 10 people. He was not looking for a job and was not told by the woman he was going to a farm to work. He received R4 a month "but they are keeping it safe." He kept 50 cents.

He wrote to his parents to say he was on the farm, staying in a shack that leaked. The food was horrible. His parents said he should stay because there was a faction fight at home.

He fell ill with stomach trouble and was taken to hospital by the farmer.

"I want to go home, I think I can find the way. But my money is with the farmer," he said.

An official of the Drakensberg Bantu Affairs Administration Board has taken a statement from the boy, who is being kept at a place of safety on the instructions of the Bantu Affairs Commissioner until it is decided whether he will be sent back to the Transkei.

Another schoolboy, aged 16, of Flagstaff district said he was riding to town in an ox-wagon with three companions to buy mealie meal for his mother when a van stopped alongside.

It contained a White man and African woman. The boys were told to get into the van, "to help the man do some work". They were all brought to a farm near Pietermaritzburg.

He became ill and the farmer took him to a clinic. From there he was sent to hospital. The three others ran away one night. He received R1,35 for working part of a month. He wrote to his mother but received no reply.

Farmer Barend told me that on his farm young labourers were encourage to leave their money with him to save it and not squander it. It was done voluntarily.

He did not have time to answer many questions because he had an appointment.

Carl Barend said: "As far as I am concerned the illness which broke out among our labourers was brought in with them from the Transkei."

He sometimes went to the Transkei to fetch labour recruits but these were legally registered. Sometimes African recruiters brought Transkeians illegally into Natal.

"We got two lots of labourers like this. We go through the procedure of registering them."

### Money banked

Sometimes the recruiters told recruits they would be paid fantastic amounts.

"When the recruiter drops the labourers he skidaddles. The labourer, when he finds out what he is to be paid, does not want to work for you."

"We can't be held responsible for, or know, what the recruiter tells him."

Some young labourers were made to save their money by leaving it with his father, who banked it for them. This was done at the insistence of the parents.

I was told that the Drakensberg Bantu Affairs Administration Board would seldom agree to a boy under 16 being brought to Natal from the Transkei to work. And his parents' written permission was compulsory.



# Child labour

## 'racket' is investigated

STAR 4/8/75

Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG — Allegations that African children are taken unwillingly from the Transkei and forced to work on farms in Natal for meagre wages are being investigated "very thoroughly."

The Bantu Affairs commissioner, Mr. Ken Muggleston, said today that there was no doubt that boys had been brought from the Transkei and had worked on farms for low wages.

It was impossible to confirm or deny claims that the children have been brought into Natal by White men, he said.

The allegations were brought to light following the admission of at least 13 children to Edendale hospital since June with suspected typhoid.

A senior official at the hospital said today that six of the children had contracted typhoid and another one appeared to have it already.

He said that all six were from a farm. The farmer was not available for comment today.

### R4 A MONTH

It had been claimed that the children were taken from the Transkei without their parents' consent and without knowing where they were going.

On some farms they worked as labourers for R13 a month, but some claimed to have received as little as R4, of which R3.50 was "withheld" to prevent them running away.

Mr Muggleston said that after the reports of typhoid he and the Dra-

kensberg Bantu Affairs Administration had decided to launch a high-level investigation.

He said that once most of the groundwork had been completed, every effort would be made to trace their parents.

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# Slave boy kidnap charges probed

4/8/76

Mercury Reporter

**PIETERMARITZBURG** — The Bantu Affairs Commissioner and the Drakensberg Bantu Affairs Administration are investigating allegations that young African boys are kidnapped in the Transkei and taken to farms in Natal where they are forced to work for low wages.

Mr. Ken Muggleston, the Bantu Affairs Commissioner, confirmed last night that his department was looking into the whole question of how these children were recruited, what wages they were paid and what conditions they were living under on the farms.

The allegation that the boys were recruited without their parents' consent was brought to light after the admission of a number of the young-

sters to Edendale Hospital.

Mr. Muggleston said a few cases of typhoid had been reported and he and the Drakensberg Bantu Administration were investigating.

"At this stage I do not think it would be proper to comment on the situation as our investigations are incomplete," he said.

A Pietermaritzburg farmer, Mr. Gerrit Barends, who told a Sunday newspaper he had employed several young boys without their parents' consent, said last night: "The best thing to do is to leave things as they are and let the authorities go into it."

Labourers on his farm received R13 a month, but it has been claimed that some youngsters on other farms were being paid only R4.

These wages have allegedly been withheld in some cases to prevent the young boys from running away.

S.A. Digest 8/8/75

**LABOUR**

**FARM LABOUR — NEW DEAL**

Organised agriculture plans to launch a recruitment organisation — second only to that of the Chamber of Mines — to ensure adequate numbers of relatively-skilled Black farm workers for White-owned farms.

This was announced in Pretoria recently by the director of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr C. J. P. Cilliers.

He told *Star* reporter Siegfried Han-  
nig that Black workers would be moti-  
vated and drawn by better wages and  
working conditions.

Mr Cilliers said that Black farm workers were fully employed throughout the year and lived on farms with their families. There was still a shortage of workers, however, and farmers were being granted loans of up to R2 000 per dwelling at one per cent a year to improve housing and general living conditions, and to attract more workers.

As regards training, one of the eight industrial training centres now being built and equipped at Government cost is due to open at Potchefstroom, Western Transvaal, for the exclusive use of organised agriculture. "We hope another one — for the timber growing regions of the Eastern Transvaal and Natal — will be allocated to us in time to be opened in March next year," Mr Cilliers added.

The planned central recruitment or-  
ganisation would co-ordinate labour  
needs for harvesting and shearing  
throughout the country, and provide  
basic training for recruits. There was  
already a recruiting service for wool-  
growers.

① 4

② ~~Mr. P. S. Cilliers~~

③ 332

④ 123

⑤ ~~Agric. Training~~

⑥ 200

## VORSTER'S DATE WITH A WATERY GIANT

F.M. 8/8/75 (4)

Prime Minister John Vorster officially opens the 83 km Orange-Fish River tunnel later this month (August 22).

Initially it will supply much-needed water to farmers in the Fish River valley. At the next stage, in about two years' time, the Cookhouse Tunnel on the Fish-Sundays River will be opened to supply farmers in the Sundays River valley. Ultimately, by about 1986, this scheme will also supply additional water to Port Elizabeth for industrial development.

Other news of the Orange River project is that the P K le Roux dam is practically back on schedule, despite delays due to the flooding of the coffer dam last year.

Meanwhile, development on the Berg River-Saldanha scheme is being pushed "as fast as possible". But Secretary for Water Affairs J P Kriel warns that consumption in the region is increasing so fast that restrictions may be necessary next summer.

Also in the SW Cape, an entirely new development is being started at Duivenhoks to provide purified water for domestic and stock-watering purposes.

This should increase the grazing capacity of the veld by over 50%. At present, most water in the region is unfit for human or animal consumption due to its high salinity. A similar scheme is to be started at Ruensveld East at the end of this year.

Other major schemes underway at the Department of Water Affairs this year include:

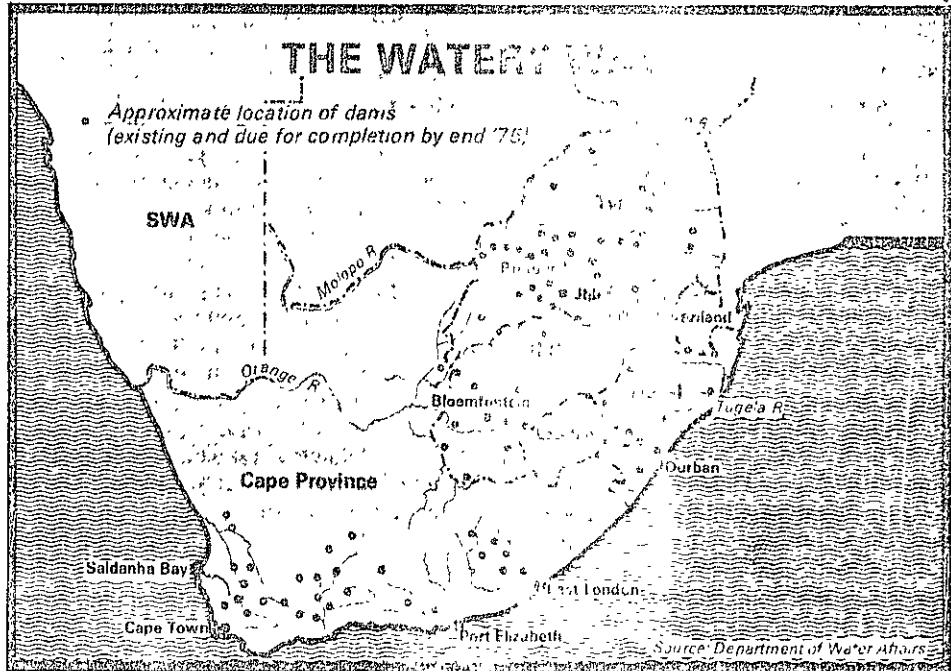
● **The Vaal complex:** The first phase of the Tugela-Vaal scheme is now in operation and work on the second phase is under way. This includes the Drakensberg pump storage system, a combined affair between the Department of Water Affairs and Escom. It is

partly to create power for Escom, and will also pump water over the mountain into Sterkfontein from where it will be released during drought periods into the Vaal River, hopefully putting an end once and for all to shortages on the Witwatersrand. Sterkfontein Dam will eventually be bigger than Vaal Dam, but it will take till 1986 to fill up.

● **Eastern Transvaal:** The proposed R34m Sterkspruit Dam on the upper reaches of the Crocodile River will enable the present irrigated area of

two, water supplies can be augmented to meet not only Escom's needs but also domestic, industrial and agricultural needs in the area.

● **Northern Transvaal:** A storage dam (Thor Dam) is to be built on the Limpopo to supply Messina, the local mining industry, the Department of Agricultural Technical Services' experimental farm, private irrigators and — possibly at a later stage — the domestic and mining needs of Rhodesia in the vicinity of Beit Bridge. The

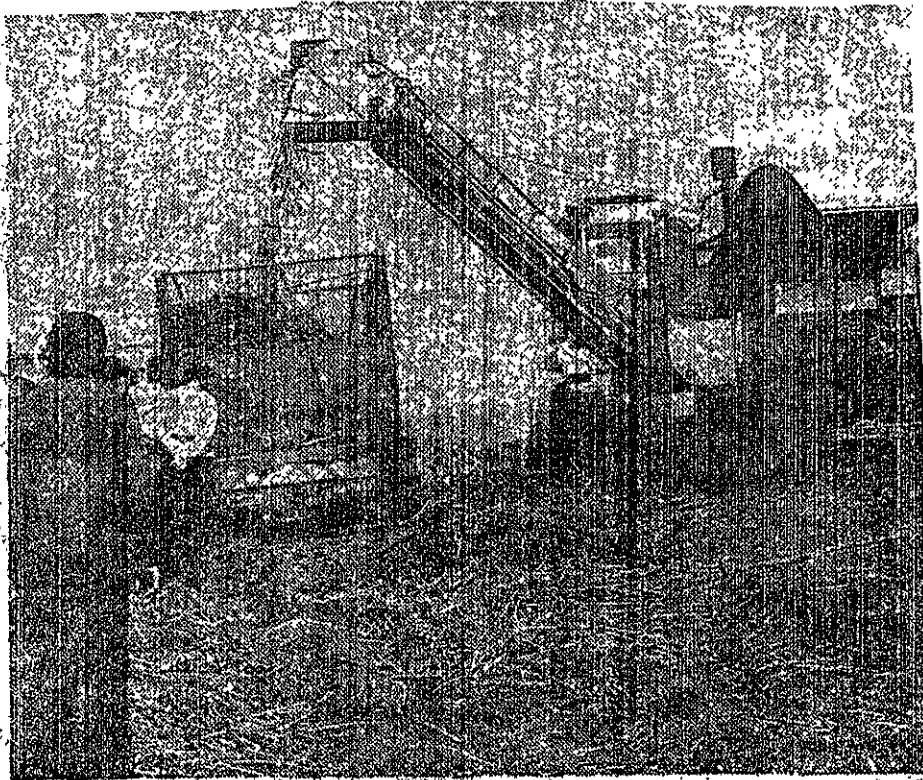


14 000 ha to be increased by an additional 10 000 ha. It is planned to use about 100 000 ha for sugar cane.

Additional water supplies for Escom power stations on the Eastern Transvaal coalfields are to be provided by a system of pipelines linking the Komati and Tugela Rivers. By combining the

Rhodesian government is not participating in the project at this stage.

● **Natal**— The bulk water supply scheme at Midmar and the Albert Falls Dam are nearly complete, and can supply additional water this year. In August 1975, the Department of Water Affairs is planning a dam on the Uguent River.



IS THIS the solution to the labour crisis? A huge chopper-harvester for sugarcane, worth R77 000, is put through its paces at the annual Sugarmech field day at Tongaat.

# Sugarmen look at mechanisation

MERCURY 8/8/75

Agricultural Correspondent

SUGARCANE farmers turned out in their hundreds yesterday to watch mechanical cane harvesters put through their paces at the annual Sugarmech agricultural machinery demonstration at Tongaat.

Farmers who last year merely looked with mild interest, are now very seriously considering buying these aids to cane harvesting. Rising wage costs and growing shortages of labour, are in many cases making their purchase essential.

The main attraction at yesterday's annual Sugarmech demonstration, was without doubt this equipment.

## CUTTING COSTS

Although most other farming operations in the sugar industry are either fully or partly mechanised, in South Africa, mechanical harvesting of cane has not been practised due to relatively cheap supply of labour.

But these days are now gone and farmers are taking the new machines very seriously in an effort to cut costs and get their crops harvested.

Machines on show ranged from a huge Class chopper harvester costing R77 000 — the machine is manufactured in Brazil — to

R14 000. Some of the harvesters are capable of cutting either burnt or green cane at the rate of 80 tonnes an hour. Machines similar to this are already operating on the bigger estates.

## THE FACTORS

The decision to use a mechanical harvester is based on several considerations: changes have to be made to field lay-out and row spacing; then some farms are too steep for the conventional harvester; account has to be taken of the kind of infield transport in use and whether or not the cane can be burnt.

On some farms yields would drop if the trash was not returned to the land.

# 13 children 'tricked' on to farms

SUN Times 10/8/75

By G. R. NAIDOO

**THE Department of Bantu Affairs in Maritzburg is investigating allegations that African children were offered "joy rides," only to be taken to work for low wages in cane fields.**

Thirteen African children, who made these allegations, have been removed from Mr Gerrit Barends's farm Duni-marie, near Maritzburg, by the Department of Bantu Affairs.

In other developments this week the Department of the Interior of the Transkei Government has called for a full report on the allegations from the Principal Bantu Affairs Commissioner of Maritzburg, and new allegations of malpractices on a sugar farm have been made to the SUNDAY TIMES.

The 13 boys are being housed by the Department of Bantu Affairs in Maritzburg while investigations are made.

Mr Ken Muggleston, the Principal Bantu Affairs Commissioner for Maritzburg, told the SUNDAY TIMES that he and his department were "very concerned" at the allegations and that senior members of his department and of the Drakensberg Bantu Affairs Administration Board have instituted a full inquiry.

has been told that even adults have been misled by Black recruiting officers in the Transkei to get them to work on Natal farms.

Mrs Muntungaza Nyawose, of the Lusikisiki district, said that she was recruited by a Mr Shushi Nanase, of Buhlanganye location in Lusikisiki, about

four months ago to work on a vegetable farm in the Illovo district. She was told that she would only be required to weed, and promises of excellent working conditions were made. She was promised a monthly wage of R10.

"I took the job as I am widowed and have five children. I brought the youngest, a one-year-old boy, with me as he was too small to be left in the care of others.

"Instead of being taken to a vegetable farm, I and eight other women and a young boy were taken to a sugar farm where I am required to cut and load

sugar cane. The job is hard and the hours are long.

"We have to work from 6 am until 5 pm seven days a week. The farmer I work for has a small dairy but I have to pay him R4 a month for milk for my child. I am not even paid the full R6 balance at the end of the month — part of it is kept by my employer for safekeeping.

"When we are unable to work because of illness, we are not paid," said Mrs Nyawose.

Most of the workers are afraid to talk to strangers. "We will get into trouble with our boss," was their reply to questions.

## Typhoid

The allegations by some of the 13 children came to light after they had been moved from Mr Barends's farm to Edendale Hospital with suspected typhoid.

- Some of the children were promised their homes in the Transkei but instead were made to work in the sugar fields.
- Some children were offered "joy rides" but were driven to the farm, as required by law.
- They were paid between R4 and R5 a month, but were only allowed of their money to ensure that they did not abscond.

## Only one

Mr Muggleston confirmed that all the children were from Mr Gerrit Barends's farm and that this was being investigated. Mr Barends refused to comment on the allegations when they were put to him. "I have nothing to say," he said. "I have nothing to say." His son, Carl, who helps his father run the farm, said that recruiting agents were paid R5 for each labourer they recruited. He said the agents had been making allegations against us. The SUNDAY TIMES

# Bantu boards 'not up to scratch'

RDM  
14/8/75

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Own Correspondent

NELSBRUIT — Bantu administration boards, set up about two years ago, were not yet working effectively, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr Braam Raubenheimer admitted yesterday.

He added that it would be a few years before the boards worked properly.

Mr Raubenheimer was speaking at the annual meeting of the Lowveld Farmers' Association, whose members are up in arms about the increase in monthly registration fees from 40c a head to 40c for Black farm workers. The difference farming of

the Lowveld, they claim, demands more labourers than in other regions, making higher registration fees an unnecessary burden especially since they got no help from the boards in recruiting or keeping labour on the farms.

Mr Raubenheimer agreed that since the boards were not functioning effectively, farmers were not getting value for their money. But he said it was up to them to help to make the system work.

He said he could not consider exempting farmers from payment of the fee.

Farmers had not yet been prosecuted for failing to register labourers but this could become necessary in future.

"I think you will then see a system that works, if not 100 per cent efficiently, then at least 80 per cent efficiently," he said.

The boards were not yet effective because of a lack of funds and because people, especially farmers, do not want to be regulated or have their affairs arranged. But we must make it work in practice.

He said all boards had now been ordered to establish committees to discuss new methods or adaptations, giving attention to practical matters to ensure a properly controlled flow of labour to cities, industries and farms.

The passbook system, he added, was not wholly effective but would be retained because it did provide some documentation of labour.

He had proposed to the department that it used mobile registration units so that farmers would not have to drive to town to register labourers.

But several association members told Mr Raubenheimer of their disappointment and scepticism.

"Registration of labour is expensive when you are getting absolutely nothing for your money," said Mr Brian Simmons, who did not feel Mr Raubenheimer had made out a case for registration boards.

"Businessmen do get help from the boards but not farmers — nobody transports or houses our labourers. We do that. Just give us something for our money," he said.

# Bid to halt destruction of houses

*Cape Times 18/9/75*

THE BERG RIVER member of the Coloured Representative Council and three Paarl farm-dwellers were granted an urgent interdict by Mr Justice van Heerden on Saturday evening, restraining Master Holmes (Pty) Ltd and a Paarl farmer, Mr Eric C V Pretorius, from destroying 11 homes today.

The urgent application was brought before the judge by Mr Johannes Mars, Mr Dennis Goosen, Mr Peter Morris and Dr Rhenatus Herbert Arendse, who said in an affidavit before the court that he was the Berg River member of the CRC and was representing eight other men and their families in the action.

Mr Mars said in papers before the court that he had been living on a Paarl farm, Klein Parys, with his wife and 10 children for eight years. About four months ago, he said, Mr Pretorius tried to eject him.

About a month later, he said, Mr Pretorius refused to accept his monthly rental of R10, and on August 4, Mr Pretorius's father delivered to him a notice that demolition of their houses would begin today as a result of an order of the Paarl Divisional Council.

## UNEDUCATED

Because the people affected by this notice, said Mr Mars, were "poor, uneducated and had very little knowledge of legal procedure, they consulted their CRC representative, Dr Arendse.

Dr Arendse said in an affidavit that he asked the Paarl Divisional Council if Mr Pretorius's notice was correct. The council's secretary, Mr J M de Jager, informed him that the council has told Master Holmes (Pty) that two dwellings affected by the application had to be vacated, but not demolished, as a result of defects but that no other notice had been issued.

The return date for the application is September 16.

Mr D Ipp, instructed by Mallinck, Ress, Richman and Co, appeared for the applicants.

(4)



# Union wants to take action

2/8/75  
Mercury Reporter

PIETERMARITZBURG. TRADE union officials are considering taking legal action to have a Goldkist farm worker reinstated after talks lasting several hours between the hastily formed works committee of Labour Department officials and the Ashburton Chicken Farms management failed here yesterday.

About 85 Black skilled workers downed tools early yesterday in protest against Goldkist's dismissal of Mr. Mpiyakhe Ghaza on Wednesday and because the firm's management refused to meet worker's representatives.

The workers allege that Mr. Ghaza, an electrician, was sacked because he had tried to organise a works committee.

After Mr. Ghaza was fired an elected group of workers tried to see the manager, but they were told to go back to work.

The workers allege that Goldkist's management also refused to call the Labour Department in to mediate.

The workers were told they would be given an opportunity to form a works committee, but when nothing had been done by yesterday 85 of the company's 250 Black workers downed tools.

Mr. Edgar Ward, the union organiser, said last night he would be meeting the union's attorneys at the weekend to discuss legal action against the firm.

(1) 4  
(2) 117

# New deal for the farmhands is urged

STAR  
27/8/75

Farming Editor

Appeals for a new era for farm labourers came today from the South African Agricultural Union's president and vice president.

**THE PRESIDENT**, Mr Albert Basson, opening the Transvaal Agricultural Congress, pleaded for a pension scheme for South Africa's farm labourers.

"Let us forget about the many problems, possible prejudices and other aspects," he said.

"Let us put our heads together and formulate a pension scheme for farm labourers."

### SCHEMES

Mr Basson added that Rhodesia and Natal both had such schemes.

"Here we and the State can possibly jointly build a sound foundation for peaceful co-existence," he went on.

Mr Basson said it was the duty of the farmer to improve the image of the farm labourer.

Labourers, he added, would have to play an increasingly important role in developing agriculture to supply the population's food and raw materials.

He said it was most important for farm labourers to be adjusted to rapid mechanical and technological changes.

### DEMANDS

"To my mind this is only the beginning of a new era in the development of agriculture," Mr Basson declared.

"The equipment of farm labour to meet future demands is needed because fewer people will have to produce more and more."

### THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Jaap Wilkens, pleaded for aptitude tests for farm labourers.

"We can do much towards better labour utilisation," he said.

"Too much labour is wasted on farms."

### RELATIONS

"Good relations between employer and employee not only improve the activity but at the same time help better race relations."

Mr Wilkens said a favourable image of farm labour should be projected in the homelands.

"In future," he went on, "we will to an increasing extent depend on the homelands for our labour."

"And we will have to compete, among others, with the mines."

# Minister responds to farmers' demands

4

Farming Editor *STAR 28/8/75*

The Deputy Minister of Bantu Education, Mr Janson, announced in Silverton today that it has been decided to build schools with hostel accommodation attached in platteland towns for children of farm labourers.

He was replying to a motion at the Transvaal Agriculture Union congress in which farmers requested a quid pro quo from the Bantu Administration Board for the high registration fees paid by farmers.

Mr Janson said subsidies for schools built by farmers will be increased in the near future.

Clinics in the Northern Transvaal will be expanded "as far as our finances will allow," he said.

Family planning services will also be expanded.

Mr Janson said he was "sick and tired" of the red tape connected with Bantu administration and the plurality of forms that had to be completed. But officials were working on streamlining the procedures and within a year "much of this nonsense will be eliminated," he told the farmers.

Earlier Mr Hennie Coetzee seconded a motion by Mr J J Prinsloo, chairman of the Bantu Affairs Committee of the TAU, demanding that Bantu Administration Boards should make a contribution to the increased registration fees now paid by farmers in respect of their labourers.

He said the labour bureaux should be streamlined to bring employees and employers together. The ideal aimed at by all employers for years, to book labourers by telephone at the labour bureaux, can and must be achieved.

He said protracted procedures should be simplified. Mobile units should make periodic calls at predetermined points of call in large districts and handle all matters in one operation, instead of the present system where separate agencies handle each matter.

RDM 28/8/75

# Look to homelands, farmers urged

Staff Reporter

MR. JAAP WILKINS, president of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, has suggested that farmers should look to the homelands as a future source of farm labour.

Speaking to about 1,000 people yesterday at the 78th annual congress of the union at Silverton, near Pretoria, he said farmers could help solve their labour problems by making contact with the homelands in view of the coming independence of the territories.

In the future farmers would be dependent to a greater extent on the homelands for workers, Mr. Wilkins said.

## MAJOR

He added that farmers had played a major part in the consolidation of the homelands but it still remained a standpoint of the agricultural union that consolidation should be more complete.

Turning to "discrimination" against farmers, he said it was right that farmers should raise their voices against it.

"As a farmer, I want to fulfil my rightful place efficiently, not at the expense or detriment of others. I view the farmer as an integral part of the national economy, not as a favoured individual."

In the opening address, Mr. A. J. Basson, president of the South African Agricultural Union, said a new era was beginning because fewer people will have to produce more and more.

He pointed to the United States where only one per cent of the world agricultural labour force produced about 18 per cent of World agricultural exports.

South Africa used about 24 per cent of its total labour force in agriculture as against four per cent in the United States, he said.



Cheers?

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 319 5.123  
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It's a question of drink.

When the Bantu Administration Boards (for the control of African affairs in "White" SA), were set up in 1972-73, apartheid dogma laid down that they had to be financially self-sufficient. Today, the results are all too plain: in effect Africans are being told to booze more, or their rents will rise even higher.

The clear link between increased liquor consumption and the Boards' financial viability was underlined at the end of last month, when government ruled that it would forego its customary 80% share of the Boards' hard liquor profits. The cash will be used in the cities and not, as in the past, spent in the Bantustans.

For the monolithic West Rand Administration Board (WRAB), which in Soweto controls the largest concentration of Black people in SA, the move means they will cover their anticipated deficit of R1,2m (out of a total budget of R70,5m) for 1975-76. Retaining the government's share of the profits could mean another R2,5m,

## F.M. 29/8/75 ONE FOR THE HOUSE

or even more, for WRAB.

Even before the policy switch WRAB got 55,7% (R38,8m) of its revenue from its beerhalls and bottle stores, and it is expanding its liquor operation mightily.

It has to. Estimates for this year show that rents for houses and hostels should bring in a mere R14,5m (20,8% of the total), while compulsory employers' contributions add up to only R8,4m (12,1%). And this after a recent heavy rise in rents and employers' contributions, making it doubtful whether the Board can resort to further hikes of this nature in the immediate future.

A Soweto family (average: five people) occupying a new standard four-roomed house pays R20,95 a month for rent, services and water. (Average earnings for an unskilled Black labourer are R80 a month.) And now the Boards demand that non-dependents over the age of 18 in a household must pay an additional R1 a month in lodger's fees. Since these people are generally the children of the family head the issue has understandably caused anger and resentment.

As far as employers' contributions are concerned, these now stand at R1,80 a month for industrial workers, R1 for domestics and R0,40 for farm labourers. The farmers, in particular, have jibbed, and Deputy Minister of Bantu Development Braam Raubenheimer admitted to them in Nelspruit last week that the Boards were not

functioning properly.

However, as a BAD spokesman explains it to the *FM*, there is absolutely no question of revamping the Boards. Raubenheimer, it seems, was merely responding to farmers' queries as to just what it was they were getting for their 40c. The Boards, certainly, have had "teething troubles", but only because they have not been going long. BAD, incidentally, has now asked the Boards to "give service to farmers".

Yet if the Boards are to fulfil their obligations to Blacks as well as satisfying White employers, their crucial task is housing; and Soweto's need is greatest. In July this year WRAB had 17 841 names on its primary and secondary housing lists. This could mean up to 86 000 without their own roof, and as Progressive Reform MP Helen Suzman points out there are countless thousands in the region who have not bothered to put their names on a list, or who do not qualify for a house anyway "even though they're working in the area". As it is the pace of building is that of a snail.

By the end of WRAB's current financial year, in all the areas of its domain, the Board "expects" to complete 4 000 new units.

So until government spends far more than it is on Black housing, thousands will remain homeless. Since it *has* made a loan for low-density housing to Paraguay presumably funds are available — or are they only for buying chumminess overseas?

**BLACKS**  
*MERCURY*  
**NOT**  
28/8/75  
**LEAVING**

MR. PUNT Janson, Deputy Minister for Bantu Administration admitted yesterday that the number of Blacks in White areas had not decreased as anticipated.

He was addressing the Transvaal Agricultural Union on their registration of Black labour and answering complaints about the activities of the Bantu Administration Boards in Pretoria.

Mr. Janson said that Blacks could not be removed to their homelands because of the cost.

If a Black was productive, he should remain on White farms provided he worked under happy conditions.

He would rather have a reliable Black on his farm than a terrorist.

During the past three years the Bantu Administration Boards had achieved much in creating happy relations and for this the nation would thank them.

Mr. Janson said the haphazard registration of Blacks had to end and a computer system would be introduced for their identification.

He announced that the subsidies system for the building of schools for Blacks on farms would be increased shortly. Schools together with hostels would be established in platteland towns for Black children to prevent the migration of parents to cities. Hospital clinics for platteland Blacks would also be extended.

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# School for *Cape Times* 27/8/75 farm workers

Cape Times Reporter

THE Deputy Minister of Coloured Affairs, Mr. Henric Smit, has called on the South African Agricultural Union to arrange a meeting with the executive of the Coloured Representative Council to discuss the education of farm labourers.

Speaking at the Cape Province Agricultural Union congress in a City hotel yesterday, Mr. Smit said he agreed with a motion put at the congress that farm labourers should receive better education.

The motion, which was passed unanimously, called for the introduction of agriculture as a subject from Std 5 at certain country Coloured schools, and for the introduction of a course in elementary farm management for workers who had passed Std 7 and who had two or more years' practical farming experience.

Another successful motion asked for the establishment of recreational facilities for labourers.

Other motions which were passed include:

- A call for the establishment of a pension scheme for farm labourers.

- The provision of boarding facilities for Coloured farm children in country towns where there were Coloured schools, or

- The introduction of a school bus service.

Daily Dispatch  
**Blacks can  
29/8/75  
be happy**  
**— Janson**

PRETORIA — It should be frankly admitted that the number of blacks in white areas had not decreased as anticipated, Mr Punt Janson, Deputy Minister for Bantu Administration, said in Pretoria yesterday.

He was addressing the Transvaal Agricultural Union on their registration of black labour and answering complaints about the activities of the Bantu Administration Boards.

He said that half of the black population had been frequently stated did not live in the cities, but on the platteland. They could not be removed to their homelands because of the cost.

If a black was productive, he should remain on white farms provided he worked under happy conditions. Mr Janson said he would rather have a reliable black on his farm than a terrorist or somebody who had been forced to remain on the farm.

Blacks could be made happy on farms by the work done by the Bantu Administration Boards. During the past three years the boards had achieved so much that the nation would thank them for the creation of happy relations.

He said the haphazard registration of blacks had to end and a computer system would be introduced for the identification of blacks.

He announced that the subsidies system for the building of schools for blacks on farms would be increased shortly. Schools together with hostels would be established in platteland towns for black children to prevent the migration of parents to cities.

Mr Janson said the growth of nationalism and the desire of blacks to give their children the best education could never be stopped and he would help them to become happy blacks. —

SAPA.

① Agric - Labor  
~~279~~



# Sunday Times Extra

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## Boycotts are fine for those with plushy jobs, fat salaries

MR GEORGE FORTUIN, CRC executive member for rural areas and coloured settlements telephoned me this week to "make it clear, with the full support of the other members of the CRC executive" that they "disassociate themselves from Mr Solly Essop's call on British trade unions not to boycott South African fruit and canned goods."

Mr Essop said last week that he will be going to London to explain that such a boycott will hit the farm labourers hard and as these workers were the poorest section of the Black community, they could ill-afford the affects of a boycott.

Mr Fortuin told me that the Labour Party have written to the Trade Union Council of Great Britain "to warn them against Mr Essop". "The Labour Party asked for a boycott and we are not prepared to go against that call," Mr Fortuin said, and added: "We want a boycott because nothing has changed in South Africa."

### Manner

Mr Fortuin is wrong. Much has changed, especially the manner in which apartheid is being fought. In previous years, opponents of apartheid were dedicated people who opposed apartheid without "protection" from the Government. They were not paid a

salary of R1 000 a month by the Government to "fight apartheid". They did not reject apartheid by participating in apartheid institutions. They were totally opposed to apartheid. And they still are.

That has changed. In previous years, farmers, and the Government, were deaf to calls for a better deal for farm labourers. The Government refused to abolish the Master and Servants Act and farmers refused to pay farm workers a decent wage, or build decent homes for them or establish amenities. Now the Government have done away with the Master and Servants Act. The farmers have acknowledged the plight of the farm workers and have decided to do some-

**STRAIGHT TALK BY Howard Lawrence**



thing about it. That has changed. And this is a beginning which Mr Fortuin, who has so often claimed to be a champion of the farm workers cause, should build on. He and his Labour Party CRC executive, and all the other CRC members who want a boycott

of South African fruit and canned goods, should ask themselves just what do they think they are doing. They are asking for more poverty on the plateau. They are asking the British to increase and intensify the suffering of the farm workers. They are asking for

unemployment in the rural areas, for the unemployed farm labourers and their families to trek to the towns and cities in search of jobs and food.

And that, have no doubt, would only increase the squatters problem and everything else that goes with it.

This is what Mr Fortuin, David Curry, Allan Hendrickse, Norman Middleton and Sonny Leon are asking for.

I wonder if Mr Fortuin would insist on a boycott if his family had to face the direct consequences of such a boycott?

I wonder if Mr David Curry would insist on a boycott if his wife and children had to face the homelessness and hunger which a boycott would bring with it? I wonder if Mr Allan

Hendrickse would insist on a boycott if his family had to face the tragic trek in search of existence in the towns and cities that a boycott would bring?

And will Mr Sonny Leon be prepared to take his family and go to live in a squatters camp because of a boycott which took his desperate last hope away from him?

Would Mr Norman Middleton insist on a boycott if his family had to face the cold hungry winters, the lack of amenities, the illness that a boycott would bring?

No, they would not. And Messrs Leon, Curry, Hendrickse, Middleton and Fortuin will no doubt say: "But this is what is happening" to these people now. Yes. That is why their

insistence on a boycott of South African fruit and canned goods is utterly stupid. They should not be calling for a boycott but should be out there putting pressure on the farmers to implement their resolutions to give the farm labourers a human deal.

It is alright for them to say "boycott". They live in beautiful houses, earn fat Government salaries, educate their children in the best schools, drive around in their own private cars as well as big black Government sedans with chauffeurs for special occasions.

They can afford to call for a boycott. Farm labourers and their poverty-stricken families cannot.

They need guidance. They need help. They need leaders who think before they leap and who are prepared to really get down into the cesspools to help their people into the light.

Leaders who do not have to depend on the Government for their recognition as leaders. Leaders who are concerned enough to make decisions which may not get them pats on the back, but who do what they have to do because they are of the people.

Pay well  
or give up  
farming

STAR 3/9/75

The Government would no longer protect farmers who did not adequately pay their Black labour, said the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr. Braam Raubenheimer.

He was replying to appeals for the levy paid on labourers to the Bantu Affairs Administration Boards to be reduced. Delegates complained that, despite the levy, the boards did not help them to get labour.

Mr. Raubenheimer said the real problem was that farmers were not prepared to pay competitive salaries. A lot of farm labour was under-employed.

It was not the job of the Government to keep inefficient farmers in business by supplying them with cheap labour. If they could not profitably produce milk by paying adequate salaries, they would have to give up as milk producers.

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# Discussions on farm labour

ARGUS 4/9/75

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A JOINT committee consisting of representatives of the Cape Agricultural Union and the Coloured Representative Council has decided that better wages and working conditions for Coloured farm workers cannot be enforced by legislation.

The committee has decided that better wages and working conditions for Coloured farm workers should rather be brought about by a sympathetic viewpoint and a sound human relationship.

A statement issued by the Department of Coloured, Rehoboth and Nama Relations said the committee had decided against laying down minimum wages for farm workers, but would campaign for a wage which would provide the basic needs for food, clothes and education.

#### WAGE SYSTEM

The committee favoured a system of part-payment of wages in kind, providing it did not lead to ex-

ploitation and malpractices. It also supported the principle of differentiation in wages in recognition of ability, advanced training and loyal service, so that farm work could be regarded as a career.

The statement said: "The committee noted with appreciation the progress made in the housing of farm workers since the introduction on August 28 last year of an improved subsidy scheme administered by the Department of Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure.

Loans totalling R2.5 million had been made available to farmers in the Western Cape.

# Farmers warned to watch Factories Act

Dispatch 10/9/75

① 4  
2/21

**EAST LONDON** — Farmers should be warned that they fell under the Factories Act and could be prosecuted if anyone was injured by farm machinery, Dr G. S. Marr said here yesterday.

Dr Marr, head of an East London canning company which also owns farms, gave the warning after his company had been prosecuted under the Factories Act following an accident in which a farm labourer had been killed in farm machinery.

"Many farmers don't realise they fall under the Factories Act and can be prosecuted under its provisions," Dr Marr said.

"Protective devices on farm machinery deteriorated fast and farmers seldom replace them, but they will be in trouble if an accident occurs."

Dr Marr suggested that farmers could protect themselves by calling in the Inspector of Machinery at the Department of Labour to inspect their whole operation to ensure they are not falling foul of the Factories Act.

The Inspector of Machinery on the Border, Mr D. J. D. Bezuidenhout, said yesterday he could not refuse a request from anyone to discuss protective devices on their machinery.

"I am here to educate the users of machinery. They have only to ask and I'll explain to them those sections of the Factories Act that are relevant and

**EAST LONDON** — A director, Dr George Marr, a farm manager, Mr Errol Rex Oberem, and a tractor driver, Mr Sobetile Mbangula, all from a farm in the Komga district, were fined R50 (or 25 days), R50 (or 25 days) and R20 (or 20 days) when they were convicted in the Regional Court yesterday.

Mr Oberem and Dr Marr had been found guilty of contravening the Factories, Machinery and Building Works Act in that they failed to fence or guard the revolving power-take-off shaft on a tractor-boomspray being used on the farm.

Mr Mbangula had been convicted of culpable homicide in that a tractor he was driving rolled over Mr Mlungisi Magala who died.

The incident occurred on the farm on July 9. — DDR

where they are going wrong" Mr Bezuidenhout said. Mr Bezuidenhout, whose area stretches throughout

the Border and Transkei, said he had to hold an inquiry into every serious accident caused by machinery.

"And the Act states that the inspector has to be notified on the prescribed form of any accident that happens."

Mr Bezuidenhout said the Act defined his area of jurisdiction as a factory or any premises where machinery was used and that included farms and even workshops at homes.

"More and more accidents are taking place. In 1970, there were 474 accidents reported to this office and this year so far, 900 accidents have been reported, 14 of which were fatal and I expect a total of 1 400 accidents by the end of the year."

Mr Bezuidenhout agreed that he had never been able to get out to farms on inspections, but he did carry out inspections at factories whenever time permitted.

"But I cannot refuse anyone in my area who asks for an inspection, and that includes farmers. The regulations call for minimum protection and there are few machines that cannot be protected."

"If there is such a machine, the user must apply for exemption from the Act," Mr Bezuidenhout said. — DDR.

# Farmer admits charges

12/9/75

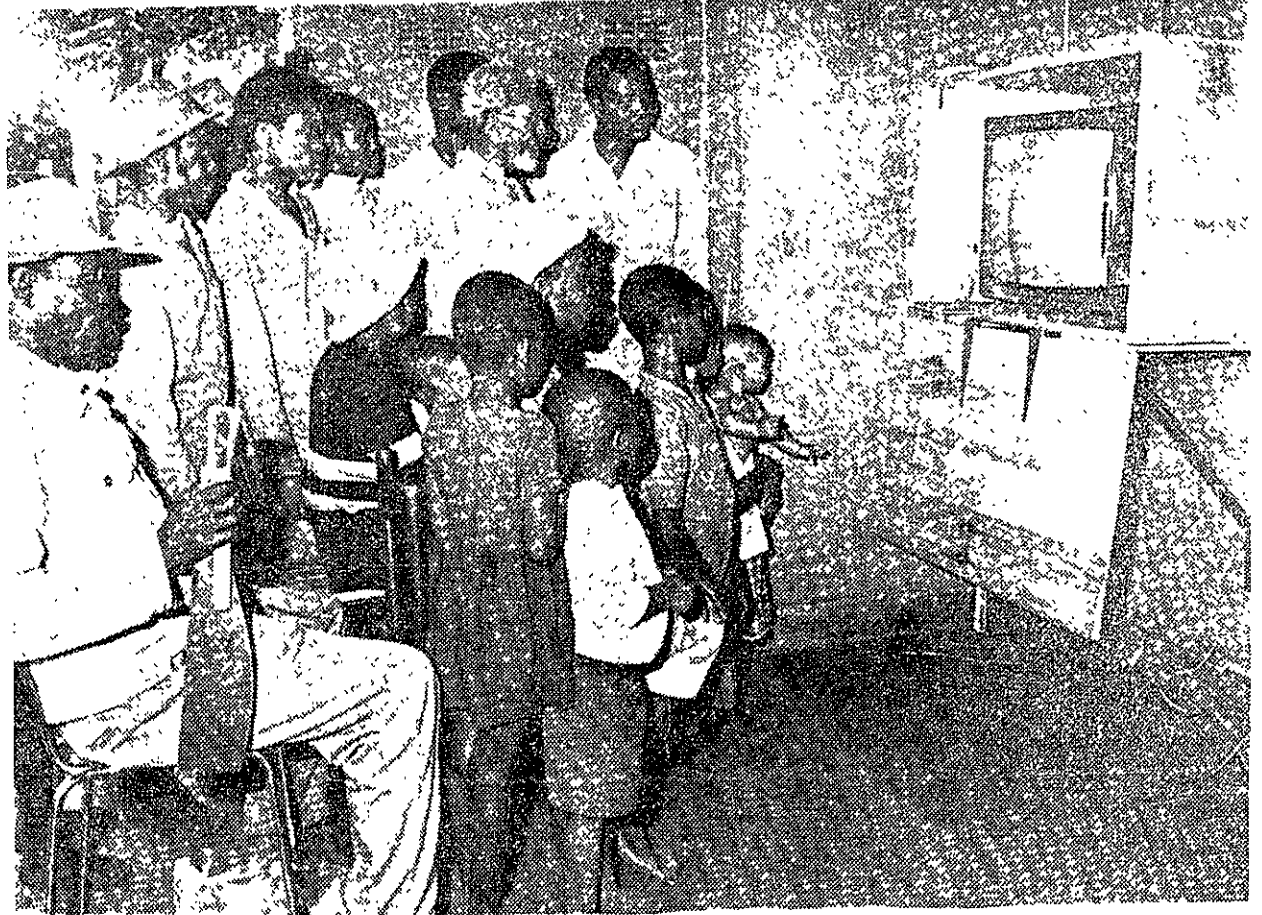
Mercury Reporter

PIETERMARITZBURG  
THE PRESS appeared to have convicted and punished a Claridge farmer — charged under the Bantu Labour Regulations — long before he was brought to trial, advocate Mr. Colin White said in the Magistrate's Court here yesterday.

Mr. White alleged that "there was not one iota of truth in all the newspaper reports" about his client, Gerrit Barends.

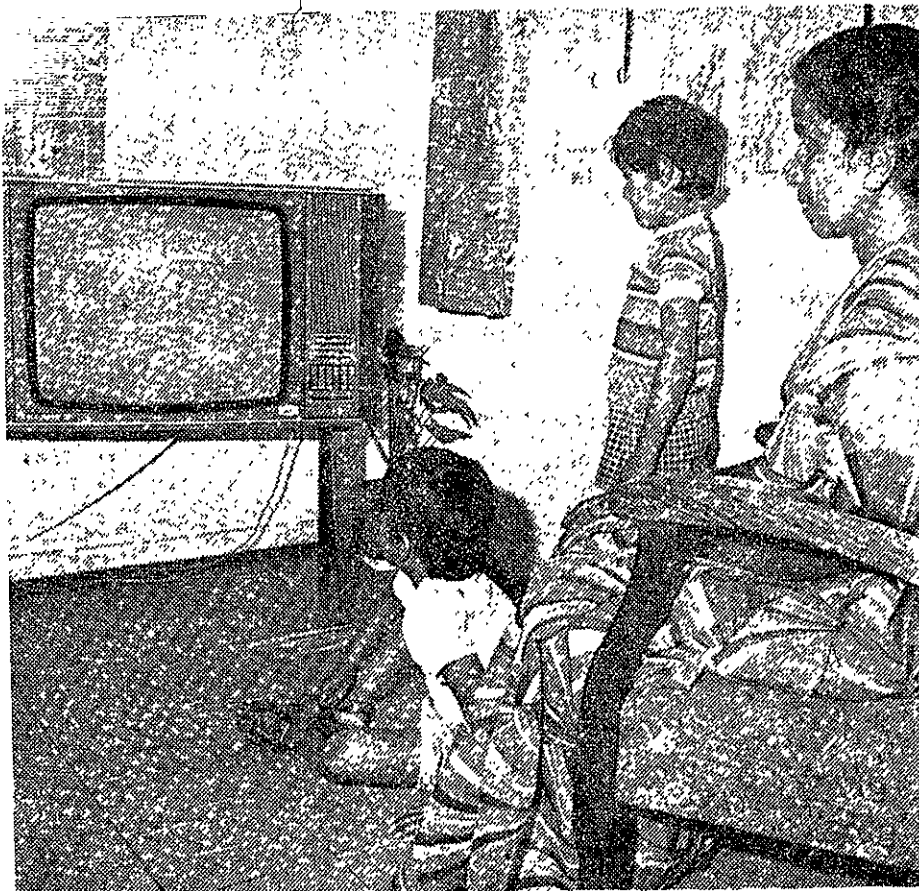
Barends was convicted of 98 counts after he had pleaded guilty to failing to notify the district labour officer within the prescribed time that he had employed 50 African labourers and of employing African men who did not have reference books or passports, or, in the case of men under the age of 16 years, identification documents. He was cautioned and discharged by the Magistrate, Mr. J.H. Pietersen.

Barends's appearance in court followed a series of articles in the national and local Press reporting allegations that young African boys were kidnapped in the Transkei.



W. J. Smith

FASCINATED African workers (above) gaze at their TV set for the first time while (below) an Indian mother and her two children find the Fourie-Galindez fight interesting.



# Sugar farm labourers get TV

Mercury Reporter

EMPANGENI—Telly has come to Zululand sugar cane workers—thanks to a generous Gingindhlovu farmer who has had two large sets installed for the workers on his farm.

Mr. Graham Talmage believes that productivity is at its best when his labour force is stable and contented—so each year he improves his workers' living conditions.

He has built over 30 houses for the families of his married labourers and each year he improves them.

Hot water, electricity, fridges, piped music and an ice machine are among the improvements made by this third-generation Zululander.

This year he bought two black and white sets—one for his Indian workers and one for his Africans. The workers are so delighted with the entertainment, he is thinking of buying two more.

# Farm labour

STAR 18/9/75

## 'is not used efficiently'

Farming Editor

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Schoeman, told farmers yesterday that their labour could be utilised more efficiently.

Compared with America, there were about four times as many labourers on South African farms.

And despite increasing mechanisation, the number of farm labourers remained static at about 1-million between 1952 and 1969.

Mr Schoeman quoted examples to show that in the Western Transvaal maize farmers were still using 65 man hours a hectare in the production of maize compared with 15 man hours in the United States.

And in the Free State, 19 man hours a hectare was used to produce wheat compared with seven man hours in the US.

### WAGES

Mr Schoeman opened the Vetsak training centre for maintenance personnel of agricultural co-ops at Bothaville. He said the number of farm labourers was diminishing as the higher wages of mines and industry attracted them.

He said that of the 230 000 tractor operators in agriculture, only 13 000 were properly trained.

### EFFICIENTLY

Mr Schoeman said farmers had about R1 000-million's mechanical equipment on their farms which could be used more efficiently.

Mr T. E. Roux, director

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# Migratory labour to be dropped?

① 320  
② 200  
③ 4  
④ 334  
⑤ 319  
⑥ 206

Daily Disp. 26/9/75

DURBAN — A strong hint that the Government's migratory labour policy would be dropped or drastically revised was given yesterday at a Natal National Party congress by the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr T. N. H. Janson.

"We cannot allow more migratory labour. The liberals are also right sometimes. Migratory labour is a bad thing," he said to an obviously stunned congress strongly attended by many farmers from northern and central Natal.

He bluntly told a delegate he could not use Shangaan and Xhosa labour or any other black labour from outside the province for the simple reason that it clashed with National Party policy.

It was, he said, Government policy to place labour near growth points and it was this labour that had to be used.

Mr Janson was replying to a motion calling on the Government to arrange labour contracts with the homeland governments which would be binding to both parties. A delegate complained that local people worked only when it suited them, despite pay of R60 to R80 a month plus food and housing.

The deputy minister said that in the interest of black workers they had to discipline themselves in their work.

He supported the narrowing of the wage gap "one hundred per cent" and did not want to be misunderstood on this score. But there was also a wage gap between white and white. "We do not pay for rotten white work."

"I am all for giving workers a living wage, but we are not going to dish out presents to those who want to loaf — who want to work now and then," he said.

He urged that there should be consultation at a local level with responsible black leaders, who should see to it that contracts concluded between two people were respected.

He also hoped that the Bantu Administration Councils would keep a list of the "loafers" so that they could see to it they did not go on seeking work elsewhere only to loaf again. It was after this that he made his brief statement on migratory labour.

Later Mr Janson said migratory labour at best

was not a good system. One did not have to ask questions about it: one need only look at Cape Town where blacks who left at the end of their contracts left illegitimate children behind.

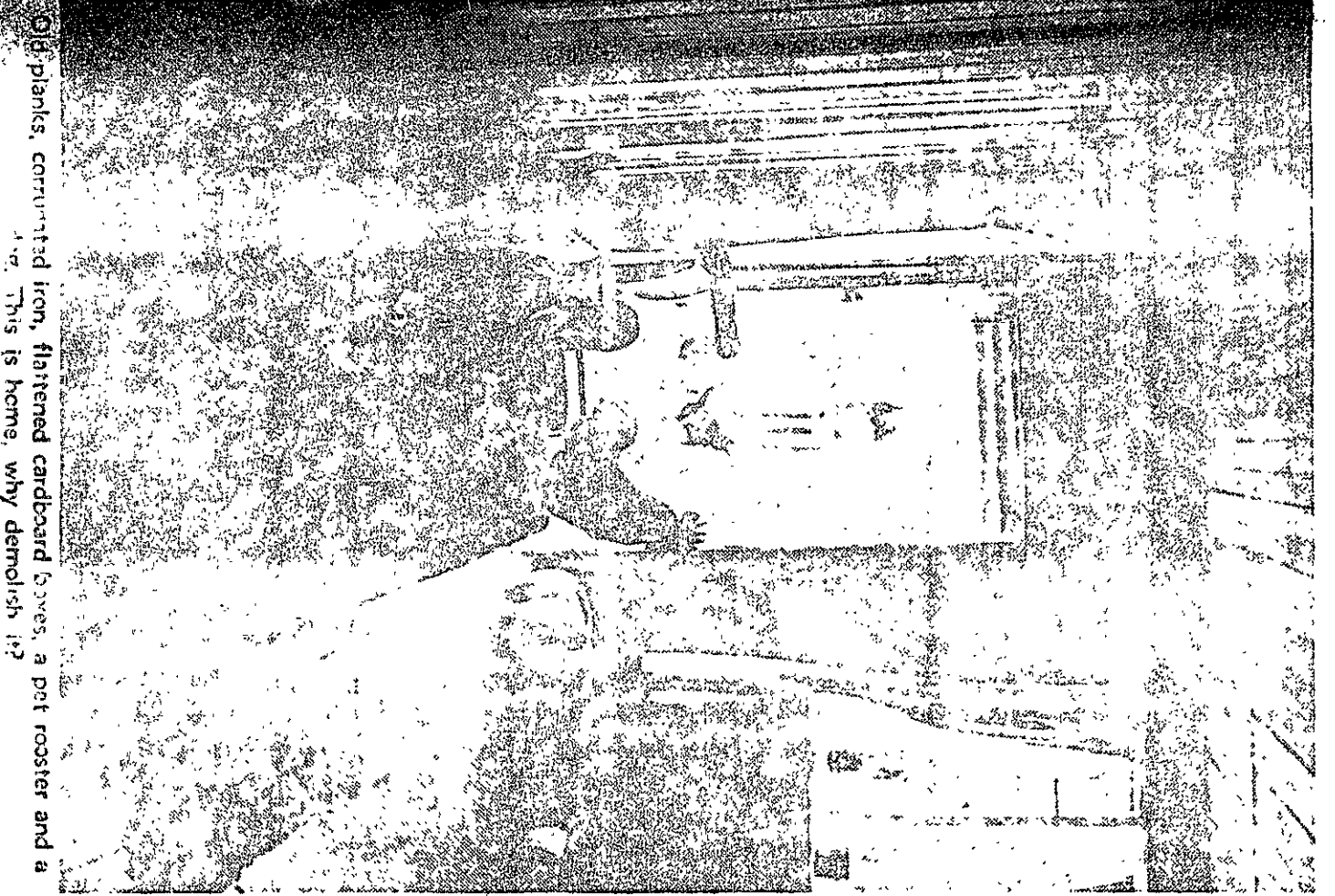
Each year 18 000 were caught in Cape Town for being there illegally and we only catch ten per cent," he said.

"The official black population of Cape Town is 110 000 which means that almost 90 000 are there illegally. We can't throw them out. Let's face it: these people have families to support."

Referring to his childhood he said that although his parents had been separated his father would have given anything to feed and educate his children.

"Will you blame a black man for wanting to do the same for his children?" he asked — PC





Old planks, corrugated iron, flattened cardboard boxes, a pot rooster and a... This is home, why demolish it?

INSIDE it is a home. Outside the "pandok" children are gambling aimlessly in the dusty, metallic heat, among the wind-torn that bushes, derelict cars and glinting broken glass.

"I can't even let my daughters out — I'm scared for them here," says grey-haired Jane de Villiers. "A man was stabbed to death over the weekend near here, and there are tough types, people we don't know."

She and her family of 18, close-knit, home-grown Moslems, were shunted to Lourdes Farm in four months ago from a Lansdowne farm where they had dwelt for a year. This two-roomed zinc construction is the first home they've erected for themselves in 18 months.

"If they move us out of this, I'm just going to give up and go and live in the bushes," her daughter, Mrs. Rahima Oosthuizen, says.

Mrs. Oosthuizen lives next door to her parents. Since her marriage five years ago she has tried to stay with them, starting from one place to another, ousted by group area definitions, Divisional Council rulings or sheer officiousness.

"They've been calling my husband to their offices every day to frighten him — just because we've been having meetings here."

"We've explained that we're not against the council — it's just that the people must know their rights, and what they want changed. But the inspectors told my husband this is a 'glass house' and it can be broken down."

Ebrahim Oosthuizen is a bulker. When their share of home in Lansdowne was demolished he

erected a new one at Lourdes Farm, as the structure, but within days of completing it, they were told to move further into the bush. The houses would be bulldozed.

Their new home has cement floors and ceilings. They have wall-papered the zinc walls, built in arched doorways, and brightened the furniture with artificial flowers, carpets and pictures.

"Now they tell my mother we might have to move to a transit camp. The places there are built well, but you just get two rooms, built like barracks in long lines, side-by-side with strangers."

"And the council says they want our house, we mustn't pull it down." That house has cost them over R1 000 already.

### By ELAINE DUR- BACH, who visited

Cape Town's "squatter" areas this week and found that many of these people are proud home-makers but with little hope for the future.

over and above the cost of the materials they brought with them from their last site.

Mrs. Oosthuizen is pregnant with her third child. Recently she returned to the house after an absence of a few hours to find it deep in water, her furniture afloat, her car jets submerged.

The rain water all

flowed in from the one side, so my husband and I worked right through the night hitting the floor of the room on that side. Now it is all right — for a while.

There is no electricity. Mrs. Oosthuizen spent R400 on a paraffin stove, essential for them to keep their halal food fresh between expeditions to the distant shops. They use a gas stove and oil lamps.

There is no sanitation, or night soil service. Water has to be fetched from a tap.

There is little feeling of concerted determination — here or at the other shanty camps, in spite of the ferment of anger. Groups like the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation are trying to teach these people what they can achieve by co-operation, but when neighbours are strangers it takes a major disaster to unite opinions on any thing.

"The people here even though they meet at our house to discuss things — are jealous of us," Rahima Oosthuizen and her mother say. "They call our children snobs, and yesterday one of the Hitler girls was beaten up. We can't be friends with such people."

Because of that social isolation and their fear of rough elements, neither of these two families will move without the other.

That means that if the council finds houses for them, they would want them side by side. There is little chance of that.

Mrs. De Villiers has been on the City Council waiting list for a house for 10 years.

"I'm going again to ask them on Wednesday. Maybe this time they'll have houses for us — then we could settle down at last."

C. T.  
w/c Magogon  
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(4)

Daily Dispatch 1/10/75

# Farmers slam labour laws

EAST LONDON — A 30-year-old problem, the shortage of farm labour, was again thrashed out at the East London District Farmers' Union meeting here yesterday.

The argument of the farmers was that registration of their black labour, although compelled by law, only causes labourers to leave their employment, after which it is easy for them to apply for re-registration.

Therefore, a law which cannot be enforced, should be done away with, they said.

The chairman of the Bantu Administration Board for the Eastern Cape, Mr G. J. Coetzer, who is stationed in Queenstown, said a system had been in operation since 1952 whereby farm labourers were registered and fingerprinted, thus minimising the lack of control.

However, he said, due to lack of co-operation on the

part of the farmers not registering their labourers and not keeping contact with officials, complete records could not be kept of all farm labourers, making this system ineffective.

One hundred per cent registration of all farm labour would induce effective control but it was the farmers themselves who needed to co-operate, he said.

The manager of the Bantu Administration Board of the Eastern Cape in East London, Mr P. F. Sutton, said this system was being assisted by their department in Hill Street by only registering residents of Mdantsane for employment in East London and not labourers through any other sources.

The Bantu Affairs Commissioner, Mr Van Niekerk, said the problem of squatters was not being neglected.

A police raid had been

made recently and about 40 squatters had been picked up. The farmer whose land had been raided, had been prosecuted and given a suspended sentence.

More raids were anticipated, as this is a problem of increasing proportions, he said.

Mr Van Niekerk said the difficulty was that no sites were available for resettlement of the squatters. But, he said, it was the duty of the farmer to evict squatters from his land.

A delegation to the meeting said sometimes the head of a family left the farm and the farmer was then made responsible for his family.

A problem arose when, attempting to evict the family, relations intervened and threatened to leave as well, which resulted in the farmer having to support the squatter's family entirely.

—DDR

ARGUS 8/10/75

# Probe on missing farm girls

The Argus Correspondent  
PAARL. — An inquiry into allegations of young Coloured girls being lured away from farm areas with promises of work in the city is being undertaken by the Department of Coloured Relations.

More than 2 000 questionnaires were sent to farmers throughout the Boland and the Western Cape in an attempt to assess the situation following disclosures made at a meeting of the Paarl Farmers' Association earlier this year.

## LURED AWAY

Mr Giel Malherbe, director of the KWV and former chairman of the Paarl Farmers' Association, gave details at the time of girls between the ages of 15 and 20 being lured away from farms by Cape Town-based agents who made deals with the girls' parents.

Many of the girls subsequently disappeared.

Mr Malherbe said the matter was viewed seriously by the Paarl Farmers' Association. Some of the girls who had returned to their parents had shown signs of physical hardship.

# 2000 cotton workers sacked

ARGUS 8/10/75  
The Argus Correspondent <sup>24</sup> 2197

PRETORIA. — The Minister of Agriculture, Mr H. Schoeman, disclosed today that about 2 000 workers in South Africa's cotton industry had been dismissed after a price drop and a fall in demand.

Speaking at the opening of the Eastern Transvaal Co-operative's cotton mill at Marble Hall, Mr Schoeman said the world's textile industry had experienced a recession in the past 18 months.

This had affected the local textile industry to such an extent that two local factories had closed down.

The local price of cotton fibre was linked to over-

seas prices, which had declined during the past year from 112,29c to 75,09c a kg for the basic grade.

The demand for cotton fibre had also decreased to such an extent that some factories had worked only one shift a day and sometimes only one shift in two days. About 2 000 workers had been dismissed.

Mr Schoeman said South Africa was still to a large

extent dependent on the outside world for clothing. Last year R33-million worth of textile goods and R28-million worth of cotton fibre were imported.

The Government was aware of the strategic importance of the textile industry. It was therefore the most protected industry in the country.

Mr Schoeman said the problems which the cotton industry had experienced over the past two seasons raised the question as to whether it was worth expanding.

But he said prices were beginning to recover. The price of South African cotton should improve markedly as a result of the recent 17,9 percent devaluation of the rand.

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# Improved housing on farms

ARGUS 15/10/75

The Argus Boland Bureau

STELLENBOSCH. — The days when Coloured farm labourers were offered two-roomed shacks to live in were past, Mr Jannie Momberg, chairman of the Stellenbosch Farmers Association, said here last night.

Mr Momberg told 80 farmers at the association's monthly meeting that the main cause of social evil on farms was inadequate housing for labourers.

With the co-operation of the Government and the Divisional Council, farmers in the Boland are now able to offer excellent housing schemes, Mr Momberg said.

The Stellenbosch farmers have already taken positive steps in this direction and I hope all the Boland farmers will follow our lead, he said.

### TO BLAME

In 1951, 34 percent of the total Coloured population lived on farms. By 1971 this percentage had dropped to 17. Poor housing and recreational facilities on farms were largely to blame for this.

Mr F. Stephens, manager of Building Plans and Waterworks in the Stellen-

bosch Divisional Council, showed films and plans for housing and community centres on farms. Most of the houses shown consisted of two bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen and had flush toilets, electricity and water facilities.

Mr Stephens urged farmers to build no fewer than five houses at a time, as this would be cheaper. The ideal was to build 10 houses.

### COMMUNICATE

Farmers were urged to communicate with their labourers about their housing and not to 'force a particular house down their throats.'

Mr Momberg said today farmers in Stellenbosch agreed with this policy. They were in favour of building community centres on their farms, which could consist of good houses, sports fields and recreational centres.

Nov 16/01-75

# Farmers told to register workers

Farming Editor

SILVERTON — The Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr. M. C. Botha, today warned farmers to register all their Black labourers in order to prevent "dangerous" people from being settled in our midst.

He opened a one-day symposium on Black labour organised by the Transvaal Agriculture Union in a Silvertown hotel.

Mr. Botha said farmers should be on their guard against malpractices in the treatment of their labourers as these could create a fertile soil for unrest.

He also said farmers will have to compete to an increasing extent with the mines, Iscor, the railways and other big employers for their labour resources.

## PROTECTION

Legislative protection agriculturally enjoyed in the past had already been scrapped and the few remaining provisions would soon have to go.

Mr. Botha said farmers would have to compete on an equal basis with these big employers by paying higher wages and supplying decent housing and other fringe benefits to make their farm labourers happy.

He said records of registered labourers would soon be computerised. This would assist to trace absconders who left their families on the farms.

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# Bantu boards to help with farm labour

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17/10/75

① 4 ② 319 ③ 323 ④ 398  
⑤ 48 ⑥ ~~Maposela Training~~

**Farming Editor**  
Bantu administration boards have asked organised agriculture how they can help farmers with their African labour force.

Mr Manie Mulder, chairman of the West Rand board told farmers this at

the Transvaal Agriculture Union symposium here yesterday.

Mr Mulder suggested boards could assist with:

- the building of houses by the board's building teams;
- provision of recreational and welfare facilities;
- medical services and

- clinics on farms;
- family planning;
- education and the provision of bursaries for farm children to attend city high schools;
- in-service training of farm labourers and selection of employees;
- mobile registration units to visit farms.

He reminded farmers that their registration fee of 40c a labourer a month would not be enough to finance all these projects.

Mr J J Druwer, director of the Division of Agricultural Engineering of the Department of Agricultural Technical Services, pointed out that overseas farm workers with Standard 8 were given intensive training in the handling and maintenance of farm machinery.

In South Africa illiterate rates were pitched into their jobs without even in-service training. The result was that South Africa's tractor maintenance cost 40 percent more than in overseas countries.

At the turn of the century the country would need about 400,000 tractor operators and if current training provisions were not stepped up considerably only 25,000 would be qualified.

If 20,000 tractor operators were not trained within the next few years agricultural mechanisation was bound to remain inefficient and capital losses would be enormous, Mr Gruwer said.

# 'Blackening' worries Prof.

Mercury 17/10/75

① 101 ② 377 ③ 4 ④ 170 ⑤ 153 ⑥ 289

**PRETORIA** — If the continued growth of the Black community in the White areas could not be reversed by settling at least 10 million Blacks in their homelands by 1985, there could not be any question of the survival of the Whites in South Africa, Prof. C. W. H. Boshoff, chairman of Sabra (South African Bureau for Racial Affairs), said yesterday.

Reading a paper on "the Black labour force in the Republic" at a symposium on farm labour organised by the Transvaal Agricultural Union at Silverton near here, Prof. Boshoff said it would cost from R300-

million to R1 000-million a year to win "the struggle for the survival of the Whites in South Africa."

Prof. Boshoff said that if the inflow of Blacks were merely stopped, he foresaw a radical Leftist agitation developing.

Quoting census figures, Prof. Boshoff came to the conclusion: "The Blacks who originally came as employees into the White areas developed into a Black community of which less than 50 per cent is economically active while only 25 per cent is concerned in actual production and

about 12 percent in agriculture."

Referring to the shortage of White labour, Prof. Boshoff said it was due to the fact that Whites were needed to provide amenities, services, education and hospitalisation for an ever-growing Black population.

With the upgrading of Black wages, demands for these amenities also increased, resulting in the total exhaustion of the White labour force.

Blacks were taking over from Whites at the rate of 12 000 jobs a year.

"In this dilemma the Whites will have to think

again on their future," he said.

"They will have to allow themselves to be led by principles, not by what is practical. They will have to stop the process of Blackening of their country and reverse the process.

"Separate development means the settlement of each nation in its own homeland or it means nothing."

He said a change should come about in soil utilisation in homeland farm lands. White farmers should work for periods of up to three months there to teach the Blacks farming. — (Sapa.)



# Farmers

## get a pat on the back

Staff Reporter

FARMERS were given a pat on the back last night by Mr. M. C. Botha, Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, for providing funds for the building of houses for farm workers.

"The improvement of housing on farms where there is a need for it is one way of making agricultural work more attractive," Mr. Botha told the Institute of Administrators of Non-European Affairs in Bloemfontein.

Although Mr. Botha only touched on the shortage of labour in the platteland, it is common knowledge that farmers frequently complain of labour shortages and that many Africans do not like farm work.

He rejected compulsory measures as a means of binding workers to farms, and recommended improved housing as a better method of preventing the flow of workers away from farms.

### MONEY

Farmers were already pouring money into Bantu Administration Boards to benefit from their housing schemes for Africans. "One board already has a waiting list of 2 000 farmers," Mr. Botha said.

Mr. Botha went on to refer to the proposed scheme to provide Africans in urban areas with the opportunity to build or buy their own homes on a 30-year leasehold basis.

"I have already given my approval to the guidelines, and my department will shortly announce details of it," he said.

It was authoritatively learnt yesterday that possession of homeland citizenship by urban Africans will be an absolute condition of the right to buy or build a house.

African resistance to the condition is likely to be fierce.

# Farm pensions plan proposed

Mr. Curry 25/10/75

Agricultural Correspondent

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FARMERS at the congress of the South African Agricultural Union have unanimously approved a motion to consider a pension scheme for farm labourers.

Addressing delegates in Pretoria, Mr. J. J. Streicher, of the Cape Province Agricultural Union, said farm labourers could only be expected to do their best if they knew their own and their families' future was secure.

He said that because labourers were beginning to leave rural areas to sell their labour to the highest bidder, farmers were having difficulty in keeping workers.

"Because of modern farming methods, labourers are now taking more responsibility and can look on their work as a career," he said.

Mr. Streicher said that labour was looking for future security particularly for when they could no longer work because of sickness or old age.

Opening the congress, Dr. Anton Rupert, told farmers to pay workers higher wages with better housing. Housing need not be expensive but it should be designed with "good taste and a bit of imagination."

Dr. Rupert went on to say that such steps might in the medium and long term lead to having a "more effective labour force on our farms that will in turn lead to savings and a more economic use of our means of production as well as an increase in the value of our property and land."

Dr. Rupert warned farmers that if prices of farm produce increased too much, turnover could drop.

# Higher Black wage 'is not enough'

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**Own Correspondent**  
DURBAN — It is not enough for farmers to raise the wages of their Black workers without offering the

opportunities to go with a higher standard of living, according to a Black personnel consultant.

In an address to farmers today at Camperdown, Mr. W. Z. Ntuli, managing director of Associated African Personnel Consultants, Pty Ltd, Durban, said that Black workers must be given the opportunity to spend their money like any other group.

Asked whether higher wages did not lead to increased alcoholism and

absenteeism among Black workers, he said that this was a social, rather than a racial question.

"Have you ever asked yourselves why some Africans in the local towns are better dressed than you are and why others in the townships have often better cars? How else can they spend it?"

In fact, he said, the highest alcohol rate in South Africa was to be found among the poor Whites, who did not know what to do with their money.

# Lure of cash isn't the answer

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*Mercury*  
3/10/75

Mercury Reporter

PIETERMARITZBURG — One of the chief dangers facing farmers today was the concern with wages to create better productivity and a contented work force, Mr. W. Z. Ntuli, managing director of African Personnel Consultants, said here.

Speaking on Motivation and Training at an open farmers day at Eston, Mr. Ntuli said research had shown Blacks rated hard cash as only third in a list of priorities. The nature of the job and standard of supervision were rated first and second.

The open day was a follow-up to the highly successful day last year at which for the first time in South Africa Black leaders spoke to the White farming community.

"Cash is of course very important but the effect of an increase in salary soon wears off for White or Black people," he said. "Only that which was provided over and above what was taken to be normal would be seen as a motivator."

Replying to questions

about a rise in alcoholism after an increase in wages, Mr. Ntuli said that like any individual the farm worker would seek the available outlets for his leisure time and cash.

"If there are no facilities — and in Soweto people buy flashy clothes and cars — this must be expected," he said.

People needed a sense of belonging on farms and it was up to the farmer to develop this. "Imagine living in a place where your landlord is your employer — if you lose your job you lose your house," he said.

Three other speakers, all farmers, confirmed what Mr. Ntuli said by describing how in the last year they had put into practice the kind of ideas he has suggested and increased productivity.

# Shot in the end of an argument

## Crime Reporter

A 32-year-old labourer was shot in the buttocks after allegedly stabbing his employer during an argument on a farm near Ventersdorp yesterday.

Mr Israel Mvemve was taken to hospital, where his condition was today described as not serious.

Mr Jacob Hattingh, of the farm Rooipoort, was treated for a screwdriver stab wound in his left forearm.

Mr Hattingh told police that he had ordered an employee to do some work on a farm tractor. An argument about the ownership of a set of

spanners started and Mr Hattingh was stabbed in the arm.

A man who turned and ran away from the scene of the argument was shot twice in the buttocks with a 0,22 automatic pistol.

The man fell to the ground after the second bullet.

Monday 17/11/75

0 (4)

2. Manpower Training

# Better conditions for farm workers planned

By PETER SUTTON — Agricultural Correspondent

**A**GRICULTURE in South Africa is at last beginning to emerge from the Dark Ages in its attitudes to farm labour. Two recent and significant events indicate that farmers are now taking steps to change their poor image as employers and retainers of Blacks.

The first is the opening of a training centre in the northern Free State by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Hendrik Schoeman, who paid tribute to a large tractor company for the valuable contribution it is making to agriculture in South Africa by providing adequate training facilities for farm machine operators.

The organisation has established a training centre at Bothaville in the Free State at a cost of more than R250 000 for the intensive training of about 2 000 tractor drivers and machine operators a year.

Mr. Schoeman said that only one in every 18 of farm labourers handling machinery had had any formal instruction and therefore machinery depreciated much faster. He said that this cost agriculture a "small fortune" annually.

## Whites

Addressing some 2 500 farmers from all over the country the Minister said: "It has been proved that the depreciation on tractors handled for longer than 10 years by Africans was 41 percent higher than on tractors handled for the same period by Whites."

In an attempt to stop this appalling waste, the tractor company has made it compulsory for all agents selling their

products to send their employees on courses so that they can instruct their clients in the proper use and maintenance of tractors.

Secondly, farmers in Natal have recently been holding meetings throughout the province to listen to African speakers and to discuss the problem of motivation and training of farm workers and attitudes in employer / employee relations.

A leader in this field is Mr. Doug Horton, a successful mixed farmer who farms near Cato Ridge and who has on numerous occasions addressed farmers on this subject. His contention is that "in the eyes of the African, the image of the farmer as an employer of labour is so low that he, the African, is looked down upon by his fellow men."

Mr. Horton says it is essential that the farming community changes its image now otherwise "it will fail to attract good labour and without labour all the ambitions for development will come to naught — and the nation will be poorer for it."

He believes that farmers have the edge on industry because they can offer more. "But first we must make our labourers feel they are doing a man's job of which to be proud."

Although Doug Horton says there may not be an immediate reaction because of suspicion by workers, experience has shown him that once there is genuine effort on the part of the farmers, "the attitude of workers accelerates to a point where you find that they are working with you and not only for you."

"They will trust and confide in you and once you have gained their confidence, they can be persuaded to accept responsibility, to use their own initiative and to seek advice and knowledge."

## Steps

According to Mr. Ntuli, the following steps should be taken to improve Black farm labour:

- Paternalistic management must be replaced by rational management.
- Substantial improvements are needed to make more satisfying jobs.
- Better conditions of employment must be evolved and these should be developed on a collective rather than a individual basis.
- Supervisors and managers of farm labour must receive training in man-management skills.
- Agriculture should offer more social stability so that labourers will develop a feeling of belonging.

# A FIVE-POINT PLAN FOR FOOD, HEALTH AND

HIGHER salaries are not the answer to raising the standards of living among rural Africans. Rather, initial improvements in food, clothing and living quarters lead to improved life styles.

— on the problem of diet and disease — before a United States Senate Select Sub-Committee. His findings have swept through Natal farming circles and have upset established beliefs.

than 26 000 copies have been distributed to farmers through out Southern Africa.

● A farmer reported that complaints had been registered against him by the local farmer's union as his use of Dr. Campbell's ideas had drawn agricultural workers from other surrounding farms to him for work.

# Smash that inducement barrier, then reap dividends

By NOEL GLASS  
Mercury Pietermaritzburg Bureau

FARMERS who raise the wages of their workers and then, to their bewilderment are faced with a decrease in work output and a rise in alcoholism should be neither surprised nor disillusioned.

According to South African nutritionist, Dr. G. D. Campbell, this is exactly what should be expected — unless the workers' standards of living have been raised beforehand.

Improving the health and accommodation of workers has brought about startling results, he said in an interview, results which after 12 years of research, were so remarkably good that he was at first "almost inclined to disbelieve them."

A Natal Midlands farmer Mr Robin Bamber, who adopted Dr. Campbell's scheme, found that after three weeks he no longer needed to recruit labour.

"Instead of going into the hills to bring in labour by truck, we now have workers lining up at the farm looking for jobs," he said.

Many farmers have had similar experiences.

Referring to his paper, Five-Point Plan for Improving and Maintaining the health and increasing Work Output of Farm Workers, published in the South African Sugar Journal, Dr. Campbell pointed out that because of the philosophy of the majority of agricultural workers, the aim behind increasing wages was doomed from the start.

Most labourers, he said, worked for a specific basic wage and estimated the number of days they would need to obtain a certain amount of money.

"If wages are increased, the number of working days are often reduced in proportion to the increase; in other words financial inducement to do more work is fruitless," he said.

That is until what Dr. Campbell calls "the inducement barrier" has been broken.

"The inducement barrier is where all of a

sudden labourers realise that it is worth their while to do extra work for extra money.

"It is not something standard for all workers — by and large industrial workers have broken the barrier and those in small agricultural labour forces have not."

One way of breaking the inducement barrier was discovered by one industrial concern which gave a bicycle to every

dards. After this extra pay is more likely to be spent on the welfare of workers families."

Dr. Campbell visited the barracks of an agricultural organisation which fed its workers very well. But he found much wasted food in the nearby bush and was struck by the extraordinary profusion of the poultry life in the barracks.

"Offering good food in certain contexts is no guarantee whatsoever that the men will eat it unless it is given in an

distress that some workers would far rather spend the cost of a sub-economic meal of meat, beans and potatoes on the traditional Durban factory lunch — half-loaf of white bread and a large bottle of cool drink," he said.

This is how Dr. Campbell's five-point plan works:

This involves a two-week period of acclimatisation of those workers after their arrival from a cold climate.

"During World War II American soldiers in the Pacific required two weeks after arriving in the hot areas before they were fully fit.

"This is also necessary for Africans coming down from the chilly mountains of Pondoland to the hot coastal belt," he said.

Where workers were debilitated — and Dr. Campbell emphasised that many from the Transkei were — the impact of starting heavy work immediately in conditions of extreme heat could actually affect work performance for the entire length of the contract.

It did not surprise him to hear that more than 50 percent of those workers who started work the day after coming from Pondoland were unable to finish their tasks.

Certain companies were using training periods for their labour forces — this practice was invaluable as it constituted the ideal physical acclimatisation as well, he said.

Though protein from animals is costly, tripe had proved popular and was not expensive, Dr. Campbell found.

Beans, the cheapest form of protein, were a food labourers like very much, he added.

field at about 9.30 a.m.

Splitting the daily meal increased the amount of glucose in the body and so increased the energy of the worker.

If the glucose levels in the blood fell, the body could manufacture more

## Suddenly labourers realise

Agricultural workers loved a large meal at 3.30 p.m.

This had to be altered, Dr. Campbell said, and at least part of the meal should be served in the

glucose from the starch present in a healthy liver. However, most agricultural labourers did not have healthy livers, chiefly because of a previous high maize

I TELL farmers not to raise pay but to improve food and accommodation standards. After this, extra pay is more likely to be spent on the welfare of workers' families.

—Dr. G. D. CAMPBELL



worker who had worked a full six months.

Alcohol was fast becoming a critical factor in farm labour in this country and was greatly worsened by raising only rates of pay, said Dr. Campbell.

"This is why I tell farmers not to raise pay but improve food and accommodation stan-

eating house from which the workers cannot emerge with any food."

"Many workers' have the idea that their wages can be spent more profitably on drink if they take the food they should eat from the dining rooms to their families," he said.

Even industrialists have found to their



WORKERS collecting their 6 a.m. vegetables while Mr. Rubin B... workers are also given sweete...

## D FARMING OUTPUT



AFRICAN factory workers who have crossed the "inducement barrier" queue after work to buy high quality foods from a Kupugani stand. The men now refuse samp and beans as being "not our kind of food."

diet or alcohol. A study by Dr. Campbell in the coastal area

and general health. "A measure of the success of treating

case, chest disease resulted largely from the passage of worms

mines had increased work production by at least 15 percent.

Dr. Campbell said that by following the five-point plan, the output of each labourer could be increased. This had been confirmed by controlled studies which showed that work output had been increased by more than 30 percent, indicating that, however expensive some of the recommendations may appear, they were, in the long run, a great economy.

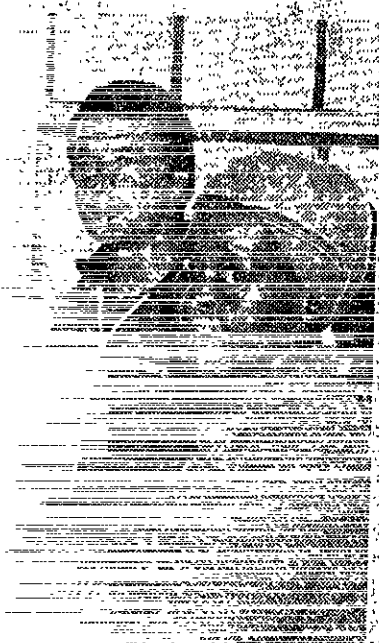
## it was worthwhile to do extra work . . .

showed that 75 percent of Pondos and 50 percent of the Indian labourers showed clear laboratory evidence of worm infestation — which resulted in impaired work output

labourers for worms has been that a majority have asked for it to be repeated," he said.

It was also necessary to treat wives and especially children, as in their

through the lungs. Hookworm and tape-worm were more serious and expensive to treat. However, it was well worth the effort as their eradication on the gold-



Breakfast of meat and... ber looks on. The... cocoa and mahoe.

Indians realised the worker's need for water. They brought to Natal the custom of designating one of the gang as "water-boy."

"We will have to revive this custom as at the height of a hot summer's day workers should have at least one litre of cool water every hour.

"This may seem far-fetched to many employers, but a regular intake of water helps greatly to keep up output in the hotter months," he said.

It was wise for the worker to have sugar-sweetened tea or coffee early in the morning and then at the 9.00 a.m. "split," the large meal traditionally eaten in the afternoon. This would help maintain good co-ordination and prevent undue falls in blood-sugar levels, Dr. Campbell said.

Hot soup (a ready source of potassium) was an ideal way of starting the day as this helped muscular work.

For all practical purposes body protein can only be maintained by actually eating protein-rich food which has two functions: it helps rebuild destroyed cells and repairs cells damaged during manual labour.

Also, the spreading of Natal sores is a far more serious problem in people deficient of a good protein diet. Earlier studies have shown clearly that these sores can be abolished by extra protein and vermifuge in the diet.

# 198 to lose jobs when mill closes

*Mercury - 2/10/75*

African Affairs Reporter

ABOUT 198 Africans will lose their jobs when the Renishaw Sugar Mill at Scottburgh closes at the end of this month after 115 years of operation.

A statement issued by Mr. C. Ratcliff, secretary for the company, said because of the limited potential of the cane supply area to provide additional throughput and escalating wage and stores cost, the company had decided to accept an offer from Reynolds Brothers Ltd. to purchase the milling rights of the company.

He said the mill will be closed and all cane diverted to Sezela.

These extensions will require less staff at Renishaw and offers were made for alternative employment at Sezela.

The company will pay each employee a gratuity based on the number of years' service at Renishaw. Almost half of the staff was offered employment at Sezela and Umzimkulu at equal pay, but declined to accept the offer.

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(1, 3 - ~~Ground~~)  
(2) (4)

PRESS STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE HENDRIK SCHOEMAN,  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT BOARD  
IN TERMS OF THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT ACT, 1966

As a result of the rate at and the extent to which assistance has been granted to farmers by the Agricultural Credit Board in terms of the Agricultural Credit Act 1966 during the current (1975/6) financial year and in view of the limited funds available for the purpose it has become necessary to curtail further assistance by the Board, over and above the suspension of assistance for the erection of farm labourers' housing which has already been announced. It has accordingly been decided to discontinue assistance for the purchase of agricultural land with effect from 28 November 1975 until the next budget.

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AT THE REQUEST  
OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

PRETORIA  
26 November 1975

Argus 4/12/75  
**Farm death  
④ three  
men held**

The Argus Crime Reporter  
WORCESTER detectives  
arrested three men in the  
Worcester district follow-  
ing allegations that a  
Coloured man had been  
killed early in September,  
secretly buried, dug up  
again and thrown into the  
Brandvlei Dam.

The dead man has been  
identified as Mr Marthinus  
Jochems (21) of Escol  
Farm, Moordkuil in the  
Worcester district.

The arrested men — a  
White farm owner and  
two Coloured men — are  
expected to appear in the  
Worcester Magistrate's  
Court tomorrow.

# FARMERS AND TENANTS ARE

## BOTH VICTIMS IN THESE . . .

*Mercury 5/19/68*

By TIM MULL

African Affairs Correspondent

THE EVICTION of tenant labourers in the Weenen district is an old story, but a new dimension has been added, according to the Rev. Samson Khumalo, the chief organiser of Inkatha, the Black Liberation movement, in the area.

He told the Natal Mercury yesterday that in recent months "almost every time I hold a meeting in the Estcourt, Colenso or Weenen areas to explain about Inkatha, it is followed by evictions."

"For instance, I had a meeting on August 30 at a shop near Weenen village. On September 1 all the labourers at Elandsplaas who attended the meeting were given eviction notices."

For several years Africans have been complaining to the Natal Mercury that their employers were evicting them. The latest in a series of delegations included the Majola brothers and Mr. Mcheki Ndebele.

While some farmers may be callous, most of them are, however, as much victims of the situation as are their workers.

# Eviction

# anomalies

Mr. Donald Shindair, president of the Natal Agricultural Union, yesterday blamed the Government's policy for creating the homeless situation in which Africans found themselves.

Mr. Khumalo bore this out to a certain extent. He recalled that the Weenen farmers asked the Government to implement legislation to abolish the tenant labour system in about 1968.

## NO WATER

Africans in the area were told by Government officials that nine farms would be bought for them. Later they were told there was no water on these farms and the settlement areas have never been forthcoming.

He claims now that the farmers' harassment of their workers has flared up again. "In the past ten months it has become almost a weekly occurrence."

Mr. Philomon Majola and his brother, Gideon, were ordered off a farm in July this year. Another farmer gave Mr. Majola permission to graze his eight head of cattle on his farm, but Mr. Majola has since been refused permission to transfer cattle and is being sued for stock rent.

Mr. Khumalo said this kind of thing occurred frequently. "Some farmers prevent their tenants from keeping cattle and when a tenant gets a neighbouring farmer to agree to keep his stock for him, the

employer refused to allow them to go.

"You see, once notice has been given a tenant has to pay R1 per head of stock grazing on the employer's farm."

## HOMELANDS

The Majola brothers told the Mercury that they had eight children between them and 17 cattle. They receive R3 a month in wages and no rations.

"We have been told to get rid of our cattle and now we are not allowed to plough either."

In the past many of the tenants evicted were re-employed by other farmers, but in the past year these people have found they have nowhere to go.

Government officials have suggested they go into the homeland. The homelands chiefs however, usually refuse to accept them because their own land is overpopulated by people and stock anyway.

In some cases the homeland tribesmen are hostile for clanish reasons or because they feel economically threatened by the influx.

There are no so-called Black Spots for them to be settled on and for the most part it is not possible for them to enter industrial townships.

They now squat illegally on the farms from which they have been evicted.

Mr. Ndebele said his notice expired in October but he did not move

- **AFRICANS say they are being harassed by their employers**
- **FARMERS say that the tenant labour system is wasteful and inefficient**
- **EVICTED TRIBESMEN find hostility in their homelands**

because he had no place to go.

His former employer, a farmer near Estcourt, accompanied by a messenger of the court bulldozed the kraals occupied by him and his brother, Bekimpi. Mr. Ndebele's two wives and 12 children and his brother's wife and five children are now living in the ruins of the homes.

He said he had been employed to work for six months of the year for R10 a month. He was allowed to stay on the farm, keep livestock and plough to grow mealies.

### WASTEFUL

He had written permission from his employer to work for the other six months at the bacon factory in Estcourt.

None of the farmers named by the various Africans would comment to the Mercury. Knowing that there are two sides to this issue, the Mercury approached the farmers and a meeting was set up in Estcourt. The day before the meeting was to take place the Mercury was informed that they had decided the NAU should make whatever comment might be necessary, and the meeting was cancelled.

Mr. Sinclair, of the NAU, pointed out that the tenant labour system was wasteful and inefficient. It demanded that a farmer give over a large part of his holdings to his workers for grazing and food production, and in return he received labour.

If he had 100 people on his farm he might draw, if he was lucky, ten workers.

"This system is most widely found in the Weenen district and in those areas of Colenso and Estcourt bordering Weenen.

"The area is not a labour intensive area because it is stock country. The farms there are becoming too valuable economically to continue this very inefficient labour system.

"The onus is on the Government to accommodate those people who have been evicted. Generally speaking the people kicked off are surplus to the needs of the farmer, and let us remember he is not running a charitable institution.

"I feel it is up to the Bantu Administration Board to ascertain where labour shortages exist and supply those areas from areas like the Weenen district where there are labour surpluses.

"This is one of the main reasons the boards were founded."

### INSOLUBLE

He contended that the wages paid by the farmers had to be related to the worker's cattle holdings, his right to grow food and his rent-free housing.

At the same time Mr. Sinclair intimated that the land problem, deeply complicated by the population explosion, appeared insoluble.

The Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner for Natal, Mr. J. J. van der Watt, said: "Yes, we do have a serious population problem and there is a shortage of land. We are doing the best we can and in some cases we are resettling people.

"Just this week, for example, we offered to resettle 16 families and we have so far resettled four. Often these people just wander off themselves. I don't know where they go.

"We are fitting them in where we can, but if I had 250 people come along now, I probably would not be able to resettle them."

# Levy on farm workers

EMPLOYERS in the agricultural sector would in future have to pay 40c per month or R4 a year, if paid in advance, for each of their employees, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr W. A. Cruywagen, said yesterday.

He said the question of advance payment of contri-

20M 6/12/78 -  
butions by farmers on a yearly basis and at a reduced tariff in terms of the law, had been reconsidered by the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development in the light of representations received from organised agriculture and the South African Agricultural Union in particular. — Sapa

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Achterberg, G.: Voor dit de laatste stad (Lees hiervan die inleiding)  
Rodenko, P.: Nieuwe griffelaar schoner leren (Lees inleiding)

Achterberg, G.: Voor dit de laatste stad (Lees hiervan die inleiding)  
Rodenko, P.: Nieuwe griffelaar schoner leren (Lees inleiding)

FORN... AND POLIK - DENMARKI...  
IS... MO...  
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M...  
M... - K...

① 4  
② 107

# Eviction complaint

*Mercury 17/11/75*  
African Affairs Correspondent.  
A GROUP of Africans from the Dannhauser district, evicted from white-owned farms in the area, have complained to the KwaZulu Government about the "unsympathetic treatment" they received from Mr. Walter Kanye, the KwaZulu Councillor for Community Affairs.

Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, head of the Government, told the Mercury: "I have no comment. All I can say is that I am aware of the problem and I am aware of the complaint."

A deputation from Dannhauser travelled to Pietermaritzburg to see Mr. Kanye recently. In a petition to the homeland government this week they claim Mr. Kanye was unable to help them.

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# KwaZulu explains 'no aid'

African Affairs  
Correspondent

3 THE KWAZULU Government was unable to help Africans evicted from White owned farms because of the shortage of land, Mr. Walter Kanye the Councillor for Community Affairs, said yesterday.

Commenting on a complaint made to his government by a group of Dannhauser Africans, he said his department's inability had nothing to do with his personal attitude, but was determined by the shortage of land in KwaZulu.

The Africans had complained that Mr. Kanye had been unsympathetic to their plea for help. He maintained yesterday that he felt great sympathy for displaced people.

4 "All we can do is refer the people to the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner because the evictions have taken place within his jurisdiction and not our's."

1. 4  
2. 107

topics you feel should be added to  
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ed with your present tutor? Yes/no

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(b) Do you feel these goals were achieved during the  
year?

## Border farmer fined for not paying labour fees

PORT ALFRED — A Bathurst farmer, Mr Avro G. Randall, of Feathers Farm, Southwell, was found guilty in the magistrates' court here yesterday of failing to pay the prescribed dues for his black employees to the Cape Midlands Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

He was fined R75 or 30 days on the first count and R25 or ten days on the second, suspended for a year on condition he pays the arrears in 30 days and is not convicted again under the same regulations.

Passing sentence, the magistrate, Mr Andre Groenewald, said Mr Randall was charged on two counts which were virtually the same and the first only related to the old regulations which were applicable at the time of the alleged offence.

The magistrate said it was alleged Mr Randall had failed to pay the prescribed monthly contributions for his black employees to the Cape Midlands Bantu Administration Board, in count one in respect of 25 employees and on count two for 36 employees. The total amounts due were R2030 and

R71,60 respectively.

Mr Groenewald said Mr Randall had claimed that the object of the contribution as set out in the Bantu Labour Act was to ensure that the contribution paid by the employers were to be used for certain services for blacks or in their interests.

Mr Randall alleged this was not complied with by the Cape Midlands Bantu Affairs Board as far as the areas in the Bathurst district were concerned.

Mr Randall had also drawn the court's attention to the fact no money was allocated in the budget of the Cape Midlands Board for the areas in this district and no money had been spent on any services for the blacks.

Mr Groenewald said Mr Randall had also drawn the court's attention to a number of instances where the farmers had had to provide facilities for black schools, housing, out of their own pockets, and even the cost of health services was borne partially in some instances by the farming community.

Mr Randall said he was not unwilling to pay the levies, but the present

state of affairs was unsatisfactory. He had come to court to get clarification on certain points regarding the legislation and the use to be made of the farmers' contributions.

The magistrate said if the picture Mr Randall painted was correct, Mr Randall's attitude was understandable and the court could only hope the matter would be cleared up to the satisfaction of the farming community.

But the court was not in a position to assist Mr Randall and supply him with the information he required. The court felt Mr Randall should take his case up through the right channels to the state departments involved, if necessary on a political level.

But the court considered it was not necessary for the State to prove that the board had complied with the object of the legislators to gain a conviction.

The second point raised by Mr Randall was that the Act did not apply to the area. But government notice R857 of May 25, 1973, placed the Bathurst district under the control of the Cape Midlands BAAB. — DDC.



(1) Agric - Labour.

# But she has found bliss in this project

NM

15/1/76

LIVING far from anywhere in a shabby, thatched cottage without water or electricity may not be everyone's idea of a blissful existence; but for 27-year-old Janet Wilhelm it is happiness.

In a dusty clearing about 50 metres from Janet's cottage is a second equally unpretentious stone dwelling where Neil and Creina Alcock, pioneer developers of farms owned by Church Agricultural Projects (CAP), live with their two children.

Hens, chickens, cats, kittens, dogs and a turkey scamper, scurry and patter about. Nearby, calves graze in the dry tufty grass and Black children run around laughing and playing.

Creina and Neil moved from CAP's original farm at Maria Ratschitz, the Catholic mission near Wasbank, six months ago — and Janet joined them shortly afterwards.

## IMPRESSED

"Years ago I visited Maria Ratschitz and was impressed by the work Neil and Creina were doing," Janet told Hers.

"When I returned to South Africa after five years in Britain and Europe I wrote to them and asked if there was anything I could do on the project."

But the Alcocks had already begun their trek from Wasbank to Emdukatshani, their new farm near Weenen.

The virgin territory, once a Black labour farm, is spread over 2 428 hectares of hilly land bordering on the Msinga district of KwaZulu; and for the first eight months they lived in a tented camp perched on a slope overlooking the Tugela River.

"We told Janet she could join us if she brought her own tent," said Creina laughing.

And that is just what Janet did. Even now her home is not complete — one wall of the cottage is made of boxes and she can only live in one of the two rooms.

The communal toilet is an open pit away from the buildings, surrounded by hessian and with a stainless steel seat.

She bathes in the river and cooks with Creina on an open fire. And loves it.

"I don't have plans to build a bathroom on my house," she said. "In any case I love bathing in the river — it's such a good feeling."

Janet's rooms are sparsely furnished with clothes in suitcases and books on rough wooden shelves.

She spends much of her time teaching women and children from the farm to read, write and speak English. Although she has had no official training her heart lies in the field of education.

"It is important that these people are literate so that they can read the labels on tinned and packaged food, or on agricultural products," she said.

## STRUGGLE

Insisting that she is not "a do-gooder," she has joined the Alcocks in their struggle to create job opportunities and a more productive farming community for uneducated Blacks — men and especially women and children.

Her house is right next to a small experimental farming area where they grow a variety of crops including pumpkins, mealies and beans.

And beside her interest in this, Janet has her own vegetable garden — "a little disorganised, but it's coming on."

Essentially an idealist, Janet Wilhelm insists that she does not feel isolated living so far from friends and family with not even a telephone to bring them nearer.

"I can always go home to Johannesburg if and when I get lonely," she said.

And one can only hope that her happiness continues and with it the warmth and cheer she radiates.

7/2/76

# Farmers want homeland labour

Staff Reporter  
KLERKSDORP. — The congress of the South African Mealie Producers' Institute (Sampi) decided at Klerksdorp yesterday to investigate the possibility of establishing an organisation to recruit African farm labourers in the homelands.

A spokesman for Sampi said the country's farmers were having difficulties with labourers and if Sampi was not interested in the idea a private orga-

RDM  
nisation would probably be established soon.

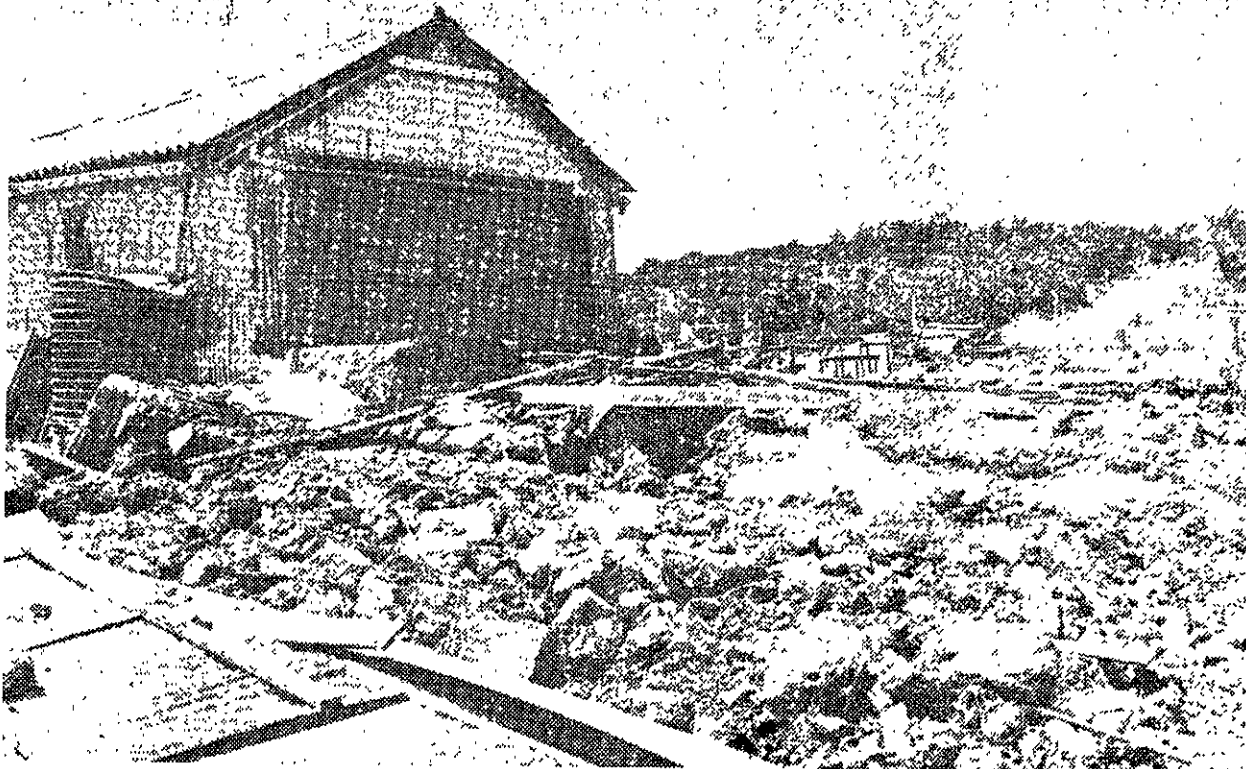
It was felt that labourers could also be recruited in Lesotho, Botswana and other African countries.

The congress also expressed concern about the "bad effect" the abolishing of the domestic ser-

vant law has had on the mealie industry, and decided to request a Government investigation.

It was also decided that a telegram be sent to Mr Hendrik Schoeman, the Minister of Agriculture, about the "treatment" Sampi received from various departments.

*Agriculture - Labour*



The ruins of the collapsed school building at Wilsonia, East London, where Nomfuza Tom, 9, was killed.

DD. 16/2/76

# Wilsonia school fall kills pupil

(4)  
E. E. P. P.

EAST LONDON — A nine-year-old Sub A pupil was killed and 11 children injured when the Wilsonia Farm School building collapsed yesterday.

Of the 11 children, two were treated for collarbone injuries, another for a head injury and the remainder for shock at the Frere Hospital.

They were all discharged after treatment.

The girl who died was Nomfuza Tom.

The 11 who were injured were Linda Ntshintshi, 7, Vuyani Nyeba, 7, Nompumelelo Somi, 8, Minah Mlonyeni, 10, Fundiswa Zamani, 8, No-diesel Welkom, 10, Nomangesi Kweni, 12, Nothalili Maki, 13, Toleka Rixana, 7, Nonkoliseko Tom, 9, and Mandlekosi Zamani, 7.

The principal of the school, Miss Thisby Mpahlwa, said after one section of the building had

collapsed on Monday after the heavy rains, she decided it was too dangerous to have the children in the building.

She then decided to have the whole building demolished and ensured there was nobody in the building.

"We were all outside and some of the children ran towards the back of the building. It was just then that the remainder of the building collapsed.

"Nomfuza was the only one who was trapped under the rubble while the others who got injured were struck by flying objects as the building collapsed," Miss Mpahlwa said.

Miss Mpahlwa said only 60 of the 95 pupils who are enrolled were at school when the accident happened.

Miss Mpahlwa said the school was built in 1965 after she and the parents of the children had strug-

led for five years to raise funds.

Mud bricks and stone were used to build the school.

A farmer in the area, Mr J. J. van Dyk, said he had just had tea at about 10.15 am with some visitors when one of his labourers told him he had seen the roof of the school building collapse.

"I decided to investigate because I could hear children screaming. When I got there I noticed that Nomfuza's body had already been taken from under the rubble.

"I then phoned the police and ambulance," Mr Van Dyk said.

The aunt of the dead girl, Mrs Nohombile Tom, said Nomfuza was the youngest of four children. After Nomfuza's father died five years ago she became the sole guardian of the children. She did not say where their mother was.—DDR

# Child labour: No legislation needed

CT 18/2/76

(1) (4)  
(2) 259  
(3) Secret Sec -  
Child - cont

A COMMITTEE of investigation of the Administration of Coloured Affairs has found that no additional legislation is needed to stop the recruitment of child labour on farms.

The committee is of this opinion because of the small numbers of children involved, and because existing legislation — with special reference to the Children's Act, 1960 — makes sufficient provision for the protection of children.

The Coloured Persons Education Act, 1963, which makes provision for the progressive introduction of compulsory school attendance should also contribute increasingly to thwarting all forms of child labour, says the report.

The committee did not condemn all canvassing of farm children as being detrimental, but said it sometimes had its merits.

Young girls specially had no future on the farms and many were obliged to look elsewhere for a livelihood.

The right of the parent to decide on the future of

the child can also not be tampered with drastically," the report said.

The investigation was requested by Dr S W van der Merwe, former Minister of Coloured Relations after reports had appeared in certain newspapers saying there was large-scale canvassing of children from farms.

The Joint Committee on Agriculture consisting of members of the Cape Province Agricultural Union and members of the Coloured Persons Council also asked for an investigation.

The committee found that recruitment for employment of farm children by persons from town and urban areas with the permission of the parents occurred in four cases out of 1 000 children.

The enticement of children without the permission of the parents oc-

curred in one case out of 1 000 children a year.

The committee also found that the amount involved in the agreement between recruiter and parent ranged from less than R5 to R15 a month.

In a few cases a single amount ranging from R2 to R10 was paid to the parent. Only 39 percent of the recruiters fully honoured their agreement of monthly payment to the parents. The type of work done by children was that of maid/nurse girl (95 percent), shop assistant, factory hand or vegetable hawker.

The committee suggested that the problem could be stopped by:

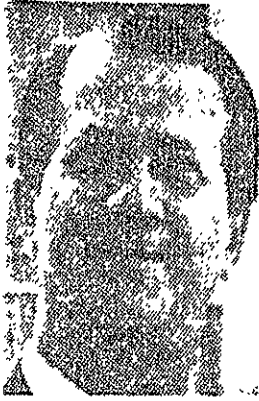
- farmers persuading their employees to send their children to school regularly;
- warning employees against recruiters/enticers who make attractive verbal promises to them in exchange for the services of their children;
- requesting principals and teachers to impress on parents the need of education and the responsibility they have towards their children;
- requesting farmers' associations or agricultural unions to have a draft agreement which can be used for making agreements with recruiters in respect of young Coloured girls who have left school.

The report states that the recommendations of the committee are now being implemented.

DAILY DISPATCH  
21/2/76

(1) 320  
(2) 4  
(3) 205

# Move to test legality of farm labour levies



DR TREURNICHT...  
letter causes row.

EAST LONDON — Storms are brewing in the affairs of Bantu Administration Boards.

The Eastern Agricultural Union based in Alice is to challenge the legality of the board's regulations for the registration of farm labourers.

The Port Alfred Town Council has refused to attend a meeting of the board.

And the board has been accused by the Port Alfred council of failing to co-operate with the Department of Bantu Administration and Development.

A circular letter issued by the president of the Eastern Agricultural Union, Mr H. R. Matthews says: "Farmers are prepared to face prosecution rather than comply with the regulation regarding registration of farm labour. It is felt that no benefits are derived in rural areas from the payment of a monthly registration fee."

The document goes on: "In the rural areas of the Eastern Cape where labour is traditionally resident on farms, no benefits are derived from the BAAB and therefore, the monthly fee is considered an imposition."

"To clarify the matter the members of this union are prepared to support one of its members in a test case.

"The union submits that the functions of these boards is an extension of government policy which should be financed from central government funds."

Although members of the Port Alfred Town Council have been invited to attend a budget meeting of the Cape Midlands Board on February 27 none indicated their willingness to do so.

Mr A. G. Sinclair-Black expressed the attitude of the council when he said: "I am not prepared to go to any meeting with BAAB and not be allowed to raise a voice or even an objection."

At a similar meeting some time ago, town councillors were told they could not say anything because the meeting was between BAAB and the advisory committee.

The council resolved that the director, Mr L. Koch, be asked to clarify the position and preferably to address a public meeting in Port Alfred because of the tremendous dissatisfaction felt in the town over Bantu affairs.

A letter addressed by Dr A. P. Treurnicht, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, to Mr Bill Deacon, MP for Albany, and passed

on by him to the Port Alfred council raised a storm of protest from councillors over the apparent lack of co-operation between the ministry and BAAB.

Dr Treurnicht informed Mr Deacon that he was directing BAAB to submit proposals to his department on the possibility of a black residential area to serve both Port Alfred and Bathurst and also to determine suitable sites for black townships at Kenton-on-Sea and the Bushman's River.

Mr G. Pitman, chairman of the finance committee said two years ago the council had been under the impression that all this was cut and dried.

He expressed the opinion that Dr Treurnicht's letter be referred to Mr Koch with a request that he be asked what had happened to the plans he had promised two years ago — DDC.

(1) 4  
(2) 124

Cape Times 2/3/76

# Judge attacks firm's conduct

Staff Reporter

A CAPE TOWN Supreme Court judge yesterday reproved a property-owning company, Owen Wiggins Trust Company Ltd, for its "unconscionable conduct" when he dismissed the company's appeal against an interdict preventing it from ejecting a group of Coloured families from cottages occupied on two Paarl farms.

The interdict was granted on August 10 last year after the families living on Klein Parys and Carolina, Paarl, were given notice "by order of the Paarl Divisional Council" to vacate the cottages by August 18 because of impending demolition.

A counter-application by the company was overruled.

In the original proceedings, Mr Johannes Mars, Mr Dennis Goosen, Mr Peter Morris and Dr Renatus Arendse, a member of the Coloured Re-

presentative Council for Bergvliet, and acting on behalf of 11 occupiers, applied for an order preventing Master Holmes (Pty) Ltd, a subsidiary company of Owen Wiggins Trust, from implementing the ejection.

In an affidavit, Mr H O Wiggins said that the Divisional Council had had complaints about the condition of the cottages. The properties concerned were to be developed as White townships and the ejection notices were issued after correspondence

between his company and the Paarl Divisional Council.

Dr Arendse later established that the Divisional Council had not ordered the demolition of the houses but ordered that they be vacated because of defects.

In his judgment, Mr Justice Steyn said: "Owen Wiggins Trust wished to develop the land concerned 'as White townships'. It was accordingly in their interests to have the families ejected from the premises."

This could have been done by consent or by due process of law. However, the company "saw fit" to misrepresent the position to the occupiers and led them to believe that the buildings were to be demolished as a result of an order by the Divisional Council.

The company "well knew" that no demolition order had been issued by the Divisional Council and that the defects applied only to the homes of three occupiers. These defects could have been remedied and demolition was not required.

Demolition was used as an excuse to have all the cottages vacated.

"The abuse which this property-owning company perpetrated is the more reprehensible because it affected persons who are poor and illiterate. They would therefore have been unlikely to assert their rights against what they assumed to be an act of officialdom," Mr Justice Steyn said.

"This conduct causes even greater concern when Mr Owen Wiggins himself not only opposed the application for an interdict but appeals to a full Bench of this Divisional Council for an order granting

# In-depth talks held on farm labour

SUN TIMES (EXTRA)  
21/3/76

EIGHT MEMBERS of the CRC, including Mrs Alatheia Jansen, had in-depth discussions this week with representatives of the Cape Agricultural Union and the Minister of Coloured Affairs about the wages, housing and working conditions of Coloured farm workers in the province.

The Cape Agricultural Union was represented by Messrs Streicher, Jooste Van Zyl and the CRC members were Mrs Jansen, Mrs Mary Sweetland and Messrs Jaap Muller, George Fortuin, C le Fleur, Louis Hollander, Barkie Savahl and Mr Sam Cloete.

After the meeting, which was addressed by the minister of Coloured Affairs who said he was very happy

to see the amount of goodwill and co-operation from both groups at the meeting, discussions revolved around the housing, education, wages and working conditions of farm workers.

Complaints made farmers at a previous meeting which had been investigated at the Agricultural Union were discussed and some were found to be untrue.

I understand that the union has now completed a "thorough" investigation into the wage position of farm workers and that this will be discussed at another meeting to be arranged in the future.

Agric-Labour

Senate Hansard 6 @ cols. 41-42

24/3/76

**Registration of Bantu employees of White farmers in Transkei/Eastern Cape**

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27. Senator B. R. BAMFORD asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) What are the present requirements in regard to the registration of Bantu employees of White farmers in the Transkei and Eastern Cape;
- (2) whether this system of registration is being reviewed.

**The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:**

- (1) The requirements are contained in Republican Government Notice No. 63 of 9 January 1959 as amended by Transkeian Government Notice No. 1 of 26 April 1968 in respect of the Transkei and in Republican Government Notice No. R.1892 of 3 December 1965 in respect of the Eastern Cape.

- (2) Not at this stage as far as the Republic is concerned. In the Transkei revision solely vests in the Transkeian Government.



# Farmers in row over fees

25/3/76

R.S.M.

Agricultural Correspondent

**EAST Griqualand farmers clashed with the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Dr. F. Hartzberg, in Kokstad yesterday over the registration of farm labour in the area.**

Mr. P. Miller, secretary of the East Griqualand Regional Development Association, said yesterday that local farmers had expressed "extreme dissatisfaction" with the workings of the Bantu Administration Boards and were unhappy about the fees they had to pay for the registration of labour.

Mr. Miller said that farmers "get nothing for their money" because the Boards were unable to control the labour recruited by them. Mr. Miller said that labourers ran away from farms and other places of work and where towns and farms were near to homelands, the position was even more difficult. He said that the Bantu Administration Boards could offer no help.

Replying to farmers' accusations, the Deputy Minister agreed that there were inefficiencies in the registration system but he said that this was caused because farmers and the public did not co-operate with the Government in labour matters.

Another meeting between farmers and Bantu Administration Board officials is planned in Matatiele today.

① 4

② 320

(i) Agri - Labour .

## Farmers in row

### over labour <sup>DD</sup> 25/3/76.

DURBAN — East Griqualand farmers clashed with the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Dr F. Hartzenberg, in Kokstad yesterday over the registration of farm labour in the area.

Mr. P. Miller, secretary of the East Griqualand Regional Development Association, said yesterday that local farmers had "extreme dissatisfaction" with the workings of the Bantu Administration boards and were unhappy about the fee they had to pay for the registration of labour.

Mr Miller said farmers "get nothing for their money" because the boards were unable to control labour recruited by them.

Labourers ran away from farms and other places of work. Where towns and farms were near to homelands the position was even more difficult. He said the

Bantu Administration Boards could offer no help.

Replying to the farmers' accusations, Dr Hartzenberg agreed there were inefficiencies in the registration system. But he said this was caused because farmers and the public did not co-operate with the Government in labour matters.

Farmers argue that the entire system of labour registration is faulty. According to Mr. Miller, farmers have ample evidence to prove the labour recruiting policies of the boards do not work.

— DDC.  
News by P. Sutton, 12 Devonshire Place, Durban.

4

# Farm labourer's life to be heard at UCT

Aggus  
(see Aggus)  
10/14/76

**THE farm labourer's experience of life on a White farm will be heard at a five-day conference on South African farm labour in September at UCT.**

The conference is being called because agriculture is a sector of the economy about which the least is known, particularly labour.

Farmers and academics from Oxford, California and six South African universities will take part and more than 40 papers will be given.

We are trying hard and hope to get some labourers to join in, says Dr. Francis Wilson, director of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit in the School of Economics at UCT.

We are looking for people who work on farms

or were at one time farm labourers.

The conference is intended as a focus to generate basic research into agriculture.

Topics to be covered include population on the land, the impact of mechanisation on jobs, patterns of skill, land tenure, migration, quality of life, education and training of workers.

Senate Standard 7 cl cl 46

26/4/76

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**Bantu service levies payable by White farmers in Transkei/Eastern Cape**

26. Senator B. R. BAMFORD asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) (a) What Bantu service levies are payable by White farmers in the Transkei and Eastern Cape and (b) to what institution or fund are such levies allocated;
- (2) whether the system of levies is being reviewed.

**The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:**

- (1) (a) No Bantu services levies in terms of Act 64 of 1952 or contributions in terms of Act 29 of 1972 are payable. The latter is applicable only within Bantu Affairs Administration Boards' areas and are not payable by White farmers in the Transkei. In respect of the Eastern Cape the hon. member is referred to Government Notice No. R.545 dated 21 March 1975 as amended by Government Notice No. R.2306 dated 5 December 1975.
- (b) To the Bantu Revenue Accounts of the Bantu Affairs Administration Boards concerned.

(2) No.

Senate Hansard 7 @ cols 47-48

27/4/76

† Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

**Property at Bizweni**

25. Senator B. R. BAMFORD asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

- (1) (a) When, (b) from whom and (c) at what price was property purchased at Bizweni for the purpose of a farm prison;
- (2) (a) what works were effected on the property and (b) what has the total cost of such works been to date;
- (3) whether it was decided to discontinue such works; if so, (a) when and (b) for what reason;
- (4) what is to be done with the property;
- (5) whether any compensation is payable in respect of the property; if so, (a) what compensation and (b) who is liable for such payment;
- (6) (a) what is the value of unused materials still on the property and (b) what safeguards are there to prevent theft of such materials.

**The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:**

- (1) (a) 1966.  
(b) H. M. and E. B. Medway.  
(c) It is still the practice not to disclose particulars of this nature.
- (2) (a) Several buildings similar to those to be found at any other prison were erected since 1966.

(b) Due to the fact that prisoners and private contractors were used to build the complex, it is not possible to determine the total costs involved. The hon. Senator is, however, referred to the reply given on Question No. 8 in the House of Assembly on 16 March 1976.

(3) Yes.

(a) 30 June 1975.

(b) Because the Transkei Government indicated that the complex will be utilized as a Psychiatric Hospital.

(4) See 3 (b) above.

(5) No. (a) and (b) fall away.

(6) (a) and (b) It is unfortunately not possible to furnish the value of the unused materials which are at present being safeguarded by the Government of the Transkei and which materials will eventually be used by the said Government.

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(1) Agric - Labour  
(2) 267

## REMOVAL OF AFRICANS IN RAIN DENIED

African Affairs Correspondent *NM*

THE DEPUTY Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner for Natal, Mr. H. A. Dreyer, yesterday denied that 250 Africans had been moved from the Colenso area to Estcourt in the rain on Monday. 7/5/76

"It would have been physically impossible to move that number with the transport available to us. We are moving about seven families a day."

Commenting on a report earlier this week, Mr. Dreyer said when the trucks set off from Gannahoek, near Colenso, on Monday morning, "it was not raining. In fact, the rain caught up with them."

The removal from the White-owned farm of Gannahoek had been in progress for a week at that point, and was then delayed for two days because of the rain.

Gannahoek used to have about 350 African families who were served repeatedly with eviction orders by the farm owner.

Mr. Dreyer said: "These people were warned at least three times in the past three years that they would have to move. Two months ago they were given the actual removal date."

The removal involved about 500 to 600 people — 64 families — now being housed at Wembesi near Estcourt.

Commenting on a complaint that some Wembesi houses lacked window panes, Mr. Dreyer said he had spoken to officials of the Draken'sberg Bantu Administration Board.

"The Board's spokesman told me that whenever they put in panes before the families arrived local children simply broke them."

# Mechanical harvesting needs to be planned

**THE RAPID** rise in wages of farm labour is causing a revolution in agriculture in South Africa. In 1946 there were less than 25 000 tractors in the country; today there are more than 250 000 tractors in use on our farms.

For a number of years, mechanised harvesting has been thoroughly investigated by engineers at the sugar industry's experiment station at Mount Edgecombe.

Although the number of mechanical harvesters and other mechanical aids has steadily increased, it seems that many cane farmers have become complacent about the need to prepare for mechanisation.

Because labour has been plentiful this season many farmers seem to have forgotten to plan for the future for there is more to mechanisation than just buying a harvester.

Fields have to be re-planned and in many cases major changes to lay-out have to be made to make it possible for a mechanical harvester to work at all. Access roads, drains and field levelling have all to be attended to and this cannot be done in one or even two seasons.

Agricultural engineers warn that some farmers are going to be caught napping if they don't start with initial preparation now for the day when mechanised harvesters have to be introduced.

Hansen 16

21/5/76

4

Audio/visuals

Is it essential to show any audio/visuals, such as a film or a videotape?

Prisoners hired out as farm labourers

882. Mrs. H. SUZMAN asked the Minister of Prisons: 1064

- (1) (a) How many prisoners were hired out as farm labourers during 1975 and (b) to how many farmers;
- (2) how many inspections were carried out in 1975 into the conditions of these prisoners;
- (3) whether conditions on any farms visited were found to be unsatisfactory; if so, (a) on how many farms and (b) what steps were taken by the Department to rectify the position.

The MINISTER OF PRISONS:

- (1) (a) 87 543 prisoners were released on parole and placed in employment with various employers.  
(b) Prisoners are not released on parole to farmers only and a record is not being kept of the number of employers.
- (2) 773.
- (3) Yes.  
(a) At 19 employers.  
(b) In 4 cases the provision of prisoners on parole was permanently stopped and in 15 cases temporarily until the facilities had been improved.

any distracting noises and can these be silenced during your presentation?

- (f) Can the room be darkened easily? Are there sufficient power supplies for any projected visuals or recorded sound?

Visuals

- (a) What equipment will you have at your disposal? Will there be an experienced projectionist available?
- (b) Are there any suitable visuals or other aids (e.g. films, videotapes, sound tapes, slides, etc.) already available?
- (c) What facilities are there for obtaining or making others you may need?

Budget

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Agric - Labour

**FARM WAGES** F.M.  
**R14 a month** 28/5/76

Figures released recently by the Department of Statistics show that the average cash wage on South Africa's farms is less than R14 a month. The figures are preliminary and are taken from the 1973-1974 agricultural census, currently being prepared for publication.

Contrary to the projections in the current EDP, the number of workers on White farms appears to be declining. The 1970-1971 agricultural census listed employment as 1,64m. The 1973-1974 figure is 1,45m.

Over the same period the number of farms has declined from just over 90 000 to just under 80 000. Farmers' debts, however, have shot up: from R1,1bn in 1970-1971 to R1,4bn in 1973-1974.

# Rhodesia grabs workers' pay

By CLIVE EMDON

**Labour Correspondent**  
AN AGREEMENT between the South African and Rhodesian governments means nearly all Rhodesian Africans working in the Republic are being forced to have 40 to 66 per cent of their pay deferred and sent to Rhodesia.

The move is seen as a new attempt by South Africa to help bolster Rhodesian foreign exchange.

Spokesmen for the West Rand Administration Board confirmed yesterday that the new deferred pay regulations came into effect on April 1.

They affect all domestic workers, farm labour and workers in the mining industry, and workers employed by hotels or licensed restaurants.

They affect all workers on 18-month contracts. Em-

ployers must conform to regulations by submitting deferred payments to the Bantu administration boards which pass them on to the Rhodesian Government.

The Rhodesian labour attache's duty is to ensure that each worker's deferred pay is sent to a post office nearest his home. It is understood workers' wives can draw on the deferred pay account if their husbands agree.

The new regulations will affect thousands of men working in South Africa. They appear to be part of a Government programme to ensure strict control over all foreign workers.

Earlier this year the Government granted an amnesty for all Rhodesian workers working illegally to declare themselves and become registered workers.

- ~~(1) Rhodesia - Labour~~
- ~~(2) 211~~
- (3) Agric - Labour
- ~~(4) 276~~
- ~~(5) 281~~

Agri - Labour

# It pays to train your labour, farmers told

RDM 11/6/76

**Staff Reporter.**  
INADEQUATE provision for the mechanical training of African farm labourers is costing the farmer — and the country — astronomic sums each year.

This is the opinion of the Director of Agricultural Engineering of the Department of Agricultural Technical Services, Mr J. J. Bruwer, who with officials of his department, has been studying farm wastage caused by untrained African machine operators.

In one survey it was found that tractors driven over a 10-year period by

Blacks depreciated 40 per cent more than tractors used by Whites over the same period.

"If South African agriculture does not properly train at least another 20 000 tractor drivers in the next few years, efforts to mechanise will be crippled and there will be an enormous wastage of capital, Mr Bruwer said.

Inadequate mechanical training of labourers meant uneconomic mechanisation, losses because of tractor and implement accidents, loss of productivity and high maintenance costs.

er of Mr. Getty's second wife, plus R555 a month for life; stock worth about R35 000 and fe; a sister of the Duke of Rutland s duties with Mrs. Kitson at id: "Getty was a dear friend for stock worth about R140 000; asleben, a countess and indus- out R850 a month for life; s legal adviser, who travelled on business, R170 a month for 5 a month for life.—(Sapa-AP.)

The true  
Love of

Agri - Labour

ndi teta isix Xhosa — mna koneke, nom Mfazi na bantwana." Mr. Webber told his fellow MPs.

(Loosely translated, Mr. Webber said: "Now the Government takes me and makes me of Matanzima because I speak Xhosa — me as well as my wife and children").

Mr. Webber said the citizenship clause in the schedule to the Status of the Transkei Bill, which says that every South African citizen wh

# efield reat

1/6/76 NM.

Agricultural Correspondent

**THOUSANDS** of South Coast cane cutters are threatening to quit farms because the Umzimkulu sugar mill is not yet open for the cutting season.

Sugar farmers who supply the mill at Port Shepstone say they could lose their entire labour force to other areas.

Sugar mills in other parts of Natal opened more than a month ago.

The walkout threat arises because cane cutters are not receiving their cane cutting bonuses, which attract them to the farms at this time of the season.

Farmers in the district fear that if the cutters do move off, they will not be able to replace them this season.

Thousands of tons of cane could then be left uncut in the fields, costing farmers millions of rands.

## Boosted

Excellent weather has boosted cane growth and farmers say it will be difficult to cut all the cane this season, even with the full labour force.

The Umzimkulu mill, by the Umzimkulu River, was flooded this year and its expansion programme was delayed.

Farmers argue that the mill has had enough experience of floods not to be caught out again and they blame the mill for the delay.

But the mill will probably start up in July, says Mr. F. R. Jones, executive chairman of C. G. Smith Sugar, the holding company of the South Coast mill.

## Disrupted

He said last night that two floods had disrupted this season's R3 000 000 expansion plan at the mill. Excavations had been flooded twice, setting back the R4 000 000 programme which until then had been on time.

Mr. Jones said once the mill had settled down, they expected 200 tons an hour throughout.

By next season they would be able to take all the cane on offer on the South Coast.

14

Hansard 19. 12/6/76.

1199

X SATURDAY, 12 JUNE 1976

1200

Applications for housing loans for farm workers

1199

Mr. H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) How many farmers in (a) the Western Province, (b) the rest of the Cape Province, (c) the Orange Free State, (d) the Transvaal and (e) Natal, applied for housing loans for farm workers in 1975;
- (2) (a) how many of the applications in each area were granted and (b) what was the total amount granted in each area;
- (3) what is the rate of interest payable by farmers on these loans.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

The particulars for the Western Province which are given hereunder, are in respect of the Greater Western Cape Province, which also includes the districts of Namakwaland, Kenhardt, Gordonia, Hay, Hopetown, Philipstown, Colesberg, Middeburg, Graaft-Reinet, Pearston, Jansenville, Steytleville and Hankey.

(1) (a) Western Province	617
(b) The rest of the Cape Province	63
(c) The Orange Free State	52
(d) Transvaal	86
(e) Natal	19
(2) (a) Western Province	556
The rest of the Cape Province	51
The Orange Free State	40
Transvaal	61
Natal	16
(b) Western Province	R3 690 451
The rest of the Cape Province	422 640

The Orange Free State	532 460
Transvaal	809 450
Natal	179 090

(3) The rate of interest is 5% of which 4% is being contributed by the State with the result that the farmer only pays 1% interest. This scheme was instituted in the Greater Western Cape Province on 28 August 1974 and was extended to the whole of the Republic on 1 May 1975. Prior to the commencement of the improved scheme an interest of 5% was payable. The aforementioned figures include two loans where an interest rate of 5% is applicable.

Is there enough room for the proper positioning of one or more projection screens?

Will everyone be able to hear? Will you need to use a microphone? Is there a public address system already installed? Will there be any distracting noises and can these be silenced during your presentation?

Can the room be darkened easily? Are there sufficient power supplies for any projected visuals or recorded sound?

What equipment will you have at your disposal? Will there be an experienced projectionist available?

Are there any suitable visuals or other aids (e.g. films, videotapes, sound tapes, slides, etc.) already available?

What facilities are there for obtaining or making others you may need?

Budget

Has a budget already been prepared? If so, how much money has been allowed for:

SOUTHERN AFRICA LABOUR & DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH UNIT

Working Papers

*Agric Labour.*

RECENT STATISTICS IN AGRICULTURE

Delia Hendrie

Saldru Working Paper No. 2



Agri - Cabon

N.M. 16/6/36  
**MEDICAL  
AID FOR  
BLACKS**

Mercury Correspondent

**JOHANNESBURG.** —  
The South African Co-operative Officials' Association is launching a nation-wide medical aid scheme that will offer the 90 000 Black co-operative workers in the country the same benefits as those for Whites, but at cheaper premiums.

In a statement the association (Sakav) announced that the scheme, which will be known as the Koopmed Medical Scheme, was registered on June 3 this year and will come into operation on August 1 this year.

**PAARL**

It will operate from Paarl and will be administered by Sakav, whose scheme for White co-operative workers was established in Paarl in 1942 and is one of the oldest in the country.

According to the statement, there is an "increasing need among Coloureds, Asiatics and Africans for protection against medical costs" and especially for those in the higher income categories.

(3) (4)  
Hansard 21

25/6/76

Audio/visuals

Is it essential to show any audio/visuals such as a film or a videotape?

Agricultural labour/urban areas liaison officers

1307

(1049) Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) How many (a) agricultural labour liaison officers and (b) urban areas liaison officers were in the employ of his Department in 1975;

(2) (a) how many farms were inspected by agricultural labour liaison officers in 1975 and (b) in what areas were these farms situated.

(b) The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(c) (1) (a) 43.

(b) 8.

(d) (2) (a) and (b) Statistics in this regard are not readily available and the cost involved in assembling it is not considered to be justified.

- (e) Will everyone be able to hear? Will you need to use a microphone? Is there a public address system already installed? Will there be any distracting noises and can these be silenced during your presentation?
- (f) Can the room be darkened easily? Are there sufficient power supplies for any projected visuals or recorded sound?

Visuals

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- (b) Are there any suitable visuals or other aids (e.g. films, videotapes, sound tapes, slides, etc.) already available?
- (c) What facilities are there for obtaining or making others you may need?

Budget

Has a budget already been prepared? If so, how much money has been allowed for:



# Better conditions for farm workers urged

THE MINISTER of Coloured Relations, Mr Hennie Smit, yesterday urged farmers to pay better wages and create better working conditions for Coloured farm workers.

Opening the annual congress of the Boland Agricultural Union in Cape Town, Mr Smit referred to the increasing urbanization of Coloured workers and asked how the farmer would solve the problem of keeping his Coloured labour. "If agriculture fails in its attempts to reduce the urbanization tempo of the Coloured community and Bantu labour from the homelands becomes unobtainable for the Western Cape, then I foresee problems for the agriculturist in this area," he warned.

"Attractive wages and employment conditions remain the most important medium of enticement for the employer to obtain labour."

Mr Smit also urged that more be done to create career opportunities for Coloured people in agriculture. They should be given the kind of training which would allow them eventually to farm themselves and to be of service in their own communities.

*Cape Times 13/7/76*

## Visits from wives wanted

A MOTION on the congress's agenda urges that wives of African contract labourers be allowed to spend at least three months annually with their husbands.

The motion, proposed by the Skotland Farmers Association, of the Koue Bokkeveld area, also urges that African contract labourers' wives be permitted to take up employment during this three-month period.

They also proposed that the fine for illegal employment of Africans be at least doubled in order to control the illegal desertion of service.

Resolutions passed yesterday included recommendation for longer working hours and for the Government to take a drastic look at the many public holidays.

# Visits by workers' wives urged

*Cape Times*  
14/7/76

**Staff Reporter**

CONTRACTS for Black migratory workers should be made "socially more acceptable" to relieve the serious labour shortage in the Western Cape. Mr W J van der Merwe told the Boland Agricultural Union congress yesterday.

Mr Van der Merwe was speaking on a motion proposed by Skotland Farmers' Association of the Kouebokkeveld area, which urged that the wives of contract labourers be allowed to spend at least three months a year with their husbands and to take up employment during this period.

The motion also proposed

that the fine for illegal employment of Africans be at least doubled to control illegal desertion of service.

Mr Van der Merwe said: "In view of the coming independence of various homelands we must have a contract that is more acceptable to farmer and worker alike."

He said that letting the wives join their husbands could have many advantages.

Mr Giel Malherbe of Paarl Farmers' Association urged that the fines for illegal employment of Africans be doubled to prevent squatter camps like Crossroads.

Both parts of the motion were adopted.

# Farm productivity ahead of industry

9/9/76 SMC

## Farming Editor

The productivity of agricultural workers increased by four and a half times the rate of industrial workers and six times that of miners between 1970 and 1975, the Transvaal Agricultural Union was told yesterday.

Mr Werner Weber, of Piet Retief (former MTP for Wakkerstroom) told the TAU congress in Pretoria that this estimate was calculated on worker efficiency related to capital invested.

Mr Weber and other speakers were reacting to the opinion of consumer bodies that farming inefficiency caused the rising prices of foodstuffs, fibres and other agricultural products.

## PRESSURE GROUP

Everyone was a consumer of each other's products, Mr Weber said, so that to organise consumers of agricultural products as a separate body meant in practice that a pressure group was being formed to influence the authorities to keep agricultural products on a

lower price level than was justified.  
Congress resolved that steps be taken to ensure that the non-agricultural sectors be kept informed, to maintain a correct perspective on agricultural effectiveness and prices.

## IMPORT DEPOSITS

The senior general manager of the Vlissentraal meat co-operative, Mr Fanie Van Rensburg, said in opening the congress that it was wrong for the prices of agricultural equipment, such as tractors and combines, to rise because of the Government's deposit scheme on imports.

He supported the ideal of reducing imports, but said a clear distinction had to be drawn between capital goods which could stimulate the production needed to promote exports, and unnecessary luxury goods.

# Call for <sup>DD</sup> law on <sup>15/9/76</sup> farm pay

EAST LONDON — The Trade Union Council of South Africa has called on the Government to consider using the machinery of the Wage Act to lay down a minimum cash wage for farm workers — the latest cash wage known is an average R14 a month.

Mr Christopher Bates, of the National Union of Distributive Workers told the 22nd Tuca congress that farm workers have no access to legislative machinery which might protect them by setting a minimum cash wage or establishing arbitration procedures.

This lack of a safeguard affected 16 per cent of the South African labour force of whom the vast majority were black and Coloured workers.

Farmers claims that they could not afford to pay increased wages or that there had been increases in productivity to justify increases did not warrant scrutiny in the light of the huge increases in profits made in the industry.

Mr Barry Smith a former Methodist priest now working for the National Union of Leather workers said treatment of farm labour was "one of the most blatant forms of injustice in labour."

"They were the most exploited group. The claims by agriculture that workers in the industry were paid large amounts in kind, with food rations, housing and protective clothing, was just "a facade", he said. — DDR

## Conference on farm labour at UCT

CAPE TIMES  
20/9/76 (4)

THE first major conference on farm labour in South Africa will take place at the University of Cape Town this week, starting today.

The conference, which has been organized by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit of the school of economics, will be attended by more than 100 delegates and 55 papers will be delivered.

It will provide a forum for farmers, academics, government and agricultural officials, farm labourers, politicians and businessmen.

Dr Francis Wilson, the director of SALDRU, said

there was a great need for the conference as so little was known about the labour situation in agriculture.

The main focus of attention would be on the White farms where about a quarter of the country's Black population live.

Delegates from all parts of the country and South West Africa will attend the conference and there will be overseas participants from Oxford, Sussex and California.

A Ghanaian economist will present a paper on labour migration patterns in Ghana.

ARBUS 2/19/76

4

# Neo-feudalism' on farms condemned

THE newly formed Bantu Affairs Administration Boards were providing the machinery to prevent the migration of farm labour to urban areas, but were only stemming the effects, not correcting the causes of labour unrest, an Eastern Cape farmer, Mr E. K. Moorcroft, said in Cape Town today.

In a paper presented at the South African Labour and Development Research Unit conference on farm labour which started at the University of Cape Town today, he said these measures to protect the farmers' labour supply were only needed by unscrupulous employers.

Mr Moorcroft criticised what he termed the neo-feudalism' practised by farmers throughout the country, particularly in the Eastern Cape. Under this system farmers paid only nominal wages and made up the difference in reasonable earnings with payments in kind. Permanent farm labourers were given clothing, a food ration, accommodation, grazing rights and paternalistic

protection in place of cash wages.

'A farmer who does not provide adequate payment in kind, but who uses a token form of the system and thereby attempts to justify the low cash wage paid, is also the farmer who finds himself with severe labour problems,' he said.

'Organised agriculture is constantly being approached by such farmers with requests for more effective measures to prohibit the migration of labour to urban areas.'

These measures were provided by the Bantu Affairs Administration Boards, but they were merely an attempt to stem the effect of the problem and not a correction of the causes of labour unrest.

It was sometimes argued that, by giving a labourer a garden and grazing rights, he was made to feel that he had a stake in the farm, Mr Moorcroft said. But it would appear that these tenants are all too fre-

since most of those who learnt to read and write left farms to work in urban areas.

A paper presented by Mr E. Standish of the USAS Wages Commission in Natal, indicated: 'On average, cash wages in Natal formed 38 percent of total payments to workers.' Research indicated that few Natal labourers lived above the poverty datum line for the area.

money being used by farmers for their own living expenses and for those living in town, local B.A.A.B. officials said. They are being paid by farmers in wages of 40 cents a month each. They were complaining that the amount of their wages was not commensurate with the amount of their labour. They were not concerned with the amount of their wages, but with the fact that they were being paid on a cash basis. They were not particularly interested in the amount of their wages, but in the fact that they were being paid on a cash basis. They were not particularly interested in the amount of their wages, but in the fact that they were being paid on a cash basis. They were not particularly interested in the amount of their wages, but in the fact that they were being paid on a cash basis. They were not particularly interested in the amount of their wages, but in the fact that they were being paid on a cash basis.

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# Schooling 'deplorable' 'No real scope' in farming

C.T. 22/9/76.

THE NUMBER of African children from farms who complete their primary education and further their studies is statistically negligible, delegates to a conference on farm labour were told in Cape Town yesterday.

Farm schools serve potentially one quarter of South Africa's African population in 3 000 schools.

In a paper delivered to the conference, Mr Timothy Plaut, an honours student in political science at the University of the Witwatersrand, described the situation as deplorable.

Fewer than one in 20 children completed their education at farm schools and higher education presented considerable difficulties.

In recent times, farmers had begun showing a greater interest in the education of their rural labour force and the agricultural unions had begun to comment on the "deplorable situation".

Much of the drift from the plateau and to the urban areas had been attributed to

lack of farm schools.

"The Eastern Province Agricultural Union observed that farm children were, in effect, unable to enter secondary school."

The main reasons were the lack of hostel facilities in the homelands and "the not uncommon refusal of community schools to accept farm children" as the schools had been paid for by urban parents.

The Bantu Education Department intended to build schools with hostels to serve rural areas, but this was still very much in the planning stage.

A similar situation applied to Coloured children from farms, though their chances of a secondary education were better, as there were more boarding facilities.

Mr Plaut said that the gradual introduction of compulsory education for Coloured children was unlikely to help many in the rural areas.

"Vast masses of children are denied access to any education whatsoever, while for others the period of schooling is too short to confer any lasting benefit."

## The myth of the hopeless farmers

THE idea that Africans were hopeless farmers was a myth that had been conveniently accepted by their White competitors and employers, delegates to the conference on farm labour were told in Cape Town yesterday.

In a stinging attack on traditional South African beliefs, Mrs Merle Lipton, a University of Cape Town graduate now on the staff of Sussex University, said the scales had been loaded against Black farmers.

Among the points she made at the conference, organized by the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit, were:

- Black farmers produce higher crop yields than is generally believed.
- Deficiencies in their performance

were due to lack of incentives and social injustices, not bad farming.

● Yields from small scale farms compared favourably with those of big farms where economies of scale were used.

● The huge state expenditures on agriculture should be switched from oversubsidized White to Black agriculture.

Mrs Lipton said official figures indicated that maize yields on White farms were nearly four times higher than on Black farms.

But the official figure for Black farm yields was unrealistically low, an agricultural economist had told her.

She challenged the figures in the Tomlinson Report which said Black

IN the Coloured community agriculture was usually identified with low incomes, long working hours and declining job opportunities, Professor W H Thomas, Professor of Economics at the University of the Western Cape, said yesterday.

Other factors which gave agriculture a "negative appeal" were the lack of training and an unappealing social and recreational environment.

Professor Thomas said the absence of a managerial and



farmers harvested only 2,5 bags per morgen, pointing out that about a third of the maize crop was eaten green.

She said Black farmers were much more efficient than was generally believed but they had not thrived mainly because:

● "Over-political measures coerced Blacks into working for White rather than producing on their own account.

● "The discriminatory allocation of economic resources rigged the market against Blacks so that it is not worth the while to put more effort into farming."

The systems of marketing and transport were geared to the needs of Whites and were practically non-existent for Black farmers. This had seriously weakened their competitive position.

entrepreneurial class in agriculture among the Coloured people was unnatural and it was resented by them.

The absence of this class was probably an important factor contributing to low productivity of Coloured labour in agriculture.

"This is because no real scope for advancement is evident for the more dynamic and achieving youngsters in this field."

He said that better pay, improved working conditions

and training were also needed. Professor Thomas said the relative appeal of agriculture was improving mainly as a result of the lack of housing in urban areas.

The Theron Commission recommendation that Coloured people should be allowed to buy or hire farm land without permits anywhere in South Africa "could be the corner stone of a new and dynamic strategy of Coloured advancement in agriculture," he said.

## Licence to farm may come, says Graaff

IT WAS not unlikely that in the future farmers in South Africa would have to have a licence to farm, Mr David Graaff said in a paper delivered at the conference on farm labour in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr Graaff, the son of Sir De Villiers Graaff, the Leader of the Opposition, grows table grapes in the Hex River Valley.

He said that a system of licensed farming was introduced in Britain during World War II.

"Very often a farmer's treatment of his workers in terms of wages and facilities is directly proportional to his own financial circumstances.

"If only efficient and economically successful farmers are permitted in the industry, then the quality of life of farm workers will extend to new horizons," Mr Graaff said.

He felt workers should be paid as much as possible in cash rather than in kind. At present cash earnings in the Hex River ranged between R5 and R25 a week with the average between R8 and R10.

Mr E K Moorcroft said in a paper that a form of feudalism still constituted the structural framework for employer-employee relationships on many South African farms.

He said that as long as this "neo-feudalism" survived there would be a tendency for employers to adopt a patronizing attitude towards their staff, expecting more gratitude and loyalty than was their due.

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# Minimum wage for farm labour urged

*CAPE TIMES*  
Village system suggested  
24/9/76  
4

THE ONLY SOLUTION to the problems of the Coloured farm labourer is a minimum cash wage, Mr B Savhal, Labour Party CRC member for Outeniqua, told the conference on farm labour in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr Savhal said the Theron Commission reported that the average Coloured farm worker earned about R675 a year.

However, in most areas of the Southern Cape workers were provided with free housing, often in poor condition, and cash wages of R3, R5, or R7 a week.

"It is in these areas that workers are dissatisfied but they are unable to change their employment because of the shortage of houses in the towns," he said.

They were living under extremely poor conditions. Many suffered from malnutrition and were not properly clothed and they were "at a loss what to do about their future".

Most Coloured people on farms would remain semi-literate because parents had to take their children out of school to supplement the family income.

Mr Savhal said: "The only solution is the introduction of a minimum wage. Unless this is done, social and living standards of the Coloured farm labourer and his family will decline."

He said a committee consisting of five CRC members and five members of the Cape Agricultural Union, under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Coloured Relations, had decided not to press for a minimum cash wage at this stage as it could lead to a maximum wage and because it would be impossible to enforce.

Farmers should rather be urged to devote serious attention to the wages and welfare of their workers.

A SYSTEM of villages to improve the living conditions of farm workers in some parts of South Africa was suggested yesterday by Professor Monica Wilson, a former professor of social anthropology at the University of Cape Town.

Professor Wilson, addressing the conference on farm labour, said the village system was possible only in areas where there were small farms, or near the African areas.

The chief advantage to the farm worker was that it would give him greater independence, and during time off he would be free of his employer.

She said if a worker changed his job he would not necessarily lose his home and he was likely to be nearer to schools, shops, a clinic and the church.



# Beter plaasopleiding nodig

PLAASWERK is 'n loopbaan en nie net 'n manier van bestaan nie. Daarom val die klem op opleiding en is die bestaande geriewe daarop ingestel om kennis, verantwoordelikhed en die nodige liefde vir die grond by die bruin plaaswerkers te kweek sodat hulle met die onderne- ming kan veereenswag en op gesamentlike prestasies kan trots wees.

Hierdie opleidingsgeriewe sal egter aange- pas en uitgebrei moet word om te voorsien in die behoeftes van die tyd. Die bruin grondhuiders van die platteland, waar 63 163 bruinmense op altesame 1,7 miljoen ha woon, van wie 1 232 selfstandig kan boer op ekonomiese boerdery-eenhede waar- voor daar nou beplan word, het 'n groot behoefte aan landbouvoortlagers.

Die 815 private bruin grondteienaars, wat altesame 323 415 ha grond best, vra ook al lank 'n landbou-skool vir bruinmense.

Geboue vir staatskole op plase word vandag hoofsaaklik deur boere en kerkge- nootskappe verskaf. Die Departement van Klearingsbetrokkings het in 1969 ingewillig om tydelike opslaan-skoolgeboue en -huise vir onderwyers op die plase op te rig. Boere kan vir hierdie oogmerk geboue aan die Departement verhuur.

Hoewel groot vordering gemaak is met die onderwys vir bruinmense, is daar 'n groot agterstand wat hul opleiding in die landbou betref. Daarom gaan landbou dalk binnekort as skoolvak ingestel word, terwyl die oprigting van 'n landbou-skool vir bruin- mense sal aandaag kry.

Daar is 'n moontlikheid dat 'n diploma- en graadkursus later aan die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland ingestel sal word sodat meer bruinmense hulle in dié rigting kan bekwaam.

Boere is ontvrede oor die opleiding van nuwe werkers omdat dit noodwendig in werktuie geskied en hulle daardie onno- dig produkstieverliese ly. Dit veroorsaak dat die opleiding dikwels afgeskep word. Die gebruik aan die nodige kennis en vaar- digheid het egter hoë koste en winnige stylasie tot gevolg.



PLAASWERKERS wat 'n kort kursus in trekkeversorging bywoon, luister hier by die opleidingsentrum vir plaaswerkers by Kromme Rhee na 'n instrukteur, mnr. W. J. Cronjé.

Met hierdie opleiding word werkers net die minimum-vaardigheid geleer om 'n bepaalde werk bevedigend te doen.

Meganisasie het nie die verwagte vermin- dering in die getal bruin plaaswerkers mee- gebring nie. Plaaswerk behels minder han- dewerk en het gespesialiseerd getrak met die koms van die wetenskaplike hoerder- metodes en die meganisasie van plaasge- reedskap.

Deesdae word plaaswerkers by die oplei- dingsentrum vir plaaswerkers by Kromme Rhee naby Stellenbosch met meer kennis

en ervaring teegerns. Daar is tussen 64 000 wingerdstokke en 2 000 vrigtebome op die opleidingsplase, wat in 1964 begin is.

Kort kursusse in die versorging en die hantering van trekkers en ander plaasmasji- nerie, asook in bou-, pleister-, sweis- en timmerwerk word gereeld hier aangebied. Plaaswerkers leer hier om vrigtebome en wingerde te snoei, terwyl kursusse oor skaapskoot, wolklassifisering en veeweisor- ging beoog word.

'n Komitee wat in 1970 deur die Minister van Kleurlingbetrokkings aangestel is, het

aanbeveel dat hier ook kursusse aangebied word vir die opleiding van voormanne superintendente van werke en landbouvoort- lagers vir die landelike gebiede se bruin- mense.

Hoewel boere geesdrifdig is oor die uit- breiding van Kromme Rhee, word gemeen- dat dit nie moet geskied ten koste van die oorspronklike oogmerk nie: om die plaaswerkers beter te bekwaam. Hoewe- dit vandag reeds in die dringende behoefte aan die opleiding van plaaswerkers voorsien kan dit nog aansienlik uitgebrei word.

# Farmers' wives working for better conditions

THERE is a growing awareness among farmers of the need to improve living conditions and facilities for their farm labourers. Wives share this view and are working positively towards building up better relationships with workers and introducing programmes which will uplift living standards and develop personal pride.

This is the view expressed by the only two farmers' wives who contributed papers at the conference on farm labour held at the University of Cape Town this week. Working in collaboration with their husbands, Mrs Pam Dorrington and Mrs Pam Perks outlined the role of the farmer in relation to the labourer in papers on "maintaining a stable labour force on the fruit farm in the northern Boland" and on "farm labour in the Cathcart district" respectively.

Mrs Perks is involved with Xhosa workers, Mrs Dorrington with Coloured.

Both women welcomed the opportunity the conference has given them to talk about problems which are seldom aired. "I think that the academics have benefited from hearing the practical viewpoint of the farmer and we have certainly learnt from

them," Mrs Dorrington told the Cape Times Women's Page.

"On the whole the positive side of what farmers are doing is neglected too often and while my husband and I don't profess to be authorities, we welcomed this chance to put across our attitudes."

In order to survive economically farmers needed to adopt a positive attitude to

## Focus on women

their labourers and it was in this approach that the farmers wife could make a contribution, said Mrs Dorrington.

She described changes on their farm in the Porterville district. "We have done away with the tot system, improved housing so that inadequate cottages housing anything up to 15 in three small rooms have been replaced by a cottage for each married couple with water and, in some instances, electricity."

Women are encouraged to take a pride in their homes by being given seeds and flowers to plant and compete for an annual garden prize.

To reduce in-quarreling between women, particularly, social activities are arranged from film shows, at which women are encouraged to make sandwiches and soup to sell for school funds etc., soccer and football to church activities.

"We feel it is important that there is work available through the year, particularly for the women, and have trained them in other farm work such as light pruning, so that they have something to do outside the fruit-picking season." They are paid on a daily basis and average R8 for a five-day week.

Family planning is discussed openly by both men and women. Annual holidays are arranged away from the farm.

Mrs Dorrington holds the view that labourers should not suffer when a farmer has had a bad year. "When this has happened to us we have discussed the situation with the workers, explained the need for greater efforts and they have responded."

Communication between farmer and labourer is basic and essential for good working relationships. The Dorringtons have formed a com-

mittee, two members elected by the staff and two by themselves, and hold monthly meetings at which all facets of the farm are discussed.

"Communication presents a problem with Xhosa labourers," said Mrs Perks. "In most cases one gets answers they hope will please not necessarily the real facts."

Mrs Perks speaks "enough Xhosa to make myself understood. I couldn't enter into a discussion."

Appointed by the Government as the manager of their farm school she said: "There is a regrettable lack of interest among parents in sending their children to school."

"Most farmers are doing something to improve living and working conditions."

Her view is one of "concern" and she feels there is lots labourers could learn to do even with the limited resources they have.

"There are things people expect us to do which are beyond our resources. Laying down a minimum wage for instance. This isn't always practicable because of fluctuating conditions. I don't think there can be an overall rule."

# State should pay for farm schools, says conference

By Margaret McNally  
**THE schooling of farm labourers' children should not be left to the whim of the individual farmer — the State should be responsible for it.**

This was the attitude of many of the delegates attending a week-long conference on farm labour — South Africa's first — held at the University of Cape Town this week.

The Government's controversial policy on the education of Black children living on farms throughout the country came in for heavy criticism.

It was claimed that:

- Vast numbers of Black children remain uneducated under the present system.
- The Government has 'passed the buck' to the farmers.
- Farm schooling is highly inefficient.
- Farm labourers get little benefit from the taxes they pay to the central Government.
- The Government has conveniently passed the

buck to the farmers,' said Mr David Graaff, a prominent farmer from De Doorns and the son of the Leader of the Opposition.

He estimated that the cost of building a new two-classroomed school would be R12 000. The present subsidy, although recently increased, would cover only R1 800 of the costs.

## DENIED

In a paper presented at the conference Mr Timothy Plaut, a Witwatersrand University honours student, said 'vast masses' of Black children were denied access to any education.

This was because the initiative to build a farm school rested 'squarely' with the farmer.

'As farm schools are built on privately owned land the decision to open, continue or close a school remains within the discretion of the land-owner,' he said.

'Big department stores aren't responsible for the schooling of their employees' children, so why should farmers be?' asked Mrs Libby Arlington, wife

of a sugar farmer from Natal.

'Farm labourers pay taxes into the central Government, yet none of it is used to provide facilities for them,' she said.

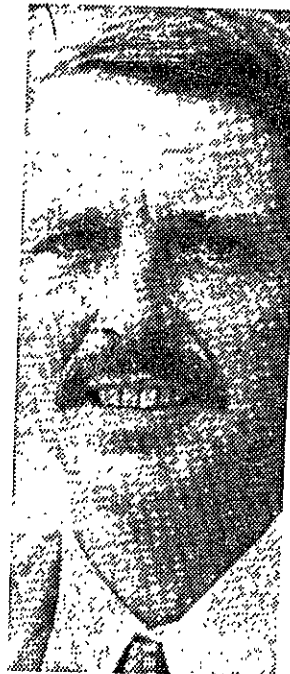
Mrs Helen Suzman, Pro-gref MP for Houghton and the only MP attending the conference said: 'Education for Black farm children should not be left to the whim of the individual farmer, whether subsidised or not.'

'It's the State's job to provide education.'

While she realised it was impossible to provide free and compulsory education overnight, the Government should start to phase it in. 'As it did for White children living on farms,' she added.

## 'INEFFICIENT'

'Farm schooling is so very inefficient.' This was the opinion of Mr Dudley Horner, a research officer for the UCT-based Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) and one of the organisers of the conference.



DAVID GRAAFF...  
 'the Government has passed the buck.'



HELEN SUZMAN...  
 'it's the State's job.'



DUDLEY HORNER...  
 'it's so very inefficient.'

'The farmer gets virtually no benefit from it — he has few jobs available for skilled labourers,' he said.

'And many of the children leave the schools illiterate or only semi-literate.'

Mr Horner said most of the farm schools go up to only 'standard' 2. There was a 60 percent drop-out rate of these pupils.

Weekend Argus asked the director of Coloured education, Mr Willie Theron, to comment on the criticism levelled against the State.

'The farmers want everything from the State,' he said. They don't shoulder their share of the responsibility.'

Mr Theron said farmers used farm schools as a means of keeping their labourers on the farms.

## UNECONOMICAL

'Why should the State do this for them?' he asked.

He said it would be uneconomical for the State to put up a farm school on every farm.

'But if we're approached by an agricultural society or union to build a school serving a wide community, we would definitely consider it,' he said.

However, only three of these schools have been built throughout the country, although a few more have been approved.

CAPE TIMES

27/9/76

SA farm <sup>(4)</sup>

## workers 'powerless' on wages

SOUTH AFRICAN farm workers are in a powerless position with no organization to speak on their behalf for improved living conditions and better wages.

This is one of the points that emerged in the summing-up at the end of the week-long conference on farm labour organized by the Southern Africa Labour Research and Development Unit of the University of Cape Town.

It was one of the factors that accounted for the variations in working conditions in different areas of the country, it was stated.

Another factor was "the capacity to pay" of the farmer, which made it almost impossible for the owners of marginal farms to increase wages.

### Dramatic

Delegates agreed, however, that wages had improved dramatically in some areas during the past few years as had housing on farms.

Most of the delegates were concerned about mechanization and the possible effect on farm workers.

The weight of evidence before the conference was that there was not going to be a general shortage of farm labour and this, in turn, meant it was unlikely that wages would rise.

There was also a danger that increased wages might encourage mechanization. The main fear was that mechanization could lead to unemployment.

### Integrated

There was general concern on the need to improve the education offered to the children of farm workers, and here the question of transport to more centralized schools was raised.

Dr Francis Wilson, director of the research unit, said cost was a problem here, and delegates should ask themselves whether integrated school buses and even integrated schools should not be considered.

**A farmer could not be expected to pay his workers more than their productivity was worth.** ARGUS 29/9/76

# 'Cheap food' policy blamed

THE price of the Government's 'cheap food' policy is rural poverty, says Dr Francis Wilson, economics lecturer at the University of Cape Town.

By a Staff Reporter

The effect of this policy was particularly significant because agriculture was the nation's largest

employer, he said when summing up after last week's conference on farm labour held by the

Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit.

A farmer could not be expected to pay his workers wages more than their productivity was worth and so there were basic constraints on wage levels.

Research was needed into the effects of the State's policies regarding agriculture, Dr Wilson said.

One reason for low wages paid to farm labourers was that farmers were dependent on unstable and unpredictable factors such as the weather, disease and prices.

They could not commit themselves to wages which were higher than they could afford during bad years.

Dr Wilson said incentive schemes whereby workers could benefit from the good years should be investigated.

## DEPENDANTS

In some cases farmers were supporting large numbers of workers' dependants who later left to seek work either in the mines or wealthier areas.

While subsidising this reserve labour for others, they were criticised for giving workers low wages.

The cost of social segregation in the rural areas also had to be considered, Dr Wilson said.

For example, bus services which transported white farm children to schools should be integrated so that all races could more economically be educated.

The political powerlessness of workers meant they were totally dependent on the goodwill of farmers.

But the consideration of passing social responsibilities from farmers to the State should be regarded with caution because conditions would not necessarily improve.

4

## SUGAR WORKERS Competing with mining

F.M. 1/10/76

The continuing labour shortage on sugar plantations was one of the problems highlighted in two of the 55-odd papers presented at last week's SALDRU farm labour conference.

The cane-growing industry employs 115 000 people, most of them migrants from Pondoland. A Natal sugar man, Tony Ardington, told the conference that the demand for labour has seldom been fully satisfied and that 45% of White cane-growers experienced a worker shortage during the 1974/75 season. Cane cutters were 3 000 (13%) short of requirements, and weeders 5 800 (25%) short.

J F Potgieter of Tongaat blamed competition from industry, the mines, construction, other agriculture, and from the Transkei government itself. Workers are now supplied to the sugar farms by the Sugar Industry Labour Organisation (SILO), a sort of mini-Chamber of Mines, which began recruiting in 1973. Its job is to supply its 12 member companies with 20 000 recruits a year.

In 1974/75 only 17 000 were supplied. Like the Chamber of Mines, SILO has standardised basic wages and conditions of service.

Ardington contends that there has been a close correlation between wages in sugar and mining. With the steady increase in mine wages over the last few years, and the Chamber's attempts to step up the number of South Africans working on the mines, SILO and the Chamber are now competing for recruits in Pondoland, whereas previously the labour pool was large enough for both.

Despite the "rapid increase in real wages" on the sugar farms in the last few years, the sugar men have never been able to raise wages above the levels paid by the mines. Ardington adds that until the sugar plantations can offer better and more rewarding conditions than the mines, "periodic shortages of labour will occur."

Ardington argues, however, that the industry's capacity to raise wages is limited. Wage levels, he says, are indi-



Cane cutter . . . where to find more like him?

F.M. 1/10/76

rectly controlled by the government.

The rapid escalation in the world market price of sugar resulted in a surplus of money accruing to the industry, over and above the costs incurred and the returns allowed by government to millers and growers. This enabled the industry to approach government to channel funds to growers for the specific purpose of increasing wages.

Ardington: "This was agreed to. But there was the threat that the government would reduce the price of cane in the following year if the subsequent audit of growers' costs did not reflect this increase in wages. Previously the increases in wages had to be reflected in growers' costs — ie they had to be incurred before the cane price was adjusted — and it must be appreciated that in these circumstances wage increases would be very tentative.

"Thus wage levels are indirectly controlled by government which is more likely to implement substantial increases during periods of surplus proceeds than during periods when proceeds are insufficient. In these latter periods a decision to increase wages requires either that the domestic price of sugar should be raised or that the government should subsidise the industry."

The only other possibility, so Ardington concludes, is that the industry should improve its productivity.

4

FARM LABOUR F.M. 1/10/76  
Plus ca change . . . 4

Two years ago Parliament repealed those sections of the Masters' and Servants' laws which came close to imposing slave labour. For all the difference it has made on some farms, it might just as well never have happened.

In a paper prepared for the SA Labour and Development Research Unit's farm labour conference in Cape Town last week, Jan Theron of the SA Institute of Race Relations gave a startling account of how workers (and their families) are virtually held captive by farmers. His paper is based on a study done in the Citrusdal valley 160 km north of Cape Town. Most of the workers on the citrus and other farms in the area are Coloured, with some Africans.

The paper shows how Black families are in a situation of almost total dependence on the White "baas". The foundation of this dependence is that they only have a place on the farms in return for their labour. Theron describes some of the mechanisms which help to ensure that there is no escape from this situation:

o Debt. Distance, and the absence of their own transport, mean that the workers have to depend for their daily supplies on stores owned by the farmers and frequently run by their wives, where credit is freely available.

The workers thus become indebted to their employers, but their wages are so

low that they cannot earn enough to repay them. Says Theron: "The normal market consequence of low wages is that your labour will leave you. Debt averts this consequence for the farmer."

Some farmers admitted to him that they "intentionally let a worker get into debt in order to tie him to their employment". Cash wages on the 16 farms surveyed vary between R8 and R56 a month. "That it is quite possible for conditions of starvation to exist on a relatively prosperous farm is demonstrated by the high incidence of infant mortality."

● **Payments in kind.** Provision of accom-

farmer told Theron it is common.

● **Children.** They are expected to do whatever work they are given, "in return for which *baas* or madam will give them a plate of food or sweets from the store, or a coin," or cast-off clothes. Theron writes that farmers give the impression that child labour is not labour to be bought at a price, but simply an aspect of the interdependence of the people living on the farm.

Most children go to school until Std 3 or 4 after which, at the age of 13 or 14, they start working on the farms as they are expected to do. They are too young to go elsewhere.

operation on some of the farms in the Citrusdal valley. The traditional *dop* is a pilchard tin filled with *vaaljapie*, a locally produced strong wine. It is given to the workers during the day, or in the evenings, or sometimes only at weekends. Youths in their early teens are provided with drink, and *dopping* sometimes begins before dawn, or at *inval*, and continues throughout the day at regular intervals.

Said one farmer: „'n *Hotnot wat nie drink nie, kan nie werk nie.*"

36

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After the selling continued apace and ster- When New York opened five hours had dropped to \$1,6805.

business on Monday, however, the pound closed just above the \$1,70 mark — a psychological support price. By close of day, Last Friday evening the pound % against the basket of other curren- by around 6% against the dollar and by ago and since then the price has dropped supporting the pound over a fortnight peak of, the Bank of England stopped With no foreign exchange reserves to

hizzy dive this week.

dealer in London summed up the pound's that was how one foreign exchange

ton't really need it.  
want it while those who don't have it  
Those who have it don't particularly

That dizzy dive

STERLING

and others.



# Changing ideas about African farm workers

14/10/76 nm

work and live in rural areas and are slowly becoming disenchanted with city life. Africans are prepared to work on farms if farmers give them a square deal and part of that deal need not be cash. It looks as though the drift to industry is being slowly reversed on those farms where farmers have changed their labour policy.

## Productive

The man who is probably responsible for setting this trend in motion in Natal is Mr. Doug Horton of Cosmoore, near Camperdown. Some years ago Mr. Horton adopted a revolutionary approach to labour relations which has since been copied or modified by many other farmers.

This system is based on the fact that African

**MORE and more Natal farmers are taking a new look at labour relations on their farms and are coming up with some new ideas.**

For many years the image of South African farmers in the eyes of their African labour has been poor and farmers have complained bitterly about the drift of labour from the farms to industry. Farmers have in the past argued that they cannot possibly offer working conditions that compare with industry.

They say that this is not because they are reluctant to pay higher wages, it is rather because they cannot afford to compete with industry. A farmer cannot add the additional labour cost to the produce he sells for his selling price is determined by factors beyond his control. All manufactured goods rise in prices as cost of production increases. This is not the case of agricultural produce and price rises are not automatic as with industry.

## Wide gap

Although farm wages have been considerably increased over the past year, there is still a wide gap between the agricultural sector and industry. However, farmers are slowly coming to the conclusion that there is more to attracting labour than merely offering higher salaries.

There is evidence to show that many Africans in fact, prefer to

## FARMING TODAY

By Peter Sutton

workers can be highly productive if they are given responsibility and incentive. Doug Horton's method involves delegating nearly all authority to his African indunas who have first been trained in running the farm. No decisions are taken by him or his partner Bull Mullens, until the indunas have been consulted and their opinions obtained. The indunas are even allowed to hire and fire their own labour.

## Committee

The farm is run by a management committee made up of the two partners and their indunas and together they plan the farming operations with the indunas carrying out the day-to-day tasks. By adopting this system of management they have shown that African workers can be highly productive if they are allowed to share in the fruits of their labour.

Another well-known vegetable farmer in the Weenen district, Mr. Conrad Rotteher, has evolved this system into a profit sharing basis.

His labourers understand that if the crop is a successful one, they will share in a bonus from the profits. Mr. Rotteher has also introduced a system of payment in kind instead of in cash. He holds back a portion of his vegetable crops and this food forms part of the perks his labour receives.

## Attitude

Mr. Horton believes that before this system of labour management can be introduced on farms, the farmer himself must have the right attitude of mind and must believe that the system is practical.

It is essential for farmers to learn that Africans do have the ability to cope with these responsibilities and that they can be productive workers. In return for higher pay and better living conditions farmers naturally expect greater productivity but it is he who must first establish the climate in which, for higher output, the employee reaps the rewards he wants and not what the farmer thinks he should have.

# Farms may see labour shortage

nm 16/10/76  
Agricultural Correspondent

**HUNDREDS** of Natal farmers employing thousands of Pondo and Xhosa farm labourers from the Transkei can expect a labour crisis resulting from the new travel arrangements between South Africa and the Transkei.

Yesterday's announcements by Dr. C. P. Mulder, Minister of the Interior for South Africa and by the Transkei Minister of the Interior, Miss Stella Sigcau, have led to confusion among farmers in Natal who employ thousands of Transkeian labourers who will be foreigners after October 26.

Asked to clarify the situation yesterday, Mr. P. J. A. Carstens, secretary for the Transkeian Government in Umtata, said the coal and gold mining industries and official labour recruiting organisations were exempt.

But private employers and farmers who recruited their labour from the Transkei would in future have to ensure that labourers had valid travel documents and also a contract of employment attested by a Magistrate in the Transkei.

Mr. Carstens said no Transkeian citizen would be allowed to enter South Africa unless these conditions were fulfilled.

The service contract between employer and employee would have to detail all service conditions.

Advice about labour can be obtained from Bantu Affairs Commissioners.

Farmers in many parts of Natal and especially cane growers on the South Coast and in Zululand, fear that the new arrangements will precipitate a labour crisis, for they draw more than 90 percent of their labour from the Transkei.

Every week farmers cross into Pondoland to recruit hundreds of Pondo and Xhosa workers.

Farmers spoken to yesterday said that labour problems were already "chaotic" and bribes had

to be paid to officials in the Transkei before reference books were obtained.

They claimed that the situation was likely to become much worse when they attempted to obtain passports, labour contracts and other documents.

Apparently Zulu farm labour is unobtainable because Zulus refuse to work on farms, and many farmers fear their operations will come to a complete standstill.

According to Miss Sigcau: "Transkeians already in South Africa will have to obtain Transkei travel documents as soon as possible after independence to regularise their continued residence in South Africa."

Another confusing aspect of the new regulations announced is that citizens of the Transkei who wish to enter South Africa for longer than 14 days will have to apply for permission from the South African Embassy in Umtata or from the South African passport control officer at Umzimkulu Bridge.

According to the statement made by Dr. Mulder, there are more than 60 border control posts and crossing points.

256  
4

# Court told of farmer's efforts to hide body

Supreme Court Reporter

*Cape Times 8/12/76*  
**A FARM LABOURER** yesterday told the Supreme Court, Cape Town, of the many attempts made by a Worcester farmer to get rid of the decomposing body of another labourer who was allegedly murdered on his farm.

The labourer, Mr Piet Daniels, was giving evidence at the trial of the farmer, Pieter Malan Goosen, and two of his labourers, Chrisjan Moses and Phillip Hendricks.

## Told of killing

All three pleaded not guilty to the main charge of murdering Mr Martin Joggems on Escol farm on September 12, 1975.

Mr Hendricks pleaded guilty to culpable homicide while Mr Goosen and Mr Moses both pleaded guilty to an alternative charge of being accessories after the fact.

Mr Daniels told Mr Justice Broeksma that on the night of

September 12 last year Mr Moses and Mr Hendricks told him that they had killed Mr Joggems and showed him the body which was lying next to a heap of manure.

The following morning he saw them talking to Mr Goosen on the stoep of the farmhouse. He overheard Mr Goosen tell them that while pretending to load manure on to a trailer they had to load Mr Joggem's body.

They did this and Mr Hendricks towed the trailer away with a tractor.

Some days later he heard Mr Goosen tell the two men that they had to move the body again because the police were coming to search the farm.

They left to fetch the body from a ditch and returned with it inside a sack which they loaded on to Mr Goosen's truck.

Mr Goosen and Mr Hendricks drove to the main

Continued on page 2

2 The Cape Times, Wednesday, December 8, 1976

## Hidden body

Continued from page 1

road. While they were gone Mr Moses told him that they were taking the body to the "Bossieveld".

Mr Daniels said that some time after this Mr Goosen took him to move the body to a bridge near the Villiersdorp road. The body had been stuffed inside a pipe and Mr Goosen told him to throw it under the bridge.

The following Tuesday Mr Goosen told Mr Daniels that he had to go to the market with him. On their return journey Mr Goosen instructed him to get the body from under the bridge so that they could take it to a dam.

On their way to the dam Mr

Goosen stopped at a canal and told him to throw the body in.

However, the water was too shallow, Mr Daniels said, so he loaded the body back on the truck. From the canal he and Mr Goosen picked up river stones to put in the bag so that it would sink when they threw it in the dam.

While driving there Mr Goosen gave him a piece of rope to tie the bag.

Mr Goosen stopped the truck on the dam wall and Mr Daniels tried to throw the body into the dam. It landed on the safety rails. Mr Daniels pushed it over but it did not land in the water.

He told Mr Goosen that the body was in the water although he knew it was not, Mr Daniels said.

The trial which is being heard by Mr Justice Broeksma and two assessors, Mr J. A. L. Beyers and Mr R. W. Merkel, will continue today.

Mr D. J. van Niekerk is appearing for the State. Mr J. van der Berg, instructed by Whitehorn, Wilson and Kotze, is appearing for Mr Goosen. Mr B. S. van der Merwe and Mr A. Smit are appearing pro Deo for Mr Moses and Mr Hendricks, respectively.

T.F.S. Malherbe, Citrusdal, Cape.

I was shocked to learn from your article on a paper prepared by Mr Jan Theron (FM October 1) about conditions of near slavery in the Citrusdal Valley. On examination I found every paragraph of the article contains a lie or a truth twisted beyond recognition. Even the photo is a fake as there are no Bantu women in the Citrusdal Valley.

I base my criticism of Mr Theron on the assumption he was reported correctly.

● **Debt.** Very few farmers allow their employees to owe them money and, if so, only in the case of loyal old hands for articles such as radios and furniture. On the 176 farms around Citrusdal there are 20 farm stores of which three are run with a profit motive. I have been to six of these stores and found that the goods are sold at wholesale prices for cash. This refutes the implication that farmhands are getting payment in kind only. Indebtedness, where it does exist, has to my knowledge never been an obstacle for a labourer to leave his employer.

● **Women.** Women do seek work as an extra source of income in the same way as their counterparts among Coloureds and Whites. The farmer who said prostitution is a ready means of income was surely playing the fool.

● **Children** are not compelled to do whatever work they are given. They are often employed in school holidays during the harvesting season on a piecework basis. There are 12 schools erected by farmers for children, attended by 1 200 pupils. Mr Theron says that after leaving school at the age of 14, children are compelled to work on farms. In Citrusdal there are 4 000 children up to the age of 16, of whom 2 200 attend school, the remainder being too young.

The health and condition of the children appears quite good. One of the local physicians says in his experience infant mortality is very much lower than in the Cape flats.

● **Education.** The deduction that the farmer does not attach much value to education is derived by Mr Theron from the type of work farmers offer and the wages they pay. The farmer has no choice as to what kind of work he can offer as he is limited by the nature of primary production which is labour intensive, and as far as wages go he is limited by the returns for his produce. Mr Theron states that there is no skilled work for Blacks on the farms — to my mind all farm work is

skilled work. Blacks are not skilled to do the specific kind of manual labour on the farms around here, the Coloureds are.

Paroled men recruited from the local jail as a source of labour are practically non-existent as there is no local jail at Citrusdal.

Mr Theron infers that farmhands receive a ration of homebrewed strong wine of inferior quality. I can assure him that where men are still getting a "dop" it is a good "vin ordinaire" produced in the modern wine cellars at Citrusdal. The standard practice nowadays is that farmhands are given a choice of a "dop" or higher pay.

The paper, as reported, is by no means a reflection of the state of affairs as it does not mention the erection of new houses, schooling facilities, free medical services paid for by the employers, care of the aged, care of illegitimate children of girls working in the towns, the continuous struggle against excessive drinking and brawling, and many other aspects of farm labour presenting social and economic problems to the farmer.

Mr Theron did not say or even imply that farm workers receive payments in kind only. Neither did the FM. In fact, the FM article stated that cash wages varied between R8 and R56 a month. Theron did not say children are compelled to work. He said they are expected to, and our correspondent confirms that they do indeed work. Infant mortality may or may not be worse on the Cape flats; that does not excuse it in Citrusdal. We erred in saying paroled labour is recruited from Citrusdal jail; Theron in fact referred to parole labour in Vredendal. Theron's paper did discuss schooling, housing, etc. But even if these facilities do exist, they do not provide the slightest justification for the general conditions of poverty and degradation.